

bility upon himself to act towards the public as an honest man should. It was well known that the principal business of the Upper House was to deal with measures coming from the Lower Chamber, and, consequently, for the first two or three weeks of the Session, there was very little to be done. It was, therefore, customary for the Senate to adjourn for a week or so early in the Session. In his opinion it would be better for this House to decide that in future, after voting the Address, they should take two or three weeks' recess until the Commons would have prepared work for them to do. He did not propose that this course should be pursued, because there was the objection to which he had referred last Friday, that certain members who could not reach their homes during the recess, would feel the time long unless the majority of the House remained with them, but his opinion was, as he had stated, that there was no necessity for the House to remain in session after voting the Address, for two or three weeks at all events. It had always been the custom for the Government to oppose it, and he would have been surprised had the hon. gentlemen on the Treasury benches taken a different course. But even if the hon. Secretary of State were to rise in his place and say there was work for four hours every day, he (Mr. Bellerose) would reply at once that the statement was incorrect, because it was impossible that there could be so much work in the early part of the Session, and there was no use in trying to throw such a responsibility on the Government. He did not desire the public at large to believe that the House was working when it was not, and it would be only hypocrisy to do so. This House could get through the work of the Session much sooner than the Commons, and the reason was quite obvious. In a body consisting of only eighty members, work could be done much quicker than in one consisting of over two hundred, especially when the latter were speaking to the public, and desired to have their views reported to the country before the elections. He could not say that he was a good judge of English precedent, but if his memory was correct a motion of this kind ought not to be re-considered except under extraordinary circumstances, and this was not an extraordinary circum-

*Hon. Mr. Bellerose.*

stance. Even as a matter of courtesy the notice ought not to have been given. He (Mr. Bellerose) understood perfectly well the allusion that had been made to the Province of Quebec. He would advise the hon. gentleman (Mr. Dickey) to let that Province alone. It had never come to this Parliament to ask for better terms or money. He (Mr. Bellerose) might tell the House that it was not on his own account that he had made this motion for adjournment for he had just arrived from home, but there were others on both sides in whose interest he had done so, who might have a feeling of delicacy in moving it themselves, and he believed the members of this House should show courtesy to one another. He hoped that this would be the last time he would have to speak on such a subject as this.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—What do the Ministry say ?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—My hon. colleague and myself have nothing more to say than we stated last Friday. Neither this Government, nor any former Government had ever assumed the responsibility of an adjournment. As we are frequently told by hon. gentlemen opposite the Government do not control this Chamber, and it would be idle for us to oppose the wish of the House.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—The question is the public business.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I also said I was not aware it would embarrass any public business coming before this House. I thought that was a very fair and full exposition from the Government. In addition I was asked by some hon. gentlemen if any bills were coming immediately before us, I said I did not think there were. I was further asked if there were any Bills to be introduced ; I said I thought there would be one or two, but the week's delay would not seriously embarrass us.

Hon. Mr. BELLEROSE—That is exactly what the hon. gentleman said.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY, said he understood the hon. Secretary of State to intimate to the House last Friday, that it was probable there might be measures to be initiated in this House. There was no doubt that was the meaning conveyed : at the same he was very happy to hear the statement that had just been made, and considering