

for a few hours and when he found that he could not get over to the United States again he came back and, after a little parley, was allowed to come on shore. Whether he is in bond or not, I shall be able to inform the House as soon as we get the information ourselves, but I can assure my hon. friend that what was done with regard to this Chinaman was done in accordance with the law which this House assented to; and I do not see that the Government should be reproached for carrying out a law which the two Houses have passed, and which is the law of the land. I could understand a censure upon them for violating the law, or acting in excess of the law; but to carry out the law is the duty of the Government, and in this instance they have done their duty and nothing more. However, I shall be able to give the hon. gentlemen the information he asked for to-morrow.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA PENITENTIARY.

### A QUESTION PRIVILEGE.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE—Before the orders of the day are called I rise to a question of privilege. I frequently hear in this House members complaining that the course pursued by the Government is not such as to command that influence throughout Canada which this body ought to possess. I have also heard many expressions outside condemnatory of the Senate, and which certainly did not tend to inspire confidence in this branch of Parliament. But if there is one thing that more than another will have a tendency to lower the influence of the Senate, it is the fact which I am about to place before the House. My idea of the duties and privileges of a member of the Senate or the House of Commons is that we are here to criticize the administration of the affairs of the country, and the management of the affairs of the several departments of the Government through the Ministers and their officials. If servants of the Government are to be permitted to abuse any hon. member who rises in his place in performance of his duty, and assail him through the public documents, there is no use for Parliament, because the influence of Parliament will have ended. I refer hon. gentlemen to a passage in the Blue-book issued this year from the Department of Justice. The pas-

sage I refer to is in the report of Inspector Moylan on the Penitentiary of New Westminster, Page 25, as follows:

"A fly sheet, printed in Washington Territory, containing the vilest slanders and most barefaced falsehoods against the administration of this penitentiary, and some of its most deserving officers, was put in circulation, in Victoria, about twelve months ago. The production was the work of two of the most depraved and hardened criminals that have ever cursed, with their presence, any penitentiary in the Dominion. It was one of them, who, coming across from Seattle, distributed, in a few hours, the untruthful and libellous publication and made his escape to American territory before his arrest could be effected. Certain individuals, who were either very credulous or very unfriendly disposed towards the administration of the penitentiary, made grave charges, alleging that serious abuses and irregularities existed. These charges were of the vaguest nature, nothing definite being mentioned, and they were advanced in a manner which every one, who appreciates fair play and manliness, must stigmatize as dastardly. He is a veritable coward that makes accusations against men, who, by reason of their position, are helpless to defend themselves, and who has not the moral courage or the proper sense of justice to formulate his charges, in view of affording an opportunity to the victims of his malevolence to have the truth or falsity of the allegations duly tested. This is a general proposition without any particular application."

"In connection with the remarks made by Senator McInnes on the 24th April last, in the Senate, I addressed, with the approval of the Minister, the following letter to that person:—

"NEW WESTMINSTER, Sept. 5, 1889.

"Hon. Senator McInnes,

"New Westminster,

"SIR,—In view of the statement made by you, in the Senate, last Session of Parliament, to the effect that abuses and irregularities exist in this penitentiary, I have the honor to state that, during my present visit to the institution, I shall be glad to make any inquiries that may be called for by the facts which have come to your knowledge and to which you made reference in the Senate.

"If you will, therefore, be good enough either to furnish the evidence yourself, or to give me the names of any persons who may be able to prove the existence of abuses, or irregularities, a careful investigation will be made and I shall be glad if you can be present.

I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed) J. G. MOYLAN.

All these libelous expressions, all these vile words are addressed by Inspector Moylan to one of the members of this House. I will give you the words which connect that attack with a member of this House. On page 580 of last year's Senate Debates you will find that the hon. Senator McInnes used the following words.

"We have a penitentiary within a mile of where I live, in New Westminster. It is believed that there are a great many irregularities in connection with the management of that institution. I am not going to make any charges now, but I believe the rumors are well founded, and when the proper time comes I fear it will be my bounden duty to ask that an investigation be made, and that it be placed entirely beyond the control or influence of the Inspector of Penitentiaries and the Government, and that some judge of