

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I think, if it were understood on both sides of the House that the discussion should be brought to a close to-morrow night, we might agree to adjourn. I think that is fair. Therefore, whether the hon. gentleman finishes his speech this evening or not, it will not make much difference, if he finishes it to-morrow. Therefore, we will say that to-morrow this discussion shall come to a close, and we will take a vote and go into committee.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed, to and the House adjourned at 1:30 a.m., Wednesday.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, 8th July, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at half-past One o'clock.

PRAYERS.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. GIROUARD. I rise to a question of privilege. In the report in the *Montreal Times* of the debate of last night, it is stated:

"Mr. Girouard followed, speaking for six hours. He said nothing in particular, and it was said his speech was made in consequence of a wager that he could speak as long as Mr. Blake."

When the hon. member for West Huron spoke last evening I happened to be absent at the time he made this statement. The statement is altogether untrue, and upon its face it has the appearance of falsehood. I am astonished the hon. gentleman should have started that statement. I have nothing to add.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman has not stated a question of privilege, as he should have done. All questions of privilege should, strictly speaking, be concluded with a motion. The hon. gentleman has not stated what the question of privilege is.

Mr. GIROUARD. It may not be a question of privilege, but it is a personal explanation.

Mr. BLAKE. Order.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I never made the statement.

Mr. BLAKE. I rise to order. If the hon. gentleman wishes to correct any statement the hon. member for West Huron has made, so soon as that hon. gentleman has concluded his speech the hon. member will be in a position to do it.

Mr. BOWELL. When the Orders of the Day are called every member has a right to call attention to any inaccuracy or misstatements which may have been made. I am not surprised that the leader of the Opposition should try, in a case of this kind, to prevent a member from correcting a statement which has gone forth to the world, that the hon. gentleman made a bet that he would make a speech longer than the hon. member for West Durham.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Girouard) cannot now correct the statement made by the hon. member for West Huron. He should wait until the hon. gentleman

has concluded his speech. It is not a question of privilege to rise, on the Orders of the Day being called, and proceed to correct a statement made by an hon. member, but on the conclusion of the hon. gentleman's speech the hon. gentleman can make a personal explanation.

Mr. GIROUARD. The statement has already gone to the press, and that is the reason why I made the explanation.

Mr. BLAKE. I cannot allow the statement of the Minister of Customs to pass without replying to it. I have in no way endeavored to prevent the hon. gentleman making a statement. I declared his statement was out of order, and that such an explanation could only be made when the hon. member for West Huron had concluded his speech; and therefore, so far from seeking to prevent the hon. gentleman making an explanation at the proper time, I was pointing out the proper time to make it.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). The hon. gentleman has no right to reply.

Mr. ORTON. I rise to a question of privilege. I feel, as a private member of this House, that I have a serious grievance to complain of, in regard to the very subject brought up just now. I maintain that the course pursued by the leader of the Opposition, not only on this but on other occasions, and followed also by other hon. members, of reading extracts from newspapers, from country newspapers, whose opinions are of no importance to this House, which course is a gross breach of privilege—

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman is not in order.

Mr. ORTON. If I am not in order, I will move the adjournment of the House, in order to speak on this question. It is a matter of the greatest importance. The representatives of the people are not sent here to remain on the back benches and listen to long extracts read by members of the House. It is a gross breach of the privileges of the House when such a course is pursued. It has been pursued, not only by the leader of the Opposition, in one instance, but on many occasions. We have seen the hon. gentleman read whole speeches. Not only has the example of the leader of the Opposition been followed by members on his own side, but I regret to say that the same course has been followed, in some instances, by members sitting on this side. I do not refer more to members on one side than on the other side, except that the grievance complained of has occurred more from the Opposition benches than from this side of the House. I was not present during the discussion on the Franchise Bill; but from the proceedings which I read in *Hansard*, I find that the business of the House was obstructed by reading from books, by members getting books out of the Library and reading them for a length of time. I maintain that on such a question as this, relating to the North-West troubles, it is important to have the views of members who are, perhaps, more intimately connected with the North-West than is the leader of the Government or other members who have spoken. But they are debarred, and will not have an opportunity of speaking. The member for West Huron (Mr. Cameron) said that all the time he would occupy was one quarter of that occupied by the member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Girouard). But after speaking one hour and a-half he moved the adjournment of the House, in order that he might commence again. If we can judge from the large bundle of documents I have seen him dragging round the House to-day, we must expect to have to submit—if he is allowed to go on—to hearing extracts read again for three or four hours. I maintain this is a gross wrong on Parliament. The Marquis of Salisbury, the other day, in making a state-