

House, to a breach of the orders then being committed. In debate, it is contrary to order to mention any member by name; the same rule prevails in Committee of the Whole, except as regards the Chairman, who is called by his name, and not Mr. Chairman.

**ORIGINATING BILLS.**—All Bills relating to public income and expenditure, and all Bills usually called Money Bills, must originate in the Commons, and be introduced by the Government. (For fuller details see *Bills*.)

**PRIVILEGES OF PARLIAMENT.**—There are three kinds.

1st. The privileges which appertain to members individually.

2nd. These which belong to the House in its collective capacity.

3rd. These which belong to the House jointly.

Amongst the privileges which the Commons claim, are:—

The power of committing individuals to prison—the power of publishing matters which, if not issuing from such high authority, might become the subject of proceedings in a Court of Law,—the power of directing the Law Officers of the Crown to prosecute persons accused of offences against the laws, or affecting the privileges of Parliament,—and finally of doing anything not directly contravening an existing Act of Parliament, which may be necessary for the vindication and protection of its own rights, in the exercise of its own constitutional functions. Questions of privilege take precedence of all other proceedings, and are always in order. The privileges claimed by individual members are—freedom of speech and person, including freedom from legal arrests and seizure under process from the Courts of Law and equity. This does not extend to indictable offences or to actual contempts of the Courts of Justice. Members of Parliament are exempt from all duties, the performance of which might interfere with their prompt attendance to their Parliamentary calls. Privilege of Parliament, such as it is, continues for a convenient time after prorogation and dissolution.

**ROYAL ASSENT.**—The Act by which the Crown agrees to a Bill is called the Royal Assent; this assent is usually given at the end of a Session, unless there is urgent necessity for the Act becoming Law without loss of time, in which case the Governor General, or the person administering the Government, comes down to the Upper House, and there, in the presence of both Houses, gives his assent. When this is done, either at the close of the Session or on a special occasion, the Governor General being seated on the throne, the House of Commons is summoned to the bar of the Upper House; being there, the Clerk or Clerk Assistant reads the title of the Bill, and hands it to the Chief Clerk, who says in both English and French: "In the name of Her Majesty the Queen, His Excellency the Governor General sanctions this Bill," to which His Excellency manifests his assent. Bills to which the Royal assent is not given, are not noticed, but are mentioned in the "Official Gazette" as having been reserved for Her Majesty's consideration. Unless a reserve is made in the Act itself, as soon as the Royal Assent is given, the Act becomes a law, and can be proceeded on before any competent Court.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.**—This officer, although in attendance on the House of Commons, is appointed by the Crown. It is his duty to obey the commands of the House, to apprehend and take into custody all those who are committed for any offence by the House. All the messengers and servants of the House, except the Clerks, are under his orders. He has his seat at the Bar of the House, and directs all arrangements for the maintenance of order in the approaches to, or the galleries of the House. He is of course in immediate attendance upon the Speaker, from whom he takes all orders, connected with his duties.

**SESSION.**—The Session is the term occupied by Parliament from its commencement to its prorogation. An adjournment does not close a Session. Par-