

Robert Borden) who when he was to receive the seals of office and to be appointed, was found to be in jail. Rather an embarrassing position, for which something had to be done. The office had to lapse or go to somebody else, or the bars of this gentleman's imprisonment had to be removed. Appeal was made to the gentle heart of the Minister of Justice, or to those who were acting for him at the time, and, of course, between the two things—the lapsing of a political appointment, or the defeating of the ends of justice—the ends of justice had to be defeated, and the creaking door of the jail or penitentiary was thrown open, and out came this man. At the door awaiting him was his office from the Government of my right hon. friend. There was a great deal of trouble about this, and there was some very severe comment made upon it. The Minister of Justice manfully accepted responsibility, but gave us to understand that it was not himself but somebody else, a member of the Government, who was acting for him, who was responsible for allowing this man out. However, it was such a condition of things as should be a warning to the minister that he would not any more willingly interfere in matters political. Now, not satisfied with interfering with the jail, he began to tamper with the jury. This to my mind is most extraordinary, and I hope he will draw the line here, or the next thing we will find is some provision by which he can tamper with the evidence, and with the judges. It has been said by the hon. member for North Perth (Mr. Morphy), I believe, that we are exceedingly proud of our judges, and of the administration of justice in this country. I am getting to be somewhat of an old lawyer now, and I have had a good deal to do with criminal law. I never heard, in my province at all events, anybody complaining that representatives of the Crown, either the Attorney General or his representative, ever did anything but what was highly in the best interests of the very best administration of justice. I would suppose that laws of this character would be provided when some case arose calling for the interference of Parliament, and if the Minister of Justice can show there has been some case where there was a miscarriage of justice by reason of the condition of the law in Manitoba, or in any other province, I may change my mind absolutely. So far, however, I have not heard of any, and so far I will be quite willing to adopt the good old Tory doctrine of "leave well

[Mr. McKenzie.]

enough alone." The law has been going along first rate as it was, and I think it is dangerous to be tampering with it, particularly when there is no necessity. It would be a sad reflection to believe for a moment that the Minister of Justice is trying to trim the wind to suit the shorn lambs in Manitoba.

Mr. DOHERTY: It would be difficult work to trim the wind.

Mr. McKENZIE: It would be sad indeed, but when the lambs have escaped, I think the tempering of the wind could cease with their escape. It does seem, in the air, that there may be more lambs to be shorn. Perhaps the wind is being provided for them. I hope not. I hope the minister will maintain the high position a Minister of Justice should occupy in this country, and show that the balance in his hand shall be even, and that, as far as the administration of justice is concerned, he is blind to everything but the proper functions of his office.

Hon. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX: I am surprised that a gentleman who has occupied the high position of a judge of the land should lend himself to the drafting of such a Bill, thereby degrading justice in our country. Every one knows the origin of this legislation. Some of the political friends of the Minister of Justice (Mr. Doherty) were brought before the bar at the criminal assizes in Manitoba. It was very difficult to find jurors to give a verdict in the very important cases that were brought before the court and the Government and Attorney General of Manitoba thought that the law should be amended so as to give the necessary power to find jurors, really to give justice to both the accused and society. We find the hon. gentleman intervening, at the instigation of whom I do not know, but whom everybody suspects. He comes before this House, without giving any explanation, and tries to pass legislation that reflects on the integrity of Canadian justice. I think this Parliament should at once mark its disapproval of such legislation and I shall move in a minute accordingly. It is strange, Mr. Speaker, that such complacency should be shown to the Manitoba politicians who have disgraced the public life of this country. They should be satisfied, as my hon. friend from Carleton (Mr. Carvell) said a moment ago, that a *nolle prosequi* should have had to be entered after efforts had been made to find a verdict against them. The other day I put a question to the Minister of Justice as to whether the goat, because poor Kelly was the goat,