

objections did not apply to the members constituting the Committee, and no such objections could be raised; no member of the Senate could say that they had not done their duty; but one or two members of the Senate found fault with the action of the reporters, and in the discharge of his duty (he hoped he would never fail to discharge his duty, no matter what bad feeling it might excite against himself) when he saw two gentlemen censured unfairly, as he thought, he endeavoured as an honorable member of this House to see that they were defended and to defend them. There was no objection to the members of the Committee who served in 1880, and while there was none he was surprised when he saw—at a time when he was in wretched health during last session—the leader of the House rise and say that, in order to promote peace among the members of the Senate, he must strike his pen through the name of every gentleman on that Committee. The Hon. Senator for DeLanau dière (Mr. Bellerose) very naturally found fault with that, and so did the Hon. Senator from British Columbia (Mr. Macdonald), neither of them could see any reason why hon. gentlemen who had discharged their duty satisfactorily, and against whom no charge could be made, should be treated in such a manner. They had given a great deal of their time and endeavoured faithfully and honestly to try and raise the character of this House, yet their names were wiped out in the interest of peace. He repeated he had no desire whatever again to serve on that Committee or to impugn the motives of the hon. leader of the Senate, who had named the new Committee, but he did feel it his duty to say that the utility of the Senate was going to become the great question at the next general election, and he should be ill discharging his duty if he failed to say so. He knew it to be the case in the Province of Ontario. He had himself been visited by Conservative friends in the County of Oxford—most industrious and intelligent Conservatives of that constituency—who told him that this would be the great question. There seemed to be no desire to remove the hon. gentlemen who at present constitute the Senate, but the question of the utility of this Chamber would be raised at the next general election, and the Senate owed it

to itself that the country should be informed of what took place in this House. Here were seventy-six gentlemen from all parts of the Dominion, men of education, intelligence, property ability and experience, and they did not wish to have the charge brought against them that they were so indifferent to public opinion that they did not care to have a Committee appointed in this Chamber, who would see that the debates and proceedings of the Senate were made known to the public. He did not wish to predict evil of the system of publishing the debates that had been proposed, but he was perfectly certain from what he had seen of the manner in which the first debate of the session had been reported in the newspapers that no good could arise from it. As he had stated over and over again, every one was aware that the leading press of the country could not afford to send reporters to the Senate and go to the expense of transmitting over the wires long reports of the debates of this Chamber in addition to all the expenses which they incurred in reporting and publishing the debates of the House of Commons. It was simply puerile, therefore, for the leader of the Government in this Chamber to say “depend upon the press of the country.” It would be necessary, in order to bring the proceedings of this House before the country, that the Senate should pay for it, and the people would cheerfully acquiesce in any expenditure which would be necessary to enable them to see whether the Senate was of any service to the country or not. He would beseech the Senate to pause, and not to agree to the motion now before it, but to wait until the leader of the House was present, and hear what his view was upon the subject. He repeated he did not wish to be a member of the Committee. God forbid that he should after all the bad treatment he had received—not at the hands of the House, for the House had always given him credit for acting faithfully and honestly, but he had been treated most unjustly, and had had language applied to him on the floor of this House, and by a paper inspired by a member of this House, which was simply discreditable, and of which any honorable member might well be ashamed.

HON. MR. DICKEY said the House