

events, in appearance triumphed over authority. Believing that it was his duty, as far as possible, to vindicate the privileges of the House and maintain its independence, as far as he could, he immediately wrote to the Clerk of the House a very short letter, in which he said, in substance:—"I write immediately to protest, in the strongest possible manner, against the interference of the Executive, or of any member of the Executive, in the affairs of the Department, of which the Speaker of the House is the head; and I call upon you immediately to undo anything you might have done in obedience to an authority which, as I have learned from your letter, Sir John A. Macdonald has usurped; and I insist that henceforth you receive no instructions regarding the affairs of the Department from any other person than the Speaker of the House." In doing that, he thought he was only discharging his duty. He had no wish to quarrel with Sir John A. Macdonald, but he felt it was a duty that he owed to this House and the country to take the position he did. In a private note, he suggested to the Clerk that probably it would be well to furnish the right hon. gentleman with a copy of his letter, and he believed this was done. Some time afterwards, the Clerk of the House of Commons wrote him again, expressing regret at the embarrassing position in which he had put himself (Mr. Anglin) by asking him to make those appointments, and suggesting that he (the Clerk) should appoint provisionally some persons to discharge the duties of those officers, as it was of great importance that action should be at once taken. He (Mr. Anglin) wrote back immediately, peremptorily forbidding the Clerk to appoint any person whatever to discharge the duties of an office to which he had appointed persons quite competent. Some time afterwards, Mr. Thaddeus Patrick, Clerk of the Private Bills Committee, died. He took no action in this case until the Clerk of the House officially informed him of Mr. Patrick's death. Then he felt it his duty, although he received no requisition on the part of the Clerk—for it was scarcely to be expected then that after what had passed the Clerk would call upon him to make any appointments—to reorganise that branch

of the Department. The clerks in that branch were generally busy for some time before the meeting of Parliament, as the rules required that Bills should be deposited there before Parliament met, and it was absolutely necessary in the public interest that, for some weeks, at all events, before the meeting of Parliament, this Department should be properly organised. He did not stop to inquire what the politics of any of the clerks were, but, having heard from time to time very high accounts indeed of the capacity and ability, particularly of Mr. Hartney, the young gentleman who had, for some time past, discharged the onerous duties of Clerk of the Railways, Canals and Telegraphs, and the Banking and Commerce Committees, he (Mr. Anglin) concluded that he would, under the circumstances, be the person, of all others, who should be entrusted with the care of that work, and with the discharge of those duties for which he had already proved himself so entirely competent. Mr. Panet was his immediate superior. He knew that Mr. Panet had been in the office a great many years, and, when he became Speaker, Mr. Panet was an applicant for an increase of salary, on the ground that he had been so long in the public service. He (Mr. Anglin) wrote to the Clerk of the House informing him that he had appointed Mr. Panet permanently to the position of senior clerk of that branch of the Department, giving him rank and precedence, and an increase of salary, from \$1,200 to \$1,300 per year. To Mr. Hartney he assigned the work of those important committees, and because of the great importance of the work and its very onerous character, he directed that his salary should be increased from \$1,200 to \$1,400. And then to Mr. Todd, son of the gentleman who was formerly at the head of the Department,—a very estimable young man, he believed,—he gave a slight increase from a junior clerk's salary of \$800 to \$900. Another young man, whom he had appointed on a former occasion as junior clerk in the room of Capt. Nolan, deceased, he directed to be placed as senior clerk upon the Railway Committee. So it would be seen that, as far as he was concerned personally, he had no object to serve in this matter but the promotion of the public interest. Not