

ference on the part of the Government at home seems to be required. In colonies where this system of Government is in successful operation, the Home Government should, in my opinion, attempt little (except in those rare cases where Imperial interests or the honor of the Crown are affected by local measures or proceedings), beyond advising the Colonial Authorities, and checking, any ill-considered and hasty measure they may be inclined to adopt." Now it could not be urged that the Oaths' Bill affected Imperial interests or the honor of the Crown. Then again, to quote another passage, "These rules, as to the degree of interference to be exercised by the Secretary of State, are equally applicable to the legislative and executive measures of the local authorities in the Colonies; but while I am of opinion that the authority of the Crown, of which the Secretary of State is the depository, should be used in all cases with great caution, and in colonies possessing representative institutions with extreme forbearance, I cannot concur with those who would prohibit all interference on the part of the Home Government in the internal affairs of the Colonies." But still further the same book said; "But even where the interference of the Home Government is not necessary for the protection of a part of the population, too ignorant and too weak to protect itself, there is another consideration which may require the exercise of some control over the proceedings of the Local Governments with regard to the internal affairs of the Colonies. Every act of these Governments, whether legislative or executive, is done in the name and by the authority of the Sovereign; hence, the honor of the Crown, which it is of the highest importance to the whole Empire to maintain, unimpaired, must be compromised by any injustice or violation of good faith, which it has the power to prevent, being committed by the local authorities. It is, therefore, the duty of those by whom the Imperial Government is conducted, and to whom, as the responsible servants of the Crown, its honor is entrusted, to take care that this honor does not suffer by the Sovereign's being made a party to proceedings involving a departure from the most scrupulous justice and good faith towards individuals or towards particular classes of the inhabitants of any of our Colonies. In the Colonies which are most advanced in civilization and in the exercise of the powers of self government, it is not superfluous to insist on this consideration; on the contrary, it is in Colonies having popular forms of Government that there is per-

haps most danger that in the excitement of party-contests, to which such Governments are peculiarly liable, measures not consistent with strict justice may sometimes be attempted, and may require to be checked by the authority of the Crown, entrusted to the Secretary of State. Any interference on the part of that Minister with measures of purely internal administration in the Colonies to which I am now adverting, is to be deprecated, except in very special circumstances, the occurrence of which must be exceedingly rare. Now, surely the disallowance of the Oaths Bill was an interference with the internal administration of the affairs of this country. He felt that the charges brought against the Ministers were of the gravest character, and he was surprised that honorable gentlemen did not retire from the Administration. The charges were of the most scandalous character; (laughter) yes, and the evidence that was taken before the Commission had proved them to be scandalous. He was surprised at hon. gentlemen laughing when such a grave subject was under consideration. As he had said before, the evidence showed that the Government had taken large sums of money, which they used, according to their own confession, for the corruption of the people. This was conduct on the part of the Ministers, which struck at the root of the liberty of the country, and it argued very little for the morality of the man who would attempt to get up a laugh on such a matter. That large sums of money were received by the Government was proved by the sworn testimony of members of the Government themselves. It was plain that the Government of this country got large sums of money, that they got it on condition that they would grant the contract to Sir Hugh Allan, and, in his opinion, the evidence would convict in any court of justice. He had no intention of proposing any amendment, but he thought it his duty to make this explanation.

The motion was then put and adopted.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL proposed that the Address be presented to His Excellency by such members of the House as are members of the Privy Council.

The motion was adopted, and the House adjourned at five o'clock.

TUESDAY, 28th Oct. 1873.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL laid before the House, the names of the members, and