

1872, by \$1,842,392. He claimed that these figures refuted the position of the Hon. Minister of Finance. He noted other figures of what he considered a similarly incontrovertible character to show that the Hon. Minister of Finance was not justified in his statement of the financial position.

He was proceeding to state that the Hon. gentleman was not justified in announcing that there was a deficit when,

**The SPEAKER** called him to order, on the ground that he was not speaking to the motion. It was not allowable to discuss the estimates at this stage.

**Hon. Mr. TUPPER** thought he would be able, if the House would allow him, to show that he was in order. He preferred to make his statement on the present occasion rather than on the motion to go into Committee of Supply because he did not wish to attach the least party advantage to the question. He merely desired to convince the hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House that they would be doing right in sustaining his motion.

**Hon. Mr. HOLTON** rose to a point of order, and claimed that it was irregular for the hon. gentleman to discuss the estimates upon a motion for papers.

**Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD** said the rule of action which his hon. friend had violated should be stated.

**Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT** said if the point of order were waived, he would have no objection to the hon. member proceeding, but he claimed the right of reply.

**The SPEAKER** said the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) was out of order in anticipating the discussion which would be involved by an order on the notice paper.

After some discussion,

**Hon. Mr. TUPPER** said he had no alternative but to withdraw his motion, and make it upon going into Committee of Supply. (*Cries of "no, no"*.)

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said that before the hon. gentleman was allowed to withdraw his motion—if he were to be allowed to withdraw it—he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) wished to say that the information was not refused; and that if the hon. gentleman now moved his resolution, he would find an amendment moved to it to give that information coupled with other facts which were necessary to place it in a proper light.

The withdrawal of the motion was not permitted.

**Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT** moved that the said motion be amended by inserting after the word "resolved" the words—"That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency for a statement showing the receipts of revenue up to the 21st day of April 1874 and also the comparative receipts for the first twenty days of April in the years 1873 and 1874; together with the quantity of Excisable goods in bond on the 1st and 15th days of April in 1873 and 1874 and on the 1st day of July, 1873."

**Hon. Mr. TUPPER** spoke at some length, condemning the Government for not giving the information, and attributed it to the pressure which had been brought to bear upon them by the resolution he had put on the notice paper, and by the independent gentlemen behind him.

After having been called to order several times, the hon. gentleman resumed his seat.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said the hon. member was rather emphatic on nothing; but he would ask him if he could name a single one who had exercised this gentle pressure on the Government of which he had spoken. Not a single member of that House had ever addressed the Government on the subject.

**Hon. Mr. TUPPER** said if hon. gentlemen had allowed him to proceed with his motion and bring them to a vote he should have had no occasion to give the name.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** only warned the hon. gentleman that his emphatic declarations had less and less weight with the House the oftener they were favoured with them. He denied that the Government had refused to give the information. They had only stipulated to couple it with facts which would place that information in its true light. Without that additional information it could only have the effect of misleading the House. He had shown that it would have been utterly valueless, and it would have shown an abnormal state of accounts produced by the coming duty.

He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) said this in order that the hon. gentleman might not imagine that he had frightened the Government into any concession in this matter, although perhaps his appearance and extraordinary manner were calculated to produce some such effect.

**Hon. Mr. TUPPER** said the leader of the Government had stated that they did not refuse this information if coupled with other facts, but he had agreed to their coupling it with any information, but they had suppressed it. He would say in conclusion that if the subtraction he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) proposed to make in his motion was the three million of increased taxation, the country would be extremely delighted to hear it.

**Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT** denied that he had refused the information.

After some further discussion the amendment was carried.

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#### THE SHORTEST ROUTE

By resolution of the House, Hon. Mr. Tupper was then added to the Committee appointed to consider the shortest route to Europe.

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#### THE USURY LAWS

**Mr. PALMER** moved the second reading of the bill to repeal the laws relating to usury. The object he had in this motion was to ascertain whether it was desirable to retain in the different