

meantime to have at least two seats on each side of the gallery to be reserved for the official reporters, or as many seats as they should require, the remainder of the seats to be placed at the disposal of the leading daily papers. That was the temporary arrangement made, but if it was thought better to have the official reporters placed on the floor of the House, he would acquiesce in the arrangement.

Mr. JAMES YOUNG said he agreed with the view expressed that the erection of another gallery would not contribute to the appearance of the Chamber. At the same time, it was well known that it was exceedingly difficult for reporters to hear the debates in the present gallery. It was highly important that there should be more accommodation provided, not only in the interest of those who were going to take part in reporting for the Hansard, but also for the representatives of the daily press, who were very much crowded under the present arrangement. He was, moreover, convinced that in the present gallery the reporters for the Hansard would not be able to do as much justice to the debates as they would be able to do if placed in a different position. He saw no objection to lengthening the Clerk's table four feet and having the Hansard reporters seated there. That was the course pursued at Washington, and he understood that no practical difficulty arose from the reporters passing in and out from the Chamber every half hour. If that plan were adopted here, it would not practically inconvenience the House, while it would afford the reporters a better chance to make the Hansard a creditable report, and give sufficient room in the present gallery for the representatives of the daily press, throughout the country.

Mr. CAUCHON suggested that a semi-circular table be placed on the floor of the House for the accommodation of the Hansard reporters.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was an established rule that no one should be on the floor of the House except officers of the House; but he had no objection to a table being placed there for the accommodation of the Hansard reporters, until some other arrangement of a permanent character could be carried out, when the table could be withdrawn.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought the expression of opinion was at

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie.

present favorable to the introduction of the Hansard reporters on the floor of the House, and at all events it could be tried as an experiment, and he would see before Monday that the necessary arrangements were made.

The motion was adopted.

REPORT OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

Hon. Mr. GEOFFRION presented the report of the Minister of Internal Revenue.

THE ADDRESS.

In rising to move the Address, Mr. FRECHETTE said—*Pour la première fois que j'ai l'honneur de prendre la parole devant cette Honorable Chambre, l'on me permettra sans doute de le faire dans ma langue maternelle. Il est assez rare que nous entendions une voix française s'élèver dans cette assemblée, la nécessité, forçant presque toujours mes compatriotes de même origine que moi à parler un language qui n'est pas le nôtre, pour mieux être compris de tout le monde. Cependant le droit que avons de parler ici la langue de nos ancêtres est un privilége trop sacré, pour qu'il ne soit pas opportun pour nous de l'affirmer quelquefois. Au reste, si notre langue peut être considérée comme l'une des plus belles parts de l'héritage que nous ont laissé ceux qui nous ont précédés, le droit que nous avons d'en faire usage dans cette enceinte parlementaire fait autant d'honneur à l'esprit de libéralisme de ceux qui nous l'ont maintenu, qu'à l'énergie et au patriotisme de ceux qui nous l'ont conquis, (app.)*

C'est avec un vif plaisir, M. l'ORATEUR, que j'ai accepté l'invitation qui m'a été faite de proposer l'adresse à Son Excellence en réponse au Discours du Trône. En me rendant à cette invitation, je trouve l'occasion d'affirmer une fois de plus, et plus solennellement que jamais, la confiance que j'ai depuis longtemps fait reposer dans les hommes qui dirigent en ce moment les destinées du pays, et je la sais avec empressement. Depuis quelques mois seulement qu'ils ont en mains les rênes de l'administration, les ministres actuels ont déjà accompli les principales réformes qu'ils avaient si longtemps préconisées lorsqu'ils occupaient les banquettes de l'Opposition. (appl.)

Le terrain des réformes est un terrain scabreux, M. l'ORATEUR; et il est toujours dangereux de s'y aventurer imprudemment; voilà pourquoi l'on a si souvent vu-