

the following from the *Votes and Proceedings* of the House:—

“On motion of Honorable Mr. Attorney General *Macdonald*, it was *Resolved*, That *Elzéar Gérin Lajoie* is guilty of a breach of the privileges of this House.

Honorable Mr. Attorney General *Macdonald* moved, that the said *Elzéar Gérin Lajoie* be called to the bar of the House, and there reprimanded by Mr. Speaker for the said breach of privilege, and be committed to the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms for twenty-four hours.

Honorable Mr. *Macdonald* (Cornwall) moved in amendment, that the words “custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms for twenty-four hours” be left out, and the words “the Gaol of the County of Carleton for the remainder of this session” be inserted in lieu thereof.

Mr. *Haultain* moved in amendment to the said proposed amendment, that all the words after “committed,” in the said amendment, be left out, and the following words substituted instead thereof, “to the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms during the pleasure of the House;” which was agreed to on the following division:—*Yeas*, 75; *Nays*, 25.

Honorable Mr. *Macdonald's* (Cornwall) proposed amendment, as amended, was then agreed to on a division, and the main motion, as amended, agreed to.

Mr. *Elzéar Gérin Lajoie* was then called in, and addressed by Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

“It is a power incidental to the constitution of this House to preserve peace and order within its precincts, and protect the members of it from insults and assault. This power is necessary not only to insure the freedom of action of members, but that freedom of discussion which is one of their fundamental rights.

You, *Elzéar Gérin Lajoie*, pretending a cause of complaint against a member of this House, sought him out and came within the precincts of this building, and within a part thereof, to which you are entitled to resort, not by right but by favour only, grossly insulted that Hon. Member, and concluded by violently assaulting him. For these gross breaches of privilege you have not even thought

it judicious or becoming to offer any apology; you have mistaken your rights and position in reference to Honorable Members and in this building. The place in which this insult was offered and assault committed, greatly aggravates the criminality of your conduct.

Having been found guilty of a breach of the privileges of this House, in having assaulted *Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion*, Esquire, a member thereof, you have rendered yourself liable to such punishment as this House might award—and this House having ordered that you be reprimanded, you are reprimanded accordingly.

The Order of the House directs that you be committed to the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms, during the pleasure of this House.”

The prisoner accordingly remained in the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms from the 1st of August to the 15th, when the House rose. A handsome suite of apartments was appropriated to his use, and his personal comfort well attended to in other respects. The remuneration of the Serjeant-at-Arms for the custody of a prisoner is said to be \$25 per day.

#### ACTIONS IN EJECTMENT.

A singular instance of hasty legislation is afforded by 25th Victoria, Chapter 12. According to this, the costs in actions under the Act respecting Lessors and Lessees are to be taxed according to the amount for which judgment is rendered. Now, if a plaintiff brings an action of ejectment, and also claims damages, it would seem that if he recovers \$20 damages, he is only entitled to costs on that amount, though he succeeds in the demand for ejectment. In the same way, if he brings an action in ejectment and also sues for \$20 rent, he will only get costs on \$20 if he succeeds in both demands; but if he brings an action for ejectment only, then he is entitled to costs according to the annual rent. *Vide Noad and Smith* reported in the present number. In this case it was contended by the defendant that inasmuch as the costs are to be taxed according to the amount of the judgment, and the judgment awarded no sum at all, therefore he should either be condemned to pay no costs at all, or at most only costs of