

2. That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a member of this House, or hath endeavored so to be by bribery or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

3. That the offer of any money or other advantage to any member of the House of Commons for the promoting of any matter whatsoever depending, or to be transacted in the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, is a high crime and misdemeanour and tends to the subversion of the Constitution.

REPORT ON PUBLIC WORKS.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the report of the Minister of Public Works.

THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY.

Mr. SPEAKER presented the report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament.

On motion of Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, the House adjourned, at 4.20 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, February 5th, 1875.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

THE HANSARD REPORTS.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said, as the House was aware, arrangements were made during last session for reporting the debates of the House, and it was proposed in the report of the Committee which had the matter in charge, that another Standing Committee should be appointed to revise and manage the reporting. It had now become necessary to take immediate action in reference to the form of printing and other matters of detail, that he need scarcely enumerate to the House, and he was himself convinced that the business would be better managed by a Standing Committee than by a Special Committee. He, therefore, moved that the management of the Hansard reports be entrusted to the Joint Committee on Printing, and until the Committee was organized, the Chairman add Clerk of the Committee during last session be authorized to act.

Hon. Mr. Mackenzie.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD desired, while the present motion was before the House, to call attention to the position occupied by the reporters, especially those on the Hansard. He was afraid the members of the Opposition would suffer by existing arrangements, and if they could do nothing by their votes they could do something by their voices. It had been suggested that some arrangements should be made for the construction of a separate gallery for the reporters for the Hansard somewhere near the Bar, where they would be able to hear the speaking and make the permanent report, to be quoted hereafter historically and for all Parliamentary purposes, without their being mixed up with reporters who were in the gallery for another useful, but very different purpose. He hoped the leader of the Government would endeavor, if possible, to have another Reporters' Gallery constructed as near the Bar as possible or have the Hansard reporters placed on the floor of the House, so that the reports might be well, fully and accurately taken.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there could be no objection to any arrangement proposed in that regard, especially as the leader of the Opposition had intimated that he intended to confine himself to speaking and not voting. The proposition to have a gallery placed over the door was one that he thought could scarcely be entertained without disfiguring the internal appearance of the House, and in any case it was impossible to erect any such gallery within two or three weeks, which would be at all creditable. The suggestion for the erection of an additional gallery was made a few days before the meeting of the House, but he had no hesitation in condemning the proposed arrangement as one utterly untenable. It would have involved the exclusion of the present occupants from the Speaker's gallery, and besides it would have been impossible to have obtained architectural consistency. Personally, he had no objection to reporters having access to the floor of the House, but, although no formal vote was taken, a similar proposal was decided adverse by on a former occasion. If the House was now of opinion that a table might be placed on the floor of the Chamber, and the reporters brought in, he, personally, had no objection to it. Any expressions of opinion by members on the matter would be very welcome. He had requested the Sergeant-at-Arms in the