

Ireland, shall be followed. But, Sir, the rule in Great Britain is that a member must be sworn before the Speaker. Our rule is that he is not required to be sworn before the Speaker, but he is sworn before the Clerk, upon producing his indenture; he is sworn, therefore, not before this House at all, and, that being a departure in what forms the very essence of the argument, a departure in our rules from what obtains in England, the rules entirely fall through; because, a member once elected, once sworn, and the documents verifying his election having been deposited with the proper officer, he takes his position as a member of this House; and there is no power vested in you, Mr. Patrick, or in the Speaker of the House, if there were a Speaker in the chair, to set aside that gentleman's election and compel his exclusion until he has been introduced in the manner indicated. That matter of introduction was discussed here as a mere form which might or might not be dispensed with. We know that the right hon. member for Kingston, who claims to be a constitutional authority—and I admit he is—set aside this rule. He believed it was not necessary: he believed it was a mere form that might or might not be observed, and he gave the strongest proof of his faith in that position by himself declining to be introduced.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: That is not the position I took.

MR. MACKENZIE: I hope the right hon. gentleman was not in the position of Dr. Kenealy, who could not find two members to introduce him. The right hon. gentleman has spent a long time in telling us that this is a rule which must of necessity be observed; and yet he himself did not observe it. He thought it was quite unnecessary in the case of Sir John A. Macdonald, but quite necessary in the case of Timothy Warren Anglin. The privileges of the House, the liberties of the people are all at stake, because Timothy Warren Anglin is not required to do what the right hon. member for Kingston was not required to do in his own estimation. But the right hon. gentleman, if his theory were carried out, might dis-

franchise a very large proportion of the members of this House; he proposes to disfranchise a dozen members here, and there might have been a great many more.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: As it is in England every Session.

MR. MACKENZIE: The circumstances are wholly different.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: The practice is all the same.

MR. MACKENZIE: I have shown that the rule in England is not the same. The rule with regard to the swearing in of members is this: As soon as the House is elected, and the House meets, and is authorized to proceed, the Speaker himself first alone standing on the upper step of the chair, takes the oath of allegiance and supremacy, and takes and subscribes the oath of abjuration, and also delivers to the Clerk of the House a statement of his qualification, and makes and subscribes a declaration that he is duly qualified, in which ceremony he is followed by the other members who are present. The Speaker is elected by the members before a single one has taken the oath. In the language of the right hon. member for Kingston (Sir John A. Macdonald), they were no House, they were a mere assemblage, and though he says the oath was necessary in every case to constitute them a House, yet they were constituted a House and elected a Speaker before any one had taken the oath. Notwithstanding all this, the right hon. gentleman endeavours to apply the rules in England to us,—rules which are wholly inapplicable under the circumstances. I shall not show the bad taste the right hon. gentleman has exhibited in discussing matters which were fully discussed last Session, in regard to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Anglin) whom I have proposed to take the chair. I shall not introduce any discussion of that kind, but confine myself strictly to the object which we all have in view, the organization of the House in a proper manner. I have thought much over this affair, and I am quite satisfied that the course we have proposed—that I have proposed as lead-

MR. MACKENZIE.