

posed to the adjournment when it was proposed last year; I am opposed to it now, and I shall always oppose such a proposition.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—what have the Government to say on this subject?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The Government will be guided by the opinion of the House.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I think the hon. gentleman might inform us what public measures are likely to be submitted to us.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I doubt if, in the interim, any important bills are likely to be brought up from the other House.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT—Have the Government any measures to originate in this House?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It is quite possible that there will be one or two.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY—I confess I am exceedingly surprised at this motion, made by my hon. friend, and at the reasons he has given for submitting it. As the hon. Senator from Frederickton remarked, there is nothing to prevent any hon. gentleman from going home if he wishes to.

We are asked to pass this motion upon the ground that there is no business to engage our attention here for the next two or three weeks, and the Government sit silent under that, and desire us rather to lie under the impression there is none. I confess I am surprised that the Government, who have the conduct of business in this House in their hands, have not given us a different reply from that we have heard from the hon. Secretary of State, because that hon. gentleman must know better than any of us the condition of the public business. It is not for us, but for him, to anticipate that from day to day public measures of great importance may come before us. We have now on the paper several important matters, and others may come up from time to time. It has been heralded to us that a Bill of an important character—perhaps the most important that could be submitted to this Senate, in its initiatory point of view—will be laid before this House, and we have measures coming from the other Chamber. It would be improper and inconsistent for us to abdicate our functions for eight or ten days. The hon. Member who has made this motion has said, what has been frequently stated

*Hon. Mr. Haythorne:*

before, that he supposes the Members from the Maritime Provinces will oppose it because they cannot get home. The hon. gentleman forces us to retort that this proposition always comes from Members of a particular Province. This motion is unseemly, and if he will consult the feelings of the House he will withdraw it.

Hon. Gentlemen—No! No!

Hon. Mr. DICKEY—Well, we shall have the views of hon. gentlemen placed on record, and see who are the Senators who declare that this House was obliged to adjourn because it had nothing to do.

Hon. Mr. PENNY—I am entirely indifferent whether the motion passes or not, but I must say I am astonished at the excessive disposition manifested by some hon. gentlemen to attend to the public business and to make a ministerial question of this motion, when I remember that, during former administrations, adjournments of this kind were very common, and none thought the Ministry were or were not doing their duty in permitting it.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—Undoubtedly if there is any business to be done we should stay here and do it; and if the hon. gentlemen on the Treasury Benches will give us any idea that there will be business for us during the next two or three weeks, I shall oppose the motion. If, however, there is no business to come up, the question is, apart from any ornament that may be thrown over it, what is the use of coming here day after day if we have nothing to do? Do we accomplish any good by this ceremony of meeting and adjourning?

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—I have always been consistent on this question. I do not think it adds to our dignity to discuss it here. I have always opposed it. Last year I yielded on the general understanding that it would never be raised again.

Hon. gentlemen—No! No!

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—Well, I let it go past last Session on that understanding. There is work to be done by the Committees, and I believe there are measures to be initiated in this House by the Government. But, apart from that, it is our business to be here. The public expect us to be here, and write here, and come here expecting to find us at the Capital during the Session. I know there