

HON. MR. ALEXANDER—And a postmaster.

HON. SIR DAVID MACPHERSON—No, the hon. gentleman ceased to be a Postmaster when he became a Senator; but I said what I could in his behalf, and as the sequel has shown, much more than I ought to have said in his behalf. Whether the renewal of the intimacy resulted in the advantage to the hon. gentleman that he anticipated I do not know; I merely mention these facts to show that I have done nothing to provoke the attacks of unsurpassed malignity which he has hurled at me; that on the contrary, all my acts, whether in regard to public matters or private affairs, have been of the kindest character, and I know of no cause for the course which he has pursued, and which, really, is not consistent, in my opinion, with that responsibility which men ought to recognize attaches to their words and acts. I will only say a few words more. The hon. gentleman now poses in this House as the representative of bankers and merchants. Could there be anything more absurd? Could there be anything more ridiculous? Of course, he does not tell me his private thoughts, but I am told that he is lamenting that it should devolve upon him to eject Sir John Macdonald from office but that he has a mission—

HON. MR. ALEXANDER—Hear! hear!

HON. SIR DAVID MACPHERSON—The hon. gentleman does not appear to understand the distinction there is between being laughed with and being laughed at! He now laments that Providence should have made it his mission—these, I understand, are his own words—to eject Sir John Macdonald from office, and to assume the reins of Government as Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada!

Thanking the House for the patient hearing they have given me in what is so much a personal matter, and one that I need not tell you is exceedingly distasteful to me, I resume my seat.

HON. MR. ALEXANDER—I will not weary the House, because I do not think I am expected to reply to the special pleading of the present President of the

Bible Society of Toronto, and which reminds me very much of his pitiable special pleading on the Irish resolutions. His special pleading to-day is just as pitiable—

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I rise to a point of order. The hon. gentleman has already spoken. This is not a substantive motion, but an enquiry, and having spoken once upon it, he has no right to speak again.

HON. MR. ALEXANDER—I think the House will allow me to reply. The hon. gentleman has made very grave charges against me.

HON. MR. PLUMB—The charges are the other way.

The SPEAKER—A point of order has been raised. The hon. gentleman from Woodstock has already spoken, and there being no substantive motion before the House he is not entitled to make a second speech except by the consent of the House.

HON. MR. PLUMB—Before this matter closes I should like to understand thoroughly whether the debt of the Grand Trunk Railway Company to the Bank of Upper Canada has ever been settled. Although I do not couple my hon. friend with it at all, it would be desirable to know whether that debt, as has been claimed by the hon. member from Woodstock, was a loss to the public or whether the debt was paid. If my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior has the information, I should like to have a clear statement on that point.

HON. SIR DAVID MACPHERSON—What is the question?

HON. MR. PLUMB—I should like to know whether the charge made by the hon. member from Woodstock, that a debt of £100,000 due by the Grand Trunk Railway Company to the Bank of Upper Canada remains unpaid, or whether the debt of the Grand Trunk Railway Company was paid off?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The Government having been concerned in