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service, and the severest inspection of all administrative expenses, regrets that the actual advisers of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor have persisted in remaining in power without being supported by the majority of the Legislative Assembly at the time of their entrance into office and without even yet having the support of this majority."

It was necessary to adopt a new paragraph with the assistance of the Speaker's vote in order to give a semblance of strength to the Cabinet thus censured. And what was said in this amendment? Here it is:

"Nevertheless, in these circumstances, this House believes it to be its duty to give a "general and independent support"—remark well these words—a "support" general and independent, to the Government, in order that the measures which it proposes may be submitted to the judgment of this House."

There is the engagement that I took jointly with my colleagues in 1878.

We have kept it, and we have surpassed its measure in order to give to this administration all possible opportunities of surmounting the obstacles in its path. And during all this Session of 1878 the Government was only kept in power by the vote of the Speaker!

At the following Session, in 1879, the Joly Government had two or three more votes than in 1878. But let us return to the Journals of the House and let us see what happened.

I say, that from the moment that Mr. Letellier was dismissed, his Cabinet was virtually if not constitutionally dead. It had only an ephemeral existence. The blow of '79 simply put an end to the crisis.

According to my ideas a healthy Government is one which can always command a majority. If we refer to the Journals of the House we shall see that they sustain me in speaking thus.