

tude (Alaska boundary) appointed in virtue of the first article of the convention between Great Britain and the United States, signed at Washington on the 21st of April, 1906.

Government House,
20th February, 1911.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.—Mr.
LORTIE.

Mr. J. A. LORTIE (Soulanges) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day are called, I rise to a question of privilege, in connection with an article which appeared in 'Le Canada,' on February 17th. It reads as follows:

LATEST NEWS.

Nationalists are divided on the question of reciprocity.

(From Le Canada's special correspondent).

Ottawa, 16.—I learn on reliable 'castor' authority that Mr. Monk will vote against the reciprocity proposal and that Mr. Nantel will follow suit.

Dr. Paquet, on the other hand, and Mr. Gilbert, who have been brought into line by numerous protests forwarded by their constituents, will give their support to the reciprocity proposals.

However, the former has come to that conclusion on the ground that he considers the proposal of benefit to Canada. As to the idea whether the proposals are of any advantage to his constituents, he does not concern himself with it in even the slightest measure. He went so far as to acknowledge that even should his electors frown on reciprocity, he would support the proposals. The member for L'Islet is certainly entitled to the country's gratitude under the circumstances; however, it remains to be seen whether his constituents will approve of the principle he propounded or on the contrary will show their distrust at the coming elections by throwing him overboard.

As for Messrs Lortie and Blondin, they have not as yet taken a stand, it is said, and for this good reason that they have not been in the House for over two weeks.

The counties of Champlain and Soulanges are in the same plight as the county of St. Hyacinthe in reference to its representation in the local house they have as their representatives in the Dominion parliament men who take no interest whatever in the concerns of their electors. Mr. Héroux, while in a mood of tendering good advice, should call the attention of these gentlemen to the primary importance of their duties as representatives of the people in parliament.

Mr. Speaker, every statement in reference to me in the above extract is shamefully false. Ever since the opening of this session, I have been discharging faithfully my duty as a member of parliament. I followed assiduously the various debates which have been going on, and I appeal to all my fellow members that I am telling the truth while I flatly contradict the state-

ment which appeared in that paper 'Le Canada,' in the very presence of the man who wrote those lines.

If 'Le Canada,' or the writer of that piece of news, is in a position to show that I have been two weeks away from the House, I shall at once resign as a member of parliament.

Of all the newspapers in the country, I do not think there is another as rotten as 'Le Canada' when it comes to misrepresenting and knowingly showing things in a false light.

RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH THE
UNITED STATES.

Mr. MONK. I desire to ask the government if they will table any correspondence had with the American government since the last batch of correspondence was laid upon the table. I understand there has been an exchange of letters, and that notably since what is known as the Champ Clark utterance, there has been some correspondence, letters addressed, I believe, to my hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fielding), or, it may be, to the Minister of Customs (Mr. Paterson). I think that all this correspondence up to the present moment should be tabled.

Mr. FIELDING. My hon. friend (Mr. Monk) refers to some correspondence which the Minister of Finance has had in relation to the Champ Clark utterance?

Mr. MONK. I said that amongst other things it was said that there had been an exchange of letters in regard to that question between the Secretary of State of the United States and my hon. friend (Mr. Fielding).

Mr. FIELDING. There is not a shadow of foundation for that statement.

Mr. MONK. Has there been any correspondence?

Mr. FIELDING. If there is any correspondence in relation to this matter with the United States authorities, properly the subject of consideration by this House, it will always be brought down.

INQUIRY FOR RETURNS.

Mr. TAYLOR (Leeds). I desire to make inquiry concerning two returns moved for on the 14th of December last, relating to the travelling expenses of ministers and civil servants and the cab hire of ministers and civil servants.

Mr. MURPHY. I will make inquiry and see that the returns are brought down with all dispatch.

Mr. LENNOX. I desire to call the attention of the government—I presume, of the Minister of Public Works—to the fact that an order made on December 5 last and re-