

we do not know how much or how little, but they are all responsible—I challenge them to point out in the history of the civilized world a case in which a friendly power—not a part of our own political system as the province is, but a friendly power—has been treated as Manitoba has been treated in this case. Was that the way to conciliate the province? Was that the way to ascertain whether a wrong had been done? Was that the way to do, if you wanted to get for the minority a restoration of what they call their rights? You summoned them, then you paused, you became alarmed, you took subterfuge in the courts, and you prayed God that the Supreme Court would say you had no jurisdiction, and you were bitterly disappointed when the Judicial Committee overturned the decision of the tribunal here, and cast upon you the jurisdiction. You wanted to hold yourselves forth as the defenders of the minority to the people of the province of Quebec, who are so much interested in this matter, and to avoid the responsibility to your friends in the province of Ontario, who are very much opposed to it; and you have wriggled and twisted from that day to this. And even now you are not done with it, for we are going through the solemn farce of meeting here for four months, a Bill being introduced in the middle of February, and brought to a second reading on 17th March, and we are told, that negotiations are then to be commenced, and the matter is to be hung up. The principle is to be established, you are to force your followers to eat dirt, if you can, and many of them will do it for a consideration.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. member for North Simcoe will realize, that that is not a proper expression.

Mr. McCARTHY. I bow to the Speaker's ruling. He says that the followers of the Government will not eat dirt.

Mr. SPEAKER. I refer to the hon. member's statement, that the supporters of the Government would do certain things for a consideration. That, I think, is not parliamentary, and the hon. member ought to withdraw it.

Mr. McCARTHY. As to the latter part of the statement, it seems I am out of order, and I beg your pardon, Mr. Speaker, and at once withdraw the expression. The rumours, we see, are all fiction. We read the newspapers so frequently that we get imbued, perhaps, with the statements they make. I apologize for that statement. It is not true, Sir, I am quite certain, that there are a great number of members now hanging on to the skirts of the Government, demanding compensation for their vote, in the shape of office.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. McCARTHY. It is not true: I say it is not true. I could give you the names; but it is not true, and I am bound not to do it.

An hon. MEMBER. What are you talking about, then?

Mr. McCARTHY. What am I talking about? I am taking it back.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, whether it is competent for an hon. gentleman to shelter himself by a subterfuge and a side wind, and at the same time to utter a gross libel upon the members of this House.

Mr. EDGAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to rule, whether the leader of the House is in order in the language he has just used.

Mr. SPEAKER. I am afraid the House is getting into a state of disorder. The member for Simcoe certainly did use an unparliamentary expression, in saying that hon. members of this House would be influenced to do certain things, to vote for a Bill, for a consideration: and I understood the hon. member to withdraw that statement.

Mr. McCARTHY. Perfectly correct.

Mr. SPEAKER. Since that time I have not understood him to make any unparliamentary statement.

Mr. EDGAR. I rise to a point of order, and I ask you, Mr. Speaker, whether you consider that the leader of the House was in order, when he characterized the language of the member for Simcoe as a subterfuge and a libel?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The statement I made was this, that the hon. gentleman had uttered a gross libel upon members of this House, and he has been obliged to withdraw that. What I objected to was, that by any subterfuge he should endeavour to repeat it, and to fix it upon members of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. member is not in order in using the word "subterfuge."

Mr. FOSTER. I want to call your attention to this point of order, to a statement made—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. If the hon. member proposes to raise another point of order, he is quite in order in doing so. But the hon. member must either accept the ruling of the Chair on the point already raised, or appeal to the House.

Mr. FOSTER. The point of order I wish to raise is this: The hon. gentleman went on to state, that it is not true that there are