

I did not know until I came into the House yesterday evening that such a question was likely to arise. I found that the honorable Attorney General for Lower Canada wished to have twenty-four hours to consider the course that should be taken in regard to it. I certainly do not think the demand was an unreasonable one (Hear, hear). I think it desirable that before action is taken upon such questions some time should be allowed for consideration. However the Government was unable to get a postponement of the question and we were exposed to taunts of which I do not complain, for they were well deserved and well applied. We were told by the honorable and learned member for Toronto (Mr. Cameron), that we were placed in a position where important proceedings were going on and we were not able to direct them. This was true and we were certainly placed in a very embarrassing position. Feeling this strongly, I considered it my duty not to lose any further time in pursuing the course which I had determined on. Accordingly I communicated in the course of the debate last night, with my honorable friend (Mr. Morin) and told him that it was my determination to tender my resignation. My Honorable Colleague, feeling, I am sure, that the course I proposed to take was a proper one, under the circumstances, joined with me in it. This morning we tendered our resignations to His Excellency and those Resignations as I have already informed the House have been accepted.

Mr. Speaker, there is one other point which I must crave the indulgence of the House to allude to. In the course of discussions here and elsewhere certain charges personal to myself have been made. I do trust Honorable Gentlemen opposite will do me the justice to believe that I have no desire to avoid a full investigation into those charges. (Hear hear) I stated during the late session that it was my anxious desire that such an investigation should take place, (Mr. MACKENZIE hear, hear.) I am anxious now that it shall take place. I am anxious