

laid on the table by any individual Senator without the previous permission of the House; but in the Commons, no bill can be brought in unless a motion for leave be previously agreed to. Permission having been granted, a Committee is appointed to prepare the bill. It is then brought in and read a first time, without amendment or debate, and a day is appointed for the second reading, previous to which it is printed, and a copy furnished to each member. The Bill, after the second reading, is referred to a Committee of the whole House, at the sittings of which its details are considered, as its principles were at each of its several readings. Members are at liberty to discuss its principle at any of its stages, but no one is considered to have declared decisively in favor of its principle, unless by his vote he supports its second reading. In Committee, the bill is debated clause by clause, the blanks left for names, dates, nature and amount of penalties, &c., are filled up, and sometimes the bill is entirely new-modelled. The blanks, as they are called, which are usually filled up, in italics, are agreed to without a question being put, unless a member should propose to alter them. The next proceeding is, that the Chairman of the Committee should make a report to the House of the changes that the bill has undergone, which he does by presenting a copy of it to the Speaker in its altered form. The report of the Committee is agreed to without dis-