

has been commented upon at length in the editorial columns of the *Times*, and is no doubt now looked upon as correct by a large portion of the English public. I hope in some way or another that we may be able partly to overcome the mistake, and to lessen the injury which will arise from that mistake; but it is a very serious one in my opinion, and I take this opportunity of bringing it before the House, doing what I can in that way to correct the mistake.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I think we must all admit with the hon. gentleman that it is exceedingly desirable that accurate statements should be sent to the other side of the water as to what is done in this country, and as to the attitude of both parties in this country. We have had occasion to deplore frequently the grossest kind of misrepresentation as to the attitude of the Government, as to the policy of the Government, and as to the statements of the Government, in this House and elsewhere; and I am sure we would cordially join hon. gentlemen opposite to secure the transmission of truthful statements to the other side of the water, or to punish those who misrepresent, wilfully, what takes place in this House, and in this country, and in the councils of the Government. I do not think that, as regards this particular case, the hon. gentleman can have suffered so much as he apprehends. I think almost any one who reads that telegram would suppose that there was a misprint or an inaccuracy in transmitting it. The reader could hardly credit the hon. gentleman with ignorance of the facts—

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). It has done so.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. The *Times* has not done so at all. The *Times* has given an inaccurate account by telegraph of what the hon. gentleman's resolution was, and any person of sense in reading it would see that the resolution must have been either "as goods are admitted free," or "Canadian goods being admitted free." The comments of the *London Times* simply gives the hon. gentleman credit for a rhetorical phrase, and I should not suppose he would object very much to that. I know that upon this side of the House we were under the impression that the hon. gentleman had committed that indiscretion more than once.

Mr. BOWELL. I would like to ask the hon. gentleman if he read the whole of that letter, or whether he gave the full information that he received from the gentleman who sent the despatch? I am informed that he told the gentleman, either in that letter or verbally, that he had sent a correction. If such be the case, I think it is only due to him that this fact should be stated in connection with this debate.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) I thought the concluding paragraph was a personal one entirely, and so I did not read it. I see it contains the statement to which the hon. gentleman referred. I will read the whole paragraph:

"I deem it but right that I should make this explanation to you, as during the past three years that we have been thrown together our intercourse has been of the pleasantest character, and I did not wish you to get the idea into your head that there was any desire on my part to misrepresent you."

Then there is this paragraph, which is a personal matter:

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.)

"I may state that I have cabled the full text of your motion to England, in order that the error may be rectified."

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I cannot accept the explanation. I believe the thing was designedly done, and I believe it is only part of a continuous system of misrepresentation which has been carried on for some time.

Mr. BOWELL. The same as the letter you sent to London, which any one can judge for himself.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. My letter speaks for itself. My letter is true, every word of it; and what is more, it is accepted as true by those in England who know best what the men who are at present misgoverning Canada are doing.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. It did not deceive any one, because the stocks of Canada rose at its publication.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Did they rise?

Mr. BOWELL. They did rise.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). The hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) has the right to express what views he may think proper in the London papers, and if hon. gentlemen opposite think they are untrue, the same opportunity is afforded them of denying them and controverting the hon. gentleman's statements. But no matter what the hon. member for South Oxford may have written, what we are now considering is a misrepresentation of a debate which took place in this House, a misrepresentation of the proceedings of this House. My hon. friend from Queen's, P. E. I. (Mr. Davies) moved a resolution assuming that Canadian goods go free into the English markets. How does this cablegram read? It reads that he moved an amendment: "Canadian goods free Britain, duty British goods reduced Canada." What is the meaning of that? If that is properly paraphrased it means precisely what the *London Times* said it means, that when Canadian goods are admitted free into the English markets, the duty on English goods will be reduced when they enter the Canadian markets. This is the clear, palpable paraphrase of that cablegram, and it is preposterous for hon. gentlemen, after it has been employed to exhibit a party as ignorant, who are not ignorant of the relations between Canada and the mother country, after the mischief is done, to say that a cablegram conveying a proper representation of the motion has been conveyed across the Atlantic. When? A fortnight after this cablegram was published and commented upon. The Minister of Justice says nobody in the United Kingdom can be so ignorant, so ill-informed, as to suppose that any party in this country will be ignorant of the fact that Canadian goods are admitted free into the English markets. But the *London Times* assumes that to be the case. Here is a whole column in this paper based on that assumption, and hon. gentlemen opposite have, to the best of their ability, profited by that, and hon. members sitting on the back benches opposite seem to think it is a capital joke. They are highly amused at the fact that the position of one-half of the people of this country has been misrepresented by a cablegram sent by a party who sits in the gallery of this House. That may be amusing to hon. gentlemen and may suit their estimate of the principles of fair-play; but these are not the views entertained by the hon. gentlemen on this side of