

so denude himself of his manhood. Hon. gentlemen might call him inconsistent, but the people could discriminate between a slavish support of either side and an independent, honest, and outspoken course. He would not stop to bandy words with the hon. member for South Grey; he had more important matters to attend to. He was really not worth a quarrel. (Laughter.) Upon the whole he rather liked the hon. gentleman; he was good-natured; his bite was not half so bad as his bark. (Laughter.) He was great at barking, but he was not much of a biter after all. He was great at using big, high sounding words. He reminded him of the lines:—

Uplifts the club of Hercules; for what?
To brain a butterfly or crush a goat:
Sets wheels in wheels on motion, awful clatter,
To force up one poor upper skin of water:
Bid ocean labour with tremendous roar,
To heave a cocle shell upon the shore,
In every theme the same his wondrous art,
Heaven's awful thunder or a rumbling cart

(Great laughter).

He proceeded to advert to the other accusations that had been made against him. First he was to be sent to England, then he was to be appointed Crown Attorney, then again he was to be on some Commission, and then he was to have a seat in the Cabinet. All these predictions had failed. He stood there today, having been offered what the hon. gentleman never would have refused, independent of the men on the Treasury benches, as well as of the men on the Treasury benches at Ottawa; and as long as he had his health and intellect he could put at defiance the whole of his accusers, in the House and out of it, before any assembly of the people of this Dominion. He had now, he thought, disposed of this subject once and for ever.

Mr. LAUDER made some interruption.

Mr. WOOD observed that his words were no doubt like living coals to the hon. gentleman. It was very much like throwing burning coals of fire in a nest of vipers; it was like holy water where it was not wanted. (Laughter.) The hon. member for East Toronto had been dragged into this discussion; whether he chose to make any remarks or not he was perfectly indifferent. He had known the hon. member for many years and entertained for him the highest respect.

Mr. PRINCE protested against a continuance of this discussion.

Mr. CAMERON said he would take this the first opportunity of stating that the member for Simcoe was not open to the charge of having picked up this paper. The paper was transmitted to him by him (Mr. C.) It was received by him (Mr. C.)—at this moment it did not signify how. He was willing to assume all the odium of its being received in any manner in which the member for South Brant might see fit to charge him with receiving it; when the proper time came for him to tell how it was received he would tell it. In the meantime he had simply to say that the paper was in his possession when he was charging the member for South Brant with having betrayed his party and the Government of which he was a member. He charged the hon. gentleman then, and he charged him now, with that accusation. The enquiry that he proposed was burked by the ingenuity of the then Premier. He charged, among other things, that a communication had passed between Mr. Blake and Mr. Wood on the day on which the latter gentleman had announced his resignation to the House. He alleged, as within his own knowledge that a communication had passed between these gentlemen when Mr. Wood was a member of the Administration. When the hon. gentleman announced his resignation to the House, it was not known by his colleagues that he had resigned. Half an hour before the House met he and Mr. Sandfield Macdonald were coming to the House when a messenger handed Mr. Macdonald a letter. He did not open it then, and they went into the Treasurer's office and spoke to Mr. Wood about the affairs of the Government. Mr. Wood asked if he had not received his letter. The Attorney-General replied that he had not. He (Mr. C.) reminded him that the note he had just received must have been it, whereupon Mr. Macdonald opened the letter and found it was Mr. Wood's resignation. While he and the Attorney-General were in the office a messenger came with a communication from Mr. Blake to Mr. Wood. The hon. gentleman came into the House, and in response to the appeal made by Mr. Blake to each individual member of the Government, announced his resignation, and he stated at the same time that he would feel bound to support the policy of the then Administration. That was on Friday. Upon the Monday following this note passed, when it appeared that Mr. Blake had control of the hon. gentleman. He (Mr. C.) saw this communication passing, and, suspecting what it was, asked Mr. Richards

to get up and speak, to prevent Mr. Wood from speaking, and Mr. Richards did so. As to the manner in which the evidence against the member for South Brant was obtained, it did not matter.—Mr. Cameron was proceeding to attack the Commissioner of Public Works in connection with the Proton affair, when, it being six o'clock, the House rose.

After recess,

The House went again into Committee of Supply.

Mr. CAMERON resumed the debate.—He

was at a loss to know the reason of the attack made by the member for South Brant upon the members for South Grey and Lincoln. The only sin committed by the member for South Grey was his upright and uniform support of the Ministry of which the member for South Brant was a member. He (Mr. Cameron) thought the present discussion was of little avail at this time. He knew of no principle which was more to be upheld than the rectitude of action of members in this House; but he thought that a gentleman who would betray his friends and colleagues, as the member for South Brant had done, would betray his country, and was not deserving of trust where there was the power in his hands of doing injury. He (Mr. Cameron) never denied the ability and force of character of the hon. gentleman, and his knowledge of the Municipal Loan Fund question, and the Arbitration question, and he thought the interests of the country would be served by the appointment of that gentleman as the agent before the Privy Council, before which the Arbitration question was to be argued. He had no personal enmity or ill-feeling towards the member for Brant or any other gentleman. The only gentleman who had ever thrown down the gauntlet of personal ill-feeling to him was the leader of the Blake-Scott Government, who said that there was an impassable gulf between them on account of his action with reference to the question now under discussion; but he felt no bitterness of feeling towards that gentleman. He concluded by asking the Treasurer for some further explanations as to the supplementary estimates now sought to be passed.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS said if the hon. gentleman referred to the resolution he would find it explained itself. It was for the purpose of placing in the hands of the Government a sum of money sufficient for the purpose of meeting the present requirements of the Government. It would be seen that there was nothing extraordinary in the resolution. They only required a sum of money which would enable them to carry them on for a period of about two months. They submitted to the House something more than an open vote of credit, they submitted also the items. They were acting in accordance with the custom of England, and only, he reiterated, required enough money to carry them on until the regular estimates were brought down.

Mr. CAMERON said the matter had been laid before the House in a very crude shape by the Hon. Treasurer. He thought the amount for contingencies should be explained more fully.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS was glad to afford any information asked for. He would have followed the English precedent, but had been influenced by the proceedings of the House last session and its previous session, according to a system devised by the then leader of the Government, and the leader of the Opposition. What was asked for was sufficient money to meet the expenditure for two months, in proportion to the usual yearly expenditure. The item for contingencies was based on the calculation that the contingent expenditure of the Treasury Department was about \$2,000 a month.

Mr. CAMERON said that the supplementary estimates had been passed last year in the same way as was now being done. It was to be regretted that the Hon. Treasurer had not followed his own inclination in this matter.

Mr. WOOD explained the circumstances under which the supplementary estimates had been passed last session. A good deal of consideration had then been given to the matter, and the course adopted had been deliberately approved of. While on his feet he thought he might as well reply to some of the remarks of the hon. member for East Toronto. He (Mr. Wood) was becoming somewhat impervious to the repetition of these charges. He would now like to ask if a person finding an article of value and appropriating it to his own uses would not be prepared to defend a person committing larceny. The hon. gentleman saw a piece of paper passed over to him (Mr. Wood) which he understood was to ask him to speak now; the