

protested against the passage of the Bill. He would record his vote against it if he stood alone.

Mr. HODGINS said the conduct of the Opposition in leaving the House after a vote had been taken was certainly an unprecedented proceeding, and one which was not in the interest of the country, which the members of the Opposition were called upon as members of the House to serve. He had always been taught that the majority ruled, and that whether the decisions of the majority might be right or wrong, they were bound to accept it for the nonce. They were called upon, as far as possible, to use arguments to convince the majority; but for the Opposition, after it had been overwhelmed by the decision of the House, to leave nothing but empty benches was an insult to the Legislature (cheers), was an insult to the people of the country (cheers), and was not carrying out their constitutional rights and constitutional duty. There was too much of a theatrical performance about it. (Cheers and laughter.) It did not commend itself to the sober judgment of those who looked calmly on public affairs, and though he was one who associated himself for the nonce—and only for the nonce—with the Opposition in opposing the measure, believing that where there had been the decision of a Court of Appeal it was not the function of any Legislature to override that decision, yet the conduct of the Opposition, he believed, merited the condemnation of the House and of the country. He repeated that there was too much of the character of a theatrical performance about their act, and he regretted to say that many of the distinguished gentlemen in the Opposition, who stood well in public esteem, had not elevated the position either of themselves or of the Opposition by the course they had pursued on that occasion. (Cheers.)

Mr. HARDY said their departure might fitly be called the Pacific Scandal March. It had been made by hon. gentlemen who throughout the country had approved and applauded the *coup d'état* of Sir John Macdonald without the slightest hesitation. While the performance of the Opposition was theatrical, it likewise partook to a large extent of the character of a circus. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr. ROSS (Huron) said he almost regretted that to meet his convictions he had been led to support a party which had displayed such childish petulance. (Cheers.) They had not exhibited themselves in a character which would have the effect of attracting any sensible people to their ranks. The exhibition was childish, and hardly worthy of school boys. In view of the exhibition which the Opposition had made, he was sorry he had been, to a certain extent, connected with them in the measure before the House.

Mr. HUNTER thought the performance was a small edition of the "March of the Cameron men." (Laughter.)

Mr. GOW said it was a repetition of the conduct of the Opposition in the Public Accounts Committee.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

SUPPLY.

Mr. CROOKS moved the second reading of the Supply Bill.

Mr. Lauder, Mr. Cameron, and other members at this stage re-entered the Chamber, and were greeted with ironical cheers and laughter.

The Bill was read the second time.

The House adjourned at 1:10 a.m.