

Mr. DEACON disapproved of the conduct of the Government in proposing a reduction and of the member for East Toronto in retracting the step he had taken last session. He could not support the motion of the member for South Brant, as it was a question which not only affected present but future representatives. He was prepared to stand by the course he had taken last session, and if his constituents did not consider his services worth \$800 they could get some one else to serve them.

Mr. ROSS approved of the proposed reduction, as he believed it had been rather unseemly, at the very beginning of a new Parliament, to raise the indemnity. Had the action been taken during the last session of Parliament he would have supported it. The opinion of the country had been expressed through the newspapers adversely to the increase, and it was the duty of the House to respect that opinion. He did not think the corruption in the United States was due to the inadequacy of the salaries of public men, but to the constant imputation of corrupt motives by the press and by public men.

Mr. BELL said that he for one would not retrace the course he had taken last session with regard to this matter. He would support the present indemnity.

Mr. WIDDIFIELD said that individually he was in favour of doing away with the indemnity altogether, and protested against such terms as buncombe and clap trap being applied to the motion of the member for South Brant. If the motion had not been made he (Mr. Widdifield) intended moving a similar one.

Mr. DAWSON said that he was not one of those who signed the round robin last year, but having acquiesced in the movement he considered that he was equally responsible with others. His constituents had never, to his knowledge, objected to the increase. He had no reason to believe that the leaders of the House, either on the Opposition or Ministerial side, in proposing to reduce the indemnity to the former standard, were not actuated by a desire to meet the public sentiment as expressed through the press, and he for one would support the motion of the hon. the Treasurer. He could not approve of the motion of his hon. friend from South Brant to do away with the indemnity altogether. It looked too like a piece of petulance—it did not look like the calm expression of wisdom to be looked for in gentlemen aspiring to guide the helm of State. (Laughter.) And what would be the effect of such a measure? Simply to circumscribe the choice of the electors to mere men of wealth. Hon. members who object to any indemnity could very easily leave their shares in the Treasury. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Why should they seek to impose their crude notions on this House and on the country at large? (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BOULTER did not believe that the opinion of the country had been pronounced upon this question, but merely the views of a few newspaper writers who did not, in his judgment, represent the public mind. He should vote against the motion.

Dr. CLARKE (Norfolk) said that if the country were bankrupt, no doubt members would give their services for nothing; but when the country was prosperous, they had to consider what was right to themselves as well as to their constituents. He did not think the whole of the press were against them. But even if so, was their action to be governed by the press? If that were the case, they should have passed the Orange Bills last evening (applause), or should vote down the farmers' sons' franchise, but to which the press was opposed. He was prepared to say that he would not serve his country for nothing so long as his country was able to pay him.

Mr. CODE considered \$800 little enough for indemnity. He would vote against both the motions of the hon. member for Brant and of the Treasurer. He freely admitted that the Opposition were as responsible for the increase of indemnity as were the supporters of the Government, and he was ready to defend that increase.

Mr. ROSS said that the reason he had written the letter which had been mentioned to-night was because the London Herald had stated that the increase was due to the members supporting the Government. He had been particularly guarded in that letter not to place any member in a false position. He had only spoken with regard to his own course and his own views.

Mr. BETHUNE said he had been humili-

lated at the sweeping condemnation of their action last session by the press of the country. After fully considering the matter, though his views as to the smallness of the compensation were unchanged, he, in deference to the sentiments of the country as they had been expressed, proposed to support the Government in the matter. He would vote for the amendment of the hon. member for Brant, though he did not suppose it would carry, because he believed that it was a move in the right direction. Public sentiment should be brought to bear on the question of whether the time had not come when there was a sufficient number of able men ready to serve in the Legislature without remuneration. He recognized the press as the reflex of public opinion, and believed that they had made a mistake in increasing the indemnity last session.

Mr. MASSIE protested against the conduct of those members who now backed down on the action they had taken last session. He admired the conduct of those who had the manliness to stand by what they had done last session. For his part he could not afford to give his services for nothing, and would therefore vote for the present indemnity. If he could not get \$800, he would rather vote for abolishing the indemnity altogether.

After remarks by Messrs. Deroche, Hardy, Simolair, Rose, Hay, Richardson, Craighton, and Cameron,

Mr. HARDY'S amendment was then put and lost.

The item then passed.

The Committee rose and reported.

Mr. MOWAT moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 12:50 a. m.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Long—On Monday next—Select Committee to receive and consider the representations which deputations appointed by the County Councils of the counties of Simcoe and York and the Council of the city of Toronto, desire to make with reference to the construction of the Huron and Ontario Ship Canal.

Mr. Baxter—On Monday next—Bill to amend the Act relating to the practice of medicine and surgery and the study of anatomy.

Mr. Lauder—On Monday next—Order of the House causing to be laid before the House a statement showing all moneys which have remained unclaimed one year and upwards in the Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and the Court of Chancery in this Province. Showing in detail the names of the parties, or causes, to whose credit the said moneys are respectively standing.

Mr. Kean—When the House goes into Committee of the Whole upon Bill (No. 7) "respecting to Town of Orillia," will move to add the following clause at the end of said Bill:—

4. This Act shall not come into operation unless and until the said extension of the limits of the Town of Orillia shall be sanctioned by a majority of the ratepayers of the aforesaid portions of the townships of South Orillia, who shall vote upon said question at a vote to be taken in the following manner, praying that such vote may be taken:—

(1) Upon a petition praying that such vote may be taken signed by at least ten of the said townships to be so annexed, and being presented to the Reeve of the united townships of Orillia and Matchedash, it shall be the duty of the said Reeve forthwith to call together the Council of said townships, who shall without delay pass a by-law, fixing a time and place within the said territory to be annexed as aforesaid, and appointing the returning officer for the taking of said vote, and regulating the manner of taking thereof, and the returning officer shall record the names of these ratepayers who vote either for or against the said annexation to the town of Orillia, as the case may be.

(2) Notice of the time and place for taking such vote shall be given by publication thereof for two weeks in some newspaper published in the town of Orillia.

(3) In case the said Council of the said township shall fail or neglect to pass such by-law within three weeks after a petition shall have been presented to the said Reeve, as aforesaid, then it shall be the duty of the said Reeve himself to appoint such time and place and returning officer to take such vote and to give notice thereof as aforesaid.

(4) All expenses connected with the passing of the said by-law and the taking of the said vote shall be payable by the Corporation of the town of Orillia.