

turning officer? Were any of such appointments made in substitution of other appointments previously made, and if so, which of said persons were so appointed in substitution for others? When was each such appointment in substitution made, and for what reason was each such substitution made?"

The Attorney-General replied that the information was not in the possession of the Government and would have to be obtained from the returning officer. The returning officer would be asked to furnish the information.

Their Statements Agree.

Before adjournment Mr. Hardy rose and drew attention to an editorial article which appeared in The Mail and Empire this morning, as follows:—

"This Looks Bad."

"Mr. G. W. Ross, according to the reports of his party press, told the West Elgin electors that the Government would this session remit a drainage debt of \$25,000 owed by the Townships of Aldborough and Dunwich.

"At a subsequent meeting Mr. Hardy declared that the people ought to vote for the Government that has something to give.

"Mr. Ross on Thursday last explained the corrupt offer thus:—

"Hon. Mr. Ross then rose to reply to personal explanations on his Dutton address, which had been pointed to as a corrupt bid for votes. He had simply as a Minister answered a question put by an elector. The rebate of \$2,500—press reports made it \$25,000—in connection with the Dunwich and Aldborough drainage debentures had been agreed upon in Council in January, 1898, on the report of an expert engineer, and was reported to the Reeves of the townships at the time."

"But on August 24th, 1898, Mr. Hardy made a statement in the House, of which the following is a report in the party paper:—

"In reply to Mr. MacdIarmid, the Attorney-General stated that no order in Council had been passed remitting any portion of the debt of the Townships of Aldborough and Dunwich on account of drainage debentures, but that an intimation has been given that a portion of the debt will be remitted."—Globe, August 25, 1898.

"So that with reference to the action that was taken, Mr. Hardy flatly contradicts Mr. Ross.

"Mr. Ross cited an order in Council which Mr. Hardy says was never passed, that he might make it appear that definite action had already been taken, and that no corrupt promise was therefore made."

"That statement as to the contradiction, Mr. Speaker, is entirely false," said Mr. Hardy. "Mr. Ross explained that Council had agreed upon it, but no order in Council had been passed; that Council had merely agreed upon it. I distinctly said in my reply that Council had agreed upon it, but no formal order in Council had been passed. The two statements agreed in all particulars as nearly as they possibly can, having regard to the fact that they are not copies of each other." Mr. Hardy, referring to the sentence, "At a subsequent meeting Mr. Hardy de-

clared that the people ought to vote for the Government that has something to give," said: "That is false also, and I apprehend it is designedly false. Mr. Hardy made no such statement, and I shall be prepared if possible to ask The Mail to quote the statement which they allege contains that particular allegation if they can find it in my speech."

Mr. Whitney's Complaint.

Mr. Whitney also had a grievance. He drew attention to what he termed "a most extraordinary editorial" in today's Globe, headed "An Extravagant Assertion." He desired to call attention to two or three lines in that editorial in which he was charged with having:

"Declared in the most forcible terms that the school system of Ontario was such (and we are now quoting his own words) that not a shadow of education was obtained under it."

The report of that debate in The Globe, Mr. Whitney pointed out, contains no word referring to whatever statement he had made on that point, therefore the reporter of The Globe is not to blame for having made the misstatement. "What I said," continued Mr. Whitney, "is that under our system there was no education in its proper sense possible, and all those who understood the meaning and derivation of the word 'education' would agree with me. That is what I have said, and care has been taken by the writer of this editorial to cut off the latter half of the sentence, so as to make it possible that the ordinary reader would understand that I had said something

entirely different from what I had said. I am glad to say that I have not very often to make complaints against the reports or editorials on either side."

Mr. Whitney Did Not Deny It.

Hon. Mr. Hardy pointed out that in his reply he had quoted the express words of his hon friend (Mr. Whitney) that "there was not a shadow of education imparted," and had asked his hon. friend at the time if he had not said so, and the hon. gentleman (Mr. Whitney) had not denied having made the statement. The hon. gentleman would find his (Mr. Hardy's) remarks recorded in the report of his speech which appeared in the same issue of The Globe that contained a summary of Mr. Whitney's speech.

Mr. Whitney, in reply, said the Attorney-General was utterly astray as to the words he used. He had used words, similar to those quoted, as the first half of a sentence and followed them up by the other words he had just quoted, and which his hon. friend (Mr. Hardy) heard and understood. If the hon. gentleman had not understood them he could not have made the remarks which he did in reply. What he had said was, "Under our present system there was no education in its true sense, and those who understood the meaning and derivation of the word education would agree with him," and he said so now, and his hon. friend the Attorney-General understood him, and because he understood him he had gone on to ask what he (Mr. Whitney) would expect, and asked did he expect them to be taught carpentering and building and other arts in the school.