

Mr. PATERSON. I do not charge the hon. gentleman with constructing the letter. I make no statement of that kind.

Mr. STAPLES. That letter was not written in No. 6.

Mr. PATERSON. If the hon. gentleman is ashamed of having anything to do with the letter, I have nothing to say. All I did was to quote what he said yesterday:

On the 23rd of February, the Hon. Mr. Rogers, after writing this letter, asked me to see that it got over to the Hon. the First Minister. I rang the bell from room no. 6, and there came a messenger named Julius Beaulieu, I gave the letter to him, and he said he would deliver it.

Mr. BARKER. There is more than that. You have not read it all.

Mr. PATERSON. I am referring to what took place in room No. 6. If the hon. gentleman wants to hear the rest, I will read it:

He says now there is no doubt but that he did deliver the letter. Surely we are living in a mysterious age, mysterious things are taking place every day, and this is one of them. I wish to call the right hon. gentleman's attention to another statement he made. He told us to-day that his memory is as fresh now as it was in his younger days.

Mr. BRODER. Dispense.

Mr. PATERSON. I would if a member less important than the hon. member for Hamilton had not asked me to read it.

He stated that the Hon. Colin Campbell was on the floor of the House on the 22nd day of February when these Bills were introduced, which is not the case. I may add regarding that letter that I have been down and consulted the records in the messengers department in this building, which show that this wonderful letter went from room No. 6, and that it was delivered to the messenger at about the time that the messenger states it was carried to the right hon. gentleman's residence on that particular day, and they show that it went from that particular room.

Now, why did the hon. member for Hamilton desire to have the whole letter read?

Mr. BARKER. Because, according to the statement made by the hon. gentleman as quoted in 'Hansard,' the messenger said that the letter was actually delivered on that day.

Mr. PATERSON. What is the object of the hon. gentleman, unless it be to insinuate that the word of the Prime Minister may not be taken? Surely the hon. member for Hamilton ought not to take that position. The statement of the Prime Minister is before the House and the country.

Mr. BARKER. May I ask the hon. gentleman to let me explain why I asked him to read further? I did so simply because he omitted to read the most material part of the statement.

Mr. STAPLES.

Mr. PATERSON. The material part of the statement in my argument was that this gentleman was in No. 6. Whether the letter was delivered or not might, I think, be safely left between the Prime Minister, the member who is interrupting me and the messenger.

Mr. STAPLES. I ask the permission of the hon. gentleman to put a question to him.

Mr. PATERSON. Go on.

Mr. STAPLES. Have you made the statement to this House that that particular letter was written in room 6? Have you or have you not?

Mr. PATERSON. What I did was to read what the hon. gentleman said. I was not there.

Mr. STAPLES. You will not answer?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The hon. gentleman did state over and over again, as he knows, that that letter was written in No. 6.

Mr. PATERSON. Where was it written?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Why did the hon. gentleman not state that when the question was put to him?

Mr. PATERSON. I read what the hon. gentleman stated. If there is any doubt about it, where was the letter written? Who wrote it? The hon. gentleman said:

On the 23rd of February the Hon. Mr. Rogers after writing this letter, asked me to see that it got over to the hon. the First Minister. I rang the bell.

'After writing it'—as if the letter had been written right there; and the hon. gentleman immediately rang the bell. If the hon. gentleman says the letter was not written there, I will, of course, accept his statement.

Mr. STAPLES. I say the letter was not written there.

Mr. PATERSON. Might I ask the hon. gentleman then to inform the country where it was written?

Mr. STAPLES. All I know about it is what I stated, that Mr. Rogers came in with the letter and asked me to see that it was delivered to the right hon. the premier.

Mr. PATERSON. I will not ask the hon. gentleman if he knows what was in the letter.

Mr. STAPLES. I certainly know what was in the letter. It was read in the House yesterday. The only thing I do not know is where it went to.

Mr. PATERSON. The main point I made, by reading from the hon. gentleman's remarks in 'Hansard,' was that Mr. Rogers was in room 6. I suppose he will not deny that.