

to accept this Confederation scheme. The most pressing reason given for passing the measure now is, that the relations between Upper and Lower Canada have reached such a stage, that the Government of the country cannot go on in peace and quietness any longer. I do not think anything of the kind is the case. I do not think any honorable gentleman from Upper Canada is ready to rush into civil war. I do not think any number of people in Upper Canada has given up the hope of obtaining, by constitutional means, what they think is fair. I do not think any of them would think of coming down here and obtaining the rights of Upper Canada by murder, bloodshed and civil war. I think it is most unfortunate that the Hon. President of the Council should have attempted to frighten us by the use of such terms.

HON. MR. BROWN—The hon. gentleman must be mistaken. I never used such words in connection with the advocacy of Upper Canadian rights.

MR. JOLY—I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon, but I have heard him use those terms several times on the floor of this House.

HON. MR. BROWN—Then it must have been of speaking of the war in the United States.

MR. JOLY—The hon. gentleman certainly told us in his speech at the opening of this debate, that our country was in danger of being plunged into civil war.

HON. MR. BROWN—It certainly was not me; the hon. gentleman is mistaken in the person. It was the honorable member for Richelieu who used words of that character. I have never used such language in this House in relation to our constitutional difficulties.

MR. PERRAULT—What I said was that the Constitution, as it stood, was sufficient to enable us to live under it for centuries to come, without civil war. (Laughter.)

HON. MR. BROWN—Now the hon. member ought to withdraw that statement with regard to myself, until he can prove it. It was not the Hon. Premier of the Government, but myself whom he charged with using the words "civil war" in relation to Canada.

MR. JOLY—I understand what is due from one hon. member of the House to another, and I very cheerfully withdraw the statement, because I cannot find the words just at this moment in the report of the hon. gentleman's speech; but I will call his at-

tention to the matter again, so soon as I am in a position to prove the statement I have made. But I certainly was always under the impression that he had used those words. (Hear, hear.) Well now, having withdrawn those words with reference to one member of the Administration, I have to make the same charge against another member, occupying even a higher position in the Cabinet. Here are the very words employed by the leader of the Administration, in addressing the Upper House. On page 9 of the *Parliamentary Debates on Confederation*, I find this passage in the speech of the hon. and gallant knight at the head of the Government:—"At the time these measures were resolved upon, the country was bordering on civil strife, and he would ask if it was not the duty of both sides to do all they could to prevent the unfortunate results which would have followed." Well, I see it is the term "civil strife" that is used instead of "civil war." (Laughter.) But it is used in the same sense as the term "civil war." The French version of our official reports has "*guerre civile*." I think it is most unfortunate to hear hon. members of the Government, who have in their keeping the fair fame of the country, letting it go to the world that Canada, which was always looked upon as such a happy, free and prosperous country, was on the eve of civil strife. It is all the more unfortunate that I was mistaken in reference to the person who uttered those words, for I find now that it is the Prime Minister of Canada, instead of the Honorable President of the Council. If that honorable gentleman had said anything approaching to what I charged him with, I am sure he would not have denied it in the manner he has, for I think he would have been willing to have considered the spirit of the charge more than the mere letter. I will not now take up the time of the House any longer. I simply wish to show the unfair means that had been used by the Government in carrying their Confederation scheme through this House. (Cheers.)

HON. ATTY. GEN. MACDONALD—I think, sir, that my hon. friend who spoke last made a mistake in the construction of the English language, when he charged my hon. friend the Hon. President of the Council with alluding to civil war, and that his remarks were rather unparliamentary in so far as they alluded to the debate in the other branch of the Legislature. (Hear, hear.) He charged my honorable friend with stating that the