

something. If we call this department the Geological Survey, the name carries us back to the fifty years' service which this department has had. If we change the name as proposed, the first impression is, not that it is a scientific body, but that it is a department, and immediately you will cause a tendency on the part of a large number of office seekers who have not scientific qualifications to apply for positions. The general feeling will be that here is a new department, here is a chance to get some one in. I feel satisfied that if the name of the department is changed the heads of the department will be worried with applications from all manner of applicants. If we do not change the name, that difficulty will be avoided.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—I think we would have no objection to allowing the old name to remain, providing it is understood that this department will include natural history, mining, &c.

HON. MR. POWER—The old Geological Survey included all that.

HON. MR. POIRIER—I would like to draw the attention of the hon. gentleman to the fact that if you begin to alter the name of this department so as to include all the subjects dealt with there you would have a very long name in a very short time.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—in this Act the expression department means the Department of Geological Survey—that is, it includes mining, natural history, surveying, &c. I have no objections to striking out the words "mining and natural history."

HON. MR. POWER—I should like to get an expression of opinion from some other members of the House upon this point. I think the better way would be to retain the historic name of the Geological Survey of Canada, and then you can include in that department anything you please. If you say that it is the Department of Geology, the title is open to the objection that it gives office seekers the idea that a new department is being organized. If you continue the old title, you give no such invitations to office seekers, and you can include under the name anything that you please.

HON. MR. DEVER—I think it is more expressive to say Department of Geology,

Mining and Natural History, which includes every branch.

HON. MR. SCOTT—There is a good deal that is misleading in all these titles. Not only are the branches of geology, mining and natural history dealt with here, but there are other subjects also—for instance, the subject of ornithology is taken up and dealt with quite extensively. Therefore, I think that in any title that is given to the department the name ought to show that it includes and embraces something outside of geology. It would be misleading to narrow down the name to Geological Survey.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—The intention of the Government was to have the name or title as it appears in the Bill. It has been said to the Minister of the Interior that the old title should not be left out, but he has no objection to the change of the name. The title, as it now is, according to this Bill, shows that the department is not purely one of geology. At the same time, if the desire of the hon. members of this House is that the change should not be made, we will keep it as it is.

HON. MR. VIDAL—I do not feel at all convinced by the arguments presented by my hon. friend from Halifax.

HON. MR. POWER—They do not generally convince you.

HON. MR. VIDAL—I think it is rather to my credit. He seems to lay great stress on the argument that there is a possibility that office seekers will be led to make applications for positions in this department. I do not think that is any reason why we should not change the name. What is it to the Legislature if people make mistakes and apply for positions in this department? I think it is very desirable that the name should convey to the public some idea of the work in which the department is engaged. We know that the word geology conveys to the average mind nothing more than an impression of strata, &c. It does not indicate in any way that the department is engaged in natural history. I think we ought to leave the name as it is in the Bill.

HON. MR. SCOTT—I understand the reason why my hon. friend from Halifax is desirous that the title should remain as