

voters among ourselves, a thing we can do better, more cheaply, and more satisfactorily to ourselves in every way—if we admit this, we admit at once the commencement of this insidious destruction which befell the English municipalities. Hon. gentlemen know perfectly well that amidst the municipal corruption of many of our cities there remained no voters at all. There was a mayor and aldermen and perhaps a common council and they carried on all the municipal affairs. When these bodies required renewal, by death or resignation of any of their members, the appeal was not to the people, but to the rest of the body, and the rest of the body elected men like themselves; and thus this state of things was perpetuated—the very same danger that my hon. friends are warning the Government of in this Bill. We say there is a danger in this Bill of perpetuating the majority in the House of Commons, and we warn you against doing anything which may have the effect of perpetuating in that body any dominant party. Are we right or are we wrong? Have we reason or precedent on our side? Does not our history confirm this statement? Can it be denied for one moment? I perhaps may find it answered because I was rather shortly stopped yesterday in making a bold assertion, but I believe it is the case that scarcely any country possesses this unbroken municipal franchise. I know that in Hungary the patriotic Kossuth claimed that the same system remained in his country and had kept liberty alive all those years up to a recent period, and there is some shadow of it existing there still even up to this time.

HON. MR PLUMB—It prevails in Russia.

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—I believe it prevailed in Switzerland too, but that was owing perhaps more to the inaccessible situation of that country than to any other cause. They gained their liberties; how? By constant watchfulness. But, dropping ancient history and foreign history, let us speak of our own. What has happened here in Canada? Did not the Dominion the other day pass her eighteenth birthday, and has she not, I may say without danger of contra-

dition, fairly well performed all the duties of a nation during that time? She has put down foreign invasions—met them on her own borders, and within her own territories, and defeated them. Has she not quelled rebellion? She has, but yet I think we have to look to a much earlier period—a period much further back in the history of the British colonies to understand the important point how it is the love of liberty has sprung up amongst us, and how it has been nurtured, and how it has grown. To understand all this, I think, we must look back to the earlier history of our British colonies—in speaking of one we must speak of them all. No doubt the Mother Country gave to most of her colonies as much if not more freedom than she herself possessed. She gave us representative institutions, sometimes interrupted by nominated councils for a time; but there was always an appeal to the people themselves; liberties were not abrogated by any insidious acts of the Government appointed by the people. Their liberties were increasing rather than diminishing yearly, and such is the process going on through all the colonies. I know that in my own province we battled for a hundred years, that sometimes we contended against the operation of the proprietary tenure of land, sometimes for representative institutions, and finally obtained them. The British Government gave us all that she had to give—all she knew at that time. Since then there has been a great development of what we now understand as Parliamentary government in England, but I think it has not reached further than it has here. Here we are quite as jealous of our liberties and our constitutional government as they are in the Mother Land, and, I think, it is to this struggle for parliamentary government—for parliamentary responsible government—that we owe the great love of liberty which prevails throughout this Dominion, and it is to that love of liberty, that high estimation and regard in which our rights and liberties are held, that we must look to obviate the evil effects of this Bill should it become law. I have to tender my thanks to the House for the great patience with which they have listened to my remarks. I am aware that for some cause or other unknown to me, there is a desire that a division should take place on