

received any of it. It has been lying in the United States Treasury to this day, between fifty and sixty years. We all remember the Alabama claims arbitration. England paid the sum of money which was demanded. Claims of the most extraordinary nature were brought forward to get these funds, and yet after settling every possible claim that could be advanced, a large sum of money still remains in the hands of the United States Government. Would not common honesty have dictated to them that the unpaid balance of money should be returned to Great Britain? Then, again, only the other day we had the case of our sealers which were seized illegally by the United States. Our neighbours agreed to an arbitration at which the United States was represented as well as ourselves; it was decided that the seizures were illegal, and that our sealers were to be paid for the damages they had sustained by the detention of their vessels. Has any money been paid? The money has not been paid, and what is the use of arbitration when you have to deal with persons imbued with the spirit illustrated in these three cases? Then it is proposed to buy Palestine; why should we buy Palestine? Palestine belongs to the Sultan of Turkey. Have we any right to say to England "rob Turkey of Palestine; get Turkey by the throat and oblige the Porte to sell Palestine?" I think we have not. The hon. gentleman who cries "Peace, peace," when there is no peace is not justified in making that proposition. I have a proposition to suggest as to the place where the arbitration should meet, and perhaps the hon. gentleman from Shell River might agree with me, and that is, Sable Island. I am a Nova Scotian, but I think I can speak in the name of my countrymen. Sable Island is, by geographical error, supposed to be part of Halifax County, and I think I can make the pledge that Sable Island will be given up for the headquarters of the Board of Arbitration without cheating Turkey out of Palestine. Any one who has been to Palestine will see that the people there are beggars and persons who have been transported there by charity; they are mere beggars and the scum of the world. Of course there are exceptions to that. The hon. gentleman alluded to Abyssinia and the Italians. My sympathies are entirely with the Abyssinians. I have great respect for the Italians, but I think they

might have saved Italy the trouble they have got into by the invasion of that country. I will not go so far as to say that the Abyssinians were descended from the eunuch who was baptized by Philip, but no doubt their christianity dates as far back as that. I must apologize to the House for the remarks I have made, because I think the question cannot be properly discussed in this chamber.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—From the tone of those hon. gentlemen who have addressed the Senate, I think probably it would be better for me to withdraw the motion rather than seek to commit the House to the principle. The object I had in view is served, and possibly as years go by the question may come up again in the Senate, when the views that are here advanced may be better known. With the permission of the House I shall withdraw the resolution.

The motion was withdrawn.

#### ALGOMA ELECTION WRIT.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

The Order of the Day being called—

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before the Senate, a copy of the writ of election dated the 4th day of February, 1891, addressed to Harry Plummer, Esquire, as a returning officer for the electoral district of Algoma, in the province of Ontario, for the election of a member to represent the said electoral district of Algoma, in the House of Commons, for the present parliament. Also, copies of all letters addressed by the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Canada, or by any official of the government, to the returning officer for Algoma, at the last election. And also, copies of any letters from the said returning officer to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It is stated that in another place to-day an announcement will be made, in behalf of the government, as to the view they have arrived at as to the length of Parliament, and I see by the accredited organ of the government here it is stated:

As to this matter of the "life of parliament," it is understood the government will announce to the House to-day that it holds to the opinion that Parliament expires on the 25th April.

I presume that the announcement is, in the main, correct. If so, I shall withdraw my motion.