

between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, or Newfoundland and old Canada, and still more so, no provisions between Australia and other distant colonies of the Empire, and the colony of Canada. Some two or three years ago, it was proposed by the Imperial Government that legislation should be had in the Imperial Parliament, for the purpose of meeting that difficulty; and some correspondence took place, which was laid on the table of the House four or five days ago, between the Imperial Government and the Government of the Dominion relative to the legislation upon this subject which was found to be necessary, the Imperial Government suggesting that the legislation should come best from the Imperial Parliament, inasmuch as they, from their pre-eminent power, could deal with the subject through all parts of the Empire, and in so far as it was affected by the transition on the high seas. At one time that course was rather objected to by the authorities of the Dominion, but after some additional correspondence it was found that that was really the most useful course to be pursued upon this subject, and accordingly we acquiesced in the legislation which was proposed on the part of the Imperial Parliament, and which affects not only the colony of Canada, but all the other colonies of the Empire, and which provides for the rendition of fugitives from one colony to another and their transmission across the high seas by the general legislation of the Imperial Parliament. At the same time the right to deal with this subject so far as Canada was concerned, and so far as all dealings with persons within our own limits were concerned, was undoubtedly given to the Parliament of the Dominion by the British North America Act of 1867; and we, the present Government, have thought it desirable, for the purpose of preserving intact the autonomy granted to us by the Confederation Act to legislate upon this subject so far as our own limits are concerned, and this bill, although it proceeds upon the same lines, and is almost absolutely in the same language—not quite, but almost absolutely in the same language as the Imperial Act, is for the purpose of asserting on the part of the Dominion the right to deal with the subject in so far as regards the limits of the Dominion of Canada. The correspondence that has taken place was laid on the table of the

House at the suggestion and request of my hon. friend from Amherst. I do not see that it has been printed, but if hon. gentlemen desire to examine it, I can postpone going into committee on this bill until they see it, but the effect is as I have mentioned it to the House. It is, in the first place, the desire of the Imperial Government to legislate on the subject; the reasons for that desire; the remonstrance of the Government of this country that this was a subject which had been dealt with by the former legislatures of the different Provinces of the Dominion, and could be dealt with again; and then the reply that so far that might be true yet they could not deal with it upon the high seas and between other colonies of the Empire and this colony, and therefore it was a subject which could be with more convenience, more force and greater propriety and certainty, dealt with by the Imperial Parliament than by the legislature of any of the Colonies; and then the final rejoinder of the Government of the Dominion that it would be well at all events that we should assert our right within our own Dominion, which right is asserted by the bill before us.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN DISPUTED TERRITORIES BILL.

SECOND READING.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of Bill (F), "An Act to continue in force the Act 43 Vic., Cap. 36."

He said:—The House knows that the Government of the Dominion and that of the Province of Ontario, and latterly that of the Province of Manitoba, have not been able to come to an agreement as to the boundary between Ontario and Manitoba, though efforts have been made on both sides to do so. I do not desire to go into the relative earnestness or merits of these exertions, but simply to say that they have been made, and yet, so far, that they have failed. Hon. gentlemen know the direction in which exertions have been put forth by the Government of the