

that period is doing business, or desirous to buy a house, he may do so, but according to the hon. member for West-Durham, he cannot hold it, and obtains no title on paying his money.

Mr. BLAKE. Not at all.

Mr. McDONALD. He desires to do business; the money he accumulates and stock he has in his house are not his, and he cannot hold it under the law.

Mr. BLAKE. Not so.

Mr. McDONALD. Then I do not understand the proposition.

Mr. BLAKE. That is quite likely.

Mr. McDONALD. But I think the House will agree with me that when my hon. friend declared that we had not power or authority constitutionally to confer the right upon an alien to hold real or personal property, we cannot understand the result of that proposition if it does not lead directly to the consequence which I have stated. That is, at any rate, my humble opinion, but I dare say my hon. friend could explain the proposition in a manner that would enable my obtuse mind to understand it. Then, this clause 4 proposes only, and entirely within the power and competence of Parliament, to declare that aliens shall be able to hold real and personal property. That does not authorize this Parliament, nor does this Parliament seek to determine in what form or in what manner that property shall be held. That is governed by the local laws; but the rights he shall acquire, in relation to property, must be governed by the way in which he shall sell or buy. He is entitled to hold it, transmit it, or sell it, just as any other resident in the Province of Quebec, under and by virtue of the laws of the Province of Quebec, affecting real and personal property, and like any other resident, he is subject to the laws regarding the civil rights of the residents of that Province. Therefore, I contend that the proposition contained in that clause is perfectly constitutional. My hon. friend from Bothwell (Mr. Mills) says that the 4th clause, that giving power to aliens to hold property, has nothing to do with naturalization. Well, I dare say a naturalization Bill would be perfectly valid without it, but I do think a naturalization Bill which would debar aliens during the period of time which the Bill declares they must wait before becoming entitled to naturalization, from the right to hold or acquire any property, would be an anomaly in a civilized country.

Mr. MILLS. Supposing a foreigner comes out here and says: "I do not want to become naturalized." This Act only authorizes us to deal with the naturalization of aliens. How can you naturalize one who does not want to become a citizen?

Mr. McDONALD. My hon. friend has not read the Bill. It is not one for the naturalization of aliens, but it is one respecting naturalization and aliens, so that it embraces in the fullest manner all the legislation required to fulfil the object which this Act has in view. We are also told that the Provinces forming the Dominion had various provisions in reference to the naturalization of aliens at the time of the Union. The law of 1868 was for the purpose of simplifying these various laws, and enabling persons residing in the Dominion to obtain naturalization in a simpler form, while reserving any rights they may have acquired before that time in the several Provinces. But so far as I am aware, in each and all of the Provinces an alien had a right to hold property. The English Naturalization Act, from which this is copied, begins with the declaration that aliens residing in the country shall be enabled, subject to conditions stated in the clause, to hold real and personal property. I have only to repeat to some extent the observation I made when I rose—that if the view of the hon. gentleman were correct, we should have the curious anomaly

of inviting people from foreign countries to come and reside in this country, while at the same time declaring to them that for three or five years after their arrival they would be worse than strangers in a strange land, entirely unable and incompetent to hold property which, by their industry and intelligence, they might acquire.

Mr. LAURIER. So far as I understand the hon. Minister of Justice, he held that aliens in the Province of Quebec could not acquire or hold real estate or property there. The 25th article of the civil code of the Province of Quebec, says:

"Aliens have a right to acquire and transmit, by gratuitous or onerous title, as well as by succession or by will, all moveable and immoveable property in Lower Canada, in the same manner as British-born or naturalized subjects."

This is the law which existed in the Province of Quebec at the time of Confederation, and which exists at the present time. The clause in the hon. gentleman's Bill is clearly *ultra vires*.

Bill read the second time.

SUPPLY.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. BOURASSA. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago we witnessed the Government granting protection to the manufacture of beet-root sugar, by exempting it from taxes for a certain number of years, and I thought that that measure was an advantage, not only to the refiner, but also to the agricultural class. I hope that the hon. member will not rest contented with that, but that he will go a step further in the right direction, viz, towards favoring that class, which has been somewhat neglected for a number of years. With that object I move the following amendment:

To leave out all the words after "that," and insert the following instead thereof: "It be resolved, That whereas more than nine millions of pounds of unmanufactured tobacco are imported in each year, and whereas that plant might be advantageously cultivated in this country, this House is of opinion that the cultivation thereof should be encouraged by the abolition of the excise duty levied upon tobacco grown in Canada."

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the hon. member who moves this amendment seeks assuredly to make political capital during the present elections, or during those that are to take place in a couple of years. The hon. member is not going to succeed in his attempt, because the people understand that it is necessary to have a revenue to meet the expenditure and to carry out the various public works demanded throughout the country. Moreover, the hon. member must not forget to tell the electors, at the next elections, that there is an excise duty on tobacco cultivated in this country, that there is a far higher duty on imported tobacco, and that consequently the policy adopted by the Government with regard to Canadian tobacco is the same as that adopted to foster other manufactures of the country. For instance, in the same manner as we encourage the manufacture of cotton in this country by imposing a heavy duty on imported cottons, and by admitting raw cotton free; in the same way as we encourage the refining of sugar in this country; in the same way do we encourage the cultivation of Canadian tobacco, in this country, by imposing a far higher duty on foreign tobacco. The hon. member must be aware that, since duties have thus been levied, the cultivation of tobacco has assumed far greater proportions throughout the country than formerly, and, moreover, our farmers may cultivate tobacco for their private use, without paying any duty at all. But as soon as tobacco is cultivated for the purpose of sale, so soon, as in other cases, the Government, which requires a revenue, must levy an Excise duty; but the Canadian grower knows full well, that when he goes into the market with his