ing when the majority in that House changes. In this respect the English system prevails here.

It is sometimes claimed that the veto power of the Queen over the Acts of the Dominion Parliament, like that of the Queen in Great Britain, which has been obsolete since 1704, is a power never again to be used. Mr. Bourinot expressed this view in his paper read before the American Historical Association. But it is difficult to believe that Great Britain would treat a great constitutional power as obsolete, which was expressly reserved in a scheme of government enacted in 1867, and which has been exercised since that time.

Both parties in Canada have laid it down in their platforms that the veto power should not be exercised by the Dominion authority over Provincial legislation "in case of acts clearly and unequivocally within the legal and constitutional powers of the Province." Mr. Bourinot admits that there is a latent peril in this power, even so restrained, in times of excitement, and that it would have been better to leave it, as we do, to the Courts.

We suppose the veto power reserved to the Queen in Council would be exercised only where such veto seemed to her advisers in England necessary for the preservation of the royal authority, or the existing constitutional relation of Canada to the Empire. The veto power reserved to the Governor-General, or to the Lieutenant-Governors in the Provinces, is, we suppose, a living and real power. There were forty-five cases of disallowances of Provincial acts between 1867 and 1887. The power seems so far to have been exercised with great caution and discretion.

Another practice, also, has grown up under which Provincial acts are commented on, that is, the Minister of Justice, acting for the Governor-in-Council, has pointed out to the Provincial Government the particulars wherein certain measures are objectionable. In such cases, they have been amended or abandoned.