

Quebec desires to keep its system of protest, and I think it would be seriously aggrieved if we were to take it away from them.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—If it is only a slight change of procedure, the gentlemen of the notarial profession in Quebec will be more ready to yield to the general law of the Dominion. We are here to legislate for the whole Dominion; to make an exception will only lead to confusion.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT—This is not a change in the law; it is keeping the law as it is.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—But the object of this Bill is to make this law uniform, as far as possible.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It appears to me that this exception is extending to the notarial profession of Quebec a consideration that is not shown to the professional men of the other provinces. Consequently I think the same consideration should be extended to the members of the profession in the other provinces.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—You would make the other provinces subject to the law of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am strongly in favor of the suggestion thrown out by the leader of the House, that we should make the Quebec system uniform throughout the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—Though I am a lawyer, I do not approve of that.

Hon. Mr. POWER—If there is a risk of destroying the Confederation we should not protest any further against this exception; but I think the leader of the House rather misrepresents the position taken by those who are opposed to his view. The opposition is not based chiefly on the fact that the fees of notaries in Quebec are higher than the fees of notaries elsewhere, but that certain things must be done in order that the holder of a note may recover on it in the Province of Quebec, and this difference makes a sort of trap for the holder.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I drew attention to the fact that it would be very much better if the law were uniform throughout the whole Dominion. I cannot, however, forget that the practice in Ontario, at all events, is that all inland bills are protested. The banks in-

variably protest—that is where 99 per cent. of the protests come from. If a man wants a bill protested he hands it in to a bank. Therefore I do not see very much after all in the exception in favor of Quebec. It is only important with respect to the amount of the fees charged.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS—DEHORNING OF CATTLE.

A case important to farmers was heard by Messrs. Boright, Pettes, Shufelt and Miller, J. P.'s, at Sweetsburg recently. In January last Mr. J. L. Shepard of Abercorn had his herd of twenty-five cattle dehorned. The story of the operation was reported to the society in Montreal for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and Mr. Shepard was prosecuted. The society produced two veterinary surgeons who gave evidence strongly against the practice, which they held to be cruel. For the defence, several farmers gave evidence to the effect that they had tried dehorning with success, that the cattle operated upon had not been injured, and had rallied immediately after the operation and thrived better thereafter. They expressed the opinion that the pain of dehorning is not more severe or protracted than that connected with the extraction of teeth. Several witnesses swore that defendant Shepard's herd improved wonderfully since the operation. Mr. Racicot read to the court Dr. Cresswell's report of a series of dehorning experiments made in the West, in which the doctor described the operation as brief and only temporarily painful, and stated that the animals seemed to suffer no pain or inconvenience afterwards. The operation in each case lasted about ten seconds. The doctor related one instance where a young cow was drinking at a trough when she was tied up and dehorned. The operation over, she shook her head and returned to the trough to finish slaking her thirst. Prof. Henry, Prof. Chamberlin and other western authorities were quoted to the effect that the practice prevails and is rapidly increasing in the West, with uniformly good results. From actual experiments those authorities agree that the operation instead of being cruel is really merciful to the animals themselves,