

desires to resign that he should have the right to do so. We are reduced to this dilemma: either the Bill as it was introduced, without this amendment, is sufficient, or if we are to make an amendment we should provide for all the cases which should be provided for as to future contingencies. Therefore, I beg to suggest that we should have some general provision such as has been referred to, whereby all the provisions in the British North America Act of 1867 which are applicable to Senators should be made applicable to those Senators appointed from the Territories. I am quite sure my hon. friend can frame a clause that will relieve us of any embarrassment on this point. If it is ever to be done, now is the time to do it, and not wait until the question arises as to the mode of appointment, the tenure of office, the mode of getting rid of it, etc. I hope my hon. friend will, before the Bill comes to a final reading, apply his mind to it and give us such a provision which, I am sure, will make the Bill a very much better one than it is in its bald aspect now. The principle has been approved so far by the amendment which has been carried.

HON. MR. GOWAN—It occurs to me that this is very analogous to a proceeding dealing with an existing tribunal. For example if to the ordinary courts of justice one or more judges were added, it would be quite sufficient to say that they were added to the existing court, and all the rules and privileges belonging to members of that court would follow as a matter of course. This Bill dealing with a branch of the Legislature—the Senate—increasing the number of members composing it, certainly carries with it all the powers and privileges which belong to Senators generally, under the British North America Act. I think the last clause is desirable, having regard to the fact that the term “provinces” is used in the Act, and this applies to a condition of things which did not exist at the time that Act was framed.

HON. MR. TURNER—When the North-West Representation Bill was before this House a year ago, in congratulating the Government on taking a step

in the right direction, I objected to what I could not but consider mistakes of omission. One was that there was no provision for the appointment of Senators in the Bill, and the other that while only one member was provided for in Alberta, I thought in the interest of the country, there ought to have been two, and that Alberta should have been divided into two ridings—north and south. I foreshadowed then what the result would be. I claimed that the member would be elected not upon a political or any special issue, but simply for local considerations, and all would depend upon whether the north or the south had the largest number of inhabitants, which locality would return the member. The representative has been elected, as I anticipated, for what I call the south riding, and I think very properly so, because the only representative we have in the Commons for the great ranching districts of the North-West is that member. But north Alberta has got peculiarities of soil and situation which make it a very important position. I look upon the Edmonton District as the gateway to Athabasca, and one day no doubt it will be something as Winnipeg now is to the North-West—the key to the future North-West of the North-West. So far as north Alberta is concerned it has within its limits the head of the navigation of and is watered by perhaps the finest river in the North-West, the North Saskatchewan, and is bound to be an attractive place of settlement for men of limited means. There is a great risk in bringing a large number of emigrants of limited means to this country and placing them on our prairies where their means might be exhausted in building a house, digging a well, and getting fuel, all of which will have to be paid for; the North Saskatchewan is peculiarly suitable for such settlers. On the southern exposure of the river there is the prairie, on the northern exposure abundance of timber. My object in making these remarks is to show the importance of this riding. The whole of the Edmonton district is a bed of coal. It crops out everywhere and iron abounds, and even gold is found in paying quantities. But the special advantage is that a member coming from North Alberta, will not only represent Alberta, but also