

falling within its powers, and by the Confederation Act it certainly falls within the province of this Parliament to deal with it.

HON. MR. PELLETIER—Is it well understood that the reduction of the number will be by mortality?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Gradually, in that way I believe. I think that is a provision which is made in subsection F; they are to be granted annuities when they are incapacitated by reason of age, infirmity or otherwise, for their duties.

The motion was agreed to and the Bill was read the second time.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL.

SECOND READING.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of Bill (156) "An Act to restrict and regulate Chinese Immigration into Canada." He said: The restriction which this Bill contemplates is the imposing of a duty upon Chinese coming to this country; it is proposed that no Chinese shall land in any part of Canada who has not paid the sum of \$50.

HON. MR. ALMON—Is it any part of Canada?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes, any part of Canada, and the number who may enter is limited to one for every 50 tons of the vessel in which they come. It is copied from legislation in Australia, where the evil resulting from Chinese immigration has produced the same feeling that prevails now in British Columbia, and where the same step that is proposed to be taken by this Bill has been taken and approved by Her Majesty's Government. It is thought by Her Majesty's Government that it is within the power of the Legislature of Australia to take such a step—not to say that no Chinese shall enter the country, but to say that these Chinese who do shall come in subject to a certain duty, which there, as here, is put at \$50. Now this is a very strong measure

in the way of prevention, but the evil which is thought to result from the immigration of these people into the Dominion is very considerable, and it is the general desire, I think, in that part of the Dominion at all events, that it should be checked, and that the check which we contemplate should be the one to be imposed.

The motion was agreed to and the Bill was read the second time.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved that the Bill be referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

HON. MR. ALMON—I would not have spoken on this measure if its operation had been confined to British Columbia. I think each province should be allowed to regulate its own private concerns as it thinks fit: but that British Columbia, containing 20,000 of a white population, and having but a small representation in Parliament, should compel Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces to pass a Bill which is contrary to the genius of the nineteenth century—which in the course of 20 years would be cast up to everyone as violating the laws of nature and of God—I think is claiming too much. What does this Bill do? You prevent the further immigration of Chinese into the Dominion. What is the objection to the Chinese? I have heard the objection stated that they take no part in our politics: but we have just passed a Bill to prevent them voting. I have heard also that they eat rats. When I was a boy and read Gilray's caricatures I used to think that the French ate nothing but frogs, but when I came to know them I found that they, like myself, ate everything that was good, and perhaps the same may be the case with the Chinese. To eat rats, I think, is no reason why these people should be kept out of the country. There are, I think, now 18,000 Chinamen in British Columbia, and you say to these people that no Chinese women shall be admitted into the country. You put a duty of \$50 on every Chinese woman who comes into British Columbia and you keep those 18,000 men without their wives. What are you doing? Are you not encouraging vice? You say they are guilty of vices which cannot be named,