

Mr. BLAKE. This is including more territory.

Mr. BOWELL. It includes that territory portions of which are un-surveyed, lying westward of Magog and running to Georgian Bay.

Mr. BLAKE. The practical effect of that proposal will be to disfranchise the inhabitants of that territory. Being unorganized, there is no provision for municipal assessments, which is the basis of the voters' list. There is a special franchise for Muskoka and Algoma in consequence of their possessing so much unorganized territory, and if the hon. gentleman withdraws that district which contains that special provision, and inserts another which does not contain it, he disfranchises the population so transferred.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is a good deal in what the hon. gentleman says, we will add that back to Muskoka.

Mr. BLAKE. Where does Gibson lie?

Mr. BOWELL. It lies in that portion of the territory to which the Oka Indians have removed, west of Medora and south of Grey.

Mr. BLAKE. Why should it be abstracted from Muskoka then?

Mr. BOWELL. We are putting Gibson in Muskoka.

Mr. BLAKE. Of course, proposals of this kind, made without previous notice, cannot be discussed with advantage as we have not at our finger's ends the precise location of every township in Ontario, particularly in those new and unorganized districts. The hon. gentleman should give us an opportunity, before the final disposition of this measure, of looking into what is the final effect of the changes, and give us a statement of the reasons why they are made.

On section 22,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I leave the north riding of Wentworth unaltered.

Mr. BLAKE. I congratulate the Conservatives of Halton, particularly of the township of Nelson, on the success with which they have impertuned the hon. gentleman to make these alterations.

On section 23,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I move that section 23 be struck out.

Mr. BLAKE. I renew my congratulations to the Conservatives of Halton.

Amendment agreed to.

On section 26,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I move that after the word "Puslinch" the word "Erin" be inserted.

Mr. BLAKE. I congratulate my hon. friend, the present and future member for South Wellington, on the change.

Mr. GUTHRIE. I might suggest that the clause be struck out altogether. I may say that while the township of Erin will be faithful to the Reform party wherever it is, I have no doubt it is better satisfied to remain as it has always been, part of the county of Wellington.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I propose that the clause be struck out.

Amendment agreed to.

On section 38,

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman reserved this clause for consideration, and strong solicitations were made to him to take the Elgins out of this enormous riding and place them where they ought to be, in the north riding.

Mr. SHAW. It must be observed that though the west riding is large, the north riding comprises a great number of townships; there are the townships of Arran, Elderslie, Amabel, Albermarle and Lindsay, and there are five incorpor-

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

ated villages. Now this part of the country is being rapidly settled, there is the rising village of Warton in the north riding, which is rapidly growing, and in a short time the population of the north riding will be equal to that of the east or west ridings. Looking at the number of townships and the number of villages, there is reasonable ground for believing that there will be a large increase in population. There are three of these townships now connected under one municipal corporation, and very soon, no doubt, these townships will be separate municipalities. It is only a short time since the townships of Amabel and Albermarle were connected with the township of Arran. Then Innisfil was separated from Arran, and subsequently Albermarle has been separated from Amabel. Now, with regard to the west riding, I am glad to observe the hon. leader of the Opposition does not seem to consider it incorrect.

Mr. BLAKE. I beg your pardon.

Mr. SHAW. Well, he has not mentioned it at all events, and I presume that his silence gives consent as to the propriety of the course taken. The hon. leader of the Opposition, however, must bear in mind, and I believe that the people of the south riding will agree with me, that the proper method of dividing these ridings was to divide them into the east and west. There has been considerable discussion in that county as to the mode of dividing these ridings, and the Reformers have maintained that an outside party should be selected as the candidate, because the interests of the east and west were opposed. They have now been separated, and probably it may be said that the Reformers are hived in the west. Well, if that be the case, the Conservatives are hived in the east. You cannot hive Reformers without hiving the Conservatives, and so no great mischief was done. The question then is simply, is the county territorially growing in population? I think it is. I observe that matter has been discussed in the south riding, and only one objection has been taken to it, namely, by the incorporated village of Lucknow. Now, that village is at the very south of that riding. It was comprised of a portion of three townships, two in the north riding of the county of Huron, one in the south riding of Bruce. As that village now stands, a portion of it votes in the north riding of Huron and a portion in the south riding of Bruce for Dominion elections. The present arrangement will do away with that. It will leave the municipal organization of that village within the west riding of the county of Bruce, and a very proper arrangement it is. The same course was adopted with that village when it was incorporated; it was placed in the south riding of the county of Bruce for electoral purposes to the Local Legislature, and as regards that, I might just refer to the question of population. It is said the arrangement with regard to that village will benefit the present hon. member for the north riding of Huron, that it will take some Reformers from his riding and add them to the west riding of the county of Bruce. That is so, but the same course was adopted by Mr. Mowat's Government when that village was incorporated and put into the west riding, notwithstanding that the vote of South Bruce was much larger than the vote of North Huron and larger than the vote of North Bruce. I might also remark that the village of Tiverton, which lies on the border between North and South Bruce, was also brought into South Bruce for the reason that South Bruce was a little doubtful in its vote, while there was no doubt as to the vote of North Bruce. South Bruce was always doubtful, and although its population was nearly double the population of North Bruce, still these villages were both added to South Bruce in order to increase the Reform majority there. That was done by Mr. Mowat's Government, and although that is no argument for adopting the same course in Federal elections, still the Reformers of that riding have no ground to complain if Mr. Mowat's course be followed by the House of