

Chinese instruction, he will find that it is not the case. I know from the statements of merchants from two different cities in China that Christianity has made no appreciable progress amongst the Chinese, and even the class that come under the influence of the missionaries is not the class that come out to this country; they are employed to a large extent by the merchants in China. I do not agree at all with my hon. friend from Prince Edward Island that a better class of Chinamen would be encouraged to come here if they were told that by settling in Canada they would be entitled to the franchise.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—It would not tempt them.

HON. MR. PLUMB—It will not tempt them, and those who are here have not asked to be enfranchised; they have not thought of being voters; such a thing has not entered into their heads.

HON. MR. POWER—Have the Indians asked to be made voters?

HON. MR. PLUMB—We must remember that the influx of those people is upon the Pacific coast, and if the people of the Pacific Province have made up their minds that they do not want the Chinese to vote, after studying their habits, and having been in contact with them from day to day, I think it would be very impolitic for us to force the Chinese upon the people of British Columbia.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B. C.)—I would like to ask the Minister of Justice what is meant by the term "Mongolian or Chinese race?" Does it apply merely to a Chinaman fresh from China, or does it apply to a half-breed, quarter breed, or octoroon?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—There are no half breed Chinamen that I know of.

HON. MR. MCINNES—I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon, there are half breed Chinamen.

HON. MR. PLUMB—If there are half breed Chinamen in British Columbia they are not old enough to have a vote.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—This would certainly exclude from the franchise any person of Chinese blood.

HON. MR. MCINNES—Then, if so, I think it is a hardship. It is an undoubted fact that some Chinamen marry white women. They have families, and they bring up their children in a very respectable, intelligent way; and when such children attain the years of manhood, and have the necessary qualification, I think it would be a great hardship to refuse them the franchise. I am not objecting to the clause, but I am merely calling the attention of the Government to this fact and to suggest that it would be better to define how far the word "Mongolian" should go.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—There may be some definition given to it hereafter, but it will hardly do to send this Bill back to the Commons for the purpose of defining the word "Mongolian."

HON. MR. NELSON—I have never known a Chinaman to marry a white woman in British Columbia.

HON. MR. MCINNES—My attention was called to this matter by the hon. member from Peterborough who stated to me some time ago, when this Bill was introduced into the House of Commons, that a most respectable citizen in Peterborough, was a Chinaman; that he was married there and was well connected, and that his children were educated in the best schools in the Province. He instanced this as a case of great hardship.

HON. MR. PLUMB—It would be a pity to send this Bill back to the Commons for amendment for the sake of one instance of this kind.

HON. MR. MCINNES—It is one instance now; but I can assure the hon. gentleman from Niagara that immediately after the completion of the Pacific railway there will be a large influx of Chinese into the eastern provinces, and this Bill may perhaps inflict hardships on persons who ought not to be treated in this way.