

qualifications provided for by Section 23 of the British North America Act, 1867, and for the purposes of this Act the word Province wherever it is used in the said section shall be considered to mean the North-West Territories."

The effect of this is that it will be out of the power of the Government to appoint a Senator who does not possess these two qualifications. I move this amendment as clause 2 of the Bill.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not rise for the purpose of questioning the law of the Leader of the Government. I think his law is perfectly good, but it appears to me that inasmuch as it is apparent from the argument of the hon. gentleman that the provisions of the British North America Act do not apply as a whole to the North-West Territories, or to the senators to be appointed for the North-West Territories, and as the conclusion which the hon. gentleman states was reached in the other branch of Parliament was reached only after a good deal of discussion and considerable difference of opinion, and as he proposes now to amend the Bill in the manner set out in the amendment in your hands, it might be well I think—at all events it can do no harm—if the hon. gentleman added to his amendment some general provision to the effect that so far as applicable the provisions of the British North America Act with respect to senators should apply to the senators to be appointed under this Act. It can do no harm, and if it should happen that the view taken at first by the Government on the question, should ultimately be found to be the correct one, then no difficulty can arise. As a matter of caution the hon. gentleman can see that it would be as well to add some general words of that kind to the amendment which he has submitted to the House.

HON. MR. DICKEY—I understood from my hon. friend that a discussion had taken place in this matter in another place, but it has not come under my notice. I understood him also to say that the reasons given for the alteration of the bill, which omitted all reference to the British North America Act, appear to be irresistible. At the same time I think my hon. friend has given the best proof

of the wisdom of the suggestion which I made, in the amendment which he has offered for our acceptance now. That amendment runs exactly in the same direction as the first reference which is made here in the bill as it was originally brought in—that is, the reference to the qualifications of a Senator. But we have had no suggestion that it is intended to say anything as to the other provisions which refer to all senators, such for instance as the tenure of office and so on, and the mode that he has of resigning that office, how vacancies shall occur and under what circumstances. For instance, the loss of property if he should become bankrupt and so on. Then what is to be done when a vacancy occurs and who are to determine the questions of qualification, or vacancy, as the case may be, and all cognate questions. Therefore I think my hon. friend would do well to take into consideration the suggestion made not only by myself but by the hon. gentleman from Halifax, that in legislating in a matter which peculiarly affects this House and on which it is desirable to relieve this House of any doubt which may hereafter come before them, now is the time to settle this question so that we may never have any doubt about the position of any gentleman who comes here as a Senator. I think it is due to those who are to be appointed to be placed in the same position we occupy here. We hold our position by authority of the British North America Act, 1867, and I would be pleased if an amendment could be made by which those persons would also be brought directly under the authority and protection of that Act. I think they are entitled to it, and I think the House, in passing upon this Bill to give authority to appoint two Senators for the North-West Territories, should see that such protection is thrown around this legislation as will provide not only for the qualification which has been suggested, but also for other points referred to in the Act as applicable to those Senators as well as to all Senators, because it is quite evident if a man loses that qualification—if instead of holding \$4,000 he holds nothing—there should be a mode of vacating his seat and appointing a successor, or if he