

law on the subject, that I presume would regulate this matter.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—In the absence of any other law. As to the provisions of the Bill, I leave the hon. member from Barrie to defend his own measure; but should the Bill pass both Houses of Parliament, the provision we propose to put in the Act for making the consolidation of the law would embrace it, and would embrace any other change which is made during the present session. They would be included in the consolidation and form part of it.

HON. MR. DICKEY—Should they pass.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes.

HON. MR. GOWAN—I think my hon. friend will find that the provision with regard to the remuneration to be taken by pawnbrokers is to be found in the consolidated statutes of Canada, and applies to Ontario and Quebec. It is also found in the revised statutes of New Brunswick. I am not aware that it is in the statutes of the other provinces. It is the present law of New Brunswick, and is so treated by the consolidators.

With regard to the power of the Dominion to enact laws respecting pawnbrokers, it is quite clear; it is a matter of interest, and has been so treated by the consolidators, in the consolidation. If there is no law in force in the provinces to which it will extend no doubt it would not apply, but I rather think there is. I have no objection to meet the views of my hon. friend to say "by any act or acts relating to pawnbrokers" if that would help it at all, but I do not know that that would make any difference. The Bill is framed with a view to be worked into the consolidation, should it pass both Houses. The consolidators propose to make this law general. In treating of the subject they thought it was a valuable law, and that there should be one law for the whole Dominion, as the Dominion has power to deal with interest, and they have consolidated with a view to applying it to the whole Dominion of Canada, and this Bill is in keeping with that. Of course if it passes it will be grafted with it. I can-

not see myself any practical difficulty to arise.

HON. MR. ALMON—I may state that there is no pawnbroker's place of business in Halifax, and I doubt if there is in Nova Scotia. My hon. colleague will corroborate this; whether he attributes it to the National Policy which has taken away poverty and distress, I do not know, but that is the fact; there is no pawnbroker's establishment in Halifax.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not think there is any regular pawnbroker's establishment in Halifax.

HON. MR. READ—That is the effect of the National Policy.

HON. MR. POWER—They had not any before the National Policy.

HON. MR. ALMON—The hon. gentleman is mistaken. I remember when there was.

HON. MR. POWER—That was before I was born perhaps. There has not been any within my recollection. I took the precaution to inquire into this subject, as I said I should yesterday, and I have satisfied myself that there is not anything *ultra vires* in the Bill.

I rise now, in addition to corroborating my hon. colleague, for the purpose of suggesting that a few words might be added to this Bill, which I think would improve it. The object of the Bill is to remove a defect in a chapter of the consolidated statutes. That chapter does not provide any penalty for a violation of the regulations which it makes as to the rate of interest to be taken by a pawnbroker. This little Bill provides a punishment for violating that provision of the statute, but I think it would be well to add a few words. A party is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50, and I think we should add, "or in default to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 30 days." I think there should be that alternative to enforce the payment of the \$50. My hon. friend probably thinks that is provided for by other statutes. I looked into the matter this forenoon, and I think it would puzzle the proverbial Philadelphia lawyer