

only increased because it was found by the experience of two or three years that their expenditure was so augmented by the rapidly increasing population, by the necessity of preserving order, and the expenditure connected with the administration of justice, that they could not go on without some revision of the terms on which they became part of the Dominion. Then to enable us to give the \$100,000, the census of the country instead of being taken every ten years, as it is in the rest of the Dominion, is to be taken every five years, and in the interim an arbitrary opinion is to be arrived at as to what the population is, and the sum to be allowed is to be guided by the increasing population.

HON. MR. WARK—I am afraid that this expression "swamp lands," will lead to a great deal of difficulty and misunderstanding hereafter. I think it would have been much better to have had those lands examined and their position defined so that there would be no misunderstanding afterwards as to where they are, and what the quantity is. When I brought the question of a reserve of lands before the House, for the purpose of clearing off the debt, some hon. members misunderstood my remarks—that the lands were to be held in reserve. I should like to say that my suggestion was that they should be sold as rapidly as possible and the debt paid off with the proceeds.

HON. MR. CAMPBELL—The hon. gentlemen proposed to set apart a certain amount of public lands in the North West, and that those public lands should form the basis of a specific fund for the purpose of paying off the amounts which the country has expended on them. That was the proposition?

HON. MR. WARK—My proposition was to sell them as rapidly as possible to pay off the debt.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—To pay off the debt incurred on behalf of that territory?

HON. MR. WARK—On behalf of the expenditure out there.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—That is, we should raise out of the lands which are situated in Manitoba, or out of lands situated in the North West Territories, a specific fund to be devoted to the paying of the debt incurred for Manitoba or for the North-West. The answer to that is that the proceeds of all the lands sold in that province or in the North-West Territories go into a common fund, and out of that fund the expenses are paid. Whether you pay them out of a specific appropriation of land or out of the general fund makes no difference. The hon. gentleman seems to suppose that we should take hold of something which is not now the property of the Dominion, and out of that pay those expenses.

HON. MR. WARK—No, not at all.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not propose to say anything against this Bill, but there is one feature of it to which the Minister of Justice has adverted, and also the hon. gentleman who has just sat down. I think it is to be regretted that the Government have not made up their mind to put a definition of what are swamp lands, in the Bill. It is always better to take a little trouble in passing a bill, so as to prevent any misunderstanding of its meaning in the future, than to save the trouble now, and have the difficulty afterwards in deciding what the law is. I understand that opinions differ very widely as to what swamp lands are, and the Government ought to have inserted in the Bill such a description of swamp lands as would prevent disputes and difficulties arising hereafter.

HON. MR. VIDAL—Can you suggest one?

HON. MR. POWER—No, I am not familiar with the country out there; but the Department of the Interior who have charge of the lands, and the members from Manitoba ought to be able to describe them in such a way that it could be easily understood what swamp lands are. There is one other feature about this Bill that deserves mention. Canada has heretofore dealt pretty liberally with Manitoba. The Government now propose to add \$55,000 to the annual subsidy payable to that province.