

NULLA VESTIGIA RETRORSUM.

No essay or treatise accompanies this draft of a bill, which is thought to be a "workable measure."

The main ideas of the plan are :

1st.—Plural voting, in which property and intelligence both receive due weight. At the same time no franchise is taken away, and, if desired, both sexes may have the privilege and duty of voting.

2nd.—The rectification of parliament by providing under the name of "candidates at large" a safe constituency for men of eminence, instructed in politics, who have acquired a wide reputation, but whom local interests might defeat in territorial constituencies.

Existing legislation with respect to registration of voters, bribery, nomination, the ballot, &c., is not materially interfered with by this proposed act, for it is not desired to introduce any violent change. The principles of the measure might be extended by degrees, if found as beneficial as expected.

Compulsory voting is not alluded to. If desired, it might be introduced with respect to the "votes at large," and perhaps with advantage.

NULLA VESTIGIA RETRORSUM.

Toronto, June 30th, 1893.

DRAFT BILL TO AMEND ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows :

I.—Every British subject of the full age of 21 years, excepting inmates of prisons or of insane or inebriate asylums, shall have the right to vote at elections for member of the House of Commons, if he be

1. Owner of real estate or mortgages thereon, government or municipal bonds, shares or obligations of solvent chartered banks or joint stock companies, or cash on deposit in any bank or savings institution to the value of five hundred dollars.

2. Or occupant of a house or lodgings of which the rental is not less than five dollars per month.

(Provision for enrollment or registration of voters.)

(Provision for the right to vote of sons of farmers or others, living with parents and jointly interested in their pursuits.)

II.—Any such voter shall have one additional vote in respect of each of the following qualifications.

1. If he be thirty years of age and over, married or a widower, with legitimate issue.

2. If he have property of the descriptions mentioned in the next preceding section to the value of two thousand dollars.

3. If he holds a lawfully recognised degree from a university or school of practical science, or be a member of the professions of law, engineering or medicine, or have held within five years the rank of sergeant or commissioned officer in the militia or volunteers.

III.—The additional votes which may be claimed (and duly proved and registered or enrolled, *vide* provision following section I.) shall be called "votes at large."

IV.—Of the members each Province of the Dominion elects to represent it in Parliament, nine-tenths shall be elected by constituencies with limited boundaries, and similar population, and one-tenth by the province at large.

(Provision for redistribution of the constituencies in each Province.)