HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Eloquent Speech of Mr. Curran M. P., In Reply to the Following Amendment of Mr. Charlton, M.P.

Mr. Charlton, M. P., proposed the follow ing amendment

That all the words in section 3 he struck ont, and the following substituted in place thereof: Subject to the exceptions herein contained, all persons qualified to vote at the election of representatives in the House of Assembly or Legislative Assembly of the several Provinces comprising the Dominion of Canada, and no others, shall be entitled to vote at the election of members of the House of Commons of Canada for the several electoral districts comprised within such Provinces respectively.

Mr. Curran said: In rising to address a few words to this committee, I feel called upon to do so more particularly as one coming from the Province of Quebec, to the people of which so strong an appeal has been made by the lien, member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton), in one porti n of ris address, in which he sought to make it appear that this Parl ament, by the present act, was seeking to invade the sacred lights and privileges and immunities of that Province. I feel cailed so one whose lather and whose grandfather received hospitality and found a home in that Province, to say a few words in vindication of the course I am now pursuing in supporting this Bill, and in vindicating the motives which actuate me, and I have no doubt actuate all those who are supporting this measure. The honorable laid down two or three principles which he said ought to guide as in this matter. He has travelied over ground aiready far more ably and enquently covered by one of the honorable genslomen who addressed this House during the decate on the second reading of this Birl; and if anything were required to convince this House and this country that the present discussion is merely for the ourpose or consuming valuable time, I think nothing could be more convincing than to refer to the fact that all the points covered by this amendment have been fully embraced in an amendment proposed by the hon, member for Quebec East (Mr. Laurier)a gentleman, who, if he devotes time to the embellishment of his ideas and to the beauty of the language in which he conveys them, is above speaking against time in this House, and always aflords us a pleasurable moment when he undertakes to address us. (Cheers.) I cannot say much for the hon, gentleman who has detained us from half-past three until recess, and from recess until nine o'clock to-night. In one part of the hon. gentleman's speech—that part of it in which he referred to the franchise—it struck me very forcibly, when I was listening to his constitutional history, that I had read something very like that before. (Hear, hear.) I thought I would look into the pages of a well-known book, and I discovered that the few interesting passages in the opening of that speech were to be found in the "Encyclopedia Britannica" - (great laughter and cheers) -- all about the progress made by the people of England under the Magna Charts, and how that charter was wrung from King John, down to the days of the exactions and peculations and speculations which the hon gentleman told us about, of Charles the First, upon his subjects. But when he left that branch of the readily see that the hon gentleman, in going over the constitution of the United States and the history of the United States, and of the different States of the Union, was dealing with matter which was entirely his own. (Cheers.) His speech lost all its charm, tainly it ceased to evoke any sentiment in the breast of any patriotic Canadian; because, after all, we have a constitution of our own, we have laws which guide us, we have our Confederation Act, to which we must out taking the concensus of the people, with-refer, and I think that a very brief reference out consulting the Provincial Legislatures, to that Act will show that the course we are now pursuing in endeavoring to enact this measure is one that is not only in the province of this Parliament but what was contemplated by the founders of Confederation, one which was merely put off for a time; it will show that the Provincial franchises, which have been used so far, were never intended by the founders of Confederation to be used more than temporarily in this connection. (Hear, hear.) But we were told that this measure should have been submitted to the people at large, whilst in the same breath it was announced, as it has been announced time and again since the opening of this debate, that this measure, or something similar to it, has been before the country for eighteen years, whilst we know that this measure, in almost its entirety, has been before the country in the shape of a Bill since 1883. We were told that the people were being taken by surprise, that their liberties were sought to be destroyed, and that those privileges which they value so highly were to be wrested from them in a most tyrannical manner. I hardly conceive that any hon, gentleman in this House will consider that this measure is more important than the measure of Confederation itself. It will hardly be supposed that any hon, gentleman will consider that the discussion of the franchise is more important than the inauguration of the great Confederation under which we live; and as special appeal has been made to the people of Lower Canada, through their representatives in this House, I may, perhaps, refer to what was said during the Confederation debates, which are the great index of the aspirations, the ideas, and

should be submitted to the people: " * * * Here was this scheme of a union of the Provinces mentioned in the programme of the Cartier-Macdonald Government in 1958. He merely quoted this passage to show that neither Parliament nor the country was taken by surprise with regard to this scheme. We had general and special elections since 1858, and to pretend that this subject, which had been so often canvassed, was new to the country, was to assert an untruth." (Cheers.)

the views of those who inaugurated our pre-

sent system of government. More par-ticularly I will refer to the language used by

the late lamented Sir George Etienne Cartier (loud cheers)—who was the incarnation of

the ideas of the French Canadian people, the incarnation of all that is noble and patriotic,

of all that ought to raise that people high in the scale amongst those who inhabit this sec-

tion of British North America-and with

regard to this very question of submitting the

Confederate scheme to the people at large, he said, in replaced y same argument

he said, in replaced by same argument that is now being used by the hon, gentleman opposite, that this present measure

Cannot we assert the very same thing of anguage of the hon, gertlemen opposite, be-fore the people for 18 years, and this Bill

privileges of the people were being invaded, why did they not raise this question at these bye elections? No doubt otder hour gentletien in this house will remember that on the occasion of this contederation debate, some hon, gentlemen who are now upnolding the views of the mover of the hist amendment were present, taking part in the deliberations on that great accession. The non the ex-finance Minister (Sir Riemann Cartwright) spoke then, and in view of the charges that vera tilen being harted at the administration of the day, that they were taking the people by surprise, that they were urging a measure which threatened the existence of the autonomy of the provinces, which was wiping away, all their right and privileges, we had that hon. gentleman gaying:

"Let us not be daunted by any accidental checks—we must lay our account to meet such in matters of not one-tenth its importance -this is the time and this is the hour: never again can we hope to enter on our task under must exist between so many different provinces-never again can we hope to receive a warmer, a more energetic support from the Imperial authorities never again can we hope to see a Ministry in ellice which shall command more completely the confidence of the great mass of our people, and which shall possess the same or equal facilities for adjusting those sectional difficulties which have dis turbed us so long; and I trust that in this most important crisis this House will show itself not altogether unworthy to be entrusted with the destinies of 3,000,000 of their countrymen." (Hear, hear and cheers.)

Yet this was in view of the enactment of a measure without being submitted to the people, without having their approval, their ratification, a measure a hundred times more imgentleman who proposed the amendment has portant, perhaps, than the one we have before us. In that measure the hon, gentleman advocated the very principle involved in this bill, and if we take up the British North America Act we will find that the pretentions laid down by hon, gentlemen opposite are totally untenable. They talk about invading the rights of the Provinces, about depriving the Provinces of something which has been secured to them. I dely hon, gentlemen to seek through the statutes of the British Empire or of any dependency of the British Empire where they have responsible government, and to find a section of law which more clearly and emphatically and distinctly shows than this section 41, that the franchise then adopted was merely temporary. The section opens by enacting "Until the Parliament of Canada otherwise provides." Anticipating that the Parliament of Canada should provide otherwise, clearly and distinctly laying down that the day, whether far or near, must come when the Parliament of Canada would exercise that right which is inherent in every body to determine what shall be the qualification of what shall be the means adopted to establish it own membership. It goes on:

" All laws in force in the several Provinces of the Union relative to the following matters or any of them, namely, the qualifications and disqualifications of persons to be elected or to sit or vote as members of the House of Assembly or Legislative Assembly in the several Provinces, the voters at elections of such members, the oath to be taken by voters, its Legislature, voted down by a considerable the returning officers, their powers and duties, the proceedings at elections, the periods during which elections may be con-tinued, the trial of controverted elections and proceedings incident thereto, the vacating of sents of members, etc., shall respectively apply to the election of members to serve subject and went still further, we could in the House of Commons for the same several Provinces."

> I say there never was a section which more clearly shows by its language that it was merely intended that this state of affairs should be a temporary one. And what has been the course of our constitutional history with reference to this very matter? We had that, up to the present time, we have made a change in every one of the articles mentioned in this section. We have, of our own motion, without consulting the Provinces, withtaken our own course with regard, first of all, to the qualification of persons to sit in this House. We have abolished the property qualification. We have not waited for the Provinces to take that step We have not stood by and allowed ourselves to be guided exclusively by the action of the Provinces. We have interfered with the qualification, we have interfered with the oath to be taken by voters, because we have our own oaths, we have our own returning officers, and define their powers and duties by our own election law; we have the periods to which elections may be continued fixed by this Parliament, and we have the trial of controverted elections, and the voiding of the seats of members, all fixed by the legislation of this Parliament, and in most instances by the Acts brought in by honorable gentlemen opposite, each one of them trampling upon the rights of the Provinces, if their own views and language in this debate are to be adopted as correct and sound. (Loud cheers.) But we have more than that. Referring to these self-same Confederation debates, we find the honorable member for East York (Mr. Mackenzie), who, too, was guilty at that parti-cular time, if guilt there be, of having violated the trust of the people, of having pushed forward a measure of such vital importance without having first consulted the people of Canada, speaking of the veto power in these words:

"If each Province was able to enact such laws as it pleased everybody would be at the mercy of the Local Logislatures, and the General Legislature would become of little importance. It is contended that the power of the General Legislature should be held in earns his dollar a day, in the mind of every check by a veto power with reference to its man who is laboring for the interests of his own territory, resident in the Local Legislatures respecting the application of the general country as well as for the interests of himself laws to their jurisdiction. All power, they and family, that there is enough intelligence say, comes from the people and ascends through them to their representatives, and through the representatives to the Crown. But it would never do to set the local above the General Government." (Great cheering.)

mentioned in this bill. I think the hon. gentleman's argument is an insult to the people of Canada, and that he rates their intelligence far too low. (Cheers.) No. Sir, This is the language of the hon. member I do not imagine the hon, gentleman supposes for East Yerk on that very remarkable occathat I am going to follow him through his sion. It cannot be contended for one moment long dissertation with regard to the affairs of that we are violating the privileges of the the United States; I do not suppose that any provinces. It has been admitted by the leader hon, gentlemen on this side of the House, at of the opposition himself, that we have the all events, will follow him in that field. The power, if we wish to use it, and in fact, in hon, gentleman can never stand up in this the debate which was held on the election House, he can never speak upon any subject, law of 1874, the hon gontleman said, "the he can never deal with any branch of the power of fixing the franchise was delepublic affairs of this country, without drag gated to the various provincial governments because of the confidence reposed in ging in the United States, without dragging the Local Legislatures, and if it turned dragging in all the great and glorious beautics ont that they abused this power, this House could take it out of their hands." Now, what has been cone, what has been said, what has been urged on different occasions in this House? When that measure was under discussion on which the leader of the Op-

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. was done with a view to exerting influence in the recent general election." As early as that date, then, according to the statement that date, then, according to the statement of the Canadians that adon't the pages of our time of the most eminent public men in the country, at least one of the Local Legislatures was acting in such a manner as to interfere with the rights of this Parliament, to the members of this House generally, and the members from the Province of Ousbeau times that adon't the pages of Ousbeau times and the members of our the members of Ousbeau that date, then, according to the statement of the Canadians that adon't the pages of our history. (Loud cheers: And, now, because was acting in such a manner as to interfere with the rights of this Parliament, the members of the canadians that adon't the pages of our history. was enacting local laws which, according to his statement, were monstrous, mischievous, in particular. I feel that those, hon gentle-and showed that there was a disposition at that men who have been sent here by the elector. time to interture with the rights and privileges of this House, (Hear, hear.) But we have had far more than that. We have had it shown, in the course of the present debate, by the successor of that hon. gentleman, the mem-ber for Cumberland (Mr. Townshend), that not only at that time, but since then, enact-ments have been made by the Local Legislature there which had the effect of depriving of the right to vote persons whom this Perliament believes to be entitled to vote, persons working in the coal mines, who are deprived by the recent action of the Local circumstances better fitted to remove the Legislature of exercising the franchise to natural, the inevitable prejudices, which which they are entitled (cheers); and my hon, friend from West York (Mr. Wallace), in the speech which he delivered a few days ago relative to the new Franchise Bill that has passed the Ontario Legislature, showed that the bottom literally falls out and has fallen out of all the argument that has been put forward here with so much force, that we, by this Bill, are seeking to go back to a differ ent constituency from that which elected us to sit in this House. I say that the hon. members of this House from the Province of Ontario cannot go back to the same electorate which sent them here, in consequence of the Bill which has recently been passed by the Legislature of that Province. (Cheers.) That is a solf evident fact, and that meets these gentlemen at the very threshold of their argument, and shows how utterly wanton they are in the assertions that they throw across the floor of this House and send to the country, since anyone who will take the trouble to turn over the statutes of the last Session of the Ontario Legislature can see that they are uttering here that which they vainly imagine the people are so densely ignorant as not to know the first thing about, but with which they are fortunately fully conversant. (Hear, hear.) We were told, amongst other things, that the only good pro vision this Bill could contain would be one of universal suffrage, that manhood suffrage alone would meet the requirements of the country. Now, Sir, it is not my purpose to discuss that question, which, I think, is rather aside the issue at this moment. But I may be allowed to say that whilst the time may come, and that before long, in this country when universal suffrage will meet with the general approbation of the people, I think the urging of that suffrage is only one more argument to show how utterly illogical, how utterly un-

tenable, is the position taken by the hon. gentleman who has moved the amendment. Whilst he has spoken at great length on the beauties of manhood suffrage, upon the fact that no man should have more than one vote, no matter what his property may be, or where it may be situated, he is arguing here for the maintenance of the rights of the Provinces, and at the same time he is urging that which neither Ontario nor Quebec have for one moment thought of adopting, and which Ontario, at the last session of cheering.) majority. (Loud cheers.) However, there is one thing that must be gratifying to the workingmen of this country. At a meeting which has been already referred to in this House, where, in the interests of the Reform it was sought to raise a cry against the leader of the present Government, I have heard it stated: What has become of the Franchise Bill? Why don't the Government go on with the Franchise Bill? And, Sir, I can say to those people, and to the people of Canada

gives a vote to everyone who deserves to be

called a man in this country. (Cheers) Man-

hood suffrage, as has been stated here, would

be a very simple system, as far as registration

is concerned; but if anyone will take

up this Bill and look at the clause which

do not go so far as the hon. gentleman; I do not go so far as manhood suffrage; but do feel

that there is enough intelligence in the minds

of the people, in the mind of every man who

among the people of Canada to know whether

they tall into one or another of the classes

we are now discussing, he will find that every man who, in any way, directly or indirectly, contributes to the progress and the stability of the country in which we live, is, under this Bill, enfranchised. Is it possible that you can go lower than the tenant who pays \$2 per month, or \$20 per annum? Is it possible that you can go lower than the person who earns \$300 per annum? Why, Mr. Chairman, under the provisions of this Bill every man who contributes in any way, by his wealth, or by his labor, to the good of the country, will be entitled to be registered under this system. I feel that we would be recreant to the duties which we owe to the country at large if we did not attempt to extend the franchise and to put capital and labor upon the same basis, on a par in the eyes of the law, and to give, as we are giving here, the vote of every de-serving man in the country—not to a man because he is a human being of the age of twenty-one years, but to every man who has succeeded in showing, by his industry, his activity and his energy, that

he is worthy of being recognized a man in the eyes of the law of the land. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman says that the present Bill will create confusion; that the people will not un derstand in what class they will fall; that we have the tenant, the farmer, the laborer, persons under the income franchise, and other persons who have a right to vote under different circumstances, and that all this will cause great confusion in the public mind. Now, I

After the announcement of the vote of confidence, Allain-Farge, minister of the interior, fainted and had to be carried from the chamdisturbance, declared that the anarchists are anything by the movement, and that property or security of peaceable citizens is not

FIGURES WON'T LIE.

that Kidney-Wort has proved such an unequalled remedy in all diseases of these

Holloway's Ointment and Pills .- Old Sores, in the practice of the United States, without structions in the circulation of the vessels and lymphatics explains their irresistible inof their constitution, without holding up to us as models the great men of the fluence in healing old sores, bad wounds, and indolent vicers. To insure the desired effect United States, as if wo had not men in the skin surrounding the diseased part should be fermented, dried and immediately well rubbed with the Ointment. This will give our empire, and especially in our own country, whose example is worthy of heing followed, as a bright shining light to anguage of the people for 18 years, and this Bill since 1883 before the people, and have we not had election after election with this Bill standing there? (Cheers.) Have not hongentlemen opposite contested those by elections? If they thought the rights, likerties and mischievour, and doclared to under a smonstrous and mischievour, and doclared to under a provided the two provided the two provided the saccess. In the way we should go. I say we weakened nerves, the only conditions necessiment in this land; we have not had great statesmen in this land; we have not had election after election with this Bill characterised that they could alter the population of the through the rights, likerties and mischievour, and doclared the provided the two provided in the way we should go. I say we weakened nerves, the only conditions necessiment in this land; we have existed. Would be the constructions which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which we can appeal with the reder the populations for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the sary for the cursof all those culcerations which the provising of the tranchise are the population of the Local Legislatures in this land; we have described and she have the provision of the cursof all those culcerations which the cursof all those culcerations which the cursof all those culcerations which t

men, we have love, respect, esteem and wen-As early as oration for the great names and the memories to the members from the Province of Quebec in particular. I feel that those, hou gentleate of the Province of Quebec, are, not m re so, but equally as patriotic, equally as desir ous of maintaining the rights and privileges of that Province, as are the members who compose the Local Legislature of that Province. (Hear, hear.) And, for my part, I am satis-fied they will believe me when I say to the people of the Province of Quebec, who now know I am supporting this measure, that I would rather sacrifice anything in this world, tures are above the influence of this parliament. We cannot interfere with those legislatures; we cannot, by any act we pass, interfere, in any material degree, with the right of the provinces to manage their own affairs, with respect to the franchise or anything else. But every man in this House must feel, and every man in this country does feel, that when confederation was established it was established for a purpose, not merely to keep alive provincial institutions, but to foster and to fortify those great bulwarks which are to guard the proress and prosperity of this country, it was to bind all these great provinces together into one great nation. And what means can be better adapted than by meeting upon the floor of this Parliament as men, sinking the miserable, putty jealousies that? are sought and have been sought to be raised provincial prejudices-(hear, hear) -I say what nobler spectacle can be presented than that of seeking to adopt one general line of policy in regard to the franchise, as far as the circumstances of our country will allow. In conclusion, allow me to say to you, Mr. Chairman, and to those of different origin, among whom I was born, educated, among whom I have grown up, the men with whom I have been living in the strongest bonds of brotherly affection up to the present time, that knowing, as they do, that so far as I am concerned, the words avant tout je suis Canadien arouse in my breast a feeling of patriotic exultation as fervent as anything that may be said with respect to the land of my forefathers, for which I cherish so fond a

love. I trust the day will never come when I shall be found supporting a measure which in any way or in the slightest degree invades the rights or trenches upon the privileges of the Province in which I was born. I say this in all sincerity; and in supporting this measure and opposing the amendment of the hon. gentleman, I do so because I conceive that amendment to be nothing more than an appeal to provincial prejudices, and we should seek in this general Parliament of Canada, whilst preserving the rights of the Provinces. to look forward to the great future of this Dominion in which we live. (Prolonged

THE COMMUNIST RIOTS.

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES DISCUSS THE SITUATION.

Paris, May 26. - The French press generally condemn the indecision of the government in its conduct towards the Communists. The revolutionist organs are jubilant over what they term the triumph of the communists over the authorities. The attitude of the revolutionists has provoked such bitter generally, that if we have not in this Bill feeling among the law and order what is commonly known as manhood suf- classes that it is believed it will give frage, we have, at all events, that which gives a vote to everyone who deserves to be ber of Deputies. Many suppose an attempt sidered will be made to overthrow the ministry. Not since 1870 have the lower classes in Paris been in such a restless state; thousands have been out of work for months, with small prospects of getting any for months more, and their numbers, swelling the large idle class always to be found in the metropolis, ready for any chance to create trouble, makes the situation a most dangerous one.

The ministers to-day discussed yesterday's Communist riots, and approved the police prefects' ordnance forbidding hereafter public displays in the Department of the Seine of any emblems except the national tricolor and proper flags of foreign nations. In the Chamber of Deputies this evening there was a stormy debate concerning the Pere la Chaise riots on Sunday and the government's leniency towards Communists. Lacroix accused the police of provoking disorders. He denied the right of the Government to interfere with the display of red flags. The Minister of the Interior replied, accepting all responsibility for the action of the police. Lacroix's motion declaring that no law existed preventing the display of flags and emblems, and condemning the violence of the police on Sunday, was rejected by 423 to 44. A motion of confidence in the firmness of the Government in enforcing respect for the national flag was adopted by 388 to 10. Four thousand men, including members of the municipal council, to-day followed the coffin bearing the body of Amorost, Communist leader, to the grave in l'ere la Chaise. Twelve orations were delivered over the grave. The Revolu tionists' committee displayed a red flag and the emblem was greeted with cries of "Vive

ber. Lafrance, referring to the communistic neither strong nor numerous enough to gain

The figures showing the enormous yearly sales of Kidney-Wort, demonstrate its value as a medicine beyond dispute. It is a purely vegetable compound of certain roots, leaves and berries known to have special value in Kidney troubles. Combined with these are remedies acting directly on the Liver and Bowels. It is because of this combined action

Wounds, and Ulcers .- The readiness with which Holloway's unguent removes all obparity to the foul blood, and strength to the DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

THIRD SESSION FIFTH PARLIAMENT. 6 From our ount Correspondent Leafing OTTAWA, May 26.

After some remarks as to the gentineness of vertain signatures on a petition The house went into committee on the Franchise Bill.

Sir John Macdonald moved the adoption of

a sub paragraph regulating the Indian , vote. By the amendment he proposed to add to the st'of those who shall not vote Indians in Manibooa, Keewatin and the North-West ter-ritories, and Indians on any reserve elsewhere in Canada, who are not in possession and oc-ounation of separate and distinct tracts of lands in such reserves, and whose improveno matter how dear it may be to me, i ments on such separate tracts are not of the rather than foriest their confidence, rather value of at least \$150. He proposed that the than be an instrument in depriving them of Indian on a reserve who has a distinct sepaone single fight guaranteed them by our con- race belonging, and who has made improvestitution. (them, hear.) Our Local Legisla- ments to the value of \$150, should have a vote just as much as any other occupant or tenaut.

Mr. Blake said the objection to the enfranchisement of the Indians was not re-moved by the statement just made. He thought that many years would be needed before the Indians could be trusted with the

franchise. After some discussion.

Mr Wilson alleged that numbers of Indians sional men could not go wrong, were Orangemen. The object of the government in proposing to enfranchise them evidently was to increase Orange influence. Not | only was this a fact, but Dr. Ornophyateka was an Orangeman and a Tory of a most rabid kind. If the Quebec members permitted these Indian Orangemen to be enfranchised they would yet he sorry for it. Mr. Dawson supported the amendment and

the beginning of this debate the franchise to those who certainly should be prevented from exercising it. The amendment of provincial rights be prevented from exercising it. The amendment of provincial rights be prevented from exercising it. The amendment of provincial rights be prevented from exercising it. said it covered all objections. It merely gave clause dealing with the Indian franchise and the opposition to it was illogical and absurd. Mr. Paterson (Brant) said that the Conser-

vatives would not get the Indian vote in Brant. Mr. Somerville (Brant) said they would.

Mr. Trow (Perth) said in his County the bill was unpopular.

Mr. Hesson (Perth) said that he knew the County well and there had been no petitions from Conservatives against the bill. He had recently been a week in Western Ontario, and he found that there was some indignation there, but the indignation was aimed at the Opposition for its gross obstruction, its waste of time and its waste of public money.

The House adjourned at 2 30 a.m.

∵Огт∧wa, May 27. Petitions were presented against changes in the Temperance act and against the Fran-

chise bill. The House went into committee on the

ranchise bill.

Sir John Macdonald, in reply to comments of Mr. Mills, said the hon. gentleman himself had arranged with the Minister of Public Works that the Indian discussion should be concluded on Saturday, and that the discussion of the revising barrister clauses should be commenced on Tuesday. Instead of adhering to the arrangement, the hon imember on Saturday afternoon put up a member to take the floor. The object was to prolong discussion.

Sir John Macdonald introduced an amend ment to his amendment disqualifying certain-Indians. He proposed to amend the Indian clause so as to disqualify Indians in Munitoba Keewatin and the North-West, and on any reserve elsewhere in Canada who are not in possession and occupation of a separate and listinct tract of land in such reserve, and whose improvements on such a tract of land are not of the value of at least \$150 and not otherwise possessed of other qualifications entitling him to be registered on the list of

Mr. Mills renewed his protest against the enfranchisement of the Indians, and after a long review denied that Indians had proprietary rights in the soil.

Mr. Dawson said the question of proprie tary rights was not raised. He presumed the remarks were intended to prejudice the claims of Canadian Indians now before the U.S. for

these rights.

Mr. Mills said the Indians would not be regarded as British subjects in a court of law.

Many were paupers and unfit to vote. Mr. Dawson said that their right had been recognized by the Imperial Government and also by the Federal Government in the United States. He contended that the Indians were making rapid progress.

After some remarks from Messrs. Cameron (Middlesex) and Lister, Mr. White (Hastings) denied that there

were any Orange lodges among the Indians in his riding. Mr. Davies moved an amendment to ex-

clude Indians in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island from the franchise. Sir John Macdonald said he would move

to exclude the Indians of British Columbia. After further discussion Mr. Davies amendment was lost by 42 to 68 votes. The amendment of Sir John Macdonald was carried, and after some motions by several members were lost the original amendment of Sir John was carried and the house resumed and adjourned at 12.30 a.m. OTTAWA, May 28.

The House then went into committee on the Franchise Bill, the clause relating to registration of votes.

Sir John Macdonald moved the substitution of the word "shall" for "may" in the clause stating that the revising officer be a judge or barrister of five years' standing. He proposed also that in Quebec notaries and in British Columbia stipendiary magic trates, be eligible for revising officers. Difficulties in boundaries would be met by the appointment of an officer for a portion of a district if necessary. There was always to be an appeal to the courts when the revising officer is not a judge.

Mr. Blake said the revising officers should

not make the lists as well. Under the English system, the functions were apart. The bill should be framed so as to require the judge to act in all cases where practicable, and that where this rule could not be carried out the appointment of the officer should not rest with the executive No English government, he argued, would dare ask from Parliament to be entrusted with the power of appointing the officers who should prepare the voters list, because it was felt that the appointment would be suspected by the people as not be-ing perfectly impartial. Suspicion would be cast upon the revising officer, whether judge or barrister.

Sir John Macdonald, said that by the bill the revising officer was simply a revising officer, except in those parts in which there was no means of having any original list. Under the bill there was no means of having any original list to rovine, but the sacca-

objection applied with rrequal force to the judiciary of the country. He de-dended the general principles of the bill and stated that as to the officers who were to exercise this judgment, it would be the effort of the Government to obtain the services of men in judicial positions, whenever they could be obtained, and it would be only where unwillinguess to act, ill health or old age prevented the appointment of a judge that power to appoint officers from the Bar would be exercised The measure would provide that wherever the officer was not a judge there would be appeal on questions of both law and fact. It was true that appeals, were expensive, but where officers attended carefully to their duties and were honest and straightforward, appeals would be the exception. It was true that the expense of appeals might give the rich man an advantage, over the poor man, but that was an incidental advantage to the rich man which could not be avoided. He would only be too glad to receive suggestions from the house.

Mr. Cameron, (Victoria), protested against the instruction of the leader of the opposition that the bar of Ontario was so lost to sense of honor, that those appointed to act as revisors would not only neglect their duties but vio-late their oaths. He was surprised that the leader of the opposition should so insult his profession

Mr. Mills objected generally to the bill. The last speaker seemed to think that profes. sional men could not go wrong. He had no

Mr. Langelier objected to the appointment of revising officers on the ground of expense. The new system would cost at least \$2,000 a county, making a total of \$500,000.

The debate was continued by Messis.

Cameron (Middlesex), Fleming and Com-ron (Inverness), and the House adjourned at 2 19

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