

twenty or thirty thousand Chinamen in British Columbia have for two or three years performed their duties with faithfulness and accuracy—because they have been industrious, abstemious and frugal, that we are going to refuse them permission to transfer the scene of their labors from British Columbia to the eastern provinces unless they are ticketed like a package of goods and taken through in bond. Then, again, if by their industry they are able to save a certain amount of money and wish to return to their own country, they must come back within three months, or be treated as if they had never been in the country and made to pay the tax of \$50 over again. We know that there may be many legitimate reasons why a Chinaman should be detained in his own country on visiting it so that he would not be able to get back within the limited period: is it fair, under such circumstances, that he should be taxed \$50 because of circumstances over which he has no control? Suppose he has become part and parcel of ourselves: suppose he is in every way, except by the accident of his birth, a Christian citizen of the country, there is no distinction made in his favor: if he is out of the country for a longer period than three months he has to pay a tax of \$50 on his arrival on our shores. I regret, after the expression of opinion that took place in this House last session, that the Government have thought fit to bring this bill before us again. I regret it as a Canadian. I think it is contrary to the interest of this young country in every possible way. I regret that we have such an Act upon our Statute book, when it is notorious that we are sending circulars broadcast over Europe asking people to come to the Dominion. We send them to Russia and welcome the Menonites. We send them to Germany and invite the Germans. I find it stated in the press of the country that some distinguished Germans have made an offer to purchase the Intercolonial Railway and establish immense iron works in Nova Scotia and to bring a thousand workmen from Germany to engage in this new industry. If those people come we will welcome them beyond a doubt, but it is a question in my mind whether those Germans would

be one whit better than the same number of Chinese.

HON. MR. MCINNES—They would be better to the country.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—I take issue with my hon. friend on that. You take the Germans and say to them “you shall not be allowed to have any homestead here.”

HON. MR. MCINNES—The Chinamen can buy land in this country.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—No.

HON. MR. MCINNES—I know a number of them who own real estate.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—In the names of others?

HON. MR. MCINNES—No, in their own names.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—Supposing they do own land, if they build houses and live as other citizens of the country do, why exclude them? They are not drunkards or thieves—why persecute them? There is no reason but the one, and it has been very well stated here in this debate, that they have not the franchise. If they had votes and were able to send gentlemen to Parliament to represent them, I question very much if you would hear such unfavorable comments made upon those people. I hope to live long enough to see on the floor of this Parliament Chinese gentlemen who, by education and ability, are fit to represent and ready to defend their own people.

HON. MR. VIDAL—I have listened with very great satisfaction to the sentiments which have been expressed by every member who has spoken upon this Bill. It was to me a source of very high gratification last year when the Senate expressed itself so decidedly and pointedly against the proposition then made by the Government, (of which, by the way we are supposed to be very servile followers,) that it was thrown out, but I cannot agree with my hon. friend from