

confined in jail while the vessel is in port. That is a thing which can happen under this law in Nova Scotia, the country which first liberated the slaves brought there by the United Empire Loyalists from the United States. Those slaves were freed, not by Act of Parliament, nor by any government, British or Colonial, but by the judgment of the Court. They had no law to guide them, and they refused to recognize slavery, merely because the public opinion of Nova Scotia was against it. Nova Scotia was the first country under the British flag that gave to Roman Catholics the right to sit in Parliament. Before the Emancipation Bill had passed in the British Parliament, the Legislature of Nova Scotia passed a law giving to Roman Catholics the same right as Protestants to sit in Parliament. I think it is a disgrace and an indignity that because a man has a yellow skin and an almond eye he should be dragged into prison because he has not \$50 to pay to the Government. It is a disgrace which makes my blood boil when I think of it. Therefore it is, although I am not accustomed to much speaking and do not care to occupy the time of the House, I felt it my duty to rise and enter my protest against this legislation. I did intend to sit down, but my hon. friend from Arichat rather captured me and obliged me to make these remarks. I am a Conservative born and bred, and I think I shall die a Conservative; therefore I have to apologise for speaking against a measure which is introduced by the Conservative Government which I support. But there is a limit to my allegiance—in fact there are two limits. In the first place, any measure introduced by the Government which is not Conservative in its operation, I am bound to oppose. For instance, the Franchise Bill which we passed last year, and which increased the franchise without giving it the limit which it ought to have—education and a stake in the country—I was opposed to, and but for my personal friendship for Sir Alexander Campbell I would have voted against it. In order not to do so, I absented myself from the House. There is another thing which I decline to support the Government in, that is in

measures which do not seem to proceed from themselves, but are initiated in order to catch some vote. We all know that principle has been sacrificed in trying to catch the Irish vote, in trying to catch the French vote, in trying to catch the working man's vote and in trying to catch the anti-Chinese vote, and even to catch the Prince Edward Island vote. Now I think the advantage of the Senate is that we are above all that. We have our duties to our conscience and our country alone to guide us, without the side issues which influence the members of the lower House and through them the Government; therefore I think any measure which is forced on the Government by any one of those interests I may oppose without violating my allegiance to the party to which I belong. Although this Chinese Bill was a Government measure I was opposed to it from its first introduction, and am strongly opposed to it now. From my little experience in British Columbia, I have come to the conclusion that a large minority of the people there are strongly opposed to the restriction of Chinese immigration. I took a good deal of trouble to inquire into this question, and I ascertained there, as the result of my inquiries, that the objection to the Chinese came from the laboring classes. I think, however, that the Caucasian race have got as good muscle as the Chinese, and I think the Nova Scotian, English, Irish or Scotchman can hold his own with the pick and shovel, as well as with his brains, against the Mongolian; therefore I cannot see why the Mongolian should be kept out of the country. I would remind hon. gentlemen that at one time there was a great jealousy in Nova Scotia against Scotchmen being imported into that Province, and there was a strong political feeling aroused on that question. I remember also a time when we did not like the Irish to come to Nova Scotia, but those prejudices have passed away and to-day they are among our best citizens. Although many of them commenced life in the new world with nothing but a pick and shovel, I fancy that their descendants are amongst the foremost of the blue-noses of Nova Scotia to-day. I have no doubt that this prejudice against the Chinese on the part of