

ent Protestant denominations, it would be folly to think of arranging it in that manner. I would give it to one clergyman, whoever he may be.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—The weak spot in the amendment is the distribution of the allowance amongst the various clergymen, in proportion to the number of convicts belonging to the respective churches. It seems to me that will create a rivalry to a certain extent amongst the various churches as to which will receive the largest allowance. We shall have a certain number of convicts professing Armenianism, and a certain number professing Calvinism, and thus through the various phases of theology, and you will find a rivalry amongst the different clergymen, as to who has the greatest number of adherents. This allowance for a chaplain might be distributed evenly among the various denominations in the neighbourhood of the penitentiary, and thus prevent a canvass being made which possibly may result in an endeavour to secure the largest number of convicts as belonging to one denomination.

Hon. Mr. POWER—With respect to the observations of the hon. senator from Kingston,* I do not undertake to say that I differ from him; but the position is this: in the Bill before us provision is made for departing from the plan adopted in the past, and my contention is that it is more equitable and fairer that the sum set apart for the salary of the Protestant chaplain should be distributed amongst the clergymen who do duty, in proportion to the amount of work they do. With respect to the observation made by the hon. leader of the opposition, I have a higher opinion of the clergymen of other denominations than my own than that which the hon. gentleman seems to have. I can hardly imagine a clergyman canvassing amongst the convicts with a view of securing their nominal adherence to any particular denomination. We have scriptural authority for the belief that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and if one clergyman attends to fifty convicts and another attends to only five, surely the former who does more work is entitled to more consideration than the latter? I should be perfectly willing that the clause

be stricken out altogether, but I contend that, on the whole, the principle contained in the amendment is the sounder one. I shall move that amendment, and if it is the wish of the committee it can stand over to be considered later.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—I entirely agree with the hon. gentleman from Kingston (Hon. Mr. Sullivan). I think the old system of appointing a permanent clergyman to look after the spiritual wants of the prisoners would be much better than to divide it up. Any person who knows anything of the class of men who are to be ministered to is aware that they have no very strong religious convictions, and I do not think any particular fault would be found by protestant clergymen if the old system were continued. It appears to me that the class of men who are found in penitentiaries are of peculiar dispositions, and do not possess strong religious convictions and if there is any way in which any clergyman will be able to induce these men to lead better lives it will certainly be by permitting him to become familiar with the parties. I think the clause in the present Act provides that the minister had the right to appoint a Protestant clergyman, and I think it would be much better to strike out this new clause and leave it as it was before, or leave it to the minister to appoint the clergyman. I do not know that any fault has been found with that system in the past, and if it has worked satisfactorily, why make the change? I rather think the clause as it now stands provides for the regulation of the pay as suggested by the hon. gentleman from Halifax?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—I think the last two lines of clause 34, 'Among the clergymen of the several denominations performing such duties in proportion to the time given to such duties by each,' appear to qualify, and the clergymen performing the duties would be the clergymen for the time being. If it is left to the warden and the minister to select the clergymen they might be selected just as has been suggested, but you might have five Presbyterian and fifty Methodist convicts. I should judge that would be the proportion that might be there