

meagre explanation of it, and I understood from him that, on going into committee, he was to explain the Bill further. But when the highest legal authority on the Government side in this House tells us that he is comparatively ignorant of the provincial franchises, except that of Quebec, and when the Minister of Marine and Fisheries tells us, as an argument why we should forthwith pass this clause, that these provincial franchises have worked well, I think we have a right to consider what those provincial franchises are. Take the province of Manitoba. Within three short years, from 1889 to 1892, changes were made in that province in regard to the franchise, that reflected undying ignominy on the perpetrators of that legislation. And yet the hon. Minister tells us that worked well. It is notorious all over the North-west Territories that the majority in Manitoba consider the present law, under which local elections take place, as an outrage on justice. I have in my hand here the Revised Statutes of Manitoba, to which I wish to call attention. They have manhood suffrage, and this is the way in which there the lists are made out :

When it has been determined to make and revise a list of electors in one or more electoral divisions, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall, by proclamation, appoint a proper person to be called " a registration clerk "—

In fact, an enumerator.

—for each of such electoral divisions, and, by such proclamation, fix the date for the closing of the list in each electoral division by the registration clerk. Such date shall not be less than four weeks from the date of such proclamation.

Now, here comes an arrangement about divisions, because either a judge or a barrister of three years' standing may be appointed to revise the lists.

A court for the revision of lists of electors shall for that purpose be held in each electoral division, as hereinafter provided. * * * * * Whenever any such judge or barrister is unable or neglects, within two weeks after the date of such proclamation, to appoint a day for the revision of the list for any electoral division assigned to him not later than the day above limited, then the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may assign such electoral division to some other judge or barrister.

So that, if it should be in any division the interest of the party in power to delay the revision, all they have to do is, to tip the wink to the revising judge, or barrister, to neglect doing his duty, and all he has to do is, to postpone advising the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint another revising barrister, or another judge, to attend to the work. I have in my hand evidence that that very thing was done, and, in consequence of that being done, 165 electors were kept off. I have other evidence of other outrages.

Mr. T. Seaman writes :

Yours to hand re registration clerk and revising barrister, and in reply thereto I would

say that personally I know but little re the action of these officers. I was ill at the time of Monkman's visit, and did not see him. The following, however, came under my observation : C. de Sumericourt (the reeve of this municipality) and myself went through the list as prepared, and found fully one-third of those entered to be on the list omitted therefrom, so far as our part is concerned. We filled in applications to all we knew that were so omitted, and de Sumericourt took the affidavits that he personally knew them, but out of about forty applications only three or four names were placed on by the revising barrister, Monkman. Amongst others, we applied to have on were Dan Macdonald and Robert Holland, of 28, 18, 2. Macdonald was the owner of the land and house, and Holland lived with him. Macdonald was known to be a strong Conservative, while Holland promised to vote for Burrows. Macdonald was not put on at the court of revision, but Holland was. They contended the forms we filled in were not the proper ones, but why put on one man and leave the other off ? Besides, Gilmour sent me the forms, and no doubt they were all right. At the settlement of Oak Point, the following to my knowledge were entitled to be on the list :—Pierre Chartrand, Joseph Lucier, Alexander Desjarlis, sr., Alex. Desjarlis, jr., Alex. Desjarlis, 18, 18, 5, Baptiste Lamoureux, Alexander Lamoureux, George Lamoureux, Baptiste Bruno, Moses Lucier, Stanislaus Desjarlis, François Desjarlis, Louis Desjarlis, and Antoine Desjarlis ; but only the two latter were on the list, while every name, or nearly so, appears on our municipal voters' list.

So that though they appeared on the much-belauded municipal lists they were not found on the list for the local election !

These people were natives, several of whom were between forty and fifty years of age, and were born at Oak Point. It was known that to a man they would vote against Burrows. The policy seemed to be to leave off as many as possible bearing French names, and to put on every one with an Icelandic name, many of whom were in Winnipeg, and had not lived here for many years. A young Icelander taught school here two months in the summer—he never lived here before, and left when the school closed. His name was on the list, while scores of people that had resided here for years were left off. To make it almost impossible for our friends to be put on at the court of revision, the courts were placed on the extreme end of the settlement, and many would have to go forty miles to get their names on. You are aware that it is the duty of the registration clerk to give notice by posting notices in all post offices immediately after his appointment, and requiring those desirous of placing names on the list to send the names to him at least, I think, five days before the list closed. The notice reached here on October 30, and the list closed November 5, or exactly the time allowed to send in names, while the clerk lived about 150 miles away, so that it was impossible to place names on in the first instance.

Fancy this ! Here is an outrage. The notice reached them six days before the list was closed.

You should, however, see Glen Campbell. He can give you a far worse story than this. You are at liberty to make whatever use you like of the foregoing, and, if it necessary, to mention my name as the author.