

nomination, and the name of such elector shall thereupon be entered on the list of voters for the selected polling district, and erased from any other list of voters for the Electoral District." He believed that this would only apply to New Brunswick, for he was informed that in Ontario and Quebec voters voted in the polling districts where their property was situated. He was not aware of the law in the other Provinces, but in New Brunswick, electors were allowed by the local law to select their own polling districts any day before the 24th day of the December preceding the election. Non-resident electors, by written notification to the Sheriff of the county, should have their names transferred from the shiretown list to any list they chose, as, under the local law in that Province, any number of agents could be appointed by the candidate, and the universal practice had been for the candidates on the day of nomination to appoint the non-resident electors who wished their names transferred from the shiretown list to any particular polling district, as their agents, in the polling districts where they wished to vote. This being the case, no transfers were taken on the 24th day of December, and this would, to a great extent, disfranchise these non-resident voters. Their number varied from 160 to 400 in each county. There were 232 in his own county. If no such provision as he proposed were made, one polling booth or two polling booths extra would be required at each shiretown for non-resident voters, who would be by this measure practically disfranchised, because, under the law establishing simultaneous polling, they could not, of course, attend in two districts on polling day, unless facilities for doing so were provided. He thought that no objection should be taken to this motion, which was intended to facilitate the recording of their votes by non-resident voters.

MR. MITCHELL said he did not see the necessity for this proposition from the reasons given by the hon. gentleman. He had heard no reason to show why this selection should be made eight days before the nomination. It was quite customary for members to

be returned by acclamation, of which fact he was a living example, and why should people be troubled with this formality when they believed that their votes might not be required. He could, however, understand, that this provision might prove advantageous in a pocket-borough, like the constituency which the hon. gentleman represented, and which he (Mr. Mitchell) could canvass every morning before breakfast. He did not believe that the elections would occur before September or November, though the hon. gentleman might be better informed, and it was possible that that they would take place in June, in which event, as this law would not be then in circulation, this amendment might aid the hon. gentleman to the disadvantage of his opponent. He did not think that any change in the present law, which worked very well, was desirable.

MR. BURPEE (Sunbury) said he would not refer to the terms in which the hon. gentleman had alluded to his constituency, which was too well-known and too respectable to require any defence at his hands. He did not desire to change the law or practice in any respect. This proposition only allowed non-resident electors to select the polls at which they desired to vote, eight days before the nomination, giving the returning officer ample time to make up his lists. It was only intended for the convenience of non-resident electors.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD said that he did not know anything about the merits of the case; but this was a rather extraordinary interference with a Government measure. They were not aware what course the Government proposed to adopt with respect to this proposition. He understood that the hon. gentleman had previously communicated his proposition to the Government, and the hon. gentleman had been guilty of want of respect to the House in not communicating it to hon. members, as this was the third reading of the Bill.

MR. BURPEE (Sunbury) said their attention was not called to this matter until on the last occasion when this measure was before the House, when