

contrary, there is a desire to place them on the same footing as those who speak English; but do they imagine that this country is to remain a French Province forever. It is perfectly futile. Every thinking man must see that the English race and the English language will dominate this Dominion. We know that the vast Territories of this country must be populated by immigrants. Where are those immigrants to come from? Surely not from France: and surely the Province of Quebec cannot imagine that it will monopolize all the unoccupied lands of this country. Our French friends, who are able, clever and thoughtful men, must see the necessity of meeting us on a fair level, and if they want to stand side by side with us they must expect to be equal with us by keeping pace with us, by keeping up with the necessities of a commercial people. It cannot be denied that the English language to-day is the language of commerce all the world over. It is true that French is the polite language, which we are all glad to have taught to our sons and daughters, but it is the language of the drawing-room rather than the language of commerce.

HON. MR. PELLETIER—Oh, no.

HON. MR. DEVER—Oh, yes. Who are the commercial men of the day? Who monopolize the commerce of the world? The English-speaking races. It is just as well that we should recognize this fact and end this continual bickering and fighting in this House. It is absurd to think of putting one race above another—it cannot be done. It should be recognized at once that if people get fair play and perfect equality in this country that is all that they should expect. I think the idea of having more than one language, and that the language of the majority, should be abandoned. For my part, I certainly would not allow myself to hold a seat here if I thought that my French fellow citizens would be injured in the slightest degree, either in their language or their religion; but nothing of that kind is thought of, and until it is thought of there is no necessity to raise the objections to which we have listened.

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—I apprehend we are permitting this debate to diverge from the practical to the sentimental, but we must not lose sight of the fact

that we are now providing for the first wants of new states in western Canada, and it certainly ought to be the first object of this House to avoid burdening those new communities with any unnecessary expense or complication in their legislative, in their judicial or other proceedings. For that reason, I should be disposed to adopt the proviso with the amendment of which the leader has given notice, but I declare to you that I would not take that course if I thought that the interests of those who speak the French language would thereby be injured in any way. If I thought they would I should vote with them. What I believe is this: That in the future, when a considerable number of French-speaking men, whether from Old France, or the Province of Quebec, or anywhere else, assemble in any one of the new Provinces in such numbers that they return French-speaking representatives to the Legislature, they have no reason to apprehend any unfair treatment, because the importance of a third party in the Legislature in any considerable number will certainly induce the majority to do everything in their power to attract their support. That very circumstance ought, in my opinion, to be sufficient to reassure the minds of our French colleagues that no attempt at either indignity to their language or encroachment on their privileges, or any such thing, would be likely to happen. If they can support a party in any of the western Canadian Legislatures in sufficient numbers to influence the carriage of any great measure, they might be quite sure that any such party would be only too glad of their support, and ready to use their influence in that Legislature to give due importance to their language and everything else they desire in that way. But I think it would be very unwise and unjust to saddle a new community, which is just rising up, taking its first step in political life, with any of the unnecessary expense or complication which would be involved in using two languages in the Legislature, and publishing all the public documents in two languages at an early period in their existence, when it is important to them to economize their resources in every possible way. As for Old France, I do not believe we are likely to receive large numbers of immigrants from there, because it is well known that