

reading his speech that had been delivered in Ottawa, a speech going over the same ground. It was, after all, the same old stuff, but with a little evolution. So that, although I did not hear the speech I am tolerably familiar with my hon. friend's opinions on these subjects, and I may say that in the course of a pretty long political life, in the sense that I have been studying politics all my life, and have had an opportunity of hearing most politicians in England and Canada, and prominent politicians in France, I have never met with speeches so wanting in logic from so distinguished a man. Those speeches have two peculiar characteristics. The one is that my hon. and learned friend has taken to dilating on questions that, from his busy life, he was evidently not conversant with, and I am sorry to say that from a somewhat cold manner he has lapsed into violent appeals to passions that can do nothing but harm. Now, Sir, this question is a local one, and for that reason I consider that it should be dealt with by the Local Legislature. Some French gentlemen have gone in there, because we have had a small French immigration—some of our most useful citizens are French gentlemen. They have come there with much wealth, and one of them is a chicory grower. This House will probably be surprised to hear that Canada has become a coffee-growing country. We have in the North-West chicory plantations at the present minute, and when my hon. and learned friend next goes to the North-West, we shall be able to regale him with a cup of coffee, if nothing better, before he dilates on his favourite topics.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. French coffee?

Mr. DAVIN. Oh, that would not agree with my hon. friend. (Laughter.) Well, Sir, the view that I take is this and it is a view that I have taken here twice in regard to the second homestead, I say that if that law is on the Statute-book, a French gentleman who has gone into the

North-West under that 110th clause has no right to see it repealed without his having something to say. "We have a large population along the Saskatchewan, we have a French population to the south, and although they are greatly outnumbered, the bare fact of their being outnumbered is a reason why, without a hearing, we should not repeal this clause. Now, as I said, this speech is a part of a series. I will say that on some subjects in which I am conversant my hon. and learned friend has laid down some most extraordinary propositions, and among others one which I will deal with presently, that the North-West has been a losing game to us. Here is a proposition that he states:—

"There is no such thing as a Celtic skull."

I must not say Keltic, although I have been trained at the university to say Keltic; still, I remember that the last time that I spoke and used the word Keltic, an hon. gentleman who is a Scotchman, and a friend of mine, asked me, "What on earth are you talking about Keltic the whole time?" So I must not use the word with a k, but with a soft c, and say Celtic.

"There is no such thing as a Celtic skull any more than a Saxon skull; no such thing as Celtic hair any more than Saxon hair; it is only

Mark the proposition he lays down.---

"It is only by language and by the community of language that men are formed into nations."

Now, let me make this remark. He says there is no such thing as a Celtic skull or a Saxon skull. I suppose there is no such thing as a Jewish skull or an Aztec skull; and yet I have read some very scientific treatises in which I have seen the differences in skulls pointed out. Again he says:

"It is plain that what makes a nation is language, and therefore when one speaks of a race, as these distinguished writers have done, one means a community speaking the same language."

Now, I will explain how my hon. friend has fallen into such a proposition as this.