

and be substituted therefor ;—that any patent previously granted in any one Province would be confirmed, and in our opinion be extended over the entire Dominion, for the unexpired portion of the period it had to run : the functions of the general Government, as determined by the constitution, enabling it only to legislate or act for the whole Dominion, and not for a portion or part, independently of the remainder ; in this respect bearing a resemblance to the United States, composed of a number of independent States, analogous to our Provinces, each with a separate State Government, but all presided over by one federal Government, in whose hands is specially placed the granting of letters patent for inventions, and which, when granted, re-issued or renewed, necessarily cover the entire union ; in fact, it being impossible for the federal Government to issue a patent or legislate on one which would have effect in or cover only a limited number of States. We have always been of the opinion that a similar result would follow in the Dominion of Canada in relation to the unexpired periods of patents of invention, the moment they come under the provisions of the general law.

In the pamphlet referred to we stated a few facts with reference to the existing local patent laws of the different Provinces, and will now repeat the same.

1st. In the two Provinces of Ontario and Quebec (heretofore jointly known as the Province of Canada), letters patent are only granted to British subjects, who must also be residents in either of the Provinces aforesaid, and at the same time be the inventors or discoverers of the article for which a patent is sought. To the above requirements there is but one exception, as follows :—Any British subject being a resident in either of the Provinces, who, during his or her travels in any foreign country (Great Britain and the United States excepted) may become acquainted with any invention not known or in use in the two Provinces, may obtain a patent for the same, as the first introducer of the invention or discovery into the Provinces, which patent will have the same effect as if the applicant were the actual inventor. In Nova Scotia the applicant must have resided one year in that Province previous to making the application, but need not necessarily be a British subject. To this law of residence there is one exception, as follows :—Natives