

payment of rent at the rate of five pounds, payable quarterly.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH had no objection.

Mr. MUIRHEAD thought that every tax-payer should have a right to vote.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY repeated that the Bill was a man-trap and a retrograde movement—that Town Councillors should not be required to have a higher qualification than Members of the Government who had seats in that House. The amendment would disfranchise one-third of the inhabitants of Charlottetown. A man may have three or four sons with him who still may have no votes. No journeyman mechanic can vote unless he has property. In Ireland no man is taxed who has not the right to vote. God knows there has been bad legislation enough in that country, but yet the rule is there—no vote, no tax. If the Bill passes he would give his support to the Maine Liquor Law.

Hon. SPEAKER said the hon. member was arguing against himself when he said that in Ireland no man was taxed without having a vote. The Bill gave the owners of property power to tax themselves. As to the case of parties having three or four children who may have no vote, that is but the consequence of their having no property. He was in favour of the amendment, as being a compromise which would prove acceptable to a majority of the people of Charlottetown. He trusted that the amendment would be generally supported.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY thought that the Bill did not deserve the appellation of a man-trap. It would have the effect of protecting the country people who might have occasion to come to town. Last market day many of these were employed in driving cattle from their hay, &c.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY said it would take a long time for a cow to eat 10s. worth of hay; but a policeman would very soon render a man liable to pay more than that for leaving a horse in the streets for a moment. He prophesied that the peace of society would be at an end if the Bill passed.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN said that the hon. member had repeated his objections. He, for one, represented a country constituency, and was not afraid of his support to the Bill. The hon. member had argued that a countryman could not come to town without being put in jail. As to his promised support of the Maine Law, no doubt the temperance people would be very grateful to him. He (Hon. Mr. Whelan) had been willing to make a compromise, as though he differed from the hon. introducer of the Bill, and thought that the original

proposition of the £6 yearly rent was too high, yet some deference was due to that gentleman's opinions, on a question so peculiarly affecting his own constituency. As to the vote arrived at the other evening, namely, £2, it did not bring the qualification to the level with that for the House, as any person, not possessed of six-pence worth of property, could vote for a Member of the House, if he only paid a road tax.

Hon. Mr. PALMER saw no reason to change his previous opinions. If it were desired that the operation of the Bill should be fair, no class interests should predominate. The qualification should ensure that the City Council should be composed of men who would have regard to the interests of the town. The present amendment will exclude very few. Five pounds was too low; parties may swear to that amount when not worth five-pence. True, they may be objected to, but a scrutiny is tedious. Was sorry his hon. colleague had prematurely assented to the reduction. He was borne out in his opposition by his constituents; although anxious to see the town incorporated for many reasons, some of which he had previously given—he was not disposed to place the franchise so low.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN said the Hon. Mr. Palmer was desirous of defeating the Bill. He dissented from five pounds, and would have the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill. The hon. member knew, when the measure was introduced, that there would be a difference of opinion as to the details. He would now, however, introduce a resolution much more comprehensive.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH was sorry his colleague would not agree to the £5 clause. Was sure it was low, but no one Member can expect to have every thing his own way.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN—Since Hon. Mr. Longworth supported the £5 clause, would adhere to that.

The blank was filled up with rent at the rate of £5, payable quarterly.

The only other discussion was on the clause for dividing the City into Wards, which was altered from the original plan by running the lines of division from East to West, instead of from South to North. The discussion was principally a repetition of what has been given in the report of this debate. The alteration was proposed by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, who objected to the original plan, that it would have the effect of confining the Liberal influence to one Ward, and conceding the remainder to the opposition.