

where on the same qualification as the white man. The fact is, the object of this Bill is, as is quite well understood, to retain the present Ministry in power. Hon. gentlemen may pretend to think it is not, but there can be no doubt about it. What is the object of allowing Indians to vote in Ontario? Is it not simply because there are some half-dozen constituencies where it is thought the Indian vote, when coached by the Indian agent, will be strong enough to defeat the Reform candidate.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Oh, no.

HON. MR. SCOTT—To kill Paterson.

HON. MR. POWER—Yes, to kill Paterson, and the hon. member from Bothwell, and others.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Not at all.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not mean to say that that is the object of the hon. gentleman from Niagara, as I have no doubt he is actuated solely by an enthusiastic love and admiration for our red brethren. I cannot understand why that love and admiration do not go further—why they do not reach the red man in Manitoba. Is he not as good a man, or pretty nearly as good, as the red man in Ontario? Talking about British Columbia, I do not venture to say that the hon. gentleman opposite who has referred to the Indians there is wrong, but I have always understood that the Hyda Indians were about as intelligent, ingenious and industrious as any Indians in Canada.

HON. MR. NELSON—They are known to a certain extent for their intelligence and ingenuity, but nevertheless they are savages at the same time—strictly savages. We have had a visit from a gentleman who lives on that northern coast, who has brought a couple of Indians with him but I may tell the hon. gentleman these are not specimens of the Indians of British Columbia. They have become civilized and are under the care of the gentleman who brought them here. Although the Indians of Queen Charlotte's Island have

shown great aptitude in the way of being jewellers and workers in metal to a certain extent, still they remain as they did—perhaps not as great savages as they were before the white man came there, but almost as great.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B. C.)—The hon. gentleman from Halifax has made a mistake as to the Hyda Indians. The Indians he refers to are Tsimpshans at Metlakatlah, who might well be enfranchised. I saw those men 25 years ago when they were cannibals and pagans living in wigwams partly under the ground. To-day they are living in houses two stories high, comfortably furnished, and they have saw-mills, blacksmith shops, etc. On Sunday you see an Indian mount the pulpit and read a text from the Bible in English, and address a respectable, well-dressed and orderly congregation. You hear the Indians playing the harmonium, and you see the women comfortably clad. They are able to weave and spin and are proficient in other civilized occupations. You find amongst them blacksmiths, carpenters and other mechanics. Those are the only Indians in British Columbia that ought to be enfranchised.

HON. MR. POWER—Then why do you not include them in this Bill?

HON. MR. MACDONALD—There is time enough for that: the Bill can be amended. The hon. gentleman from Ottawa was not here and did not hear the description which the hon. member from Niagara gave of the Indians of Ontario.

HON. MR. SCOTT—The hon. gentleman from Ottawa was born in Ontario and knows all about the Indians of Ontario.

HON. MR. MACDONALD—Then the hon. gentleman from Ottawa should not speak of them as he has done. But with regard to our Indians I say the tribe to which I have referred are the only Indians fit to vote.

HON. MR. POWER—It all goes to show that when we undertook to take the right of deciding who shall vote away from the provinces, we immediately