

agreement or by arbitration what the land would cost. In consequence of the award not having been completed last session the bill which was then introduced was withdrawn.

**THE AWARDS WERE NOW COMPLETED**  
With the exception of a road, which the Court of Appeal had decided that they could not expropriate under the terms of the Act. The whole of the proceedings were in charge of the commissioners. They were men of great business ability and good taste, and had devoted themselves to the work with great zeal. He would have been utterly hopeless of bringing the matter to its present position without the services which these gentlemen had gratuitously given. It was to them really that the credit was due of the matter having reached its present condition. It was proposed that the money

**SHOULD BE RAISED BY DEBENTURES**  
charged on the revenues of the Park with a guarantee by the Province. There was no ground for doubting that the revenues would be amply sufficient to pay all expenses, to pay the interest on the debentures and to provide a sinking fund. The debentures would extend over forty years. The Park would be perfectly free, and charges would be made only where guides were needed or where expenditure was required for mechanical appliances, such as inclined planes. It was calculated that a small charge, say fifty cents as a maximum, to those who used these advantages would be sufficient. On the American side a small charge was made for the same purpose. Assuming that 250,000 people visited the Falls annually, it would be necessary for only a third of that number to pay this small charge in order to afford sufficient revenue. The attractions on the Canadian side were much greater than on the other. The report of the New York Commissioners referred to that matter and pointed out the advantages of the Canadian side over the American side; and when the drawbacks were removed from the Canadian side they might fairly expect

**A LARGER NUMBER OF VISITORS**  
there than on the American side. There was no reason to doubt that the revenue would be sufficient. The award for the land would amount to \$400,000; the second head of expenses would be the costs of the arbitrators, and the third would be the cost of the works that would have to be constructed. It was proposed not to make the place a flower garden, but to retain in a state of nature what was in that condition now, to remove unsightly buildings, and by planting to restore the sites of these buildings as far as possible to

**A STATE OF NATURE,**  
and to remove all obstructions which would prevent people going out and enjoying the sights. They proposed to call the park the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park. He believed that he spoke the feelings of the House and the country when he said that they loved their Queen more than they loved these old Indian names, and that the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of her reign was one which ought to be marked and could be very fittingly marked in this way. The locality was one of interest to the whole world. They were about to consecrate the park to the whole world, but especially to

**HER MAJESTY'S SUBJECTS EVERYWHERE.**  
When the American Park was opened they thought it a fitting thing to have a great gath-

ering of the people to mark the event, and Governors of States and other distinguished men were invited to be present. It would be a fitting thing for Ontario, as another way of celebrating this Jubilee year, to have a gathering of the same kind, and he hoped they might have an opening equal to that which took place on the other side of the line. He hoped that the Governor-General and the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario would be present, and it would give him great satisfaction if every member of this House would attend. He hoped to meet the leader of the Opposition there and shake hands with him cordially.

Mr. MEREDITH—Across the stream? (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Mowat concluded by moving that the House go into committee on the resolutions.

Mr. MEREDITH said although this matter had been before the House before, the Province was not committed to it. Judging by the report of the commissioners, the intention was to establish this park without laying any burden upon the Province. But there were not sufficient facts before the House to show the members that there was a fair chance of this expectation being realised. In the first place, it was expected to involve an expenditure of \$500,000, of which \$290,000 was the estimated cost of the property to be expropriated. But it was found that \$462,000 would be the cost of the property, and yet only \$25,000 was added to the total estimate. As he (Mr. Meredith) understood the locality, all the property between the road and the river was the property of the Crown. In that case he could see no reason for the purchase of some of the property, especially that of Mr. Macklin and Mr. Davis. The Attorney-General estimated that a fee of 50 cents would be sufficient to clear the expenses. But there were not facts before the House to enable members to judge of that, and he threw the responsibility upon gentlemen opposite. He thought \$500,000 too large a sum to be expended on this scheme if the Province was to be responsible for the expenditure. With regard to the name, while not yielding to the Premier in his loyalty and devotion to the sovereign, he would have been quite content and, indeed, would have preferred to see the name by which the park must always be known among the people—Niagara Falls Park. He did not oppose the bill.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said he had not given the estimates of expenditure upon the improvements, thinking they could best be given in Committee of the Whole. The margin over cost of land was a large one, but the Americans, though they had no larger park than was proposed for this side, were preparing for an expenditure of \$400,000, at the rate of \$100,000 a year. Should the House feel richer at some future time more might be given to be spent in this work than was now proposed. He justified the expenditure of the money on the responsibility of the Province on the ground that the very same influences which would make this a profitable enterprise for a private company would tend to prevent the Province from suffering loss upon it. His idea was at first to have a company manage the affair subject to Provincial regulation and inspection, but it seemed if a company could do it the Province could do it without loss and with advantage to the people. The Opposition press had condemned the Government for not going rapidly enough in this matter, and advocated the expenditure out of the public revenue and at the expense of the Province wholly.

The resolution was carried, and the House went into Committee of the Whole upon the resolutions.