

submit to the state of things which had existed and which there seemed to be no reasonable prospect of being improved.

NOT THE PROPER PLACE.

He entirely disagreed with the hon. member as to the proper place for this matter to be discussed, assuming that it was proper or expedient that any action should be taken. The cases that had been cited were cases that might have been considered in 1849 in the settlement of the rebellion losses—they were cases of indemnification. That was one thing, but the recognising of the mere services of those who took up arms at that time was an entirely different thing. It was almost absurd to talk of that as a campaign. The affair that took place within a short distance of Toronto could scarcely be called an action. He read of Jarvis' pickets firing a volley at the insurgents, who took to their heels and ran off as quickly as possible. Their speed was not exceeded by Jarvis' men, who also took to their heels, not after the insurgents, but in quite another direction. (Laughter.) Then, afterwards, when Col. Fitzgibbon and his force marched against the enemy, there was scarcely any enemy there. When they got as far as Montgomery's they found a few insurgents and fired at them, but there was only one man killed, and there was no return fire from the insurgents, who had no rifles, and were only armed with pikes and pitchforks.

RIDGEWAY HEROES.

If the hon. member wanted to reward the volunteer militia of this country why did he pass over the volunteers of 1866? He did not mean to say that the result of that engagement was entirely satisfactory, or that a great amount of glory could be attached to Ridgeway, but he did say that if the volunteers had not been put upon the field as quickly as possible, and if they had not met the enemy with promptness and alacrity, the Welland Canal might have been destroyed and incalculable mischief wrought.

It was the House of Commons of Canada that was the proper authority to be consulted in this matter. Every one knew that it was the Dominion Government that had to do with the militia of this country, and that this Province had no authority to expend money upon the militia, except in one or two trifling matters provided for by the act. It might be said that as the troubles of 1837 were prior to Confederation, therefore it was a matter in which other Provinces was not concerned, but he pointed out that action had been taken by the Dominion Government with regard to the veterans of 1812. There was no reason why the Dominion Government—if it was a proper thing to consider at all, and he would say that it was not—there was no reason why they should not consider this matter in the same way as they had dealt with matters long anterior to the matters referred to by the hon. member.

There were the strongest reasons why this House should not pass the resolution proposed, and he was sure that the members generally would agree with him that it was inexpedient to open up old sores.

Mr. Gibson therefore moved in amendment that all the words after the word "that" in the resolution be struck out and the following substituted therefor:—

That while the grievances under which the Provinces labored for some years prior to 1837 led some of the people into rebellion in that year, the great majority of those who felt the grievances preferred trusting for a remedy to continued peaceful agitation; that these grievances have long since been removed, and that by their removal the attachment of the whole people to British connection was happily restored and has existed without interruption for the half century which has since elapsed; that matters relating to the militia and to the defence of the country now belong under the constitution to the Dominion Parliament and do not call for further consideration by this House.

MR. RAYSIDE'S AMENDMENT.

Mr. Rayside, after referring to the last occasion on which the subject was before the House, said that his vote then had been

criticised, and it was said he would be snowed under when he went back for re-election. But he was not. The Attorney-General on that former occasion said that the matter was one which belonged to the Dominion Government. The Glengarrians had fought in Lower Canada. If they adopted the suggestion of Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Blake, that recognition should be sought where the services were rendered, the people would have to go to Quebec for compensation. What prospect was there of getting any there? They would come back empty-handed. There are men who were injured in '37, and who are still receiving compensation from the Dominion Government. The resolution was mere clap-trap introduced to embarrass the Government in certain quarters. He therefore moved that the following words be added to the amendment:—

And this view is illustrated by the consideration that the Dominion Parliament took cognisance of the claims of the veterans of 1812.

WARMTH OF DISCUSSION.

Mr. Clancy regretted the course taken by the Provincial Secretary, because the resolution and the remarks of the mover were moderate in tone. He accused Mr. Gibson of endeavoring to bring strife into the debate. He thought that if Mr. Gibson were living in those days and wore the Queen's uniform he would have felt himself compelled to go out in defence of the Government. He thought it would be a graceful thing to reward the few old men left. It would be impossible for the Dominion to recognise these services, because the other Provinces which had nothing to do with it would oppose the proposition. He denied that the resolution was an attempt to make political capital.

Mr. Hiscott said his father was one of those who endeavored to put down the rebellion. The militia of the day were called on to put down the rebellion and they obeyed. He thought it would be a dangerous precedent to justify a rebellion, because there might be rebellions in future. True loyal Britons should not forget the men who turned out in defence of the country. He hoped there were enough honest, loyal, straight British subjects in the House to assist those who fought for their country.

Mr. Whitney accused Mr. Gibson of endeavoring to rouse warmth of feeling over this question. He failed to see why the House was occupied for half an hour not in discussing the merits of the question, but with a repetition of historical facts plus the personal record of his hon. friend, which by the way was a creditable one. He said the Provincial Secretary had not dealt fairly with the question, but had dodged it. He said that the Attorney-General in 1885 moved a resolution that "this House cordially recognises the services of the veterans of 1837," and asked what he thought of the Provincial Secretary's resolution. The resolution simply asked the House to recognise in some way the services of those veterans, of whom he was glad to know the Attorney-General was one.

Mr. Balfour said that among the survivors of those who repelled an invasion from the United States in 1837 now living in Essex, there were 29 Liberals and 10 Conservatives. The Liberals included the man who always nominated him, and an old man who for years was the only Liberal on Pelee Island. He would therefore have to vote for a resolution to reward their services. While he appreciated the services of those who struggled for responsible government, he must on behalf of his constituents vote in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Meredith thought it was time this question was set at rest. It was unfair and improper to send these people from one Parliament to another. A similar motion was presented before by Mr. Broder, and on that occasion the same unfair tactics were resorted to. It ill became the Provincial Secretary to sneer at those who took part in the fight near Toronto in defence of the Government. It was imported into the discussion, it was imported by the Provincial Secretary. The Provincial Sec-