

THURSDAY, MARCH 22.

CANADIAN VALOR.

Legislature Would Like to Recognize it.

RENFREW REGISTRARSHIP

Opposition Argue That it Has Been Used For Political Purposes—Government Receives Deputations.

Mr. Little, Conservative member for Cardwell, moved a resolution in the Legislature yesterday in favor of expressing in some tangible form Ontario's appreciation of the gallantry of its sons in South Africa. His idea was that a free grant of agricultural land in New Ontario should be made to the soldiers, thus following the example set

in the case of the campaign in the Northwest. The Premier, while appreciating the purpose of the resolution and expressing full sympathy with it, pointed out that to give land which was free to all at present would not be any particular consideration. The Government had already placed a substantial amount in the estimates for patriotic purposes, and were considering what further action they might take by way of recognizing Canadian gallantry. In view of that fact, he suggested the withdrawal of the resolution, and after some discussion this was done.

Recognition For Valor.

Mr. Little's resolution was thus worded:—"That in the opinion of this House the time has come when something should be done in a tangible form to mark our appreciation of the valor and courage displayed by our brave soldiers now engaged in behalf of the empire in the war in South Africa." He said that a great deal had already been done for the members of the Canadian contingents who were bringing such honor to Canada in South Africa. An amount had been raised for the relief of those dependent on the Canadian soldiers, which, although not yet as large as he had expected to see it, showed the warm appreciation of Canadians of the heroism of their soldiers. But while something had been done for those dependent on them, nothing had so far been accomplished for the soldiers themselves. The country had a great deal of land in the newer portions of Ontario about which a great deal had been heard. This land was well adapted for the best kind of agriculture, and the Legislature would be carrying out a generous act and nothing more than it should do in giving to each of the young men composing the Canadian regiment a free grant of 200 acres of land in any one of these sections of New Ontario. What was wanted in these districts was population, and every one of these young men who could be induced to settle in that country would be worth a dozen of the class of settlers who were being imported into Manitoba. It would be a generous and a wise act of the Government to turn over farms to the returning soldiers.

Government Not Unmindful.

The Premier, in reply, said that the entire House appreciated the kindly motives which actuated the hon. gentleman in bringing the matter up. The hon. gentleman was already aware that considerable had already been done. The sum of \$1,000 had been given to the Red Cross Fund, which would be devoted to the relief of Canadian soldiers; there was an item in the estimates of \$10,000 for the "Patriotic Fund," and a further item of \$4,000 for the payment of the salaries of civil servants who were members of the contingents and whose places would be retained for them if they cared to accept them on their return. What more could be done had been a matter which had engaged the attention of the Government, which had deliberated upon some