

death of such volunteer, which unfortunately occurred in many cases, his next of kin should stand in his place, so far as the grant of land was concerned. The other persons who were eligible for the grant were those who were actually engaged in defensive service on the frontier of this Province during 1866.

The conditions of the grant were that lands so located under this act should be exempt from all settlement duties and Provincial and municipal taxation (except for school purposes) for a period of ten years from the date of such location; provided always that if such land be transferred by the original locatee to any other person within the said period of ten years, then any act now in force, or any regulations made thereunder, in respect of settlement duties and Provincial and municipal taxation, shall apply thereto, as if this act had not been passed.

As to Settlement Duties.

One objection that might be taken, Mr. Davis remarked, would be that a large block of land might be taken up and held in perpetuity without performing any settlement duties, without being liable at any time to taxation. That, he thought, had been the history of our Province in the past, in one case at least, where it was not administered in the public interest. The House might feel that every latitude should be given in every direction. It would be a matter for the House to decide whether they should go the whole length or not. The Government's proposal was that for ten years those to whom the land was given under this bill should be exempt from all taxation of every kind except the school taxes and settlement duties. If the land is disposed of before ten years have expired, it shall come under the usual settlement and other regulations or taxation. At the expiration of that time it would be for those then in power to say whether that exemption should be continued for a longer period. One could imagine that in certain cases it might be a desirable thing to do. One might also imagine that it would be detrimental if continued longer than that time.

The fourth clause fixed the size of each grant at 160 acres, and provided that not more than one location of 160 acres should be allowed to a square mile. The concluding clauses stated that all applications shall be made within two years from January 1 last, and that the act shall also apply to any person from the Province of Ontario acting as nurse, chaplain or Red Cross Commissioner in connection with the South African war during the years 1899 and 1900.

Other Veterans' Claims.

Mr. Carscallen (East Hamilton) asked if the number of those entitled to grants could be given, and also whether men who served with the Imperial forces in Canada during the troubles of 1866 and afterwards continued to reside in Canada would receive grants.

Mr. Davis replied that it was somewhat difficult to estimate the number. Perhaps it would be a thousand or a little less.

The Premier explained that he had had a deputation of Imperial veterans of 1866 just as the bill was completed. He thought they should be recognized, and they would be considered before the next stage of the bill was reached.

Mr. Graham (Brockville) asked if there would be provision for young men who while belonging to Ontario enlisted in companies or contingents in other Provinces where they happened to be attending college at the time.

Col. Matheson—Has he a vote here now?

Mr. Graham—He will have, and I know where he will place it. (Laughter.)

The Premier said the claims of such men would also be considered at a later stage.

Mr. Kribs (South Waterloo) thought some recognition should also be given our volunteers who served in the Northwest troubles of 1885.

The Premier understood the services of those veterans had been recognized by the Dominion Government by the granting of scrip.

Col. Matheson thought that something should be done in the way of rewarding the men who served in 1870.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt, replying to Mr. Graham, said that the question of providing free text-books in whole or in part to the pupils of public and separate schools was a question that had been engaging the careful attention of the Government for some time past.

Sale of Timber.

Hon. Mr. Davis, in answer to Col. Matheson, said that owing to damage by fire, the danger of further loss thereby, and after thorough examination by the forest rangers, the Government had decided to sell by public tender timber limits in Algoma covering 112 square miles. Tenders would be received at the Crown Lands Department up to March 15th next. At the same time tenders would be received for some lots in townships where licenses had been surrendered. These were chiefly in the County of Victoria and the district of Nipissing. Notices asking for tenders had been sent to 350 lumbermen in Canada and the United States and to Crown lands agents.

No More Factory Inspectors.

The Premier, replying to Mr. Preston, said it was not the present intention of the Government to increase the number of factory inspectors.

Mr. Carscallen asked for returns of all orders in Council, reports and papers relating to agreements between the Commissioner of Crown Lands and the Sturgeon Falls Pulp Company and Marshall Jewett Dodge of New York and E. W. Langley of Toronto. He stated that at the time these agreements were adopted the House was not in possession of facts as to the value of the concessions granted, and could not, therefore, discuss them intelligently.

Hon. Mr. Davis said the returns would be brought down. He reminded Mr. Carscallen that the agreement with the Sturgeon Falls Pulp Company was adopted unanimously and the others on division.