

tions are almost too frequent to be either dazzling or amusing.

Mr. DAVIN. Or pleasant.

Mr. CASEY. They are pleasant in themselves, but like honey or some other things we could name, too much of them is not as pleasant as a mere taste once in a while. He assures the House to-day that he has never been bitten with a sentiment, to use his own peculiar Hibernian way of putting it, of a certain kind, and he has made reference to insects. Now, insects bite sometimes, as well as sentiments, and I am not at all sure that my hon. friend has not been bitten with a certain kind of insect called the gadfly, which is known to drive those it bites into great disorder of mind and conduct. I should certainly judge from his reply to the hon. member for Alberta (Mr. Oliver) that something must have bitten him, if not a sentiment, then a gadfly.

Mr. DAVIN. I rise to a point of order. I understand your ruling, Mr. Speaker, is that no hon. gentleman should use insect illustrations. My hon. friend is transgressing that ruling by implying that the hon. member for Alberta (Mr. Oliver) is a gadfly, and, in the character of a gadfly, bit me. I do not care a pin about it, Mr. Speaker, but your ruling must be respected.

Mr. SPEAKER. If the hon. gentleman will say that the statement of the hon. member for Elgin (Mr. Casey) is offensive to him, I shall consider his point.

Mr. DAVIN. It is not in the least offensive to me. At that distance my hon. friend, or any other insect, would not annoy me.

Mr. CASEY. My hon. friend's interruption is rather clever. He wanted to draw in the hon. member for Alberta again, but I wish to assure him that there are no flies on the hon. member for Alberta, neither gaddies nor any other kind, and that the gadfly which appears to have been biting my hon. friend must have been one of his own imagination. It must have been an insect spirit, in other words, which must have bitten him. I hope the hon. gentleman will obtain a supply of insect powder and get done with this gadfly, and the rest of us will have peace to attend to serious matters of discussion.

Motion agreed to.

CLAIMS OF WOOD MOUNTAIN SCOUTS.

Mr. DAVIN moved :

That in the opinion of this House the time has arrived when the claims of the Wood Mountain Scouts to secure scrip or land warrants for services rendered by them during the rebellion, should be settled.

He said : The claims of these scouts have been again and again brought to the atten-

Mr. CASEY.

tion of the Government, and it is therefore not necessary that I should elaborate them. These gentlemen of Wood Mountain did yeoman's service during the rebellion. They were placed in a position of great danger—a position in which they might have been taken between two fires. It was a position also of great responsibility, because the object of employing them was to prevent the half-breeds of the United States crossing the line and joining our half-breeds here. They performed that service most effectively. They kept the half-breeds of the United States from coming over and joining Riel, and had these half-breeds come across the rebellion, instead of costing \$5,000,000, might have cost \$10,000,000. The amount required to give these men scrip is but a small one, and as the Militia Department has got the material before it, I hope the Government will come to the conclusion that the time has come to settle these claims.

Mr. OLIVER. Before the motion is adopted, I wish to say a word on the general proposition connected with it. The question of scrip payments following on the North-west rebellion has been brought before the country and this House from time to time until perhaps a good many people are tired of it. At the same time, I want to say that, as far as the opinions of a large number of people of the North-west are concerned, there are claims for recognition of services in the North-west rebellion, just claims, that have not been recognized yet; and I can only say that it is right and proper they should be recognized. I hope that, with a new House and a new Government, the matter will be finally dealt with. I am not familiar with the claim alluded to in this motion, but I will say that, so far as the Mounted Police force which served in the North-west rebellion is concerned, their claim for recognition for their services in that campaign has hitherto been ignored or rejected—I do not know which. But I want to say as a member of this House that I consider that force had good and sufficient and reasonable claims to recognition, and that, in my humble opinion, those claims should be recognized even at this late day. The fact that a man has rendered service to his country is, it seems to me, not something that passes away by effluxion of time. The fact that this service was rendered so many years ago and the fact that it has not been recognized do not detract from the value of the service rendered, from the necessity and propriety of that recognition, or from the credit that will be due to those who give it. There was a certain distinction, an invidious distinction, made between two classes of men who served and served equally well in suppressing the rebellion, that is, between the volunteers who came from the east and the North-west Mounted Police. I should say, I believe that volunteers from the west were included, as well as