

gentleman has informed us that this raiding is on both sides, and that he has had daily and weekly complaints from the United States Government of raiding from our territories into theirs, and it seems from his statement that this is a large cause of his proposed increase. It is not to prevent our cattle being stolen and carried into the United States territory, but it is to prevent our people going into the States and stealing their cattle and carrying them into our territory. If that be so, I am sorry to hear an account so serious of the lawlessness of our population. If it is so that there have been daily and weekly complaints from the United States Government of incursions from Manitoba and the North-West Territories into the States and territories of the south for felonious purposes of this kind, I really think we ought to have the papers. I think this justification which must be a recorded justification, capable of being produced by giving evidence of these complaints from the United States Government, ought to have been brought down by the hon. gentleman. I think also, inasmuch as he has stated that the question of flocks and herds is only a part of the reason for the increase, and that the ordinary duties of the Mounted Police are also to be considered as having been enlarged, requiring an increase, that it was essential, before he proceeded further with this resolution, that we should have had the report of the force for the year. I do not see that he is treating Parliament with proper respect when, upon an allegation of the increased duties to so numerous a degree, he proposes to proceed with this legislation without giving us the officers' reports; and we have really had no plausible excuse for that report not being laid on the Table. Many reports are laid on the Table in manuscript. It could have been laid on the Table any time since the 29th of January last, and it is secreted from us because he says it is in galley form only, so that we shall not receive it in manuscript or otherwise. Then he says Manitoba is unable to cope with this difficulty—to prevent her citizens engaging in felonious forays into the United States, or United States citizens engaging in felonious forays into Manitoba; and it is to ease Manitoba that he proposes this increase. I have no doubt from the condition of things, that there have been representations from the Government of Manitoba on that subject, that they have shown a very exceptional condition of things exists there, that they have pointed out it was impossible for them to protect the peace along the border, and that they have requested the hon. gentleman to make some special provision to meet the circumstances of their position. To suppose anything else would be to suppose they had failed in one of the first duties of Government, and they do not seem to be indisposed to apply to the hon. gentleman for what they want. In fact, I have heard the hon. gentleman say they were sometimes rather unreasonably pressing, that the Prime Minister of Manitoba, firm friend though he is of the hon. gentleman, was rather exacting. I recollect at the commencement of the last Session of Parliament, I read extracts from some of the speeches of the Prime Minister of Manitoba with reference to the condition of that country, and its demands on the Government, and the hon. gentleman, in reply, said we must not take all that for actual fact, that Mr. Norquay put his case in the strongest manner, in order, I suppose, to drive the hon. gentleman into a little more vigorous action than he otherwise would take.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. He left a margin.

Mr. BLAKE. He left a margin. Well, as Mr. Norquay, to use the statement of the hon. gentleman, is in the habit of more demanding than he expects to be granted, in order that there may be a margin for discount, a margin—

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They are along the margin.

Mr. BLAKE. They are to be along the margin. Let us see what the condition of things in Manitoba is and what
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the complaints of Manitoba are, before taking the serious step the hon. gentleman proposes with reference to an organised Province. The hon. gentleman says there are a great many complaints on both sides. It will be all the easier for the evidence of these complaints to be brought down and to see exactly what the emergency is which the hon. gentleman proposes to meet. He proposes to deal with that which, speaking from my recollection of his statements yesterday, he did not then deal with the ordinary or what are supposed to be the normal duties of the police. He spoke largely of its duties with reference to the Indians, and he seemed to give that as the basis for his demand to increase the force. He pointed out, with perfect propriety, that the duties to be assigned to the police and to the militia were, in many respects, entirely distinct. I must have been very unhappy in the expressions I used, if I failed to convey any other impression. I had no idea whatever, that in that country, other than in our own, we could expect the militia force to perform the ordinary duties of a police force. That country being exceptionally circumstanced as regards the sparseness of the settlements, the presence of Indians, the remoteness of the country, require some special protection, and it is obvious what we could not do here we could do much less there. Nobody proposes that the farmers or mechanics of the North-West Territory, should be engaged from day to day, from hour to hour, as volunteers in the discharge of police or constabulary duties; but I pointed out that there was admittedly, as there always has been, a necessity for an organised force for protection, in case of local outbreaks or threatenings of local outbreaks, and I read from the reports to show, for instance, that when the force was disorganised and disbanded at Prince Albert, the Mounted Police force was sent there instead. The one was gone; the other substituted. You have this danger there, apart from other dangers, the danger arising from the presence of Indians on the different reserves. You have, therefore, a special reason for the organisation of a special militia force wherever there is strength enough in any locality to organise that force, which, supplemented in some localities by the Mounted Police, might accomplish the purpose of preventing by display of strength an outbreak; and anyone who has followed the reports of the recent outbreak cannot fail to see that the display of strength is important with a view to repression. It is plain, from recent events, that the Indian will look to that, will consider that, will see what your defensive preparations are, in what condition they are, how soon and how hard you can strike, and he will be guided very largely, with reference to his rising, by his opinions of the efficiency, the rapidity, the multitude of your preparations in the immediate locality. I say it is of the last consequence that we should consider the whole situation of the North-West as to its defence from the danger of an outbreak, whether by insurrection amongst those not purely savage Indians, or by a rising among the Indians; and it is there that the hon. gentleman has wholly failed, even to-day, to justify his statements of 1882. His statements then were that for 10 years to come he would preserve the peace of the country with the 500 men, the increase he was asking, and that as the population increased the necessity for the force would diminish; and he now tells us that as he has distributed the Indians on reserves—which was going to render them less harmful, less dangerous, less a disturbing element—the danger increased, and the necessity for the police increased, and, as the white population increased, the danger also increased, and therefore the necessity for the police increased. This is not what he said in 1882, when I pointed out that as the population increased, local forces could be established that would diminish the necessity for Mounted Police. The statements that as the hon. gentleman's operations for the settlement