

than good to the community at large; a good Market House would be much more beneficial, not only to the City, but to the whole Island.

Hon Col GRAY trusted that the suggestion contained in the Despatch would be adopted by the House. It was almost a necessity to have a stand of arms in the Colony, as well for the purpose of defence as that of training our young men to their proper use. Not a single penny of the Government allowance had gone into the pockets of the Volunteers—they had borne their own expenses—but it had been expended upon drill-serjeants to instruct them, and the cost of warehousing the arms.

Hon Mr WARBURTON—If the property is disposed of some reservation ought to be made, with respect to the accommodation of any troops that might hereafter be sent to the Colonies.

Hon Mr McAULAY could not but express his opinion that if the Imperial Government gave up their rights in this property, it should not be for the benefit of Charlottetown alone.

Hon Col GRAY—The money should be paid into the public chest for military purposes.

Hon Mr HENSLEY said it appeared clear from the Despatch now before them, that the Duke of Newcastle was willing to give up the property to the Island Government upon certain conditions—the principal of which was the provision for the accommodation of troops, supposing they should be sent to the Island. The land in question was worth, he believed, from £7,000 to £8,000; and a Market House might be erected on a portion of it, which would still further enhance its value, and that of the surrounding neighbourhood. He thought an act should be introduced, and then they could go into details.

Hon Mr LONGWORTH was of opinion that an Act should be passed accepting the offer, so as to enable the Government to give a legal title to the purchaser or purchasers. The Volunteer movement was an honour to the age, and he was sure that the Volunteers of Prince Edward Island would not fail to follow in the footsteps of the Volunteers of the Mother Country, or those of the neighboring Colonies, in defence of their hearths and homes. He believed that the land in question would not be a good site for a Market; it was situate at too extreme a point, while the City was extending in another direction. He was of opinion that a portion of the proceeds of the sale might be appropriated towards the erection of a new Market House, but that the bulk should be paid into the Treasury as a fund for the sustentation of the Volunteer force. This would be a proper and legitimate mode of appropriation, for it would give a stability to the Force, and place it above the influences and whims of members of that House.

Mr CONROY had no objection to their playing soldiers so long as it did not cost the country anything.

Hon Mr COLES having carefully read the despatch, was of opinion that it was only the buildings offered by the Home Government, and not the land. It was the only place where the Volunteers could drill or practice; and above all, he believed that the battery should be preserved. In case of war, England would be bound to protect the Island, and the only place to defend the harbor, would be from the battery. The present buildings might perhaps be made use of for the purposes of a market, while a portion of the ground might be handed over for the use of the Volunteers.

Hon Mr LONGWORTH believed the only question was, whether it was expedient to dispose of the whole property that had thus been placed at the disposal of the Island Government. He thought it would be as well to retain a small portion round the battery, and enough for the purposes of the Volunteers. The rest would be mere matter of detail.

Mr BRECKEN was of opinion that the offer of the Imperial Government was only an act of justice towards the City. From his reading of the Despatch it was his opinion that the whole of the property was to be ceded; and as the ground was among the most valuable in the City, there should be neither doubt nor

hesitation as to the acceptance of the offer; he trusted, however, that a portion of the funds realized by the sale, would be appropriated towards the erection of a new market in the City, which would be a mutual accommodation for the citizens and their country friends.

Hon Col GRAY believed that it would never, perhaps, require more than 600 men to defend the City. Any attack made upon it, must, almost of necessity, be made by means of privateers; and it was folly to suppose that when they could go higher up the river, where they had equal command of the City, that they would come and voluntarily place themselves under the guns of the City Battery. Whatever sum, however, that should be received for the sale of the property in question he believed, should be devoted to strictly military purposes.

Hon Mr POPE thought they might pass a short Act in order to enable them to discover the full intention and meaning of the despatch now under consideration. He coincided with the remarks and opinions of the hon the leader of the Government upon this matter.

Hon the SPEAKER was of opinion that the terms of the despatch offered the buildings as well as the ground. If the offer was accepted by the House, as he trusted it would be, the proceeds ought, undoubtedly, to be applied, or reserved for military and volunteer purposes. The City had neither right nor claim upon the fund, so raised.

Mr BRECKEN again urged the claims of the City for a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the land, &c. A good market would be desirable both for the citizens and their country friends, he had no objection that the Volunteers should receive the largest share, but thought if £2,000 were to be appropriated for market purposes it would be mutually advantageous to all. He was not tied to any pledge in this matter, but nobody could help observing what an advantageous position a portion of the barrack ground offered for the purposes of a market. The mere question of drainage alone was worth consideration. A Market House erected upon a portion of the land proposed to be ceded, would be always useful; a standing monument of Peace, and far more useful to the whole community than any warlike operations or preparations of any kind.

Hon Mr COLES was of opinion that the money resulting from the sale of the barracks, should be paid into the Public Treasury, and that the interest thereon should be allowed to accumulate. The whole fund realized, ought to be devoted for military purposes, and the question of a new market had nothing to do with the matter. Whatever was realized by the sale should be strictly appropriated for military purposes.

Hon Mr DAVIES said that if the land was sold for military purposes, it could not, of course, be expected that the funds might be appropriated for other objects. He was very sorry to see so little sympathy in the House with regard to the market accommodation for the City; notwithstanding which, however, he thought it would be best to secure the land for military purposes, rather than let the opportunity for securing the land slip through their fingers.

Mr DUNCAN—inquired if the ground upon which the battery stood, and the battery itself, was to be reserved.

Hon Col GRAY repeated his opinion that there was not the slightest necessity for a battery there. It was in one of the worst positions, in a strategic point of view, that could be conceived.

Hon Mr HENSLEY, while paying a high compliment to the Volunteer Force of the Island, could not but object to a permanent appropriation of the funds raised by the sale of the Barrack Site, for their sole use and benefit.

Hon Mr McAULAY—The very best way would be to pay the money into the Treasury Chest.

Mr MONTGOMERY would not like to pledge himself in any way; but he was willing for a grant towards a new market house in Charlottetown.

Mr SINCLAIR was of opinion that the proceeds of the sale of the property should be paid into the Treasury without any restriction; and that the usual grant to the Volunteers (which force he thought would soon be numbered among the things of the past) should be annually brought before the House.

The Chairman then reported progress, to the hon the Speaker, asking leave to sit again. This was granted, and the House adjourned for an hour.