

going back to 1680, goes back I suppose to the period when Lord Howard, acting as Governor of New York, entered into a treaty with the Six Nations, and I apprehend that he purposes including only those treaties made by the Crown with Indians who are now found in British North America. For instance, there are treaties with the Seminoles, the Cherokees and other southern tribes, entered into by the Americans and by proprietors on behalf of the British Government at a very early period. Then, there were a number of Indian tribes who at the time of the revolution came from the United States and settled in Canada; amongst these were the Six Nations, to whom my hon. friend has referred. They have on several occasions entered into treaties with the Government of Great Britain. A number of these treaties I think exist in manuscript form in the Indian Department, but all the treaties are not there. There are treaties with these Indians which will be found among the New York historical documents. Whatever form the collection assumes, it ought to be complete; but if the hon. gentleman confines it to treaties in the department it will not be complete in any form.

Mr. DEWDNEY. I think this matter is worth considering. I will have an examination made, and if we have not all the treaties in the department it will be a matter for consideration whether we can obtain them elsewhere.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). Coleman's History of New York contains some. I think all of them will be found scattered through the New York historical documents. Some made with the Delaware Indians may be found in the Pennsylvania archives, which are here in the library.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). The collection is not in print yet, I presume?

Mr. DEWDNEY. No.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). What the hon. member for Bothwell says is important, and I think the House will be willing to give a sufficient amount to make the collection complete; it ought to be complete. For instance, treaties made with the British Government by Indians who came to Canada at the time of the War of Independence might have a bearing on the present rights of those Indians. Some of them are anxious to have a full understanding of what was guaranteed to them in days gone by, and if circumstances have altered since it will be easy to point that out to them. I think the Minister ought to avail himself of all sources to find these treaties, one of which I know is not in his own department or in our archives, so that we shall have a complete record, which would be satisfactory to the Indians and also of great historical value to the country.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I remember very well one treaty made with the Six Nation Indians, before they left the State of New York, to which they attached very great importance; that is one in which they were recognized, not as subjects, but as allies of the sovereign; and they claim still to be allies and not subjects.

Mr. MULOCK. A short time ago the hon. Minister of Finance made an allusion to my hon. friend from West Huron (Mr. Cameron). He stated that the day had been wasted. I presume he had reference to the discussion on the subject of the Indians raised by my hon. friend. That hon. gentleman

has now appeared in the Chamber, and I think the Minister ought to say it to his face or withdraw it.

Mr. LANDERKIN. While this item is under discussion I might inform the hon. Minister of the Interior that a letter was sent to me from the County of Bruce in reference to Indian affairs there. It is signed by a gentleman of the name of Creighton. I know nothing of the matter personally; but I know that there are a good many Indians up there. This is a complaint made against the agent by Mr. Creighton, and I will read what he says:

"In March, 1889, Thomas McVittie was brought before James Muir, Esq., of Port Elgin, charged with giving liquor to Indians. It was proved on oath by two witnesses that it was Joseph Allen that had sold the liquor. Agent Allen tried to make the court believe that Joseph was employed by McVittie, but failed to prove it. Mr. Muir asked the agent why he did not bring Joseph there to prove that he was employed by T. McVittie. The reason he did not bring him was that he was the agent's son. The agent got him away until the time had expired for the prosecution. He gave them two bottles in the space of an hour."

This is the statement that Mr. Creighton makes in a letter over his own signature sent me to-day. I do not know Mr. Creighton except by name, but I bring this up in order to have the matter sifted. The other day I submitted a letter sent to me from that locality, and I told the hon. member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill), who, I am sorry, is not here, that I was going to bring this matter up. He made some remarks on that occasion in reference to the Indians. Now, I do not know the Indians out there, but I have always had the opinion that they are a peaceful class of citizens, orderly and respectable; but the hon. member for Bruce, referring to the charges I brought before the House, spoke in this way—

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I believe the hon. gentleman is out of order. We are discussing an item to which this has no reference.

Mr. DEWDNEY. The hon. member for North Bruce intimated to me that he proposed bringing that question up himself; then it will be a better time for the hon. gentleman to make his remarks.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I wish to give the hon. member for North Bruce full opportunity to explain. I wish to keep him right, and the Government right, on this question.

Mr. AMYOT. We are on item No. 8, which covers the subject the hon. gentleman is raising, and it would be much shorter to allow him to go on.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I am speaking to item No. 8 with regard to the contingencies of the department, and I just wish to read the questions which the hon. member for North Bruce put the other day. The hon. gentleman then asked:

"Since he has been acting as Indian agent, has Mr. Allen's conduct been such as to cause the department to give any credence to these charges? Are any of these charges of which the department has any cognizance preferred by Indians? Are baseless charges frequently preferred against Indian agents by Indians? Is it within the knowledge of the department that the last of these charges preferred against Mr. Allen is ridiculously untrue?"

I just wanted to take this ground, that I do think members of this House should speak very guardedly in dealing with the Indians. If there is anything calculated to stir up strife in the different communities, it is the habit that hon. members have,