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Mr. ROSS (Dundas). I take advantage of the presence of the Minister of Militia to call attention to a motion I had upon the Order Paper, but which we did not reach. I notice that when the militia items in the main Estimates were voted, there was a re-vote of \$2,000 for certain monuments on the battle-fields of Canada. In the conversation that occurred, when that item was passed, I understood the Minister to say that the points likely to be chosen for monuments this year—and I was glad to see that the Government contemplated immediate action—were Lundy's Lane, Stony Creek, and possibly Chateaugay. I wish to put in a word for the battle-field of Chrysler's Farm. We all know that Queenston Heights, a scene of one of the battles of the war 1812, is largely provided with a fine monument, and rightly so. I see that private enterprise has taken hold of Lundy's Lane, and I daresay the Minister of Militia would be glad if private enterprise should also erect a monument at Chrysler's Farm. Now, we have two battle-fields in the western peninsula provided for, and I think a word ought to be said for Central Canada and for the province of Quebec. When we consider what the American plan of campaign was on that occasion, when we consider that the object they had in view was the capture of Montreal, expeditions being sent from Sackett's Harbour, 10,000 men under Wilkinson, and a large force under Hampton, lying at Chateaugay, with the design of advancing when the western force had proceeded far enough—when we consider the importance of that threatened attack, I think we ought to give due weight to the battles that destroyed that combination. Wilkinson's army proceeded safely after escaping some of the British arrangements to prevent its progress. They got down the St. Lawrence as far as Chrysler's Farm, and there they halted for the night. Colonel Morrison, who was in command, managed to draw them into a battle, and there is no doubt that that battle was one of the best evidences of the prowess of the British arms which has ever been given. I will quote from Allison with regard to the importance of the battle of Chrysler's Farm. He says:

The glorious defeat of an invasion so confidently announced and so strongly supported, diffused the most heartfelt joy in Lower Canada, and terminated the campaign there in the most triumphant manner.

Christie says this:

This, called the battle of Chrysler's Farm, is, in the estimation of military men, considered the most scientific military affair during the late war, from the professional skill displayed in the action, by the adverse commanders; and when we consider the prodigious preparations of the American Government for that expedition, with the failure of which their hopes of conquest vanished, the battle of Chrysler's Farm may probably be classed as the most important, and the best fought that took place during the war.

Mr. PATTERSON (Huron)

I call the attention of the Minister of Justice to these very strong adjectives used in connection with that battle. There is no doubt that the plan of campaign on the part of the Americans was well arranged; and although their leaders were not capable of seizing the points of the situation, further evidence was given that, although the armies matched against each other at the battle of Chrysler's Farm were very unequal in point of numbers, as soon as the British soldier gets a chance in a fair field with the bayonet, seemingly nothing can stand before him. In this connection I might quote an expression of Lord Napier regarding the battle of Albuera, in the Peninsular war, when he said: "And then was seen with what strength and majesty the British soldier fights." It sometimes happens that the ludicrous enters into the most solemn things in life, and there is one little circumstance to which I wish to call the Minister's attention. We know that the anser played an important part in the history of Rome and we find that the busy bee had a share in the glories of Chrysler's Farm. I quote from Croil's valuable and interesting history of Dundas county. Referring to what occurred at that time, the writer says:

Previous to the battle of Chrysler's Farm, the American soldiers had imprudently been feasting to excess upon honey, which they found plentiful in Matilda and Williamsburg. The consequence was, that hundreds of them were so weakened and enervated by dysentery, that they reeled and staggered like drunken men, as they were marched up through the mud, ankle deep, to face the resolute charge of the British bayonet. Even in the field of battle they could not be restrained from repeating the imprudence, in passing Bouck's farm, where stood nearly one hundred bee-hives, in consequence, before the battle was over, their bloated corpses presented a disgusting aspect, as the honey with which they were gorged oozed from their mouths, their noses, and even from their ears.

So even the bees largely aided. All the forces in the country were united for one purpose, and I hope that will always be the case. I trust I have referred to a matter on which we are all agreed, and that the Minister of Militia will consider that this is deserving of serious consideration. There is a chimney standing there still, which was a central point of the battle, and when the Minister visits the scene he will not find it very difficult to locate the battle field.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). What better monument do you want?

Mr. ROSS (Dundas). If we had ivy growing there over the ruins, or even a tablet erected, that might prove sufficient. What is desired, however, is that the matter should receive attention. Speaking of the topography of the place, I notice that one of the Kingston newspapers in attempting to locate the battle field places it opposite Ogdensburg. I think Chrysler's Farm deserves to be better marked.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I think the Minister of Militia should give a short