

with the celebration in the mother country of the Jubilee festival. Whatever we undertake to do, we cannot afford to do on a mean scale. Whatever we do will be looked upon as the best we are capable of doing. The younger and more enterprising colonies of Australia and elsewhere will strain a point to make a grand show on that occasion, and I hope, as no doubt will be the case, that Canada will be represented by a force which will take its proper position at the head of all the colonial forces—I had almost said of the colonial exhibition, for surely no grander exhibit could be made of what we can produce in Canada than an exhibit of picked men, and nothing would go further to give prestige to this country in London on that occasion. It must not be forgotten that the lines of streets through which the procession will pass will be a focus for all the eyes of the Empire.

My hon. friend from Victoria (Mr. Prior) has well pointed out that the eyes of the people in all parts of the Empire will be centered there, while millions will be there in person, and it will be the centre of interest and news for all the world. As we shall be judged by what we send, I trust that the exhibit will be as creditable as possible. There is one suggestion I would like to press upon the acting Minister of Militia (Sir Richard Cartwright). It has been made already in debate, but I do not intend to break the rule by referring to a past debate. That suggestion is that we should send a good, strong contingent of the North-west Mounted Police as a part of our representative force sent to attend the Queen's Jubilee. That body of men, we all know, is comparatively, a select body, composed of men who are intelligent, educated, well-drilled, and well accustomed to all kinds of work which can be performed by men in their position. There will be contingents of that kind, no doubt, from the Cape Mounted Rifles, if that force is now in existence—I know that there used to be a celebrated force of that name—and also from Australia. The impression upon the mind of the home-keeping Englishman will be great, if he sees a fine body of men splendidly equipped and mounted and is told that these are not regular soldiers, not even volunteers, but the constabulary of our frontier, to guard the homes of settlers from all the perils that the home-keeping imagination may invest that country with. This suggestion does not originate with me, but was made to me by a friend. It struck me, however, as being a highly proper one. I believe there could be no better adjunct to our contingent than a comparatively strong force of the North-west Mounted Police. My hon. friend from Victoria has suggested the idea of a purely volunteer contingent going along with that other part of the contingent which would go partly at the public expense. I am rather inclined to fear that that might arouse some jealousies

Mr. CASBY.

between the two branches of the force. That is a matter, of course, for the military authorities to consider.

Mr. SPROULE. Speaking from the standpoint not of a military man but of an ordinary citizen, I concur in what was said by my hon. friend from King's (Mr. Donville) and reiterated by my hon. friend from Victoria (Mr. Prior) that it is time we had some answer from the Government giving an outline of the course they propose to take with reference to the invitation given us to send a military force to take part in the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in England. The country is very much interested in this question and is looking to the Government for information as to what they propose to do. And, as the Government is the centre of power and information here, it is from that source above all others, that that information would come with the best grace. While saying that, I fully concur in what was said by the hon. member from Victoria that it would be unfortunate if we allowed the force that went to England to be the result of free choice, their expenses paid by free contributions. I think that the expense should be defrayed by the state. And I would have a representative body of men sent over there. Otherwise, no doubt, men of wealth and influence who, perhaps, would like to have a good advertisement before the world, would get up a force at their own expense which, in all human probability, would not be truly representative of the Canadian militia, but would be made up mainly of the class to which they belong rather than of the average class of the country. I think that the country ought to be represented in its average capacity. We ought to send the class of men that go to make up our military force, and the expense of sending them ought to be defrayed by the state. I do not believe that any citizen of Canada would refuse to pay his portion of that expense, but I feel confident that all would willingly pay their share of what may be necessary in order to make a good showing. With regard to sending a detachment of the North-west Mounted Police, I believe that to be a very good idea. That vast country belonging to us is but little known in England. To send a contingent of the North-west Mounted Police would be a good advertisement of that country in England, and it would be an evidence of the security of life and property in the wilds of that vast country to those who might contemplate going there. We should endeavour to make the best possible display. I have no doubt that we shall acquit ourselves creditably, and that this demonstration will result in bringing people to Canada.

Mr. BEATTIE. I am one of those who think that it is not necessary to send a re-