

April 13, 1871

120 acres, but under any circumstances they ought to be governed by the same regulations as other emigrants, in order to prevent them from disposing of their lands to mere speculators for a small amount of cash. He moved a resolution providing settlement duties on the Indian lands.

**Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER** said he hoped the motion would not be pressed. The Government could not now impose settlement duties as a great number of those entitled to the lands under the Act were children. Until the children came of age the Government were the guardians of the land, and no speculators would be suffered to get hold of it. The regulations could be altered from time to time if necessary.

**Mr. FERGUSON** said he would not have pressed the question if he thought he could have avoided, but as it was distinctly provided that no settlement duties were required, he must try to amend it. If it was intended that no speculators should get hold of the land, steps should be taken to prevent it, and if the matter were left an open question instead of stating distinctly that no settlement duties were necessary he would withdraw his motion.

**Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER** could not assent to the proposal.

**Mr. SCHULTZ** said it was unfair to press the motion, as unless the land was given entirely free, the recipients would derive no advantage.

In reply to the member **Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER** said the people could not sell the lands until they came of age.

**Hon. Mr. HOLTON** could not vote for the motion under the explanation of Government, although he thought it right in principle. He hoped it would not be pressed to a division.

**Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL (Lanark North)** also hoped a division would not be taken. The hon. member seemed to think that the Act imposed settlement duties, but such was not the case. If these duties were imposed the Indians would lose the only benefit the grant possessed.

**Mr. FERGUSON** said he must press his motion.

The resolution was declared lost on division, and the order discharged.

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#### PROROGATION

**The SPEAKER** gave notice that Parliament would be prorogued tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

#### CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS IN MANITOBA

**Hon. Mr. HOLTON** said yesterday, a question on this subject was referred to the Standing Committee, and he had objected at the time that no meeting could be had, and on proceeding to the Committee room he found not one present, and he had been informed that only five had appeared. He thought the fact of the reference showed it was necessary that the matter should be dealt with this session, and he asked if the Government had any proposition to submit on the subject.

**Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER** said when the reference was made, only five members of the Committee were absent, and the clerk was instructed to give notice of the meeting without delay, and at least 18 or 20 were summoned, but many members left the city after receiving the notices. If the Committee had met the questions could have been settled. The Government had no intention to move in the matter, and, of course, would bear the responsibility of not doing so.

**Hon. Mr. HOLTON** said there was no statutory provision in Manitoba to regulate contested elections, and he regretted that a measure was not to be submitted, and he suggested that the quorum of the Committee should be reduced so as to allow a meeting to be held, and a Bill introduced and passed.

**Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER** said Government was already to accept good suggestions, but if there was to be any responsibility, it would rest on those members of the Committee who had not attended the meeting when notified.

The subject was then dropped.

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#### WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS

On the motion of **Mr. CARTWRIGHT** that the House should go in Committee to consider certain resolutions whereon to found an address to Her Majesty on the subject of the withdrawal of garrisons and munitions of war from British North America.

**Hon. Mr. HOLTON** thought it should not be entertained inasmuch as it passed a censure on the policy of the Empire.

**Mr. POPE** also opposed the motion. He thought the sooner Canada learned how to take care of herself the better, and the strongest tie to bind the two countries together was the tie of mutual interest. Britain should not be asked to keep a single soldier in the country.

**Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL (Lanark North)** hoped the motion would not be pressed. When Canada had been attacked on grounds affecting the Empire she had a right to Imperial aid, but Canada was loyal enough and strong enough to defend herself on every ordinary occasion, and he would not be sorry when the last British soldier