

a sum of over \$200,000 is due the Indians without reckoning interest. If interest be added, the amount would exceed \$300,000. This is the calculation according to the estimate made by the hon. Minister of Interior in 1875; but he was in error, as I am informed, in reckoning the actual sum due them annually and kept from them; and I am under the impression that a very much larger sum is due to them. I would call the attention of the hon. Minister to these arrears. I believe that the payments to the Indians were to be a charge upon the lands according to the treaty, and this applies to all of the lands which they ceded; but while the lands have fallen to the Ontario Government, the Dominion Government has to deal with the Indians. I believe that correspondence has been going on between the two Governments for some eight years or so; but still no decision has been arrived at; and it is most desirable that some understanding should be soon reached with the Ontario Government regarding this important matter, by which the Indians would get their pay in the meantime. I may say further, that a number of Indians who are entitled to pay, do not get it. They are called non-treaty Indians; but they were as much parties to the treaty as those who were included in it. The land belonged to them as much as to the others, but they happened not to be present when the treaty was made. They are not very numerous, and it would not add a great deal to the annual outlay if they were placed on the same footing as the others. They are an intelligent people; and I may say that a great many of them are not wholly Indians, though treated as such, but descendants of the old French and Indians. There is not in the whole Dominion a more quiet, a more orderly people than the Indians of Algoma.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is really true, as my hon. friend says, that this is very important, as it affects the interests of Indians occupying territory ceded under what is called the Robinson Treaty. It is also true that evidently a sum of money is due them. With respect to the arrears up to 1867 there is a debt due by the old Province of Canada. There has been an attempt made to adjust the matter; but we have never hitherto been able to get the two Governments of Ontario and Quebec to settle the account. It was understood, in fact it was promised, that it should be settled in October last; but the representatives of the two Governments met here without coming to any conclusion, and since that time there has been no action taken whatever. With respect to the accruing rights of these Indians since 1867, there is certainly a balance due them, and it is hoped that, by arrangement with the Ontario Government, this balance will be wiped off. There is a large sum of money due to the Indians, and they have so far been deprived of what is their own. I am not at all sure, however, that it has not been really for the benefit of the Indians, though it was contrary to strict rights that the money was not paid. They are now in an advanced state of civilization, I am glad to learn from my hon. friend, and though they cannot be expected to become thoroughly settled in a generation, still they are taking to the soil, they are making substantial progress. They understand their rights—they understand the object of their funds, and their money is saved instead of being squandered by the Indians—as formerly was the case—as fast as it was paid or got hold of by designing white men. It will be my duty to take the subject up the moment Parliament prorogues, and I think there is no doubt that we can come to a settlement with the Ontario Government, because it is they who are primarily held by this arrangement. Having said so much I would add that this vote is increased by \$5,680, and that that addition is made just for the purpose the hon. gentleman has mentioned. There were certain non-treaty Indians who have not come in—I fancy their representatives were not

there at the time the meeting was held and the treaty made. But still the treaty covered their land, and whenever they choose to come in they have the right to claim their share. There are 104 persons in that band who will receive their annual allowance, the same as the others when this vote is carried. Besides these there are eleven stragglers belonging to broken bands and not now attached to any band, though they have always been, and their ancestors have always been on the soil, so they have a claim; that makes 115 additional Indians who have a right to these allowances. There is no doubt when that matter is disposed of there will be ample funds to meet the just claims of the Indians—in fact those belonging to the bands covered by the treaty will eventually be wealthy.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). Before the item is carried I wish to make a few remarks. Some years ago there was a project started by the Six Nation Indians of Brant with a view to the erection of a monument to one who was a very distinguished chief and leader of these Indians during the time they were the active allies of the British Crown in the war which took place between the Mother Country and what are now the American States. The name of Joseph Brant is one well known to the hon. First Minister, and known, no doubt, to every hon. member of the House. The proposition first originated with the Indians that a monument should be erected to the memory of that distinguished chieftain. They have brought it to the notice of the white people—municipal authorities and others—who are interested in their welfare, residing in the country about them, and notably in the city of Brantford. Their efforts were warmly seconded, and it was considered highly proper, though that chieftain had died so far back as 1807, that there should be such a tribute to his memory. They thought, moreover, that such a movement would be likely to be productive of good results, not only in the feelings which it would engender in the breasts of the Six Nations, but that the movement would not be entirely without influence upon the red men of the West and any Indian tribes we have in the country. I believe it would be the first monument ever erected to the memory of any of the aborigines of this country, and as the Canadian treatment of the Indians has been happily in marked contrast in many respects with that of the American Government, it was thought that it would still further redound to the credit of the people of Canada, if they would be found aiding and seconding a movement such as this. When the Earl of Dufferin was on the Six Nations reserve, some six or seven years ago, they took the opportunity of presenting an address to him, and through him they desired to present an address to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who, in 1869, when he was in this country, was made by the confederacy one of their honorary chiefs. The address was transmitted to His Royal Highness, who was graciously pleased to express his approval of the scheme, and who signified his desire that his name should be used as one of the patrons. He also announced his desire to give a handsome subscription towards the object in view. The Earl of Dufferin himself subscribed very liberally towards the project. The present Governor-General also subscribed very handsomely, so has the hon. leader of the Government, Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Hector Langevin, and I think most of the hon. members of the Ministry and several hon. members of the last Parliament. The Indians themselves passed a resolution giving \$5,000 of their own money towards it, the City Council of Brantford passed a by-law granting \$2,500, so that a considerable amount has been raised one way or other. I think the First Minister has been communicated with by telegraph, as it was impossible that a deputation could reach him in time, requesting him to consider whether he could place a sum in the Supplementary Estimates in order to further this project. I am cognizant of the fact that he may have some difficulty, and that the