

felt it was not so much that the salary of the Governor-General should be cut down as that the miserable pittance allowed to the Lieutenant-Governors should be increased. Would it not be a breach of faith, after the agreement entered into with the delegates in the first session of Parliament, to cut down a salary fixed in the Union Act? Considering all the circumstances of the Dominion, he did not think it could be said that the salary of the Governor-General was too high; and it was, he believed, unwise and inexpedient to deal with this matter in the manner proposed. He hoped, therefore, that the motion before the House would be withdrawn.

Mr. Blake said that as they had the power to make this change, he did not see why they should be told that they should not exercise that right. The Act itself furnished a strong indication that this sum was merely a temporary and not a fixed sum. As had been remarked, that sum of \$50,000 did not comprehend all the pecuniary advantages of that position. The fact was that even cutting it down as was proposed, it would still with contingencies reach the handsome sum of \$50,000. Although perfectly agreed as to the importance of not paring down the salary too closely, yet he was bound to say it was not the question of a few additional thousand dollars which should induce a statesman to accept the position of Governor-General, but it was the career and position it opened up that should determine the choice of such an important office. Looking at the present financial conditions and prospects of the Dominion he thought the member for Oxford had done his duty in bringing forward the motion, and it would obtain his (Mr. Blake's) support.

Hon. Mr. Rose said that in view of the fact that this sum was embodied in the Imperial Act, it would be, to say the least of it, an ungraceful act for them at this their first session to cut down the salary of the only imperial officer they had to deal with, and he could not see that any valid reason for the reduction had been advanced.

Hon. Mr. Gray strongly opposed the sudden alteration of the Union Act here proposed. It had not yet had a twelve months' trial, and honourable gentlemen sought to change it. Such a course could not but have a prejudicial effect on the English mind, and was not worthy of the Dominion. At all events give the present arrangement a trial of a few years, and then if it were not found to work well let it be reduced. Such gentlemen as the

[Mr. Cameron (Peel).]

Governor were all representative men, called on to dispense the hospitality and maintain the honour and dignity of their positions, and therefore men who should be remunerated in no grudging spirit. He (Mr. Gray) hoped the motion would be withdrawn.

Mr. Bodwell hoped his honourable friend from North Oxford would not consent to withdraw the motion. Now-a-days the great argument was—do not give offence to England. Honourable gentlemen seemed to forget they were the representatives of a poor people already heavily oppressed by taxation, a people to whom the saving here proposed was one of considerable importance, and as had been properly remarked, this sum of \$50,000 was not His Excellency's full allowance—he had various additional remunerations, such as raised this the nominal sum attached to the office to a very large amount. His (Mr. Bodwell's) idea was instead of it being an inconsistency for them to take up this subject during the present session, that now or never this charge should be made. This payment, it was urged, should be made, as the amount for fortifications was asked to be paid, because of our connection with the Mother Country, because of the advantages that connection gave the people of the Dominion; but mention was never made of the disadvantages of that connection. Was it not the connection of the Provinces with Britain which drew on them the Fenian raid of 1866? He appreciated that connection as fully as anyone could, but thought that very indifferent arguments had been occasionally based on it by honourable gentlemen opposite. For his part he thought that the honourable member who had brought forward the motion deserved much credit, and he (Mr. Bodwell) would support the resolution.

Sir G. E. Cartier considered that it would be both unwise and unjust to disturb the arrangement of the British American Act as to the Governor-General's salary. The member for Chateauguay had said that if he were satisfied that the sum fixed in the Act had been placed there in accordance with the desire of the British Government, he would be the last man to disturb the arrangement, and such an expression of opinion on his part did the honourable gentleman credit. It had been charged against the delegates, that in specifying the salary in the Act, they had infringed on the privileges of this Parliament. That charge was unjust, their action was simply a fair return for the conduct of the