

tice being done to them, but whether they are entitled to what they claim. Every year we have had some claims, the greater part of which have been found correct and have been allowed. No doubt, in that far prairie or in the bush near the Saskatchewan River many acts of bravery were accomplished for which some recompense should be made by this country. If two years, or ten years, or twenty years, hence, we find that there have been some acts calling for recompense, we should not hesitate to discharge that debt. Any country that has been exposed to war, has been many years in doing justice to the soldiers. To-day we see some of the soldiers of 1812 claiming from the state recognition for their services. And look at the case of the war of secession in the United States. How many claims are there still occupying the attention of the Government? But it would take a very mean country, and it takes a very mean intelligence to deny to the soldiers of the country the recompense to which they are entitled.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh.

Mr. AMYOT. I know the hon. gentleman will deny the merits of all the others, the bravery of all the others, and will rest satisfied with his own personal virtue.

Mr. McMULLEN. I make an exception in your case.

Mr. AMYOT. As for my humble self, when I went with my soldiers to expose my life for my country, the hon. gentleman thought of nothing except to deny my merits, and so deny me the political recompense which he thought I might receive on account of them. I understand that, but I realize where it comes from, from a very low quarter, and I know that it does not diminish the merit of my humble sacrifice in the eyes of my fellow-countrymen. He may go on in that strain as long as he pleases; it will never move me. I know the bravery of the hon. gentleman. Last year, when I was not in the House, he attacked me for what he called my courage, and, when I asked him if he had done so, he denied it; but I found his words in the "Hansard." If that is his bravery, if he is not willing to acknowledge the next day what he said the day before, I do not know what he would do, if called upon to resist an attack. He may deny my merits, if he likes; I do not care for that. But, as a citizen of Canada, and one who has seen the endurance and bravery and discipline of our soldiers in the North-west, I hold that it is right that we should recompense all those who deserve recompense, and not be debarred from it because we have been long in doing justice.

These poor unfortunate soldiers very often had no way of communicating with the Government. They were not in a position to make their claim; they do it to-day; and the only question is whether the facts they allege are true, and whether these facts en-

title them to a recompense that we should not begrudge them, and that every civilized country awards to its brave soldiers.

Mr. McMULLEN. I wish to make a personal explanation. The hon. gentleman charges me with having denied an attack upon him. I beg to say that the statement he makes is entirely untrue.

Mr. AMYOT. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. member will withdraw the word "untrue."

Mr. McMULLEN. As the word is not parliamentary, I withdraw it.

Mr. AMYOT. I shall take the first opportunity to prove that my statement is based upon "Hansard."

Mr. DALY. I understood the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. McMullen) was to oppose the motion as amended. If the hon. gentleman had taken the trouble to read the motion, he would see that as amended it does not mean—

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. member cannot speak a second time.

Mr. DALY. On the amendment?

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. member moved the amendment.

Mr. MARTIN. Of course, as amended, the motion is entirely innocuous, or ought to be, at any rate, if the Government will do their duty, and I suppose we must presume they are doing it. The motion as amended simply means that if any person remains who has not received what he is entitled to under the Act of 1886, then the Government are to give it to him. It scarcely requires a motion of this House to do that; and I would rather gather that the very strong remarks of the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Amyot) must have been directed against the Government, because my hon. friend from West Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) asked the Government to go a great deal further than that, and to give any one scrip who, by their watchfulness and loyal services during the North-west rebellion, rendered themselves entitled to it. Now, Parliament, in 1886, decided how far they were prepared to go in giving scrip to the volunteers, and the Government seems very properly to have confined the awarding of scrip to those who were entitled to it under the Act of 1886. If they were to go further than that, and now give it to persons whom they might think entitled to it for some other reasons, they would, no doubt, cut out a lot of persons who, in the meantime, would have been entitled to it, and who had left the country, or who had never heard of the change in the Act.

Amendment agreed to, and motion, as amended, agreed to.