

Indian tribes, the First Minister states as the result of reports received from his officers, in reply to a circular that the Indian bands in the respective districts are not sufficiently advanced for the proposed change. Yet, the Government now propose to place the ballot in their hands and give them power to take part in the general government of the country, while it is admitted that they are not qualified to have municipal government or the management of their own affairs. The truth is that the Government proposal is simply one by which they hope to continue in power. There has been a good deal of discussion going on in the country as to where the Indians obtained their ammunition with which they are killing our volunteers, and killing even the clergy. We are able from the report of the Indian Department to see where the Indians obtained that ammunition.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. I observe that the hon. gentleman proposes to discuss a question not before the House. If he does not refrain from doing so, I shall call him to order.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I am discussing the Indian question and I shall read from the annual report of Indian affairs for the year 1884. It is a report presented by the First Minister, and we would not like the reflection cast that there is a clause in that report which should be suppressed. That would be almost an insult, which I should not like to see offered the Premier by the Deputy Speaker of this House. (The hon. member then proceeded to read from the report a clause with respect to failure of crops on the Indian reserves in the North-West, and stating that the Department had purchased among other articles, ammunition and twine, so that the Indian might be able to supply themselves with fish and game during the winter.) This is the way in which the Indians obtained their ammunition in the North-West.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. The hon. gentleman has proceeded to discuss how the Indians obtained ammunition in the North-West, after my warning him that he had no right to do so. I think the hon. gentleman is entirely out of order; he had no business after my warning to proceed to discuss that question. I ask the committee to sustain me in ruling the hon. member out of order.

Mr. LANDERKIN. No doubt your ruling, Mr. Chairman, is constitutional, and I bow to it. But I should like to know what business the First Minister had to give ammunition to Indians and take away rifles from our volunteers. However I have gone through with that matter and it is no use further discussing it. I am satisfied the people of the country and the House now know where the ammunition came from. The Indians are always wanting something. The bands on the Grand River wanted seed; those at Strathroy wanted blankets. (The hon. gentleman went on to read from the Indian report, to show the dependent condition of the Indians, upon which he based an argument against granting them the franchise. From the Caughnawaga agency it was reported that in some cases the Indians were so lazy that the wives had to support their husbands.) I think it would be a much better idea to give the squaws a vote than the Indians in this case. They have to support their husbands when they are idle. It would be a much more gallant thing for the Premier to give the franchise to the Indian females than to the male Indians. Why, these people are neither more nor less than brutes. They expect their women to support them; and, for the Premier, who professes to be in favor of female suffrage, to give the ballot to these is an absurd thing. Again, the agent says that the Indians at this agency think themselves entitled to appropriate the lands of their neighbors. It seems that they are communists. Does the Government propose to confer the franchise upon communists? The Government proposes to confer the fran-

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chise upon Indians who will steal, who will get drunk, who compel their wives to support them, and who are communists.

Mr. POPE. You are not up to snuff over there this morning.

Mr. LANDERKIN. The Minister of Agriculture appears to be vegetating this morning. He appears to be pretty well up to snuff. I think it was the *Ottawa Citizen* that said he was born in heaven. If he was born in heaven, he should not come here and make such a loud noise in sneezing. I think they had better take the Secretary of State out to his cattle ranche, and give him more room.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. Shall this motion be adopted?

Mr. LANDERKIN. I was going on to speak in regard to another matter. If you cannot, Mr. Chairman, keep order we shall have to get another Deputy Speaker who can.

Mr. WOODWORTH. That is an insult.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I have been insulted very grievously.

Mr. WOODWORTH. The hon. gentleman has made a statement here that is most insulting to this committee and to the Chairman. He said: If the Chairman cannot keep order we shall get another Deputy Speaker who will. Those words should be retracted and apologised for before the hon. gentleman proceeds further with his speech.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Withdraw.

Mr. LANDERKIN. If there is anything wrong about that I will withdraw it. If it is right for hon. gentlemen opposite to take snuff and disturb the discussion so that I cannot be heard, I bow to the Chairman's decision.

Mr. WOODWORTH. That is not a withdrawal. It is adding insult to injury. I asked whether the hon. gentleman should not withdraw the words complained of before he proceeded.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. The hon. gentleman withdrew the words, or I would not have allowed him to proceed.

Mr. WOODWORTH. The hon. gentleman says he will withdraw the words if it is right for hon. gentlemen to do so and so, and act so and so.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I did not say anything of the kind. The hon. gentleman does not know what he is talking about. If I have said anything to interfere with the peace of mind of the Chairman, and anything contrary to the dignity of the House, I will retract. I should like to say that hon. gentlemen opposite who are disturbing this debate should apologise for their unseemly conduct. If ever I do wrong I am ready to apologise, and I do not consider it to be a dishonor to make an apology to anyone. I never offended any man knowingly. If hon. gentlemen opposite persist in their unseemly conduct, I say it will become your duty, Mr. Chairman, to look after them and see that the dignity of the House is preserved.

Mr. WOODWORTH. The hon. gentleman says that if he has said anything to disturb the peace of mind of the Chairman he will withdraw it. That is not a withdrawal. He has made a statement which is insulting to this committee. We ask the withdrawal of that statement. It is not the Chairman's feelings which are insulted; it is the committee which is insulted. The hon. member says if the Chairman's peace of mind is affected, he will withdraw his statement. That is not a withdrawal; and I ask the hon. member to act up to his profession and withdraw the statement.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings). The hon. member did withdraw the remark.