

putting it into practice. The majority of those who had never had occasion to acquaint themselves of the difficulties of the situation, found the present law bad, the system inefficient, and with a dash of the pen would wipe the whole thing out. He would regret, for his part, a determination to entirely set aside the present volunteer militia system. The present law is a wise one and its results could not but be happy for the country, if every one brought to its execution the moral and physical support which we had a right to expect from all good citizens. In the Province in which he had the honor to represent an electoral division, the services and practical results of the law had been almost null. Nevertheless, no body will question the existence with us of all the elements necessary to the organization of a force sound in every respect. To what then must they attribute this deplorable state, although flowing from wise legislation which they desired partly to retain. The want of success is due to two causes which seemed to him to be the source of the evil. If the country wants a militia law, every one must contribute personally his share to the organization. The public outside of the ranks had not understood the moral and material support which it is incumbent upon it to lend to military organization, therefore the Government of the day had to struggle against a prejudice for which it was not responsible. In the second place the law should be administered strictly, impartially, and not as a political engine. In a word the governing and the governed should make this their duty. Now, these two essential causes had been lacking in the present organization; every one did not do their duty, and the law was not executed strictly and impartially. If the thing be necessary he would make it his duty, later on, to establish the correctness of his assertions. He had said that in the Province of Quebec serious and practical results were almost null; it would not be right if he did not make honorable mention of the Garrison Batteries of the Dominion. He could only personally speak of B. Battery, whose school is in the Quebec citadel. He was happy to acknowledge, in its able commandant, the eminently practical and scientific qualities which would be a great assistance to the country if the sphere in which he exercised them were not so restricted. In Quebec as elsewhere we have weak battalions which owe their existence to pecuniary sacrifices, in the generality of cases, excessively onerous upon their offi-

cers, whose services the country should recognize. It was to be hoped that by the enlargement of the Military Schools, every facility should be given for instruction in that career, whose practical science cannot be acquired in time of peace, except in well constructed schools. Moreover, to guide them, had they not the example of West Point, the American military training school, whose graduates spread all over the country, in a few days succeeded in improvising an army of a million and a half of men, commanded by experienced officers. He thanked the House for the kind attention with which he had been honoured.

The Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said he had no desire to occupy the time of the House, nor to take exception to what the hon. gentlemen who had moved and seconded the adoption of the reply to the Address had said, and he was quite sure he would get credit for his sincerity. The hon. gentleman who had moved the address had taken occasion to deprecate the mode in which he was about to make the motion, but there was no necessity for that, as what was said was full of thoughtfulness and good sense which must commend the speech to every gentleman who had heard it. As he had said before, he did not rise to offer any objection to the resolution, but to define to what extent the views set forward differed from those of a considerable party in the House. Since the last Parliament a very considerable change had taken place in the other branch of the Legislature. The party to which he belonged had sustained a complete overthrow, and that would be one of the remarkable features in the history of the country. He did not allude to the subject but for the purpose of drawing attention to what would be the duty of hon. gentlemen in the Senate Chamber. The very remarkable expression of public opinion at the late elections put all cavil on one side, and he thought the usefulness of the Senate would be to bring about the wishes of the people as brought forward by the other House. Although the Senate was independent of the popular voice, there was no such distinction between them and the other branch of the Legislature as to justify them in taking up the exalted position which the House of Lords sometimes assumed. Experience had shown them that they ought to defer to the opinions of the people in all matters relating to their welfare, and the Ministry who had that experience, and had public opinion so unmistakably pronounced in their favour had a great