

militia force of this country. The experience such an officer had acquired was entirely different from that which he would require when he took command of our volunteers. That was entirely a different force to the one he would have been accustomed to command in England. Here the men were no mere machines, as were soldiers of the Old Country. An Imperial officer coming to Canada and assuming the command of our militia volunteer force would find that he was placed in entirely different circumstances, and that in order to become an efficient commander he must unlearn nearly everything he had learnt before. As a humble member of that force, and appreciating the idiosyncrasies of it, he respectfully protested against the exclusion of any of our militia officers from occupying the first militia position which the country had at its disposal.

The motion was carried, and the House went into Committee on the Resolutions, Mr. RYMAL in the chair.

The first resolution was put and carried without discussion.

On the second resolution being put,

Mr. BOWELL enquired of the Minister of Militia why the distinction was made between the wording of the two resolutions in regard to the salaries to be paid to the Major General and the Adjutant General at headquarters, respectively. It was stated that \$4,000 should be paid to the Major General in full of all pay and allowances; but these words did not occur in the resolution which followed. He was aware that it had been customary to pay additions to these officers under the heading of "Pay" and "Allowances" which the law did not provide for. The attention of the late Government had been repeatedly called to this fact, but the claim was always made that the Government had a right to pay these increases under the Queen's Regulations, and salaries of Adjutants General and Deputy Adjutants General had been regularly increased from \$3,000, and \$2,600 to \$4,000 and \$3,600 respectively. What he desired to ask, now, was why the words "Pay" and "Allowances" were made applicable in the first resolution and not in the other. He did not wish it to be inferred, even by insinuation, that he believed the gentleman who occupied the position of Deputy Adjutant General at

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headquarters, and who he was happy to understand was to be promoted, was not worth all the amount he received. On the other hand he did not hesitate to say that he was one of the best officers in the force or connected with the Militia Department, and as an independent member of this House he would be willing to support a resolution for the increase of his salary to \$3,000. If it were desirable—and he believed this House would sanction it—and if it were intended to add allowances to the amount provided in this clause, he thought it would be better to make provision for it in the Bill at once. The report of the Major General, now in command of the force in this country, gave, in his opinion, the best possible answer to the hon. member for Pontiac. He (Mr. BOWELL) had been in the habit of reading the reports of all commanding officers which had been presented to the House since he had become a member, and he did not hesitate to say that this was the most practical he ever knew to be presented to the Parliament of Canada. There were suggestions in it of a most desirable and practical nature, and he should like to know whether it was the intention of the Government to carry them all out. Members who were in the House in 1869 would remember that when this question was under discussion, he, as an independent member took exception to the Militia Act of that time, and pointed out what he thought were necessary amendments. He believed then, and believed now, that if more money was distributed among the men and the officers, who did a great amount of the work, instead of paying it, to what he then termed it, the useless officers of the staff, it would be better for the volunteer force and for the country. If there was anything gratifying to him as a member of this House and a Volunteer officer for a number of years, it was the fact that on reference to the remarks he made in 1869, he found that almost every one of his suggestions were recommended to the Minister of Militia by Major General SMYTH, and more particularly that portion relating to the unnecessary number of staff officers in the different military districts. This officer pointed out that the Brigade Majors were utterly useless for almost any purpose, and their position could be much better supplied by Adjutants of the force. There were many other