

West, and I can state, moreover, to the hon. gentleman that if during those troublesome times there had been any grounds for a charge being made against them, no doubt the Department would have heard from the parties interested. It has never been brought under the attention of the Department; we have never heard anything so far as the administration of my Department is concerned which could in any way commit the General to an act such as that mentioned by the hon. gentleman.

An hon. MEMBER. Then there is not a word of truth in it.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. Quite so.

Mr. THOMPSON. So far as I am concerned I never heard of the complaint before.

Mr. DAVIES. The Minister of Militia did not say there was not one word of truth in it. What he did say was that nothing of the kind had been brought to his knowledge as the head of the Department.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I know nothing about it, and consequently cannot say anything as to the truth of it.

British Columbia Penitentiary ..... \$45,771

Mr. ELLIS. Can the Minister of Justice give any explanation as to why the penitentiaries in small Provinces like Manitoba and British Columbia cost so much compared with Dorchester penitentiary. Is crime so rampant in those western Provinces?

Mr. THOMPSON. In the first place, the Dorchester penitentiary is very convenient of access. It is situated in a village, and has railroad communication near by. The penitentiaries at both of the other places are remote, and the one in Manitoba is, I think, in a very inconvenient place. But, as I explained before, the increase is principally due to the fact that we have been in the habit heretofore of making allowances to the officers which we did not make in the other Provinces. For instance, in the case of fuel, the allowance began at a time when fuel was very scarce and high in price, and it was continued until the present time. That is another reason why a larger *per capita* cost appears in the management of Manitoba as compared with Dorchester and other prisons. Another circumstance likewise is the fact that we are obliged to pay higher salaries for these inferior officers than we can get men for in the older Provinces. We can get, of course, a warden or a deputy warden or accountant, or any of the superior officers to whom pretty good salaries are paid, but we find it practically very difficult indeed to get efficient persons in Manitoba and British Columbia as guards and other officers of that kind for the sums that we can get them for in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Salaries and contingent expenses of Senate, ..... \$59,488

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. There is an increase here.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. It arises from an increase of \$2,000 to the Senate Debates, by a resolution of the Senate in the Session of 1885, and a few statutory increases.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Does anybody ever read the Senate Debates? I know nobody ever listens to them.

Salaries, House of Commons, as per Clerk's estimate.....\$63,750

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I see there is a decrease here.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The salary of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and contingencies are transferred to the Privy Council.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. That is quite correct, but the Clerk of the Crown does not come under the salaries of the House of Commons; he used to be a separate item by himself. I see there is a decrease in the chief clerk.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The statutory increases are \$800, and the changes made and the superannuations make up the difference.

Mr. JONES. Is this reduction made by the dismissal of Mr. Wade?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. No, his place has been filled.

Mr. JONES. Was there any reason for Mr. Wade's dismissal?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. That is Mr. Wade of Digby. I am sorry to say that he so far forgot the position he occupied as to go out and take a prominent part in holding public meetings and denouncing the Government of the day. I think there is no gentleman in this House, on either side, who will say that any public officer holding any office under the Government or Parliament should adopt such a course, or that, if he does adopt it, that he should be retained in the public service, if we are to carry on public affairs in the way in which I am sure hon. gentlemen on both sides would like to see them carried on. There is no doubt that public officers, especially under the ballot, have a perfect right to go to the polls and record their vote for or against any person, as they may please, or as they may consider it their duty, but I do not believe any gentleman in the House will sustain any public officer in going out and taking an offensive course in reference to the Government of the day, whoever may be in power. There is undoubted evidence that Mr. Wade took that course, and that he went to the furthest extreme to which any person could go, and under the circumstances the Speaker was asked to supersede him.

Mr. JONES. I think the hon. gentleman has been misinformed as to the extent of Mr. Wade's action during the election, so far as my information goes. However, be that as it may, I am disposed to agree very much with what the hon. gentleman has said with regard to the conduct of public servants in this respect. But I think that in order to be consistent in the view which the hon. gentleman has pronounced, he should have exercised the same discretion in other matters. The hon. gentleman must be aware that there is hardly a railway official in Nova Scotia but has been an active, open, violent partisan of the Conservative party.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). That is a different thing.

Mr. JONES. I suppose it is a different thing, because it applies to hon. gentlemen opposite and they were the Government of the day. I have always laid down the doctrines that a public employé, as long as he had the right to vote, should exercise his franchise in a quiet inoffensive manner, but the civil servants in Nova Scotia exercised their franchise in the same way as Mr. Wade is said to have done at Digby, and so far from their having received a warning from the Finance Minister, who has Nova Scotia under his particular charge, one of the Customs employés at Halifax who was sent down there to take an active part in a political campaign against the Local Government of Nova Scotia, has been rewarded by having his pay raised from \$750 or \$800 to \$1,250, without any change in his position. Now, I submit if the hon. gentleman takes so exalted a view of the public service, and I may say that I am very much disposed to acquiesce in it, his conduct has not been consistent in summarily dismissing Mr. Wade, the son of an old member of this House, who was long a supporter of the hon. gentleman himself. And I must say I think it was a very ungracious act on the part of the hon. gentleman to permit the dismissal of Mr. Wade on the report of his having taken a part