

ervations, I feel that as the Government, through one of its members, chose to take the course of giving this advice to the returning officer, he may be said, personally, to occupy a better position, with reference to the present demand, than he otherwise could; but I think it ought to be distinctly understood from the other side, that no advice at all is to be given to returning officers by the Executive, and that this payment is not in any sense to form a precedent.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I can assure the hon. gentleman that during the time of office of the present Secretary of State there need be no fear. I happened myself to be in a similar position. The candidate opposed to me withdrew during the contest, and I was consulted by the returning officer as to whether he could not return the deposit made by the retiring candidate. Pleased as I was to see my opponent retire, I was obliged to give the opinion that the deposit was forfeited.

Mr. DAVIES. I wish to call the attention of the Government to the next item, which relates to Sessional allowance. I understand that the practice adopted is that members of Parliament, who have been detained by sickness or other unavoidable causes from attending, shall be allowed their full indemnity. There is the case of the hon. member for Napierville, who is exactly in the same position, having been debarred by illness from attending during fifteen days of the Session, and of course, if the principle is adopted, it must be applied to his case.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The attention of the Government was called to this matter and it was intended to insert that in the Estimates to come down, and ask the House to vote it.

SENATE.

226. To pay the legal representatives of the late Hon. Mr. Bourinot \$960, balance of Sessional Indemnity, and to Mr. Nelson, \$88, which will otherwise be deducted on account of his absence this Session..... \$1,048 00

ARTS, AGRICULTURE AND STATISTICS.

228. To meet expenses of Archive Service \$300 00

229. To pay balance of account, \$6,403.20, certified in accordance with the Order in Council, dated 8th April, 1880, (less \$1,491.78, due for the purchase of the site and hospital) to the Winnipeg General Hospital, for patients admitted from the 1st April to the 30th November, 1883..... \$4,911 82

PENSIONS.

230. For payment to Mrs. Edward Duckett, the amount short paid to her late husband on account of superannuation (voted in 46 Vic, cap. 2, and not paid)..... \$1,200 00

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. This amount to Mrs. Duckett was voted the year before, but not paid, as the application came in after the close of the year. This is asking a revote.

MILITIA.

- 231 { Clothing \$16,000 00
Contingencies of Militia Service 3,000 00
To provide for pay of extra Militia Force in Manitoba, authorized to drill 2,500 00
Public Armouries and care of arms 9,544 09

Mr. CARON. This item of \$16,000 is to supply military clothing for the year 1883. This supply is absolutely necessary. The contractors are Messrs. Auclair & Gagné, of Ottawa, who were the lowest tenderers. The number of tunics required is 7,500. The item for contingencies, \$3,000, is for type-setting, printing and binding the Militia Regulations and Orders of 1883; the item \$2,500, is to provide for the pay of the 19th Battalion of Rifles, in Mani-

toba, which was organized last November, and has gone through this year's drill. The amount of money voted last year was for the force as it existed at that time. It was considered advisable to authorize the organization of that battalion, and the drill having taking place, it was necessary to pay the amount required, and it was therefore put in the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. WATSON. I would ask the hon. gentleman if it is the intention to establish any more volunteer battalions in the North-West. There are several towns in Manitoba where there might be good companies organized. I should like to know if it is the intention to furnish them with accoutrements as soon as they are ready to organize.

Mr. CARON. The organization of the volunteer force in the North-West and in Manitoba is a very large question. It has been, and still is, engaging the attention of the Department. Under the estimates as they now exist, it would be impossible to get up anything like a proper organization in that district, but the battalion which has just been provided for is the beginning of what I believe will be a proper organization of the force there.

Mr. WATSON. I think probably too much of this money is spent in Winnipeg. There are rural towns which might have a company, and have their headquarters in Winnipeg. There is Portage la Prairie, Minnedosa, Rapid City, and also Brandon. It should be distributed more through the Province and not confined to Winnipeg.

Mr. COCKBURN. I may also remind the Minister of Militia and Defence that in the constituency I formerly represented, which contains 27,000 inhabitants, and several large villages, one with as much as 2,000 inhabitants, no volunteer company has ever been organized. There is most excellent material. Plenty of good men would be volunteers, and have been offering their services for a long time, but they have never had an opportunity to organize.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I thought some attention had been paid to the organization of a brigade in your county.

Mr. COCKBURN. We do not care about the whiskey brigade. I would ask the Minister not to forget that section of the country, if he recruits more volunteers.

Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant). I understood the Minister to say that part of this \$3,000 for contingencies was to pay for printing the books, the Militia General Orders, at the Queen's printing office. Is not that the work printed by Foote, of the Quebec Chronicle office?

Mr. CARON. I stated it was for the purpose of paying for the printing, binding and type-setting of Militia Regulations and Orders for 1883, \$2,500; 4,000 copies were required, at 62½ cents per copy. This was carried on through the Queen's Printer. Immediately after the passing of the Bill consolidating the Militia last Session, it became imperative to prepare new regulations under that Bill, and they had to be printed and distributed to the force. This amount is for the purpose of meeting that expenditure.

Mr. SOMERVILLE. Do I understand that they are printed by the Government contractor?

Mr. CARON. Yes.

Mr. SOMERVILLE. I thought that was the work performed by the proprietor of the Quebec Chronicle.

Mr. CARON. No; that is different.

Mr. SOMERVILLE. What is the work he does?

Mr. CARON. The work the hon. gentleman refers to is the Militia List, containing the names of the officers composing the Militia force of Canada.