

for the honourable gentleman's division to employ itself at, and yet it was composed of the Minister himself, a deputy, and two clerks. The only reason assigned for the appointment of the three latter was that they had been in the honourable gentleman's service when he discharged the duties of Attorney-General for Lower Canada. (Laughter). The measure before the House would undoubtedly entail a large additional expense without any justification.

Hon. Mr. Rose contended that the estimate of the departmental expenses of the militia department, namely \$51,690, exceeded that of last year by only \$6,000, besides the salaries of the Minister of Militia and his Deputy. The estimate for this year included also the salaries of an Adjutant-General and a Provincial naval officer.

Mr. Mackenzie said the number of deputies of the Adjutant-General was greater in the late Province of Canada than it would be under the new Bill. The honourable gentleman should account for the decrease in each expenditure that would be thus effected. The appointment of a medical officer for the militia was preposterous. Suppose a militia man was injured at Sarnia and another at Halifax, how could the medical officer attend to them both?

Hon. Mr. Cartier said if the member for Lambton had seen the certificates of medical men from all parts of the country as to parties claiming compensation for injuries to those who had been called out in defence of the country, he would have agreed that it was a great economy to the department to have a medical officer possessing its confidence to supervise all these accounts.

Hon. Mr. Rose said some of the salaries now objected to were included under the heading "contingencies," which in 1866 amounted to \$58,000.

Mr. Blake called attention to the provision now made for the first time for a private secretary to the Adjutant-General at a salary of \$1,200.

Hon. Mr. Cartier contended that it was necessary for an officer having so many duties to perform as the Adjutant-General to have the assistance of a private secretary.

The item was agreed to.

After recess.

Hon. Mr. Holton rose and expressed the hope that in the preparation of the estimates

for the coming year (1869) the Government would see that the unnecessary expense in the Secretary's as in the Militia Department would be done away with. It was a most costly piece of extravagance, and absolutely indefensible on any grounds having weight with the House.

Hon. Mr. Rose maintained that there was an immense amount of work pertaining to the Militia Department, such indeed as none but those acquainted with the work of the department could have any idea of. Besides, the Government contemplated an entire reorganization of the Civil Service, and the House would see that all that could be done in the way of economy by the Government would be done.

The item of \$35,000 for the Department of the Secretary of State for Canada then passed.

On the item for the Department of the Secretary of State for the Provinces, \$13,070,

Hon. Mr. Langevin said he had reduced the expenses of his Department as low as he possibly could consistent with the due performance of the duties.

After some conversation, the item was agreed to.

On the item for the Department of the Receiver-General, \$20,500,

Hon. Mr. Holton expressed the opinion that this office as a separate department like those of Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Fisheries, were comparatively unnecessary. They might be looked upon as Ministers at large. The Minister of Justice had himself stated that the duties of Receiver-General were merely of a bookkeeping nature. He (Mr. Holton) held that there should be only such Ministers as were absolutely necessary for the public service. He would not have a certain number of Ministers merely because there was a certain number of Provinces to represent, or a certain number of public men to provide for. He might remark with reference to two other offices newly created, those of Minister of Customs and Minister of Inland Revenue, that the creation of those two offices where there was only room for one, and that a subordinate office, had placed two prominent men in a very invidious, not to say degrading position, in the eyes of the country. A Treasury Board composed of four co-equal Ministers was an absurdity. There might be such a board forming a sub-committee of the