

other names into the discussion, because that has nothing to do with what I am discussing now. The explanation of the attack was that the dispute was of a personal character, and what I am now giving is the opinion of Mr. William J. Tupper of Mr. Wade. In regard to the attack, Mr. William J. Tupper wrote a letter to the editor of the "Nor'-Wester," the Conservative organ in the city of Winnipeg, in which he said:

It is nauseating to witness the attempt of the "Tribune" to belittle Mr. Wade's attainments.

He said that "Mr. Wade had made a reputation as a brilliant editorial writer," and that "his success in his profession"—that is, the legal profession—"is so well known that it cannot be questioned." I am not quoting this letter verbatim, because there are references in it to a member of the House which I do not wish to bring before the House; but if any gentlemen wishes to read the whole of the letter, it is on file among the papers. I am giving the effect of the letter in regard to the character and qualifications of Mr. Wade; that is the point I am talking about. Mr. William J. Tupper further said:

He has evidently aroused the animosity of one of his party.—

Remark this in comparison with what is said by the hon. member for Pictou, who does not know anything about Mr. Wade:—

—but I believe political opponents will testify that he would scorn to do a mean action, even in the heat of battle.

He says further:

I believe the almost unanimous opinion in this province is that Mr. Wade deserves the best consideration at the hands of his party.

Now, that is the gentleman I appointed as the legal officer of the party who went up to take charge of the administration, as I have said, in an emergency way, simply. I have never heard anybody question Mr. Wade's ability; so I will not devote any attention to that.

Another gentleman whom I sent with this party was Capt. Bliss. Capt. Bliss is one of the horde of political parasites whom, it appears, I turned loose on the country. Captain Bliss was an officer of the Privy Council of some years standing; I do not know the number of years; I have not taken the trouble to get his record. When my hon. friend the Prime Minister took charge of the Privy Council branch, he reorganized that department, and Captain Bliss's services were dispensed with. At the strong request of a number of gentlemen, largely Conservatives, in the city of Ottawa, I found a place for Captain Bliss in my department. He is a Conservative in politics, and always has been, so far as I know. As an officer he had a good record in the Government service; he was found in the Government service when we came here. Captain Bliss was sent up with the party, and with

him I sent as assistants two men who were designated as inspectors of mines—James D. McGregor, of Brandon, and Captain Norwood, who comes from somewhere in Nova Scotia. Mr. McGregor I knew myself. He has been denounced in this House in a way I need not refer to now. He was appointed on my own judgment, as a man who lived for many years in the same town that I lived in, and he is a respected citizen of that town, and any person who knew anything about his character and habits of life, would know that a man like him, who had lived in the western country, who had travelled all over it for many years, who had met all classes of people, and who was a shrewd, capable, resolute man, was exactly the kind of man to send with the party to the Yukon. On the recommendation of my hon. friend the Minister of Militia and Defence (Mr. Borden), Captain Norwood was sent too. He was a man who had been the captain of a northern whaler, had wintered in the northern portion of the Yukon district, knew considerable about the nature and climate of the country, and was familiar with travelling in far northern latitudes. These men were going with the possibility of having to incur great hardships and to meet exceptional difficulties.

These two men I have mentioned were sent particularly on account of their physical qualifications, their experience in rough travelling, and their ability to meet and deal with all the difficulties they would have to deal with in the Yukon district. Their particular duty was to look after the collection of royalty. Hon. gentlemen opposite and their friends said that we never could collect that royalty. I do not know whether they said so in Parliament or not, but their organ certainly declared that we could not get enough policemen and soldiers in Canada to collect that royalty. I know that, when dealing with a rough and ready man, such as a miner, a great deal depends on how he is handled; and if you send people to deal with such men who do not know how to go about the work, you will get into serious trouble. I, therefore, sent men who had the necessary experience and qualifications to deal with this class, and, without a single dispute that I have heard of, they did collect the royalty provided by law and lodged it in the treasury office. These two gentlemen were Liberals, but I do not think they were any the worse for that. I have given you the certificate of character with regard to Major Walsh's appointment, and a certificate from my hon. friend's youngest son with regard to Mr. Wade's character. I have also shown you that Captain Bliss was not an appointee of this Government at all, but a departmental officer, sent on account of two qualifications. He was familiar with the accountant work in my department, and so could keep the accounts, and, in addition to that, he was a military man, and had, therefore, a knowledge of the transportation and handling of men, and would be much