

Mr. Johnson, though a strong supporter of the Government, would not advocate their course in this militia matter. The fact was this department was possibly more lavish of silver than they would ever be of lead in the defence of the Dominion. He complained of the number of employees and enormous expenses connected with the present system. The staff they now had was far beyond their requirements, and at all times his voice would be raised against such extravagance.

Mr. Mackenzie hoped when the time came for the honourable gentleman who had just spoken to record his vote, it would not be found at variance with his speech. To come to the remarks of the Minister of Militia, he (Mr. Mackenzie) found that the expense under the new system, instead of \$33,000 for the Militia Department, would be over \$51,000. As to the Civil branch, he could not find out any duties appertaining to it unless communicating with the Lower Provinces. What there could be for this army of clerks to do, independent of those concerned with the Military branch, he could not comprehend. He never heard that the officers in charge of the Department under the system in the late Province of Canada were over worked. The additional duties now devolving on the Department were very little, and yet the expenditure connected with it was nearly double. It did seem extravagant that the expenses of that department should rise in one year from \$33,000 to \$51,000, without any just cause for such an extraordinary increase being shown.

Hon. Mr. Cartier replied, in the Militia Department proper there was but the staff he had mentioned. With regard to the Pay Department, it was separate, and under charge of Captain Berry, and here there was no increase from the appropriation of 1866. So it was with the store branch; in reality all the excess in the Departmental expenses occurred in the salaries of the Minister at the head of the Department and his deputy.

Dr. Parker said that here, without any change in the old system, a vast increase in the expenses of the Department had been unquestionably made—whether under the head of civil or military branches, it came to the same thing in the end. The bill of costs had been immensely and unnecessarily swelled. It appeared to him that the amount set down for administering the affairs of the department was very extravagant. Then he would call the attention of the House to the fact that during the Fenian raid a number of

officers had been temporarily appointed, but not one of them had ever been removed.

Hon. Mr. Holton, with respect to the appointment of Deputy Minister of Militia, would say that no case had been made out for it. He quite agreed with the Minister of Militia as to the necessity of organizing a new system, with a responsible head. But as to the Deputy, the value of his services was very doubtful. Who was he? What were his qualifications? Why not make Deputy Adjutant-General Powell, or Mr. Paymaster Berry, Deputy Minister of Militia. There certainly seemed no reason for the present appointment.

Hon. Mr. Cartier, in reply to the member for Centre Wellington, said \$53,000 were not called for. The present vote called for was only \$19,700, and the only additions were the salaries of the Minister and his Deputy; as to the officers temporarily appointed during the Fenian raid, they were not permanent, as stated by the member for Centre Wellington. They merely held their appointments temporarily yet. (Loud laughter). Yes, that was the case; but their temporary appointments would cease when his (Mr. Cartier's) Bill came into operation.

Hon. Mr. Holton—Then they will become permanent. (Laughter).

Hon. Mr. Cartier—No; some of them might be re-appointed, but not all of them. The statement of the member for Chateauguay that Colonel Powell might discharge the duties of Deputy Minister of Militia, could not be carried into practice, for Col. Powell was altogether a military officer, and could not perform the civil duties. As to the present Deputy, he was a man eminently fitted for his post.

Mr. Blake agreed with the proposition that a division of labour was a very good thing, but if it was to be accomplished at an expense of nearly double that formerly required, then he was not certain the change was a good one, especially when no explanation made by the Minister of Militia satisfactorily accounted for the increase. That honourable gentleman had detailed to them that his department had been sub-divided into three branches besides his own, and that being the case, he (Mr. Blake) could not possibly imagine what duties remained to be performed by the Militia Department proper, as the Minister had styled his division. (Hear, hear). There could really be nothing whatever left