

deemed it proper to touch this subject, and have confined myself to the number of major-generals and brigadiers, deemed necessary to command the divisions and brigades of an army of thirty-five thousand men. It may not, however, be improper to remark, that if it is intended to have no higher grade than that of major-general, their number should be increased to eleven; so as to give one for the chief command, one for each wing, and one for each division of four thousand men."

It is entertaining to see, how much trouble the worthy Adjutant takes to impress upon the mind, that the Secretary of State "*had not required his opinion,*" on the subject of a grade higher than that of a major-general. He even goes so far as to say, that he has "*not deemed it proper to touch this subject.*"

Now, sir, I think he has touched the subject, and treated it pretty thoroughly too. For he has shewn, not only that it is "difficult" to do without, but that it is more economical to have a grade higher than a major-general. And this too, in an army of only *thirty-five thousand men*. But when this bill passes, the army will consist of *fifty-five thousand*. The result is, then, inevitable, you must have, in such case, a grade higher than a major-general; in other words, a lieutenant-general. Such, it cannot be denied, is the intention of the cabinet. As little can it be denied, that the Secretary of State, the acting Secretary of war, is the cabinet candidate for that office. So it has been distinctly avowed by the friends and confidants of that cabinet; and as such, I have no question, is known by every individual in this house.

Mr. Speaker, what an astonishing, and alarming state of things is this! Three men, who efficiently have had the command of this nation, for many years, have so managed its concerns, as to reduce it, from an unexampled height of prosperity, to a state of great depression—not to say ruin. They have annihilated its commerce, and involved it in war. And now the result of the whole matter is, that they are about to raise an army of fifty-five thousand men, invest one of their own body with this most solemn command, and he, the man, who is the destined candidate for the President's chair! What a grasp at power is this! What is there in history equal to it! Can any man doubt, what will be the result of this project? No man can believe that the conquest of Canada will be effected in one campaign. It cost the British six years to acquire it, when it was far weaker than at present. It cannot be hoped that we can acquire it under three or four years. And what, then, will be the situation of this army and our country? Why then, the army will be veteran; and the leader, a candidate for the presidency! And whoever is a candidate for the presidency, with an army of thirty thousand veterans at his heels, will not be likely to be troubled with rivals, or to concern himself about votes. A President elected under such auspices, may be nominally a President for years; but really, if he pleases, a President for life.