

of raising a general discussion upon the Militia estimates upon these resolutions.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL contended that the hon. member for Compton was quite in order because he was only replying to the arguments of the Minister of Militia which were based upon the alleged extravagance of the late Government.

Hon. Mr. VAIL—If the hon. gentleman was so anxious that a volunteer officer should be appointed to command the Militia, why did he not repeal the Act when he was in power ?

Hon. Mr. POPE said his remarks would not bear the construction which had been put upon them. He thought the present appointment was a good one, but he did not think it wise to pass an Act which was so drawn as to bar volunteer officers from ever obtaining the command of our Militia forces.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK hoped the hon. Minister of Militia and the hon., the First Minister would take sweet counsel together and endeavour to reconcile their statements. The former stated that after Parliament rose the Government would take the report into consideration, and consider what was proper to be done, while the latter Minister said that if any change was made, Parliament would obtain the first intimation of it. It was due to the people's representatives that they should know what changes were proposed.

The motions were carried.

On motion of hon. Mr. VAIL, the resolutions were referred to the Committee of the whole House on Bill No. 4.

The House then went into Committee on the Militia Bill.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward), in the Chair.

Hon. Mr. VAIL moved that the blanks in the Bill be filled by inserting \$4,000 and \$2,600 according to the resolutions passed by the House.

Mr. BOWELL asked the hon. Minister of Militia to explain his intentions with respect to the payment of bonuses.

Hon. Mr. VAIL said it was unfortunate that the hon. member had not asked the Minister of Militia two or three years ago for these explanations. He was, however, prepared to give the hon. gentleman and the House every information in regard to that matter as early as possible, and he

Hon. Mr. Mackenzie.

would submit a paper containing the necessary details in the course of a few days.

Mr. BOWELL said the hon. Minister of Militia did not know what he spoke when he said it was unfortunate that these explanations had not been asked for before. Every member of the House knew that for the last six years he had been asking for explanations on that matter.

Hon. Mr. VAIL said:—If the hon. member had been asking for explanations for five or six years without effect, he might give him the space of a day or two to make them now.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER congratulated the Government upon the fact that they always fell back upon the actions of the late Government when they wished to excuse themselves, and no explanation they could make to the House and country would be so satisfactory as that.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said if he had ever made such a statement he took that particular opportunity of making a full and complete retraction.

The Bill was reported as amended, and the report received.

CONCURRENCE IN ESTIMATES.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT, item No. 2 of Committee of Supply, \$8,025, to defray salaries of the Governor General's Secretary's Office, was concurred in ; also was resolution No. 1 of Committee of Supply, \$68,600, charges of management.

Items 3 to 18 inclusive were concurred in without discussion.

On item 19, \$70,000, re-adjustment of salaries,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT, at the request of Hon. Mr. TUPPER, repeated his explanations of the proposed amended system of increasing the salaries of civil servants, the hon. member for Cumberland having been absent when those explanations were originally given.

Mr. JONES (Leeds) inquired whether any of this sum could legally be applied to increasing the salaries of the outside service.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said there could be but little doubt as to its legality, but the increase of outside service salaries was more a matter to be dealt with departmentally than otherwise.

The item was concurred in.