

one thing that I forgot to mention in my remarks, and that was the singular absence from his report of any mention of the scheme in regard to the reserve, &c., outlined by the hon. minister. That is the reason I read that little clause where he made the single remark about putting every regimental establishment on a war footing and stating that within each unit there would be the germ of a reserve. I knew that the Major General had written something else about that, and it must have been in the report originally, because I saw a Major General's report so barren of reference to the strength of the different establishments and no mention at all of a reserve except in this one little paragraph, notwithstanding that this was the most fruitful of all subjects upon which he could have written. Of course, it is not for him to c'etate to the hon. minister, nor will he attempt to do so. However, the hon. minister takes the responsibility, and if he sees fit, he has the might to do so, but in my opinion it is not a case where 'might will make right', but

I think it is a great mistake if the Major General is to be made an automaton. If he has anything to suggest to the minister, let us know what he says when it comes to the regulation of the militia. We want a man, and we have got him for a Major General, and it is a grave step for the minister to repress his special report to which he says he has given a great deal of thought and which contains a broad scheme for the improvement of the militia. If the proposals contained in it are carried out they will in my opinion conduce to the greater efficiency of the militia.'

The MINISTER OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE. I think my hon. friend will agree with me that the proper means of communication with this House and with the country from the Major General is through the mouth of the minister, particularly when there is a question of policy involved.

Hon. Mr. FISDALE. Certainly, it must be through the minister's mouth.