

asked was an appropriation of \$250,000 for the organization of volunteers—the largest amount which had ever been appropriated for militia service up to that time. In the following year, the member for Cornwall introduced a measure providing for a still larger organization and requiring still larger expenditure. Since then, very much larger expenditures had become necessary—first, to prevent a recurrence of proceedings like the St. Albans' raid, and next, to meet the Fenians; but he believed no portion of the inhabitants had grudged those expenditures. The Fenian raid had given us, in a measure, that education as to the question of defence, which we had not when the Bill of 1862 was rejected. He was bound here to pay a compliment and he did it with great pleasure to an officer of the militia, appointed by the member for Cornwall, he alluded to Licut. Colonel Powell. The experience we had had of the services of that worthy officer had proved to him that no better appointment to the office of Deputy Adjutant-General of Militia could have been made. (Hear.) He went on to express his opinion that the Imperial Government would be satisfied with the number which this bill provided should be trained for active service. He then enlarged on what might be accomplished by our 700,000 militia men. Looking at the way in which the four millions of Southern whites are famishing, where 400,000 fighting men had defended their country for four years against twenty-four millions of the north who had put into the field during the war 2,600,000 men, we would be in a far better position to meet the difficulty than the Southerners, if it should be our misfortune to face an invasion even from the American nation, for we would have 700,000 of our own fit to bear arms besides having the whole power of England at our back and the sea open to us. (Hear, hear.) In the present bill the number of exemptions were very limited, only Judges and Clergy were not liable to bear arms, and one or two other classes. As regarded Quakers, they would not be required to take part in anything connected with actual fighting. He went on to explain that his reason for taking the control of the Militia Department was because its duties were arduous and he desired to engage in them. Besides, it was a diversity, and in his time he had occupied various important positions. He had had much to do with their educational legislation; with their railway legislation; with the codification of the laws, and with the appointments to the bench and bar, as was evidenced by the discussion last night. (Laughter.) Now, he assumed control of the Militia Department and hoped to give satisfaction in the discharge of its duties. (Hear and laughter.) Now he came to the bill of costs—the “to be or not to be” he supposed,