

far as the conduct of the teamsters, the loading of the teams, the management of the transport service between Troy and the Saskatchewan are concerned, I say on my personal responsibility that the statements made by the hon. gentleman in reference to that are absolutely without foundation. For four weeks at Fort Qu'Appelle, and for some little time at Troy, I had personal knowledge of the way in which Major Bell conducted the transport. Whether Major Bell was guilty of jobbery or not, I am not going to say, I know nothing about it. So far as he had control of that transport, he managed it most thoroughly and efficiently. No team left Troy that was not fairly and properly loaded. I saw the way in which the service was conducted between Troy and Clarke's Crossing, and the statement that these teamsters acted in the way alleged in that letter is absolutely without foundation, and I say that from my personal knowledge of the facts. The transport service was well and efficiently conducted in every possible respect. Of course, the teamsters would sometimes be careless. That could not be prevented by anybody, but to say that there was the waste described by the hon. gentleman is a pure fabrication. The statement which has been made by the hon. gentleman, in reference to General Middleton, was made a long time ago, shortly after the transactions occurred, and I say the charges made against General Middleton and his staff are the most cruel, the most unjust and the most unjustifiable fabrication. I have it on the best authority—I do not know why I should not state it—I have it from the lips of General Middleton himself, that, so far from his having received those so-called luxuries that he is reported to have had, he and his staff never even drew their rations, but paid for every mouthful they had. They never drew a single ration from the time they left Winnipeg till they came back again. They paid for everything they got, even for the bread and meat, the ordinary rations which they were entitled to draw as well as the rest of us. Those items which were put in the account as charged to General Middleton were things which were got *bonâ fide* for the hospital, and which were used for the hospital. He never got any of them, and, if the thing was investigated, I think the charges in reference to the looting would be found as devoid of foundation as these with reference to the rations.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I do not think we can possibly go into this discussion at length, but I would call the attention of the Minister of Militia to this, that the hon. gentleman behind me has stated that 60,000 pounds of tea had been issued for 4,000 or 5,000 men for three or four months. A good ration of tea is generally supposed to be a quarter of an ounce, and that total amount ought to have sufficed to supply 40,000 men for that period. That is a fact which, for the Minister's own sake, ought to be explained, if it be a fact. I have not verified it, but I assume it from the hon. gentleman's statement. The other statement which my hon. friend made, and which he is responsible for and not I, is that our horses that were employed in that outbreak required 250 pounds of forage per day, according to the returns of what was paid, and, of course, that shows a very culpable waste, if it be so. I mention this, because I think it is fair that the Minister of Militia should be able to give an explanation, if there is one. My own opinion is that we must allow for very considerable waste under such circumstances. I am not going to quarrel with the hon. gentleman because waste is shown; but there is a difference between waste and downright flinging away, which would be the case if 60,000 lbs. of tea were paid for our forces. I would call attention to the last item in this vote, "pay for extra services as secretary to the surgeon general," whom I take to be the hon. member for Cornwall (Mr. Bergin). That gentleman may have rendered very valuable services to the country; I am not in a position to say whether he did or not, but I think, when an

hon. gentleman is here serving in Parliament and drawing his indemnity, it is an exceedingly vicious practice, unless no other person can be got to do the duty, to assign to him a large extra salary. He drew his \$1,500 like the rest of us last year, and he got \$1,840 besides for services rendered simultaneously with those he rendered as member of Parliament, and he was promoted to full colonel besides. Here is a gentleman who stays at home, incurs no sort of inconvenience, and is paid three times as much as my hon. friend from Muskoka (Mr. O'Brien), the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Amyot), the hon. member for Laval (Mr. Ouimet), and the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Orton), who went out and did good service in the field. I think he only got \$400. I would rather have reversed it, and given the surgeon general \$400, and the hon. member for Wellington \$1,800. I must say that I think it is not creditable to us, that a gentleman who stayed here and who was drawing his indemnity, should receive four or five times as much as those gentlemen who saw service in the field. I say nothing about the value of the advice the hon. gentleman gave the Minister, but I do not think he had had any experience as to what was wanted for troops in the field. From what little I know of the service, from the books I have read, I think the advice and the report which he made are largely extracted from the usual regulations in Her Majesty's service.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. The hon. gentleman has very properly called my attention to the extraordinary statement made by the hon. member for Middlesex about the quantity of tea which was purchased for the use of the troops in the North West. If that hon. member had taken the trouble to read up about some of the campaigns that have taken place in the world, he would have known, instead of giving his time to counting the ounces of tea, butter and sugar, of which he has made a list, that in an ordinary campaign it is impossible to purchase the exact quantity of provisions that may be required, the same as a family is able to do from week to week. After the troubles are all over the hon. gentleman is very wise, and criticises the manner of the campaign very freely; but I say it was impossible for anyone to know how long that campaign was going to last, nor did we know whether it would be necessary to provide for 5,000 troops, or a much larger or lesser number. But the hon. gentleman does not seem to have taken the trouble to ascertain whether these provisions had been given away or consumed. Sir, I have here a return showing that most of those stores, the tea, sugar, coffee, hay, horses, oats, and everything else, were disposed of, some at auction, and others were transferred to the Indian Department or to the Mounted Police, and we got rid of all these stores without the country losing anything. The hon. gentleman says there was extravagance. Well, I remember that when the \$4,000,000 were voted by Parliament, an hon. gentleman on the left of the Speaker stated that it was merely a preliminary vote, that it was well understood it would not cover the necessary expenditure. To-day we know that \$4,700,000 covers all the claims, including that of the Hudson Bay Company, all the expenditure, and yet the *Globe* and other organs of hon. gentlemen opposite stated that the rebellion was going to cost some \$10,000,000. Now, disappointed at the smallness of the expenditure, the hon. member for Middlesex stands up and attempts to cast slurs at the administration of the Department, and even finding fault with the rations which were given to our volunteers who went up there to fight the battles of their country. Sir, as Minister of Militia, I am ready to stand by that report. I am ready to submit to an investigation, because I am certain that if all the facts could be known, it would be found that the Department did its duty, and that the men who were employed by the Department in various functions, did their