

support him, anything this Government can do to drive this country into such a state of distress and dissatisfaction that the people will not endure the present Ministry any longer, is certainly an advantage to his cause. When this House was adjusting the different counties of Ontario, so as to give a basis of 21,000 of a population to each member, the *North Norfolk Reformer*, which is said to be the organ of the hon. gentleman, said that when this thing was done the people of Ontario would become exasperated and they would do—what? The Reformers would thus deal with matter:

“Though the Gerrymandering Bill is the most contemptible and cowardly act of a life, stained by all that is mean, despicable, base and fraudulent—

(What a lovely combination of adjectives)

—we will regard it as a blessing if it culminated in placing our beloved Ontario in the great sisterhood of the United States of America.”

That is a loyal sentiment. It commences with this mournful ditty in that lachrymose style for which hon. gentlemen opposite are famous, who lead in the chorus, and then it falls into its natural vent, and congratulates the people of Ontario that this Bill will have the effect of driving them into the sisterhood of the United States. Why the hon. member for North Norfolk, and every hon. member on that side of this House, who is concerned in keeping up a paper like that, should denounce that article, as loyal, honorable men would. They cannot afford to wink at it, for it has gone to the public and has been read far and wide. I do not know that the paper expresses the opinion of hon. members opposite, as a whole, or that it expresses the opinion of even one of them; but all I know is that it has gone to the public, that it has been read by the people of the United States, and, as far as it is concerned, shows them that we are a discontented people, that we do not like Canada and our own institutions, and are only too happy to cut the Gordian knot that ties us to the Mother Country, and go over to the United States.

Mr. CASGRAIN. What about pig iron?

Mr. WOODWORTH. Well, the hon. gentleman heard so much about pig iron that he did not rise from his seat to say a word about it. Hon. gentlemen opposite called up spirits from the vast deep, but they could not lay them again. They had called up too many. They had called up such an array of evidence and facts that even the hon. member for L'Islet, who was always ready in his calm, dispassionate, and most able manner, and who is most gentlemanly in his bearing, could not say a word, after the speeches of the hon. Finance Minister, and the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and the hon. Minister of Railways, who spoke in his old style, as has been said by the hon. leader of the Opposition, in his trenchant style, that those hon. gentlemen have heard before, and whose words had the effect of the command of Joshua when he ordered the sun to stand still—they obeyed. I do not think it is necessary to take up the time of the House with what has been gone over and over again, as the guns of hon. member opposite have been already spiked, so that they represent, as I think Disraeli once said, extinct volcanoes.

Mr. CHARLTON. As reference has been made to me by the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, I will say with reference to his remarks that it would have been a gratification to some of us on this side of the House who were engaged in discussing the resolution before the House, if he had said a few words about pig iron. He reminds me of the story of the two Irishmen who were in a hotel that caught fire, and who escaped in haste without taking time to clothe themselves properly. One of them put on his pantaloons with the wrong side to the back and saved himself by jumping out of the window. The other wishing to ascertain the condition of his friend, asked him: “Are you

killed?” The other answered: “No, but I am fatally twisted.” Such was the character of the hon. gentleman's speech. It was utterly illogical and had nothing to do with the question before the House, and in a Parliamentary sense the hon. gentleman fatally twisted himself. The hon. gentleman, by innuendo, referred to me as being an annexationist. It happens that I was born in the United States. As I said before, I disclaim any responsibility for that circumstance. I was not even consulted in reference to the matter. I must say that, although it was a very important event in my life, I have no recollection of it, and consequently I do not know that I ought to be held responsible for it.

Mr. WOODWORTH. The paper supported you in that Election.

Mr. CHARLTON. I am coming to that point. I have lived in Canada some thirty-five years, and I have attempted to discharge my duties as a subject and a citizen, and I suppose I ought to be considered long enough a resident of the country to become naturalized by this time. I think, I have never given utterance to annexationist sentiments in my life, and I am thoroughly loyal—though I say it myself—to the institutions of this country. I disclaim and repudiate the insinuation made by the hon. gentleman, an insinuation he has no reason to make, no ground to make—a base, slanderous and cowardly insinuation. When I first ran an election in this country, in 1872, an attempt was made by the party that hon. gentleman belongs to, to injure me by insinuations of this kind, but the attempt never has been made in that country since—it did not pay. Now, with reference to this newspaper. It is not published in my riding. I am not responsible for the sentiments of that editor, or any other editor in this country. That utterance was made a short time before the last Election, and I disclaimed any responsibility for them, or any sympathy for them, or any sympathy with those utterances, as I do to-day; and the attempt of the hon. gentleman to impose this matter—a purely personal matter, and a base charge at that—with this discussion against me, is one that I am sure will not raise the hon. gentleman's character very much in the estimation of this House.

Resolution to be reported.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

After Recess.

REMUNERATION OF THE ACTIVE MILITIA.

Mr. CARON moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain proposed resolutions (April 18th) respecting the pay of officers and men of the Active Militia for each day's drill of three hours, under section 45 of Bill (No. 31) to consolidate and amend the laws affecting the Militia of Canada.

Motion agreed to; and the House resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. CARON. The resolutions I now have the honor of submitting to the consideration of the Committee, propose to fix the pay of the Militia force of Canada according to rank. The change I now propose to introduce applies only to the city corps. Under Orders in Council from 1868 the rural corps who have been serving in the different camps of exercise have been paid according to rank; and hon. gentlemen who are acquainted with the force will understand me when I say that there is no reason why the city corps, who spend so much time and money in keeping up the Militia force in the large centres in a state of efficiency, should not be paid according to rank as the rural corps were paid. The schedule which I now ask the Committee