

then that the contribution of the old Province of Canada towards its own defence should not be less than one million dollars a year. That arrangement had never been altered, and on the faith of it the Imperial Government still kept a force at Halifax, and were pledged to use the whole force of the empire in our defence.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he could stand the badinage of his hon. friend, and the laughter which had been raised at his expense. He held that this country was not bound by the arrangement entered into by the old Province of Canada with reference to militia expenditure, and moreover since that arrangement was made HER MAJESTY'S forces had been withdrawn from nearly every city in the Dominion, leaving only a small force at Halifax. He fully appreciated the advantages he derived from the protection of the Imperial Government, but what we had to look to was our own resources and our own expenditure. A simple paper organization of the militia was all we needed, and there was no necessity for us spending more than a half a million. When the militia estimates were again before the House, he would have more to say on the subject.

The Bill was then read a second time.

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER, in moving the second reading of the Bill to amend the acts respecting controverted elections, said he proposed when the bill was before Committee of the Whole to propose some amendments, in order to embody the views of the hon. member for Cardwell, and the suggestions of another hon. gentleman who had introduced a Bill on the subject.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE suggested that an amendment be also introduced giving the Judge in election cases power to adjudge part of the costs to the agents by whose acts the election was voided. This would not only be fair to the respondent, but would have the effect of restraining agents from doing unlawful acts.

SUPPLY.

The House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. SCATCHERD in the chair.

On the item of \$721,520.25 for collection of Customs,

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the increase in Ontario, amounting to \$13,848, was chiefly caused by the creation of one new office at PRINCE ARTHUR'S Landing and certain advantages, as stated by him the other day, given to the merchants of Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston and London. Collectively these comprehended the great bulk of the increase in Ontario. Similarly in Quebec the great bulk of the increase was caused at the port of Montreal, and in St. John in New Brunswick. In Manitoba and the North-West Territories there was an increase of \$1,500. The remainder of the items were the same as heretofore voted. The Minister of Customs would explain details.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked why there was an increase of \$700 in the port of Chatham, N. B.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE said it was caused by the appointment of an appraiser who was not there before. There was an officer in Newcastle who had been doing the work at both Chatham and Newcastle, receiving his salary partly for one and partly for the other. He was taken off at Chatham, and an appraiser was appointed there in his place.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL declined to accept that as the actual reason. Newcastle and Chatham were five miles apart and the Customs Officer lived at Douglstown about a mile or a mile and a half from Newcastle. His salary was reduced because it was deemed convenient to punish a supporter of PETER MITCHELL, and reward a man who had canvassed the county against him (Mr. MITCHELL), and lied about him. Mr. MILLER, the old official, lived nearer Chatham than Newcastle. He (Mr. MITCHELL) mentioned those facts because the Minister of Customs might not be aware of them.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE assured the hon. gentleman that the change was not made on political grounds, but on representations made to the department that Mr. MILLER was residing in Newcastle.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—He was not residing in Newcastle.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE said the amount Mr. MILLER received was as much as the Act allowed him. The officer at Chatham collected a great deal more than the officer at Newcastle.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL had not a word to say to the amount of salary. The gen