

Quebec would not be expended, as the place of Col. DeSalaberry had not been filled, and would not be filled under the new system.

**Hon. Mr. Dorion** could not see why the money should be voted, if the appointment was not to be made.

**Mr. Mackenzie** asked the name of the medical officer attached to the Militia Department.

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** said he could not answer in the absence from town of the Adjutant-General. He thought it was Girdwood, but he was not sure. He would answer the question on Monday.

**Hon. Mr. Abbott** said that Dr. Girdwood was a gentleman of high professional standing, and to his knowledge had on several occasions rendered valuable service in auditing accounts sent in for inquiry to volunteers.

**Dr. Grant** said Dr. Girdwood had also been of service in examining certificates of gentlemen who applied for positions as medical officers in connection with the volunteer service.

**Mr. Mackenzie** said the action of this Dr. Girdwood as a medical board in examining the certificates of medical officers was entirely outside the law. It was impossible for one medical gentleman to exercise surveillance over the whole medical staff in the event of the Volunteers being called out. Whatever this gentleman's qualifications might be, his appointment was nothing more nor less than a job.

**Hon. Mr. Dunkin** said every Battalion of Militia might have its medical office independently altogether of the calling out of the Volunteers. He thought there was a decided propriety in having the certificate of parties applying for these appointments sent in to be examined by so competent a medical man as Dr. Girdwood, acting as medical adviser of the department, and \$800 a year was not very much for the discharge of these and other duties devolving upon him.

**Hon. Mr. McDougall** thought the member for Lambton assumed too much in characterizing Dr. Girdwood's appointment as a "job". The organization of the medical department of the militia had been found in a very defective state. It was seen to be necessary that it should have an efficient head, and Dr. Girdwood's qualifications were such that one who was acquainted with the facts must admit that his services were cheaply paid for.

**Dr. Bown** expressed his opinion that Government had acted wisely in making the appointment.

In reply to Mr. E. M. McDonald—

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** said Dr. Girdwood was appointed under the Militia law of the late Province of Canada which gave His Excellency the power to make such an appointment.

**Mr. Blake** asked if the new Militia Bill provided for the appointment of this office.

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** said the Bill provided for the appointment of all officers necessary for the efficient defence of the country. (Laughter).

**Mr. Mackenzie** said the vote of \$100,000 for drill-sheds and rifle ranges seemed very large. Would the Minister of Militia explain where these drill-sheds and rifle ranges were situated?

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** said only \$20,000 or \$25,000 of this amount had been actually spent, and the vote would remain not only for the service of this year, but to be carried over till next year.

**Mr. Mackenzie** That cannot be done.

**Hon. Mr. Rose** said there was an old vote of \$110,000 for this purpose only a portion of which had been spent. This was a renewal of that vote, and it was not to be supposed it would be all spent during this year.

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** said there were now fourteen drill-sheds in course of being erected.

**Mr. Mackenzie** said these would not cost more than \$1,000 each. He protested against the House being asked to vote large sums with regard to which no proper explanation was given.

**Hon. Mr. Rose** said ample information would be found in the report of the Adjutant-General with regard to all the drill-sheds which had been so built.

**Mr. Mackenzie** said the information he wanted was not as to the drill-sheds built last year, but as to those built or to be built this year.

**Hon. Mr. Rose** said the precise information could not be given, until the specifications in each case was read and a block sum asked, so that no money might be spent which had not been first voted by Parliament.