

ture of a communication from the Head of the Government to the House, and as such should be entered in the minutes.

Sir John A. Macdonald said there could be no objection to the House being put in possession of the answer in some form or other. His honourable friend, however, did not see his way clear at this moment to agree to the suggestion of the member for Chateauguay as to the particular way in which the House should be put in possession of it.

HON. MR. CARTIER, A BARONET

Sir John A. Macdonald—*Apropos* of this matter as it related to K.C.B.'s, C.B.'s, and other things of that kind, he (Sir John) had to make an announcement which would be received with gratification by every member of this House, namely, that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to announce her desire and intention to confer on his honourable friend the Minister of Militia, the rank and dignity of baronet of the United Kingdom. (Cheers). He would further state, and he was sure the House would receive this announcement also with satisfaction, that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to appoint his honourable friend the Secretary of State, a Companion of the Bath.

Hon. Mr. Holton said he must sincerely congratulate the Minister of Militia on this distinguished and well deserved mark of favour from our Most Gracious Sovereign. (Cheers). Returning to the question before the House, he again contended that the communication from His Excellency should be entered in the minutes, with a view to ulterior action; for he took it for granted that the very grave remonstrances addressed to Her Majesty's Imperial Government, could not be allowed by this House to pass unnoticed. He hoped the Government would be prepared on an early day to say what action, if any, they intended to ask the House to take on these papers. He looked to the Government as the responsible leaders of the House, to take the action which the circumstances seem to call for.

Hon. Mr. Chauveau congratulated the Minister of Militia on the dignity about to be conferred on him. At the same time, he must express the wish that whatever difficulty might now be in the way, the honourable gentleman who had so long represented the English element of Lower Canada in the Government, and had been so long at the

[Mr. Holton (Chateauguay).]

head of the Finance Department would also have some honour conferred on him. In saying so he was sure he expressed the feelings of all his countrymen of French origin.

Mr. Mackenzie hoped the new baronet would also accept his (Mr. Mackenzie's) congratulations on his newly acquired dignity. He had not the good fortune to agree with him in his public course generally, but if any man by hard work and devotion to the interests of his country had ever earned such a dignity it was the Minister of Militia, and he had no doubt his fellow countrymen, generally, east and west, would join in congratulating him on the acquisition of what in the estimation of all men was an honour highly to be desired. At the same time, he must join the Premier of Quebec in remarking that the present and the ex-Minister of Finance had been left alone untitled. He said he would like to condole with both Ministers, but did not see his way clear to doing so as to the ex-Minister, as that honourable gentleman had refused the dignity.

Hon. Mr. Rose remarked that his honourable friend's condolence, so far as he (Mr. Rose) was concerned, was entirely thrown away. If there was any member of this House who more than another unqualifiedly rejoiced at the elevation of the Minister of Militia, he (Mr. Rose) claimed to be that member. He had known his honourable friend for more than 20 years, at the Bar, as a politician, and as a personal friend, and no one could congratulate him more sincerely than he did. He would say also that he believed there was not an Englishman, Scotchman or Irishman in Lower Canada who would not rejoice that this dignity had been conferred on the Minister of Militia as heartily as did his own countrymen.

Dr. Parker also offered his congratulations, and said he was sure that the announcement would be well received in the Province of Ontario. He was pleased that this act of justice had been done, although done somewhat tardily. Reverting to the question formerly before the House, he said that the memorandum which had been read raised some very important questions. One point was that His Excellency reserved to himself the right of withholding from this House a certain class of communications. It was a matter of importance whether, under our system of Colonial Government, the representative of the Crown was to have a power above his advisers, and might refuse to sub-