

sire on the part of the General—for whom I have personally great respect, but he sometimes commits mistakes—to take away all those things from Quebec. He wanted to take away those old guns and sell them, too, for a few paltry dollars to the foundry. It would not be right to take away all our old souvenirs, which are among the charms of the oldest city on the continent. If we do not keep up this factory we will have to get our cartridges from England, which are not worth more than our own, and would cost just as much. As regards the quality, I see by the reports, and I happen myself to know by experiment, that the accuracy of shooting is certainly within the range of Imperial ammunition. I hope the hon. Minister will not adopt too quickly the ideas of any General sent out here. Of course England sends us her best and most devoted officers; but they do not understand this country, and want to apply to it the principles which rule in England. In England volunteer officers are generally rich, and the system there is not the same at all. English generals, who do not understand our militia, instead of helping it, work against it. I applied to the General to give us a special board of examiners in Quebec. I said: Your schools are all right; but it takes three months to go through, and our officers cannot afford that. Give us a special board to examine, at any rate, the officers who went through the North-west campaign. That was refused us, because our Generals do not understand the country. They do not know that, generally speaking, volunteer officers are not rich, and cannot give up their positions in the banks, shops or other commercial establishments to go and qualify themselves, though very often they are our best men. I hope the hon. Minister of Militia, who, we know, is devoted to the force, and who wishes to protect the force, before accepting all the suggestions of the General, will test the feeling of the officers of the service, and not accept too hastily the suggestions made. As to the cartridge factory, I beg him not to take any measure that would tend to diminish its usefulness.

Mr. LISTER. I think that if the hon. gentleman who has just spoken will take the trouble to read the report presented by the General in command of the militia force, he must be satisfied that the General is exactly the man for the position. For the first time since I have had the honour of a seat in this House, the General commanding has taken the bull by the horns, so to speak, and has fearlessly stated the exact condition of the militia of this country. If we are to draw any inference from the report upon the militia force made by the General, we cannot but admit that that force is in a very demoralized condition indeed. I would remind the hon. gentleman who has just spoken, that the question of the cartridge factory is not now immediately before us. The item to which we are now directing our attention is number 96: "Pay of staff, permanent corps and

active militia, including allowances." I would ask the Minister of Militia why it is that there is an increase in that item?

Mr. PATTERSON (Huron). There is an increase of \$950 drill pay of city corps, \$450 drill pay of rural corps, an increase of \$10,000 for the pay of active militia attending schools of instruction. Then there are sundry reductions, as, for instance, a decrease in the headquarters staff and district staff together of about \$5,000; a decrease of about \$2,500 in marching allowance. If the hon. gentleman will turn to the page he will see all these particulars given.

Mr. LISTER. In the report?

Mr. PATTERSON (Huron). No, in the Estimates, page 38. These details, as given, show that there is a total increase of only \$4,050 in the whole item.

Mr. WOOD (Westmoreland). Before this resolution is adopted, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Militia if there has been any provision made to strengthen the 5th Princess Louise New Brunswick Hussars. That regiment has seven troops, and it requires, I understand, eight troops to constitute a full regiment. I have been urging upon the predecessors of the present Minister for some years, the necessity of completing this regiment. Last year I impressed it upon the Minister then in charge of the department, and he promised to refer the matter to the General for report. I afterwards communicated with him to learn the result of his communication with the General, and was informed that the General had reported as follows:—

I strongly recommend the addition of an eighth troop to the Princess Louise New Brunswick Hussars. The regiment is in a very efficient state, and its completion to the full number of troops required for a cavalry regiment, would strengthen materially the good spirit which already exists in all ranks.

I think this is a matter of very considerable importance, and I trust the Minister has made provision to have this regiment strengthened.

Mr. PATTERSON (Huron). I may tell my hon. friend that it is my intention to give an additional company to the New Brunswick cavalry regiment he has mentioned; but I have not made provision for it this year. It is my purpose to have that company or corps organized some time this autumn, and provision for it will be made in next year's estimates.

Mr. CORBOULD. For the last two sessions I have been urging upon the Government the necessity of having a brigade of garrison artillery on the main land of British Columbia. At present the only militia corps is the company of garrison artillery in New Westminster. Vancouver being the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway I think it is certainly advisable to have a corps of garrison artillery in that city. Last year I was told that as soon as the then