

changed between the Minister of Militia and the commanding officer of the 9th Battalion. I beg again to state, as I have stated already, and as can be easily seen by referring to *Hansard*, that the hon. gentleman did make that motion, and it is also quite true that the motion was abandoned. In defending myself against the accusations he made against me, and against my Department, I stated that that motion being on the Table, I would give the hon. gentleman an idea of the telegrams and letters which I was prepared to produce. I read a few, and the hon. gentleman gave up his motion and did not consider it was right to continue the discussion. That is all I have to say on the matter.

Mr. AMYOT. I deny it.

Mr. MULOCK. I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Militia to a matter concerning the York and Simcoe Battalion. It has no relation to the discussion which has preceded—

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Would it not be as well to bring it up on the Militia Estimates?

Mr. MULOCK. It will only take a few moments. The York and Simcoe Battalion is composed of men drawn partly from my own county and partly from the adjoining county. During the time of the suppression of the rebellion they went upon active service at the beginning, and they were about the last to leave the North-West for their homes. They were on duty, probably, some three months or more—I cannot speak with accuracy on that point—but it has been called to my attention, by some of the men who are my own constituents, that they have not received the same treatment that has been accorded to other volunteers under similar conditions. It appears, on reference to the Auditor General's report for the year ending 30th June, 1886, that certain allowances were made to certain battalions on duty in the North-West, and I will confine my remarks, by way of illustration of the treatment accorded to the several battalions, to the Queen's Own and the 10th Royals. On reference to the Auditor General's report, page 556, it appears that the Queen's Own was allowed \$8.15 per man in lieu of clothing, as it is called. On page 557 it appears that the 10th Royals were allowed \$2,070.10 for compensation for boots and underclothing; and, assuming that their strength was about the same as the strength of the Queen's Own, that would show an allowance, per capita, to the 10th Royals, of \$8.15. It appears, on page 559, that an allowance was made to the 30th Battalion of \$13.95 a head, made apparently under the heading "kit allowance." If you look through the Auditor General's report you will find various allowances made to the men, in some cases kit allowances, in others allowance for underclothing, in others allowances for boots and shoes and other necessaries. But in the case of the York and Simcoe Battalion no such allowance appears, and the men complain that they have not received the same treatment that the others have, and that they are entitled to have that allowance made to them. I find that a question was put by the hon. member for Muskoka (Mr. O'Brien) on the 25th of May, and the Minister of Militia replied that no allowance was made to the York and Simcoe Battalion, on the ground that they do not appear to have any claim for such an allowance. The answer of the Minister does not disclose why, in his judgment, they have no claim, but I understand he has stated that the reason why he has come to that decision is, that he alleges that the municipalities supplied them with their kit, underclothing, &c., and that, as they did not disburse anything, they are not entitled to this allowance. If that is the case I would like to know it.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. Yes.

Mr. MULOCK. In answer to that I would say that I am advised, and I believe correctly advised, that that reason is not well founded. I would say further that the Department has never caused any enquiry to be made to ascertain

whether the men did or did not disburse a sum equal to \$8.15, in supplying themselves with necessaries in connection with the campaign. Looking through the Auditor General's report it does not appear that the allowance is made for any specific article, but to compensate the men for supposed expenditure in supplying themselves with whatever necessaries they might be short of; and, apparently, a great deal of latitude has been allowed in making those allowances. I think, therefore, that it is unreasonable to say, without enquiry, that the York and Simcoe Battalion is not entitled to this compensation. I believe the Minister of Militia made allowances to the Queen's Own and the 10th Royals, without investigation as to whether they were or were not entitled to this compensation; and why he should have been so anxious that the York and Simcoe Battalion should not have it, while he was so willing to give it to the Queen's Own and the 10th Royals, I am at a loss to understand. It appears that the Queen's Own obtained their kit allowance on the 2nd of May, 1886, and that the 10th Royals obtained theirs on the 26th of December, 1885, within six months after their return. But although an application was made to the proper military authorities on behalf of the York-Simcoe Battalion, on the 2nd of March, 1886, it was not until the 4th of January, 1887, ten months afterwards, that the Government saw fit to answer their application at all, and the reply denied them any kit allowance, without the Department having properly investigated the facts. That is my charge, and I would ask the hon. Minister to reconsider the matter, and have the proper enquiries made, and I think he will satisfy himself that the York-Simcoe Battalion are entitled to that kit allowance. Moreover, if the volunteers receive gratuities from the municipalities or from their friends, I do not think the Government is going to be so picayune, so small in its dealings with them, as to refuse them the allowance on that account. The pay is very small, the hardships are great, and the loss to the individual is great; and it is an unpatriotic thing, in my judgment, for any Government to be too nice in its allowances to those who stand by the country in the hour of need. I, therefore, take the ground, that no matter who supplied the necessaries to the volunteers for whom I speak, they are certainly entitled to be treated in the same way as the 10th Royals or the Queen's Own were.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. The hon. member for North York brings this matter up by asking me why I am so anxious to refuse an allowance to the battalion whose case he is advocating, while allowances were granted to other battalions. On a former occasion it was my duty to answer another question that was put to me by another hon. gentleman on that very point. I stated then, what I repeat now, that in some cases, from the fact that it became necessary at a moment's notice to send a force to the front and to improvise everything that was necessary for the force, in some instances it was found that our stores were insufficient. Although the Department was taxed to its fullest capacity, it was found in some instances quite impossible to satisfactorily equip the men; and so it was thought advisable, on application made, to allow some of the battalions to obtain supplies in the stores and elsewhere, such as underclothing and other articles which were absolutely necessary for them in undertaking the campaign. In the case of the two Toronto battalions, so far as my recollection goes, they were merely paid the amounts which appear to have been paid to the different stores for the purpose of providing the equipment required.

An hon. MEMBER. No.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. The hon. gentleman dissents, but I think he will find that my statement is absolutely correct. In the case of the York-Simcoe Battalion, the municipality provided certain articles of equipment which became the property of the