

There are many advantages, no doubt, attached to that principle, but still we are not in a position, I think, to ask that that should be the case.

Mr. DESJARDINS. I think it is well the question has been raised in the House, as it may attract the attention of His Excellency.

Mr. MILLS. I understood the Minister of Finance to say that when an officer was absent and his duties were discharged by another officer of inferior grade, the second one received the same compensation as the first. Is that in all cases?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Yes; that is the law now, and it is adhered to.

Mr. MILLS. I think I can show that the hon. gentleman has departed from it.

3. The Office of the Queen's Privy Council for
Canada..... \$18,847 50

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Have there been any promotions in the Department, or anything but ordinary increases?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. None. The hon. gentleman will notice that \$1,000 was appropriated last year for extra work; that is struck out. There is an allowance for the Private Secretary of the President of the Council, which is the only increase, except the annual increase of \$50 in a few cases. For instance, two first-class clerks have \$50 each, and four second-class clerks have \$50 each, being increases.

4. The Department of Justice... \$16,950 00
5. do do (Penitentiary Branch) 5,200 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Will the hon. gentleman explain about the increase and promotions?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. There is one second class clerk added to the Department of Justice, at a salary of \$1,300. He was transferred from the Penitentiary Branch, where he was receiving \$1,250. I believe during the present year one person has been transferred from that Department to the Department of the Interior, either this year or the close of last year.

Mr. BLAKE. I see where there were two third-class clerks, there is only one now. Did that change the hon. gentleman referred to take place in the promotion of one of these third-class clerks?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. No, it is a transfer. I suppose they found little use for him there, and he was required in the Penitentiary Branch.

Mr. BLAKE. I observe there is a third-class clerk added to the Penitentiary Branch and a third-class clerk gone away from the Justice Branch. Is it an exchange?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Yes. A third-class clerk has been appointed to the Penitentiary Branch in place of the other who is transferred to the Department of Justice.

Mr. BLAKE. Is the third-class clerk a new appointment or a transfer?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I think it is a transfer, but I do not know?

6. The Department of Militia..... \$41,360 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Here is a very considerable increase. Last year the vote was \$36,980; this year we are asked to vote \$43,160, and we are asked for five additional employees, 32 as against 27. Independent of other matters, I call the attention of the Minister and the House to this: If you deduct the four messengers who are receiving \$400 or \$500 each, it follows that we have 18

officers, who, on an average, receive \$1,470 a year. Really that seems a very large figure for the Department of Militia and Defence, or any similar Department. They must be all first class clerks, or very nearly so, in order to obtain such a salary average. However, the hon. Minister, of course, will give his explanations to the House.

Mr. MACKENZIE. I should like also an explanation as to why it is that the Militia Department employs an architect and draughtsman. Surely if the Government have the Public Works Department and a Chief Architect, all work should be done under his supervision; but here is another Department which should have nothing to do with architectural work, employing an architect and also a draughtsman. Is there to be an Architectural Department in connection with each of the Government offices, or what does it mean? I think it is a great mistake, and one which should not have been taken without first obtaining the opinion of Parliament and its sanction thereto. This is an entire Departmental change.

Mr. CARON. The hon. gentleman will see that the increase is one which has been occasioned by a change which the Government considered it advisable to make in the Department of Militia. The Government considered that the Military works, which were being carried on by the Public Works Department added considerably to the works already so very large under that Department. And moreover, it was considered that the repairs which are continually being made to the military works in the country, fortifications and barracks, and other works requiring special knowledge, if I can use that word, would be better carried out by a gentleman who possessed not only the knowledge required by an employé of the Department of Public Works, but also knowledge of military works. I must say that the first item which has been referred to more particularly by the hon. member for East York (Mr. Mackenzie), that for an architect, was inserted in the printed copies of the Estimates by mistake. I therefore ask to drop that item, \$1,800 for an architect. The addition to the expenditure in this Branch of the Department is \$1,000 for a second class clerk and draughtsman, and \$800 for a third-class clerk. These are required to enable the Department to carry out the change which has been considered advisable in transferring to the Department of Militia the work which had heretofore been carried out by the Department of Public Works. I think, judging from the experience of the past, it is an improvement; and these changes were made with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Works, who has had considerable experience, as both sides of the House will readily admit, in his own Department. Leaving out the item of \$1,800 which will be struck out, hon. gentlemen opposite will see that the addition is altogether caused by this change in the system, which has been followed up to the present time.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What promotions has the hon. gentleman made in his Department, if any?

Mr. CARON. There are no promotions. Col. Bacon, who was acting here as Brigade Major, was transferred to the position made vacant by the death of C. I. Walkem.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What appointment is it?

Mr. CARON. Colonel Bacon was appointed, by Order in Council, at a salary of \$1,500. The salary received by Colonel Walkem was \$1,700.

Mr. BLAKE. I see there are two second-class clerks instead of one.

Mr. CARON. The hon. gentleman is quite right. The second-class clerk to whom he referred is Mr. Donaldson, who used to be in "B" Battery, Kingston. He is a gentleman who possesses special qualifications, and he has been appointed to the Store Branch. Hon. gentlemen will under-