

was but the beginning of the end. It was chiefly laid down during the late campaign that no large sums should be granted for this purpose, as insignificance was our best defence. While he belonged to a loyal section of the Province as any one would ask, what could \$30,000 do for our defence? Before entering into this matter the Bill should have been laid before the House, but not till that moment had it been laid on his desk. He held that the calling of the people out for their yearly inspection, was a waste of time and money.

Hon. Mr. GILLMOR said it was intended to change that.

Mr. McCLELLAN.—That was just what he wanted to see the Bill; for, he certainly was not in favor of such a scheme being carried out or retained in the country, although he considered the putting down of a grant of \$30,000 for Militia purposes as a concession to the principle of Confederation; yet he thought it was ill-timed, as we were not in a position to provide for ourselves. Here there is little or nothing to defend. If the Government expect an invasion, it must be from the States; and he would ask what could we do against their great armies? I do not wish the House to understand that I am opposed to this grant, for I think that the provision for military defence should be the first object of the country, but I am opposed to filling up the blank with any such sum as that named.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT said he was against the abolition of the old Militia law. If a Colony was willing to assist in its own defence, it was valuable to the Empire; but if it was not willing, it became only a burden. He was one of those who had the honor to be a private in the Arrostook war, and he remembered, when a little boy, in the war of 1812, when the 104th regiment was raised in this Province. There was no talk about Confederation then, although the men went and fought in Canada as bravely as any there. It might be true that our weakness was our best strength; but in case of extremity, he was sure the people would be willing to do what they could, and when the paltry sum of \$30,000 is asked for, the majority of the Province and of hon. members on the floors of the House would uphold it.

Mr. L. P. W. DESBRISAY, after some introductory remarks on Confederation in reply to those from other members, said: He was surprised to hear the hon. member for Westmorland ask what great change had transpired. He had gone through a campaign in an adjoining County to his own, and he ought to know what had transpired. In Nova Scotia they have given \$81,000 for Militia purposes, and he was sorry this Government had not been able to put down pound for pound for our Sister Province, and to stop the assertion put forth that we are not as loyal as she. With regard to the statement put forth as to the feelings of the people of England being for cutting us off, those who talk in this way are a people who began cutting us off by imposing upon us with regard to our number; they have no care for the greatness of the country, save to turn it into a workshop. And there was one thing, that he felt our Government did not do their duty to the English Government at the time of the Trent affair. When they sent out regiments of soldiers, and the best blood of the country too, to provide for our defence, our Government should have taken them by the hand and passed them through the Province free of charge.

He was certain we could have passed them through at one-third less than what it did cost the Imperial Government. I am sorry to see the grant so small, as I think we should make it in accordance with the benefits we receive from the protection of England, although he was sure the feeling there is such that whether we spend \$300 or \$30,000, they will continue to protect us.

Mr. NEEDHAM had somewhere read that it was excellent to have the strength of giants, but tyrannous to use it. He thought they could afford to be easy with the poor unfortunates who were left out. He was quite willing they should glory in what they could, even in being beaten. He was not going to vote for the \$30,000, to show England that we are loyal, but because the Government informs the House that it is necessary for the wants of the country. As to letting England know we are loyal, it is what she knows long ago. When the old 104th Regiment was raised, and they went to Canada, they did not go to fight for this country, but to defend the flag. We once voted every shilling out of the Treasury in a time of danger; and what for? To defend the flag. They know we are loyal; but the Government say they want it; therefore I am willing they should; but if they do not use it right, he would call them to account for it. He did not believe we are called on to defend ourselves; for we are an integral part of the empire. If England needs to build fortifications on every headland on our shores, or elsewhere, all we are called on to do is to provide well for our militia. The hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Gilbert) had said, no man dare stand up in the House of Commons and say we are disloyal. Why? where was Sam Slick, or in other words, where was Judge Halliburton? He charged us with disloyalty, and Nova Scotia too; and no man there to contradict him. He wished he had been there, Sam Slick wouldn't have written any more novels. With regard to insignificance being our best defence, it was said to admit it—but true. He did not believe in the United States coming to swallow us up; for the fact was, the war there was dead, and here confederation was dead; they both died together, only one died a little while before the other, that was all; as to the latter he hoped never to see; as the ghost of it again. The ghost of it was bad enough, but he hoped that it would never come back; if it did he hoped the Lord in His infinite mercy would take him away from here.

Mr. THOMSON did not know what this \$30,000 would do, but he thought the House should study, by putting ourselves in a proper state of defence, to preserve the connection with the Mother Country. Those who talked in the House of Commons about our going off from them were only radicals. We never hear of men like Lord Palmerston making use of such expressions, but that the country might be preserved in its integrity. This is as much a part of the country as the County of Antrim, where he came from. He should support the grant, as he believed it was required.

Hon. Mr. ALLEN reviewed the various objections that had been made against the grant, exposed the disposition of some Canadians to place our Province in a false light with England, and read an extract from a paper for which the country pays £60 a year, in which it was attempted to be proved that we desire annexation. He showed that the amount

granted would be properly expended, and explained at considerable length the provisions of the new Militia Bill about to be brought before the House. Some further remarks were made chiefly on the contents of the bill by different members, but as they will be given more fully when the bill is under debate they are omitted here.

The question was put to the House on Mr. Gilbert's amendment for \$10,000, which was lost.

Mr. LINDSAY then proposed that the blank be filled with \$20,000, which was rejected 31 to 6.

On the resolution being submitted, it was sustained by an opposite result.

The other items of supply were then passed without debate, and the House adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, a. m.

J. M.

—FRIDAY, May 19.

Hon. Mr. GILLMOR brought in a Bill to provide for paying certain expenses of the civil government of the Province. Also a Bill to provide for repairs and improvements on Roads and Bridges and other public works.

Mr. GILBERT moved that the House go into Committee to resume the consideration of a Bill to cheapen and simplify the practice of the law, and to abolish special bail.

Hon. Mr. HATHEWAY thought that as there was not the slightest chance of getting this Bill passed by the House, it was no use to take up the time in the discussing it, particularly as the Attorney General had prepared a Bill on the same subject.

Mr. GILBERT said the Bill before the House was not of a complicated nature, and could be easily understood. Fifteen sections of the Bill had already passed the House, and he should like to have the question decided.

Mr. OTTY moved that the Bill be postponed for three months.

Mr. NEEDHAM.—The Attorney General's Bill and the Bill which I prepared, are the result of the joint labors of the late Hon. Mr. Street, Mr. Kinness and Mr. Charles Fisher, and I presume, having the result of their labors, we would be hardly justified in adopting a Bill of this kind, which changes our whole system of common law procedure, the provisions of which it would be impossible to carry out. I move that the law bills now on the files of the House, together with the Bill to be introduced by the Attorney General, be referred to a Select Committee of this House, in order that they may bring in a Bill at the next Session of the Legislature to reform the Common Law Procedure of this country.

Mr. OTTY.—I shall withdraw my motion in favor of that which Mr. Needham introduced.

Mr. GILBERT.—I expected the members of the legal profession would oppose this Bill; it will, therefore, have to rest upon its own merits. It does not change the course of law procedure, but does away with unnecessary labor. The country requires this Bill, and the House by passing fifteen sections of it has adopted its principles. It has been drawn up with a great deal of care, and if there is anything wrong in it, let the legal gentlemen point it out. It would be an act of injustice to refer it to a Select Committee, for that would be an end of it.

Mr. CUDLIP.—I know the feeling of the country is, that law expenses are too heavy; that when counsel is retained his