

thereof. The active militia shall also be subject to the "Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army," and every officer and man when in the uniform of his corps "shall be subject to the Army Act passed by the *Parliament of the United Kingdom*."

Again, it is in Her Majesty that the power of calling out the militia for active service is vested, "at any time when it appears advisable to do so by reason of *war*, invasion, or insurrection, or danger of any of them."

It is evident then that the militia of Canada is no mere local force intended to aid the civil power in case of domestic disturbance, or to repel invasion of our own soil. The militia of Canada is Her Majesty's regular army in Canada—not a provincial force, but an integral part of the Imperial Army, subject to the direct authority of the Crown exercised through its representative, the Governor-General. But, as the Governor-General can only act on the advice of his responsible ministers, of whom one is the head of the Department of Militia, a conflict of authority, or at least of interest, may arise, attended possibly with very serious consequences. The first question to be settled, and it should be settled definitely in time of peace, is—what, in time of war, would be the legal status of our militia? We use the term "war" in distinction from "invasion" or "insurrection" which are terms clearly defined, yet all three are used, as already mentioned, as causes for which the Sovereign may call out the militia. As this country cannot engage in war on its own authority the term must refer to a war declared either by, or against the authority of the Sovereign, in whose prerogative it rests. And the war may be one in which we have no direct concern. Can in such case the Sovereign, by constitutional right, or by virtue of the power given by our Militia Act, direct the Governor-General to put this Act in force? The answer to the question is obvious, and it only requires to be put to shew how illogical our position is; and how necessary it is, that now, and with as little delay as possible, our position in regard to military service should be considered and defined, and not left in its present state of uncertainty.

Another question which has been mooted, and not determined, is of equal importance. Has the Government of this country the right, or the power of sending Canadian troops out of this country to take part in military operations elsewhere—as for instance in South Africa? This brings us back to the question whether our