

well mounted, would infallibly distinguish itself. I should know something of military matters generally, and among other things I myself commanded such a corps for several years. I assumed that position at the instance of Lord Dalhousie, a nobleman who did not disdain to treat with civility gentlemen holding no office. Then as independent of him as he could be of me, and frequently in his presence I can certify that he was the very incarnation of generosity, hospitality, courtesy and charity. Sincere and manly, free from the affectation of importance, simple in all his habits *unpatronizing and uncondescending*, he had the art of putting every one at his ease. What a contrast between him and some of his cunning, scheming, money-making successors.

It was natural that I should desire to see the Quebec Cavalry. Having diligently sought I eventually ascertained that it had no existence. Positively there is no such thing : not a trooper, not a trumpeter, not a horse, not a saddle, not a bridle, not a valise, not a cloak, not a carbine or pistol, not a belt, nor a sabre—nothing, nothing. Some young men were, it is true, gazetted as officers—one major, two captains, two lieutenants, one cornet and surgeon, or assistant surgeon ; but does that constitute a corps—all officers and no soldiers ? Of course you don't expect to resist the Yankees in that way. The Chinese when they tried to frighten us (again the pronoun personal) had at least wooden guns, and they did us the honor not merely to show them, but to paint them most frightfully. So Mardonius and the other satraps of the Great King who were so tremendously discomfited by handfuls of Greek republicans, had at least soldiers, such as they were, and in great numbers too, under their command. But your Excellency is neither so ingenious as the Chinese, nor so well supplied as Mardonius, and if the Yankees should some fine day swarm over, you will be at a loss.—Do you know too that I think that you will be more comeatable to men whom you now undervalue and refuse to see. If you doubt my accuracy, call upon your Adjutant General, who, at least, is a soldier as well as an unaffected gentleman, to parade the corps.