

and specially devoted to the maintenance of these works of military defences of the Province.

All which is most respectfully submitted by, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
WILLIAM F. COFFIN,  
Ord. Land Agent.

## The Military Gazette.

QUEBEC, OCTOBER 2d, 1855

### CANADIAN REGIMENTS.

"I think my Right Honorable friend will say that politically it merits special consideration." (Address of the Duke of Cambridge to the 100th Regiment.)

The above extract is from the address of that gallant soldier the Duke of Cambridge. Politically a Canadian Regiment does merit special consideration. It is a very curious circumstance however that the British Government should have taken so many years to arrive at such a conclusion, or that they should only now become sensible of the advantage of employing the Colonial subjects of Her Majesty in the Military Service of the Empire. That they have ignored one of the strongest forces of the soul, AMBITION.

Let us imagine that in a besieged fortress the Powder Magazine were left standing unnoticed, till a chance spark involved the garrison in a terrific explosion, and we have a pretty fair parallel to such policy, anybody but a Colonial Minister would think it wiser to put the powder into the cannons which should crush the foe.

The expediency of affording the numerous Colonists of Great Britain employment in the British Army, has over and over again been pressed on the British Government for the last 25 years by men eminent as soldiers, as statesmen, and as diplomatists. In vain however! They might cite the example of the vast and heterogeneous nationalities of the Russian Empire in ancient times; in modern days the numerous battalions of Italians, Poles, Germans, even Spaniards, (while their country was invaded by them,) serving under the French Eagles, as proofs that this was the means by which the different elements of empires were fused into one harmonious whole. Their Representations fell on cold or indifferent ears, suspicious temperaments, or politicians so hesitating that they could not arrive at a conclusion.

There are however signs that a change for the better is taking place. Independent of the formation of the 100th Regiment, a large number of Commissions have been given to Canadian Gentlemen of British origin, not less, we should suppose, than forty having been bestowed on natives of the North American Provinces during the last four years, while but four French Canadians have been so appointed. This is the point to which we should wish to attract the attention of the Authorities, whether Colonial or British, and those who may enjoy the high privilege of command with such august entities may perhaps peruse these observations and submit them for consideration. Why are not French Canadians made equally eligible for the Royal Military Service as British Canadians.

Advisers of our vice Royalty here have been heard to say that French Canadians would not make reliable soldiers. "Very well," we would reply to such councillors "show us when and where French Canadians have proved traitors, if you would rely on them, do not say they are not trustworthy." But we say you must rely on them, or you must give up this Province.

An over cautious and suspicious policy is a very despicable one, and if carried

out completely would exclude from the English Army every man who is not a pure Saxon! But we would ask of its advocates whether they are disposed to put a French Canadian in the same relation to England as a Pole is to Russia, or an Hungarian to Austria. And yet these despotic powers do not hesitate to employ their doubtful subjects, not by individuals but by whole armies! At this moment there are not above half a dozen French Canadians in the superior ranks of the British Army, which numbers some Ten thousand officers. And yet how many Canadian Gentlemen would be glad to accept such a career as the Military Service of the British Empire? And what would be the effect of having some forty or fifty of the leading families of Lower Canada closely bound by such ties and such sympathies with the fortunes of that Empire?

What the advantage of having a certain number of veteran Half Pay Officers capable of instructing and leading the French Population in case of War or Invasion?

These ideas have long ago suggested themselves to us. It was with no paltry idea of conciliating the good opinion of French Canadians that we urged a liberal policy towards them in creating Canadian Regiments, and we can hardly suppose that the arrangement which gave four Commissions out of twenty to French Canadians in officering the 100th Regiment was a liberal, or even a just one. But even thus far it was a beginning of a better policy, one which, if followed up, must have good effects. Without presuming to advise we will explain what we mean by good effects. The employment of French Canadians in the English Army would tend to nullify that intensely national feeling, that exclusive system, which the ardent politicians, (those who most sway the mind of ingenious youth,) desire to consummate and uphold.

It was consequently from these that strong opposition was urged against the formation of French Canadian Corps! And great was the exultation of this party when they saw the proposal fall to the ground. It is not yet too late to adopt it.

Let the ranks of the British Army be freely opened to French Canadians, whether individually or in a body as a Regiment. We may be too sanguine, older heads, colder hearts, and more wary minds may doubtfully balance these suggestions, or jealously scrutinize the motives which dictate them. They are free to do this! Conscious that we consult the best interests of the Empire, and of the splendid Provinces which are its appanage, we confidently submit them to such ordeal believing that "politically they merit special consideration!"

### THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AND THE 100TH REGIMENT.

SHORNCLIFF, Sept. 8.

This has been a proud day for the 100th, and I might add a proud day for Canada. The men of the 100th Regiment have opened the eyes of the people of England, who were evidently unprepared to see such soldiers from a Colony.

In accordance to general orders, the Regiment was drawn up in line on Wednesday, the 8th instant, to receive His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. On arriving at the head of the line, the Duke seemed surprised. He could not have realized the fact of seeing a Regiment of nearly 1000th men, equipped, well drilled, and to all appearance steady soldiers in so short a time. The Regiment gave him a splendid "present." Then His Royal Highness went down in front of the line, having each officer introduced as he passed. When he arrived at the left, he expressed himself in the highest terms, in such language as: "What splendid men!" "What a fine Regiment!" He then ordered them to form "quarter dis-

ance column, right in front on the rear division," and subsequently to "form square." The Duke frequently repeated the words, "Well done." When in square, His Royal Highness was pleased to address the Regiment as follows:—

"Col. De Rottenburg, I dare say that you have been surprised that I have not been down to see you before this; but I was desirous that you should have an opportunity of equipping your men—that you should have a short time for drill; and I see I was not mistaken. You have evidently taken advantage of the time given you; for the appearance of your Regiment not only proves your ability as a commander, but fully exemplifies the intelligence of the men. I am very much pleased with the manner in which they have formed column and square. It has been done with the steadiness of old soldiers.

"Soldiers of the 100 or Royal Canadian Regiment.—I am glad at having this opportunity of addressing you. I can assure you it gives me great pleasure to meet such a fine body of men, so well equipped, and in such a good state of discipline. I speak as a military man, and call upon my right honorable friend, the Secretary of State for War, who will, I am sure, corroborate my statement, more especially when it is considered that the Regiment was raised in so short a time—raised in the hour of trial, when danger menaced England. The Canadian gentlemen nobly and manfully volunteered to raise men for the service of their country—for England,—and men as gallantly volunteered to serve. Both are equally deserving of my thanks. Raising a Regiment under such circumstances is, militarily speaking, very gratifying; and I think my right honorable friend will say that, speaking politically, it merits special consideration. I knew well who should be put in command of the Regiment. I knew that in placing Col. De Rottenburg over you, I was appointing an officer of experience—a gentleman whose character has won the respect of all who know him; and from his long residence in Canada must have been known to most of you. I am sure the 100th, wherever they go, will do honor to themselves and honor to Canada, and in honoring Canada to honor to England. Soldiers, I have one word more to say:—I am told you behave well; your conduct in camp has been reported to me as being excellent. Continue to act as good soldiers."

They then reformed column, and marched past her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary, who had expressed a wish to see the Regiment.

### FRENCH MILITARY ENTHUSIASM.

Not long since we perused some observations in a French journal upon the difficulties we seemed to experience in this country in inducing men to enter the Army. The various expedients to which the authorities are reduced, increasing the bounty, diminishing the standard offering Ensign's Commissions for every 100 men brought into the ranks, were regarded as so many proofs of the thorough aversion of the people to Military Service. On the other hand, the ease with which 200,000 or 300,000 men were raised in France was referred to as evidence of the fervid patriotism and Military esprit of the community.

We have now opportunity of testing the Gallic enthusiasm. It is mere moonshine. Our readers know that in France the system of conscription exist. Every one within a certain age is bound to serve for some three years, if he cannot produce a substitute or purchase his discharge. But in such a Military country it would scarcely be expected that any one would wish to avoid service. Their hearts, on the contrary, must throbb violently with martial ardour. How stand the facts? In the course of the year 1857 no fewer than seven thousand nine hundred and twenty-two young men paid £72 each (1,800 francs) to obtain their liberty! None but members of the better classes, whose friends were in prosperous circumstances, could do this. How many thousands, then, must be serving, most unwillingly, because of the absence of the means of enfranchising themselves! The Government, of course, make the conscription answer either way. If the man is poor, they get his services; if well off, they reap an annual revenue of 32,000,000 francs! It is an infamous and deceptive system, and it is marvelous that

it should so long have survived the different revolutions which had the liberty of the subject for their basis. An event has occurred which is calculated to interfere with its operation, but it can only be through a strong effort of the will of the people (if they are ever again to have a will of their own) that its termination can be brought about. It appears that a Recruiting Officer, named MICHIAUX, is undergoing his trial for receiving money from conscripts to exonerate them from Military duties, and applying them to his own purpose. He underbid his masters. While they expected £72 as the price of the manumission of a Recruit, MICHIAUX modestly contented himself with £32 to £40, according to circumstances. The Officer is worthy of those who employ him. Nefarious systems create corrupt agents.

We mention the circumstance to give the reader a notion of the kind of Military enthusiasm which prevails in France. But we mention another subject, which contrasts curiously with the Anti-English feeling manifested by the French press. It is an ascertained fact that any number of French Recruits could be obtained for the British Army. If our Government chose to Form another Foreign Legion, it would find thousands of Frenchmen flock to its standard! Happily, we do not require them.—(U. S. Gazette.)

### MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The Brevet, in consequence of the recommendations of the Royal Commission appointed to review the Warrant of 1844, will probably appear about the end of the month, but it will not affect any rank higher than that of Lieut. General, in will be an augmentation of the establishment.

The 39th Regiment recently received orders to embark for England. They were countermanded by the Atlantic Cable.

A porter in a respectable establishment in Bristol lately received a letter from one of his sons, a private in the 69th Rifles, now serving in India, in which he states that he can put his hands on a thousand pounds any day, and in proof of it enclosed a draft of £20 as a present to the old man. This is the fortune of war in a substantial form.

### A RIFLE SHOT.

A doughnut Ensign of Her Majesty's Militia has reported that Capt. Amsden has only got thirty men in his Rifle Company, and that he draws pay from the Government for fifty. Now any person acquainted with the regulations of a Military pay list, must know, that fraud cannot be committed in that quarter. This corrigentous Hero, might as well assert that his Wife had only one Husband while at the same time she draws Rations from two.—(Dunville Independent.)

PRINCE ALFRED.—Prince Alfred has for some months been staying with his tutor, Lieut. Cowell, R.E., at Alverbank, near Gosport, pursuing the preparatory studies for the naval service under the instruction of the Rev. W. R. Jolley. His Royal Highness underwent a special examination before the instruction of the Rev. T. Main, Professor at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth, in the presence of Admiral Sir G. Seymour, Rear-Admiral the Hon. G. Grey, and Captain Howlett, of her Majesty's ship Excellent; Superintendent of the Royal Naval College. The examination lasted, during Friday, Saturday, Monday, and the morning of Tuesday last and comprised the subjects of arithmetic, algebra, plane trigonometry, Euclid, sacred history, and history of England, geography, Latin, French, German, and English dictation. His royal highness having been declared to have passed satisfactorily in all these several branches, has been appointed a naval cadet, and joined her Majesty's ship Euryalus, Captain Farleton, on Tuesday afternoon. After a leave of absence for two months; his royal highness will rejoin the frigate for permanent service, and will mess and live with the midshipmen on board. Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint Lieut. Cowell, R.E., governor to the prince, who will accompany him on his voyage.

There are no less than 272,000 décorés of the Legion of Honour! Well may it be called Legion.

The life of the Emperor Napoleon is insured for a large amount.