

that the Spanish Ministry in the year of grace 1603, did not think it necessary that a Commander-in-Chief should have grey hair, or be afflicted occasionally by gout, or other diseases incident to old age: they looked to something else. Friendly as the German is to the honours of old England we might venture to recommend Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary at War to follow the same practise, and not take aged veterans from their quiet repose in the country, to place them in the Camp amidst the din of war.

To be continued.

THE MILITARY ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK

We mentioned in our last number that we had received from Colonel Horace Nelson, commanding the 32nd Regiment of Militia in the State of New York, the reports for the year 1855 and 1856 of an Association entitled the "Military Association of the State of New York." Colonel Nelson is a Canadian by birth, the son of Doctor Wolfred Nelson of Montreal, though now a naturalized citizen of the United States, and a highly distinguished Medical practitioner, having the reputation of being one of the very best Anatomists on this Continent. He has not however forgotten the land of his birth, still taking a great interest in all Canadian affairs, and particularly in the recent organization of our Active Militia force.

It may be interesting to our readers to know what are the objects of this Military Association, and it strikes us very strongly that with some modifications, provided always that we obtain the sanction of the authorities, the Active Canadian force might adopt a system somewhat analogous to that of the State of New York.—“*Fas est et ab noster doceri*”;—though we do not look on our cousins across the line as “enemies”—heaven forbid, but we may learn many things from the peoples of other countries, that are useful and profitable.

The chief object of the Association is, to use the words employed in the "Constitution"—"to foster, encourage, and perfect a thorough Military system." The parties eligible to become Members of the Association are officers holding commissions under the Military laws of the State; or parties who have held commissions, but are now serving as non-commissioned officers or privates, or have served as non-commissioned officers or privates, for seven years, and who sign the Constitution and By-laws, and pay the fee demanded by the Association. The meetings of the Association take place once in each year. The entrance fee is \$5, and after that, \$3 a year. No Member of the Association can appear at the Annual Meeting except in full uniform.

The object of the Association seems to be attained by giving "Rewards for drill and discipline;"—Uniformity in dress is one of the main things insisted on—and in order to attain this, a splendid stand of colors is given each year, on certain conditions, to the best equipped Regiment in the State. Another stand of colors is awarded "to the best encamped Regiment of the State Militia." A Committee of the Association visits the encampment, inspects the parades, guard mountings, notices the proper observance of the drum-beats, the respect paid to orders and the mode of issuing them; the manner of

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Shon't such an Assoc'n be a long-lived in-
 stitute? Similarly, as rev'd of discol-
 or cannot be adopted, at least for the Active force.
 A battery, more strictly, carry no colors, the gun
 is the standard of the Artilleryman. To save
 him from the enemy the guns, he has care for
 the life of man or horse, to shoot the enemy or
 in 'terrible' he gun must be carried off at a
 fair price, or it is a loss. As per my former
 letter, I have sent to the press. In addition
 native gunners, or G. I. gunners, look on the
 gun as a kind of a relic, and they never
 leave it, ordering right to take twenty
 to be. In Light Cavalry the use of Standards
 has been abolished for many years, and Rifle
 Regiments never carry them. Therefore the
 views:—Light Cavalry and Rifle are constantly
 dispersed in skirmishing order, which is to guard
 the honor of the Standards? The sudden swoop
 of a few bold horsemen would carry off the col-
 ors of a Rifle Regiment, and make a bold push
 to do the same thing for Light Cavalry.

If therefore we, in Canada, of the Active force, should adopt some such system as this, it strikes us that in lieu of the impossible color, we should give as the prize of good discipline, silver trumpets to Cavalry and Artillery, and silver bugles to the Rifles. To these instruments, after the fashion of the Life Guards, might be attached an embroidered banner, with the Royal Cypher and Crown, the number of the Corps, and the motto, "*FOR DISCIPLINE*."—No corps but what would be proud of such a distinction, and, considering the numbers of our Volunteer Corps, nothing more easy to be carried out. We should like on this subject to have the opinions of some of our comrades of the Active force.

THE ACTIVE FORCE—We have not yet heard whether it is the intention of the government to propose to the Legislature any measure for the increased efficiency of the Militia force, or for relieving the Officers and men from some of the burdens which they have so cheerfully borne. We have had many communications from Officers on this subject, which, under the circumstances, we have thought it better not to publish at present. However, there is no conceal- ing the fact, that although we would hardly use the expression "discontent," there is a feeling that the Active force has not been exactly fairly dealt with, that is, that more may be done for it, than has been, by the Legislature. No one complains of the Militia authorities: on the con- trary, the universal feeling is that the Adjutant General has done every thing in his power to do, and, few people know the difficulties he has had to contend with, and the amount of work that he has accomplished. But the question is, do the Ministers propose to recommend to the

"I have sent a grant of money in order that the Government may have the supervision of the Army and Navy. It may be made more effective. We are not fighting local politics and as consistent Government we care little who compose the Ministry of the day. All we do regard as the duty of the day is to save the Army and Navy from the hands of the Government and we know very well that we are doing this duty on the part of the Parliament. The force cannot be made better."

The first day of the contest was the 21st day of May. The weather was fair, but the wind was so strong that it was impossible to get out for target practice. On the 22nd day the weather was very unfavorable, the wind was so strong and rainy, nevertheless the weather was highly creditable both as regards strength and efficiency. A considerable number of the citizens repaired to the place of practice—Morney's Point, and evinced a common, deep interest in the day's proceedings. The target—about nine feet square—was fixed on the side of a large tree, at one thousand paces distance. Every thing being in readiness the word was given, and away sped shot and shell to the target. The first round the gun belonging to the 1st Co. of the 1st Regt. of the 1st Div. of the 1st Corps of the 1st Army of the United States was the first served, for the shot went through the target. In the next round the howitzer served by Lieut. and Adjutant A. B. Smith, and the gun served by Lieut. H. B. Smith did good duty, the shell bursting within a few feet of the front of the target, and shattering a corner of it, and the next shot passing through the next to the bullseye. And thus the firing went on until at the close of the tenth round, the allotted number, when the spy glass showed us fourteen holes in the target; the howitzer having planted a shell right through the bullseye. The practice was admirable, and extorted praise from a couple of old gunners on the ground who said that they never witnessed such beautiful practice. In the evening the Officers of the Field Battery entertained at the British American Hotel the Officers of the Active Force and a number of gentlemen, and we need not say that the evening passed off very merrily. The Field Battery is composed of soldierlike and able bodied men who were evidently under good discipline and who went to their duty with alacrity and cheerfulness.—*Kingston News*.

PRESENTATION.—On Friday afternoon last, the 1st Troop of Volunteer Cavalry, Captain Ramsay, presented their Drill Instructor, Major Lovelace, now Adjutant of the Volunteer Cavalry of Montreal, and late of the Turkish Imperial Cavalry, with a splendid charger, which we may state is a beautiful bay one, full sixteen hands high, and is one of the numerous offerings of the celebrated "Bob Logic." The Company, which is a remarkably fine one, assembled in the afternoon at the end of St. Urban Street, when Captain Ramsay presented the charger, and read a very complimentary address to Major Lovelace, who made an appropriate reply.

The uniform, which consists of a blue tunic faced with red, and frogged with yellow silk-cord, and the pants, which are blue, with double yellow stripes, are being made by Messrs W. & H. F. Adams, 195 Notre Dame Street. The head-dress has not yet been adopted. The Company will, we understand, make its first public turn-out on the Queen's Birth-day.