

asserting that under the reign of that consummate scoundrel our army first took its place in history and our navy was created. We beg leave to remind our contemporary that those great events must have taken place when the Pralse God-Barebones Parliament was in existence, and the fitting climax of all would be the preparation for the reign of the Saints which the Whig Radicals are about to inaugurate by the destruction of both.

FIFTY-EIGHT years ago, while Great Britain was collecting her strength under the great Duke of Wellington for the purpose of crushing out the last remnants of the power of the first Napoleon and driving his legions across the Pyrenees—while the gallant Canadian Militia were engaged in deadly conflict with those pets of the Whig-Radicals, our very esteemed neighbors across the lines, the House of Assembly of Lower Canada on the 23rd of February, 1814, in a *Committee of the whole House*—"Resolved that it is the opinion of this committee that a sum of fifteen hundred pounds currency be employed under the direction of commissioners to encourage and aid JOSEPH BOUCHETTE, Esqr., to publish the Topographical and Geographical Maps of the Province."

In March, 1815, a payment, on account, of £500 currency was made to Lieut. Colonel BOUCHETTE, but since that date neither himself in his lifetime nor his family have in any way benefitted by labors which have placed his name in the front rank of the literary men of Canada—and above that of all others, as a Geographer.

The services for which this meagre compensation was allotted consisted in the publication of a Topographical and Geographical Map of Canada; at the period of publication about as well known to the British public as Timbuctoo; and a descriptive memoir of the most complete and exhaustive character. After the labour of nearly sixty years, it is as valuable as a guide book as the day it was published, while the efforts of all the talent of Canada has been utterly unable to produce as complete or correct a Topographical Map of the country since, so that the whole Dominion has reaped the advantages of Lt. Col. BOUCHETTE's labors.

At the time of publication the *burin* of the engraver was the only method by which maps could be multiplied, and the old fashioned copperplate the medium, but the manner in which the work was executed leaves nothing to be regretted on that score, although it added fearfully to the expense.

A sum of over two thousand two hundred pounds currency was disbursed by Colonel BOUCHETTE, and the House of Assembly of Lower Canada with a meanness unparalleled in history while repeatedly affirming the necessity of or repaying the outlay, systematically defeated the ends of honesty and justice by shirking the question of providing the means to discharge the obligation incurred at its desire.

It would be useless as well as unnecessary to follow the history of the BOUCHETTE claim through all the tortuous windings of provincial politics to the present period, all this has been ably and well done by the talented Editor of the *Canadian Illustrated News* in a pamphlet lately published, but there can be no question that in equity the Dominion of Canada is responsible for the amount of those claims, as all the Provinces have participated in the advantages derived from Colonel BOUCHETTE's labors.

As has been well observed by the talented author of "*the claims of the late Lieut. Colonel BOUCHETTE*"—the Legislature of a country is the only body within the pale of society above the operations of law—but as public opinion supplies the place of the more stringent rule, the equity of the claim must ensure its final success.

We look confidently therefore to the House of Commons to wipe away the injustice of two generations, and repay to the heirs of Col. BOUCHETTE the money expended by him in the service of the country.

Apart from the legal aspect of the transaction, the BOUCHETTE family have great and peculiar claims on the gratitude of the people of Canada: in November, 1775, the father of Lieut. Colonel BOUCHETTE, then commanding an armed vessel at Montreal, took Genl. CARLETON, the Governor General, out of the hands of traitorous Englishmen and rebel Yankees, and in spite of all opposition landed him safely at Quebec, on the 13th of November; a public meeting being then held by other English traitors to surrender the last stronghold of Great Britain on this continent into the hands of the rebels under BENEDICT ARNOLD.

We need not point out how materially that act has altered the history of the world—that on it depended not only the existence but the development of the British Empire, for had CARLETON fallen into the hands of the Yankee rebels under MONTGOMERY the British would have been entirely driven off the American continent, and the armed neutrality would have speedily rendered CLIVE's victory at Plassey a mere historical episode.

Putting aside the services, great and eminent as they have been, of Lieut. Colonel BOUCHETTE, the people of Canada owe a debt of gratitude to his father which should not be neglected, and we are confident that if the Hon. the MINISTER OF FINANCE can see his way to put the BOUCHETTE claims in the Supplementary Estimates the country will applaud an act of tardy justice.

THE question of the *ballot* vs. the *voluntary* system has been exhaustively discussed; our gallant correspondent *Rollo* however returns to the charge again, but it is only to reiterate arguments already disposed of; he cannot see the difference between the *willing* and *unwilling*, and has apparently made up his mind that officers of existing corps are hardly dealt with because the exercise of the

right to *ballot* men to fill their quotas is denied them.

We have distinctly stated the whole case, if the *ballot* is resorted to officers must be changed every three years as well as men—under existing circumstances that would not be desirable. According to his own admissions men can always be found to fill the ranks on emergency, and we would seriously ask him what is it the force really wants?

We were under the impression that due encouragement to the *willing* was all that could be required, we are decidedly opposed to forcing the *unwilling*, and we have no fear of any falling off in the numbers. Why the General Orders issued so frequently are full of Gazettes of new troops, batteries and companies, and we are satisfied that the *volunteering* spirit needs no extra stimulus.

So far the experience of this country shows that *compulsion* is not necessary, and even those who insist on the necessity for the *ballot* are forced to admit that the slightest political disturbance will fill their ranks to repletion.

Our system will partially train soldiers, and only partially under either *ballot* or *volunteering*, and that is sufficient for the wants of the country, for the simple reason that our opponents would not be in as good a condition; and it is certainly a strange thing to find officers insisting on a change of system before its effects have been fairly tried.

That the officers of the Volunteer force labored under certain burdens which should be borne by the country is well known, and has been pointed out in the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* years ago; but if, as a body, they will persist in the face of well established facts, to seek redress in a totally opposite direction, it is not likely in the nature of things that the success attending their efforts will be very striking—its most probable result would be to deprive the country of their services—a loss of the most deplorable description and for which the enforcement of a theory would by no means compensate.

Once for all, the position laid down in a recent article on this subject: "that the man who can get fifty-five of his fellows to voluntarily undertake the duties of a soldier's life under his command, gives a guarantee thereby that he is a gentleman and fit to be an officer"—is another of those *truisms* for which *Rollo* gives the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* credit, and is the greatest possible recommendation of the present system.

We are no believers in a *democratic* Army, neither do we pin our faith on an aristocratic organization—the *juste milieu*—has been happily secured by the voluntary system; its faults are merely matters of detail which can be remedied. It is in accord with the political and social habits of our people, and we can see no reason whatever to change it before its value is fully developed; and if change is ever necessary the country has all the appliances therefor at a moment's notice.