

As the English people are beyond the age of aggressive warfare for territorial or other aggrandizement the force required for home service would be purely for defensive purposes, and we tell the *Broad Arrow* that object will never be attained by a ballotted militia, in which individuals will be compelled to serve against their inclinations and aptitude, but it is quite possible by a proper Volunteer organization.

In this connection our contemporary has been so kind as to notice the "Canadian Militia"—in its issue of 13th July, in the usual felicitous manner, but with a vagueness of expression and ideas which is certainly to be wondered at seeing that the fact of the Dominion having within the last six years concentrated on four different occasions ten to sixteen thousand well drilled and equipped soldiers to repel invasion from those dear friends of the Whig Radicals the people of the United States, is a matter of history quite as notorious as the celebrated Royal Warrant business—and infinitely more honorable.

We would also refer our contemporary to a very well written history of the War of 1812-15, to shew that Canada with small aid indeed from Great Britain successfully foiled all attempts of the Yankees to obtain a footing on her soil.

It has been well said that people should go abroad to hear news of themselves, and our contemporary certainly furnishes us with a rare dish of it; he says first, that there is no reliable information of the force and efficiency of the Canadian army to be obtained in England. Secondly, that service in our Volunteer force is compulsory. Thirdly, in our annual drill the men labour under great disadvantage for want of a sufficient number of instructors, and from the great heat of the season, this with the extreme cold are great obstacles in the way of progress. Fourthly, we are told that "appearances too are not in favor of the service—too much has been attempted to secure practical benefit. Not only is their infantry fifty or sixty regiments of the line, and an artillery proportionately strong—each service uniformed and equipped in precisely the same way as the Regular Army—but there are several Cavalry corps—cavalries amongst the rest—Hussars, Riflemen, Engineers, and even Highlanders." A little further on we are told a piece of news decidedly:—"Indeed the uniform of the *Carbineers* is quite a drug in the market, and as Colonial life leads to broader views of military matters, it is not unusual for a Linesman to substitute a straw hat for his forage cap, and an Engineer officer will perhaps replace the regulation black silk neckerchief by a light blue satin stock."

We copy this for the benefit of our readers that they may be enabled to have a clear view of the aspect the organization of the Canadian army bears in old England.

Fifthly, "The Canadian militia labour under the disadvantage of having no Perma-

nent Staff, such an institution was found to be too expensive a luxury to be indulged in, and the arms and stores are consequently left in a very precarious condition for fifty weeks of the year. A few old pensioners are employed to look after them; but if even those men succeed in keeping the articles confided to their charge in proper order, as their defenders, they are of course useless, and it would not be very difficult for an invading army by means of an advanced guard of a few dozen ordinary burglars to rob the Canadians of both stores and arms."

We have no doubt that the latter feat could be accomplished if the whole Canadian people would sleep for a couple of weeks, and if the expert burglars were reinforced by a detachment of Mr. Candwell's latest addition to the British army.

However, his Excellency Earl Dufferin is expected from the great experience acquired at the British War Department to bring order out of this chaos, and as no doubt the re-organized British army will be the model on which the renovated Canadian army must be formed, we shall be relieved from the fear of the burglars by having them to watch instead of stealing our stores or arms.

It is evident that the severities of our climate renders successful invasion a very doubtful problem—that our own warfare will be defensive and also that we have acquired and trained a force equal to all its conditions and contingencies.

The Canadian soldier takes pride in a uniform which reminds him that he is serving his Queen and country, and that his fathers won an Empire for Great Britain in the same costume—he does not serve by compulsion, but voluntarily—in fact he is a *volunteer* in the strictest sense of the term—and he yields military service because he has a farm and homestead to defend, and he will hold by the sword what he has won from the forest by the axe.

We would remind our contemporary of an old aphorism which used to be illustrated by the story of a tiger and a little boy—the moral being *appearances* often deceive—and in the case of the uniform and organization of the Canadian army he has been most woefully "sat upon"—most probably by one of the selections by competitive examination.

It is a matter of history that within the last six years we have had from fifteen to twenty thousand soldiers concentrated on the few exposed points of a frontier over 1000 miles in length to resist invasion from the citizens of the United States, and that such concentration was effected in forty eight hours.

We have recognized the evil of *lay interference* in military affairs, the Hon. Sir G. E. CARTER, although the author of our Militia Bill, is not like Mr. Candwell, a Field Marshal in broadcloth, nor will he attend scientific experiments like Mr. Goschen and catch the faulty shot in *flagrante delicto*—the discipline and military administration of the

Canadian army is left to the proper party its commander-in-chief the Adjutant-General; and the *Broad Arrow* must show us some more cheering effect of lay interference before we will consent to any experiment with our force—based on the model of the British army as reorganized by the Whig-Radicals. When they have effected a satisfactory organization it will be time enough to consider us.

Our contemporary's want of information on the state of the Canadian militia is a matter of surprise to us, all affairs connected therewith have had the widest publicity—our people do not believe in *Confidential Reports*—facts are stated as they exist the consequences being a matter of small concern, and the Adjutant-General's Reports on "the State of the Canadian militia" are as much matters of historical fact as the celebrated Royal Warrant of unconstitutional notoriety.

*Broad Arrow* of the 13th July, in an article on "the Canadian Militia," leaves us to infer that a very erroneous idea of the organization of our military force prevails in professional circles in England, and that its discipline is below the standard of the regular army as well as the uniforms adopted are of the most bizarre and unsuitable patterns, and that too much altogether has been sacrificed to mere show.

The admirable Reports of the Adjutant General and the publicity given to every thing connected with the Canadian army, led us to expect that English military journals would have mastered all its details ere this, especially as we are aware those Reports have been sent to the Editors, and they have also been reproduced in the columns of the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* for the benefit of the rank and file of the Volunteer force.

We shall endeavor to give a history of the organization of the Canadian army, a synopsis of the Militia law and an account of the present state of the force it has called into existence.

In 1855 a force of about 5000 Volunteers were organized in independent companies of Riflemen and Field batteries of Artillery in the then Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada—a very comprehensive militia law had been in existence for many years previously, but the Canadians had been living like the Sidonians of old in peace and security, and beyond the form of a muster on the Queen's birth-day, or the occasional Gazette of officers, little was known and less cared about the organization.

The intestine contest in the United States commencing in 1861, made it evident that a crisis was approaching which would render a more effective organization necessary, and with the aid of Colonel (now Major General) LYSON, a very effective bill was prepared for that purpose; its provisions, however, were too stringent for our social condition, and it had other faults of detail of which the principle was compulsory service. It