

control were in an inefficient state until they came under central-control of the War Office. Each State in the United States had its own organization, and was armed, equipped, drilled and trained according to the ideas of each State. The result was that on mobilization chaos reigned supreme, as the units of the different States were not able to be utilized alongside each other to advantage.

The United States were trying now under some difficulty to remedy the state of things, and to place themselves in the position in which fortunately Canada was, of possessing a national militia, under central authority.

### MAJOR GENERAL HUTTON.

Major-General Hutton spoke as follows :

"Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—I am sure that I shall be expressing the wishes of the audience when I convey to Capt. Winter the warmest congratulations upon the very interesting and able lecture which we have just heard. Capt. Winter, in the first part of his paper, has made it clear in the happiest possible manner that the conditions which brought the militia of Canada into being have now ceased to exist. He has told us, and with reason, that the militia of Canada was originally formed as a supplement to the regular army of Great Britain then garrisoning Canada. Upon the withdrawal of the regular British troops, in the sixties, the whole condition of the military defences of Canada underwent the same constitutional change that befel the political situation. With the birth of the Dominion followed the creation of a Canadian nation, but no corresponding change took place in the development of her defence forces. Capt. Winter makes this point very clear—you will forgive me if I say that in Part III. of my Annual Report, which most of you have probably read, you will find that the requirements of a Canadian army such as the Canadian nation should possess are clearly indicated.

"The lecturer has alluded to the Swiss military system. It was my privilege to be sent by the Imperial Government to report upon the Swiss army, in 1887, and I had then the great advantage of studying on the spot its system, its organization, and its result. We shall do well here in Canada if we apply the principles underlying the organization and maintenance of this Swiss national army. The independence of Switzerland is guaranteed by the great powers of Europe, yet Switzerland is content to tax herself to the extent of \$1.55 per head of population for the maintenance of an organized national defensive force, which, amounts to a complete army of 147,000 active Militia and 83,000 landwehr or reserve.

"Belgium, similarly, whose independence has been guaranteed by Great Britain, also taxes herself to a similar extent and maintains an army for her defence of 163,000 men. The independence of Canada may be understood to be similarly guaranteed by the Mother Country. But what have the Canadian