

The other event to be noted is the sending of several contingents of Canadian soldiers to aid the Motherland in her war with the Boers in South Africa. The first of these, a regiment 1,000 strong, went out in October, 1899, under the command of Lt.-Col. Otter. It was soon followed by another contingent of about the same numerical strength, composed of artillerymen and mounted infantry. A little later, Lord Strathcona (Sir Donald A. Smith), our Canadian High Commissioner, raised and equipped another body of mounted infantry, 600 strong, at his own expense. This force was composed of men from our North-West. So valuable were the services of these brave and efficient Canadian contingents at Paardeberg, and on other well-fought fields, that very recently Canada was asked by the Mother Country to furnish another regiment of mounted men, to assist in ending the guerilla warfare still being waged in South Africa. This last contingent, 900 strong, is now (Feb., 1902) on its way to the scene of hostilities, and, like its predecessors, will doubtless uphold the good name of the men of Canada for courage, loyalty and patriotism. Canada's participation in the wars of the Empire has done much to bring her out of comparative obscurity, and has taught the world that in her Colonies Britain possesses allies not to be despised in possible future wars. The enthusiasm aroused by the sending of these contingents, and by the stories of their brave deeds on African soil, has helped to foster the military spirit among our young men, and in all classes has intensified the spirit of loyalty to the Empire. This feeling of enthusiasm for and loyalty to Crown and Empire was deepened by the death of Queen Victoria in the early part of the year 1901, and by the accession of the Prince of Wales, with the title of Edward VII, and by the visit of the Duke of Cornwall and York in the fall of the same year to Canada. Accompanied by his consort, the Duchess of Cornwall and York, the heir to the Crown made a hurried trip across the Continent, and visited briefly most of our Canadian cities, in all of which the Royal party was given a warm and enthusiastic reception.

8. Material Progress.—Since Confederation there has been a marked change in the material condition of the country. Railways now reach nearly every part of the older Provinces, whilst