

manding officer shall within ten days send to each captain or commanding officer of a company a muster-roll from said assessor's list, which shall be the one used at the general muster, and signed and delivered to the commanding officer before the parade is dismissed, with such remarks on absentees, etc., as may be necessary, from which the commanding officer shall make his yearly return.

And if any municipal clerk or assessor should neglect or from any cause omit to perform his duties, or shall wilfully make any false return in said lists, he should be liable to a fine of not more than \$50, besides the expense of some other persons to be appointed by the said commanding officer of the division, who shall be a non-commissioned officer of the militia, for doing the duty of said assessor. All tavern-keepers, keepers of boarding-houses, persons having boarders in their families, and every master and mistress of their dwelling house, shall, upon the application of every assessor, or such persons as may be appointed on account of default, give information of the names of all persons residing or lodging in such house liable to be enrolled, and all other proper information concerning such persons as such assessors, &c., may demand. And if any person of whom such information is required refuse to give such information, or should give false information, he or she should forfeit or pay not more than \$10 for each offence, with costs; and any person refusing to give his own name and proper information when applied to, or should give a false name or information, should forfeit and pay a like sum: such penalties to be recovered in any competent court, or before any magistrate of the county, town or city where such has been committed. And it should be the duty of every assessor or person appointed as aforesaid, to report the names of all defaulters who may incur any penalty to said commanding officer, in order that the said person or persons may be prosecuted in the name of the Queen; and all moneys collected under such action to be paid into the County Treasury, and go into the militia fund of the Province.

First: I propose that the service men of the sedentary militia should be enrolled from the age of sixteen to forty-five, instead of eighteen to forty-five which is the law at present. To this change I anticipate a multitude of objections,

from those who have not studied the subject. It may be necessary, therefore, in endeavoring to turn the tide of popular opinion to advance some proofs in favour of the alteration. The first objection will be that they are too young.—By the Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in 1803, the Monarch of England is empowered to call out all men from seventeen to fifty-five, in the levy en masse to repel invasion. In the British service lads were enlisted into the Horse Guards at seventeen, if they were 5 ft. 10 inches in height; and arms were given to boy companies in different regiments of the line, before that age, during the French war. The conspiracy in France in 1813 called them out in advance two years under the legal age; consequently they were only seventeen. Marshal Ney, after gaining the battle of Lutzen by young conscripts, exclaimed, "French infantry can never be too young!" The above refers to offensive warfare; ours is for defensive, and therefore not liable to the privations, fatigue, etc. It will next be said that mere boys, as some of them would appear, would not have strength to hold out a rifle. I would inform them that the proper way to defend Canada, if commanded by judicious officers, will be battles of position, in which a rest will always be obtainable for the rifle, and not of manoeuvre. Napoleon I. said—"No one would attempt to fight a battle with undisciplined men; that is, offensive, and requiring to manoeuvre in presence of an enemy. The French General, Dumourier, after some reverses with his undisciplined levies, said "he would not risk the open field, but make the war one of position;" and this is the way Canada must be defended by the sedentary militia.

The advantages of my scheme, if carried out in the first place, adds 15,000 more valuable men for the defence of the country, or three times the number of our present volunteer force. From the service men I propose to form flank companies by volunteers, forty or fifty strong, according to the strength of the battalion, as quickly as the best description of rifles can be obtained, and arrangements for their drill entered into with a yearly allowance of ball and blank cartridge for practice. These companies to drill four days in the year of eight hours each day—i. e. three consecutive days and the Queen's Birthday for company drill and target practice, under a drill sergeant, as will hereinafter be described. Each of these companies to fire at the target each day, and on the Queen's Birthday for a small silver medal to each company, furnished by the Province and given to the best shot; and in the event of the same person continuing the best shot in his own company, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th,