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portion of the Dominion does not cause apparent trouble to officials of the department at headquarters at Ottawa. The regulations which govern the force have been carefully built up and so tested by actual experience that they now provide for almost every contingency likely to arise in the details of administration. The order to move and barracks at the place of destination seem to be all that are needful. The minutiae of equipment, transport, subsistence, pay, quarters and such necessary accompaniments are arranged on a basis of efficiency, and the safeguards provided ensure economy and good service.

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It is not usually a subject for congratulation that facilities exist for the development of a military system. Experience has, however, proved a military force necessary in every country to ensure good government and the peaceful enjoyment of the liberties of the population. In a country so large as Canada, with its great responsibilities, it has seemed imperative to make provision for the useful employment of its militia as a military body when necessary. In this sense it is gratifying to know that the machinery required to permit its being done efficiently and economically has kept pace with the growth and progress of the country. "C" Battery has settled down quietly at British Columbia, and although it is the first corps Canada has transplanted in that distant province it is governed and maintained exactly the same as are all the other corps of our small force of permanently maintained men, and it like all the others provides an economical trained nucleus for the embodiment of a regiment of the locality whenever the necessities of the country require such action. In the meantime it will form the basis for a school of military instruction for the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the militia who have their homes in British Columbia. In this way the system of training and maintenance and of command and discipline which applies there is the same as applies in every other portion of the Dominion. The combatant officers have been many years in the service, and the men of which "C" Battery is composed have had previous training in other batteries, thus fitting them specially for the new and distant service on which they have been sent.

Winnipeg.—A Military View of its Possible Future.—VIII

[CONTRIBUTED.]

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AS the construction of the Canadian Pacific has brought into existence and completed the most northerly and main line of defence and communication of the British Empire, by a continuous line from Great Britain to Bombay or Calcutta, it now remains to see how the real power it has placed in the hands of the statesmen of England is to be applied.

To the northward of this line there are little or no interests to serve, no outlying settlements, and therefore the labour of those obliged to preserve its integrity will be considerably lightened. Capt. Colomb groups his lines of defence and main military stations as follows: The United Kingdom is our Imperial basis; the Imperial lines of communication are:

Current Topics.

YEAR by year batteries of artillery—especially garrison batteries—are being suffered to languish and pass out of existence, without any effort being made to revive or replace them, and apparently very little to the concern of the authorities. It seems that the Toronto battery is now to be disbanded, which will leave only one volunteer garrison battery in Ontario. It is only a few months ago the Collingwood battery was gazetted out. The sole survivor, the Cobourg battery, is not in that condition, it is said, in which even its best friends can speak very enthusiastically of its prospects. Can the country afford the loss of these corps? Were they of no use; and if useless whose fault was it? And is it not highly desirable that well equipped batteries of garrison artillery should be maintained at least along the lake and river front of this province?

RELIEF from the tax imposed upon the militia by the changes made last session in the tariff, has at length been afforded as promised, by the passage of an order-in-council, providing for the payment of a drawback in full in the case of importers in the trade, and for free importation in the case of officers of the militia importing for their own use or that of their battalions. Articles which might be put to any other than militia use have been excluded from the operation of the order-in-council, so that there can be no abuse of the privilege. For the information of officers and others desiring to secure free importation, it might be here stated that to obtain the certificates required by the Customs department, applications, accompanied by the invoice, should be made direct to the Minister of Militia.

IF evidence were needed to demonstrate progressive expansion in the facilities provided to increase national self respect and the stability of the institutions of the Dominion, the recent sending of C battery to Victoria, B.C., might be cited as a step which could not have been undertaken with success eighteen months ago. In the absence of now existing railway facilities, the battery could not have been sent across the continent on British territory without tremendous expense to the country and much fatigue and hardship to the men. Now they have been transported from Kingston and Quebec, a distance of more than 3,000 miles, within six days from the date of their departure, and with a minimum of inconvenience. The facilities for management of the force have also been so developed since the country has been thrown upon its own resources that the taking on of new corps and transplanting them in any