

We profess great respect for the late Sir J. F. Burgoyne, but it is reasonable to suppose that even he had not thoroughly grasped the revolution which mechanical science has effected in modern warfare; it has entirely modified its conditions; instead of the massive formation moving with the regularity of clock work, the loose and scattered array presenting the least possible mark to a bullet is now the order of battle; instead of the heavy volley at stated intervals a fusilade of the most deliberate and often desultory character in which every shot has been correctly aimed, not at a mass, but at an individual, is the necessity of the hour; and instead of being drilled "to keep the touch with eyes shut," and the alignment unbroken by a corps of rigid *martinettes*, the loose quick step, the instantaneous dash for cover, and the rally for and immediate rush to the charge are all that can be required.

How is it possible that veterans of thirty or forty years standing, taught to drill their men into machines, can at once realize all this change or act fairly to a force from which efficiency in the requirements of modern warfare in defence of their own homes is alone demanded.

As a consequence we have a general officer with a very brilliant, and no doubt, capable staff, attempting to handle 24,000 of those troops (a force he probably never had under his control before) and disgust the men by making a most miserable failure thereof in which operation he was ably assisted by his staff.

In the usual course a report appears in which the errors are placed to the account of the Volunteers and their great Review, the only chance they had annually of learning the major part of their business condemned as useless and demoralizing.

As Sir Hope Grant did not figure with great advantage in the Hampshire Campaign, it is only fair to assume that the blunders arose from his own want of tactical knowledge on a large scale, but it has given rise to a good deal of discussion as to the value of the Easter Monday Review.

As we have developed a Volunteer force in Canada, and as we demonstrated the utility of such gatherings when intelligently carried out, we would advise our English friends to hold fast their volunteer organization, to cut it adrift from the regular army, and to have its affairs administered by its own staff officers; its great trouble has arisen from peripatetic commanders, if manœuvred by its own officers there will be no complaints; existing evils will be practically developed and means at once found to eradicate them, while a great want that of trained staff officers will be supplied by the best of all schools, for the proper place to train them is with the troops in the field.

Amid the Babel of army reorganization, we look with hope to the volunteers alone as being the only force on which England can really depend, and its friends should

bend their energies to make it totally independent of the regular service, as well as complete in equipment, and every branch of the service, as a national organization, they ought to have sufficient influence to do so.

LIVING in close proximity to the United States, enabled to study and thoroughly understand the principles on which her social and political machinery is constructed, obliged to come into contact with her people socially and commercially. Canadians, above all others, have the best opportunity of appreciating the value of her institutions, and above all others decline to accept or admire them in whole or part.

This feeling, the result of intimate acquaintance, is not confined to any class in the community, but pervades the whole mass of the people with a deep-rooted aversion to Republican institutions, with their license to folly and crimes; and it is very doubtful if a plebiscite of the whole population was taken whether one thousand persons in Canada would declare for a closer union between the two countries; and so thoroughly has this feeling come to be understood in the States that all talk of annexation by consent has long since ceased; and the readiest method of insulting a Canadian is to talk of it, and that is neither a safe or profitable operation.

In all negotiations with the United States British diplomatists appears as if they were acting under the influence of a spell; they seem to imagine that this continent is the sole property of the boasting and thievish Yankees, and that their power is only limited by their modesty; hence all kinds of ridiculous concessions have been awarded a people utterly impotent to enforce the smallest portion of their pretensions; the sacrifice of Canadian rights, territorial and otherwise, was the general result arrived at up to the famous Treaty of Washington, and as this country could not be ignored or cajoled, the Whig radicals, were obliged to place one of its most prominent Statesmen on the Joint High Commissions, and we owe to that fact the only redeeming feature of that piece of imbecility.

That the interest so cleverly conserved is of far greater importance than generally supposed, and that its reservation for disposal by the Parliament of the Dominion was a Statesmanlike act, the following extract will tell:—

"Newfoundland is par excellence, the great fishing Province. In 1870 the value of the export was \$6,984,543. This is a decrease in the value as compared with 1869 of \$316,094. It is also stated, the fisheries do not increase in proportion to the increase of population. In Nova Scotia it is different. We are rapidly catching up to Newfoundland, and are exhibiting a very marked increase in our annual catch. In 1871 the catch amounted in value \$5,103,030, being a gain of \$1,080,606 over the catch of 1870, and being more than what it was in 1869, in which the catch was \$2,501,507. This is a most gratifying exhibit, proving as it does, among other things, the value of the regu-

lations that have been enforced for the reclaiming and reservation of spawning grounds.

"It is also gratifying to find that New Brunswick has made good progress, the catch having been, in 1871, of the value of \$1,185,033, a gain of \$155,950 over 1870.

We have not the statistics of P. E. Island, nor those of British Columbia. But the product of the four Provinces of the original confederation is set down at \$17,000,000 a year."—*Reporter*.

We have republished under the caption of "Opinions of the Press," the utterances of our local journals on the Washington Treaty and the imbroglio arising out of the United States Bill for "indirect losses," satisfied that by so doing we were endeavouring to convey to our English brethren the real opinions of our Canadian people on that subject, because the Urban Press does not represent the opinions of the mass of the people, only that of the mercantile community, which, by no means controls (as it does in England) political issues, and that is the only portion of our newspaper literature that reaches Great Britain.

In every extract from all shades of local politics, Tory and Clear Grit, Liberal, Conservative or Reformer, the opinion and sentiments are the same; that the "honour of England must be upheld at all hazards, that the demands are infamous, and that the people of Canada will stand by the mother country in resisting them." In fact, that the last sentiment is almost identical in words with an article which appeared in the *Acadian Recorder*, a journal, distinguished for its ability and bitter opposition to our present Government.

Although sure to be obliged to bear the whole brunt of hostilities, Canada will not fail Great Britain should this dispute be brought to the arbitrament of the sword, and the majority of our people are persuaded that is by far the cheapest and most easy way to settle it.

In the hands of unscrupulous Yankees it will always be a source of disturbance, and the tactics to be followed are in accordance with the usual practice foreshadowed in following extract:—

"American journals are already discussing the probable action of the United States Government in the event of England withdrawing from the Conference. The Boston papers announced that Government has definitely settled that in case of England refusing to continue the arbitration, a bill will be introduced in Congress to appropriate the sum of thirty millions of dollars for the settlement of the Alabama Claims. That a Fund will be established in the Treasury Department entitled the indemnity Debt of Great Britain to the United States, which shall bear interest for twenty years and at the expiration of that time be presented to the British Parliament for a settlement. That a commission will be appointed by our government to undertake the management of this fund, and in case of a refusal to liquidate the debt when due, with interest at six per cent., a reprisal will be made on the Dominion of Canada and the Provinces."

For our own part we would be very well