

## Extracts from "How Canada is Governed."

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### THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF CANADA.

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The minister of militia and defense is responsible for the administration of the militia affairs, including fortifications, armories, munitions of war, stores, schools of instruction, militia college at Kingston. Under him is a major-general, chosen from the regular military service of England.

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The minister of the interior has control and management of the affairs of the Northwest Territories, of the Indians, and of all public lands belonging to the Government, and of the geological survey of Canada.

### MILITIA AND DEFENSE.

The British North America act places under the control of the Dominion Government the militia, naval service, and defense of Canada. The command-in-chief of the land and naval forces of and in Canada, however, continues to be vested in the Queen. A department of the Dominion Government, called the department of militia and defense (see above), has the superintendence of this important part of the public service. Since confederation, English troops have been removed from all places in Canada except Halifax, which is a strongly fortified military post and the headquarters of the North American squadron, under the command of a vice or rear admiral. On the Pacific side Esquimalt, on the Island of Vancouver, is also being fortified, and will be garrisoned by imperial troops.

The withdrawal of English troops to so great an extent from Canada has necessarily thrown large responsibilities upon the Canadian Government since 1867 for the protection of a confederation extending over so immense a territory between two oceans. Canada has attempted to fulfill her obligations in this respect by the expenditure of a large sum of money during twenty-seven years for the drill, instruction, and arming of an effective militia drawn from the great body of the people. In this way a spirit of self-reliance has been stimulated from one end of Canada to the other, and on more than one emergency the national forces have proved their capacity to secure peace and order and put down rebellion.

By the law of Canada the militia consists of all the male inhabitants of Canada of the age of 18 years or upward and under 60, not exempted or disqualified by law; the population being divided into four classes, as follows:

The first class comprises those aged 18 or upward and under 30, being unmarried or widowers without children.