

tion against her, as the writer once heard an eminent American gentleman say: 'There would not be ships enough in the United States and Canada to carry volunteers to her aid.'

TO TURN SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES.

An Imperial commission has lately been appointed to consider the condition and prospects of the British soldier, with a view to securing employment for men upon going into the Reserve, and for soldiers of good character receiving their discharge. Respecting the latter class the *United Service Gazette* recommends for consideration the advisability of offering special facilities to enable those who might desire it to make a new home in one of the colonies, and in the article dealing with the subject the following occurs:—

"It would cause no excessive burden to the taxpayer were such men and their families forwarded free of cost to themselves to one of our colonies, preferably to Canada, as being at the same time the nearest and one well adapted to their tastes and requirements. In cases of national emergency numbers of these men would doubtless volunteer for further service, and would form a veteran corps of the greatest value, ready to go anywhere and to do anything. There would be no difficulty, we should judge, in making such arrangements with the Dominion Government for exclusive and advantageous terms upon which land would be granted to such an eminently desirable class of emigrants. Gratitude and instinct as well as personal interest would keep these men firmly attached to the mother country, and one of our important chains of communication would be by so much the stronger. That the vast proportion of Canadians are thoroughly loyal we feel perfectly convinced, but the number of inhabitants is at present out of all proportion to the extent of the Dominion's territory. The straightforward and energetic efforts made by her Government to place before intending emigrants the advantages offered them should have the result of speedily modifying this disproportion."

The scheme as outlined above is very nice in print, but even Canadian soil is not fertile enough to enable men without capital or knowledge of farming to set up for themselves in the manner proposed.

PERSONAL.

Major-Gen. Sir Francis de Winton, K.C.M.G., who has lately arrived in England from Mombasa, will not return to East Africa. Sir Francis, who for the last year has been chief of the British East Africa Company, has suffered somewhat in health, and intends remaining in England for some time.

Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, is still suffering from the effects of the cold contracted in the election campaign, and on Wednesday made his appearance in the House for the first time for several days.

The *Army and Navy Gazette*, noticing the hundredth birthday of that distinguished Canadian, Sir Provo Wallis, says: "The veteran Admiral of the Fleet, who on Sunday last attained his one hundredth birthday, received some scores of telegrams and letters, and was, we are told, able to read them all himself with much pleasurable satisfaction. The Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Mayor and Corporation of his birthplace, among others, sent hearty congratulations and wishes for his continued good health. At the request of his medical adviser, the rejoicings at Funtington were of a quiet nature, so as not to unduly excite the aged seaman, and all visitors have been forbidden. The old officer, who, although he is confined to his bed, possesses all his faculties, and takes great interest in the forthcoming exhibition, is happy in the company of Lady Wallis, herself

over eighty years of age, and an old servant who manages the household."

Lieut. Viscount Kilcoursie, Grenadier Guards, has been appointed Aide-de-Camp to Lord Stanley of Preston, Governor General of Canada, in the place of Lieut. Hon. E. Stanley, Grenadier Guards, who has resigned the appointment. Lieut. Kilcoursie is expected to arrive in Ottawa this week.

DISCIPLINE—II.

(By Colonel H. B. Hanna, late Commanding at Delhi.—From the Broad Arrow.)

II.—CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD OFFICERS.

"My experience is that nothing can be, or ever has been, done without enthusiasm either in a body or some individuals."—SIR CHARLES MACGREGOR.

The chief characteristics of a good officer are reverence for lawful authority, impartiality, firmness, sympathy, enthusiasm. Out of reverence for lawful authority spring, first, cheerful obedience; secondly, the careful use of power. Impartiality inspires trust in subordinates; firmness commands their respect; sympathy gains their affection; enthusiasm fires their souls. Reverence for authority is so universally accepted as essential to an officer's character, that I shall do no more than place it at the head of his distinguishing virtues; impartiality and firmness, as finding most scope in the position of a commanding officer, will be dwelt upon in a later section, whilst in this I will speak of sympathy and enthusiasm, qualities which are equally necessary in all officers, and yet are not always valued as they should be.

Some ignorant people even confound sympathy with weakness, and hold it to be incompatible with discipline, whereas it is the very essence of all sound discipline. No stricter disciplinarian than Sir John Moore ever lived, yet no general could have sympathised more truly with his men, or have been more warmly beloved by them than this noblest of our soldiers. Many other commanders have possessed this inestimable virtue in a very high degree. No modern commander appreciated so thoroughly the value of its mysterious power, or could, for his own purposes, wield it with greater skill, than Napoleon Bonaparte, while in Wellington it was apparently absent; a terrible defect in his character, which, able man as he was, he must have keenly felt at times. Sir Frederick Roberts has it strongly, and it has stood him in good stead on more than one occasion, as it always will those who possess the gift and know how to use it rightly. Sympathy is by no means absent in an Englishman's character, but his natural reserve prevents its often coming to the surface. This reserve originates sometimes in false pride, sometimes in shyness; in the latter case time will often eradicate it, and good example will do much towards overcoming it, to whichever source it may be due. That example should be set to the junior by the senior officers, since the latter are primarily responsible for the discipline of a regiment, and it is by their influence that the characters of their young subordinates are mainly formed or marred.

Let them teach the young officer to feel and show a true and hearty sympathy for those placed under him, and to take pride in acquiring a moral influence over them. To do this he must know his men; must join in their sports and amusements; must display a willingness to aid and advise them on all occasions, and never grudge the time and trouble this will cost. A smile or cheery word will go a long way with most men, and even the brutal and surly may be favourably influenced by a kind and genial manner. All these things, and others, will quickly sow the good seed from which mutual respect and affection between an officer and his men are born.

In many regiments the sympathy I advocate does exist in a very high degree; but in others I regret to say there is a