
I assume that this country ought to provide 50,000 volunteers, to be organized on the best plan that can be devised for efficiency. As there will be no bounties to be paid, the first cost will be \$50 a head—to estimate lower, for an average of all arms, will only be to deceive. This will require an appropriation of \$2,500,000, a sum which, a few years ago, when railways were all the rage, would only have required the dash of the Inspector General's pen to carry through parliament. The annual charge (at \$8 a head) would be \$500,000, the \$100,000 for departmental and incidental expenses being added.

It will thus be seen that the first cost of providing 50,000 volunteers will be less than that of raising, equipping and housing 4,200 regulars, whilst the annual charges on the former will be about equal to the annual maintenance of 1250 of the latter. Those who favor the establishment of a regular force will do well to study the costliness of such a force.

In conclusion of these observations I shall venture to express an opinion as to how and where the volunteer force should be enlisted. To incur a large expenditure in raising men on a wrong principle would be highly impolitic. Those who may desire to enter a volunteer service should be required to hold themselves ready to march at any time they may be called on, and to any part of the Province, and to serve for a period of not less than a year in case of war, or threatened invasion. Such as will not enter on those terms (being provided with pay and rations equal to the United States service,) are not worth having. Possibly not over half of those now drilling in our towns and cities would be able to leave their avocations if asked to do so.

We must therefore look to our agricultural population which constitutes about 80 per cent of the whole, for our volunteer forces. It strikes me that the best mode of distributing this force would be to give to every township or parish the right to raise a company of infantry, cavalry or artillery, of a strength proportionate to its inhabitants. Towns and cities may be better adapted to some branches of the service. If so, let them have such branches. By this arrangement every part of the country will have ocular demonstration of the result of our military organization. The people everywhere will see that the money they are called on to contribute is expended for the object for which it is raised, and it will be spent equally all over the country. Besides, it may reasonably be supposed that the presence in