

THE CANADIAN
MILITARY GAZETTE,
 (Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)
 ESTABLISHED 1885.
 PUBLISHED AT MONTREAL
 ON THE
 1st and 15th of each Month.
 DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE
 MILITARY FORCES OF CANADA.

SUBSCRIPTION:

Canada and the United States, per annum, - \$2.00
 Great Britain, Ireland and Postal Union
 Countries, - - - - - 10s 6d. stg.
 Single Copies, - - - - - 10 cents

Subscriptions are in every instance payable in advance, and the publishers request the favor of prompt remittance.

Unpaid accounts are subject to sight draft. Remittances should be made by post-office order or registered letter. No responsibility is assured for subscriptions paid to agents, and it is best to remit direct.

The date when the subscription expires is on the address label of each paper, the change of which to a subsequent date becomes a receipt for remittance. No other receipt is sent unless requested.

Immediate notice should be given of any delay or failure in the receipt of the GAZETTE.

No attention is paid to anonymous communications, but the wishes of contributors as to the use of their names will be scrupulously regarded.

All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2170, Montreal.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 1, 1896.

Notes and Comments

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

The CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE wishes its readers a happy and prosperous new year.

For the militia we trust that 1896 will prove a less troubled one than '95, and that the government, which seems to have realized the folly of trying to reduce the effectiveness of the already half-starved militia, the main defence of the country, will inaugurate a policy more consistent with its cry of the "old flag," and place Canada in a position of being a strong link instead of a weak spot in the great British empire.

We have every hope that such will be the case. The present minister seems to have taken his work to heart, and will have an energetic supporter in the ministry in the person of Lieut.-Col. Prior, of British Columbia, and with the present crisis across the lines to give force to the demands of the Minister of Militia and Defence, the House will surely not be behind hand in providing the "sinews of war," which so far no ministry seems to have had the backbone to request.

May we venture to wish to the militia that in the future the whole force will be drilled for at least two weeks every year; that its old knapsacks will be replaced by a modern valise equipment; that it

old gaspipes be relegated to their cases, and Martini-Metfords or Lee-Metfords be placed in their hands. Is this too much to wish? We think not.

It is our opinion that a well organized, well equipped, and well armed force would contribute not a little to ensure peace with our neighbors, and should it do so, its cost would be amply repaid to the country.

The MILITARY GAZETTE celebrates as successor to the Militia Gazette its tenth birthday, beginning its eleventh volume with this issue, and takes this occasion to thank its subscribers for their support in the past. The vicissitudes of the Gazette have been many, but at all times it has endeavored to fill its field as watch-dog of the forces as honestly as it could. It stands to-day in a higher and more independent position than ever before, and it only needs on the part of our subscribers a little help in the shape of payment of back subscriptions to place it on a thoroughly sound footing. May we ask at this time of year that you examine the date on the wrapper of your paper. You may be startled at the amount you owe. But don't be scared. We will accept any amount, be it a \$2 or a \$10 bill—everything goes.

The American politicians and newspapers that comment so flip-pantly and boldly on President Cleveland's threat that if Great Britain does not submit to the delimitation of the boundaries of British Guiana by a Yankee commission she will have to submit to war, cannot possibly stop to think what they are talking about, without they regard the whole thing as a political joke. Owing to the great extent of her seaboard, the importance of her defenceless sea-ports and shipping, and the glaring insignificance of her tenth-rate navy and army, the United States is no match in a military way for the wealthiest empire and dominating sea power of the world. At only one point is the British empire at all exposed to American attack, and that is Canada. Canadians are perfectly ready to do their share, if things ever come to the worst, with this ridiculously self-important republic to the south of us and Canadian resistance to a

Yankee invasion would be a pretty hard nut for the invaders to crack if the government would but carry out some sensible system of national defence. The royal navy and the regular army would easily attend to the rest.

As a matter of fact the United States appears to have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a war with Britain—the empire everything to gain and nothing to lose. A fortnight after a declaration of war would find the American flag swept from the seas, British guns dominating the republic's sea-ports and probably another British army at Washington dictating terms of peace to the blatherskite senators. Great Britain will probably not be as half-hearted as she was the last time, when she next has to administer a lesson to her precocious and over-reaching offspring. The great American spread eagle is quite a bird on his own dung hill, but he will find himself pretty light poultry if he once causes the British lion to really show fight.

About the coolest thing in all of of this long drawn-out Venezuelan Monroe Doctrine discussion is Mr. Olney's remark, "That distance and 3,000 miles of intervening ocean make any permanent political union between a European and an American state unnatural and inexpedient will hardly be denied." No wonder Lord Salisbury wrote in reply: "Her Majesty's government are prepared emphatically to deny it, on behalf of both the British and American people who are subject to her crown. They maintain that the union between Great Britain and her territories in the western hemisphere is both natural and expedient." The London Times adds: "A power which has command of the sea does not regard the 3,000 miles of intervening ocean as severing it from its subjects."

Has Canada done her whole duty towards the empire by preparing for such a contingency as that threatened by President Cleveland? Is she doing her duty now?

The Montreal Star fails to see why Canada should be expected to make any further contributions