

Palace, and volunteered Artillery and Infantry for the front at Sebastopol, and for the campaign of the Indian mutiny. The writer appears also to have forgotten the Artillery Brigades of Norfolk and Suffolk, with an establishment of probably 1,300 of all ranks, of whom three-fourths are old soldiers of from 8 to 10 years' service, and of two periods of embodiment. But that is not remarkable, for, obscure as has been the lot of the infantry of the Line of Militia, the country seems to be unaware that there is any Artillery force. I do not speak for a moment of the Artillery of the Volunteer service—through and excellent soldiers of discipline, and not inferior to that of the regular or Militia Artillery.

It is not to be supposed that the Government of this great country will deliberate in public on matters of such vital importance as its military preparations by sea and land, but as an earnest supporter of their general policy I counsel them in some degree to abandon their lofty reticence. For instance, the public know next to nothing of the defences of Harwich, where I have recently been in command. The works that defend that harbour and roadstead would sink the stoutest ironclad squadron for which the anchorage could find berth. Yet the public know little of this, and I do not think the army knows more. The Government by its silence does itself injustice. Popular writers play at writing invasion stories, and the public is partly amused and partly awed; but in the one case without the lively appreciation that works of fiction should secure, and in the other without the bracing of the spirit which leads to great deeds. Believe this from one who has studied the subject of home defence before there was a volunteer, or an iron-clad, or a rifled piece of ordnance, or a breech-loading rifle: that the resources of England are amply sufficient for her defence if she is in earnest in the matter, and will listen neither to excuse nor self-seeking in this last of national requirements. For, sir, I take leave here with some diffidence, as overpassing my professional boundary, and trespassing on your domain, to differ from you in the conclusions which you draw. The generation which has seen the Danish, the Crimean, the Austro-Prussian, the Italian, and the Franco-Prussian Wars, the gigantic struggle in the United States of America, and the Indian Mutiny, and which calls to mind the slight incidents which gave notice of each successive burst of the tempest, must have lost not merely the gift of prescience, but the simplest power of exercising memory and of applying reasoning if it take not heed sometimes.—*Acadian Recorder*.

We copy from the *Manitoban* of 13th May, received three days ago, the following regimental order issued by Lieut. Col. Casault to the 2nd Battalion of the Red River Expeditionary force previous to its disbandment.

LOWER FORT GARRY, 29th April, 1871.  
REGIMENTAL ORDER No. 6.

The Lieut. Col. Commanding cannot see this fine Battalion disbanded without much regret.

In spite of the reckless party spirit which incited some unscrupulous writers for the Press to try to discourage the men at the outset, and then belittle their success—in spite of a still worse class of politicians who tried to tamper with the men—it is no mean subject of pride and satisfaction to see that, while the "2nd Quebec Rifles" was not the last in overcoming difficul-

ties and dangers on the way, its behaviour since its arrival here leaves nothing to be desired, that in a country lately convulsed by party strife, without courts of law, and until lately without any of the machinery of government—where heart burnings produced, by much to be regretted events on the one side—and apprehensions and distrust on the other—went far to fan party passions into a flame, and made the situation at all times delicate, and sometimes dangerous and critical—the second Battalion has been able to secure the good will and confidence of the citizens of Manitoba of whatever creed and nationality; that it has been a source of reliance and strength to the Government and all those wishing to abide by legality and order, while it cannot have failed to inspire serious misgivings in others.

Although a few bad characters have swelled the list of military offences, not any one act of any one member of the Battalion can be cited in the least degree impairing or compromising any of the interests of this Province. The Commanding Officer is proud to see that all ranks have kept a single eye to the good of our common country, put aside sectionalism, and understand that what is the real lasting prosperity of any one Province of the Confederation, is equally for the benefit of all.

Discipline and cheerful discharge of duty under the strict administration of Military Law, deserving at all times of praise, were under the peculiar circumstances, accompanied by highly patriotic and spirited behaviour; and the Commanding Officer can assure the men of the Battalion, that when the difficulties we had to contend with become more generally known and appreciated, a grateful country will not easily forget the "Second Quebec Rifles."

Meanwhile all ranks will have the satisfaction to know that their Battalion would do credit to any country, and every officer and man may rest assured that his having served in the "Second" will be a credit to him during life.

The Lieut. Col. Commanding begs especially to notice the high-mindedness with which the men enlisted in Ontario have helped us to sustain the credit of our Province. Many of them are among the best men of the Battalion.

The Lieut. Col. Commanding, tenders his best thanks to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Battalion, and begs to assure them of his very earnest wishes for their future welfare and prosperity.

#### PRESENTATION.

The following address was presented to Col. Dowker, on the occasion of the break up of the Laprairie Camp, by Quartermaster Balfour, on behalf of the Second Brigade;—

CAMP AT LAPRAIRIE,

July 12th, 1871.

TO MAJOR DOWKER, M. G. A.,  
Supply Officer.

SIR,—We, the Quartermasters of the several Battalions comprising the second Brigade, lately doing duty in camp at Laprairie, with the entire approval of our respective commanding officers, do hereby tender you our warm and most sincere thanks for the very able, soldierly, and impartial manner in which you have performed your various arduous duties as Supply Officer. It is our earnest desire at all times to pay a just tribute to well-earned merit, and would, therefore, assure you, personally, that your invariable kindness and courtesy, during our

term of duty, will long be remembered with the most lively feelings of gratitude and esteem.

With our best wishes for your future success, and trusting that a gracious Providence will long spare you amongst us,

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very obt. servants,

R. BALFOUR, Qr.-master,  
1st of Prince of Wales Rifles

RICHARD W. MCGREGOR, Qr.-master,  
11th Batt. Infantry.

ALEXANDER WINTER, Qr.-master,  
53rd Batt. Infantry.

L. THOMAS, Jr., Qr.-master,  
54th Batt. Infantry.

JOHN H. COOK, Qr.-master,  
58th Batt. Infantry.

Major Dowker made the following reply:—

MONTREAL, 12th July, 1871.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to the address which you have just handed me, with the approval of your respective commanding officers, as to the manner in which I have performed my duties as Supply Officer at the Laprairie Camp, I can only say that on receiving the appointment from Col. Smith, D. A. G., I determined to do my duty to the best of my ability, and I can assure you that it is most gratifying to me, to hear from those with whom I have been so closely connected, that my services have been so fully appreciated, more particularly, as you are all aware of those unfounded reports which were circulated concerning bad and insufficient rations.

This address which you have so kindly volunteered to me is the best possible evidence of the incorrectness of these reports. I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing to you what I have already done to my superior officers, viz.: the very great efficiency and earnestness with which you have one and all performed your duty.

In wishing you farewell, I trust we may meet again under similar favourable circumstances, and under equally efficient commanding officers.

I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

GEO. DOWKER,

To the Quartermasters', Major.  
2nd Brigade,  
Camp of Laprairie.

#### THE "GREAT NATIONAL LOAN."

The "great National loan" of the United States appears to have been a failure. The amount asked for in the first place, was \$200,000,000, of which it appears about \$66,800,000 had been taken up; and in the second place, a further loan of \$136,000,000 was called for. The terms upon which this second instalment would be taken were extensively advertised in almost every paper in the Union, in some few in Canada, and in the leading London journals. If this had been successful it would have been followed by other calls for loans, in the aggregate amounting to \$1,300,000,000.—But the loan seems to have failed, for within the last few days the Secretary of the Treasury has instructed the agent of the department to withdraw the advertisement except from a few newspapers, alleging as a reason that the result will not justify the expenditure. The object was to refund the national debt, at a uniform rate of five per cent interest, and it was thought that it would be met with such general favor that the whole of the \$1,634,000,000 would be promptly taken up in the United States.