

exceeded by 4000 men, and that in place of 10,000 men there was actually 14,000 doing duty with the Service Force.

"This excess was occasioned by the fact that the Staff Officers, in view of the limited time allowed for the muster of the force, were obliged to call out the different companies at their actual strength; but the eagerness to share in the defence of the country was such that the companies were increased to their full strength by men coming to join them from distances which could not be anticipated. There were many instances of Volunteers coming in from distant parts of the United States, having given up lucrative employment at the call of the duty which they owed to Canada.

"The Fenians would indeed have proved the invaluable though involuntary benefactors of Canada, if the only experience derived from their foolish proceedings had been the proofs of warm attachment exhibited by Canadians universally for the land of their birth or adoption. But the benefits conferred by the 'Brotherhood' do not stop here. By uniting all classes and by the opportunity afforded of testing the military organization, they have given to the Province a proud consciousness of strength, and have been the means of obtaining for it, in England in particular, and before the world at large, that status and consideration as a great people to which by the magnitude of its resources and by the spirit and intelligence of its population it is justly entitled."

The corps under Major General Lindsay's observation, elicited from that officer the following remarks, in his report made at the time:

"In March and June the Volunteer force was suddenly called out for active service, on account of threatened Fenian incursions. These calls were obeyed with such alacrity that the enrolled men literally sprang to arms on their services being required by their country.

"The latter emergency took place at a period where the greater part of the members of the force were exposed to much inconvenience and personal loss. They cheerfully left their agricultural and commercial pursuits, and at once responded to the demand of duty to the state.

"I now proceed to call attention to some deficiencies in organization as they appeared to me during the recent emergency, with a view of more complete arrangements in the event of the force being again called into the field.

#### "COMMISSARIAT.

"On both occasions when the Volunteer Militia force has been called out, troops have been sent to occupy certain stations at very short notice, and on arrival they are billeted and make their own arrangements for their subsistence. This is, no doubt, the simplest mode of action, as well as the most convenient, and, as long as the force is small no difficulty occurs. But it is evident that if a large force is suddenly thrown on a locality unprepared for their reception, danger exists of the troops being without sufficient food—and this actually occurred at Huntingdon, although I thought it my duty to issue an order to officers commanding corps to the effect that they were responsible for the arrangements for certain commissariat supplies for their men. yet I think it desirable that upon any future occasion when the force is called out that a Commissariat Staff should be at once formed. An officer at headquarters of a district should, for the period of service, be responsible for making any necessary preparations at the lo-

calities to which troops are ordered, and with whom officers commanding should communicate. If the militia authorities think it would be more satisfactory, there is no objection to the commissariat of the regular troops furnishing supplies when the volunteer force is at a station where there are regular troops but at other stations this cannot be done.

#### "MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

"On the force being placed on active employment it would be desirable to have a medical officer attached to the headquarters of the Militia Department, who would be responsible for arrangement in communicating with the Inspector General and principal Purveyor of Her Majesty's forces, and who would carry out the necessary measures for the due provision of the probable requirements of the troops at each station."

In closing his report, Major General Lindsay adds:

"The general conduct of the Volunteer force has been excellent. There have been very few court-martials for so large a force, and wherever they have been, I have reason to believe they have secured the good will of the inhabitants of the locality in which they have been stationed.

"I have only to add that the Volunteer force have proved themselves loyal and enthusiastic in the defence of their country. They have shown the obedience so necessary in soldiers. They have exhibited fortitude and cheerfulness in the discomfort and difficulties of camp life, outpost duty, patrolling, &c."

In June, 1866, the Fenian force actually crossed the border at Fort Erie, but their reception (now a matter of historical record) was such as caused them to follow quickly in the footsteps of all who had in previous years made attempts at aggressive warfare on Canadian soil.

Referring to the state of the force in 1867 the Adjutant-General in his report for that year says:

"The experience acquired in the two years and nine months of the working of the Volunteer system has convinced the Adjutant-General that of the several weak points which are inherent in an organization which is neither altogether civil nor altogether military, that which is most opposed to its success is the feeling entertained by the men that their military service subjects them to a burden of expense and inconvenience, which is not shared by other classes of the community. A volunteer contributes in the same proportion with those other classes towards the expense of the military establishments of the country, but he gives his personal service in addition. In peaceful times this personal service, under the system hitherto pursued, is as little onerous as possible. But it is far otherwise when, owing to any emergency, the volunteer is placed on active service for a continuous period. The pay he receives in return for his continuous service is, without doubt, in most cases, a very inadequate compensation for the loss of his usual employment. It is an axiom which few will dispute that all citizens should contribute equally in proportion to their powers towards the burdens imposed for the defence of their country; and those who do not contribute their personal service should be forced to compensate for their exemption by a money payment. The State has a right to require that every citizen should make some sacrifice of his ease and comfort towards the object of providing for the common defence, and

the volunteer or militia man may equitably be required to give his personal service when, but not unless, the other classes of the community are compelled to make a pecuniary sacrifice from which the volunteer or militiaman is exempt. And the only sound basis on which, in a country like Canada any successful system of compulsory Militia service can be erected is the practical recognition of the principle, that every man not actually contributing his personal service during any one year, should pay a tax in money which should bear some proportion to the property for which the military force of the country is to afford protection. Without the practical recognition of this principle it is impossible that the compulsory militia service of the country can ever be cheerfully performed by those on whom it is imposed.

"As a preparative against any further emergency requiring the volunteer force to take the field, the whole force was, in the autumn of 1866, told off in field brigades and garrisons of posts, and an arrangement for combining in the most useful manner the action of that force with that of the regular troops was made by the Lieutenant-General commanding.

Of these field brigades three were formed in Western Canada, four in Eastern Canada. The component corps and brigade staff were detailed and the points of assembly fixed.

The Staff officers are provided with a list of the stores which are required to enable each brigade to take the field, and will draw them from the storekeepers, who have orders to issue them on the shortest notice.

Similarly, the Commissariat officer of each brigade is prepared to provide the necessary transport to enable it to move at the shortest notice.

These volunteer corps which do not form part of the above moveable columns are formed into brigades by districts, of which each will have its Volunteer Commandant and Brigade Major. These corps will be employed in garrison duty, in guarding frontier towns and villages, and important points on the lines of canal or railroad communication. The duties of the Commandant and Brigade Major will be to organize a system of look out parties and patrols suited to the localities; and to visit constantly all the posts within their respective Brigade Districts.

The adoption of these measures enables Canadians to laugh at the grandiloquent plans of the Fenians for the invasion of their territory. One or more of the field brigades above described could be assembled with certainty at any point threatened by an enemy having any pretence to military organization before the enemy could reach the same point; and supposing the Fenians to be able to bring up to any point on the frontier 5000 men at one time with any semblance of military array, which is a gratuitous and even preposterous supposition, any such force opposed to one of the field brigades above described would be like a child in the hands of a giant.

(To be continued.)

The London Times learns on good authority that Tuesday, the 21st of March, has been fixed for the marriage of her Royal Highness Princess Louise and the Marquis of Torone.

A tradesman who had failed in the city of Bangor, wrote on his front door, "payment suspended for thirty days." A friend reading this said, "You have not dated the notice." No," said he, "I did not intend to do so, it would run out if I did."