

Second—High contracting parties shall hereafter enforce this rule in their treaties with all foreign powers, and will endeavor to induce the adoption of this rule as the principle of international law.

Third—The class of claims known as the *Alabama* claims shall be submitted to a commission, to consist of five members, one to be appointed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate; one by the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland; one by the Emperor of Brazil; one by the President of the Republic of Switzerland; and one by the King of Italy. This Commission shall meet in Washington within six months after the ratification of this convention. The Commission shall decide the responsibility of Great Britain in each case, and declare any damages that may be found. If either of the three powers last mentioned fails to appoint their commissioner, the vacancy shall be filled by the King of Sweden and Norway.

Fourth—In case of a vacancy in the Commission, said vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Fifth—The members of the Commission shall be sworn not to be prejudiced in advance, and to decide each claim on the evidence presented to them, being guided, however, by the rule laid down in the first article of this convention, viz: that a nation shall be responsible for depredations committed on a friendly power by vessels fitted out and manned in neutral ports. All claims shall be filed with the Commissioners within six months after their meeting, unless good reasons shall be shown for delay, in which case the Commission may extend the time for the presentation of claims. The final decision upon all claims must be made within two years from the time of the first meeting of the Commission. All sums of money shall be paid in gold at Washington, in such a manner as the Commission may decide. No decision of the Commission shall be binding on either of the high contracting parties unless agreed to by one of the two commissioners representing those high contracting parties.

Sixth—This article empowers the commission to employ all necessary clerks and assistants, and that the expenses of the High Commission shall be borne fully by the high contracting parties, and that all bills shall be paid on the vouchers of the Commissioners, who will enter into the details with reference to these matters.

Seventh—This article provides that in case Commission should fail to agree on any claim, such claims shall be referred to a Board of three members, one to be appointed by the President of the United States with the sanction of the Senate, one by the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and one by the Emperor of Russia. This Board shall meet at New York within four months after the judgment of the commissioners, and shall take the testimony at length and decide as to the facts, amounts due, etc. This provision is evidently intended to cover doubtful cases, with reference to which the other Commission has not time to take the necessary testimony.

Eighth—The last article relates to the expenses of the Board last named, and is similar to the sixth in all its essential particulars.

Such, it is said, is the basis of the agreement which the Joint High Commission has come to for the settlement of the *Alabama* claims.

Later—The statement published in New York purporting to be the terms agreed upon

by the High Commission for the settlement of the *Alabama* claims is viewed here as erroneous, as the expressions of members of the Commission do not warrant the belief that an agreement has been reached.

THE DEFENCES OF CANADA.

IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS BY GEN. LINDSAY.

The following appears in a recent Blue-book:

"MONTREAL, 26th July 1870.

The Canadian Government has not accepted the offer of the transfer of officers and men from the Imperial to the Dominion service which according to my instructions I made in former communications, but I do not feel myself absolved in consequence from indicating several important points which demand immediate consideration, owing to the altered military circumstances of Canada.

"The future arrangements will, I apprehend be based entirely upon the existing militia system which was established with great care by the present Minister of Militia while Colonel MacDougall, who had long experience, was still Adjutant General of Militia.

"While I disclaim any wish or intention to dictate respecting, or interfere with the military system of Canada (of the practical working and application of which to the habits and feelings of the country the Government should be the best judge). I must express my strong opinion that no system will meet the case unless it is worked in a military manner, and with a view to military efficiency.

"The points to which I desire to refer may be stated as follows:

1st. Permanent arrangements necessary in consequence of the withdrawal of the troops.

2nd. Special arrangements necessary in consequence of Fenian apprehensions.

3rd. The organization of command and administration of the militia.

4th. The care of armaments, munitions of war, reserve stores, fortifications, lands and buildings.

5th. Military instructions.

"1st. The permanent arrangement necessary, consequent on the withdrawal of the troops.

"Garrisons must be found for Quebec, Kingston, Isle aux Noix.

"If Montreal and St. John, N.B., are to be fortified they must be held also. The occupation of any other point must depend upon the views of the Canadian Government.

"The permanent force to be employed should be artillery, as it is not only the arm most wanted in a fortress, but can most easily receive therein the special and longer training which it requires.

"At Quebec the citidal will alone want a garrison. Caretakers must be put into each fort at Point Lévis. Some 300 men should suffice.

"At Kingston, Fort Henry will take about 100 men, while Isle aux Noix will want a detachment of 30 only.

"The necessity of keeping a garrison in this latter place is owing to the danger of the Fenians possessing themselves of it. Apprehensions on this score might be removed by the destruction of the works.

"The system under which this force shall be provided depends entirely on Govern-

ment, and may partake of a special and permanent character, or may be engrafted on the militia, and made a means of widely applying military instructions.

"It appears to me that the latter plan is the most in harmony with the position of Canada.

"2nd Special arrangement necessary in consequence of Fenian apprehensions.

"Experience has shown the character of these raids, and what has to be provided against. The frequent alarms and calls to service have interfered with people's occupations more than the actual inroads, and the object should be to give a sense of security which would prevent the militia being concentrated earlier, or in larger numbers than absolutely necessary.

"This sense of safety on the water frontier from Cornwall to Goderich, would be given by three gunboats, well commanded and disciplined, more perfectly and more cheaply than by many battalions of militia. This number of boats therefore should certainly be kept up in a state of efficiency.

"But on the 45° parallel, from Huntingdon to Sherbrooke, and perhaps also on the Niagara and St. Clair frontiers, I recommend the establishment of a body of mounted riflemen, who should receive a yearly sum on condition of attending a certain number of drills, of knowing the use of a rifle and of keeping a good horse to ride.

"In each district an intelligent Commander should be named to direct this frontier force and to combine its efforts with the Regular Militia supporting it in rear.

"As the troops in garrisons would form the beginning of an artillery force so the frontier riflemen would supply eventually, additional cavalry to the army of the Dominion.

"Thus future contingencies would be provided against in meeting present requirements.

"The defence of the Huntingdon frontier requires the establishment of a communication with that town, via Coteau and Donaghue's landing or Port Lewis, which should be arranged accordingly.

3rd. The organization of the command and administration of the militia.

"There has hitherto been a General Officer in Canada to give advice and assistance in military matters, and to assume command in an emergency. The administrative departments of the army, now consolidated into the Control, have also been available to provide supplies, stores and transport, if necessary for the militia.

"A professional man whose rank and experience carry weight, is absolutely necessary at the head of a Militia of 40,000. Such a force must entail a large charge upon the country, and unless it is well instructed, disciplined and equipped, and also well commanded and put into vigorous action when necessary, the money spent upon it is thrown away.

I strongly recommend, therefore, that the Canadian Government should ask the Home authorities, to send out for service here, a Major-General, who would be the Chief Military adviser of Government; inspect, and when necessary, command, the militia, and undertake all those duties connected with it which, by a recent Order in Council at home, have been assigned to the Commander-in-Chief of the British army in respect to the Reserve Forces.

I believe that all branches of the Militia, Troops, Staff, Control, would gain immensely by such an appointment, and that while the Militia system was being developed in accordance with the wants of Canada, it