

## THE SPEECH OF H. E. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

His Excellency the Earl of Minto said he had heard many military lectures, but never one that went straighter to the point than Capt. Winter's had been. In connection with the creation of an army the organization of a staff was the first thing to be done. With such an organization, in case of emergency the difficulty of mobilization would be much lessened. The recent Hispano-American War was a most valuable lesson in this respect, and in the matter of transportation and supplies. He pointed out how in the North West Rebellion of '85 the success of the campaign had been largely due to the fact that the Hudson's Bay Company had been able to supply at short notice an excellently organized transport and supply department. At no time did he think there were more than 700 half breeds in arms against General Middleton, and the numbers opposed to General Strange and Colonel Otter were probably less, but the strength of the Canadian Militia in the field and on the line of communications was very large. Speaking entirely from recollection it probably exceeded 7,000 men. This force was totally unsupplied as to transport or any of the departments necessary for a force in the field. The Hudson's Bay Company to a large extent supplied their wants, but the case was a peculiar one, and it would be worse than misleading to accept it for future guidance. His Excellency deplored the apathy shown by the ordinary citizen in regard to the welfare of the militia. Employers of labor should understand that the force was practically an insurance for them, and should give the militia a patriotic support. His Excellency also expressed the hope that the lecture might be printed and distributed; the lecturer had gone to the root of the trouble in attacking the question of funds, and was perfectly right in laying much stress upon the importance and necessity for some kind of administrative developments for the militia—all these things cost money—particularly at first, but if not done beforehand it was quite impossible to do so in a time of stress and danger, or, if possible, only at a very increased expense and sacrifice. He hoped, as time went on, they would appreciate the force better. General Hutton had started out on the right lines, and he thought they were lines which the country would appreciate. He trusted the result would be a perfect army machine. (Cheers.)

Col. Foster, Quartermaster-General, congratulated the lecturer on the able way in which the importance of organization to an army had been presented, and said he could add nothing to what had been said so clearly and emphatically. He would however like to tell the audience that the efforts of Canada to organize her forces were attracting attention across the frontier, as well as in England. Col. Foster had lately been in New York, and had met the Governor of that State, Col. Roosevelt, who told him that the efforts of Canada to create a national militia army were being watched with great interest. He pointed out the advantage Canada had in having one central government for military purposes, in place of each Province having its own, as each State had in the United States. The militia in England under local