

annexation caucuses, to find at home an infallible cure for all the troubles of which they complain. With their assistance we might hope to eradicate the evils that afflict our system as it exists at present, and they are certain of obtaining for their own well-beloved Province all that they can conscientiously demand. We cannot believe that the simple act of Confederation has been the cause of all the evils which we are told by its opponents have arisen from it. The cause of the repeal excitement was, at the beginning, merely sentimental, and by designing demagogues it was nursed until, like an ugly, quarrelsome brat, it threatens to turn round and thrash its parents. We believe that to reach the true source of this trouble we will have to go far deeper than what is so persistently kept upon the surface; to speak plainly, Confederation is not the direct cause of Nova Scotian discontent, and no one knows it better than the loud-voiced opponents of that measure. Poverty never yet sat well on a proud stomach, and the wisdom of honest endeavour will have to be better cultivated in the East before the people of that part of the country, now being led astray by persons who, to use an expressive American vulgarity, cannot get their axes ground at the Dominion grindstone.

The great mass of the Canadian people are thoroughly earnest in their desire of establishing permanently on a broad and firm basis the British Empire in America, they will not for a moment entertain the idea of annexation, nor will they submit to any curtailment of the proportions of the Dominion. If the Nova Scotians will plainly and candidly point out where they are aggrieved and suggest what they require the Canadian Commons will readily institute measures for their relief, but, by persisting in their present vain, declamatory course, they only weary and will eventually disgust. In spite, however, of all the noise that has been made, and the bitterness of feelings that has been roused, the material prosperity of the Province offers gratifying proof that Confederation has at least done it no harm. Yet the people desire, and the wish is natural enough, a greater and more rapid development of their resources; their country is rich in possession of many natural products and advantages while their situation upon the seaboard gives them immense commercial importance. Now if this people, realizing the position they hold in Confederation as the gate of the Dominion for at least one half of the year, and the impetus that will be given to their trade when they are brought into closer commercial relationship with the wealthy and enterprising West, they may see that in a very few years they will advance as rapidly in prosperity as Ontario, and secure almost a monopoly of the carrying trade of the Dominion. Besides this they will possess the inestimable blessing of public security, a thing unknown in the distracted Republic which they seem to admire so much. A brilliant future is before

them if they go to work in the right spirit and, in aiding the West in solving the grand problem of nationality, receive in the future an abundant reward in peace and prosperity. So—"Let us have peace."

In the present issue will be found the Prize List and rules of the next great prize meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association. It will be observed that the Council has made some material alterations in the programme as compared with last year, a greater number of prizes are offered for competition, and by far the larger amount given to the Snider-Enfield. It will be remembered that considerable dissatisfaction was caused last year by the disproportionate amounts offered for "fancy" rifle matches to the detriment of the military arm; small-bores were in the ascendant and the volunteers were consequently disgusted with the partiality thus shown. This was a mistake, excusable, perhaps, in the first meeting; and we are glad to see the Council has prevented discontent on that score in the coming matches. There are eleven competitions in all, counting the second stages, and are distributed as follows:—All Comers' Match, Enfields, total prizes \$630; Dominion of Canada Match \$1,400; Provincial Match \$180; Macdougall Challenge Cup, value \$200, presented by Mrs. Macdougall wife of the late Adjutant General, with an addition of \$175 by the Association. All Comers' International Match, open to all comers of any nation, \$655. Time Match for breech-loading rifles \$400. Nursery Stakes, value of prize \$325. Military Match \$150. The Wimbledon regulations of 1867 have been adopted with certain modifications which will be seen by reference to Advertisement. The Bedford Range, where the meeting is to take place, is the finest in the Dominion, and a local committee of gentlemen resident in Halifax are arranging it for the coming event. The route and mode of transit for those intending to be present will be published in due time, and it is expected that arrangements will be entered into with the various Railway and Steamboat Companies for the conveyance of Volunteers intending to compete. This meeting will give Western men such an opportunity as may not occur again of taking a trip to the seaside and of enjoying the holidays of Summer in a manner not often attainable, and we have no doubt but great numbers will take advantage of the occasion to visit the Maritime Provinces of which they have heard so much, and of forming for themselves an estimate of the Bluenoses, whom we remember as a most kindly and hospitable people. As things are at present the meeting bids fair to be far more successful than the last, and we hope the Council will receive every encouragement in bringing it to a successful issue. So far they have done all in their power to insure success, and we anticipate a national turn-out from all parts of the Dominion on the 17th of August.

The Militia Estimates for the year have been published, and we find by comparison with last year that Sir George E. Cartier intends to fulfil his promise with regard to economy in the administration of the department. For the financial year commencing July 1st, 1869 we find the following reductions:—Salaries, \$1,025; Drill Instructors, \$10,000; Military Schools, \$40,000; Ammunition, \$20,000; Clothing, \$10,000; Military Stores, \$10,000; Drill pay and incidental expenses, \$15,000; Contingencies, &c., \$78,000; some items that appear in the estimate for last year are left out, and those in reference to gunboats, barracks, &c., greatly reduced. The nominal amount of the reduction is \$126,075, but in reality the sum reaches the pretty large amount of \$234,075, which is caused by the revote of monies appropriated last session. The items are given as follows:—

Ordinary.	1869-70	1868-9
Salaries of Mil. Branch and District Staff.....	\$52,925 00	\$54,000 00
Salaries of Brigade Majors.....	25,000 00	25,000 00
Salaries of Drill Instructors.....	40,000 00	50,000 00
Military Schools.....	80,000 00	120,000 00
Ammunition.....	30,000 00	50,000 00
Clothing.....	65,000 00	75,000 00
Military Stores.....	45,000 00	55,000 00
Public armouries and care of arms, including pay of storekeepers and caretakers, storemen, and the rent, fuel, &c., of public armouries...	50,000 00	50,000 00
Drill pay and camp purposes, and all other incidental expenses connected with the training of the Militia.....	212,000 00	227,000 00
Contingencies and general service not otherwise provided for, including assistance to Rifle Associations and bands of efficient corps...	50,000 00	118,000 00
	749,925 00	

Revotes.  
Clothing.....40,000 00  
Drill pay and camp purposes.....38,000 00  
Targets.....5,000 00  
Drill sheds & rifle ranges 25,000 00

108,000 00

Extraordinary.		
Barrack accommodation.....	25,000 00	80,000 00
Military Survey.....	2,607 00	2,607 00
To meet the expense of any damage to arms....	5,000 00	
Gunboats.....	15,000 00	25,000 00
	47,697 00	

905,532 00 1,031,607 00

\*Includes \$65,000 for taking enrollments and other unforeseen expenses, not in estimate 1869-70.