

in addition to a very considerable number of independent companies, such as the Barrie, Whitby and Brampton companies, which in 1860 were for a short time associated with the Queen's Own Rifles.

Legislation changed almost yearly during this formative epoch. In 1856 a step of great importance was taken, the dispensing with the annual muster day. In 1859 the Volunteer Militia forces were ordered to drill for six consecutive days in each year, with pay at the rate of \$1 per day. More staff officers were appointed, in the persons of unpaid Assistant Adjutants-General. Then in 1862 volunteer corps were authorized, not to aggregate 10,000 men, brigade majors were

appointed for each military district, the days of drill for the active Militia were set at twelve in the year, not necessarily consecutive, the pay was placed at fifty cents per day—at which figure it has remained pretty constantly—paid instructors were authorized for the active and sedentary Militia, and drill associations were authorized. The authorizing of the use of instructors—drawn, partly from the Imperial troops in the Province, partly from England—probably was the most important of these enactments. For years close relations existed between the regulars and the Militia, and the former saw to it that their "auxiliaries" drilled as they probably have never drilled since. Then, in 1864, a series of further enactments was passed. One tilled still further the barren field of classification. It recognized no fewer than four classes—1st class service men, 2nd class service men, reserve and non-reserve Militiamen. It also revived the old county regimental division. It authorized six days of annual drill at fifty cents per day for the service men, placed the term of service at three years, and created the appointments of Adjutant-General and Deputy Adjutants-General. As for the non-service Militia, an attempt at enrolment, without service or drill, was made. Muster-day was also attempted again, and battalion and company divisions were recognized in addition to the regimental divisions. Most of these regulations were so much lumber, and are recalled to show how the old idea of elaborate classification survived.

But what was important was that schools of military instruction were established, with allowances to pupils. These were freely used, the Government granting \$50 to any person, officer or civilian, who took the trouble to attend and pass. Six were opened in old Canada and two in the

Maritime Provinces. The work, supervised by regular officers, was rigid, and a good deal was learned in the fifty-six days' course. The result was that a military spirit was infused in the people and a general desire among young men to serve their country. In all over 6,000 certificates were granted before the Imperial troops withdrew. In the same year the Volunteer Militia force was allowed to increase to 35,000 men. Soon after, in 1865, the Volunteer Militia was ordered sixteen days' drill at the familiar fifty cents a day, and examinations for officers were appointed—an important advance. Then, in 1866, it was enacted that the service Militia—as distinct from the Volunteer Militia—might be called out under pay. And then, about 1867, the

the danger from the Fenians appeared so threatening that about 3,000 of the Volunteer Militia were called out for garrison duty at Windsor, Niagara and La Prairie. These troops were organized into what were styled "administrative battalions," and were kept under arms for periods of from two to six months, gaining of course much valuable experience. Then there was a Fenian scare on March 17, 1866, and a sudden call was issued on that day for 10,000 Volunteer Militia. The call was answered by 14,000 men, and the Adjutant-General was of opinion that 30,000 men could have been procured in 48 hours. After three weeks of garrison duty the force was cut down to the 10,000 originally intended; then a few days

later nearly all the troops were sent home. During April and May all the corps on frontier service were relieved of duty. But all this time the forming of corps and the enlisting of men was going on apace. Twenty-nine of the present battalions date from that year and in three months the numbers rose from 19,500 to 33,750. Then, when the authorities were to some extent off their guard, the Fenians made their famous dash which culminated in the Ridgeway affair. On May 31, 14,000 Volunteer Militia were called out, on June 2 the whole of the Volunteer force was called out, and on June 3 more than 20,000 men were under arms. The events on the Niagara frontier are well known. On the St. Lawrence River the Militia from Cornwall to Kingston concentrated at Prescott and deterred the Ogdensburg Fenians from trying an invasion. On the Champlain frontier a force of 1,100 Volunteer Militia was posted in advance, at Huntingdon, with other detachments near, while the reserve force, 5,000 strong, at Montreal was composed partly of regulars and partly of Militia. These rather large forces were kept up for several weeks. Then for four years the



HON. FREDERICK W. BORDEN, B.A., M.D.,
Minister of Militia and Defence.

pay of volunteers on active service was assimilated with that of the regular troops.

All these changes were going on during the anxious time caused by the American Civil War and the Fenian menace which succeeded it. The Volunteer Militia were steadily drilling, their officers were being instructed, portions of them were frequently exercised in the field side by side with regular troops. In 1866 the latent danger became real as the Fenian organization took shape. By this time the force in Upper Canada numbered about 12,000, that in Lower Canada about 7,000, while the Maritime Provinces volunteers mustered something under 3,000 more. The regular troops were about 12,000 strong. In December, 1865,

land had peace, though the Fenian menace still hung over the frontier.

But Canada had learned her lesson, and in 1867 Confederation was accomplished. The Militia system underwent another change. It was now a Dominion instead of a provincial affair, and the Militia Act of 1868 gave the force the footing upon which it remains. The sharp distinction between the active and the sedentary Militia was now fully recognized. Some of the old elaborate classification remains, but it applies strictly to the method of applying a call for universal service, which would be issued only in case of very serious danger. The Act of 1868 recognized three subdivisions of the active Militia—the Volunteer, the