



# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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### BILL.

#### AN ACT RESPECTING THE MILITIA AND DEFENCE OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

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Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

#### COMMAND IN CHIEF.

I. As provided by the fifteenth section of "The British North America Act, 1867," the Command-in-Chief of the Land and Naval Militia, and of all Naval and Military Forces, of and in Canada, is vested in the Queen, and shall be exercised and administered by Her Majesty personally or by the Governor as Her Representative.

#### DEPARTMENT OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

II. There shall be a Minister of Militia and Defence who shall be charged with and be responsible for the administration of Militia Affairs, including all matters, involving expenditure, and of the fortifications, gun-boats, ordnance, ammunition, arms, armories, stores, munitions and habiliments of war belonging to Canada.

2. The Minister of Militia and Defence shall have the initiative in all Militia affairs involving the expenditure of money.

3. The Governor in Council shall, from time to time, make such orders as may be necessary respecting the duties to be performed by the Minister of Militia and Defence.

III. The Governor may appoint a Deputy of the Minister of Militia and Defence, and such other officers as may be necessary for

carrying on the business of the Department; and the duties of such Officers shall be prescribed, and their salaries fixed by the Governor in Council.

#### MILITIAMEN.

IV. The Militia shall consist of all the male inhabitants of Canada, of the age of eighteen years and upwards, and under sixty—not exempted or disqualified by law, and being British subjects by birth or naturalization; but Her Majesty may require all the male inhabitants of the Dominion, capable of bearing arms, to serve in case of a *Levee en Masse*:

V. The male population so liable to serve in the Militia, shall be divided into four classes.

The first class shall comprise those of the age of eighteen years and upwards, but under thirty years, who are unmarried, or widowers without children.

The second class shall comprise those of the age of thirty years and upwards, but under forty-five years, who are unmarried, or widowers without children.

The third class shall comprise those of the age of eighteen years and upwards, but under forty-five years, who are married, or widowers with children.

The fourth class shall comprise those of the age of forty five years and upwards, but under sixty years.

And the above shall be the order in which the male population shall be called upon to serve.

#### DIVISION OF MILITIA.

VI. The Militia shall be divided into Active and Reserve Militia.

The Active Militia shall consist of the Volunteer Militia, the Regular Militia, and the Marine Militia.

The Volunteer Militia shall be composed of corps raised by voluntary enlistment.

The regular Militia shall be composed of men who voluntarily enlist to serve in the same, or of men balloted to serve, or of men who voluntarily enlist to serve with the balloted men and of men balloted to serve.

The Marine Militia shall be composed of seamen, sailors, and persons whose usual occupation is upon any steam or sailing craft, navigating the waters of the Dominion.

The Reserve Militia shall consist of the whole of the men who are not serving in the Active Militia of the time being.

#### PERIOD OF SERVICE.

VII. Every Volunteer Corps duly authorized previously to and existing on

the day on which this Act shall come into force, including the officers commissioned thereto, shall for the purpose of this Act be held to be existing and shall be continued as such, subject to the provisions of this Act; and within three months after the day on which this Act shall come into force, all such corps shall be mustered by their Captains or Commanding officers, the provisions of this Act shall be explained to them, and such of the men as have not previously given notice of their desire to be discharged, shall take the oath hereinafter prescribed, and be re-enrolled as Volunteer Militia, and each man shall sign a muster roll; and thereafter such men of any Volunteer corps, in any Regimental Division, as complete three years continuous service in such corps, or complete three years including any previous continuous service in the same corps immediately before such muster, or had served three years continuously in such corps immediately before such muster, and are discharged after giving the required notice, shall not be liable to be balloted for any period of drill or training of the Active Militia, until all the other men in the first, second and third classes of militiamen in the company division within which they reside, have volunteered or been balloted to serve.

VIII. No member of a Volunteer Militia Corps, enrolled or re-enrolled under this Act, shall be permitted to retire therefrom in time of peace, without giving to his Commanding officer six months notice of his intention.

IX. Hereafter the period of service in the Volunteer Militia in time of peace shall be three years.

X. The period of service required of the regular and marine militia in time of peace shall be two years, and thence until other men are taken to serve in their stead, or they are relieved by order of Her Majesty; and such of the men as are enrolled in any service company of regular or marine militia, for drill and training during any such two years, shall not again be liable to be taken for drill and training, until all the other men in the first, second, and third classes of militiamen, in the company division, have volunteered or been balloted to serve.

XI. Any Volunteer or regular militiamen who shall have completed within the year immediately preceding the day on which this Act shall come into force, the full term of continuous service, according to the tenor of their articles of engagement, in the case of Volunteers, or the period of drill and training for which they were taken, in the case of regular militiamen, under the laws then existing in any of the Provinces within this