

that that family have for the British service and the respect which they hold towards it. The pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke and the six sons were published in the *Graphic*, and they are as fine and handsome a family as could be desired. There is no reason in the world why the advantage of a position in the Imperial service should be withheld from any of those in Canada who desire to occupy it. A great many people might say we are trying to get immigration into this country, and we should not drain the country of its population, but the class of men who go into the British service are military men at heart. Their desire for the life has been inherited from their forefathers. Canada has been largely recruited and settled in its pioneer days by half-pay officers and pensioners sent out and located here. Some 500 or 600 of this very regiment were the pioneers of this eastern district of Ontario, and the United Empire Loyalists are a very large percentage of the people, and all of these have military instincts. They desired to have the honour of serving Her Majesty under her colours, and their ambition is stirred to accomplish that result. The fine militia battalions we possess and the *esprit de corps* which is a distinguishing feature of them, is the best evidence of how our young men take to the military training. General Gascoigne has also been forwarding his policy of an interchange of service between our permanent companies and the companies of British regiments. We ought not to withhold the privilege from our Canadian people, so far as they are desirous of having facilities placed in their way to enable them to take service under the British flag in the broad field of the British Empire. It is impossible for them, at present, to do so unless they go to considerable expense themselves. I would impress upon our government the desirability of placing this benefit that the British government is apparently quite willing to afford to Canadians, of taking part in the broad field that the British Empire offers, of giving to Canada an opportunity of sharing in the honour and glory of the vast field which has been opened out through so many centuries by service under the British flag. I earnestly express the hope that the government will give every consideration to that particular phase of the matter. With regard to the regiment, one of the battalions, half of which was the old 100th, has

been transferred to Halifax within the last few months to relieve the Berkshire Regiment which has been stationed there for some time, so that the movement has already begun, so far as the British Government is concerned, in meeting the views of the petitioners to that extent; but when it comes to the extent of recruiting and making a recruiting depot here, naturally the British Government says "We think that the Canadian people should contribute somewhat to the expense of maintaining a regiment, not so much for the sake of the money value, but to show the desire of the people of Canada to share in the expenses of maintaining the defensive forces of the British Empire." I think it is a great advantage to Canadians that we have the privilege of lending our aid not only of men but also of materials, as an integral part of the empire in maintaining its prestige. We want that to be thoroughly recognized by the British government, which they are quite prepared to recognize. We want to assume the responsibility ourselves. We are not able to contribute a large sum, and Sir Wilfrid Lawson's letter suggested the advisability of providing barrack accommodation and medical attendance. Those are but small items, even if they would cost us anything. Whether we have barrack accommodation above what is required for our own militia is a question that I cannot answer, but if it should necessitate the construction of some additional barrack accommodation that should be no obstacle in the way of carrying out the wishes and the very proper desires that are expressed through the petition. Nepean Point here, or the Garrison Common, Toronto, would either of them be suitable sites for the purpose, or the Citadel at Quebec. The object I have in view is now to bring this question up and place before the government the views that I am advancing. It is our interest in every way and by every means in our power to support the British government in the fight that they are making all over the world in order to carry out the destiny that has evidently fallen to the lot of those who stand at the back of the British Empire. They are building a road right through the heart of Africa from Cairo to Cape Town. That is a marvellous thing. They had first of all to overcome the wild tribes, where industry is at its very lowest ebb, where slavery is one