

Another mode, suggested by yourself, might be put in operation at once; that is, to increase the pay of drivers and horses, after the first year, as an inducement to remain, and would be equivalent to good conduct pay in the Imperial Service.

I find that horses can be procured during the month of June. Last year I had to refuse the offer of twenty horses, having secured the number required in a short time. The Camp at Niagara might have been the reason, as my battery mustered the strongest in the Dominion last year, while this year, I could not secure a full muster without compulsion.

In the event of war or invasion, the law is sufficient to enable an officer to procure all the horses he may want, at a few hours' notice. An officer who cannot do so is unfit to command a Field Battery—as an example, fifty-six horses were procured in three hours for this battery, in 1866, and can be repeated, if required.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

JOHN GRAY, Capt.

Commanding Toronto Field Battery.

Lt. Col. Durie, D. A. G.,  
Mil. Dist. No. 2.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 3.

Kingston Field Battery.

KINGSTON, ONT., 20th Nov., 1873.

Sir,—In reply to yours of yesterday, I beg to say that in my opinion the present system of supplying the horses for the Field Battery under my command (that of each driver bringing in any horses to make up the number he has undertaken to furnish) is not the most satisfactory that can be devised.

I think that if the horses were regularly enrolled for a certain number of years, a thorough description of each horse entered on the battery books, and a certificate of such enrollment, embodying such description given to the owner by the commanding officer, which certificate should exempt the horse from taxation for the year, and from execution for debt for the same period, and entitle the owner to draw, after the annual drill, a certain small gratuity (say \$10), the receipt of which should render the horse liable to compulsory service at any time when required by the militia authorities during the period of enrollment. The system would be rendered as nearly perfect as possible.

The greatest difficulty I have experienced during my seventeen years of service in the battery has not been the procuring of horses, but the procuring of the same horses at the annual drills. They require to be drilled and broken to the guns quite as much as the men.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALEX. S. KIRKPATRICK, Major

Commanding K. V. F. B.

Lt. Col. Jarvis, D. A. G.,  
Kingston.

(To be Continued.)

A BATTLE WITH INDIANS.—Camp on Red River, S-pt. 8th.—The command of Gen. Miles met between 400 and 500 Cheyenne Indian twelve miles from Red River, Texas, on the 30th of Aug., and after a sharp engagement, lasting five hours, drove them over twelve miles of high and almost impassable canons, with a loss to them of twenty-five or thirty killed and wounded. Our casualties were three badly wounded.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

HIS SPEECH AT THE TORONTO CLUB DINNER.

On Wednesday evening, 2nd inst., His Excellency the Governor General was entertained by the Toronto Club. In response to a toast to his health, he delivered one of the best of his many happy speeches. We reproduce the following from the *Mit's* report:

It is but a few short weeks since I left Toronto, and yet I question whether many born Canadians have ever seen or learnt more of the western half of the Dominion than I have during that brief period. (Hear, hear.) Memory itself scarcely suffices to reflect the shifting vision of mountain, wood and water, inland seas and silver rolling rivers, golden cornlands and busy prosperous towns through which we have held our way; but though the mind's eye fail to ever again re-adjust the dazzling panorama, as long as life endures, not a single echo of the universal greeting with which we have been welcomed, will be hushed within our hearts. (Great applause.)

His Excellency then proceeded to speak of the enthusiasm with which he had been received everywhere he went, and the devoted loyalty of the Canadian people to the Queen. He was struck with the universal prosperity of the Dominion and the faith of its people in its

CONNECTION WITH THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

On this point he remarked:—Words cannot express what pride I feel as an Englishman in the loyalty of Canada to England. (Hear, hear.) Nevertheless, I should be the first to deplore this feeling, if it rendered Canada disloyal to herself—if it either dwarfed or smothered Canadian patriotism, or generated a sickly spirit of dependence. Such, however, is far from being the case. The legislation of your Parliament, the attitude of your statesmen, the language of your press sufficiently show how firmly and intelligently you are prepared to accept and apply the almost unlimited legislative faculties with which you have been endowed;—(hear, hear)—while the daily growing disposition to extinguish sectional jealousies and to ignore an obsolete provincialism, proves how strongly the young heart of your confederated commonwealth has begun to throb with the consciousness of its nationalized existence. (Great cheering.) At this moment not a shilling of money finds its way to Canada, the interference of the Home Government with the domestic affairs of the Dominion has ceased, while the Imperial relations between the two countries are regulated by a spirit of such mutual deference, forbearance and moderation, as reflects the greatest credit upon the statesmen of both. (Hear, hear.) Yet so far from this gift of autonomy having brought about any divergence of aim or aspiration on either side, every reader of our annals must be aware that the sentiments of Canada towards Great Britain are infinitely more friendly now than in those early days when the political intercourse of the two countries was disturbed and complicated by an excessive and untoward tutelage—(cheers)—that never was Canada more united than at present in sympathy of purpose, and unity of interest with the mother country,—more at one with her in social habits and tone of thought,—more proud of her claim to share in the heritage of England's past,—more ready to accept whatever obligations may be imposed upon her by her partnership in the future fortunes of the Empire. (Tremendous applause)

He then referred to the warm welcome

which he had received in Chicago and Detroit, and continued, "our friends across the line are wont, as you know, to amuse their lighter moments with those large utterances that pleased the early gods." (Laughter.) To these invitations I invariably replied by acquainting them that in Canada we were

ESSENTIALLY A DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE,

that nothing would content us unless the popular will could exercise an immediate and complete control over the executive of the country—that the ministers who conducted the Government were but a committee of Parliament, which was itself an emanation from the constituencies, and that no Canadian would be able to breathe freely if he thought that the persons administering the affairs of his country were removed beyond the supervision and control of our Legislative Assemblies. And, gentlemen, in this extemporized repartee of mine, there will be found, I think, a germ of sound philosophy. (Laughter) In fact it appears to me that even from the point of view of the most enthusiastic advocate of popular rights, the Government of Canada is nearly perfect, for while you are free from those historical complications which sometimes clog the free running of our Parliamentary machinery at home, while you possess every popular right and guarantee that reason can demand—(hear, hear)—you have an additional element of elasticity introduced into your system in the person of the Governor General, for as I had occasion to remark elsewhere, in most forms of Government, should a misunderstanding occur between the head of the State and the representatives of the people, it is possible a deadlock might ensue of a very grave character, inasmuch as there would be of course no power of appeal to a third party—and deadlocks are the dangers of all constitutional systems—whereas in Canada, should the Governor General and his Legislature unhappily disagree, the misunderstanding is referred to England as *amicus curiæ*, whose only object of course it is to give free play to your Parliamentary institutions, whose intervention can be relied upon as

IMPARTIAL AND BENEVOLENT,

and who would immediately replace an erring or impracticable Viceroy—for such things can be—(laughter)—by another officer more competent to his duties, without the slightest hitch or disturbance having been occasioned in the ordinary march of your affairs. (Applause.) If, then, the Canadian people are loyal to the Crown, it is with a reasoning loyalty. (Applause.) It is because they are able to appreciate the advantage of having inherited a constitutional system so workable, so well-balanced, and so peculiarly adapted to their own especial wants. (Applause.) If to these constitutional advantages we add the blessing of a judiciary not chosen by a capricious method of popular election, but selected for their ability and professional standing by responsible Ministers and alike

INDEPENDENT OF POPULAR FAVOR AND POLITICAL INFLUENCES

—(hear, hear)—a Civil Service whose rights of permanency both the great political parties of the country have agreed to recognize (applause)—and consequently a Civil Service free from partizanship and disposed to make the service of the State, rather than that of Party, their chief object—(hear, hear)—an electoral system purged of corruption by the joint action of the ballot and the newly constituted courts for the trial of bribery—(cheers)—a population hardy, thrifty, and industrious, simple in their manners, sober