

have the sympathy and support of a great majority of the officers and men, and they should continue to agitate for proper equipment and the placing of their branch of the service on a better footing.

THE FOUR DAYS PAY.

THERE is a good deal of anxiety among the officers of city corps over that four days pay which Hon. Mr. Foster said he would recommend the Government to grant. A few officers have given up hope of getting the extra amount and are feeling very much discouraged, but we cannot believe there is any reason for doubt. The Government would not dare to refuse the pay. Mr. Foster was given to understand that the members of the militia force were not in a mood to be trifled with. They had made many sacrifices and expected to make more. They had spent their time and money in the interests of the country, and to be treated as indifferently as they were by the Minister of Finance was more than their tempers would stand.

Our experience on this question has done good. The officers in the leading centres are combining for their mutual interests. Many of them are strong party men, but they nearly all place the interests of the militia above party, and the feeling is just intense enough now for them to throw their entire votes against Government candidates, even though they may be personally favorable. In most large centres this would mean certain defeat. In Toronto, for instance, there are about 2,500 military votes. Each one of these can influence several others. These votes are of even greater importance, for a large percentage of the active workers in the political associations are militia men. Besides their votes their assistance in a contest would be lost. They demonstrated their power when they made Surgeon Ryerson, of the Grenadiers, the nominee of the convention, and then elected him to the Local Legislature; and a clever representative he has made.

The Government will need their assistance in Montreal. Leading officers have been most active workers here, but in the recent bye-election they refused to give any assistance to either the Provincial or Dominion candidates, and they were both defeated. Local ward healers at that time warned the Government that they had made a great mistake and had estranged many of their best friends.

Military men are in politics now where they intend to stay, and one of the chief aims of THE GAZETTE will be to more thoroughly unite them from one end of Canada to the other. We intend keeping the agitation up until the force is put upon a proper basis. This we trust will not be long. None of us have any personal ends to serve, and when all good citizens under-

stand our wants we will have their hearty sympathy. The time will come when a politician who opposes anything that is in the best interests of the force will find himself very unpopular.

WHAT WILL THE COMMANDANT DO?

IT IS rumored among those who take a deep interest in the welfare of the Royal Military College that Sir Charles Tupper will keep Major-Gen. Cameron at the head of that institution.

We refuse to believe it possible. It is true that he is closely related to Sir Charles, but that gentleman is so thoroughly interested in the progress of everything Canadian that he would not allow anything that might effect the good work the College should be doing. No one is prouder than he of the brilliant records the graduates have made in the British service. How frequently has he referred to it in his speeches here and at home, when he pointed out what an excellent institution it is. We feel quite certain that immediately he reads the report of the commission, but especially the things which were considered so bad that they were submitted confidentially to the Government, he will strongly insist that a change be made at once.

This report was presented to Parliament some weeks ago, and ordered to be printed. As the printing could have been done in a day or two, but has not, and no one seems to know what has become of the original copy, some people are unkind enough to say that the Government is endeavoring to delay it. But of course, it is too honorable to do anything that way. As a matter of fact, Sir Charles Tupper took possession of it at once, intending no doubt to take immediate action. Everyone knows what a busy man he is. He has not had time to read it. It is now locked up in his desk. We are quite sure he is not aware that military men all over the country are anxious to learn its contents. If he had the slightest hint to that effect we are quite sure he would give it out at once.

It might be well, however, for him to send it to Major-General Cameron at Kingston. It is quite evident that he is not aware that the commission think his days of usefulness in the College are gone. If he were, nothing would induce him to remain at its head another day; not even many times its niggardly annual stipend of \$4,000 a year. The stipend is of no importance. We feel sorry for him. When one gets up in years it is very difficult for one to see that he has lost his hold on things in general. One feels that he is still as clever as ever. In fact, he thinks his long experience is much more valuable than the modern ideas of young enthusiasts. Unfortunately, the new generation insist on the new order of things.

TROUBLE AT ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL.

ST. JOHN'S, March 11.—There is serious trouble at No. 3 Company R.R.C.I. School of Instruction, St. John's, P.Q. The immediate cause has been that attached men were ordered to shovel snow, which they refused to do, and the leaders were put under arrest. There are other causes which led up to this.

It has always, until this present course, been the custom to relieve all the rank and file, attached, from the heavier part of the fatigue duties, such as cleaning the barracks square and shovelling snow, except as punishment, and through this the trouble has occurred.

On Saturday the orders of the day read, for the attached men: Kit inspection at 11 a.m., and guard mounting drill from 2 till 4 p.m., while Saturday after 1 p.m. has by custom become a half-holiday, which all the permanent men expect as a right. At a quarter to eleven the men had their kits all cleaned and spread out for the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. D'Orsennes, to inspect, when the order came that there would be no inspection of kits, but that the attached men would turn out for fatigue and shovel snow. This they did, in the rain and slush, and got wet to the skin, and the poor imitation of serviceable top-boots which the men have to pay \$4.75 for on joining for three months' instruction, were soaked through, and it is claimed were unfit to put on and badly shrunk in many cases until it was impossible for the men to get them on at all. An order was then given for the attached to parade at 2 p.m. and shovel snow again. The bugle sounded, but outside of the sergeants for duty not a man fell in.

The captain in command of the attached rank and file appeared at each squad room and gave the men two minutes to fall in, but not a man stirred. He then reported to Lieut.-Col. D'Orsennes, who immediately ordered the bugler to sound the assembly, when every man of the permanent corps and also the attached men turned out. The colonel ordered a man from each section of the attached under arrest and put them in the guard room, placing a charge against them of the serious crime of mutiny, ordering a court martial and marched the rest to shovel snow till he dismissed them fifteen minutes afterwards.

The men have been grumbling at having been made to shovel snow every Sunday morning but one since the course began January 1st, also two or three times a week, and this has usually been the work of the permanent men; in fact, on one occasion the permanent men were detailed for drill, while the short course men were set to work shovelling snow. The men of the course say they went to the school to improve themselves in their drill and not to learn to shovel snow, and with the number of the men in the company of the Royal Canadian Infantry, there should be no reason for it.