

commanded a view of the train as it passed from the station to the Victoria Bridge, came one continuous cheer and waving of handkerchiefs, and the greatest enthusiasm seemed to pervade all classes. After crossing the Victoria Bridge—which, singularly, was observed to have been left unguarded—the men began to settle down and make the best of their circumstances, in sleeping, reading the telegrams in the papers which had been distributed to them on the platform, singing songs or making orations, as the genius of each prompted—one of the Vics by his unceasing pleasantry earning and well maintaining the title of “the irrepressible.”

CONDITION OF THE MONTREAL FORCE.

Never since the enrolment of the several corps in January, 1869, under the present Volunteer Militia Act, have the Montreal corps—with the exception of two French-Canadian battalions—been properly uniformed, although the clothing for several of the volunteer corps has lain feeding the moths in the militia store department, and a large portion of it has been privately sold as unserviceable. Bales were thus disposed of to dealers in Montreal, and from them the commanding officers of nearly every corps in the 5th Military District had to buy, out of their private funds, part suits of the same clothing before the men could appear in proper uniform. The Fenian alarm in April last gave an impetus to volunteering, and a large number of recruits were added to the ranks of the 1st Prince of Wales', Victorias, 5th Royals, and Hochelaga corps, and although the Government was urging upon the commanders to fill up their companies to the full strength, the department failed to supply uniforms for the recruits. The consequence was that a few days previous to the 24th May some of the corps had a great number of men without uniform trousers, and in the Prince of Wales' corps notably so. However, in time for the Queen's Birthday review, Major Bond, the enthusiastic and popular officer commanding the latter corps, had found for sale, and purchased, trousers and blouses sufficient for a large number of his men, who, without this timely provision, could scarcely have appeared on parade. Other battalions were still almost in equal need. Owing to this and other circumstances, many of the men had become very dissatisfied with the service, and a large number had, months before, left it altogether. Such was the condition of things when the necessity for action presented itself. After the first service companies had left, however, on the Queen's