

Montcalm's despatches contained bitter complaints at the failure of the settlers to respond when the call to arms was issued for the defence of Quebec.

Even, in those days, it is apparent that the sturdy, independent French habitant looked upon the Military Service law as a home defence measure for the protection of his own village and not for the defence of any interest remote from what he conceived to be his own community.

Liability for universal service remained the law of Canada under the British régime right up to Confederation.

It was as late as the 1850's when a law was passed relieving the people of the necessity of providing their own weapons.

There was an annual muster at which the Commanding Officer inspected his men to see that they attended, properly armed and equipped for service.

The law was one thing -- the custom of the country was another.