

cessful accomplishment of this means an efficient and active line of communication between the firing-line, the battalion reserves, and the ammunition parks ; and yet the large majority of the men constituting the rank and file of our militia do not know that there are such things as reserves and ammunition parks. In combined tactics we have had very little drill, as the different arms of the service have nearly always drilled separately. This is a mistake as it would cost no more to carry on our work jointly than separately and certainly if we must work together in active service we ought to be taught the joint and several functions of the combined arms in attack and defence. A great deal more might be said about organization, establishment, equipment, and drill ; but as we now have a general knowledge of our condition in these respects we shall now make a few remarks on the probable future of our soldiering.

If the Czar's proposal for disarmament should result ultimately in the disbanding of the armies of the world soldiering in Canada will be at an end. And there are many reasons why we, and most of all those of us who have been in any way connected with armies and especially regular armies, should wish for this result. We must all, I think, recognize the fact that the British military system of the present day projects before us as an ideal private soldier a man ignorant, unreasoning, and without moral scruples. If he is educated and reasoning he will not submit without resistance to the injustice to which he is subjected at the hands of his superiors and such a man will not do for a private soldier however excellent an officer he might make. If he has moral scruples he may dare to disobey on some occasions and that is contrary to the fundamental rules of discipline. However, it does not seem to me at all probable that disarmament will take effect for a few centuries yet and so we may disregard that possibility.

On the other hand if the powers continue to increase their armaments as they have been doing for years England must sooner or later call on her colonies for help. A movement has already been started in the Canadian Militia in accordance with the above prophecy. The Canadian government has promised, if England should become engaged in any war in the East, to provide and maintain one regiment in the field during the campaign. Even further steps have been talked of. It has been proposed that the Canadian government provide one regiment of infantry to go on foreign service ; that our four military schools become recruiting depots for four different regiments and each of these take its tour of foreign duty. This is calculated to further consolidate the Empire. If the movement should take effect the Canadian militia would become, as it were, imperialized. The general officer, Major-general Hutton, who has lately come to command the militia, seems to be filled with this imperialistic idea and the energetic manner in which he has set about reorganizing our volunteer forces and projecting plans for their better