

To the Hon. Sir George E. Cartier, Bart.,
Minister of Militia and Defence.

Sir,—The Corporation of the town of Niagara beg to offer their cordial congratulations upon your visit to their old historic town upon an occasion which is signally connected with the department which you represent in the Government of Canada, the Department of Militia and Defence, the successful management of which is clearly demonstrated by the presence here of the volunteers in such a state of proficiency and discipline that any country might justly feel proud of them, this great and orderly camp presents to the country a proof of the good administration of your Government, which cannot be gainsaid; it is a fact, not only calculated to inspire at once the respect for yourself as an able Minister of the Crown, that creates a feeling of national confidence, and inspires our people with a firm trust in their ability to maintain their rights and positions as British subjects of Canada. The people of Niagara welcome your arrival and hope your stay here will be as agreeable to yourself, as we feel sure it will be beneficial and pleasing to the Volunteers whom you specially visit. We thank you for the selection of this place for the camp of instruction, and believe that its many advantages of site and position fully justify your choice.

We have the honor to remain
Your obed't. servants,
H. ROFFARD,
Mayor.
(Signed,) JOHN ROGERS,
Clerk.

Council Chamber, Niagara, }
June 14th, 1871 }

To this address, the Hon. Minister of Militia replied at considerable length, expressive of his most heartfelt thanks and pleasure, afforded him to meet the Mayor and members of the Corporation and visit for the first time the old town of Niagara, so interesting in historic associations, having been the first political capital of Canada under the Act of 1791. It might be said that Niagara was the political cradle of the late province of Upper Canada. At that time, about 80 years ago, the population of Upper Canada was about 10,000, and when we come to think upon the great increase of the population of that Province at the present time, anyone might form a correct idea of the rapid progress made by Upper Canada during that period. Militarily speaking, the Niagara frontier was renowned in the history of Canada as the battle ground for the defence of the country. It was on that frontier that so many Canadians distinguished themselves, by their courage, valor and patriotism in defence of the British flag on this continent. Taking into account the military history of the Niagara frontier, it was well and proper that the first camp of a portion of our Canadian army, introducing for the first time the drill and discipline of our active militia in brigades, should be formed at Niagara, possessing, as it does, every advantage as regards site and position. He said there was not the least doubt that the camp now formed, nearly numbering 5000 men, was a great success. He was favorably impressed by the accounts given of the proceedings in camp from day to day in the newspapers, but, he says, from what he had witnessed yesterday in camp when the whole force passed in review, that the reality which was before his eyes exceeded by far his most favourable preconceived opinions. He thought there could be no question that success had been secured by the ability, energy, and military experience of the gallant Adjutant-General of Militia, Col. Robertson Ross, who had now

command of the Canadian Militia, aided and assisted by the Deputy Adjutant-General of the District, Lt.-Col. Durie and his staff; also by the ability of the officers and men now encamped at this place. The Hon. Minister continued, by stating it was a fortunate thing that the militia, a portion of which, is now undergoing training in brigades was commanded by an experienced and distinguished officer, who acquired his experience and distinction in the actual field of battle in Africa, during the Kaffr war in 1851, and throughout the Crimean Campaign. He remarked that proper allusion was made in the address respecting the necessity of national defence, and that a country could never think of being great unless it organizes its means of defence. Some criticism has been made as regards the policy of the Imperial Government in withdrawing with such precipitancy the regular army from the Dominion, but that policy, blameable as it was thought by a great number, ought not to prevent the Parliament and people of Canada from organizing and maintaining, according to the means and resources of the country, such a military force as would make the Dominion respected within its limits. He would further say, that it was flattering for us that our militia system was attracting favourable attention in England, from the public men and the press of that country. Every one could sympathize with the gallant and able commander of No. 2 District, Lieut.-Col. Durie, who was now in camp in deep affliction, which had befallen him yesterday, and which had so suddenly necessitated his separation from the camp. He had now the pleasing and grateful duty to perform in thanking the mayor of Niagara most sincerely for the honour and pleasure which he and the members of the corporation had done him by the welcome and presentation of an address.

The Hon. Minister of Militia having taken leave, the Mayor and Deputation then withdrew.

The Minister was attended by Lieutenant Colonel McPherson, D. A. G. M., Lieut.-Col. French, Major Worsley, and Major Ross, of Ottawa.

On the arrival of Sir George E. Cartier, Minister of Militia, yesterday, he was met at the wharf by Lieut.-Col. MacPherson, D. A. G. M., Lieut.-Col. French, and Major Worsley.

An escort from the Governor General's body-guard, under command of Lieut. Denison, accompanied the Minister to the ground where the division of the troops were going through their field day.

A grand parade has been agreed on in his honor.

A large number of spectators were present to witness the evolutions, with which all were delighted.

A luncheon was given to Sir George at 2 p.m., to-day by the staff and officers commanding the corps in camp.

To-morrow, Friday, at noon, a *levee* will be held at the Queen's Royal Hotel.

During the review several officers of the American army on the ground were introduced to the Minister of Militia.

WEALTH OF ENGLAND.

(From the Washington Chronicle.)

We append a statement which indicates the vast wealth of Great Britain. It suggests to us two points. One, this vast wealth was derived from commerce, which England has wisely and liberally fostered. Second, for the safety of this vast wealth England wants

peace with all nations, and will pay for it. The Manchester Courier states that the plethora of capital in Great Britain is at the present time exceedingly heavy, in consequence of the payment of numerous dividends of various kinds, amounting for January, 1871, to over \$98,850,000, derived from the following sources. From Dividends on English government loans, \$33,500,000; Australian, Canadian, and Indian government loans, \$7,500,000, English railway debentures, \$8,750,000, Foreign government loans, \$44,100,000; and English joint stock bank mining and miscellaneous shares, \$5,000,000. The Manchester Courier asserts that there is reason to believe that the total paid on stock and shares during the whole year amounts to over \$100,000,000. A clear indication of the wealth of Great Britain, it is argued, is to be obtained by considering the amount of capital stock in which dealings takes place in the London Stock Exchange, of which the following is given as an approximate estimate: British Government stock, \$4,000,000,000, Government stock of British Possession and colonies, including Canada, Australia and India, \$900,000,000; French government stock, \$2,700,000,000; stock of other European States, \$3,000,000,000; stock of the United States government and of other states of North America, \$2,150,000,000; stock of South American States, \$340,000,000; and stock of Central American States and of the West Indies, \$170,000,000, making a total of \$13,260,000,000 worth of government stock that changed hands either nominally or really during 1870. In addition to these, there were \$2,750,000,000 worth of railway shares, and bank, telegraph, mining and miscellaneous shares, the total of which cannot be approximated. During 1870 there were placed on the British market \$305,000,000 of loans and \$85,000,000 of joint stock enterprise, the latter comprising \$50,000,000 of Russians and \$30,000,000 of Spanish stock. It is also estimated that the surplus capital and savings requiring to be reinvested annually in England amounts to one thousand millions of dollars, of which one half is invested in land houses and old and well-known stocks and shares, and the other half in new loans and joint stock enterprises. As another mode of obtaining the financial operations in Great Britain, the bankers' clearings on the twenty-four regular sitting days on the Stock Exchange are given. From these figures it appears that the stock operations of 1870 amounted to \$3,174,570,000; of 1869, to \$2,824,675,000, and of 1868, to \$2,616,745,000. As to the extent of the trade and commerce of Great Britain, the bankers' clearing on the fourth day of each month give balance of \$890,685,000 for 1870, of \$848,645,000 for 1869, and of \$785,340,000 for 1868. Taking the whole range of bankers' clearing exclusive of stock exchange settlements, it is stated that a sum of \$16,796,530,000 was used in the banking business alone during 1870, and \$15,307,255,000 in 1869.

The arrival of the Orangeville Company of volunteers in Camp at Niagara attracted particular notice, partly from their appearing without uniform and partly from the size of the company, which turned out to the full number of 55 men, rank and file, and two officers. Their uniforms have been destroyed by fire which occurred last fall in Orangeville. Immediately on their arrival in camp, Adjutant General Ross rode up and complimented, in a most flattering address, Captain Parsons and his company for the zeal they manifested under such circumstances, and welcomed them to the camp in an especially cordial manner.