

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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IT appears to have been only a delay on the part of the authorities of the war office in answering the request of the Scotch artillerymen for permission to visit Canada this summer, which kept them from attendance as proposed at the tournament at the Island of Orleans. The officers and men were very anxious to come and were quite prepared if necessary to bear all their own expenses. It is very probable, therefore, that they will pay us a visit next summer. It is likely also that Major Cameron, the second in command of the last English team which came out, will at the same time bring over a team of Lanarkshire lads. Major Cameron was delighted with his experiences in Canada, and we trust when he comes again he will see so much more of the country that he will like it all the better. Steps should early be taken to secure a grand Dominion artillery tournament in honor of the intending visitors. Everything possible should be done to ensure their coming. The artillery association might with good grace press Parliament for a larger grant this year, so that a creditable competition may be arranged for. It would be a good investment. Canada wants immigrants, and is it not to be supposed that the stories these artillerymen will tell when they get home will have considerable effect in inducing the most desirable class as settlers to migrate hither?

LAST week we gave a sample of the "war correspondence" now constituting the bulk of the despatches from Paris. Here is another: "The present state of things on the frontier cannot continue. The existing laws are so different on the two sides that unless a neutral zone is marked out there will be war soon. There is something ominous in the spectacle of the French and German gendarmes glaring at each other across the boundary line. Equally significant is the steady *rapprochement* of the French and Russian peoples. If France were what she was we could not tolerate such things as are happening in Alsace-Lorraine. See how they grow in gravity: First, they entrap an official; now they shoot Frenchmen down in cold blood. The frontier is a standing menace to the peace of Europe."

THOUGH some critics contend that the recent mobilization, experiment in France did not nearly meet the expectation of the authorities, the populace as a whole seem to be well satisfied, and in many quarters the wish is openly expressed that France may soon find herself engaged on the field in retrieving the honors lost in 1871. The 17th corps, that chosen for the mobilization trial, dispatched to the frontier, without a hitch, 25,000 infantry, 1,200 cavalry, 108 pieces of artillery,

with train, engineers' corps, bridge corps, ambulance and commissariat—in all 35,000 men; leaving behind in the depots more than 20,000 men almost ready to start. Each of the eighteen corps being on the same footing, this means, says a writer from Paris, that independently of the men left in the depots and of all the resources of the territorial army, there is a total of 630,000 men absolutely ready to take the field. The most admirable feature of the mobilization is said to have been the order and calmness with which it was accomplished.

## The Colors of the Royal Canadian Regiment.

THE thoughtful kindness of the Viceroy of the *Indian Empire*, our late Governor-General, the Earl of Dufferin, so justly popular and well-beloved by the Canadian people, has added a venerable relic of the loyalty of the Dominion to the British Crown and an attestation of a very important chapter in our history by sending to the Secretary of State the *remains* of the Regimental Standards of the 100th *Royal Canadian Regiment*, first presented to that corps at Shorncliff, Eng., by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in February, 1859. These relics—consisting of the pike staves and the ribbons of silk which are all that remains of the Queen's and regimental colors of the gallant Royal Canadians—arrived at Ottawa last week. They have been handed over to the Militia Department, in whose custody they now are. Their permanent resting place has not been determined upon, but the military museum at the Capital would seem to be the most appropriate.

A brief rehearsal here of the causes which led to the organization of the regiment and a sketch of its subsequent movements down to the time when its essentially Canadian characteristics became eliminated, will be of interest.

Within a short space of time after the roaring of artillery around the doomed city of Sevastopol had ceased the peace of the British Empire was again broken by the Indian mutiny.

To the generation of the present day this event may seem a small matter, but neither was the Empire so powerful or well prepared then as now—the means of locomotion were slow, there was no Suez Canal, no Pacific Railway, and no submarine telegraph. Four months voyage from Liverpool to Calcutta was the usual thing, and the statesmen and people of the two *small* provinces of Canada looked on at the exhausting struggle till their patriotism and loyalty was so thoroughly aroused that nothing short of taking an actual personal part in the struggle would satisfy them.

The great statesman who has led the Canadian people for *half a century* secured, with the aid of his great colleague the late lamented Sir G. E. Cartier, Bart., the concurrence of the Canadian House of Assembly and Legislative Council, and the upshot was that the Governor-General, Sir E. W. Head, was authorised to accept at the hands of the people of Canada a regiment raised by its officers—by voluntary enlistment of 1,200 officers and soldiers.

The organisation was effected in 1858, at the close of the mutiny, and this organisation if not effecting anything actively, tended most materially to show that passive superiority so effective in military and