

ing, and preparing to train them, in a mode suitable to the condition of our country—in a mode that, while it is but little burdensome, and excites no ill will in the Provinces, can give no offence to our neighbours.

Let me illustrate this part of the subject by facts drawn from Nova Scotia, with which I am best acquainted. During the long peace which followed the Treaty of Paris our Militia laws were very rarely revised, the Militia were never called out, and our population, busy with the arts of peace, “studied war no more.” Matters continued in this state till the Volunteer movement began in your country. Almost simultaneous with that movement, under the personal superintendence and guidance of Lord Mulgrave, we began to raise Volunteer Companies in Nova Scotia; and there are now between three and four thousand young men, in the flower of life, who have selected their own officers, approved and commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief, purchased their own uniforms, and, under the sharp training of efficient drill-sergeants, taken from the British army and paid by the Province, have become, in a marvellously short time, very effective troops. We have one battalion that brigades with the garrison, strong companies at Pictou and Sydney for the defence of the coal mines, and many others, formed and forming, in the seaport towns and in the rural districts. Taking the number at 4000 and our population at 350,000, this would be equal to 86,000