

spared to enjoy the many honours you have so nobly won.

Signed on behalf of Cadets,  
A. A. DAVIS,  
Capt. 37th Batt., V. M.  
JAMES MORRIS WALSH,  
Capt. 56th Batt., V. M.  
L. N. FITZROY CROZIER,  
Capt. 14th Batt., V. M.  
Committee.

Toronto, May, 1869.

REPLY

Toronto, May 1st, 1869.

DEAR CAPTAIN DAVIS:—

Accept yourself and please convey to the officers and men attending the School of Gunnery, my very best thanks for the kind address which they were good enough to present me to day. I am greatly obliged for the kind wishes expressed for my family and self.

The beautiful whip will ever be prized by me as a souvenir of my friends in the School of Gunnery.

I shall ever feel a warm interest in the Volunteer Artillery of Ontario, and hope, ere long, to hear that guns are supplied to all your Batteries, and that you may soon have an opportunity of teaching your comrades what you know.

It is not wearing a blue coat which makes a man an artilleryman.

Again begging you to accept my very best thanks, believe me,

Dear Captain Davis,

Your's truly,

JOHN R. ANDERSON,  
Colonel, Royal Artillery.

Captain DAVIS and members }  
of School of Gunnery. }

## THE MILITIA DEPARTMENT.

(To the Editor of the Globe)

SIR,—At this time when the Parliament of the Dominion is in session, and the estimates of the Militia expenditure for the ensuing year will have to be considered, I crave permission to discuss in your columns the manner in which the Militia Department is administered, and the effect of the administration on the force and on the country. From the experience of the past, we may draw lessons to guide us in the future, and, where faults are pointed out, let us hope that efforts will be made to remedy them.

If Canada is to have an efficient defensive force, there must be a thorough organization of her people, while at the same time the force must be imbued with a loyal and contented spirit. They must have confidence in their officers, confidence in their rulers, and confidence in themselves. An army without confidence is a body without a mind, a mere mob without cohesion. Have our rulers endeavoured to foster this spirit? Have they encouraged men of talent or ability to become officers; or do they hold out inducements to the members of the force to study and qualify themselves for command? No. What is the practical working of the present system?

A young man enters the Volunteer force as a private or subaltern. If an enthusiastic officer, he qualifies himself thoroughly; studies and works hard in the duties of his position, and often to the injury of his private business. He may stick to it for years, go through all the drudgery, all the expense, all the trouble and at length become Lieutenant-Colonel of his battalion. After a year

or two in this position, he finds himself well qualified for his rank, with plenty of work to do, but with no pay or remuneration—no prospect of advancement—and sees all posts of honour and emolument invariably given away to broken down army officers, outsiders, whom it requires but little self-respect for him to class as inferiors in ability and experience to himself.

He sees that if war comes, he and his battalion, with other battalions, will be brigaded under command of army officers, in order that these latter may gain honours, promotion and experience, at the expense of the lives and exertions of colonial volunteers. He sees no reward, no advancement open to him: while he sees that others will profit by his exertions, and reap the fruits of his toil.

Then he naturally leaves the force, feeling his trouble and work for years has been thrown away, that he has been used and cast aside, and that he does not receive even thanks for what he has done. The higher officers and the best are continually resigning, the subordinate officers are always changing, and the complexion of the force is rapidly deteriorating. Is this right? Is it good policy? Will it produce a well officered militia? Yet this is the effect of the policy of the Government, and is directly brought about by it.

If the Government intend to have an efficient and well officered force, they must place their reliance on the people of the country—Canada is now a Dominion, but it will be an empty title, unless we foster a Canadian national spirit, a pride in our country, and a confidence in ourselves. Can this spirit ever be created if our Government persistently acts, as if we Canadians were an inferior race, and not to be classed as equals, both physically and mentally, with the natives of the mother land. Rest assured, if we always through our rulers admit the superiority of the English, the latter will readily accept the position, and conceitedly take it as a matter of right.

Why should our rulers depreciate us? It is only necessary for Canadians to be brought in competition with others to show the stuff they are made of. A Torontonian came out first in the examinations at Sandhurst, against the whole British Army; while another, Charles Robinson, came out forth, and is now Professor of Military Art and History at that College. A Canadian lad came out head boy at the examination at Rugby, last year. In fact in England and elsewhere Canadians can and invariably have held their own. It is only here in the Dominion, in the land of their birth, and by their own representatives, that they are depreciated and their abilities depreciated.

It may be asked by those not in the force, how can this be? I say it is always so. When work is to be done, when men are to be raised, and corps organized, Canadians do it. When high commands are to be filled up, when offices of emolument are made, and what may, legitimately, be termed the prizes in the Militia are to be given away, do the Government distribute them among those who have worked and struggled in the Militia for years? Do they give them to Canadians? No. Then army officers are picked out. Men who have left the army, because they felt they were not fit for it, because they were tired of it, or the army tired of them. Lieutenants are made Lieutenant Colonels, and the command of thousands of volunteers given to them. I appeal to the Parliament of Canada, the representatives of the Canadians, whether it is right that this system should be continued or permitted to exist for one moment. Of one thing they may rest assured, as long as

this system does obtain, the Militia will be on a rotten foundation, and in case of war the force will be an undisciplined mass of men, without officers and without confidence.

It may be said that the Military Schools will provide officers. This is a fatal delusion. Men cannot become officers in three months, and it will require a better inducement than \$50 to induce a man to qualify himself.

In every army in the world, ambition, honours, rewards and decorations are the incentives to exertion. Our authorities carefully rule out the few, very few rewards in their power to give, and leave none for the force to look forward to.

Sir George Cartier, in his speeches last session, seemed to be imbued with the right ideas; for he pledged the House to do away with the old system and to encourage native talent. Unfortunately, his actions, or at least the actions, of the Government in his absence, have not supported his sentiments.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.,

"KANUCK."

May 8, 1869.

The United States Marshal excused himself for not taking any measures to prevent the departure of the filibustering force for Cuba, on the ground that he had received no orders from headquarters, and he himself was not a detective officer. The New York Sun, which is always most virulent in its remarks about England's dereliction of duty in allowing the *Alabama* to escape, says: "This is undoubtedly a correct view of the subject. Besides on what plea could Gen Barlow arrest a steamer regularly cleared for Nassau, and having all her papers in order? It is the right of anyman, or any number of men to take passage for that port if they choose, and to take with them such merchandize as they deem proper, even if it be muskets, cartridges, cannon, and the like." We might ask on what plea could Lord John Russell have stopped an unarmed vessel—the *Alabama* was unarmed when she left Liverpool—from leaving England, if her papers, &c., were in order. Circumstances alter cases, don't they. Particularly American cases.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN has turned up in a new role. The champion of the 1,000,000 Irishmen of the United States goes in for fair play. What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. The same policy pursued towards the Irishmen when they attempted to conquer Canada, he demands, shall be pursued towards the filibusters who have sailed for Cuba. Hear him. On hearing of the departure of the expedition for Cuba, he telegraphed to President Grant, as follows:—

NEW YORK, MAY 5, 1869.

The President of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

The Government stopped the Fenians on the Canadian frontier. I demand in the name of 1,000,000 Irish voters that you send a fast war steamer to seize the Cuban filibuster which sailed yesterday.

The expedition is an English intrigue to checkmate Ireland's freedom. The Cuban mass meeting was a Tammany affair in English interest.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

If George Francis gets on the war path this summer, Grant will have to stand from under.