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APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA AND EXAMINATIONS.

Officers are supposed to be the leaders of their men. To be such they must possess, at least, as much and rather more technical knowledge and ability as those men. How, otherwise, is their precedence justified. Surely not because there is more gold on their coats. Therefore, the best men must be selected, who either are or will be good leaders; if not it would be sheer murder to entrust the lives of men to their guidance.

How are the best men to be got? How is their fitness as such to be proved? First get educated men, knowledge is power, education gives knowledge. How long will it take to kill the false idea, so prevalent among the ignorant, that soldiering is the one profession in which any fool can claim to be a professional by putting on soldier's clothes and assuming a military title.

At present in the Canadian Militia, in some regiments, *the best* (as above defined) are not always selected, not often in others, and in some never. Such being the case, it naturally follows that the standard of technical knowledge that could reasonably be expected from them is not clearly defined, to the detriment of the service in general, to the good men there