

Empire is concerned. And consequently it is with considerable satisfaction that we find that the recent scare in connection with the Royal Navy has caused numerous references to be made to the militia as a feature in the defences of the Empire.

* * * *

By the way here is a chance for our service contemporaries to do the Canadian militia a good turn. The British editors are not even yet up to the wily ways of the great American newspaper liar and when that evil genius cabled to Europe that the three wild young fanatics who had explosive designs on the historic old Nelson's monument in Montreal were officers of the militia the publishers of the English papers at once took the fib in as Gospel and printed it with all the embellishments known to the journalistic profession. It made the account of the escapade all the more spicy and gave even the most staid and steady going of the the English papers a theme for some well meant advice to the Canadian militia authorities. This advice was doubtless well meant and might have been apropos had the facts been as cabled across the Atlantic, but they were not; none of three young donkeys concerned having been in the militia at the time of their silly prank or at any other time. Cranks of this description find the Canadian militia a very good institution to keep well clear of. We look to our service contemporaries to see that the Times and the other English papers which printed this libel on the Canadian militia make the amende honorable.

* * * *

Sir George Chesney has always been looked on as a warrior more imaginative than practical. His novels, "The Private Secretary," and "Dilemma," and the brochure, "The Battle of Dorking" showed a mighty and humorous power of working out conclusions upon an assumed premise, a gift which, however harmless in literature, in military practice would have led to very fearful results. Besides that, General Chesney has always been a pessimist and whenever there is a "true scare" in England, and this happens on an average once in two years, the columns of the Times are full of the most blood curdling cassettes from his pen. And now it appears that General Chesney has so far recovered spirit and hope to enable him to arrive at the conclusion that the Empire is safe with the exception of Canada. In the event of war with the United States, he says, nothing could prevent Canada from, according to the telegrams, "being annexed to the United States." General

Chesney is at the "Battle of Dorking" again. Fleets are destroyed, vast armies are moved with the speed and ease of a chessman and all is as the romantic author would wish it not to be. But, however flattering General Chesney may be to the United States he forgets to count on a new thing. In the event of such a calamity, and more than calamity, of a war with the United States—and that is of course a war between Great Britain and the United States. There are more elements to be counted with in the struggle than an invasion of Canada. And, granting for argument that the invasion of Canada was successful which does not follow, that does not necessarily mean the annexation of Canada. Except by their force—and what good would an unwillingly annexed people five millions strong bring to the United States of America. A new Poland, with more than one Warsaw in its borders, would prove the destruction of a republic which even now has the elements of mischief within its borders. And it may safely be asserted that the shells that would threaten the great cities on the Atlantic, the lakes and the Pacific, to say nothing of internal strife which would be fomented among the various mischievous and seditious elements in the various States, would have a very strong and powerful effect in checking the northern march of any forces the United States could put in the field. Apart from all this there is another point Conquest does not move northward.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE.

A certain belligerent colonel,
Received a machine called infolonel;
He procured him an axe,
Dealt the box a few waxe
And departed for regions etolonel.

W.P.P.

Their Good Point.—At a ball.—The Countess of X— (to a captain of hussars)—
"Undoubtedly soldiers make the best husbands."

"How is that, Senora?"
"Because they are accustomed to subordination."—El Noticiero.

* * * *

Captain, to Inspector-General (inspecting company headquarters)—"How do you like my room?" I.G.—"I like your room better than your company."—Army and Navy Journal.

SOLDIER STORIES.

One day opposing pickets on the Rappahannock agreed not to fire. A brisk conversation arose between a Texan and an Irishman on the Federal side. "What are you doing in the Yankee army?" said the Texan. "What are you fightin' for anyhow?" "I'm fightin' for thirteen dollars a month. I believe ye're fitin' for eleven."

News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades.

Address,
EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box 387 Montreal, Que.

TORONTO.

The annual meeting of the sergeants' mess, 48th Highlanders, was held in their rooms on Tuesday evening, 9th inst., Sergeant-Major Robertson in the chair. These officers were elected by acclamation: William Harp, president; A. Rose, vice-president; Neil MacKinnon, secretary; John Graham, treasurer. The Board of Management for 1894 will consist of the above and these committee men who were elected by ballot: Color-Sergt. Stewart, Color-Sergt. Lawrence and Sergt. Davidson.

* * * *

The annual supper of "B" Company, Royal Grenadiers, was held the night of Jan. 9th at the Grosvenor House, corner of Alexander and Yonge streets. There was a good attendance of the officers of the regiment, among them the commanding officer, Lt.-Col. Mason. Capt. Cameron occupied the chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, the customary loyal and patriotic toasts being given and responded to.

* * * *

The members of the different volunteer corps did their part to celebrate the advent of the new year. The pipers buglers, and drummers of the 48th got on the roof of their building to watch the phenomenon of the changing of the years, and when the watchers announced that 1894 had come, it was greeted with music and songs. The pipers also serenaded Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Major Crosby, and Major Macdonald with the music dear to the Scotchman's heart. The Queen's Own buglers welcomed the year in a similar fashion. New Year's day Staff-Sergeant Hart, president of the sergeants' mess of the Kilties, and others, called on the officers of the regiment, and on Mr. William Simpson, the president of the Caledonian Society, and during the afternoon Lieut.-Col. Davidson and several of the other officers of the corps visited the sergeants' mess-room.

* * * *

A very pleasing event took place at the residence of Lieut.-Col. Dawson, College street, yesterday afternoon, when a number of the officers of the Royal Grenadiers and other comrades and friends of the colonel met and presented him with a beautiful silver service, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Lieut.-Col. George Dudley Dawson by a few of his old comrades on the occasion of his retiring from the command of the Royal Grenadiers. Dated, Toronto, Jan. 1, 1894."

Lieut.-Col. Garsett, who formerly commanded the regiment, made the presentation and referred to the long and valuable services rendered to the regiment by Col. Dawson from the time he first accepted his commission as major under him, down to the present time, pointing out how Col.