

portion of my hearers and possible readers who are under my instruction and supervision as Dominion Inspector of Artillery. Lest I should be thought to imply a want of interest on the part of the officers under my immediate command, I am bound to say that the progress due to the zeal, ability, and natural soldierly qualities of these gentlemen has far surpassed my highest expectations, and rendered pleasant a task at times depressing, from want of encouragement in quarters where I have, perhaps, unreasonably expected it. I have no doubt that Lieut.-Colonel French, my late colleague, would endorse these remarks as far as concerns the Artillery Officers of the sister-province of Ontario. The present Gunnery School system was initiated under his supervision, as Dominion Inspector of Artillery, Colonel Robertson-Ross being Adjutant-General of Militia.

The Canadian Militia owe more to Colonel French than they are apparently aware of; and the great North-West will owe him still more when, as Commissioner of Police, he has shewn the world that neither white, red, nor half-breed ruffianism need be tolerated as a necessary accompaniment of the march of civilization on Canadian soil, as it has been elsewhere. For the fulfilment of this, apparently the noblest task that can fall to the lot of a soldier on this continent, he has many high qualities of head and heart.

It remains, however, to be seen whether the fact of the only apparent field for fighting having been handed over to a body of civilians, will not destroy the *esprit* of those small, but, I believe, efficient, corps of Canadian soldiers, already three years under military training, to whom the performance of police-duties in towns is delegated; while to the more fortunate civilian has fallen the post of honor, of danger, and of ultimate profit.

The disappointed ones will best shew their discipline by a hopeful attention to duty, in the expectation that their turn may yet come. Unfortunately, while the door of active service is closed on one hand, on the other the opportunities of higher military study are likely also to disappear, as far as the Quebec School of Gunnery is concerned; for it is not to be supposed that the annexed *curriculum* of study, carried out by