

"charge of forts and stores, and free them for support of the civil power, or action elsewhere.

"Many of the cadets have now been at the Royal Military College for nearly three years, and I am happy to report my increased confidence that the country may unhesitatingly rely on the ability and fitness of the majority of them, when they have completed their full course, viz., June, 1880, to afford her high and excellent service in whatever position she may demand it from them. Application has been made for commissions in Her Majesty's Army for the four best qualified cadets of each term.

"I beg to call your attention to the undiminished zeal, ability, and goodwill with which the staff generally have continued to assist me in the unremitting and increasing labours which the circumstances of the College have demanded from them.

"The tax upon the powers of some has been and is greater than it should be, and it is for me equally a pleasure to acknowledge my personal indebtedness to them, and a duty to record the good and conscientious service which they have given to Canada.

"There are few countries whose national history has not been affected to an important degree by their Military Colleges, either as complete organizations, or by their cadets individually, and in a country young but rapidly increasing in power and aspirations, such as Canada, the influence of her Military College cannot be other than especially great and beneficial.

"The Royal Military College of Canada is the only institution in which her sons are brought together under *Dominion* auspices from all her widely parted provinces, with their more or less divergent interests and blood.

"The ties of comradeship springing from daily intercourse and common pursuits during four years of the most impressionable period of life, cannot fail to create in the cadets a strong national instinct rising above provincialism, while, from the associations of the institution, the appreciation of the even greater citizenship of the British Empire is strengthened.

"High excellence in anything cannot be obtained without reasonable and adequate expenditure; and half measures and *true* economy are at all times incompatible. This is peculiarly the case in educational institutions, which, if the means to sustain them in vigorous life are wanting, very easily, indeed necessarily, degenerate into unrealities.

"The increased facilities for imparting instruction referred to in this report as necessary to provide the more than ordinarily comprehensive course of education which the present circumstances of Canada imperatively demand from her Military College, are far *less* than those given to the kindred institutions of any other country, and so long as this is the case the demand cannot be excessive or extravagant.

"In now submitting the outline requirements of the future, as in guiding the past, of the College, I have assumed than nothing less than high excellence is desired or will be tolerated.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"E. O. HEWETT, Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E.,

"Commandant, Royal Military College."