

Batteries of Field Artillery : five Brigades and fifteen Batteries of Garrison Artillery ; three Companies of Engineers : one Battalion of Foot Guards, and ninety-four Battalions and four or five independent Companies of Infantry—a total of 36,520 officers and men.

The Reserve consists, by law, with certain exemptions, of the whole able-bodied male population, classified according to age and family circumstances.

The North-West Mounted Police, some 500 strong, although essentially military in its armament, discipline and organization, goes for a Civil Force, and is not under the Minister of Militia.

The character of the Canadian Militia, always well sustained, was brilliantly emphasized last year in the suppression of the utterly unjustifiable insurrection promoted by the malefactor who has been made to pay the forfeit due for two rebellions, and the loss of many valuable lives.

At one of the worst periods of the year, when cold is aggravated by the first spring thaw, with long gaps in the railway communication to be marched over through half-melted snow, or half frozen slush, they marched with unflagging cheer to encounter a foe of the type most trying to the soldier—the perfect adept at bush fighting. Courage in action was commensurate with fortitude under hardship, and the brilliant result was enhanced by the absence of Imperial Troops, although assured by the skill and experience of a veteran Imperial Commander.

Canadian Militia officers "pure and simple," however, (one of them in command of a separate column) contributed fully to the successful issue, which was again the ultimate consequence of the vigor and capacity of the Minister of Militia, whose admirable administration in the crisis almost disarmed the hostile criticism on that head of an opposition which, later, was not ashamed of a futile endeavor to make political capital out of the scaffold of Regina.

It is significant of the community of interests of the two distinct nationalities embraced by the Confederation that the best and ablest Canadian Ministers of Militia have been Frenchmen. Canadians do not perhaps, particularly care for the multiplication of Imperial honors, but as things are, the Canadian public is more than satisfied that the Queen has been pleased to recognize, by the order of St. Michael and St. George, the perspicuous merit and services of Sir Adolphe Caron, whose reputation it is perhaps not too high a compliment to couple with that of Sir George Cartier.

EDUCATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

In selecting a home for himself and his posterity, a man should ask himself, what educational advantages each of the various fields for immigration possesses. Not only is this important in its direct bearing upon the well-being of his children, but it furnishes a means of testing the purity and wholesomeness of the social, moral, and intellectual atmosphere in which he will be called upon to live. Given a country in which all stages of education are attainable by the unaided efforts of the poorest individual, a public school system thoroughly unified and harmonious in the working of its various parts, a body of well trained and earnest teachers, a healthy public sentiment manifesting itself in the attendance of twenty per cent of the population at school, one may with confidence rely upon the presence of an intelligent, law-abiding community.

The late Dr. Ryerson, whose name is more closely connected than any other with the history of educational progress in Canada, laid down the principle that a system of public education should be fitly symbolized by a man standing with one foot in the gutter and the other in the university. Keeping this ideal before them, the legislatures of the different provinces of Canada have all succeeded in building up school systems that may fearlessly invite comparison with those of any other country. As our remarks must be of limited length, and chiefly confined to the maritime provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, we shall proceed to make a rapid sketch of the condition of primary, secondary, and higher education in these provinces.

So liberally do the legislatures and county councils contribute to the expenses of education that by levying a very moderate local school-tax, even a sparsely settled district can afford educational facilities. The extent to which the people appreciate their privilege in this respect may be judged from the last reports of the Superintendents of Education for the three provinces, which show that in New Brunswick one in 5.63 of the population attended school during 1885, in Prince Edward Island one in 5, and in Nova Scotia one in 4.2. Nothing stronger could be said as to the quantity of public instruction—its general dissemination ; we have now to consider its quality. Among the agencies which tend to increase the efficiency of a teacher and the effectiveness of his work might be reckoned teachers' associations, a carefully graded course of study extending from the infant classes to the University, well selected text-books, and the thorough inspection of schools. But the most important of all is the Normal School, in which teachers study the science, and practice, under efficient supervision, the art of teaching. Each of the Maritime Provinces has its Normal School, which gives candidates for the difficult position of teacher a thorough training in the principles of education, and stimulates them to further study in the literature of their calling.

Next above the common schools, in which the ordinary English branches are taught, stand the County Academies, Grammar, High or Superior Schools as they are variously called. In those, while most of the subjects of the common school course are continued, several of the higher branches are added, such as Classics, Modern Languages, and the Natural Sciences. There are in Nova Scotia eighteen Academies, and in New Brunswick seven Grammar Schools, besides a large number of Superior

Schools, in which the higher branches are studied. In these as well as in the Common Schools, strenuous efforts are being made to satisfy the requirements of those who intend to pursue a College course, and also to meet the increasing demand for industrial education. The secondary schools form a connecting link between the primary schools and the universities, the work of the course leading up to the various examinations for matriculation in Arts, Law, and Medicine, or to those for teachers' licenses.

The top story of the educational structure is occupied by the University. Of these there are two in New Brunswick and four in Nova Scotia, the attendance at which is steadily increasing, the number attending two of the leading Nova Scotian colleges last year being two hundred and thirty-seven. We have already exceeded the prescribed length of this article, and we have only room to say that the universities of these provinces furnish a worthy key stone to the arch of public instruction. The whole system of education is thoroughly uniform, and although at the time of the introduction of the Free School Act, it did not meet with general public approval, the experience of the past twenty years has shown the people its many benefits.

The labors of Dr. Fortester in the cause of Free education and the statesmanship displayed by Sir Chas. Tupper in securing legislative sanction to such a grand reform will ever be remembered with gratitude by Nova Scotians.

THE YIELD AND VALUE OF CEREALS IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES, THE LIVE STOCK INTERESTS AND DAIRY PRODUCTS.

After careful study of the census returns of Canada for 1881, I have selected for publication in the Exhibition number of THE CRITIC those statistics, which show the yield of our farm products, the number of our horses and cattle, and the value of our milch cows and dairy products. These I have carefully tabulated and prepared, so that your readers can see at a glance the acreage under cultivation for the respective crops, with the value of the products, the number and value of our horses, cattle, sheep and swine, with full data as to the dairy industry. These statistics I have given separately for the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, so that each Province may be fairly represented. The grand totals are the aggregates for the three Maritime Provinces. In this new country, it can scarcely be expected that agricultural pursuits are carried on according to the improved scientific methods adopted in England and on the continent ; but it may be safely affirmed that our progress during the past twenty years has revolutionized our old-fashioned ideas of farming. We now realize the absolute necessity of possessing a theoretical as well as a practical knowledge of Agriculture ; and already, our farmers have become fully alive to this value of this knowledge. The drainage of land, the rotation of crops, and the use of fertilizers, are now as essential to successful farming in the Maritime Provinces, as they have been for years in England. We have still open for settlement, in the three Provinces I am treating of, thousands of acres of ungranted land ; and if the English tenant farmer, bearing this in mind, and remembering that the statistics that are appended, regarding the products of the farm, have been compiled without respect to the manner in which the land was cultivated, will give table "A" the close perusal it deserves, I feel confident that he will think twice before making up his mind to seek a new home in other and more distant colonies.

WHEAT.

In table "A" will be found the quantities of the leading cereals only, and the average yield per acre of the wheat crop alone is designated. I would inform your readers that considerable quantities of rye, Indian corn, and linseed, are produced as well.

I feel genuine pleasure in placing before the public, in this permanent form, the fact, that our wheat yield averages more than twelve bushels per acre, rising in Prince Edward Island to thirteen bushels. The large yield of this crop in our North-West with equally large surpluses in the United States, by which we have cheap bread, has not stimulated the growing of wheat in this section. We must, however, with the lesson demonstrated by the wheat statistics, cease our complaints as to the country being unsuited to its production, remembering that England, aided by the best cultivation of modern times, exhibits but an average yield of from twelve to fourteen bushels per acre.

We have placed in our valuation (not furnished by the census returns) the prices for each cereal as low as the market prices have ruled for two or three years.

ROOTS.

In root crops I have made no distinction as between turnips and a great variety of roots, such as mangel wurtzel, beets, carrots, parsnips, onions, and others of this description, which are raised in large quantities, and excellent yields obtained, both in fields and gardens, in all parts of the Provinces.

The potato is priced at 1s. 3d., (30 cts.) per bushel, and I would direct special attention to the fact, that in Prince Edward Island, the yield is 336.18 bushels to each family.

DAIRY COWS, BUTTER AND CHEESE.

It will be observed, that for convenience and comparison, we have tabulated milch cows and dairy products together. Let it be noted, that in the second section of table "B" is to be found the butter product for the