

1	J. Wilson, jun.	24
2	Captain Gilmour	23
3	Lieut. Smyth	23
4	John Clews	23
5	John M'Kenna, jun.	22
6	J. Rigby	22
7	Lieut. M'Intyre	22

Competition E.—£15. 800 yards. Any rifle. Nine prizes. 1st, the Bandreth prize (presented by H. D. Bandreth, Esq.) £5; £3, £2, four of £1, and two of 10s. Seven shots; any position; entrance, 7s 6d. Open to all comers.

Henry Fulton	27
T. R. Walkington	27
J. Boomer	26
Lieut. Smyth	26
J. Rigby	25
J. M'Kenna, jun.	25
Captain Mura	24
Captain Gilmour	23
J. S. Lee	23

Competition F.—£15 Seven shots at 1000 yards, position any, any rifle. 1st prize, presented by John Rigby, Esq., £5; 2nd a piece of plate presented, by W. Smyth, Esq., Glasgow; £3 3s, £2, four of £1, and two of 10s. Open to all comers, entrance, 7s 6d.

Lieut. M'Intyre	22
John Clews	21
R. S. Joyce	20
J. S. Lee	20
William Rigby	18
Captain Gilmour	17
Mr. Boomer	15
Henry Fulton	14
J. M'Kenna	14

Competition G.—The Ingram Prize, £5 5s, with £10 added by the Association. Seven shots at 200 yards, any rifle. 1st, the Ingram prize, a Snider rifle of the highest finish, value, £5 5s; 2nd, £3; £2, four of £1, and two of 10s. Open to all-comers.

John Clews	25
Lieut. M'Intyre	24
John M'Kenna, jun.	23
R. S. Joyce	23
W. M. Kitwick	22
W. H. Braddell	22
J. Taggart	22
T. M'Henry	22
William Rigby	22

The Belmont Cup—Presented by Thomas McClare, Esq., M.P. for Belfast. Open only to members of the U.R.A. Ranges—800, 900, 1000, and 1,100 yards. Five shots at each range. Any rifle—any position. Entrance, 2s 6d. First prize, the Belmont Cup to be held for one year by winner; must be won three times before becoming the property of any individual; 2nd and 3rd prizes, two thirds and one third, respectively, of entrance money, less 10 per cent. towards expenses of Association. N.B.—Ties in this competition must be shot off—one shot each at longest range till decided.

Total.		
1	John Clews (Cup)	60
2	H. Fulton	58
3	J. Wilson, jun.	57
4	J. M'Kenna, jun.	54
5	John Rigby	54

The ex Empress Eugenie was deeply affected at the verdict and sentence in the case of Marshal Bazaine. Her agitation was so great that she was compelled to postpone the visit she was about to make to Queen Victoria.

MEMORANDUM ON THE MILITIA SYSTEM OF CANADA.

At times when changes in the Military Organization of the country seem to be impending, and when the management of the Militia has passed into new hands, it may not be considered out of place if I offer a few observations on a subject in which I take a deep professional interest. The question at issue is not one of mere detail; it involves principles of which a due consideration is absolutely necessary if any important changes be made in the present system of militia, or if any broad scheme be proposed of national defence.

Now in all matters involving large military expenditure there is one problem presenting itself under different aspects, which simple in its formula, is yet extremely difficult of solution. The problem may be stated in these terms:—Given the number of men required, and the efficiency to which they are to attain, what amount of money will be annually necessary? Or as it is stated in Canada—Given the amount of money voted, and the number of men required, what is to be the standard of efficiency? Or again—Given the amount of money and the required efficiency how many men can be raised? This problem comprises the whole principal of the organization of a military force under ordinary conditions, when the national spirit is not excited by imminent danger, or not roused by enthusiastic feeling.

If these propositions be accepted, as containing at least the germs of truth, it may be well—before enunciating any new ideas—to see how they have been worked out during the last few years, and what are the present results of the military organization in Canada.

Now it appears that when it became probable that the onus of providing for the national defence would, by the withdrawal of the Imperial forces, be thrown upon the Dominion, a Commission was issued in the year 1862 to report on a system of militia suitable for the requirements of the country. On this commission, Sir John MacDonald, Sir George Cartier, and other well-known statesmen—assisted by Colonel, now General Lysons—served, and the result was a report, of which the substance was as follows:—It was considered that the number of the active force should be fifty thousand, and that even this force (a very large increase on any number previously organized) would be insufficient in the event of invasion without the assistance of a strong body of regular troops, and a powerful fleet of gun-boats on the lakes. It was recommended that the country should be divided into Military districts, which should comprise Regimental Divisions; that a permanent head quarter, district, and regimental staff should be maintained, and that the usual period of training should be for twenty eight days.

Had this report been acted upon, a force respectable both in regard to numbers and efficiency would have been created; but unfortunately, owing to the expenditure necessary to carry out the plan, it was not pleasing to the House of Assembly; consequently the Government which had embodied it in a bill was defeated, and was obliged to resign. In 1863 a Militia Bill was passed, considerably modified in regard to its provisions from that which would have been requisite had the report of the Commission been approved; and this Act continued in force until the Confederation of the Dominion, when in

1868 the present Militia Bill received the Royal Assent

The basis of the system is the enrolment of the whole of the male population between the ages of eighteen and sixty, not exempted or disqualified by law, and being British subjects by birth or naturalization. This force—numbering in the four Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 691,008—is divided into four classes. The first comprises the unmarried, and widowers without children, between the ages of eighteen and thirty; the second, the same description of persons under forty-five years of age; the third class includes those between eighteen and forty five who are married, or who are widowers with children; and the fourth class comprises the whole of the enrolled population between forty-five and sixty. From the total number thus enrolled, the Active Militia—which, as the law now stands, is limited to 43,000 men—is raised by voluntary enlistment, and engaged for three years. Power is given to fill up the ranks by means of the ballot; but this power is in abeyance, and has not been resorted to even when the members of the Active Militia have fallen short of those demanded. The command of the whole force is vested in the Queen, and through Her, in Her representative, the Governor General, who is advised on all questions relating to the Militia by the Minister of Militia and Defence—a Minister similar, as regards his functions, to the Secretary of State for War. The actual discipline is under the Adjutant-General, who must be a field officer in the regular army, and has the rank of Colonel in the Militia. Each district, of which there are eleven, viz.:—Four in Ontario, three in Quebec, one in New Brunswick, one in Nova Scotia, one in Manitoba, and one in British Columbia, is under the command of Deputy Adjutant-Generals, who have the rank of Lieut.-Colonels, and who are assisted by Brigade Majors. The period of drill during peace time for the Active Militia is to be not more than sixteen days and not less than eight. The force assembled in 1872, and who performed their regular period of sixteen days' drill, was 30,144, including officers. Of these, 25,724 were infantry, 1,666 cavalry, 951—with 40 guns—field artillery, and 1,697 garrison artillery. The estimates for that year amounted to \$1,549,400; of which \$550,000 was appropriated to the pay and allowances of the troops during their annual training, including the expense attendant on encamping a portion of the force. In the present year the estimates were reduced, and the camps in which the Militia have for the past few seasons been exercised, were not formed. The minimum amount of money to be applied to national defence was fixed at one million dollars (\$1,000,000); shortly before several Provinces were united by Confederation, and it appears probable that unless the House of Commons had thus been tied down to the expenditure of a specified sum, the estimates would have been still further reduced.

Taking the year 1872 as a sample of the last few years, we find that rather over a million and a half of dollars was voted, and that about 30,150 men were provided as the force of the active militia. On these data the following questions arise:—To what efficiency did this force attain? And given the amount of money, would it be better to diminish the numbers and increase the efficiency, or to keep the force as it is? For to lower the average standard of efficiency without altogether doing away with even the appearance of military training, would be almost impossible. To reply to the first