

embodying to an extent the principles of National Military Organizations, that is to say:—The ballot and general liability to military service with few exceptions in time of war;\*—Short term of service in embodied troops (much too short in fact for any practical result); and —Localization of corps with the linking of Service and Reserve Militia.

But though the importance of the above principles was fully appreciated by our legislators and statesmen, still in the same statute and perhaps from the best motives, they rendered nugatory the most important *provisos* of their legislation, in allowing Volunteer and Regular Militia *concurrently* to exist.

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The Volunteers have always patriotically performed their duty as far as it laid in their power to do so. But we contend that in being the cause of preventing the organization of Regular Militia, they have deprived the country of what would have been a much more efficient military force.

Their assumption, of an *amateur* kind of military service, only to gratify in not a few cases, a fancy for display and uniform, has taken from a soldier's duty in Canada, its reality and serious character and prevented its performance from being acknowledged by the mass of the people, as part of a citizen's obligations to the State. Hence, the popular saying, that *volunteers are playing at soldiers*, and the result; that sense of duty as regards military liabilities has not been developed amongst our countrymen.

Enlistments in the Volunteers being generally procured (except perhaps in cases of emergency), by solicitations, or the popularity, real or spurious, of Commanders of Corps, men enlisting under such circumstances, feel they are thereby granting a favor to their own officers and therefore exact privileges and indulgences far from conducive to discipline and efficiency, whilst a lack of energy and firmness in leaders, is a source of insubordination. Often also ignorance and neglect of the duties and liabilities of their position destroys the prestige of commanders amongst the rank and file.

Thus, though Volunteers (the best of them) superficially appear to be trust worthy, still are they deficient in the thorough training and

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\* Substitutes are however allowed in time of war with certain conditions and restrictions and an indemnity of \$50, liberates individuals from service, in time of peace.