

done, fully detailed instructions and returns would be sent to each battalion division,—and a roster of men in each class would be made out and deposited at the *chef lieu* of each battalion division. Qualified men (*i.e.*, 1st class Military School men, and afterwards graduates of the Military College) would be sent through the country to afford any assistance or give any information required. Every encouragement would be given to the people of the country to manage their own Battalions among themselves, giving them assistance if required, and every means would be taken to create emulation in rifle shooting, &c., amongst the battalions of Militia,—the fact of their having their own armories and rifle ranges in the centre of their battalion divisions, under their own responsibility, would increase this feeling of *esprit de corps*.

The system proposed if carried out at once, in its entirety might be beyond the financial strength of the country. But, on examination, it will be found that besides offering a means of increasing, in a few years, the defensive power of the country from zero to an invincible force of a million of Canadian sharp-shooters, carefully organized and well officered—the expense of an organization such as we have described, carried out on true principles, will but keep pace with the power developed.

Without injury to the effectiveness of this military organization, which will yearly become more firmly rooted in the Dominion and will at length enable the population to rise and oppose an overwhelming force against an enemy however suddenly it might be attacked, we can by paying moderately, at first, for a good, solid, enduring, foundation, constructed on true principles, afford to purchase,—as time calls for and our treasury permits,—the materials for a highly wrought superstructure.

To keep up the metaphor,—we have been building our tower of defence on a quicksand; the fort on which we have spent millions looks well to the careless eye; but, on inspection we find