

MILITARY RESERVE AT NIAGARA.

A startling report has lately been circulated, a statement so unexpected and so surprising that it seems impossible to be believed—that the Military Reserve is to be sold in ten-acre lots. For two reasons this seems incredible; first, that a rich government like the Dominion of Canada should thus dispose of what has always been used and may yet be used for military purposes, and for what must certainly be a comparatively small sum. Last year and the year before large sums were expended both on the Fort George and the Mississauga common for military purposes. Why this waste if it were so soon to be given up? Secondly, is there no recollection in Ottawa of all that makes these Niagara Plains so dear to Canadians? It is well now and then that we should drive from our minds the utilitarian view taken by some unfortunate beings so constituted as to be unable to look at such a matter from the sentimental and historical point of view. The Pass of Thermopylae, the Plains of Marathon, the field of Bannockburn and that of Waterloo, the Plains of Abraham all rouse patriotic feelings, and the Plains of Niagara should do no less. During the past one hundred and twenty years there has been a military reserve, as we read in a statement of Augustus Jones, surveyor, of a previous survey by Mr. Frey. And not far off the remnant of Navy Hall, one of the four buildings used by Britain's commanders at the King's Wharf, one of these being cleared out, repaired and improved for the first Governor-General, Simcoe. And here the beginning of Government was made and laws passed of which no law-