

one issue. The meeting seems to have been a very successful one, in point of attendance and otherwise.

THE general orders of the 18th of June, published in this issue, are not only long, but contain many interesting changes. Lt.-Col. Matheson assumes command of the 42nd Brockville Infantry, in the stead of the veteran Col. Buell, who has well earned his retired rank. Major Macdonell resigns from the same corps and Dr. Vaux resigns the surgeoncy and is succeeded by Dr. Fraser. In the Montreal Garrison Artillery the well known rifleman Capt. W. H. Laurie succeeds to a majority, and Lt.-Col. Poitras gets the command of the 64th Voltigeurs de Beauharnois. C. D'Amour and T. L. Alexander are promoted to the substantive ranks in their respective corps, the 76th and 71st. Surgeon Ryall, of the 13th, becomes surgeon-major by lapse of time, and Dr. Brown, surgeon of the 54th, drops his profession to take combatant rank as captain commanding No. 2 company. From what we know of his energy we are sure that whatever the corps may have lost as a surgeon, they will have gained a good company officer. The appointments show twenty seven promotions, thirty-nine losses and forty-three new appointments, or a net gain of four. Of these only four are qualified, six are non-combatants, and thirty-three are provisional appointments.

Personals.

Major Anderson, 43rd, left town on Saturday night with the Minister of Marine, for the Pacific Coast, on business connected with the light-house service, necessitated by the increase of traffic consequent upon the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He expects to be gone three or four weeks and is bemoaning his fate in having to relinquish all hopes of winning a place on the Wimbledon team of 1887.

Capt. Coutlee, Winnipeg F.B. was on the Point St. Charles ranges during the Quebec matches, and bears eloquent if silent testimony to the healthfulness of the Winnipeg climate in the case of at least one native of Ottawa.

The Colonies—Federation or Disintegration.

THE presence among us at the present time of so many illustrious and able representatives of the outlying dependencies of the empire, combined with the wonderful exhibition of colonial products and manufactures now offered to public view, is in itself calculated to arouse interest in one of the mightiest problems in statecraft which has ever offered itself for solution, the problem of Imperial Federation. Nor are other circumstances wanting to draw all of our attention that can be spared from the pressing consideration of the hour, and the result of the coming election, in a like direction. The intelligence that the French flag had been hoisted at the New Hebrides was well calculated to rouse feelings of anxiety and irritation not only in this country, but also in Australia, where the feeling that her best interests had been neglected, if not actually betrayed by the Home Government in the matter of the German annexations in New Guinea, is probably by no means forgotten. It is fortunate as singular that our means of forming an opinion upon the merits of the important question of our colonial relations should have been recently augmented by the contributions to the literature of the subject made by Mr. Froude in *Oceana*, and likewise by a foreigner—Baron Hubner—whose life has been passed in the diplomatic service of his country, and who is therefore peculiarly qualified to judge of the future of our rule in those mighty dependencies which the energy and enterprise of the Anglo-Saxon race has scattered so plentifully over the surface of the globe. Nor is the divergence of opinion between these eminent writers less remarkable. For while Mr. Froude would have us confide in a sentimental affection which, he believes, if well be only let alone, will continually increase in strength, Baron Hubner bids us remember that the colonies cannot remain as they are. It is important to bear in mind that in a go-ahead and distant community the ties of mere sentiment, which bid those of a younger generation to look to the rock whence they have been hewn, rapidly grow weaker. The traditions of a land which he has never seen, and which is so very far away, exercise a vastly less sway over the feelings of the young colonist than they did in the minds of his fathers, who ever retained in memory the bitterness of parting with kinsmen and accustomed scenes and habits of life in going to an unknown land.

It is no less certain that the two movements—separation, belonging to the past, and federation, the offspring of times more recent—have a common origin, in the conviction that things cannot much longer remain as they are. The policy of masterly inactivity, so belauded by a certain school among our Indian statesmen, has never yet borne luxuriant fruit, even in the land of its birth; but as regards the connection between the colonies and ourselves, Baron Hubner tells us plainly that the mechanism has broken down, and must be replaced by something new. It is time that we should rouse ourselves from the state of feeling, described by Professor Seeley as a fit of absence of mind, in which we have peopled half the world, and yet have not ceased to think of ourselves as merely a race inhabiting an island off the north coast of the continent of Europe. Meantime our exports to foreign countries are rapidly decreasing, and our exports to the colonies are rapidly increasing; nay, in the course of another half century the population of the colonies bids fair to exceed that of the mother country. Nor is it possible to shut our eyes to the many important questions which must be dealt with in connection with the mighty Anglo Saxon Empire of the future; of such are the questions of emigration, intercolonial relations, currency, and the rehabilitation of silver; but above all, as first and foremost, the question of Imperial defence. It is of little purpose that the sentiment which prompted the Roman of old to cry *Civis Romanus sum* prevade the hearts of English colonist, if at the same time there be no Imperial machinery adequate to protect the enormous commerce of the colonies, now very nearly equalling that of the mother country herself. The mineral treasures of Australia, first discovered by Count Streletski, are apparently endless; the coal-fields of New South Wales are of far greater area than our own, and the population of the "Giant Ocean Isle" is already three millions, as against the five millions of British North America. Few have been the occasions of probable war which have not evoked eager expressions of martial spirit, and a desire to participate in the perils and glories of the "Old Country" on the part of the colonies. There was no flinching among the scattered loyalists of Canada when the threat of invasion from the South was carried into execution in 1813; nor when the "shadow of war moved like eclipse" in the days of the "Trent outrage" was there any lack of enthusiastic arming in defence of hearth and home. And in more recent days have we not seen a contingent from New South Wales aiding, on the arid sands of the Soudan, to stem the onslaught of the followers of a false prophet; boatmen from Canada toiling amid the rapids of the Nile; and a rebellion in the North-west successfully repressed with colonial troops and resources under the command of a British general? Nor is it of less moment to remember that the great choice of the future—no dim and distant one—lies between federation and disintegration. We are very near the parting of the ways, the watershed, as it has been described, of English history; existing relations can scarcely be expected to endure more than a few years longer, and in the lifetime of the present generation of men the momentous problem of Imperial unity or disintegration must unquestionably be solved.—*Broad Arrow*.

The Quebec Provincial Rifle Matches.

THE eighteenth annual prize meeting of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association was held on the 10th and 11th, all the programme being got through in two days, in consequence of the abolition of sighting shots and the furnishing of additional target accommodation, and this notwithstanding that the number of competitors was greatly in excess of any late year. The following Quebec corps and rifle associations were represented: the Montreal G. A., Engineers, Field Battery, P. W. R., Victorias, Royal Scots, 6th Fusiliers, Grand Trunk Rifle Association, Montreal Rifle Association; 8th batt., Quebec; 60th batt., Missisquoi; 53rd, Sherbrooke; 85th, Laprairie; 53rd batt., Huntingdon; 50th, 51st, 52nd, 54th, 58th and 79th battalions. Also the following large representation from Ontario: Governor General's Foot Guards, Ottawa; Victoria Rifle Club, Hamilton; Metropolitan Rifle Association, Ottawa; 43rd batt., Ottawa; Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, Ottawa; Queen's Own, Toronto; 44th batt., Niagara Falls, and the 37th batt. The presence of these last is due to the liberality of the association in throwing open all their prizes to the whole Dominion, an example worthy of imitation by other similar associations.

The weather during the meeting was anything but favorable for good scores; a strong five o'clock gusty wind prevailing on both days. On Tuesday it was oppressively hot, the sun shone brightly, the targets lighting up splendidly in the afternoon, but on Wednesday the light was very variable. While the volley firing competition was in progress, about noon, a heavy shower fell, and after four o'clock it required a good eye to make out targets and sights distinctly, and many a high aggregate came a cropper in consequence; and it was a matter of speculative surprise how Capt. Aylmer achieved 32 points at 600 in the Active Militia match, and Sergt. Dalrymple 33 at the same range in the Martini-Henry.