

distinguished services in both hemispheres, and in almost every climate.

(Signed) H. Y. STARNES,
Mayor.

City Hall, Montreal, Oct. 15, 1867.

Colonel Dyde now came forward and said he could not allow the present occasion to pass without expressing the regard and consideration the Volunteer Force entertained towards his Excellency. He would not detain them with a long speech, but his Worship the Mayor had just presented an address, and he too would wish to say a few words on behalf of the Volunteer Force of Montreal.

Colonel Dyde then read the following address:

To His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir John Michel, K. C. B., lately Commanding the Forces in British North America.

We, the undersigned, the Commandant, Staff and Officers of the Volunteer Militia Force of Montreal, desire to express to you, before you leave Canada, our great regret at your approaching departure. During your stay here your Excellency has at all times given to the Volunteers your invaluable countenance, support and assistance, and extended to them the greatest kindness and courtesy. We beg to offer you our sincere thanks, and to express to your Excellency that we deeply appreciate the interest you have always taken in the Volunteer Force. It is grateful to us to know that the efforts we make to serve our country and support the Crown of our beloved Sovereign, are so favorably viewed by so ripe a soldier, and one whose brilliant success in the same cause has rendered him so appreciative a judge. We beg to assure your Excellency we shall take the deepest interest in your future career, feeling persuaded that it will be alike honorable to yourself and glorious to the Empire. In conclusion, we desire to render to your Excellency, Lady Michel, and all those near and dear to you, our warmest and most sincere wishes for your and their happiness, and a safe and speedy voyage to your home in England. Signed by the Commandant, Staff, and all Commanding Officers of the Acting Force.

General Michel, in replying, said in speaking for the last time, he did not wish to be misunderstood. He would, therefore, read a few words which he wished to leave as a legacy for the citizens of Montreal. His Excellency then read the following:

Mr. Mayor and gentlemen, Col. Dyde and Volunteer Militia.

I think I am entitled to consider the gentleman of Montreal and her Volunteer Militia as one united body of civil patriots, vying with each other in devotion to their country, and loyalty to the Crown of England. To you, then collectively, I tender my heart felt thanks for the kindly addresses now presented to me. His Honor the Mayor has been pleased to speak favorably of my endeavours, both as commander of the army in this country and as Administrator of the Government—Colonel Dyde, of the encouragement I have given to the Volunteers of Canada. My business was to encourage the military spirit, the spirit of self-defence, that I might find in this country, and to give (if required) auxiliary aid. What did I find in Canada? Loyalty to the backbone, a noble military spirit, a determination to be a country, respected by her powerful neighbor, and looked upon by the comity of nations. Could I, then, have done less than place any small ability or energy I may possess at the disposal of Canada? On my arrival in Canada I found little more than a paper Volunteer force. You have

now a fairly organized, equipped force of over 32,000 men. But good as are your volunteers, admirable as they are for the reserved force of the Dominion, still we must recollect that they are the *cités* of the country, men so required in their different positions in life that serious injury arises from any protracted absence. In your first line of defence you must have a militia, and let your second be composed of these patriotic Volunteers. But our time is short; yet before we part I would wish you all to take home with you one or two points for your deep consideration, to be combed over there, and in your civil lives steadily to be carried out. I now speak to your whole country, but very especially to you men of Montreal. You are placed in a position held by no other city that I know of in the world. You are placed on the only spot on a vast continent which can be made the receiving house of one third a Continent's exterior trade, and able to dispatch it to Europe. You have the power of being, and you must be one day or other, one of the most flourishing capitals on the face of the globe. But you are unsafely situated: your gains, some day, if you are unwisely penurious, may be taken to pay for your capture; your very prosperity may be the cause of your ruin. I will endeavour, then, as a legacy, to leave you one or two words of advice. Fortify—arm—open the great water route to the West. As a soldier, I tell you that your city and Island may be made most powerfully strong, at no very great expense. Montreal, Kingston, and Prescott partially, should immediately be fortified. Your Militia should be made real. Your Volunteers a second line. Whilst the grand route to the sea, by the Ottawa and Frenel river should, as soon as possible, be undertaken giving you a back bone of military strength, and bringing to your doors the vast trade of the vaster West. I see before me a vision of the great West, both of the United States and Hudson's Bay territory, pouring its volumes of agricultural wealth by this route to Montreal, and from thence to Albany and Quebec to Europe. I see the vast metallic fields on the shores of the Superior and Huron and Upper Rivers pouring forth their wealth. I see the unemployed millions of the old world hastening to this land of plenty, and I behold Montreal the undoubted capital and queen of this noble Empire. But no, it is no vision—it is a reality of the future. And so I say to you, men of Montreal, open quickly your canals,—develop your resources—forty and arm, and peace and plenty will be result. I now wish you all a God speed. Go on and prosper—Farewell!

The steamer being about to start, Gen. Michel now bade a hasty farewell to his Worship the Mayor and the officers present.

As the steamer proceeded down the river, a salute of 13 guns was fired.—*Montreal Gazette.*

There is much sound advice and food for reflection in the parting words of this officer who has dwelt long enough amongst us to know our spirit and feeling as a people, and to rightly judge the capabilities of our country for defence. He knows and has pointed out exactly our weakness, but he also knows and, with the educated instincts of a soldier, and the complete knowledge gained by experience, wherein lies our strength. He says he found in Canada "a noble military spirit, loyalty to the backbone, a determination to be a country respected by her powerful neigh-

bour, and looked upon by the comity of nations." It is this loyalty, this military spirit, the power of which cannot be over-rated which will eventually prove the greatest bulwark of our liberties as a people. But this spirit requires fostering and encouragement, and something else is required for the defence of the country besides its 32,000 Volunteers. And Lieut. General Michel is right when he says that our first line must be the Militia, our second the Volunteers. No petty considerations should be allowed to stand in the way of procuring a reliable system of defence, both by fortification and the enrollment of Militia. In his last words of advice he says:—"Fortify—arm—upon the great water route to the west." In this he forcibly repeats what we all along have urged upon the people of Canada; the great necessity of placing our frontier in a defensive condition, bringing our Militia into a practicable reality and making our internal communication such that in both a military and mercantile sense we will be able to compete with foreigners in the markets of the world, or have the means at our disposal of concentrating our strength for resistance. In all this there is no difficult problem to be solved, it is a necessity to our well-being, perhaps to our very existence as a nation. The gigantic resources of our country are only beginning to be understood, and the vast sources of wealth which lie unknown in the bosom of our great northern empire only await development by enterprise and population. It was indeed no vision in which the General indulged when he traced, in those memorable parting words, the glorious future of the Dominion of Canada; and it only lies with ourselves to make his prophecy sooner or later an actual reality. Open up our communications—"Fortify—Arm—and peace and plenty will be the result."

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.—The Drumbo Light Infantry Company were inspected on Friday, (the day after the Agricultural Show) by Lieut-Col. Brigade Major Villiers, Lieut-Col. Patton, and Assistant Adjutant Spence, staff drill instructor of the Battalion (Brantford). The men mustered in the Town Hall, where they were under arms, under the commanding officer, Captain Laidlaw, during the whole afternoon. Being dressed in their new uniform and armed with the newly arrived breech-loading Snider-Enfield Rifle, the Company made a very creditable and handsome appearance which was not diminished when the drill instructor put them through a variety of exercises with the new weapon, and also in marching, forming fours, extension motions, and other evolutions. The inspecting officers expressed themselves highly pleased with the turn out of men at such a busy season of the year, and also with the general steadiness and attention maintained in the ranks, and the Brigade Major stated that he would have pleasure in reporting favorably of the company to head quarters. The men are greatly pleased with the new Snider rifle, both for its handiness and simplicity of working.—*Princeton Transcript.*