

The advantage of localization as regards reserves, has been made so apparent by comparatively recent facts familiar to all, that it is useless to enlarge.

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Threatening danger would undoubtedly bring recruits in flocks, to fill up the ranks; but this impetus would soon relax, when the enthusiasts having been absorbed, would have disappeared in the strife. War can not now be fed by such effervescence, its preparation must be the result of calm and steady organization, in which, if necessary, all the resources of the nation in men, material, &c., can be utilized. Those are the true principles upon which rests the armed strength of nations, in our days.

The Canadian Militia system, imperfect as it is in many respects, possesses however the essentials that can produce a sound and useful military organization. It requires to be improved but firstly and especially, to be properly applied.

The primary measures to be taken are :—The disbandment of the Volunteer force and the enforcement of the ballot.—The formation of a certain number of Regular troops as Schools of Instruction to train Militia officers and men and to maintain order when called out in aid of civil power.—Extension of the period of service, half of the term in the Active Militia, the remainder in the Reserve, liable to be called out to rejoin service corps\*.—Reduction in the rate of pay, the rank and file being mostly (un-married) balloted from the 1st class, a lesser pay would be sufficient, this would allow of a longer period of annual training; the present one of 16 days is too short for any practical purpose.—A higher rate of pay and longer period of training for the Cavalry, both branches of the Artillery service and the Engineers, their duties and drills being more onerous and difficult to learn than those of the Infantry.—Militia corps localized so as to link well with the reserves of the territorial divisions to which the different corps would be affected.—Establishment of complete and sufficient depots of arms, accoutrements, clothing, harness, camping equipment, etc.; at favorable points along Railways or other convenient lines of

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\* With this system of *reserves*, an armed Force of about 80,000 partially trained men would always be available half of which would cost nothing except when called out for service. This could allow perhaps the service militia to be reduced without weakening the defensive power of the country.