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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The returning troops have every reason to be satisfied with the reception which they are receiving; indeed the danger is that they will be spoiled by flattery and kindness. The unanimous way in which the votes of thanks were passed in the Senate and House of Commons, both parties eulogizing them in the most glowing terms, is a sure index of the feeling throughout the country. This week will be given up to receptions and rejoicings, following those held at Winnipeg last week. The local press are giving full particulars of the doings in several centres from which troops were sent, and to the local press we may properly leave detailed descriptions of these receptions. Even the poor fellows whose fate it was to fall in the good cause have had all done in their honor that enthusiasm and liberality could suggest. The funeral of Rogers and Osgood here on Sunday was a magnificent display, and that of Col. Williams at Port Hope to-day promises to command the attendance of all mid-Ontario.

What a revulsion of feeling towards the Militia the last few months have seen! Before the insurrection it was the fashion to sneer at our citizen soldiers, to call them a useless excrescence, and to accuse officers of tuft-hunting and the shots of pot-hunting. Now all this is changed. The field force have succeeded beyond all expectations, and those whose duty it was to remain behind are catching the reflection of their glory. Now is the opportunity of the Militia, and they

should make the most of it. Let battalions fill their ranks and give their recruits some setting-up drill before going into camp; let companies secure grants from the local municipal authorities for clothing, for bands, for armories, or for drill sheds, while the liberality of enthusiasm is fresh upon us, and let the whole force endeavor to become better organized, better drilled, and better disciplined, while they have the example of the field force fresh before them.

Parliament has followed up its grants of land to the rank and file of the field force by a vote of \$20,000 to General Middleton; action which only receives one criticism, that the amount might have been larger. But when we consider that this is the first occasion on which the country has been called upon to reward services undertaken independently of the Imperial power and that the revenue of the country is limited, the vote seems to be sufficiently liberal. It is hoped that this action of the Dominion government will be endorsed by the Imperial government marking its appreciation of General Middleton's success in accordance with the recommendation of the Governor-General as announced in the Speech from the Throne yesterday.

It is to be hoped that the untiring energy and excellent judgment displayed by the Hon. Mr. Caron in his capacity of Minister of Militia, throughout this crisis, may win for him also some appropriate mark of approval from the Imperial government, for his work is certainly deserving of some more substantial reward than the universal praise of his fellow-countrymen, a prize which he has already gained.

And in the praise which we are according to those who, under the Minister, worked so well at the front, the less conspicuous, but not less important duties of the militia staff at headquarters should not be forgotten, as they were certainly quite as essential to the success of the whole. The attention bestowed on details by Col. Powell, Adjutant-General, Lieut.-Col. Panet, Deputy Minister, and Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Director of Stores, in particular, should not be lost sight of.

The vote of a quarter of a million for drill purposes means, as the Minister announced, that camps of instruction will be held this year as usual, an intimation which should meet with hearty approval, for if there is one thing more calculated to demoralize the force than another it is the want of drill for two or three years in succession. There were some fears that the delay in granting supplies, and the large expenditure in the North-West would have necessitated the abandonment of the design this year, and we are glad of the assurance that such is not the case. Now let rural battalions get ready for another year's work, and let the officers determine to get as much benefit out of the twelve days as possible.

The list of battalions is increasing so quickly that at the same rate we shall soon be able to celebrate our centennial. Last week's general orders calls into existence the ninety second, ninety-third, and ninety-