

crossed the border, and which consequently lessened the fighting force at every step they advanced into the country; the volcanic condition of the South, and the violent antipathies of their political parties—the United States risked too much in resorting to the arbitration of arms for the settlement of her legacy of hate.

They had grown so accustomed to beard the British Lion, to pull his mane down over his eyes, while they robbed him of his rights, that they forgot the existence of his claws, and awakened to remembrance only when they found them planted in their breast.

In their self-exaltation they imagined only those victories which would at once secure the dominion of their waning political power, and the possession of the long coveted territory of Canada. Such an idea as "defeat" never entered their heads.

Again, our *Baptism of fire* taught us the dangers of procrastination in providing for the defence of the country. Had the war commenced in 1872 instead of 1874, it would have found us with no organization save that of a sham Reserve Militia, and a small Active Force. It found instead that the discharged men from the Active Force had been re-enrolled in the reserve which had been completed in its organization of Battalions and Brigades. The Active Force had its similar organization. The hands of the Adjutant-General were no longer cramped by the precarious nature of an annual grant for Militia purposes, but he was enabled to calculate on the proceeds of a direct Tax levied on all liable for Militia service, who were not actually serving in the Active or Reserve Forces. This amount, with an annual grant from Parliament sufficient to provide for the yearly requirements of the Force, in arms, ammunition, and clothing, and for the establishment of sufficient reserves in store for an emergency, at the Headquarters of each District, enabled him to expend the necessary amounts for the pay, equipment, and maintenance of the Force, Active and Reserve, in a state of efficiency.

With the surplus a large quantity of improved arms had been obtained and stored in the country for the armament of the second Reserves. Field Telegraphs had been supplied to each Division, and the Engineers and pontoon train provided with the necessary tools. The Quartermaster General's Department had been thoroughly organized, and maps of each District carefully prepared by the local staff.

In 1872, nothing of this kind had been accomplished. Owing to the unsatisfactory enforcement of the provisions of the Militia Law, the Volunteer Force had dwindled down to a mere nothing, alike expensive and troublesome. Coming and going at will, no experience in drill or discipline could be attained, and though the large proportion of partially drilled men rendered the formation of the reserves an easy task, the Active Force, or first line of defence, was in anything but a satisfactory condition.

The change in this respect consolidating the Force under the one head of "Militia," Active and Reserve, governed by the same rules, and liable to a continued period of service, gave an impetus to the Force, established true *esprit de corps*, and enabled officers and men to gain both drill and discipline.

This system perfected in detail, has continued to work satisfactorily, up to the present time, although the Active Force now numbers 100,000, and the 1st and 2nd Reserve 200,000 more—while the veterans though unorganized, must number 300,000, and are equally well drilled with our youngest troops, and available at as short a notice.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.]

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:—You will oblige by informing your correspondent if there is any rule in our Canadian Army in regard to the appointment of the staff of regiments, more particularly in regard to the office of Paymaster or Adjutant; should the former go by seniority among the Captains and the latter among the subalterns, or are they in the sole gift of the Colonel? should not the offer of the posts be at least made to the seniors before appointing a junior in rank and standing?

Considerable dissatisfaction will be prevented in our regiment if the rule can be established that such appointments should go by seniority.

An answer in your next will oblige,

Yours Truly,

FAIR PLAY

Colborne, April 8th, 1872.

ANSWER.—There is no such rule, the Commandant of the Battalion recommends the officers best qualified for the positions; if approved, they are gazetted; the mode of selection is the only available one.—ED. VOL. REV.

A WARNING.—In the *Globe* of the 3rd we find the annexed item, which, it is hoped, will be a warning to those who may become possessed of government stores unlawfully:

"The case of E. J. Mintz, pawnbroker on Queen Street, charged by Col. R. B. Denison with having in his possession and offering for sale, a revolver, evidently one of the Government issue to volunteer cavalry of this Province, was called on. Defendant did not deny the charge, but Mr. Murphy, his counsel, pleaded that his client did not know that the revolver was of Government issue, from the marks on it. The magistrate said he had no discretion but to fine the accused; he would also report the case to the Government. Mintz was fined \$20, and an order made for the surrender of the revolver to Col. Denison. The court then adjourned."

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS.

Ottawa, 12th April, 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS (9).

ACTIVE MILITIA.

No. 1.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Kingsville, Troop of Cavalry.

The formation of a Troop of Cavalry is hereby authorized at Kingsville, in the County of Essex. Arms and the necessary equipment will be furnished when the Department of Militia and Defence is in a position to do so.

To be Captain, provisionally:

David Murray, Esquire.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Alfred Wiglo, Gentleman.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Charles G. Fox, Gentleman.

2nd Battalion of "Queen's Own Rifles," Toronto.

Captain William Cooper Campbell is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

The resignations of Ensigns John Burch and Archibald Ried McKinlay are hereby accepted.

No. 2 Company, Civil Service Rifles, Ottawa.

The formation of a Company of Rifles is hereby authorized at the City of Ottawa, to be known as "No. 2 Company, Civil Service Rifles." Arms and the necessary equipment will be furnished when the Department of Militia and Defence is in a position to do so.

To be Captain:

James Pennington Macpherson, Esquire, M. S.

To be Lieutenant provisionally:

Charles Drinkwater, Gentleman.

To be Ensign:

Sydney Smith, Junior Gentleman, M. S.

MEMO.—The present Civil Service Company at Ottawa is to be known as "No. 1 Company, Civil Service Rifles."

33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 4 Company, Clinton.

To be Lieutenant, from 1st July, 1871:

Ensign Edward Grigg, V. B., vice J. Dinley, left limits.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Color Sergeant William J. Proctor, vice Grigg, promoted.