

commissioned officer to acquire more than the corresponding knowledge of the higher ranks in the older regime. The captain of a company nowadays must remember that he holds the lives of his command at his control, that he is not at liberty to sacrifice one of them uselessly—that such a thing would be willful and deliberate murder, and that by remaining in ignorance of his own duty, allowing his subalterns and non-commissioned officers to be ignorant of theirs, is surely and certainly to incur the guilt named. It rests, then, with this officer to make the force under his command effective, by acquiring and imparting to them a thorough knowledge of the mechanism and use of the rifle—the knowledge of thorough company drill, of battalion movements, the object, end and aim of every manoeuvre in either—the practice of skirmishing as a company in separate sub-divisions, sections, squads, or independent groups—the best and quickest way to render cover available—how to advance and retire supporting, and taking advantage of all cover—the watchful and intelligent discharge of a sentinel, vidette, or reconnoitering duty; and lastly, coolness, steadiness, and instant obedience to orders under fire. A great part of this positive duty can be mechanically acquired—a most important portion—intelligence—must be natural; but in either case it is the duty of the officer to acquire it himself and impart it to his command, grouping, if possible, his men according to their proficiency. To a people naturally intelligent this programme will offer no serious difficulty, especially as the rudimentary knowledge will be partly acquired at the brigade camps. The rest must be left for the present to the option and discretion of the officers commanding companies.

The following notice from the *Buffalo Express* will show what our neighbors in the United States think of our military organization:

"The volunteer militia organization of our Canadian neighbors is relatively larger and more efficient than we possess, probably, in any State on this side of the line. There is more military thoroughness in the system upon which it is formed and by which it is governed. Its members are subjected to a more systematic training, and we think that, so far, there is more lively military spirit animating the organization, and that that spirit is more carefully kept up by competitive exercises, in rifle shooting, for example, by regulations of periodical camp duty, and by the regulated schooling of company officers. Our New York State militia is probably as effective in organization as that of any State in the Union, and yet although the population is nearly equal to that of the Dominion, we have not much doubt that the latter could turn out against us a larger, better trained, and better prepared force for actual field service than we possess."

As the people of Buffalo will be afforded sufficient evidence of the value of our military organization by a visit to the Brigade Camp at Niagara, it is not necessary for us

to make any comments on the above notice. But it must be very gratifying to Sir G. E. Cartier to learn that the military organization to which his famous Militia Bill gave a legal status, has been not only a marked success, but has secured for this country the respect and admiration of our neighbors. And it is not too much to claim that our commercial prosperity is due in no small degree to the feeling of confidence and security consequent on an efficient military organization.

It is reported that the Minister of Militia will visit the camp of instruction, and it would be desirable for very many reasons he should do so, principally because the force should learn to know the statesman to whom its existence is due, and that they might learn from his own lips the means taken to secure its efficiency, as well as the difficulties he has encountered in securing the requisite parliamentary support for those measures necessary to create a Canadian army. Sir G. E. Cartier has good reasons to be proud of the success he has achieved in giving to British North America an efficient constitutional military force without burdening the resources of the country or interfering with the industrial pursuits of the people. He has successfully solved the problem, which the statesmen of every other civilized country has attempted and failed—that of creating a voluntary military force without withdrawing a man from his ordinary business, and rendering it effective without adding appreciably to the taxation of the country.

The law under which it has been organized is only three years in operation, and this country can put double the force in the field in proportion to her population that Great Britain could, at one-fiftieth part of the expense, and we contend that no statesman ever rendered such effectual and practical service to Canada at so trifling a cost. The Canadian people and army, in honoring and feeling grateful to him, simply repay in part a debt of gratitude long due; for most assuredly, in the language of Eastern metaphor, he "has made them faces bright before their enemies."

Our Buffalo neighbors will have the gratification of seeing British soldiers handled by a British officer who understands his trade. To the Adjutant General, P. Robertson-Ross, deservedly belongs the honor of organization, efficiency, and that practical knowledge which the Canadian army has acquired: and it is to his suggestions and personal example the military spirit, proficiency in the use of the rifle, and *esprit du corps* is due. His presence in the camp at Niagara will insure the manoeuvres being of such a character as to give our neighbors an idea of what military operations are like.

The Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hastings Doyle, is about to make a military tour through the Provinces.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Parisian insurrection has been completely stamped out; the greater part of the leaders shot or in exile; Rochefort and some others awaiting their trial, amongst them Schumacker, the murderer of Generals Clement and Thomas. Blanqui and some other scoundrels are said to be in hiding in London. There are queer rumors afloat that the insurrectionary movement was in reality directed from that centre, and that the executive committee of the International Working Mens Association were the real heads of the villainous conspiracy. It was, moreover, averred that a plot had been matured to burn all the great cities of France, the London docks, and the same treatment was to be extended to Liverpool, and all the wealthy English seaports. This, if true, speaks with great force of the fiend the Whig-Radicals have evolved, and shows in a true light Gladstone and Bright's particular friends and pets. The subject now agitating France is that of the form of government to which her future is to be confided; and it is to be hoped that a wise choice will be made, and that the interests of a gallant people will no longer be permitted to be the shuttle-cock of Parisian ruffians.

Nothing very noteworthy has transpired in Great Britain except a debate, or rather irregular conversation, in the House of Lords in reference to the Washington Treaty. Another conversation of a similar kind having occurred in the Commons, during which Mr. Gladstone promised to submit the treaty before it was ratified. Earl Granville was reluctantly forced to take a similar course in the Lords, and it is quite possible that a new era has been inaugurated in the constitutional practice of Great Britain, and that in future all treaties will be submitted to Parliament before ratification.

The Joint High Commissioners, with Gen. Schenck, United States Minister to Great Britain, arrived in Liverpool on the 3rd instant.

The great event of the week in the United States has been the partial submerging of a portion of New Orleans, in consequence of a break in the embankment of one of the crevasses, caused by the very foolish act of drawing the earth away to cover low lying building lots; 2,500 houses have been flooded, but no lives are reported as lost. A similar calamity has befallen Galveston, a severe storm having raised the waters of the Gulf of Mexico; several houses have been washed away, and a portion of the city submerged. It was attended with loss of life.

On Tuesday the 6th instant the Adjutant General, Colonel P. Robertson-Ross, commander-in-chief of the Canadian army, left Ottawa for the purpose of directing and superintending the manoeuvres at the Divisional camp at Niagara during the sixteen