

conclusion that the doctors are not treated as they deserve to be.

We copy the above from the *Montreal Daily Post* of the 21st of June, and we need hardly say that we endorse every word which the article contains. It is now twenty-four years since the Militia Act was passed, which called into existence the Volunteer force, of which Canada is now so proud; so that, throughout the Dominion, there are several Surgeons who have served over twenty years with their respective corps. During that period these officers have seen a variety of active service. Twice they have passed from two to four weeks on the frontier during the time of the Fenian troubles, while during the interval they have frequently been with their corps, when called out in aid of the civil power not only at their headquarters, but several times they have gone with them to considerable distances. Upon such occasions the Medical officers of the Canadian Volunteer Militia have proved that their services were of very great value, and that, in the discharge of their duties, they were as enthusiastic and as unselfish as any officer in the force. Although, fortunately for the country as well perhaps as for themselves, they have not had to face bullets, they have several times had to endure showers of stones and other missiles, so galling to a soldier's patience. If the history of the various periods when the Volunteer Militia has been called out were minutely written, we speak knowingly when we say that the services of the Volunteer Medical officers on these occasions would prove them entitled to some recognition at the hands of the Government. At present a Surgeon, when he receives his appointment, at once takes his rank as Major, but here he remains, no matter how long or how valuable his service may be. This is not just, and we earnestly recommend the Government to remove the obstruction, and to give all Surgeons who have served fifteen years the rank of Surgeon-Major—equal to that of Lieut.-Colonel. The establishment of this position would be an incentive for the Medical officers to remain in the force, and, moreover, promotion to it under the specified time might be made for special and valuable service. We believe the matter has already been brought before the notice of the Militia authorities, and we hope ere long to be able to announce that the proper action has been taken in the matter.

#### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

At the review of Volunteers which took place in Montreal on the 24th of May last (Queen's Birthday) there was, we believe, attempted for the first time the organization of an efficient medical department. The force assembled was over four thousand strong, and as all the movements incident to a battle were to be gone through with, it was felt by the Medical officers belonging to the Montreal force that the occasion was one calling for some preparation in the form of organization, instead of leaving, as on previous occasions, the Surgeons of each corps to attend to any case which might require their assistance as best they could. They accordingly went to work, and being assisted by a small grant of money from the Executive Committee for the celebration of the day, they were enabled to arrange the Medical department, if not as complete as they desired, yet sufficiently so as to prove of the most signal service during the engagement. A large hospital marquee was erected on the field, in front of which floated a flag bearing the Geneva Cross. In this tent was collected a small assortment of medical comforts, surgical appliances, mattresses, rubber sheets, and two stretchers, while several surgeons were detailed to take charge of it, assisted by the hospital sergeant of each battalion. Outside was held in readiness a field ambulance. Attached to each regiment or corps were two men detailed as stretcher bearers, who were distinguished by wearing the Geneva cross on the arm, and whose duty was to remove at once to the hospital tent any soldier receiving injury or requiring medical treatment. During the manœuvres these men were of very great use, and their passing across the field several times bearing disabled men gave an appearance of reality to the whole affair which can only be realized by those who witnessed it. During the day some nine men were received and relieved. The most serious case was that of Lieut.-Colonel Montizambert, who, falling from his horse under the effects of the heat, was received at the hospital tent in an insensible condition. The field ambulance was subsequently useful in his removal to his hotel, which in an ordinary carriage would have been a matter of very great difficulty, if not impossibility. When it is considered that all these arrangements entailed no small amount of labor, we