

tary prestige would be beyond the power of her resources, vast as they undoubtedly are. The best thing then is to reduce the force by some such process as that pointed out to the number necessary to hold India and the military stations, depending on her own local army and the forces of the Colonies for the rest. With a federation of the Empire there is nothing to prevent her putting a million of men under arms. With one seventh of her population we will answer in Canada for one-tenth of the number, and two-tenths if required; and this result is due to the fact that our militia law draws the force from the whole able bodied population. With very limited resources we have achieved this in less than seven years. With England it would be the work of two years, and in that time she ought to have 650,000 Volunteers and Regular Militia ready for service, a force equal to the whole of our fighting population including reserve.

We quite agree with the *Volunteer News* that a stern discipline is necessary,—as far as Canada is concerned, however, it would not be a matter of great importance to enforce it by compelling the unwilling to serve. Our people are thoroughly amenable to discipline in the face of an enemy; any trouble we have had has arisen from local prejudice and was of no consequence. In fact it is hard to make a man who is a civilian in March a soldier in May, and a civilian again in August forget all his prejudices, though even that is not impossible, and on the whole he is not guilty of greater breaches of discipline than the regular soldier.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The siege or investment of Paris progresses slowly. M. Thiers is evidently not quite the master of the situation, nor do his troops seem to make much impression on the rebels. General Clausebet evidently knows something of his business, and appears to be a fair match for McMahon. The accounts from the scene of action are so contradictory that it is hard to arrive at a true conclusion respecting the real position of affairs. The fighting in and about the city has been fearful, many innocent lives have been lost. An unsuccessful attempt was made by so-called "Freemasons within the city," to mediate between the parties: a delegation waited on M. Thiers, and a procession was arranged to line the walls and ramparts, exhibiting banners and emblems thereon. The delegation was informed that rebellion could not be recognized, and the artillerymen at Mont Valerien sent shot and shell with great impartiality amongst the processionists, so that on the whole the demonstration was a failure. Even in a Republic where liberty and equality are fully recognized, law and order must be respected. The fool's paradise, which the Parisian mob has created, seems to be sufficiently short lived. Events seem to point to the restoration of Napoleon. The man of "blood and iron"

is reported to have given Thiers notice that if the peace negotiations are not completed within a given time he would be obliged to take measures to secure that end, and plainly intimated that the Regency in the person of the Empress Eugenie would be the means he should use to accomplish that object. If Bismarck meant that Franco should recover from the prostrate condition to which the diplomacy and arms of Prussia had reduced her he would have refused to treat with the usurpers in the first place. But it would seem as if the miserable wretches were designedly allowed to tear each other in pieces as well as exhaust the resources of the country.

In the German Parliament on the 2nd May Prince Bismarck introduced a bill incorporating Alsace and Lorraine with the Empire. He said: The annexation of these provinces to Germany was necessary to give her a bulwark against the recurrence of French aggression, cases of which had been so frequent in times past. One instance of comparatively recent date was cited. On the 6th of August, 1866, Franco sent to Berlin an ultimatum demanding the cession of Mayence. The illness of the Emperor of the French alone prevented hostilities then. During the late war the foreign powers proposed the neutralization of Alsace and Lorraine, but that would be insufficient for Germany and could not be thought of. As for the inhabitants still averse to their fatherland, said the Prince, in conclusion, "we shall strive to win them back." The bill was referred to a committee.

The state of the army and naval defence of the country has occupied considerable attention in Great Britain. Amid all the propositions there are none which combines efficiency with economy and simplicity, and it is a fact that the solution of the problem is as far off as ever. A very emphatic condemnation of Mr., or as he is called, Citizen Herbert, and the English Republicans, has been made by a leading Radical baronet, who denounces the party in no measured terms, and boldly states that the Monarchical form of Government, with an aristocracy, is at once the cheapest, best, and most conducive to liberty.

The Lord Chamberlain of Great Britain has issued an official manifesto that Her Majesty's birthday will be celebrated on the 20th instead of on the 24th instant.

From the United States we have another version of the treaty said to be concluded by the Joint High Commission. It has one feature in common with all the others, however, in that it alleges that the indemnity due to British subjects by the United States is said to be \$20,000,000 more than the Alabama claims, and that it will be paid. If this is a fact the various Imperial ministries by whose negligence and pusillanimity it was allowed to accumulate, deserve unmeasured reprobation. We have always held Yankee pretensions to be like puff balls,

large and fair on the outside but full of ashes within, and liable to collapse at a touch. We have often advocated the necessity of handing them over to a Canadian statesman for adjustment, and now that has been done behold the results. The Yankees can't offer an equivalent for Canada this time, but we will take State of Maine and pay Great Britain the \$20,000,000. What does the Washington Cabinet say to that? It is further stated that the treaty in all that relates to Canada is to be submitted to the Canadian Parliament for ratification, Sir John A. Macdonald has written his name in deep and lasting characters on Canadian history.

REVIEWS.

Stewart's Quarterly for April has the following ably written articles: How I became Member for Marshboro; Canadian Archives; The Dialect Poets; Destroying old Letters; Farewell to Life; In Memoriam—Chas. Dickens; Pen Photographs—Punshon; Minktan Felledu's Senerado; Highland Superstitions; Notes from Our Scrapbooks; Felix Mendelssohn; Bubbles; The Fishery Question; Paris after the Siege; Our Book Table; Chanson; Among the Serials. This first of Canadian periodicals has always maintained a high position in literature and ably sustains its first promise.

BEAUTY.—The largest collection of beauty ever published in the United States is afforded in the Parlor Album, advertised in another column. This Album embraces the finest specimens of chromo lithographs, steel engravings, and fine wood engravings ever afforded the public. The American Publishing Company of Rutland, Vt., desire an active agent in every town and village to whom they offer liberal terms. Read the advertisement of the PARLOR ALBUM.

The *German Correspondent* says: "It will not be the fault of Germany if the late war between this country and France be not followed by a lasting peace. The question is: Will the French at length make up their minds to renounce their long and fondly cherished illusions, and meet the advances of the Germans half way? Will the powers which during the contest remained neutral now use their influence to promote the interests of peace? Switzerland and Italy seem both disposed to accept the *fait accompli*, and we think that, notwithstanding some differences of opinion between us, we can reckon on the concurrence of England, especially as at the commencement of the war English public feeling was decidedly in favor of Germany. It is true that more recently many Englishmen have appeared ambitious of emulating Cato, and adopted as their motto, *Victrix causa Diis placuit, sed victa Catoni*; but on the other hand the cause of Germany has found able defenders in England in such men as Carlyle and Sir J. Sinclair."

In the Imperial Parliament night before, last, notice was given of an intended motion for the reduction of trans-Atlantic postage to one penny.