

Having inaugurated these systems of army and navy reserves, let us suppose the immediate effect of a declaration of war so far as Canada is concerned.

*First.*—The Canadian Government calls for 5,000 active militia for garrison duty at Halifax, Bermuda, and Quebec. Simultaneously the Lieutenant-General Commanding in British North America orders the Royal Militia Reserve to report at Halifax.

The Admiral Commanding orders the Royal Naval Reserve to report at Halifax, assembling a portion of the North American squadron at that station, and a sufficient fleet of transports and fast cruisers to fit out and coal at the same place.

Let us say, then, that within twenty days we have assembled at Halifax:

Regulars (relieved garrisons).....	5,000
Colonial Army Reserve.....	10,000
Colonial Navy Reserve.....	3,000
	18,000

who are ready for embarkation in the transports, and to sail for any destination.

We have the vessels, the crews, and the men necessary to carry out this scheme; what, then, is necessary in order to secure this state of preparation?

1st. A well digested scheme and a thorough understanding between the Colonial and Central Governments.

2nd. The establishment at each colonial station of a sufficient supply of arms and munitions of war to meet the requirements of the defined plan of operations.

3rd. The establishment of graving docks upon colonial stations, in order to secure the immediate repair of injured vessels.

4th. The establishment of properly garrisoned coaling stations upon each supply route for the use of cruising squadrons. Coal might be supplied equally as well from the colonies as from England, although this does not seem to be the opinion of the Admiralty Board. It is a mystery to the uninitiated, however, why Nova Scotia cannot supply the North Atlantic squadrons—British Columbia the North Pacific—Natal the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans—New Zealand the South Pacific—and Labuan the China Sea. All that most of these places require are the means for the development of their mines.

5th. The selection in peace time of suitable fast steamers, owned by private ship-owners, for cruising and transport services. If the Captains of these vessels were commissioned as Navigating Commanders in the Naval Reserve they would have an interest in their work, their status would be defined, and they, with their crews would be responsible for navigating the vessel. A combatant Navy Officer, with a fighting crew, would have to be placed upon each vessel, but the duties would not clash, as the latter would be engaged in the special duty of preparing his vessel for fighting or in fighting it. The proper armament for such vessels seems to be the 12 pr. rifled gun, which is light enough to be worked on any ocean steamer without its needing to be strengthened, and at the same time has sufficient penetration to pierce the side of any unarmoured vessel. Every steam supply vessel of the merchant navy, should, in war time, carry from four to six of these guns, and their possession would enable them to bid defiance to any ordinary privateer or unarmoured vessel.

The above conditions being secured, I can conceive of no reason why the various colonies should not play an important part in Imperial defence. In the case of Canada, it must be borne in mind that the Straits of Gibraltar are no further from Halifax than Liverpool—and that Malta could be reached from Halifax as soon as from London. Conceive the advantage to Great Britain if an expedition of 15,000 men were known to be fully equipped and supplied with all the material of war, having its base of supplies and reinforcements in Canada, its transports, cruisers, and supply vessels, and the North Amer-

ican Squadron at hand to keep up communication with base! Conceive that this expedition, complete within its own theatre of war is to be in Asiatic Turkey or Egypt; her army could furnish the advance guard, from its proximity. The native army of India consists of 126,877. It is the opinion of General Upton, that the whole of this force could be removed without danger. He says (p. 83, "Report upon the Army of Asia and Europe"), "but without aid from England, "railway system by itself is sufficient to enable 60,000 British troops to hold India almost indefinitely." Supposing the Bombay and Madras were each to furnish an army corps mixed troops, leaving the Bengal establishment intact, there would still remain in the Bombay Presidency 9,000 men, in Madras 18,000 men. Quite enough for garrisoning important points in those secure parts of the country.

These two army corps should be self-contained, and have their base in India, operating as an Indian contingent, under officers who would understand the peculiar constitution and prejudices of the force.

But in addition to the native army of India there is a large military element to draw from in the armies of the native Princes, many of whom offered their services in anticipation of a war between England and Russia two years since. The total number of troops employed by native Princes is stated to be 300,000. Of these the

Nizam of Hyderabad employs.....	45,000	725 guns
Maharaja Scindia.....	20,000	500 "
Gaekwa of Baroda.....	14,000	30 "
Maharaja of Jaipur.....	14,000	312 "
" Odaipur.....	22,000	538 "
" Kathiawar.....	19,000	508 "

Collectively, the native Chiefs command 5,252 guns, 93,000 trained artillerymen, 64,172 cavalry, and 241,063 infantry. Of course many of these are very irregular soldiers, but if Persia or Afghanistan were to join with Russia in an invasion of India, these irregulars would fitly cope with the fierce Afghans, the cruel Persians, or the savage Tartars. It must not be forgotten that, but for the noble conduct of some of these Chiefs, India would probably have been lost to us, temporarily at any rate, in 1858.

*To be continued.*

## The Military Display on the Queen's Birthday.

THE NAMES AND NUMBER OF THE VISITING CORPS.

### THE SHAM FIGHT.

We are indebted to Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., for a copy of the following plan of the General commanding His Majesty's forces in Canada, for the military celebration of the Queen's Birthday in this city:—

### THE REVIEW ON THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

It is expected that the following troops will assemble at Quebec to celebrate the Queen's Birthday on the 24th next:—