

This will explain the cause why such a number of their fellow colonists were driven into the ranks of the royal army in which at least redress for injustice could be found which was denied by Congress.

About the transactions of this period the fictions of romance have been substituted for the facts of history, contemporary writers dazzled by the clamour of success never pause to consider the price at which it was acquired, or the violation of those principles of public and private morality by which it was attained.

If it is praiseworthy to obtain unlawfully by fraud any object which can be attained legally by patience then the leaders of this revolution are deserving of all honor; but the Christianity of the civilized world teaches that a moral wrong cannot be perpetrated to secure a moral right. The people of the revolted Colonies had the means of constitutional repress within their power. Urged by the selfish ambition of their leaders they sought to compel by violence what could have been peaceably effected, and on them the bloodguiltiness of this contest must rest.

That danger could arise to the liberty of the people by any act of the British Parliament is a notion too absurd to be entertained. The success of their rebellion was not productive of those unalloyed blessings its advocates and apologists claim. It retarded the growth of constitutional reform in Great Britain, endangered her position amongst the comity of nations, is and has been the means of exerting a disturbing influence on the politics of the civilized world, injurious in the highest degree to the cause of constitutional freedom.

ORIGIN OF THE GERMAN AND SWISS INFANTRY.

The rise of the Swiss infantry into fame and importance may be dated from the period of the battle of Morat; its decadence began after the battle of Pavia; so that the days of its glory hardly outlasted two generations of warriors. When first it became evident to military eyes that a resolute resistance on the part of the foot soldier was sufficient to repulse and throw into disorder the unwieldy cavalry of the middle ages, men ascribed this superiority not to a system of tactics which all might adopt with equal success, but to the personal qualities of the Alpine mountaineers. Certainly, in the narratives then current of their extraordinary feats of arms, there appeared some reason to justify the dread with which they were regarded by the people of the plains below them. Individually they possessed a strength and resolution which as far surpassed those of the overburdened *hommes d'armes* (who, says De la Nove, were generally crippled before they arrived at the age of thirty-five by the enormous weight of their defensive armor), as of the peaceful weavers and agricultural serfs of France and Italy; and, considered as organized troops, they had substituted for the principle of individual honor, which actuated the feudal cavalier, those of national glory and regimental emulation. Formed in deep masses, and armed with lances and halberds sixteen feet in length, they exhibited the appear-

ance and tactics of the ancient Macedonian phalanx. Their charge on level ground was nearly as impetuous as that of the mounted lancers, without the exhaustion and confusion which followed every exertion of consequence on the part of the latter, while their powers of resistance were far superior. Although the Swiss were too poor and too self-confident to adopt very rapidly the improvements which science was making in the art of war, they nevertheless increased their strength greatly by the introduction of fire arms; those employing them were used chiefly as *tirailleurs*, advancing from the main body to fire, and returning into its ranks when pressed by cavalry. But the pike remained their favorite weapon. With this "queen of arms for the infantry," they opposed their phalanx to attacks from every quarter, cut through forces vastly superior in number, or faced and overthrew the batteries of hostile cannon, carrying their high-minded contempt of death and danger to an extent which provoked the fear and admiration of those who affected to ridicule its unseasonable display.

The German infantry was first organized in order to counteract the power of these Helvetic mercenaries. The Emperor Maximilian, frequently engaged in war with his neighbors, found little military assistance from his nobility, who were almost independent of imperial authority, and constantly engaged in private feuds. The townsfolk of Babant and Flanders strenuously resisted an authority which they had little power to enforce. His honest friends, the Burghers of the free German cities, were of no great service in a warlike capacity. The men of Augsburg, in 1490, marched to battle, two and two, like schoolboys. And when the council, aware of their deficiency, hired one George Krebs, a veteran captain, to give the townspeople a drilling, that leader performed his duty so mercilessly, that one of the chief merchants of the city died of apoplexy in the field—an event which by no means increased the popularity of the new *régime*. The Swiss found better bidders for their blood elsewhere, and their ancient ill-will toward the house of Hapsburg rendered them bad neighbors on their own account. Maximilian's first corps of infantry were, therefore, levied among the people of his own hereditary States, chiefly in Swabia. Divided from the Swiss only by the Rhine and speaking a similar dialect they were frequently confounded with them by foreigners, while their near vicinity only added bitterness to their mutual hatred. The Germans called them *Landsknechts*—country folk, men of the open country—in contradistinction to the mountaineers—not *Lanzknechts*, or Lancers, as they are frequently termed by later writers. They were likewise distinguished into *Oberlandisch* and *Niederlandisch*, according as their bands were recruited in Swabia and the Tyrol, or in the Northern parts of Germany. One author remarks, as a singular coincidence, that the year 1487, in the which the first companies of this modern infantry were raised, was likewise that of the last general tournament in Germany—the last court, as it were of the dethroned goddess of chivalry Maximilian did all he could to bring his new militia into fashion. On one occasion he marched into Cologne on foot, at the head of nine hundred princes and nobles, each shouldering a pike, in the dress of a common *Landsknecht*. Nor were his efforts without success, for these levies formed the first force in which nobles and plebeians enrolled themselves in differently, and fought side by side with the same weapons—an instance of the same national good sense which made so large a

portion of the German people the first to embrace, and the steadiest to defend, the doctrines of the Reformation.

BRITISH EMIGRATION FROM THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

A contemporary informs its readers, and the public in general, that several men from the County of Megantic will go out, with the Hon. Mr. McDougall this fall, to locate settlements for British Canadians of four townships of the County, who will emigrate to the North-West next spring. If such is the fact, we cannot but recognize it as a wise move. Megantic is not a very inviting County, and for English speakers, especially to have settled down in such a locality, almost all of whose inhabitants are French, cannot be thought wise. So helplessly as they are in the minority, in such places, there is always the likelihood, approaching to certainty, of their by and-by losing their own language, and becoming assimilated to those on every side. And there is really no reason whatever for their settling in such barren spots, and, therefore, we regard it as judicious for them to seek to remedy the mistake made by themselves, or their fathers in going to such a place at first, by making for a more inviting location nearer the setting sun. We hope the pioneers of the movement will meet encouragement, and be able to make timely and satisfactory arrangements during the winter.

THE PAPAL ARMY DISAPPEARING.—That wonderful corps of the *Carabinieri Esteri*, brought together and maintained by the collections of the Catholic leagues throughout the world, is rapidly scattering itself to the winds. Within the last two months the force has dwindled down partly by legitimate, and partly by illegitimate, leave or desertion from 1700 to 1100 men; and this is all the more grievous, as they were to have made a brilliant show at that great council of which men begin to get rather tired before it has commenced. Recruiting is going on very zealously in all parts, but, strange to say, without the previous success. Thus it seems that a recruiting sergeant returned from Switzerland with three men, 60 having offered themselves for enlistment, under the erroneous notion that they were wanted for Garibaldi. When they learnt the name of their future master they declined. It seems that the greatest number of the Papal deserters find their way to Egypt. For the opening of the canal, we wonder?

The death is also announced of Colonel Robert Terry, one of the few officers left in the British army who served in the last century. Colonel Terry, who died yesterday at Winchester, in his eighty-seventh year, entered the 25th Regiment as an ensign in 1799, and served in the campaign in Holland in that year, being present at the taking of Alexandria in 1801. He served at the capture of Madeira in 1807, and at that of Guadaloupe in 1810. He was stationed at Gibraltar with his regiment when the mutiny broke out in the garrison, and as officer of the guard, rendered such good services, especially to the Duke of Kent, as to receive a public acknowledgment from his Royal Highness. In 1826 he was appointed aide-de-camp to the Marquis of Hastings, then Governor of the Island of Malta, and was afterwards appointed garrison adjutant of Malta, which office he retained until 1854, when he retired from the service on full pay.