

being a military station, such as for barracks, works, transport, &c., exceeds 100,000L sterling beyond the ordinary vote for regimental and other charges, which would be incurred no matter where the army was. And in Nova Scotia, even including 70,000L charged for works, such outlay would appear to be about the same figure, making 200,000L for all British North America.

These items, of course, admit of discussion, but it is well known that a great reduction in the national outlay for such purposes has been made, and a Parliamentary inquiry would tend to ally impressions unfavourable to the colonial aspect of the case.

Let me now recall some facts that have recently occurred as bearing on this charge of a selfish desire for military expenditure and of a dependence on Imperial strength which is doing so much to wound the sensibilities of those vigorous offshoots of the empire, and to create prejudice and false impressions at home.

From what causes did the danger to Canada spring which Imperial troops were sent to meet? Not internal commotion; not difficulties with natives; no complications with the United States of Canada's creation. They were the Trent affair, the threats and actuality of Fenian invasions, which were only directed against Canada as a stab at England, and which had the elements of a revolutionary movement against Great Britain rather than the character of internal disturbance. Canada cannot be said to have hesitated in assuming her share of duty in either case. The Fenian invasion and the necessity for continual vigilance have involved an outlay of many millions of dollars. It raised her Militia estimates from less than 80,000L sterling in 1857 to about 400,000L sterling in 1867,—an expenditure which represents but a small fraction of the real cost to her. The direct vote of Parliament was supplemented by municipal, local, and personal subscriptions, by the individual and ready sacrifice of the men who went to the field, and untold losses were incurred by the stoppage of all industrial and commercial pursuits, the harvest even in many cases being neglected for the more pressing duty of the hour.

She provides barracks at a heavy expense for Imperial troops; she pays for the use of arms lent by the Imperial Government, even when those arms are intended for and used in defence of Imperial interests. She equips gunboats to resist attacks avowedly aimed, not against Canada, but English supremacy, and with a view of complicating English relations with a Power, a war with which both acknowledge to be one of the greatest calamities to which they are exposed.

All this, and more, she has done without a murmur, because the one impulse from Halifax to Lake Superior was to make common cause with the empire. She has arrogated no special credit to herself for these sacrifices, because her feeling, her duty, and her interest alike impelled her to them; because she was fully sensible of the many advantages she derived from being a part of the English nation—of the consideration and security it gave her; and above all, because when a common danger threatened, there was no hesitancy or demur on the part of England to shield her from it.

If we refer to arrangements of a more pacific nature, it will be found that Canada, though occasionally with a murmur, has been left greatly to her own unaided efforts. Witness the existing postal conventions. England has for years subsidized lines of steamers to the United States, and by heavy payments sends the whole mail matter of

Canada past her to a foreign country, compelling her, at a serious charge to her people, and with an equivalent advantage to the American Exchequer, to pay the inland postage to the United States on bringing the mail matter back to Canada. Matters went on contrary to her remonstrances, until she was actually forced to create a line of steamers of her own in partial competition with those sustained by England, and pay a subsidy varying from 40,000L to 80,000L a year to maintain them, to no portion of which England makes any contribution.

As respects her trade relations with the United States, and the charge that she would be ready to admit American products on terms more favourable than English, and that she might do so without any interference by the Home Government, very great misapprehension has prevailed. In all her negotiations with that people Canada has steadfastly adhered to the fundamental condition that there must and could be no discrimination against England or English products, and I may doubt, judging from what has recently occurred, whether any Colonial Minister would consider Canada so completely emancipated from Imperial control as to justify him in abstaining from interference were she to have taken a different course.

I am far from wishing it to be inferred that free commercial intercourse would not be mutually advantageous to both countries. Canada could, if she had been disposed to set the principle of not discriminating against England at naught, and to listen to those who held the commercial advantage in higher estimation than patriotism or the practice of sound principles of economy, have made satisfactory arrangements for reciprocal exchange of products with the United States; but she preferred in the past, as she prefers now, to submit to minor drawbacks of this character rather than adopt a policy which would be in direct hostility to English interests, and have a tendency to weaken a relation which she prefers to maintain even at a tenfold greater sacrifice.

The course she did take has not, it is true, been wholly fruitless of good. The geographical position of Canada towards the manufacturing states of the Union must always give her such an advantage over the more distant places of production in the Western States as nothing short of prohibitory duties will counterbalance; hence her export of timber to that country has increased since the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty by nearly three quarters of a million sterling or 44 per cent. on the total. In the articles of wheat, coarse grain, and in most others, except coal, flour, and agricultural products, there has been no falling off of export.

The heavy duties levied on Canadian staples on entering the United States have stimulated the exportation of these staples to other foreign markets, and Canada is rapidly developing a trade with the West Indies and Central America, which was formerly done through United States channels. It is a mistake then to suppose that Canada is dependent on the markets of the United States, or that her exclusion from those markets can exercise any serious influence over her political future. The period of trial has passed, and, whatever fiscal policy the United States may hereafter pursue, Canada will find profitable outlets enough for her surplus products.

One word with reference to the charge, so repeatedly made against her, of raising her revenue by the imposition of Customs' duties and not by direct taxation. In a new country direct taxation as a means of State revenue is simply impossible. Few

men go to a colony who can exist at home, and for one or two generations it is with most colonists a struggle for existence. There are no realized fortunes from which an income tax could be levied, no great successions in respect of which legacy duty could attach; the transactions whether of commerce or of daily life, are too limited to yield any substantial return upon stamps; but many of the colonies, where circumstances admit of it, are reducing their import duties, as they can find new sources of revenue from internal taxation—for example, in Canada, the revenue from Excise in 1857 was little over 25,000L sterling, or less than 2 per cent. of the total revenue, it is now over 600,000L sterling, or nearly one fourth of the total revenue.

Having already extended this letter unduly, I reserve my closing observations bearing on objections which apply to all colonies until to-morrow.

I have the honor to be,
Your obed't. servant,
A COLONIST.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BROCKVILLE.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Captain Cook and Ensign Phillips who have been recently appointed to the old Brockville Rifle Company, (No. 1, 41st Battalion), entertained the Company at supper in the Metropolitan Hall on Tuesday evening last. In addition to a fair turn out of the men the following officers were present, viz: Lt.-Col. Atcherly, D.A.G., Lt. Col. Jackson, B.M., Lt.-Col. Crawford, Major Cole, and Capt. and Paymaster McDonald, 41st Battalion. Lt.-Col. Buell, 42nd Battalion, and W. Fitzsimmons, M.P.P. The table was laid with much taste, and the room decorated with flags, transparencies, &c., and reflected much credit on the entertainers. After doing ample justice to the good things provided, the usual standard with several Volunteer toasts were proposed and responded to by the several officers present. The proceedings being brought to a close about 9 o'clock by all singing the national anthem. This being the oldest and one of the most efficient companies in the Province, the people here feel a deep interest in its continued prosperity, and doubtless the energy of Captain Cook, assisted as he should be by his subalterns and non-commissioned officers, will insure a continuance of that high state of efficiency so long enjoyed by his predecessors.

On the same evening the Free Presbyterian Church held their annual soiree in the Town Hall, on which occasion the Hon. A. N. Richards gave a very interesting account of his trip to Red River with Governor McDougall. The audience seemed to enjoy that portion where the party had to leave before breakfast most amazingly.

Ex-Judge Malloch, one of the oldest residents of the town, was found dead in his bed on Saturday morning. He was in his usual health the previous day and took his customary walk to the Grand Trunk depot, to see the arrival of the express, which he