

that neighbor should be obliged to take his share of the risk and loss.

A capitation tax on value of capital and property should be levied by the municipality and paid over to the Inland Revenue Department for the purpose of supplementing the regular pay of the Volunteer, such a tax to cease whenever the individual accepted and performed voluntary service, when drafted, or on occasion of a levy *en masse*.

The annals of history might be searched in vain for a more patriotic or self-denying body of men than the soldiers comprising the present Canadian Army, but the conditions of service are too onerous, and the present style of things cannot last, there must be an equalization of military service and an increase of pay and allowances.

In other respects the municipal authorities should be compelled to do their duty to the country by taking on themselves the care of arms and stores, providing drill sheds and armouries.

We hope the gallant 18th will re-organize under the successor of the present worthy and efficient colonel.

*Broad Arrow* of the 2nd inst., contains two of the most important documents ever published in that talented journal, they are: the report of H. R. H. Field Marshal the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, on the "Autumn Manœuvres" and the Report of the Committee of Officers on the Re-organization of the British Army, we will not deprive our readers of the pleasure to be derived from the perusal of those valuable reports by any comments, beyond remarking that the Commander-in-Chief has succeeded in completely refuting the falsehood of his Whig radical defamers, and proves himself to be the thorough master of his profession which every British soldier believed.

From the Report of the Committee on Organization it will be seen that the scheme (of which we gave an outline in our last issue) is rather complicated, but it will probably work well, especially if care is taken in the selection of officers with reference to their social standing, for the rest the document must speak for itself.

The question as to the position Canada occupies relative to the Treaty of Washington is set at rest by the action of the United States' Secretary of the Treasury, in issuing circulars to collectors of Customs informing them that the portion of the Treaty referring to the Fisheries does not take effect till legalized by the Parliament of Great Britain, the Congress of the United States, the Parliament of Canada, and the Legislature of Prince Edward Island.

This affords conclusive evidence that our interests have not been sacrificed, and that the ultimate decision on the important Territorial and Maritime rights and privi-

leges involved have been carefully reserved for the action of the Canadian people.

The country cannot be too grateful to Sir J. A. Macdonald for this result, which would be sufficient to distinguish him as a first-class statesman, if he had no other record, whatever else may be said of the Joint High Commission it is evident Canadian interests were well and sufficiently cared for.

The remarks upon national defence contained in the inaugural address delivered on the 9th ultimo by Mr. Hawksley on assuming the president's chair of the Institution of Civil Engineers, well deserve to be studied by the Government and by the Royal Engineers. One passage in particular invites serious attention:—"Knowing as we do, and as the world at large knows too well, that the momentous events of which we, happily for ourselves, have been the passive spectators, were accomplished not more by the peculiar military organization of one of the belligerents than by the superior manner and extent to which that belligerent had, by previous preparation and by sudden application, utilized the art and resources of the engineer—it is impossible to conceal from ourselves that the disasters which have befallen our neighbours may in turn befall us, unless indeed we accept the warning and prepare ourselves against them. I feel, therefore, under no restraint in expressing from this chair the distinct opinion, and the warning it may be, that the future safety, and possibly also the national existence, of this kingdom will depend upon the judicious, wise, and far-seeing policy with which the Government of the day, and of every day, shall be guided to the timely and effectual efforts to avail itself, for the purposes of national defence, of the devising and constructing ability of our experienced and practical profession."—*Broad Arrow*.

Our readers are aware that we have repeatedly pointed out the necessity for the organization of an engineering corps for the Canadian Army, and that we have been ably seconded by correspondents thoroughly acquainted with the exigencies of the period.

With the responsibilities we have undertaken as a people it is our imperative duty to take every possible precaution, and the organization of our engineering corps has always been one of our greatest necessities, in fact as much so as any other arm of the service which has sprang into existence within the last four years.

It is not at the moment the services of this arm is wanted that it can be organized, with all the professional knowledge we have amongst us, and it is considerable, it would save time to train officers to the peculiar duties to be performed; that could be effected during the period of annual drill, and it is to be hoped that next summer will see a proper proportion of engineer officers on the Adjutant General's Staff at the various camps.

We should hesitate in advocating this matter, although well persuaded of its great necessity, if it added materially to the cost of our military service, but as it will not there is no good reason why the organiza-

tion of our engineer corps should be delayed.

The Washington Treaty is likely to be a source of infinite perplexity to English politicians; Mr. Fish has replied to Earl Granville's polite note by a document which Mr. Gladstone denominates as friendly and courteous, but in which he declines to waive a single claim so impudently and persistently put forward.

If abandoned to the mercies of her present rulers it is evident England will have to pay the bill—the whole bill—and nothing but the bill—Manchester will swallow the degradation and endeavour to saddle the cost on the landed interest and on the labouring class; Mr. Gladstone will mesmerize the House of Commons with an imposing array of words, proving that English honour was exalted by the purchase of peace with English gold; and Mr. Lowe will prove by figures that the Yankee's little bill can be paid by a tax on matches and cat's meat.

A very important question has been raised in the House of Lords by Lord Redesdale himself, a lawyer of great ability, he is reported to have said—"he had no wish to embarrass the Government, but he thought rather that an expression of opinion on the part of the house would be useful, he therefore gave notice that he should introduce a resolution declaring that it is the common interest of all nations to decide whether, when belligerents have been reconciled and became one nation they can demand as such a nation, from a neutral state, indemnity for damages done one of the belligerents." Lord Redesdale added that if this resolution was carried he should move an address to the Crown praying that an International Congress be called by Great Britain for the settlement of this question. The Earl of Derby gave notice that he should ask the Government what course it intended to pursue in regard to the Treaty of Washington."

From this it would appear that the Whig Radicals in their desire to stand well with John Bright's friends, the Yankees, neglected even the legal aspect of the case before them, and gave those astute men an advantage that will be likely to end in a serious complication.

It would not appear that in the Commons much confidence was placed in the capacity or honesty of the Government, for Mr. Horsman asked—"Was Mr. Gladstone prepared to give Parliament an assurance that in case fresh negotiations were entered upon with the American Government, no proposal would be finally accepted until they had the approval of Parliament."

We do not believe in Parliamentary treaties; honest and capable men, especially entrusted with the task, to be ratified without the consent of the Commons by the Sovereign, will insure the conservation of the honour and interest of the country, far better than if the result of