

settlement of a vast extent of territory provided the means for the employment of technical knowledge, and have shown that a force is needed to aid the civil power, to prevent ill-disposed persons from setting law and order at defiance, and to give confidence to other portions of the community that the manhood of the population would be forthcoming to protect the weak and prove a terror to those whose instincts and dispositions might lead them to oppose the provisions of law and trample upon the decisions of their representatives in Parliament.

The force maintained is a patriotic one, but when it was found that patriotism, however well disposed, would prove inadequate if the rank and file were ill directed, or untrained, or destitute of appliances, and a trained staff to aid and direct them, schools of military instruction were established to afford practical training to officers and non-commissioned officers, and the Royal Military College to provide such an education of a higher order as might enable the population to look forward to the qualification of some of their young men for the important duties of the higher commands. This determination showed how earnest the desire had become, and how necessary it seemed to be, to commence such a training in advance of a probable necessity for its use, but in view of the actual experiences of the times, the education and training was not commenced too soon. The difficulty which presented itself was as to how the result wished for could be best obtained. It could not be reached within a few years, and the providing of a military college seemed to many like casting bread upon the waters, without reasonable prospect of adequate compensation for the time and money expended in maintaining the new institution. Necessity, however, soon pointed out the best means for overcoming difficulties, and that necessity has resulted in securing an institution which has borne good fruit in the past, and bids fair to make a better record hereafter. Its graduates are to be found in the Imperial regular army in different portions of the world, serving with credit to themselves and to their country, and the technical work of the Dominion teems with examples of successful endeavour in so many departments that there is no longer a disbelief in the good results the College education has insured.

The object at the outset was to provide a training school of a high class, in order that a number of young men might secure such an education and training as would fit them for either a military or civil career. The active force was not large, and commissions in it could not be given to many of the graduates, but the necessity seemed urgent that the country should have within itself a number of, properly instructed men who could aid in organizing and commanding a force when needed, and that after receiving such an education and training some of them could obtain civil employ-

ment and participate in developing the resources of the country until their military services were needed. The provision so made was that all the cadets of the College should receive a military education and training, and that in addition each one should take up such special subjects as would better fit him for civil employment in such pursuits as might accord with his leanings or inclination.

Under such circumstances there could be no written obligation on the part of any cadets to remain in the military service of the Dominion, but in consideration of the advantage such an education would prove, each one is required to contribute a portion of the cost of maintenance. The success of the graduates has not been confined to any single pursuit, but whether military or civil they have established their fitness for the work in which they are employed; many of those who hold commissions in the army reflect great credit upon the country, and those who have embarked in civil pursuits had the value of their education and patriotism tested during the rebellion in the North-West Territories in 1885, when so many of them volunteered for military duty and proceeded on service with their corps. Their patriotism was not limited to the number whose services could be accepted, for the strength of the force was not large enough to permit all to go who volunteered. The results are therefore of a satisfactory nature, and whether the graduates accept military commissions or not, the technical knowledge they possess has proved to be of the greatest possible advantage.

We hope the College may continue the good work it has performed in the past, and that year by year it may add to our active and reserve forces talented and highly trained graduates such as the great majority of those now proud to claim it as their alma mater. The natural resources of the Dominion seem without limit, and will afford employment for all who properly fit themselves for it. The pursuits of a technical nature are also expanding, and will require skilled supervision, and although the military force is not now large enough to absorb all who would accept commissions, the practical experience and knowledge civil employment will insure, will in the course of time cause many of them to become able administrators. They will always retain the good effects of their military education and training, and will doubtless respond to the call of duty whenever their military services are required. If such a call is ever made the graduates who obtain civil employment will bring with them an enlarged understanding of men and things, and a capacity for work that will be likely to insure them as prominent places in civil departments as will be accorded in military departments to those who follow military careers from the date of their graduation.

THE VOICE OF WAR.

Some writers say the cannons roar,
But 'tisn't so at all,
For if you've ever been to war
You've seen the cannon's ball.

—*Chicago Evening Post.*