

wants of men on this point.

At no great expense, and with very little trouble, suitable log huts can be erected on advantageous ground, and the greater portion of the work carried out by the men themselves.

This arrangement would, I believe, eventually be found the most economical one for the country, if it be the intention to keep a Military Force in Manitoba, and it certainly is a very essential one for maintaining the efficiency and welfare of troops. Already the amount of money spent on repairing old buildings and constructing new ones in the Hudson's Bay Company's Post would have sufficed to defray the cost of providing proper Barrack accommodation in log huts for the Force stationed at Fort Garry.

I would further urge, if it be the intention of Government to retain any military force on duty in Manitoba, that one hundred (100) men of the Provisional Battalion be supplied with horses and equipped as Mounted Riflemen, that an addition of 1 officer and 25 gunners from the School of Gunnery at Kingston be made to the Artillery detachment, and the Artillery supplied with four of the Horse Artillery guns recently obtained from England. Thus the Force would form a small but effective Field Brigade, and its military power be greatly increased.

With regard to the necessity for maintaining any Military Force at Fort Garry no doubt whatever exists in my mind as to the propriety of doing so, in view of the presence of many bands of Indians, considering the primitive state of society in the Province, the strong political party feeling which exists, and the fact that on both sides of the International Boundary Line restless and reckless characters among both white men and Indians abound.

It is undoubtedly very desirable to maintain a certain number of Police Constables in the Province under the civil power, some of whom should be mounted, but I feel satisfied that the great security for the preservation of good order, and the peace of the North West Territories, under the changing state of affairs, will for some years, be found to lie in the existence and presence of a disciplined military body, under its own military rules in addition to, but distinct from, any civil force which it may be thought proper to establish.

Whatever feeling may be entertained toward Policemen, animosity is rarely, if even felt towards disciplined soldiers wearing Her Majesty's uniform, in any portion of the British Empire.

In the event of serious disturbance a Police Force, acting alone, and unsupported by a disciplined Military body, would probably be overpowered, in a Province of mixed races, where every man is armed, while to maintain a Military without any Civil Force is not desirable.

I believe that a small number of constables will be sufficient to maintain order in the Province, provided the military Force is maintained; but that, in the event of serious disturbance, a large Police Force would be unable to do so, should the military be withdrawn, and I consider the presence of a military Force in the North West Territories for some years to come, as indispensable in the interests of peace and settlement.

During my inspection in the North West I ascertained that some prejudice existed amongst the Indians against the colour of the uniform worn by the men of the Provisional Battalion—many of them had said "who are those soldiers at Red River wearing dark clothes? our old brothers who formerly liv-

ed there"—meaning H.M.'s 6th Regiment—"wore red coats," adding "we know that the soldiers of our great mother wear red coats and are our friends."

With the view therefore, of reassuring the Indian mind, and for other reasons, I recommended a change of uniform—this has been carried out, the Militia on duty in Manitoba now wear red coats, and the matter apparently small in itself, will probably prove of great value and importance hereafter.

On the 5th of August I inspected the Winnipeg Field Battery, a Militia Artillery Corps recently organized and composed of citizens resident in the town of Winnipeg.

This Battery is under the command of Major Kennedy, a very zealous officer, but it has not yet been armed.

On the occasion of inspection, the corps took part in a field day, brigaded with the Provisional Battalion. The battery was armed for the day with some light field guns belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, kindly placed at their disposal by the Honorable Donald Smith, M.P., chief factor.

As soon as circumstances will admit, it is recommended that this battery should be armed with four of the horse artillery field guns recently obtained from England, and supplied with the necessary harness and field stores.

The Militia in the Province of Manitoba is under the command of Lieut. Colonel Osborne Smith, C.M.G. Deputy Adjutant General, who reports that in the month of May 126 men of the Provisional Battalion will probably obtain their discharge on completion of service. That number of men should therefore be sent to Fort Garry by the Dawson route as soon as the navigation opens, to maintain the force at its authorized strength, and one officer and twenty-five gunners will be despatched in addition, to render the artillery detachment more effective.

### CHAP. III.

#### From Fort Garry to the Rocky Mountain House.

Having concluded the inspection of the militia in Manitoba, accompanied by my son, a youth of sixteen years of age, as travelling companion, I left Fort Garry on the 10th of August for the Rocky Mountains and British Columbia, with one guide only, and an Indian lad of the Saulteux tribe, to cross the continent through Dominion territory to the Pacific coast.

The Hudson's Bay Company provided ten horses, two Red River carts, and a suitable equipment for the party, and undertook to supply any guides, horses and provisions required en route, from the different posts in the Swan River and Saskatchewan districts as far as Fort Edmonton or the Rocky Mountain House, but beyond these posts they could not guarantee further progress, nor a safe passage through the country of the Blackfoot Indians, should circumstances require the adoption of that route.

Every possible assistance, however, was afforded me by the Honorable Donald Smith M. P., and the gentlemen connected with the Company at the various posts visited, and my best thanks are due to them, not only for many acts of kindness and hospitality, but for much valuable information respecting the Indian tribes.

[To be Continued.]

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 10th Inst.:

ARROW, Ont.—Ems. W. Y. Andrews	\$2.00
BURGESSVILLE, Ont.—Capt. R. A. Mullins	2.00
CLIFTON, Ont.—Lieut. and Adj. J. Brennan	2.00
CHATELAIN, Ont.—Lieut. W. G. Morris	2.00
FRANKLINSETTLE, Ont.—Lieut. R. Rogers	2.00
LONDON, Ont.—Lt. Col. P. H. Atwood	7.00
St. THOMAS, Ont.—Private Wm. Metcalfe	2.00

### HOME IGNORANCE OF COLINES.

(From the Daily Telegraph.)

Many generations of satirists have loved to twit English statesmen and readers with gross ignorance of countries where the blood of their compatriots had been shed, and of colonies acquired by the valour or policy of their ancestors. "It is doubtful," writes Lord Macaulay, "whether one in ten even among English gentlemen of highly cultivated minds can tell who won the Battle of Buxar, who perpetrated the Massacre of Patna, whether Surdjuh Dowlah ruled in Oude or in Travancore, or whether Holkar was a Hindoo or a Mussulman." In his novel of "Humphrey Clinker," which is thought by many competent judges to be the best work of fiction of the last century, Smollett carries his readers to one of the levees of that famous Duke of Newcastle to whom the travelled Captain Crowe applies most disrespectful language. "At the beginning of the war," says the omniscient Captain, "this poor, half-witted Duke told me, in a great fright, that 30,000 French had marched from Acadia to Cape Breton. 'Where did they find transports?' said I. 'Transports!' cried he. 'I tell you they marched by land.' 'By land to the island of Cape Breton!' 'What! what! Cape Breton an island? are you some of that?' When I pointed it out on the map, he examined it earnestly with his spectacles, then, taking me in his arms, 'You always bring us good news,' cried he. 'Egad! I'll go directly and tell the King.'"

In the American War of 1812 a Secretary to the Admiralty, who claimed to be an eminent man of letters, and was always setting authors right, aroused the withering scorn of Sir C. J. Napier, who was serving upon an expedition to the coast of North Carolina. "Mr John Wilson Croker," said the indignant warrior, "has thought fit to strike out the names of three officers honorably named in Sir Sidney Beckwith's despatch, at a moment when this same Mr. Croker was serving his country by urging Sir John Warreu, in the name of the admiralty, to send a frigate from Lake Ontario, to act upon the Upper Lakes, in profound unconsciousness of the Falls of Niagara." Many who still are living can remember a slip made by a Secretary for the Colonies, who subsequently was thrice Prime Minister, and who reversing the error of his predecessor, the Duke of Newcastle, spoke of Demerara as an island. Disguise as we may, we are, as a people singularly ignorant about the history, condition and geography of those abundant colonies upon which the sun never sets, and of which, in the abstract we are all so proud. Beyond the fact of being periodically admitted to a knowledge that despatches have been sent from, or received by the Colonial office, not one Englishman in every thousand cares or knows anything about the Bermuda or Mauritius; while even boundless Dominion of Canada and the mighty peninsula of Hindostan are powerless to attract the notice or captivate the fancy of those who stay at home. "Every Englishman," says Madame de Staël, "is an island," and in nothing is our insularity more conspicuous than in our indifference about the possession of such a Colonial Empire as no other nation can ever own again. The result is that, of all our great departments of State, the Colonial Office, whether administered by a Liberal or a Conservative, is practically the most unheeded and the most irresponsible.