

nization until the Civil War obliged them to ; but would they have had any civil war at all if they had thought about it a little beforehand ? Then as to the security of money lent to Canada, I have already referred to the difference between the Pacific and the Grand Trunk, in which the English people took shares, and in which Canadian people had scarcely any shares at all, and in which there were not vast tracts of rich arable alluvial land to give away. If the Saskatchewan Valley is as everybody says it is who has seen it, a rich fertile alluvial soil, where there is coal cropping out from the banks of the river ready to be used, I must submit with all the rashness of youth, I cannot see any reason why this railway should not be made.

The CHAIRMAN : I think I may venture in your name to return to Colonel Strange our hearty thanks for a most interesting, original, and thoughtful paper. I should answer Colonel Strange's last remarks about the Saskatchewan, by saying I have had no other feeling than a wish to dispel illusions. When you talk of the Saskatchewan and talk of many thousands of square miles of territory, no doubt in those thousands of square miles there are fertile tracts where grain can be raised, and there is some indifferent coal. But it is a great mistake to suppose that the whole region is so fertile, or that the climate is altogether such as Englishmen would delight in. I think I may express our united hope that Colonel Strange in returning to Canada and to his very important duty there, will return having his hands strengthened by whatever moral influence our approval and respect for his energy and zeal can afford him, and that he will be enabled in his future negotiations with the Canadian Government to carry, as well as he deserves, a greater degree of weight than appears to have been hitherto given to him.

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## APPENDIX.

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### "MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

*"Head Quarters,*

*"Ottawa, 20th October, 1871.*

"An appropriation having been sanctioned by Parliament for the pay, maintenance, and equipment of two batteries of garrison artillery, in order to provide for the care and protection of the forts, magazines, armament, and warlike stores, recently or about to be handed over to the Dominion Government, in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, the formation of these batteries is hereby authorized.

"It is further intended that these batteries, in addition to performing garrison duties, shall serve as practical schools of gunnery for the training of all ranks of the Militia Artillery, viz. :—by instructing gunners and drivers, and affording Officers and non-commissioned officers opportunities of joining long or short courses of instruction as may best suit them individually.

### "SCHOOL OF GUNNERY, KINGSTON.

"A battery, to be designated 'A' Battery, will be formed, the maximum strength of which is to be 138 of all ranks<sup>1</sup> and 8 horses (for instruction in riding, driving, moving field and siege guns, and general purposes).

"'A' Battery will furnish a detachment for duty at Toronto.

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<sup>1</sup> One Subaltern has been added to "A" Battery, none to "B," which has a larger fortress and armament to look after, as well as the increased labour of instruction incident to the use of two languages, French and English.