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crude, while there is no reason why comfortable meals should not be provided from the first arrival of the men in camp. The Government allowance would be ample if it were devoted to procuring a permanent kitchen outfit instead of being frittered away on temporary expedients that require renewal every camp.

Canada sympathizes most cordially with the United States in her grief at the death of General Grant, a man whose claim to her regard consists above all in his achievements at the head of her army, in ending her civil war, and whose election to the chief magistracy was but another token of the gratitude he had earned in his military capacity. He was trained at West Point, and served in the regular army from 1845 to 1854, when he retired from a captaincy, having passed with distinction through the Mexican campaign. When the civil war broke out he volunteered, and held the rank of Brigadier-General, when he fought the battle of Belmont, in November, 1861. We find him successively in command of the district of the West Tennessee, when he won the battle of Shiloh, and the Department of Tennessee, when Vicksburg fell before him. After Rosecrans's defeat at Chickamauga, he took command of the reinforced army and defeated Bragg at Chattanooga. In March, 1864, he was made a Lieutenant-General, and given supreme command. These facts and the subsequent events of the memorable campaign, that ended with Lee's surrender at Appomattox, in April 1865, the virtual close of the war, are matters of history. Shortly after peace was proclaimed, the grade of General was created and bestowed upon him. His Presidency extended from 1869 to 1877, after which he took a tour around the world. The history of the Grant and Ward case, the financial embarrassment which fell upon the General and his family through his connection with it, and the injurious effects which these and subsequent worries had upon his health, are too fresh in the memory of all to require recapitulation.

That extravagant language should have been indulged in during the reception week was natural, but we should carefully guard against exaggeration in future in speaking of the insurrection. To refer to it as a "war" is one instance of this tendency; to call troops who had been on active service for four months "veterans"; or to speak of the skirmishes that occurred as "battles" is simply to lay ourselves open to ridicule. What the country had to do was, all concede, well done, but her achievements hardly rival the Franco-Prussian campaign, as might be imagined from the language used by some newspapers in referring to them.

The tattered condition in which those troops that were farthest off established routes—the Midlands, the Queen's Own, the Ninetieth, the Sharpshooters, and many others—brought back their uniforms after only four months wear, should suggest that there is room for future improvement in this part of the equipment of the Canadian Militia. Without desiring to be considered radical, we submit that neither the close cloth tunics nor the serge trousers now served out are

COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The North-west expedition, with its excitements and its lessons, is behind us, and the topic which now deserves most attention is the forthcoming annual training of part of the force in camp. It is beyond question that the good derived from these camps is not as great as it should and might be, and the best efforts of every staff officer and regimental commander should be directed to improving the present condition of things between this date and the muster of the several corps. Amongst other things that might be attended to are a reform in class-firing, in accordance with suggestions that have already appeared in these columns, or, if that cannot be accomplished, the abolition of firing in camp for this year and the devotion of the time thus saved to extra drill; class-firing to be carried out at battalion or company headquarters. Another direction in which reform is required is in company drill instruction. It is undeniable that the officers of some companies are not competent to instruct recruits in squad or company drill, not, perhaps, because they are themselves ignorant of their drill, but because the faculty of imparting knowledge is not universal, and to get a recruit into passable shape at short notice requires special skill. In such cases commanding officers should insist upon the employment of a drill instructor, so that a battalion may not be kept back by the awkwardness of some of its companies. A minor detail, but one that will conduce to the comfort of the men, and consequently to their cheerfulness and goodwill, is the company cooking arrangements. In many instances these are very