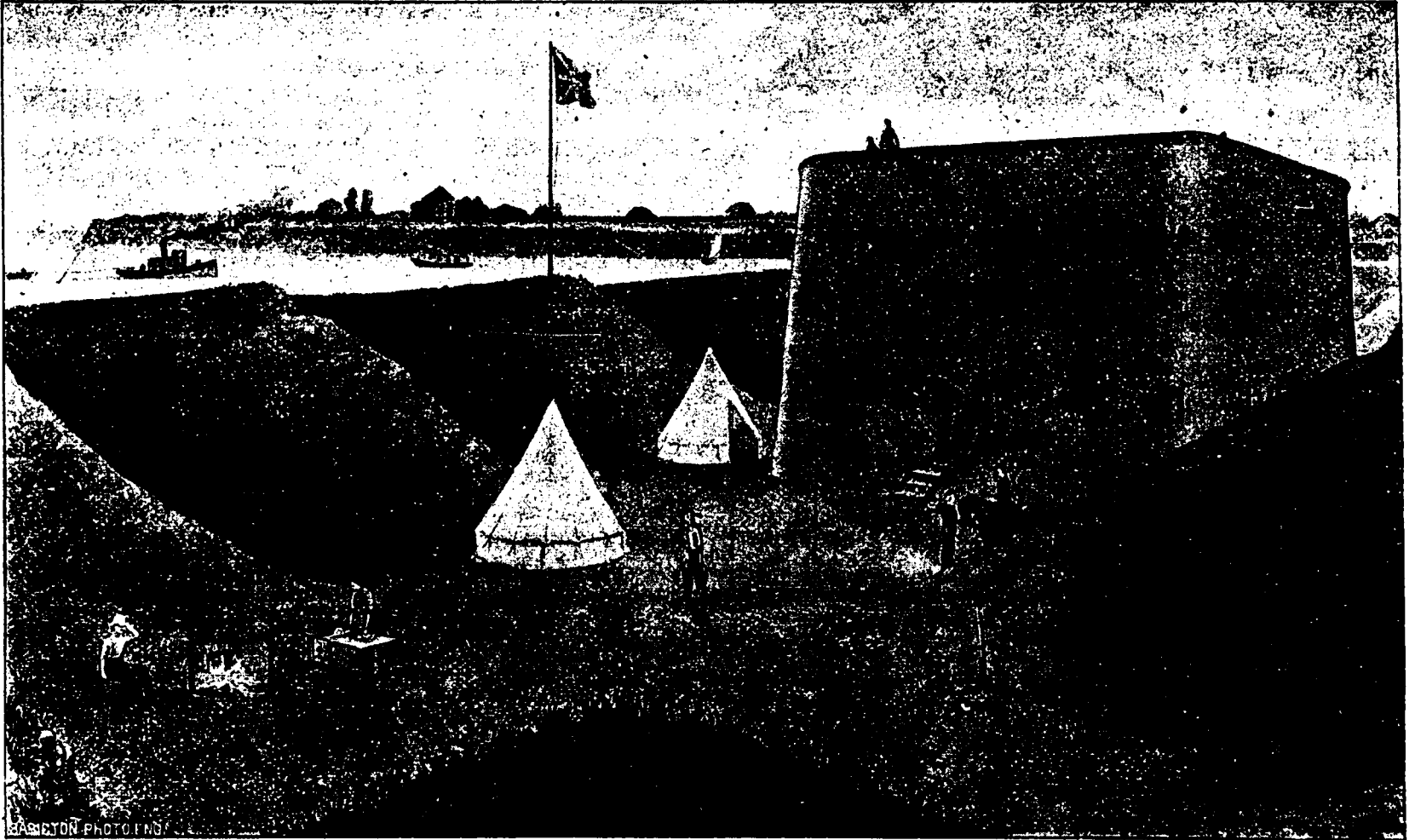


# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.

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FORT MISSISSAUGA.

## FORT MISSISSAUGA.

One of our old-time defensive works on the Niagara frontier, Fort Mississauga, is situated on the lake front, and the ruined remains of its thick, strong earthworks and massive brick tower are still plainly to be seen a few hundred yards to the west of the Queen's Royal Hotel. The earthen embankments were thrown up at the time of the building of Fort George, in 1792, or immediately afterwards; but the huge tower in the centre of the enclosure was not erected until several years later, when it was built with bricks from the ruined walls of the houses of the town of Niagara, which had been cruelly set on fire by order of the American vandal, General McClure, in the war of 1812. Though not so extensive as Fort George, this lake shore fort was not less solidly nor scientifically constructed, and owing, among other things, to the fact that the interior has not been turned into a farm, the outline of the bastions and other portions of the fortification is much more clearly defined. In fact, the projecting and re-entrant angles, the covered way and underground passages, the principal entrance with its massive double-plank gate, thickly studded with iron bolts, the magazine and store rooms and all the other salient features of the stronghold may still be readily identified, and could easily be preserved from final destruction and disappearance by the outlay of a little pains and money. Even the old brick tower in the middle could be saved if the necessary re-

pairs were made on it immediately; but soon it will be rapidly crumbling, an eyesore and a disgrace to the country. These old forts are not essential for purposes of defence, but apart from the care and attention to which they are entitled on account of their historic associations, they could, at a comparatively small expense, be made of great value as centres for company, battery or regimental camps—a method of voluntary training for those in city corps anxious to learn the practical duties of a soldier in camp, which should receive encouragement from district and regimental commanders.

Of the history of the fort, its garrisons, and the incidents of interest with which it has been associated, little or nothing is recorded. Old residents of the locality are, no doubt, familiar with much in this connection that is worth preservation, and reminiscences or notes from them would be greatly valued by those interested in our military history.

## OFFICERS WHO DISGRACE THE SERVICE.

Any officer whose conduct or public utterance stamps him as an annexationist should be court-martialed without delay, and if found guilty, dismissed the service. Such action is only fair to the regiment and the force he has dishonoured in breaking his oath. Her Majesty's commission to him "reposed special confidence in his loyalty," &c.; when unworthy of that confidence it should be withdrawn summarily.