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* Defence of Great and Greater Britain.

There is no portion of political administration which treats of a subject of greater importance to Britain and her Colonies, or more essential to the commercial and civil well-being of Englishmen scattered throughout the world, than the one now under the consideration of the "Royal Commission," which is, at this moment, sitting by command of Her Majesty. How to defend our empire.

England decided, some time ago, that her colonies should be self-supporting, and withdrew her troops from most of them. The judiciousness of the act has been established, and individual colonies have indeed done something for themselves, but the time has arrived when a general systematic plan of combined Colonial and Imperial action must be inaugurated, which alone can give that "security of peace," by uniting the naval and military powers of Greater Britain into one unity of force, and directed by one guiding hand.

Captain Colomb has laid before the British public and the inhabitants of the colonies, most valuable food for reflection;

* The Defence of Great and Greater Britain. Sketches of its Naval, Military and Political Aspect.—Captain J. C. R. Colomb, F. R. G. S., Edward Stanford, London.

the fruits of years of careful study and research, comprising, as it does, the opinions and sentiments expressed by the leading newspapers of the principal cities throughout our possessions.

Captain Colomb divides his work into four parts, viz:—"The Navy and the Colonies," "Colonial Defence," "Imperial and Colonial Responsibilities in War," "Naval and Military Resources of the Colonies," and which we will treat separately in our future numbers, having to postpone the articles in this issue; through want of space.

Commissions in the Imperial Service to Officers of the Active Militia.

The subject of holding out some inducement to the officers of our Militia, to perfect themselves in military knowledge is a matter worthy of the serious consideration of the authorities at Ottawa. We have expatiated at length before in the columns of this paper how deep a study the art of war has become, and for the safety and welfare of our Dominion it is expedient, that, our service should be made as efficient as possible and a stimulus to scientific military attainments given to those in whom we have to trust, in the hour of need.