

to the change. It has not changed, it continues, it can last yet for a long time!"

Murray, in 1760, gave the "Captains of Militia" of the *Parishes* power similar to that of our judges—under a form of "Military rule." The Treaty of Versailles was signed in Feb'y, 1763, and proclaimed 18th May. The militia were disarmed, but soon, however, permission was given in a wholesale manner to people who wanted arms to hunt, and for whom the officers of militia intervened.

In May, 1760, six companies of Canadians were raised by the "Captains of Militia" against Pontiac. Six hundred answered the appeal. Peace was signed at Oswego in 1760. Prominent among the Canadians were St. Ange de Bellefleur of Illinois, Godefroy and Baby of Detroit district. The siege of Quebec took place in Dec., 1775. Our militia sustained the first and the only great clash of this war. In 1777 an Ordinance relative to militia was passed. If, in 1778 and 1782, Canada was not taken by the United States it was due to the French-Canadians. From 1776 to 1783 the Governor (Carleton) kept up three militia companies on war-strength, and he took out of it the N. C. O.s, who served as instructors to the sedentary militia. By 1784 the disarmament was complete. There was only one company of militia.

Of the institutions of the old regime which the English Crown considered most vital to retain, it must be recognized that the Militia organization stood out from all that remained of the French system. In fact, we ask, did anything remain stable of all that France had done in Canada? Pitt allowed the province to regulate its militia affairs. Dorechester organized a regiment of two battalions before going to England in 1796 (after 27 years in Canada), one of them entirely composed of French-Canadians, the 2nd Battalion having some French-Canadians, but chiefly English. Promotion being Regimental, they were equally mixed at the end of six years. If this Regiment had not existed we would have been taken at a much greater disadvantage in 1812. Indeed 1200 to 1500 men of all grades who had not forgotten their training are very valuable when it is a matter of putting some 15,000 recruits on a war footing. In 1802 the Regiment was broken up in ten or twelve detachments in the two provinces, and it was disbanded in September.

MILITIA ORDINANCES BY BRITISH GOVERNORS.

Ordinances carrying on the old French Militia regulations of Frontenac were in operation during the period of Canadian History just described.

We then come to the important Militia Act of 1808 which superseded the ordinances and which played so important a part in saving Canada to the British Empire.