

infantry school, artillerymen learn thoroughly all that can be known of infantry evolutions, fire discipline, musketry, etc., as was conspicuously apparent at the late sham fight at Quebec. What Canada should do is to encourage the artillery branch by every possible means, as garrison artillery can act either as gunners or infantry, and field artillery as cavalry as occasion might require. Continental nations are sparing no efforts to perfect their breech loading and machine guns, and from all appearances our next great war will partake more of an artillery duel than anything else.

**Confederation in Trade.**

A circular has been issued by the Dominion Board of Trade Montreal proposing that a conference be convened by the various Chambers of Commerce, throughout the dependencies of the British Empire to be held in London in the last week of February, 1881, invitations being issued to 48 delegates from Great Britain and 55 delegates representing the various colonies for the purpose of inaugurating a system to establish freer commercial intercourse between the Colonies themselves, and between them and the United Kingdom, the result of such action being the building up of a Great Trade Empire, with which Foreign Countries would be only too glad to join. In this way free trade principles would be nursed and protected, for unless some broad scheme of this kind is planned and given effect to, the Commercial prosperity of Great Britain will be undermined by Foreign Countries, demoralising separate portions of the Colonial Empire in detail, and inflicting suffering such as Canada has experienced during the past three years.

This question was brought up at the Annual Meeting of 15th January, 1878, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That it is desirable to communicate with the Associated Chambers of Commerce in England, with the view of obtaining their assistance in organizing a confederation of Representatives from the Boards of Trade of the Dependencies of Great Britain, to meet in London once a year, or as often as may be considered advisable with the object of drawing closer the trade relations between the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Empire."

It was not upon the bayonets of her soldiers that the Empire of Germany was built; the foundation of its greatness was securely laid upon the commercial treaties of Zollverein in 1831, the superstructure of which being firmly cemented together by one common aim, culminated in proclaiming the great truth of "strength in union" upon the heights of Sedan on that 4th of September, 1870. Let us hope that the initiative taken by our Board of Trade may likewise lead us upon the road to "consolidation."

**"The Colonies" Again.**

Under the above heading, the Toronto Mail of the 23rd ult., contains an article, bearing upon the subject of "Imperialism." It says:—

"We are, therefore, read with some degree of interest, but with no excitement at all, the following from the London Morning Post:—  
"The whole question of Imperial unity, or Imperial federation—by whichever it may be called—is one that will be coming, more and more to the front year by year, as the relative importance, wealth and population

of the Mother Country and the colonies more nearly approach each other, therefore, those who now wish to take time by the forelock, and to discuss the subject to some practical end, are doing good service to the Empire. Indeed, it is a question that might be fittingly discussed by representatives of the United Kingdom and the colonies especially delegates for that purpose."

What the Post says is perfectly true. As the colonies grow in wealth and numbers, they will naturally enough come to be of more importance to English statesmen, and, therefore, an occasional reminder, that the colonies exist, and are really getting bigger and richer, is worth making in the press. Hitherto it must be confessed the discussions of the London papers concerning our affairs have been more amusing than useful. But the field for usefulness exists if there is, that will admit the ability to cultivate it. We do not place much confidence in the results of any discussion as to the Federation of the Empire, but there are topics that the English press might dwell upon with satisfaction. There is the constant stream of British subjects, going to the United States to be citizens of a rival and not friendly nation—why do not the London papers check it instead of encouraging it? There are the millions of acres of fertile lands in the North-West—why do not the English papers advertise them and encourage the British emigrants to settle on them? The Post wants "practical" work—that would be practical enough for us. We feel that what the Post really means is that when the colonies become, by their own efforts and sacrifices, sufficiently wealthy and prosperous to be made to share the burdens of the Empire, then the British press will kindly consider the interests of the Empire and endeavour to give the colonies an opportunity of gracefully shouldering a portion of the weight. Perhaps, however rich and populous the colonies may grow, they may find their own burdens sufficiently heavy to be borne without Imperial addition.

Whose fault is it that British emigrants seek the shores of the United States, in preference to our own Dominion? How can the Mail expect the London papers to expatiate upon advantages offered by our fair land as a home for England's sons, over that of the United States, in face of the enormous exodus which has taken place this spring from Quebec, Ontario and the Maritime Provinces to that country. And how is it that immigrants pass through our country, and by our doors, to take up land in the Western States.

England withdrew her troops to induce the Colony to be self-supporting, so that its immense resources might be developed by the potent agency of "Independence." Has Canada done all she might do in this respect? The Mail forgets that it is under the fostering care of Great Britain, and under the protection of the mighty power of her arms, that the commerce of this country "sails the seas" in perfect security, and find a market for its products in ever quarter of the globe, and for which protection she has never been asked to contribute a sixpence.

Canada is simply one of England's children growing up and developing into manhood under the anxious care and watchful eye of its parent, and after the days of dependent childhood and erring youth be passed, the Mail forgetful of the 5th Commandment, would advocate the dispensation of the mosaic "Corban," by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me, he shall be free.

**Notice to Colleges and School.**

Principals of Public Schools and Colleges in the Province of Ontario are reminded that Infantry Instructors can be sent from B. Battery Royal Gunnery School in accordance with General Orders.

By reference to General Orders published in the Canada Gazette of 26th July, 1879, it will be seen that the services of qualified infantry instructors from the Royal School of Gunnery, together with breech-loading rifles, accoutrements and military books are supplied by the Government free of all charge.

It will be seen that the advantages Moral, Mental & Physical to be gained from Military drill and discipline