

author for a copy of this valuable historical record, the scope and intention of which is cleverly put forth in the modest and admirable preface which is characteristically headed with that paragraph of the "Queen's Regulations," which commands an historical record of the organization and services of each regiment to be kept (sec. 23 par. 44)—an order first promulgated in 1836—since which time "the records of nearly all the Cavalry—upwards of twenty—and about forty regiments of Infantry were therefore prepared by RICHARD CANNON, Esq., of the Adjutant General's office, and published between the years 1837 and 1851, since which time they have been discontinued. It being impossible for any one individual to accomplish such a task as compiling the history of some seventy regiments in the space of a few years, especially without having access to the books in possession of regiments—those volumes are merely interesting sketches of some sixty or one hundred pages—no attempt having been made to give anything in detail.

We may add that many of the notices are distinguished for the absence of all records of the most striking incidents in the organization of the corps whose histories they do give.

The author then goes on to say that the records of only five regiments of militia have been hitherto published, and remarks that "having chiefly been used as depot battalions to supply the army with officers and men when required during war, and therefore having few exciting scenes or gallant deeds to recount, many think there is nothing worthy of record. To those, however, who take a pride or interest in the service, or in their regiments such records of the past although only of usefulness and not of glory cannot fail to have much interest, and they have also a beneficial effect in maintaining that *esprit de corps* without which a regiment loses half its value. Moreover, but little is known of the 'old constitutional force,' as no book yet published gives anything approaching to a complete or correct account of this branch of the service, which was always acknowledged to be the first, and often the only reserve, on which the country has been able to depend with confidence in time of need. Such a work is much wanted, and the subject is worthy of a good historian. NAPIER in his History of the Peninsular War (vol. 1 par. 11) in speaking of the regular troops says: 'Of these 50 or 60,000 were employed in the Colonies, and in India the remainder were disposable, because from 80 to 100,000 militia, differing from the regular troops in nothing but the name, were sufficient for home duties.'"

The author puts plainly before the eyes of the army organizers of the day the practical precedent by which the solution of the problem of national defence can be effected without the aid of the Prussian or any other imported system—but there is a corollary

which must follow—and that is instead of placing the regular army before the *constitutional force* their relative positions should be reversed—the injustice and folly of subordinating the primary to the secondary organization is sufficiently obvious—all the reforms necessary to make the former embrace the whole fighting population of the British Isles is to abolish the *ballot* and consider every subject able to serve as a soldier—make every county furnish its *quota*, and from the force thus raised take out by volunteering the officers and men for the *Foreign and Colonial Army*. Captain RAIKES shows that this has been practically done at the period of Britain's greatest danger, and there is no good reason why it should not be done now when all advantages are on her side.

The opening chapter of this valuable volume gives a description of the territorial divisions of the County of York for political and military purposes—shows that the militia organization existed prior to the establishment of a regular army—a general sketch of the Anglo Saxon militia as it existed under the Feudal system under the STUARTS dynasty and up to the year 1757. It also gives the names of the officers of the various military *quotas* furnished by Yorkshire under JAMES the First and the Volunteer organization of 1745.

The second chapter is an account of the organization under 30 GEORGE II cap. 25, in which 'the *ballot* clause' was for the first time introduced, and was a highly unpopular measure, could only be enforced by the exercise of all the power of the executive, and has remained to this day a clause which no ministry can render effective.

Under this act the *first* regiment of militia was organized and approved by the King on 27th January, 1759—two other regiments were organized immediately afterwards—but owing to the latter being commanded by a Peer and a Baronet respectively the *first* regiment only having a commoner, it was numbered as the *third* or West York. This chapter while giving lists of original officers, armament, &c., embraces the period between organization and the year 1796, about forty years. Chapter third embraces the period between that year and 1802. Fourth, 1803 and 1814. Fifth, 1814 to 1852. Sixth, 1852 to 1856. Seventh, 1857 to 1875. There are valuable and exhaustive appendices giving the succession of officers and other details the whole plan and scope of the work being designed to lay before the public a faithful record of every useful detail of so important an organization.

A cynical writer in *Blackwood* styles military ambition *vain glory*. It may be so, but it is just that kind of vain glory that requires absolute self denial as well as self-sacrifice—calling the latter by its more modest name of patriotism. We think the publication of such works as we have at tempted to review will be far more likely to

produce generous emulation in doing and daring for ones country than all the philosophical essays which could be written, and the service should be proud of a man who has devoted so much valuable time and labour for the good of his country and the advancement of its best interests, without hope of profit or reward.

The volume has the following illustrations:—"The Regimental Colours; Uniform of Militia in 1759. A Private of the Grenadier Company 1804-1814; Portrait of Colonel BRITAN COOKE, M.P.; Head Quarters, Doncaster; Colonel FERRARS LEFTHAND. Badges won 1811-1852, Badges now worn by the Regiment."

We cannot compliment Captain RAIKES too much on the very valuable records he has produced, and we have to thank him for his kind consideration in placing it in our hands.

It will, we hope, be an inducement to others who have time and means at their disposal to do likewise. We have a militia record of our own in British North America full of stirring deeds, but we want the zeal to place them before the world. It is to be hoped Captain RAIKE's example will be followed by some of our officers and the stubborn valour of our peasantry duly chronicled as an incitement to their successors.

The volume is dedicated "to his brother officers" by the author, and they may well be proud of him.

The leading article of the *Canadian News* of 13th January entitled "A New Zollverein," we republish, because it shows so clearly what the effects of that beautiful arrangement which has taken such a fast hold on the imagination of third class politicians in the United States, but is so universally scouted in Canada that to declare in favor of it would be deemed a proper qualification for a lunatic asylum, or at the least, a preliminary softening of the brain, the ultimate end of which would lead to that destination.

The proposal is so palpably of the "spider and fly" order that it must have emanated from a political imbecile—our interest in the trade of the United States is simply to supply whatever agricultural or natural products she may require—and to take from her in a similar manner whatever our own country does not produce and she can supply.

As respects foreign trade, manufacturers' products, shipping interests, and all matters connected therewith our direct interest leads us to be rivals and competitors, and as far as maritime interests are concerned we rank next to our neighbors with about one tenth of her population and less than a *two thousandth* part of their indebtedness.

At the close of their great contest eleven years ago there were enthusiastic gentlemen citizens of the United States who gushingly invited us to *come over* and help them pay