

At the present moment there are two officers of the permanent cavalry at Winnipeg, one appointed in 1882 and the other in 1885, taking his elementary course at Kingston. These officers are away from their duty as instructors at the cavalry school at Winnipeg, and should be officers competent to give that instruction. Again, the graduates of the college do not attach themselves to military corps at the camps of instruction, etc., because they would have over them permanent corps officers who know very little of their profession.

There was recently a vacancy in the Militia Department, of assistant to the militia architect, and it was naturally supposed that some graduate possessing scientific knowledge of military engineering would have been appointed, but, in place of this, a young man was appointed who does not possess any military education or training. Now, Sir, I happened to read a reference to the very policy of the Government in the report of the college laid upon the Table last session. But in connection with what I stated a moment ago as to the object of the Act having been disregarded, and a general education being now apparently one of the main objects of the College, I will again emphasize that statement by quoting from the report of the commandant of the school to the Government, which is found in the report of the Department of Militia for the year 1891-92. Speaking of education, it says :

But fortunately the status of Canada, as a part of the Empire, has made it fitting and wise to modify the system of instruction followed at the Royal Military College, so that while the military demands of the country upon it may be duly supplied, its cadets are trained to take their place amongst their fellow-countrymen, as highly and technically trained gentlemen, in most practical professions, and in a large measure prepared to enter the learned professions.

It certainly shows the progress made in disregarding the intention of Parliament when the school itself, in a public report, can openly announce that it is totally disregarding the main object which justified its establishment, that it is practically a training school for the learned professions. The report goes on to say :

We sincerely hope that the time is not far distant when the Government may feel themselves justified in giving full effect to their Order in Council, of a date certainly prior to 1882, in which it is declared that so soon as there are a sufficient number of eligible graduates, appointment to permanent militia corps will be made solely from this list.

In 1878 that pledge was given, and upon that pledge the 195 men that I have referred to, entered that college and pursued an undergraduate career. It goes to say :

And after sufficient length of service and rank has been obtained by graduates, permanent militia officers will be filled therefrom.

The pledge was given to the country in 1878, a pledge which has found its place in the public records, and yet it has never been lived up to. The report goes on to say :

If untrained gentlemen are better qualified than the technically trained military graduates of this college, to officer the Canadian permanent corps,