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I. Education in Canada.

1. MILITARY EDUCATION IN CANADA.

The completion of the annual military drill at some and the inauguration of at it others of the various brigade camps throughout the Province, may be an appropriate occasion to briefly discuss the general question of military education in Canada. The debate on the motion of Dr. Brouse, during last session, for a Committee of Inquiry, had the result of establishing beyond dispute that public sentiment as represented in Parliament is very largely in favour of the maintenance, at the very least, of our existing means of defence, and even improving them if that can be done without incurring too much expense.

Nobody suspects Canada of any desire to be aggressive, and what we do in the way of raising and keeping in an efficient condition a volunteer army, is merely done with a view to enable us to defend ourselves should it ever unfortunately happen that defence is necessary. In preparing ourselves for that contingency, we naturally look around us for example, especially to countries which like ourselves, have a small population, and surrounded by those having immense military resources at their disposal whenever they had occasion to call them into requisition. There is perhaps no country whose position would form an exact parallel to that of Canada, because those small powers whose military policy would be most commensurate with our financial position, and at the same time most in accord with the requirements of the present day, have, as a rule a proportionately small territory to guard. The defence of Canada against any organized attack on the scale to which modern warfare has made us accustomed, has not so far been seriously contemplated because the danger of any such attack has not presented

itself as even a far probability. But there is a growing sentiment in favour of being prepared for even that contingency. The country which most nearly resembles Canada in population, although differing from it as widely as possible in the extent of its territory, and which at the same time sets us the most perfect example of what a little power may do in the way of utilizing every means of self-defence which it possesses, is Switzerland.

The following letter appeared in the *Globe* of 13th March last, having been addressed to the editor of that journal by Major Hubertus D'Entraigues, of H. M. Reserve Forces in Canada, now residing in Switzerland:—

The following are some of the provisions of the new Swiss Military Law of the 13th November, 1874. They may be of interest to some of your readers:

Every Swiss is bound to serve from the age of 20 to the age of 44. The Cantons see that the young boys from the age of ten years up to the time of their leaving the primary school, whether they attend it or not, receive a course of gymnastics preparatory to the military service. As a rule these courses are given by the school teachers, who receive in the schools for the recruits of the confederation, and in the Normal Schools of the Cantons, the instruction necessary to give these lessons. All the young men must follow these courses of gymnastics from the time they leave school up to the age of twenty. In the two last years the Confederation may add rifle practice. At the Federal Polytechnic school are given special courses for teaching the general military science (tactics, strategy, history of war, &c.) The Confederation favours and supports the introduction of the military courses in the establishments of superior instruction in the Cantons.

Cavalry.—The instruction of the recruits of guides and dragoons lasts sixty days. Besides the dragoons there are what are called the necessary cadres of sous-officers, and the officers newly-named who are obliged to follow this instruction. The courses of repetition of cavalry takes