

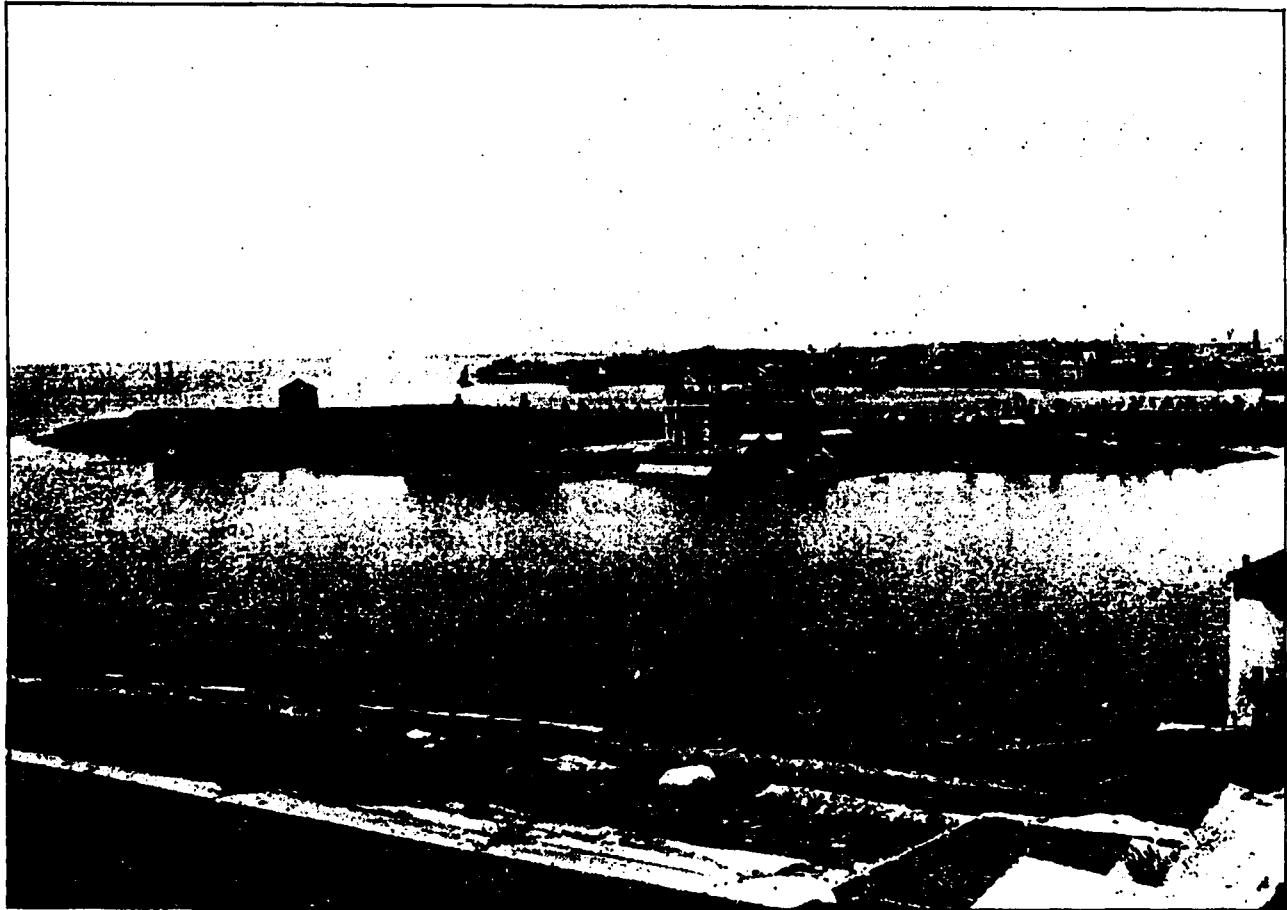
# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.

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VIEW OF ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, KINGSTON, FROM FORT HENRY.

## THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

At Kingston, opposite *Tête de Pont* barracks, a low promontory juts into Lake Ontario. This promontory was, during the war of 1812, a dockyard, where Sir James Yeo built his fleet. The sailors and marines occupied a three storey stone building, constructed in its interior arrangements like a three decker, and known by the *soubriquet* of the stone frigate.

After the dockyard, grown useless in the "piping times of peace" had been dismantled, the Government decided to utilize the buildings for a Military College. Col. Hewett, R.E., was appointed commandant, and in June, 1876, the college was opened, with three professors and eighteen cadets. The stone frigate was, however, quite inadequate to all the demands made upon it for class-rooms

and dormitories, and a large and imposing building was erected. This was fully occupied by the kitchen, and hospital, mess room, reading rooms and offices, class rooms, professors' rooms and laboratories, and the frigate was henceforth devoted to dormitories. Year by year the number of cadets increased, so that it became necessary to enlarge the staff. The present College consists of commandant, staff-adjutant, fifteen professors and instructors, and about eighty cadets; the members of the civil staff are Canadians, while those on the military staff are, on the contrary, with two exceptions, borrowed from the Imperial army.

In establishing the Military College, the Government had in its mind, not only Woolwich and Sandhurst, the great military schools of the Mother Country, but also the American West

Point. Little military employment could be offered to graduates, as our standing army is of the smallest dimensions, although it was naturally intended that all vacant commissions in our regular forces should be filled by R.M.C. graduates: a system which has not been carried out, owing chiefly to "political exigencies." It was determined, therefore, to give the cadets an education that would fit them for civil as well as military life. The syllabus of instruction laid down for a four years' course embraces military drill, artillery, infantry and engineering; signalling, gymnastics, fencing, swimming and riding; tactics and strategy; military law and administration; fortification and civil engineering; military reconnaissance; drawing, both geometrical and free-hand; mathematics and mechanics; French and English, civil surveying,