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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada

VOL. VIII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1874.

No. 20.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On the 13th, the corner stone of the new Normal School, Ottawa, was laid. The contractor will push on the work with all possible despatch.

The Kingston News says:—"We understand that there is a probability of a brigade camp being held here during the month of June."

The Dawson Road Transportation Company expect to have everying in working order by the 1st of June.

The steamer *Trojan*, of the Anchor Line, is over due, being now over 39 days out. No tidings of any kind have been received. It is feared she has shared the fate of so many of the iron vessels of late, and gone to the bottom of the sea with all on board.

The Belleville *Intelligencer* says:—"One of the Manitoba Mounted Police has been in town for several days. The uniform is a neat one, much resembling that of the heavy cavalry in the British service, namely scarlet jacket, fatigue cap with white band, dark trousers and cavalry boots. If the young man in town is an average specimen of the force, they must be an extra fine lot of men."

There seems some prospect that the negotiations now going on in Washington with a view to a new treaty of commercial reciprocity between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, may terminate successfully. The United States Secretary of State conducts the negotiations on behalf of his Government, and Sir E. Thornton and the Hon. Geo. Brown, Senator of the Canadian Dominion, act as joint plenipotentiaries on the part of Great Britain. It is understood that a rough outline of the new treaty is now the subject of investigation and discussion.

"A plucky old veteran," says the *Perth Expositor*, "named Thomas Kirkham of Bathurst, an old Peninsular hero, 82 years of age, left home last Thursday morning and walked into Perth, nine miles, in time to catch the morning train for Ottawa. He there did a good deal of running round, in connection with his application for an increase of pension, under the new order, but got through in time to take the evening train for Perth, which he reached about 9 p.m.; after a few minutes' rest in Perth, he walked home again. The next morning, he took his accustomed walk of nine miles into town, despatched his business and walked home again. This is not so bad for a lad of 82. It is to be hoped he will be successful in his application for an increased pension, and may long live to enjoy it."

Nearly one hundred houses in Masaya, Nicaragua, were burned recently.

It is stated that the British Minister to Chili has demanded the release of Captain Herde, of the wrecked steamer *Tacna*, and an indemnity of £5,000. If the demand is not acceded to, he asks for his passports.

The British fleet, it is said, has been ordered to Valparaiso.

It is stated that British Consul McGee, was recently sentenced by the Commandant at San Jose, Guatemala, to four hundred lashes, of which two hundred were inflicted, nearly killing McGee. The Commandant fled. A Panama letter gives details of the affair:—"It appears that Gonzales arrested Mr. Moncreif, agent of the Steamship Company at San Jose, but released him, retaining McGee, who protested against the horror in the name of the British flag. The American Consular Agent, James, entered a protest just as McGee was about to be flogged, when Gonzales threatened to serve James the same. Four soldiers performed the whipping, two hundred lashes being inflicted, after which McGee was kept over night to receive the remaining two hundred next day and then to be shot. Mr. Moncreif sent a messenger to the nearest telegraph station, Gonzales having guarded the telegraph office at San Jose, and summoned General Solares with one hundred men from the capital, who arrived next morning as McGee was about to be again whipped. Gonzales fled to the steamer, but as he was getting on board, some one shot him dead in the gangway."

The *Chicago Post and Mail* say that Henry S. Walker, the boy pianist, now with Mrs. Scott-Siddons, recently received a draft for \$1,500 in gold from a Chicago gentleman, who proposes to give the youthful prodigy \$750 in gold per year until he is 21 years of age.

The disgraceful state of affairs, peculiar to Republican institutions, which has existed in the State of Kansas for some time, between two men named Brooks and Baxter, both claiming to be the Governor of the State, has culminated in a series of fights between the followers of these unprincipled demagogues in which a number of lives have been lost on both sides. The President of the United States has ordered both to lay down their arms, and allow a full session of the Legislature of the State to assemble and decide who shall be the Governor of State. Subsequently President Grant, who all along is said to have favored the pretensions of Baxter, has issued a Proclamation recognizing Baxter as Governor of Arkansas, and commands all disorderly persons to disband and go to their homes within ten days.

General Ellis has retired from the position of Chief of Staff to Don Carlos, and has been succeeded by General Derreguay.

The Reformed Episcopal Church Synod of the United States have adopted the Versicles attached to the Nicene Creed, and the Rubric is to be omitted when the Litany is read.

The Duke de Broglie, French Minister of the Interior, has introduced a bill into the French Assembly to establish an Upper Chamber.

The new Spanish Government are manifesting Alphonist tendencies

It is now proposed, according to a London journal, to raise a statue to Lord Byron in Venice. A committee of Italians has been formed to raise a fund.

Private advices from St. Petersburg report a complete reconciliation to have taken place between the Czar and the Grand Duke Alexis, who have been long estranged on account of the latter's marriage beneath his rank.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, of Russia, brother of the Czar, has been arrested on a criminal charge.

A banquet was given Sir Garnet Wolseley, at Portsmouth, on Tuesday evening, by the officers of the Ashantee expedition.

The late severe frosts have done considerable damage to the vines throughout France. It is estimated that the grape crop for the present year will not be above half the average.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the Order of Louise of the first class upon the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Edinburgh.

Mr. Lionel Levy, proprietor of the Globe Theatre, in London, has presented the Duke of Edinburgh, as a wedding gift, a dessert service of solid gold. Its value is between 3,000 and 4,000 guineas.

Eight of the twelve members of the present English Cabinet are authors.

The Czar and Grand Duke Alexis arrived at Dover at 7 o'clock p.m., on the 13th. Immense crowds witnessed the debarkation of the party, and greeted them with hearty enthusiasm. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur were waiting to receive the Imperial visitors, and conducted them at once to Windsor Castle, where they arrived at ten o'clock. On the 15th the Czar and party reached Buckingham Palace at noon from Windsor Castle. Immense crowds lined the route of procession from Paddington station to the Palace. The Czar, the Prince of Wales, Grand Duke Alexis, and Duke of Edinburgh, occupied one carriage, and Prince Arthur, Princess of Wales, and the Duchess of Edinburgh another. The latter was cheered vehemently.

It is expected the Dominion House of Commons will be prorogued on Saturday.

LECTURE "On the Connection between the Ordinary Work of Soldiers in Peace-time and Warlike Efficiency," delivered before the Royal United Service Institute on Tuesday, 1st April, 1873: Lieut. General His Grace The Duke of WELLINGTON, K.G., in the chair, by Lieutenant J. F. MAURICE, R.A., Professor of Tactics, Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

(Continued from Page. 225)

You will see that I have, in saying this, somewhat limited my subject. For it is not necessary that I should speak to you of the advantages of drill or of shooting practice, nor yet again need I speak of the necessity for training men to endure severe marching; nor yet of the necessity, not only for keeping all materials of an Army in good order, during war-time, notably as to the arms and ammunition, large and small, the condition of Horses, the fit of harness, &c., for of many of these you are already masters; and that which is most difficult for you in any of these, belongs to special corps, whose place few of you aspire to take. That which is really difficult for you, is connected with all these, but is not these. So little indeed does it consist in the mere keeping of material in good order, that if I must select a material something with which to connect it, I am disposed to say that in fact on which I most wish to dwell to-night would be—forgive me if for a moment I almost seem to treat you with impertinence—the very polishing of buckles itself. I do not think that I should be misunderstood by any soldier. I am quite sure that I should be misunderstood by none of those who have been setting before us most clearly the necessities of modern fight if I say that I can almost better express to myself the intense interest which my profession in peace-time has always had for me, altogether apart from its theoretical study, by that answer than by any other. If a soldier's beau ideal of all perfection is to be the polish of his buckles, or any other kind of outward show, of course none more contemptible can be imagined. But if we have never the right to say that the end justifies the means, there are certainly times when the means go very far towards glorifying the momentary end. I prefer to select that which in its momentary effect tends not at all towards warlike, hardly even towards peace efficiency, because round it rather than round something else which has a special advantage of its own, I can mentally gather all thoughts which relate to the development in each rank of that habit of getting duty done as duty, and to that wonderful organic unity on which, rather than on anything else, the creation of an Army effective for war, depends. It is in the development of that effective organic unity, that power in an Army of acting as one body, animated by one spirit, that the whole interest of our work in peace-time centres.

It seems to me that it is this, and all that is involved in this, which we fail to make clear to some, at all events, among you.

In a general way, we tell you that "discipline" is your difficulty. But "discipline" is a word which some, at all events, do not understand in the sense in which it is used by those, for instance, who tell us that "Discipline won the victories of the late war."

Discipline is a thing, the necessity for which in an Army in one sense no one outside of it doubts. But by discipline, in popular parlance, is usually meant, as Captain Flood Page has happily pointed out

to you, that which is in nowise sufficient for an Army.

Obedience to the personal command of a superior is, of course, a necessity, but I do not believe for a moment that that will constitute your difficulty. When I am anxious to make clear to you to-night, if I can, is that our work in peace-time has a certain definite education in it for our work in war-time, the nature of which, as I believe, could be much more fully set before you than it has yet been. In relation to all other professions, anyone who approaches them from the outside, is fully conscious, that quite irrespective of their actual practice, there is a long preliminary training which has a distinct value in relation to the practice. In the case of soldiering alone, and we have, I believe, ourselves mainly to thank for it, no one outside the Army seems to dream that there is anything but a little drill to be learnt by the daily routine.

There is a sort of popular notion that discipline is a thing which can be taken on and put off, like a glove, at no notice at all. It seems almost an insult to a man who knows well that he is quite ready to sacrifice everything to the cause he has at heart, to tell him that he requires to learn discipline. He quite understands, in the abstract, the necessity that one man should command, and that he himself should obey. What he does not understand, are the difficulties of command and the difficulties of entering into a relationship with his fellows, to which he is wholly unaccustomed.

That discipline, in the sense of personal obedience to orders, is not enough for war we have absolute standing authority. At the time when the Spanish and Portuguese Armies were rendering every operation which could be undertaken, hopeless and disastrous, Lord Wellington thus wrote to Beresford:—"We are mistaken if we believe that what these Portuguese and Spanish Armies require is discipline, properly so called. They want the habits and spirit of soldiers; the habits of command on one side and of obedience on the other; mutual confidence between Officers and men; and, above all, a determination in the superiors to obey the spirit of the orders they receive, let what will be the consequence, and the spirit to tell the true cause, if they do not."

Now much is included in that statement in which I will not insult you by saying that you would be wanting. But "habit" is a matter of slow development, which you have avowedly hardy time, as soldiers, to acquire. Those, I confess, seem to me your wisest advisers who frankly face the fact, and tell you that you must, by "conscious effort," do what we do by habit. But for conscious effort, distinct knowledge of what is to be striven for, is necessary. You must know what the habits are, which you are by "conscious effort," to acquire. It is as to these that I think we, who devote so much time to the process ought, if we are once fairly driven into a corner, to be able to give you some answer.

I can give you only a few examples of some of the leading ones, and if my selection seems to many most unsatisfactory, I can only say that I am fully conscious myself that it is so; but that I am much more anxious to urge you to obtain from others a more complete statement than to perfect it myself to night.

I would venture, before commencing to repeat also what Captain Page has in his lectures so admirably put before you, that up to a certain extent, the habits I speak of may be acquired in many of your own pursuits unconnected with the Army. I should

myself be inclined to say that every kind of work in which men are engaged, tends to develop certain habits, more especially its own, which are, nevertheless, in some degree induced by many other professions; I fancy that there is, in some sort, a *reverso* action also, and that the long accumulating experience of a body so permanent in all its parts as an Army, ought to be able to suggest the best methods by which all kinds of work should be carried on which depend on the organised action of large bodies of men.

The first habit, and that which has so many different forms that it almost includes all others, is that of, in all matters relating to duty, considering, simply, *the part* which it is one's duty to play in the getting done of what has to be done, to the loss of what I may call, perhaps, the friction of personal ability.

Let me illustrate my meaning.

Some years ago, a Volunteer review took place, far enough from here, and not at Brighton. The General in command had often been much annoyed by *stray shots* popped off in mere sport after the reviews were over. He had, therefore, given orders that the ammunition from the different pouch belts should be collected by the Commanding Officer of companies, and that where it was the property of individuals, it should be returned to them when the parade had been finally dismissed. Of course, the General had no intention of interfering with the private property of Volunteers, but he had full authority, as long as they were under military orders, to put a stop to a most un-military proceeding. Now what, under such circumstances, was the duty of each of the Officers who had to carry out the orders? Clearly to explain first to his company the nature of the General's order, and how private rights would not be interfered with, and then, in his definite military capacity, and being fully within his military authority to give the ordinary simple words of command, for the inspection of pouch belts and for their being emptied. Now it happened that in one case, the Officer commanding a company gave no definite formal word of command, but went to each man and with many apologies, and expressions of regret &c., begged that he would, as the General wished it, open his pouch belt. It was a Volunteer who told me the story. He was present on that occasion, and, thanks to his usual avocation, which was that of a large manufacturer, his instincts as to what is necessary in an organization made him see from the manner in which that was done, how it happened that that particular Commanding Officer never could get the duty properly carried on. The point lies in the want of perception that the exercise of right command, is as much a duty as that of right obedience. It was in fact, from a military point of view, an extreme piece of arrogance for an officer to apologise at all. It was not in his personal capacity that he was giving the order, but as a soldier whose duty it was to give it.

There is in the country a sort of notion of discipline which I believe more than anything else, makes men like Mr. Freeman and others talk as if it went without the saying, that the peace service of soldiers could do nothing but mischief to them and to their neighbours. "*Hoc volo, sic jubeo, stet pro ratione voluntas*," "I chose this, I will have it so, the more senseless my wish the more shall you yield." That is the sort of notion which I find among my friends, of the ordinary relationship between superiors and inferiors in the English Army as in

every army. What nonsense they must have thought Lord Shaftesbury's generous letter about obedience." I would venture to draw your attention to the fact that the sentence I have quoted from the bitterest of all satirists—who, since he belonged to the nation which conquered the world, must have had some idea of what soldiering then was—was applied by him to a petulant and debauched woman desiring the death of her slave, and not to any soldier; and that the record we all know of Roman discipline is that of one conscious that he was set "under authority," and on that account, and by virtue of that only, having under him those to whom he said "go," and they went.

If anyone who does not know the English Army doubts that that is the spirit in which duty has always been carried on in it, I would ask him to turn to that record which is for all English soldiers, the sure reference book for study of discipline, the one for the completion and perfecting of which, the world owes so much to your Grace. He will find there one curious fact. While for a cause which is therein most carefully recorded, namely, the necessity for not letting the enemy know when you have a secret, he who was the conqueror never assigns the reason for any tactical movement; on the other hand, no order on points of discipline is ever issued without the clearest explanation as to the reason for it, or without the order being given in such a manner that every one to whom it was addressed must have distinctly understood that the Duke considered it his duty to give that order as much as it was theirs to obey it.

I venture to think that the faculty for so giving an order as to leave that impression, is the most valuable one which any soldier could urge you to cultivate.

But to proceed. The fact that the giving of an order is a duty, involves the further consideration, that it is a duty to see that order carried out. The petulant dame may ten minutes hence change her mind and wish her slave not dead after all. The soldier whose duty it is to be obeyed, cannot afford ever to give an order which he will not remember to have given, and over the full execution of which will not watch. Not only not so much because it is important that the particular thing should be done, as because any single instance in which an order is not obeyed, makes those under him feel doubtful whether he seriously intends to enforce any order. I think that it is this necessity for combining with it the fullest possible confidence in all subordinates who are worthy of it, which makes the long association of men together who are in war to work together, so valuable. The Duke's orders in the Peninsula, if you trace them carefully, are in this respect one of the most wonderful studies I know. When any case comes before him, he first decides the particular matter on its merits; then he draws from the data which are supplied to him inferences as to the manner in which various orders wholly unconnected with the immediate matter in hand are being carried out. Yet the whole is done with the most perfect straightforwardness simply on the data necessarily laid before him.

Perhaps the next point to which I shall refer will make the possibility of this supervision without suspicion, more evident. There are from the very nature of the case two classes of things to be done. One class, like my favourite polishing of buckles, in which the thing itself is of comparatively little importance, and in which it gains its whole value from the manner in which it sets the

machinery of organization in motion; the other, the instances of which are very rare in peace and very common in war, in which the thing to be done, is of so much importance that it must be done, at the moment, no matter if even the manner of doing it gives something of a jar to the usual arrangement. Of the latter class, the most perfect instance perhaps occurs alike at peace and in war, when, as always has happened hitherto, at the moment at which a field gun is to be brought into action, the gunners are panting in the distance far behind, and Generals and their staffs jump down to push forward the weapon to the all important point. In cases like that, where previous precautions for efficiency having been neglected, the mischief has to be remedied at all cost, at the fatal moment of course no one can be out of place in lending a hand to get all that can be done, done, and Generals must be ready, as they ever have been, even to do work which a ploughman, were he only there, could probably better perform. But the cases when such costly waste of labour are necessary in peace time are happily very rare. That to which I want to draw your attention is the other case. That being not one of emergency, the mere simple peace duty tends to send the life blood flowing through the whole organization, if you take the right way of doing it, and you may help to throw it all out of gear by just taking the wrong way. Let me illustrate. You have to inspect, as we ordinarily say, a certain number of men—that is, you have to see that they have turned out with their accoutrements in proper order. The sergeant in immediate charge of them has reported to the sergeant-major, (a) who has reported to you that all his correct. You inspect them, and find that some man has appeared on parade improperly dressed in some respect—with a dirty buckle, if you like. What are you going to do? To find fault first of all, and most gravely, with the man who certainly ought to have cleaned his buckle? Well, look what you will have done if you do that. First of all you will have told the sergeant who was responsible that the man turned out properly upon parade, as clearly as if you had put it into so many words to him, "I don't care in the least that you should do your duty. I shall do my best in future, as I have done now, to dispense with your services and to use my own eyes." If he is a good soldier, proud of being responsible for his own men, and of seeing that they are properly turned out, you will have utterly disgusted him by ignoring him, even though he made the slip of noticing the man. If he is a bad sergeant he will quietly calculate that as far as you are concerned, he need trouble no further to do his duty, for he knows you have no intention of looking after him. Secondly, precisely the same calculation will have taken place in your sergeant-major's (a) mind, and not only will the strictness with which he will look after that sergeant suffer, but so far as you are concerned he will lose all interest in, and all care to make any of the sergeants under him, do their duty.

But supposing you have reversed the process and spoken to the man who was actually and directly responsible to you—the sergeant-major, (a) Your remonstrance need, if he is at all a decent man, be very slight. Possibly if he is a man who knows what it is to be proud of seeing that the non-commissioned officers under him do their duty, he will take the whole blame upon himself, and will simply tell you that it shan't occur

(a) Or "colour-sergeant."

again. What have you then done? That one little word directed to the right man instead of the wrong one, has had all these effects. Not only will that sergeant who neglected to report to the sergeant-major (a) know well that the sergeant-major will look very sharp after him, another time but every sergeant will know that the sergeant-major has had his eyes sharpened by having made a slip. Every private will know very soon that all these non-commissioned officers have been by this means awakened to a much sharper attention to their duties. Nor, unless things are in a very bad condition, will the effect be only on such small matters as buckles; for the sergeant-major, and, therefore, the sergeants will have been aroused to look after all their duties, and which is the most important of all, you will thus to a considerable extent have produced an effect on those matters on which your eye could directly never fall.

I remember having once said something of this kind by way of explaining to a friend the kind of interest which our work had in it, upon which he said, "Yes, and then your system comes down with the whole pressure of everybody on the poor private." Exactly the reverse is really the case. Take the instance I have put. If you notice the private's conduct only to himself, man will run the chance of escaping your eye, which is the only one, as you have taken care they shall understand, which will be over them. How are you to stop this but by endeavouring to get an occasional example made, and one certain to be an unfair one. On the other hand, if you have succeeded in making your non-commissioned officers do their duty, the irregularity will have been prevented in most cases, and the very slightest fault-finding on most occasions will be sufficient. Moreover, you will have trained yourself in a habit inestimably valuable under present conditions of warfare, that of having your orders carried out through the active instead of the merely passive agency of others.

I could enlarge much on this subject, and of course what is true of these the lower ranks of the Army, is equally true in a far higher degree as you ascend upwards. It depends entirely on how far you succeed in establishing such a system of making each rank do its own work and no one else's whether you do or do not get things into healthy order by our peace service for war. I have no kind of doubt that it was some such process of a definite system of graduated authority and work "established and well understood," as the Duke said of it in his letter to Sir John Burgoyne, that Prochu referred when he spoke of "peace making Armies efficient, and war tending to impair their efficiency."

I am very far from intending to suggest that it is advisable to keep the privates at a distance from you. On the contrary, in relation to any matter in which your non-commissioned officers have done their duty so far as using their eyes is concerned, I should say that there is yet another matter in which you have to guide them, that of the manner of dealing with their men. Sir Thomas Acland, speaking of non-commissioned officers, and, if I remember rightly, of Officers also, complains that they have, as a rule, singularly little "teaching faculty." I strongly suspect that an Oxford first-class man is likely to know more about the right method of teaching in general than most of us do, and that we are very foolish if we do

(a) Or "colour-sergeant."

not try to learn all we can as to method from the experience of our great national educational bodies. But there is one matter in which I would venture to join issue. The teaching of individuals as individuals is only incidentally our work. The very fact that so highly educated a man, and so zealous a Volunteer, speaks as if that was the main business of Officers or non-commissioned officers, shows that we have, as to the essential nature of our own business, something to teach our teachers. An old soldier some 300 years ago, took for his motto one which has been very powerful certainly, for at this moment the conqueror of Europe is struggling almost in vain against the society which was found upon it. Yet the motto of the Jesuits, "the death of the individual in order that the society may live," is far less potent than our true military motto, which is the life of the individual in order that the society may live." Life is likely to be more potent than death, but the life must be expended "in order that the society may live." It is the habit of looking to this before all things in the training of yourself and of your men, which it is so difficult to acquire.

Let me take a simple instance; I confess I like best to take the most common ones. A Commanding Officer of a Volunteer corps once told me that he could always keep his men silent on parade, because as long as they were at drill, he kept changing formations so smartly that they had no time to talk. Now, in so far as that meant that he was a good drill, I am quite sure that his knowing his own work well had an excellent effect upon his men. But in so far as it was a trick by which he made them fancy that they were very well disciplined when in reality they would have chattered if they could, he did them thereby, not good, but distinct mischief. That which was important was, not that they should be then silent, but that they should command themselves as far as to remain silent. The object with us is always the ulterior, in preference to the immediate one,—the training of each man to take a certain place, not the teaching him a certain lesson, or the achievement of a certain task.

So far from its being always advisable to make it seem the easiest thing in the world to men to do their duty, there are times when the kindest thing you can do, is to make them feel distinctly that it is not easy and then to confront them with the simple appeal to duty itself. I have spoken of this in connection with the question of personal relationship with the privates, because for my own part I have always found that the thing which Englishmen like best is, that you should speak to them as if you understood the difficulties of the particular situation in which they are, and then, as if the very fact that those difficulties exist, ought to make them proud to overcome them.

But I must pause. If I followed on in this vein I should, as I told you, be commencing a literature; and I have yet some things which I must say as to the application of these and a thousand kindred things, to your own special conditions.

I do not mean to say much under that head, because, as I told you at the beginning, I do not know enough of all your circumstances to be able to do so. But, in so far as an outsider who is also a very cordial well wisher, has some advantages in viewing your position, I would venture to say this. Your Inspector-General told you last week that from an examination and individual knowledge point of view, you yourselves had by your own voluntary action done by

far the largest part of all that has been done to render you efficient. I cannot help thinking that in relation to the matters which I have brought before you to-night, the same rule must obtain. As it has been well said in a passage to which I have already alluded, you must do by "conscious motive. Officers and privates working by free consent towards a common end," that which we acquire by habit. How far the substitution is possible I do not know, and I think if I believed it to be easier than I do, I should be more disposed to say it behind your backs than here. I do think the greatest compliment we can pay you is to tell you of your difficulties. But this I will say, that there is no historical proof whatever that if you choose, you cannot succeed. As for the Mobiles, I can answer from conversations I had with many of them in Le Mans very soon after that campaign, that many, if not most of them, had never fired a shot in their lives; you, however, shoots well. I dare say many of you know that narrative of the time by one of Gambetta's perfects which appeared in "Fraser." From it it is very apparent that they were as unwilling to serve as they were incompetent to do so. I confess I do not know of any precedent whatever for the existence during a period of apparently profound tranquility of a body of 160,000 men who genuinely and voluntarily set themselves to do their utmost to prepare themselves for what may come.

Of the Volunteers of 1805, Sir Charles Napier's opinion was that "two millions of them were," as he pithily expresses it, "all right;" and I cannot see why as for as your part of the matter goes, you should not be if you choose as effective whenever war breaks out as they were in 1805. But to that end two things before all others will then be necessary.

One, that you should distinctly understand this: that, splendid as the fact is that such a body of men as you are should have thus voluntarily sacrificed your convenience, the value of the sacrifice depends on your not so piquing yourselves on having made it, as that the first time you meet with someone who makes a mistake in dealing with you you recall your surrender. That was the fatal error which rendered useless the Spanish Armies. They, unlike the Mobiles, had all the enthusiasm and intention to be self-devoted that you would have. But we have indisputable authority for saying that that very enthusiasm in the form it took, was the greatest curse. Every one who had to obey an order that was unpleasant to him, or in which he thought he detected error, imagined that his own sacrifices to his country had been so sublime already, that he need not add such an one as this to them, and he neglected it. Every one who had to give an order, thought he might order anything, no matter how useless or impossible, because of this enthusiasm. Yet he never thought it right to enforce its execution. How could he deal sharply with such noble enthusiasts? I am far from saying that you are at all like the common-sense Englishmen, to make these mistakes. But there is constantly, I think, among men who have not shaken into their places in a great organization, a tendency to imagine that everybody's duty towards them is to be quite perfect in all they do, and then that they will themselves do very well. When you look at the thing calmly, I need hardly tell you that whoever imagines that, imagines that he is entering a paradise or a millenium in which Armies and many other things, doctors and lawyers, for instance, at all events, like the evils they have to oppose, will have vanished away.

The other point is this. You must face the fact that you cannot acquire what we do by our methods. It does seem to me, I confess, the greatest of all mistakes for you to attempt to adopt one uniform system in those matters which are not settled for you by regulation, because we adopt one uniform system. Our lives can be, and are adjusted to it; yours cannot be. But if acting by "conscious motive" you are to arrive at that part of our result which is valuable to you, you must look to the object to be gained, and must take the method which our own circumstances render best adapted for acquiring it. I think you must by much instance, get out of our ablest and best Officers, all that they can give you as the result of their experience as to what the essential objects to be gained are. That done, London cannot distaste to Hereford, nor yet Hereford to Devonshire, how best to apply such experience. But, before all things, do not delude yourselves with the notion that "standing Armies," "mercenaries"—call by what names you please those who definitely devote themselves during peace time to preparation for war—have so often tripped over popular forces without there being any reason for it. The reason is worth seeking for. It does not lie on the surface. The power of Armies is not the "visible thing" that Wordsworth thought it was. There is something actually to be learnt as to the art of creating and working great organizations of men. The triumph of the mercenaries has been due to a more real and actual self-surrender to the common end—to a more perfect development of unity and absorption of the powers of all into it. And the process which tends to bring about this result, is often going on here in England in peace-time when you least suspect it. Do not imagine that because you are staying for a month with that regiment of cavalry or infantry, or with that battery of artillery, and nothing, as it seems to you, is going on that can tend towards efficiency, that therefore nothing is really going on. Linen has been washed clean, but we don't go into highways and market places to proclaim that the process of washing dirty linen is going on. The more efficiency is produced by a healthy system, the less will you hear of it. So much so is this the case, that one of the most zealous of soldiers said to me a short time ago, "Don't you sometimes wish for a profession in which you could feel you had something to show for what you do, were it only a big hole you had had dug." But I think he made answer to himself, "No, after all the best peace work is that, even in that which seems so contemptible, the getting of buckles polished, we can be preparing a genuine efficiency, and yet by no power on earth can anyone else tell by mere inspection whether the cleaning of the buckles did tend towards efficiency, or was punished up for a false pretence that it might look well."

OUR FORTIFICATIONS

We are neither jealous of our neighbours on the south of us nor do we hate them. But, while we can appeal to our whole journalistic record to testify to our friendly feelings towards our neighbors, we have never believed, and do not believe, even now, in these piping times of peace, that the millenium has come, or that it would be wise for our nation entirely to disarm, unless the conviction that all the rest of the continent

would follow the good example thus kindly set. We have never thought that it was a wise policy for nations in times of peace to exhaust themselves in preparation for war, and having all the expenditure of actual hostilities, except the mere slaughter, without any of their excitement. The nations of Europe have been, for the last fifty years and more, following this suicidal policy, with what results every one knows. It is not the mere army in the field that forms a nation's strength, but the free, prosperous, and vigorous people that is behind the army. In every hand and death struggle that mighty popular reserve will always mark the character and extent of the national strength. It is long since an Indian potentate said that it was not what he saw of England's power that he feared, that it was what he did not see. What Britain and other free nations have to fear from large hireling armies is the first dash after hostilities have been declared. To guard against that, a certain amount of military force and defensive fortifications are necessary. This is true even of Canada, with a friendly and a kindred people on the other side of the lines. Do people tell us that there never will be war between two such nations as Great Britain and the United States? We sincerely hope and believe there never will. But we don't feel it to be wise even in times so propitious as the present to strip ourselves of every defence. We all wish to keep up our Militia in a state of efficiency. If so, it would seem to follow, as a matter of course, that we must keep our fortifications as well in the same condition. It is but a short time since the best available military skill devised these fortifications, and for what purpose? Not to defend particular localities, but to afford our native and auxiliary soldiery favourable strategical points at which to make a stand with some hope of success. We think those who devised these means of defence were inclined to underrate the courage and resources of Canadians when they said that Ontario would have to be given up in case of invasion, without striking a blow. Still, it is as well to have the benefit of the best skill; and when lines of defence against possible disasters have been formed not ten years ago, it would be the silliest of all infatuations to allow them to go to ruin under the fond persuasion that the time of war was for ever past, and that what eight years ago was a stern reality will never be so again till the world's end. Our voice has never been for war; but we are as little enamoured by the Utopian delusion of "Peace at any price." No defence, it has often been said, is our best defence. The fallacy and falsehood of such a statement are manifest enough. We need not turn our country into an entrenched camp; but with such an extent of frontier, and with such elements as we saw so lately on the other side actively fermenting in the shape of Fenianism, we cannot afford to fold our hands and say to all who choose—"Strike and welcome." To exhaust our resources in vain attempts at gigantic army-making or in building huge and unyielding fortifications would be folly in the extreme; but it would be a folly even more transparent, and quite as culpable, to take it for granted that nations had now become too prudent and too peaceful ever again to seek a quarrel with each other, so that any arrangement against aggression would be an impertinence, since the possibility of such aggression had for ever passed away.—*Toronto Globe* 29th April.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

PROGRAMME OF THE OPENING MATCHES AT THE CREEDMOOR RANGE.

The Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association held a meeting yesterday afternoon at the office of H. A. Gildersleeve, in the Bennet Building. Colonel Church presided, Colonel Gildersleeve acting as secretary. Among those present were Generals McMahon, Shaler, Woodward, and Molineux; Colonels Story, Wingate, and Camp; Captain Casey and Major Smith. General McMahon reported a balance of \$300 in the treasury. He also reported that \$7,500 had been appropriated by the Legislature, and that \$5,000 was expected from the municipal authorities in a short time. Letters were read from Major Laing on behalf of the Seventy-ninth Regiment, and Col. Emmons Clark, from the Seventh Regiment, asking what measures were necessary to acquire land for building purposes on the range at Creedmoor. The range Committee who had been considering that subject, reported a set of specifications and conditions under which such leases could be obtained. They require that all plans be submitted to them, and no use of liquors will be allowed at any time on the range; no other use than a shooting-lodge is to be made of the proposed houses. Colonel Wingate reported the following programme for opening matches of the Association for 1874 to take place at Creedmoor June 6, 1874:

MATCH FIRST.—DIRECTORS' MATCH.

Ten A. M.—Targets, 1—2; 200 yards; position, standing; any military rifle; five scoring and two sighting shots. Open to directors and honorary directors of National Rifle Association. Prize, gold badge presented by the Board of Directors, to be shot for annually and held by the winner during the year.

MATCH SECOND.—TURF, FIELD AND FARM BADGE.

Ten A. M.—Target, 3—10; open to members of National Rifle Association; weapon, any breech-loader within the rules; distance 200 yards; position, standing; five scoring and two sighting shots. First prize, Turf, Field and Farm badge, to be held subject to competition, and \$15 in money, presented by the Association; second prize, life membership in the National Rifle Association, which may be transferrable by the winner if desired, third prize, cash, \$15; fourth prize, cash, \$10; fifth prize, cash, \$5; sixth prize, cash, \$5.

MATCH THIRD.—MILITARY MATCH.

Eleven A. M.—Targets, 1—19, open to members of the National Rifle Association only, distance, 200 yards, weapon, any military rifle, five scoring and two sighting shots. First prize, gold badge, presented by National Rifle Association, value \$30; second prize, life membership in the National Rifle Association, transferrable if desired; third prize, cash, \$25; fourth prize, cash, \$10, fifth prize, cash, \$5; sixth prize, cash, \$5.

MATCH FOURTH.

Half past one P. M.—Targets, 1—19; open to members of the National Rifle Association only; distance 500 yards; weapon, any military rifle; seven scoring and two sighting shots. First prize, gold badge, presented by the Association, value, \$30; second prize, life membership in National Rifle Association, transferrable if so chosen, third prize, cash, \$15; fourth prize, cash, \$13; fifth prize, cash, \$5; sixth prize, cash \$5.

MATCH FIFTH.—REMINGTON DIAMOND BADGE.

Three P. M.—Targets, 1—20; open to members of the National Rifle Association; any rifle; distance, 500, 800, and 1,000 yards; the twenty making the highest score at 500 yards to compete at 300, and the eight highest at 800 to compete at 1,000 yards. First prize, the Remington Diamond badge, to be held subject to competition, and \$10 cash; second prize, life membership in the National Rifle Association, transferrable; third prize, cash \$10; fourth prize, cash \$5; fifth prize, cash, \$5.

On motion of General Shaler the military officers named in the recent act for promoting rifle practice were admitted as ex-officio members of the Board. Letters suggesting changes in the mode of conducting matches were read from Major Partridge and Colonel Clark and referred to the range Committee. Badges were ordered for the President, officers, and those employed by the Association.—From the *N. Y. World* May 6th 1874.

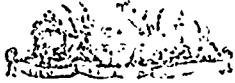
INGERSOLL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Ingersoll Rifle Association, for the election of officers, &c., was held at McMurray's hotel on Friday evening. The following officers were elected for 1874:—President.—George Galloway. Treasurer.—R. A. Woodcock. Secretary.—R. Y. Ellis. Assistant Secretary.—M. B. Holcroft. The progress which the Association has made during the past years is best illustrated by the following statement, submitted by the Secretary at the meeting:—In 1870 two matches were held, the amount of prizes given being \$164 90. In 1871 four matches were held, the amount of prizes given \$293. In 1872 four matches were held, the amount of prizes given \$382.25, being an increase over the first year of \$343 35. The satisfactory manner in which these matches were conducted has ranked them among the best in the Province. The Association intend having a match on the 25th inst., when a number of prizes will be offered.—*Ingersoll Chronicle*.

A Paris correspondent of one of the London papers tells the following:—"A sad incident took place yesterday in the church-yard of Grosbois, a village outside Paris. The body of a child was about to be lowered into the grave when the supposed corpse was heard to groan. The mother pounced on the coffin and reached off the lid with a pair of scissors which she had in her pocket. 'Mon dieu' cried she, 'my sun lives—ho's alive—he's saved!' And taking the poor little shrouded body in her arms, she bathed it with her tears and kisses. But her joy was brief. The child made a movement, and uttering another feeble groan, threw back its head—and died. The mother gazed on the corpse with haggard eyes, and then clasped it to her breast with despair, and for a few moments her whole body was convulsed. Suddenly she fell to the ground as if struck by lightning, and, when recovered from her swoon, she had become insane."

An historical curiosity has just been placed in the museum of the Invalides, namely, the suit of armour which Charles VII presented to Joan of Arc, and which the heroine went to deposit at St. Denis after having been wounded under the walls of Paris. It is composed of steel plates, weighs about fifty pounds, and in every respect resembles the one in the Pierrefonds collection, which the Maid of Orleans wore at the moment when she fell into the power of the enemy in making a sortie from Compiègne.

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1874.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words "Printer's copy" written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

LIEUT. J. B. VINTER, of Victoria, is our authorised Agent for Vancouver Island, British Columbia. As is also Captain H. V. EDMONDS for New Westminster and adjacent country.

The member for South Grenville, Dr. Brouse, deserves the thanks of all British soldiers for bringing under the notice of Government the claims of those gallant veterans who have fought to uphold British supremacy on this continent in the war of 1812-15, was one of the most gallant contests which the military history of any age or people records—and the very prominent part borne in it by the Canadian militia deserves special attention.

It is true that most of those gallant soldiers who jeopardized their lives for their country have passed away without any public acknowledgment of the great services they have rendered their country, many yet remain amongst us, and we trust there will

be no lack of substantial appreciation now or of due honor hereafter as an incentive to their sons and grandsons on whom devolves the honor of keeping the "glorious name of British freemen unsullied and intact." When we contrast the honors heaped on those who recently vindicated British honor against a savage potentate with the cold neglect accorded the heroes who preserved Canadian independence, British supremacy on this continent, and the integrity of the Empire, we must confess that the soldier's services are better appreciated now than then, but it is also an incentive to us to deal justly with those who have been totally neglected.

There are yet some of the old soldiers of 1812 amongst us, men of whom any country should be proud, Colonel JARVIS (late Judge) of Cornwall and others, and those who have rendered distinguished services though they have passed away should not be forgotten. Old claims on the country ought to be entertained, because a debt can never lapse till it is honorably discharged, and one of the very first of those is that of the heirs of the late Lieut. Colonel BOUCHETTE. A claim founded it is true upon an absolute contract and therefore of the strongest character, but one which also borrows lustre from the military and naval services of Col. BOUCHETTE during the war of 1812-15 referred to by Dr. Brouse.

It is not necessary to enter into a recapitulation of the claims of his heirs, they are well known to the readers of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, and are of such a character as leaves it a matter of astonishment to the men outside that they should ever have been ignored. Old party antipathies have, however, passed away, the civilized world has happily arrived at that state of feeling that a man can love his neighbor and respect his prejudices, and, therefore, as this generation has nothing to do with the misdeeds of the past, we hope those claims will be looked into and at least partially satisfied.

With respect to appropriate rewards for those veterans whose claims Dr. Brouse has so effectually advocated, it is barely possible that some of them may be satisfied by a pecuniary gift, but it would appear to us that a medal or some appropriate decoration should be awarded with distinctive honorary rank in the Canadian army, to such survivors of the gallant band that defended successfully Canadian independence and the integrity of the British Empire in the war of 1812-15.

The *Toronto Globe*, of the 29th April, has given the people of Canada an article on "Our Fortifications," which is deserving of their most serious attention, inasmuch as hitherto it was supposed that Journal was indifferent or hostile to the views of those who looked on the question of National Defence, in a Military point of view, to be provided for during a season of peace.

We look upon this article as so entirely disposing of the question, and in such accord with its true statesmanlike consideration, that we have reproduced it for the benefit of our readers, and commend its true spirit and conclusions to their consideration; and especially to those of the "Peace at any Price party," (happily few in number) who are to be found amongst us—especially as it points out amongst other delusions that of depending upon outside aid or advice in favoring a system of defence for Canada. The misapprehension which has arisen on this subject and which has hitherto so seriously impeded the progress of our military organization, is to be traced to the fact to which the *Globe* refers. A distinguished Imperial officer having been called on to devise and Report on a system of defence for Canada, tacitly admitted that the Western Peninsula was defenceless, and that consequently the retention of the remainder of the country and its preservation from conquest was a mere question of expediency in which the people were not concerned. His assumptions (for they were no better) was based on the fact that only 25,000 Imperial soldiers could be spared for the defence of Canada, and the actual field force therefore would be only about 6000 men—the Canadian militia as a force was totally ignored—his system beginning at Quebec and ending at Kingston.

The most superficial acquaintance with the history of Canada would shew that regular troops trained in Great Britain to totally different conditions of warfare are almost practically useless in Canada; not only could we name instances in which they have been beaten by a much inferior force to the Canadian militia and themselves in every way, but we would challenge the whole course of history to shew in what instance since the battle on the heights of Abraham, one hundred and fifteen years ago, they have ever achieved a success on Canadian soil unless aided by the Canadian militia, while some of the most signal victories gained war when the latter were merely supported by the regular soldiers. The same history will also shew that the Western Peninsula is not only easily defended, but is especially the most difficult of all our extensive frontiers to invade.

It is not at all necessary to bring specialists from the British army to enlighten Canadian officers on a question with which they are necessarily more familiar than strangers can possibly be, and while we respect scientific attainments and experience, we know the former is not confined to the Royal Engineers, and we can only safely take the latter when it has been acquired under conditions exactly similar to our own.

In every position taken by the *Globe* in the article referred to, we heartily agree, and we hope our contemporary will go further and advocate the establishment of a Quarter-master General's Department, by which

efficient Staff Corps can be organized to carry out the far seeing and enlightened measures the present Administration have intimated they were about to pursue in the question of national defence.

It is to be devoutly hoped that the present session will not be allowed to close before the accomplishment of so desirable an object is effected.

We commence in this issue the republication of the "Report on the State of the Militia," by the acting Adjutant General Lieut. Colonel WALKER POWELL, and our readers will be delighted with the concise, able, practical and well considered suggestions it contains. The returns of the number of the active force that put in the annual drill for a part of the fiscal year 1873-4 is nearly 20,000 officers and men, and subsequent returns will shew that out of a nominal force of less than 43,000 over 36,000 will have answered the call of duty in this respect, we should say thoroughly creditable to any force, because it shews that the Canadian militia can muster in proportion to strength a greater number of effectives than any other army. The appendices contain much valuable information, especially the "Memoranda relating to the Military Educational Systems of England, France, Prussia and the United States of America."

Below will be found the General Orders relating to the Staff College for the British army. The course of training is undoubtedly calculated to produce highly educated and scientific officers, but there is a great danger in over doing this portion of a soldier's education, and it is to be feared that "clever" young officers will be more appreciated for their sparkling qualities than for their solid attainments. The tendency in the British army is to push forward the younger officers and to depreciate men whose whole lives have been devoted to acquiring the practical knowledge of their profession. The military history of every country is fraught with examples of the evils of this course, especially that of Great Britain between the times of Marlborough and Wellington. As we are about to embark on a Staff College Scheme of our own, it will not be amiss to publish the curriculum of that of the regular army.

THE STAFF COLLEGE.

The Adjutant-General of the Forces, Sir RICHARD ARMY, has issued, by command, the subjoined general order:—

"The accompanying revised regulations for the Staff College are promulgated for the information and guidance of officers of the army, and are substituted for those issued with G. O. 41 of 1860.

"1. The Staff College is open to officers of all arms of the Service, and shall consist of forty students, admission to the college being determined by a competitive examination. Only one officer at a time can belong to the college from a battalion of infantry or a regiment of cavalry, and only ten officers at a time from the two corps of Royal Artillery

and Royal Engineers; but, so far as the exigencies of the Service shall permit, there will be no limitation to the number allowed to compete for admission. Every application to study at the Staff College must be made while the officer making it is present and serving with his regiment, through the commanding officer. No application from an officer on leave will be entertained.

"2. Twenty vacancies will be offered for competition annually, three of which may be filled by officers of the Royal Artillery and two by officers of the Royal Engineers, provided they are among the twenty candidates highest on the list. The principle under which officers are allowed to enter the Staff College being that of pure competition, it follows that candidates who may be found qualified at any examination, but who, from want of a sufficient number of vacancies, cannot then be admitted, will not have any claim to subsequent admission without undergoing another competitive examination.

"3. No payment is required from students to the funds of the college beyond an entrance fee of £3 for an unmarried and £1 10s for a married officer, as a contribution to the college mess funds in addition to the regulated quarterly subscription, and an entrance subscription of three guineas to the college library.

"4. The qualifications requisite for admission are:—(a) A service of not less than five years previous to examination, exclusive of leave of absence (this is not to apply to the usual leave of absence annually granted to officers); (b) a certificate from his commanding officer that the candidate is in every respect a thorough regimental officer; (c) a confidential report (in answer to specific questions) regarding the character, habits, and disposition of the candidate, and his general qualifications for employment on the staff. These questions are to be confidently answered by a board, consisting of the commanding officer and the two next senior officers of the candidate's regiment, (d) a certificate that the candidate, if not a captain, has passed the examination of a troop or company; (e) a medical certificate of good health and fitness for the active duties of the staff.

"5. Commanding officers of regiments will, in every case, forward applications for admission to the Staff College, through the general officer in command, to the adjutant general.

"6. Every candidate, before being admitted to the entrance examination, will, if practicable, be attached for a month to the staff of a general officer commanding a brigade or division, who at the expiration of this period will report confidentially upon the candidate's general fitness for staff employment.

"7. The competitive examination for entrance to the Staff College comprises the following subjects, the relative value of each at the examination being shown by the number of marks attached to it:—

	Marks.
Mathematics, limited to arithmetic, algebra, geometry, plain trigonometry, and elementary mechanics	900
Military history and geography	900
French	300
German	300
Hindustanee	300
Fortification	600
Military drawing	300
Geology, exclusive of mineralogy	300
Chemistry, heat, electricity, and magnetism	300

A qualification will be exacted from every candidate in mathematics. Four hundred

marks will be allotted to arithmetic, the first four books of Euclid, and algebra as far as simple equations inclusive; and of this number at least 250 must be obtained for qualification. 2. Either French, German, or Hindustanee. The qualifying minimum is, in French, 150 marks; in German or Hindustanee, 100 marks. 3. Elementary field fortification. One third of 150 marks, to be assigned to a simple paper, will be required as the qualification in this subject.

"8. The remaining subjects, as well as the higher portion of mathematics, may be taken up or not, at the option of the candidate, the marks gained therein and in the obligatory subject after deducting sixty from the marks gained in each voluntary subject, being reckoned in determining his position in the list of competitors.

"9. In regard to military history, early notice will on each occasion be given of the special campaigns on which questions will be set at the next ensuing examination.

"10. The examination of officers serving in the United Kingdom for entrance to the Staff College is held in London about the month of July, under the direction of the Director General of Military Education

"11. In the case of officers serving abroad the examination is conducted by means of the same printed questions as are set for the examination of candidates in London. These questions are to be answered in writing in the presence of a board of officers, which will be appointed by the general officer in command, and which will certify that the candidate has obtained no assistance from books or help of any kind in the examination.

"12. Notice will be given of each examination, and detailed instructions will be published annually in the General Orders of the Army. Candidates are recommended to obtain the reports of the past examinations for admission, with copies of the examination papers, published by Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street.

"13. The college course of study commences annually on or about the 1st of Feb. The transmission of the printed examination papers to stations abroad is so arranged that the examinations may be held simultaneously; and the merits of the candidates decided upon in time to admit of those who are successful joining the Staff College by the 1st of February next ensuing.

"14. A synopsis of the course of study will be forwarded to any officer on application to the Director General of Military Education, War Office.

"15. The following are the subjects of instruction at the Staff College, viz:—Obligatory.—1. Fortification and field engineering. 2. Artillery. 3. Topographical drawing, military surveying and sketching, road marking, or photography. 4. Reconnaissance. 5. Military art, history, and geography. 6. Military administration and laws. 7. French, or German, or Hindustanee. 8. Military telegraphy and signalling. 9. Riding. Every officer at the end of the first year shall be required to pass a qualifying examination in practical mathematics, comprising mensuration; the mode of determining heights and distances by ground problems, and by the ordinary trigonometrical calculations with the aid of logarithms, the use of the sextant, and elementary mechanics. This examination, however, shall have no influence upon the final classification of officers. Instruction in mathematics, to the above extent, shall be afforded to such officers as may require it during the first year; beyond this point mathematics shall cease to form part of the course of obligatory instruction at the college. Voluntary.—1. The two languages not

selected as obligatory. 2. Geology, exclusive of mineralogy. 3. Experimental sciences. Officers desirous of showing their proficiency in any or all of the above subjects as well as in modern languages and landscape drawing, may be examined therein, and a special report of their qualifications in each subject will be made to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, provided they obtain three-fifths of the maximum allotted to that subject; but they will not be allowed to count any marks thus gained at the final examination.

"16. The course of study occupies two years, which period is not to be exceeded except in case of illness, and then only with the sanction of the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief. The commandant, in arranging the details of the course of instruction, will be assisted by a college board composed of the professors.

"17. The yearly course is divided into terms—viz., from the 1st of February to the 15th of July, and from the 1st of September to the 15th of December, the intervening periods constituting the vacations.

"18. Confidential reports as to the character and abilities of every officer at the college, and his qualifications for staff employment, will be forwarded at the end of every term by the commandant to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, and any student who is reported unlikely to make an efficient staff officer will be required to leave the college. Examinations are held at the end of every half year; the summer examinations being conducted by the professors of the college, and the winter examinations by examiners independent of the establishment.

"19. The examination at the end of the second term is probationary, and any student will be required to withdraw from the college who shall fail to obtain a *minimum* aggregate of marks, to be fixed by the commandant, with the approval of the Director General of Military Education. The marks gained at this examination will not be carried on to the credit of students at the final examination.

"20. Should, moreover, any marked case of deficiency or neglect be brought under the notice of the Director General of Military Education at any half yearly examination or at any other period, the student so reported will be liable to removal.

FINAL EXAMINATION.

"21. At the end of the second year a final examination will be held for the purpose of testing the general proficiency of the students in the obligatory subjects of the college course, as well as the qualifications of other officers who, under paragraph 25, may be admitted to the examination.

"Credit will be given to each subject at the final examination in the following proportions:—

- 1. Fortification, field engineering, and artillery..... 6
- 2. Military drawing & surveying, &c 2½
- 3. Reconnaissance 4½
- 4. Military art, history, & geography 6
- 5. { Military administration 4
- { Military law 2
- 6. French, German, or Hindustanee 4

"22. In the examination in modern languages, great stress will be laid on original composition and on colloquial knowledge.

"23. For qualification the students will be required to obtain fifty-five on the aggregate allotted to the six obligatory subjects mentioned in Article 21, the counting *minimum* in each subject being four. For 'honors' they must gain '8 on that aggregate of

marks. For 'special mention' in any subject '9 must be obtained.

"24. After the final examination the Director General of Military Education will draw up and submit to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief a list of the passed candidates, arranged in the order of seniority, of their requirements, distinguishing those who have gained 'honors.'

"25. Officers of all branches of the Service shall be allowed to pass the final examination at the Staff College (subject to the following restrictions), without having gone through the course of instruction at the college. Candidates presenting themselves for the final examination without having gone through the course of instructions must have a previous service of seven years, and similar qualifications in other respects to those exacted (in Article 4) from candidates for admission to the Staff College. Previous to the time appointed for the final examination they must reside at the college for such period, in the months of October and November, as may be necessary to allow of their taking part in the examination in reconnaissance, and of their being tested under the direction of the commandant in the 'practical' subjects of instruction at the college. They must also pass the qualifying examination in practical mathematics and examination in riding.

"26. Officers who have passed their final examination at the Staff College will either—1. Be attached for three months, during the following drill-season, to the staff of a general officer at some camp where all the three arms of the Service are present. During this period they shall be regularly employed as acting staff officers, and shall be required to make themselves acquainted with the organization of the several arms, and with the combined movement of troops. At the end of three months a confidential report shall be forwarded by the general officer, stating minutely their abilities, the manner in which they have performed their duties, and the department of the staff for which they appear to be most fit; or, 2. Be attached during the following summer drill season, to other arms of the Service, for the purpose of acquiring instruction in those duties and field movements which are not common to their own. Certificates of their efficiency therein will be forwarded to the adjutant-general by officers commanding the corps to which they have been attached. Officers of cavalry and infantry will attend at Woolwich, or such other station as may be named, for instruction in artillery for a period of two months. Officers of cavalry will be attached to infantry for two months. Officers of artillery, horse artillery excepted, will be attached to cavalry for one month, and officers of Engineers and infantry for two months. Officers of artillery and engineers will not be required to be attached to infantry.

"27. Candidates who shall have proved their fitness for employment in the Topographical Department in the War Office, by a superior knowledge of French and German, as well as of topography, will be named in the report of the Director General of Military Education as qualified for employment in that department.

"28. Officers who fail either at the probationary examination or at the final examination, whether they have or have not gone through the course of instruction at the college, will not be allowed to present themselves again, either for admission to the college or at the final examination under article 25."

THEIR EXCELLENCIES PRESENT TO THE GUARDS.

THE HANDSOMEST STAND OF COLORS IN THE DOMINION.

On the 25th inst., their Excellencies the Governor General and Lady Dufferin purpose presenting to the First Battalion of the Governor General's Foot Guards a stand of colors. The presentation can hardly be regarded as a compliment simply to the corps which will possess the handsomest flags, but to the country at large. Since their arrival in Canada, Lord and Lady Dufferin have, on every possible occasion, given practical proof of their desire to be truly their sovereign's representative—to become as intimately acquainted as possible with all classes of the country, and at the same time to maintain that dignity which is essential to a position which for efficiency must command respect. With a Governor less popular than Lord Dufferin, it is probable that a special corps such as the Guards would never have been formed, and therefore we may regard the presentation of colors to them not merely an act of official courtesy, but as a recognition of the estimation in which the country holds him, and of which the formation of the corps is one small mark. The colors were made in England, and in beauty of finish and elegance of design, afford alike evidence of His Lordship's munificence and the maker's skill. In conformity with "Queen's Regulations" for the colors of Infantry, both flags are of silk, three feet deep on the "pike," and three feet nine inches in length. This is exclusive of the fringe, which is of gold and crimson mixed, and between two and a half and three inches in depth. Each pike or staff is nine feet ten inches long, including the Royal crest—the golden lion—by which they are surmounted, and the cords and tassels being gold and silver mixed. The principal—or Queen's color consists of the Union Jack. This is charged with the regimental device which we must fully describe in speaking of the second color. The regimental or second flag is of the same color as the facings of the corps dark blue with the Union Jack in the upper "canton" next the pike. The field is charged with the regimental badge in the centre, a silver star with points corresponding to the number of the Dominion provinces, each point bearing in gold letters the initials of a province, the centre of the star showing the royal monogram V.R., above this stand the regal crown in proper colors scarlet and gold and below the Canadian beaver and a circlet of maple leaves also in proper colors. Around the stars runs a rich wreath of roses, thistles and shamrocks, combined all in natural colors and at the bottom is displayed a gold scroll carrying in black letters the words "Governor General's Foot Guards." We think we are not far wrong in attributing the design to the good taste of the commandant of the corps Col. Ross. The richness of the color may be better conceived when we state that the whole devices are *not painted* on the silk, but embroidered in raised work. Their Excellencies present, will, we feel sured will be duly appreciated by the battalion.—We hope it may be many years before they are displayed on a field of action, but feel equally sure the corps to whom they will be entrusted will never disgrace them—*Citizen*, May 15.

Very destructive bush fires are prevailing in Western New York and Pennsylvania.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the Editor's expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

THE FRENCH CAVALRY—1870.

LETTER NO. 2.

After the futile disaster which attended the first employment of the French cavalry in the war, no one was willing to accept the responsibility of having given the orders which led to so disastrous a result; and as the same misconception of orders happened at Mouzon, at Rezonville, and also at other places (while our own shortcomings at Balaclava are still so fresh in my memory) I cannot do better than give Colonel Bonie's own words; he says: "When an aide-de-camp conveys the order to charge to a cavalry officer, he must not seem in too great a hurry, for the instinctive idea of the officer is to obey at once, without as it were, taking time to reflect, as before all he is afraid of being accused of slowness or cowardice. All this is extremely natural, and if one is not careful to ascertain exactly the object to be gained and also to reconnoitre the ground, you entail the destruction of the troops engaged."

Now the cavalry was sacrificed for what? to save infantry and give it time to retreat—well a small portion of one regiment was saved, but at the cost of three times as many men and horses as there were foot soldiers saved; and there was no retreat but a rout, for the whole *corps d'armee* fled pell mell.

Reichshoffen was the direction taken, at Niedezbroun orders were given to make for Saverne as a rallying point; and officers and soldiers, generals, cannons and waggons all in one disorderly mob, pushed along the road all night, arriving between the 6th and 7th August. Naturally it was expected that now order would be restored, when suddenly the parade call sounded, and the cavalry at once mounted and marched without rest, by Phalsbourg to Sarrobourg; how they were to live was a question which presented itself to the minds of most, for the enemy's country had captured everything at the battles of Wissenbourg and Fraeschwiller; fortunately they excited sympathy from the peasantry who fed them. Arrived at Sarrobourg, regiments were reformed, and returns of killed and wounded sent in—but at midday on the 8th the order was given to saddle and bridle, and retreat to Lunneville; where it was hoped everything required would be supplied—hardly however had the unfortunate and weary troops arrived, when the German cavalry were again upon them, and cooking pots had to be emptied, forage taken from the horses, and bridling up with all haste the retreat continued by Colomboy, Beaumont, Neufchateau, and Joinville—finally the *corps d'armee* of Marshal McMahon reached Chalons on the 20th August.

Now what was the part played by the French Cavalry in this long retreat, simply nil, for they neither obtained information nor fought; it seemed to be a mere trial of speed, the only thought, to escape being cut off.

The route was continually being changed, the rations never came up until a late hour, and were then generally short in quantity. Moreover, owing to the bad habit of not quartering themselves in the villages, they got but little rest. During the month of August it rained incessantly and they had for camping grounds, fields under water. The earth was so soaked, that the picketing pegs had no hold: they had neither shelter nor straw to sleep on, and owing to the heavy rain, could neither light fires, nor dry clothes. The horses were equally miserable. The wind blew away a portion of their scanty rations, and pressing together, with their backs up and their heads out, they endeavoured to protect themselves against the weather. Every morning they were obliged to march, and men and horses left the species of bog in which they were encamped, stiff, tired, and out of spirits. How much better the Germans understood the art of war. Aware of the extreme importance of preserving above all things the strength of their troops, they quartered them on the inhabitants. Immediately on their arrival, the men were housed and the horses put into barns; in this manner they rested and dried themselves, were well fed, and in the best condition to continue the struggle.

By the French system of bivouacking, they imagined they lessened the cost of war for the inhabitants, but such is not the case, for soldiers who have to bivouac, lay hands on all the wood and straw that can be found for cooking and camping purposes. It would therefore be less expensive for a peasant to give a place at his fire, as he would then avoid waste.

Besides all this if you do away with tents you lessen the amount carried by the horse, and could thus get more work out of him, and you would enable him to rest himself by putting him under shelter every night.

The campaign is about to enter a fresh phase, but before giving a description of it, we will discuss the part played by the cavalry in the battles around Metz.

VIEILLE MOUTACHE.

THE MILITARY COLLEGE.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir,—Could you give your readers some information as to the West Point School, its history and results? I think that in view of the Military College which is about to be established, any information about a similar establishment would be very interesting to the Force at the present time.

It seems to me that many people are carried away with the idea that the graduates of such a college would have no openings in

life, except as engineers or soldiers, but on consideration this does not seem to be reasonable; the mixture of French and English cadets should be a practical advantage in the study of each others' languages, and an education which, in addition to the more especially military branches, would probably comprise modern languages, mathematics, history, both civil and military, drawing, chemistry and geology, and should be considered equal to a University Degree and should have the same privileges, such for instance as reducing the law course from five to three years, it should also reduce the time of study for surveyors and architects and perhaps also in the medical course.

I think that men in these occupations and professions who had the advantage of a thorough military education would be found to the fore in the country's time of need of great advantage.

May 9, 1874.

C.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir,—I wonder whether the last resolutions of the Dominion Rifle Association in reference to the Wimbledon Team met with your approval?

The principle laid down is to select representatives for one year on the basis of the previous year's shooting.

As you have not hitherto considered my opinion on such matters of any value, I quote from the remarks of a well known shot in the *Hamilton Times* of last week: "Not one of the resolutions is to be commended. The first is directly contrary to the wishes of the several Provincial Associations and will be decidedly unsatisfactory to the riflemen of the Dominion generally. However, the law has been laid down and we presume the Provincial Associations must either abide by it or decline to furnish representatives. The third resolution is simply absurd. The competition is to take place twelve months before the Wimbledon meeting, and it is hard to say where the members of the team will be by that time, or in what condition to shoot. These resolutions, on their face appear to have been passed by a body of men to whom the use of the rifle was an unknown subject and who had made up their minds to jump in the dark."

These resolutions are passed by an association, to which it seems to be officially recommended that an additional money grant be made by Government in consequence of their inefficiency. What next,

R,

The *Jewish Chronicle* says:—At a recent meeting of the council representing the Jewish congregations of Berlin, a motion was brought forward to the effect that immediate steps should be taken to make arrangements for the *Leichenverbrennung* (burning of bodies) in one of the Jewish cemeteries in the city. The motion was adopted by a large majority."

THE LITTLE GRAVE.

"It's only a little grave," they said,
 "Only just a child that's dead;"
 And so they carelessly turned away
 From the mound the spade had made that day.
 Ah! they did not know how deep a shade
 That little grave in our home has made.

I know the coffin was narrow and small,
 One yard would have served for an ample pall;
 And one man in his arms could have borne away
 The rosewood and its freight of clay.
 But I know that darling hopes were hid
 Beneath that little coffin-ill.

I know that mother stood that day
 With folded hands by that form of clay;
 I knew that burning tears were hid
 "Neath the drooping lash and aching lid?"
 And I know her lip and cheek and brow
 Where almost as white as her baby's now.

I know that some things were hid away,
 The crimson frock and wringing gay;
 The little sock, and the half-worn shoe;
 The cap with its plumes and tassels blue;
 And an empty crib, with its covers spread,
 As white as the face of the stainless dead.

'Tis a little grave; but, oh! how rare!
 For a world-wide hopes are buried there;
 And ye, perhaps in coming years,
 May see, like her, through blinding tears,
 How much of light, how much of joy,
 Is buried with an only boy!

THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.

We have not the remotest idea of what changes the Government contemplate making in connection with the Volunteer Force. That they intend to do something is promised in the Speech from the Throne; and in order that the subject may receive the most mature consideration, we hope that the measure will be introduced at an early stage of the session, and not left to the end to be hurried through without being properly discussed.

We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the Volunteer Force is not at present in a satisfactory condition, and we have every reason to believe that such is the opinion of the country. A large proportion of the numbers who are returned annually as *bona fide* members of the Force, are not such—that is to say, when the period for annual drill comes round in order to fill up their ranks Captains of Companies take anything they can lay their hands on that they can designate "a man," from little boys to old, worn out, half-blind incapables who are absolutely useless for practical purposes. These join for the period of drill; they help to fill up the ranks; but when the next annual drill comes few of them are to be found. The work of filling up has then to be gone through again.

There is no military system which, as the result of experience, cannot be improved. We have read innumerable statements condemning the present system; but we are not amongst those who are disposed to cry it down altogether. The present state of the Force is not attributable wholly as many allege, to the system itself, but to many other circumstances which are familiar to every volunteer officer of experience. The present system has, to use the familiar expression, worked wonders in its time, and has developed an amount of native military spirit highly creditable to the country. We have no hesitation in saying that, while at the present time a great amount of apathy is manifested towards the Force by our young men, and officers experience great difficulty in keeping the ranks full, any threatened internal disturbance or external aggressive movement, would in a few hours call together any number of men the Government might require for active service.

The question of procuring an effective Volunteer Force is not a party one—at any rate it should not be made such. Valuable suggestions made from the Opposition side should not be ignored by the Government, and we hope when the subject comes up for discussion that it will not be so much the object of the Government to carry a party measure as to secure a system which will prove efficient and most acceptable to the country. The Premier is a volunteer officer and as he is practically acquainted with the working of the present system, he will be able to bring his experience to bear in dealing with the question when the new scheme is laid before the Cabinet. There are a few points to which we would wish to draw attention, and in connection with which important improvements might be made.

We are of opinion that, considering the expense they necessarily undergo in connection with the Force. Volunteer officers when they are called out for their annual drill should be paid, according to their rank, the same as if they were on active service. An increase in the pay of the men, too, would prove beneficial. Officers, who, as a rule are not troubled with a superfluous amount of this world's riches, have innumerable expenses to meet in connection with their corps which the general public know nothing at all about, and it is only right that when they make sacrifices of time and money in the interest of the country they should be paid, to say the least of it, decently. The system of paying a dollar a day to officers in respect of their rank is a mean one, and a return to that of giving them active service pay when performing their annual drill in camp should again take place.

Something should be done to make officers proficient in their drill and duties. It is an indisputable fact that not less than three fourths of our volunteer officers are lamentably ignorant of drill. They may have gone through the Military School, but since that time, although years may have elapsed, many of them have never opened a drill book. They are unacquainted with the changes that are always being made in drill, and when they go into camp many of them know less than the men they undertake to command. We have seen officers in camp who positively scarcely knew their right hand from their left so far as drill was concerned, this class is not confined to those in rural districts but among the languid swells, the effeminate, good for nothing, law, law, creatures who do little but yawn, smoke cigars, swear at and abuse their men, who tell you that "drill is a—d—d bore," the incapables and know-nothings are numerous. When officers don't know their duty it is hard to expect the men to know theirs. The former should be made to "read up," to pass an annual examination, so that when they go out for their annual training they would be all the better prepared to impart instruction to those under them.

The period of training should be extended to at least sixteen or twenty days. Eight days is altogether too short a time to spend in camp to be of any service to either officers or men.

It is high time that something should be done to reform the Military School system. We have no hesitation in saying that in hundreds of cases it has proved a sort of "dead beat" institution for Tom, Dick, and Harry out of employment, or to enable others to get \$50 to carry them to the United States. We know of a case which occurred a few weeks ago where a youth applied to a local clergyman for a certificate of

moral character in order to enable him to enter the School. The clergyman in question asked what his object was in going into the School to which he replied: "To tell you the truth, sir, I want the money (referring to the \$50) to take me to the States." Very properly the clergyman declined to accommodate him. While this youth failed many others have succeeded in obtaining the fifty dollars, after which they cleared out. The Military Schools have been prostituted to purposes for which they were never intended, and in no department of our militia system is reform more urgently needed than in connection with them. Hundreds of cadets who have passed through the Schools never before or afterwards spent an hour in the Volunteer Force. All they wanted was fifty dollars.

If we had space at our disposal we might very easily enlarge upon the many gross abuses connected with the Military Schools. They are almost sufficiently notorious, however, not to require pointing out. A radical change is needed, and the sooner the Schools are made something better than feeders for young boys and for men out of employment the better.

There are other points to which we desire to draw attention, but we must leave the subject for the present.—*Kingston Chronicle and News.*

OUR ACTIVE MILITIA.

A thoughtful letter upon the active militia organization written by the Colonel of the "Simcoe Foresters," appeared in the *Globe* of Saturday. The writer, Lieut. Colonel McKenzie, is one of the most experienced, practical and successful militia officers in Canada, and his opinions on this subject are worthy of more than ordinary consideration. Except under the pressure of danger, it is always a popular move to reduce the militia estimate, but it should not be forgotten that the two great essentials for an army are men and money. If the militia estimates cannot be increased, the force should be reduced in order that our Volunteer army may be efficient. That there are both staff and regimental officers in the force capable of organizing, drilling, and handling troops with credit has been sufficiently proven. If the present officers had men and time to work in, they could make the force efficient as far as regards drill. But the officers are military mendicants, begging for men, and often forced to pick up anything in the shape of a man, in order to keep their companies from being gazetted out. Why should not officers who have worked hard to keep up corps, but have failed through no fault of theirs, have their corps recruited by ballot from the reserve?—This is the only true system of defence—a drilled reserve, and fill the active force with the bone and sinew of the country. Six days annually is the term allowed for drill and any man may judge that but little can be done with a regiment—one third recruits—in that time. For this service the officers of all ranks receive sixteen dollars, out of which they have to pay for their rations and any damage done to camp equipage. The arms are good, but no provision being made for their repair one-tenth of them are unserviceable. The accoutrements are not good. The men are enrolled for three years; new clothing is issued every five years. It is impossible to induce respectable young to wear clothing that has been in use three years—and the serge trousers will not last five years. If the burden of military service is to press light-

ly on the country, it must fall on all. The existing law is pronounced on the whole good, and all that is asked is that its provisions be intelligently and fearlessly carried out. If this be not done, Lieut.-Colonel McKenzie thinks the end of the present active force is not far off.—*Orillia Packet*, April 24.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA FOR 1873.

The Honorable

The Minister of Militia and Defence, &c.

Sir,—The money estimates being voted by Parliament for the fiscal year ending 30th June, and the force having been permitted to perform the drill during the current financial year at times most convenient, has militated against the efficiency of the militia service and the drill and training of the militia in a satisfactory manner.

The season most suitable for drill in camp commences about the 10th June, and ends in September. The time most suitable for a majority of the force is from the 10th June to 20th July.

The fiscal year, however, divides this period into two, and renders it impossible to furnish any report as to the numbers of men who have drilled during such year, unless made up to the end of June; but as Parliament usually meets in February or March, such a report on the state of the militia, being at least eight months in arrear, would not give requisite information.

I have therefore obtained from the Deputy Adjutants General of Districts, reports relating to that portion of the drill for the fiscal year 1873-74 completed since 1st July, 1873, and append the same for your information. The returns relating to the enrolment of the Reserve Militia for 1873 are also appended.

By these reports it appears that the following numbers of officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Active Militia have performed the annual drill for 1873-74:—

Military District No. 1.....	2,088
" 2.....	2,852
" 3.....	2,877
" 4.....	768
" 5.....	2,897
" 6.....	377
" 7.....	2,066
" 8.....	2,444
" 9.....	3,594

Total..... 19,963

The remaining corps will complete the drills during the winter at their several drill sheds, or in battalion camps, prior to the 30th June, 1874.

The General Orders relating to the drill and training of the current year, provide for the drill of companies for sixteen days at company headquarters, on the understanding that the men will be subsisted and lodged at their homes during the days appointed for drill, or by battalions in eight day camps, as may be found most suitable.

The reports presented herewith will show the mode adopted by corps in the respective districts. Regarding the country companies, there seems a difficulty in their carrying on the drills in a satisfactory manner, except in cases where the periods of drill are continuous, and arrangements are made for subsistence at the place appointed for drill. The reasons are obvious—the men, as a general rule, reside at distances varying

from one to eight miles from the company headquarters, which renders the daily journey to and from the drill a serious obstacle. It is therefore apparent that, as regards many of the country companies, the plan has not worked well. For drill by battalions the case is different—the men have only one journey to make coming and going, and they are subsisted and lodged on the spot; besides this, the drills performed where a number of companies are brought together creates an emulation which cannot be otherwise obtained.

Owing to the great extent of country, the diversified interests of the inhabitants, affected by climate and occupation, it is not easy to frame any regulation which will bear equally on all. In the west the weather is milder, with less snow in winter, and the spring work commences earlier; in the east, more particularly along the River St. Lawrence and the Atlantic coast, the commercial and shipping interests must be consulted.

These difficulties are exemplified more particularly in the cities in respect to drill. For instance, in London, Hamilton, and Toronto the force usually turns out for 15 days' continuous drill in camp with readiness and apparent ease; coming eastward, Kingston and Ottawa are less ready, but could send their corps into camp reduced in strength. In Montreal, Quebec, St. John and Halifax, the shipping and other interests seem to place a barrier in the way of taking the men from their homes for drill in camps, and a preference is shown for drill on different days during the year, as circumstances may permit.

There are reasons, no doubt, why the system of voluntary service bears more heavily upon some portions of the country than upon others. The most important is, that in the newly settled districts, the first organization of a volunteer company absorbs the whole of the volunteer element for the time being within a radius of miles from the company headquarters, so that when the period of three years for which these men have volunteered to serve, expires, other men cannot be found within a convenient distance, who will volunteer to fill vacancies. The consequence is, that in order to maintain these company organizations, many old volunteers continue to serve in the ranks for even four five or six years.

In these thinly settled districts there will always be a difficulty in keeping up a continuous company organization by voluntary enrolment. There would, however, be no such difficulty if company headquarters were changed from place to place, as the period of service of each set of men expired; but then the distance from the places of residence of the present officers to the new headquarters would be such an obstacle as to prevent many from taking that active personal interest in the company indispensable to secure efficiency, and would result in an absolute necessity for cancelling commissions and the appointment of other officers who would qualify themselves and undertake the duty.

Under existing regulations, if the old officers had served the necessary period of five years in the militia, three of which have been as an officer, and the last rank held to 20 years out of the three to entitle them to retain their rank, they would of course do so, but where the whole period has not been completed, even although an officer had passed through a military school, and obtained a certificate of qualification, he would necessarily be deprived of rank; but if three years' service had only been completed, it

would be entitled to count as the three years he is liable to serve in his turn as a militiaman.

These difficulties are understood, and will always be felt in maintaining the organization of a purely volunteer force. The remedy suggested by some of the officers is, that in all cases where a volunteer company now organized cannot be kept up to its full nominal strength by voluntary enrolment, the officers be authorized to ballot from the reserve for the number of men necessary to complete from time to time.

It is evident that any militia system which looks to efficiency must be so devised as to meet the question of labor, and at the same time be in accord with the spirit of the institutions of the country. It must therefore be apparent that the confederation of Provinces which had separate Militia Laws, and which were governed locally by different municipal regulations, renders it a matter of difficulty to perfect a uniform system for drill and training under central control, that will work equally well in all the Provinces; but considering the many difficulties and the desire of the great majority of the people to maintain an active force on the basis of voluntary enrolment, I think the ground work of the present law admirably adapted to meet the circumstances of the country, and the provision made in it for changes in detail by regulations based on Order in Council, is well suited to remedy such defects as may be found to exist, as the work of organization goes on. The law is equally applicable for a purely volunteer force, or a force raised by conscription on the basis of each locality being required to furnish its quota—all that seems requisite is a decision as to the mode, and the necessary appropriations by parliamentary estimate to cover the cost.

Apart from the question of pay, it appears to me that in the absence of stimulating causes such as would call for the country companies being ready for military duty other than drill and training, it cannot be expected that the eagerness to volunteer, which has hitherto characterized the population will continue; indeed there are indications that the nominal strength as now established in some of the Districts is the excess of the number who are inclined to volunteer for continuous service for three years, as *bona fide* members of corps, thus showing that as the country is reverting to its normal condition after the excitement caused by the position of affairs since 1861, the proportion of men who are inclined to volunteer for mere drill and training is diminished. It is therefore quite certain that if this state of affairs continues, and the present nominal strength is required, provision must be made for compelling each locality, as is the practice in England to furnish its quota of the total number, or failing that to apply the ballot.

The question as to drill and training on its own merits, resolves itself into one of expenditure as a preliminary to efficiency. If reduced estimates be insisted on, or rather, if enough money be not available for military equipment and all the incidental expenses necessary for the maintenance of the authorized strength on a satisfactory basis, over and above the amount required for pay, a corresponding diminution in the strength of the force to be drilled and trained should be made. A small force, carefully trained and well paid and cared for, is much more desirable from every point of view than a numerically large force without these requisites to efficiency.

In respect of drill for the current year, it

was not intended that any brigade camp would be formed, but I may mention that in Military District No. 3, the 40th, 45th, 46th and 5th Battalions of Infantry, and the Northumberland and Durham squadron of Cavalry, made local arrangements and performed the eight days' drill in the same camp of exercise. In many instances a similar preference is shown for drill in brigade camps, and as regards the one now noted, the cost of extra transport over that requisite for drill in battalion camps was borne by the corps.

Respecting the pay to the officers and men, I consider that in all cases where officers are required to go into camp for drill and training, or are otherwise especially employed on militia service, it will be more satisfactory to give them the pay of their rank with such allowances as are or may be specially authorized by regulations—taking the pay of the officers of a battalion into account, the average daily pay only amounts to about \$2.10, while the net pay of a lieutenant colonel is only \$4.87½ and that of an ensign \$1.8—in either case the pay is small, but by paying each officer according to rank, it will be found that each will only receive comparative remuneration for the responsibilities devolving upon them.

Regarding the pay of the men, I do not entertain the belief that any reasonable increase in the present rate of 50c. per diem, which is exclusive of all other necessary expenditure any man is put to, from the time he leaves his home for camp until he returns, will cover the present difficulty.

The force, as now maintained, is on the principle of voluntary enrolment pure and simple—the men join their corps for purposes of drill and training from different motives, which combine patriotism and love of the service in various degrees, and for various reasons aside from the question of pay. Such men are real volunteers, and will be found ready at all times for service; it therefore seems to me that it is only because the present nominal strength is in excess of the number of willing men in any locality, that any difficulty arises in maintaining corps up to the authorized standard.

In all cases where the labour market has to be entered for recruits, the character of the force naturally changes—at any rate in so far as this new element is required to make up the strength—the interests, feelings and motives of the volunteer is entirely opposite to those of the men who agree to work for pay, there is, therefore little doubt that in many instances a want of harmony in feeling will be found in corps whose strength requires to be recruited in this way.

(To be continued.)

THE CANADIAN REGULAR ARMY.

In the course of the debate on Tuesday evening last on the items of estimate for the expenditure on Militia and Defence Mr. Mackenzie remarked that, "disguise it as people might, the force in Canada was the nucleus of a regular army." It would not have been necessary to advance this truism but for the absurd remarks made by members who had preceded. An important step towards the improvement and greater efficiency of this nucleus was taken by the House of Commons on the occasion of the debate in question. The Minister of Militia moved his resolutions providing for the establishment of a Military College in one of the Garrison Towns of Canada. This is an establishment new to this country, but which

seems to meet the approval of all parties and classes. The proposal to found such an institution is one of many evidences given of late of the facility with which Mr. Mackenzie's Administration recognizes the wants of the day, and meets public appreciation in their treatment of those wants. For some few months past the military taste of the people seemed to be on the decline. The Military Schools had served a good purpose; and they might yet be doing an appreciable work but for the policy of the late Government. So much was needed for the purposes of corruption that the public service had to be staved in many important directions, of which the training of young Canadians in the art of their country's defence was not the least deserving. By legislation of a depressing nature, and by economy to the extent of crushing out vitality, has the volunteer force of the country become so inefficient and prostrated to the last stage of respectability. The effort to restore the old status and then to improve upon the original, may cost some money, and a good deal of the exercise of administrative skill and judgment. But the country assuredly, even in the face of increased taxation is not in a mood to grumble about it. A military institution of training in the theory and practice of war, as far as practice can be given, and furnishing the requisite educational facilities is one of the most desirable investments which the country can make. Give us a good staff of trained officers and we shall have all we require to ensure confidence in our militia whatever may be the immediate training of the civilian soldier. The world was taught a lesson in the experience of the United States, who, at the opening of their civil war were dependent upon their West Point graduates. Their experience of the benefit of their Military Academy was of the most gratifying kind, and with examples not only there but of the same nature in England, it is not surprising that the people of this country take readily to the proposal of the head of the Militia Department. The wonder is that the state of ruin and decay into which those whose only object seemed to be to preserve to themselves place and power was permitted to continue so long; unless indeed it were wisely granted to complete the disgrace of those who have had enough else brought home to them to satisfy their bitterest enemies.—*Cornwall Freeholder, May 8.*

The largest reservoir, four miles north of Haydenville, burst about eight o'clock (on the 16th inst.) and came rushing down on the mills carrying everything before it. It struck the south eastern portion of Williamsburg Village, carrying a large number of dwellings. Thence to Skinnerville where it swept away Skinner's large silk mills and his boarding and dwelling houses. Continuing on its course it struck the large brass manufactory of Hayden, Gore & Co's, sweeping it away in an instant. Large stones and machinery were swept through the main streets at a fearful rate. Well built houses were instantly crushed not giving the inmates a moment's warning. The flood then struck Leeds, where a large number of shops and dwellings were swept away. The loss of life is heavy. Whole families, in some cases, were carried away over dams, and either killed or drowned. It is impossible at this time to give the number of lives lost. Twenty-three bodies so far have been taken out of the rubbish on the shore. A whole block of tenement houses, filled with women and children, were swept down the stream, and all the inmates of course were lost.

It is known that steel, when quickly cooled after heating, assumes more or less hardness and brittleness, the color, texture, and density of the material being altered. As to the cause of difference between hardened and unhardened steel, there are merely conjectures on the subject. At a recent meeting of the Berlin Academy of Sciences, one of the secretaries, Dr. Du Bois Reymond, announced that a prize of £40 would be awarded in July, 1876, to any one who would best solve the problem, by experiment, whether the causes referred to were physical or chemical, or both. Accurate comparative analyses are required, especially of the relative quantities of carbon in the free and combined state, and also observations of physical qualities of the material. The memoir may be written in German, French, Latin or English, and is to be sent to the Academy—with sealed note and motto—before the 1st of March, 1876.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Friday, 1st day of May, 1874.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

(On the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs, and under and in pursuance of the provisions of the 8th and 54th Sections of the Act passed in the 21st year of Her Majesty's Reign intituled "An Act respecting the Customs," His Excellency he and with the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, has been pleased to Order and It is hereby ordered that New Westminster, in the Province of British Columbia, be and it is hereby constituted and appointed to be an Out Port of Entry of Customs and a Warehousing Port; and that the Out-station of Barracks, let small form part of the said Out Port and Warehousing Port also, that the said Out Port of New Westminster be, and it is hereby placed under the survey of the Collector of Customs at the Port of Victoria in the said Province of British Columbia.

W. A. HIMS WORTH,

Clerk, Privy Council.

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