

At any time before the expiration of five years from the date of recording his claim, the claimant may, upon filing proof with the local agent that he has expended in actual mining operations on the claim the amount prescribed in the mining regulations in that behalf, by paying to the local agent therefor the price per acre fixed by the regulations, and a further sum of \$50 to cover the cost of survey, obtain a patent for said claim, as provided in the said mining regulations.

CHAPTER XIV.

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

Defence of
Canada
before
Confeder-
ation.

658. Previous to the confederation of the Provinces, the defence of this country was entirely in the hands of the Imperial Government, who for that purpose maintained troops in each Province, supported by various local volunteer militia corps. This volunteer militia had, when called upon rendered most efficient service in times of trouble, an account of which would be beyond the scope of this chapter, being, as it is, part of the history of Canada.

With-
drawal of
Imperial
troops.

659. After Confederation the British Government gradually withdrew all the Imperial troops from this country, and at present only maintain a garrison at Halifax, and a naval establishment there and on the Pacific coast.

Command
in chief
vested in
the Queen.

660. By the British North America Act the command in chief of all naval and military forces of and in Canada was vested in the Queen, and the control of the same was placed in the hands of the Dominion Parliament. A Department of Militia and Defence was at the same time established, the first Minister being Sir George E. Cartier,

Depart-
ment of
Militia.