

1343. 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, and the first Militia Act was passed in 1868, 31 Vic., chap. 40.

1344. This Act was subsequently amended in various ways, but it is practically embodied in the present Consolidated Militia Act, 46 Vic., chap. 2, passed 25th May, 1883. By it the militia of Canada is declared to consist of all the male inhabitants of Canada of the age of 18 years or upwards and under 60, not exempted or disqualified by law, this population being divided into four classes, as follow :—

The first class comprises those aged 18 or upwards and under 30, being unmarried or widowers without children.

The second class comprises those between the ages of 30 and 45, being unmarried or widowers without children.

The third class comprises those between 18 and 45, being married or widowers with children.

The fourth class comprises those between 45 and 60.

And those liable to serve shall be called upon in the above order.

1345. The following persons are exempt from enrolment and actual service at any time :—Judges, clergymen and ministers of all religious denominations, professors in colleges and teachers in religious orders, persons engaged in the collection or management of the revenue, the wardens and officials of all penitentiaries and lunatic asylums, persons physically disabled, and any person being the only son of a widow and her only support. Half-pay and retired officers of the Imperial forces, sailors actually employed in their calling, pilots during the season of navigation, and masters of schools are exempt from service, except in case of war. Quakers, Mennonites, &c., may be exempted altogether under regulations prescribed by the Governor in Council.

1346. The militia is divided into active and reserve, land and marine forces. The land force is composed of corps raised either by voluntary enlistment or ballot; the active marine force shall be raised in the same way, and composed of seamen, sailors and persons whose occupation is on vessels navigating the waters of Can-