

CHAPTER XX.

Defence of Canada before Confederation.—Short History of Militia.—Establishment of Militia Department.—Militia Act.—Active and Reserve Militia.—Military Districts.—Permanent Corps.—Military Schools.—Royal Military College.—Regimental Establishments.—Expenditure.—Revenue.—North-west Mounted Police.—Duties of the Force.

Lieut.-General Commanding Her Majesty's forces, Alex. G. Montgomery Moore, Major-General, in Command of Militia.

1497. By the Union Act, 1867, the command in chief of all naval and military forces of and in Canada is vested in the Queen, and the control of the same is placed in the Parliament of Canada.

1498. The record of the service of the Militia of Canada dates back from 1648, when a few companies were organized out of a population of about 1,000 souls. In 1665 the system was further developed. In 1674 the Count of Frontenac gave it a definite form. From that time to the capitulation of Montreal in 1760 the militia took part in several wars and gained high distinction. After the conquest it was entirely disbanded, but a kind of reorganization took place in 1775 at the approach of the Republican army, commanded by Major-General Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold, but there was very little done after that date until 1812, when the militia was again organized and equipped, and, with the few British regulars then in the country, defeated the United States armies at Detroit, Queenstown Heights, Lundy's Lane, Chrysler's Farm, Chateauguay, &c., and captured General Hull.

After 1815 the force, with the exception of a few regiments, was, for all practical purposes, disbanded, and no call for its services was made until the Rebellion of 1837-38. On that occasion, at the call of the authorities, numerous corps were hastily organized and acted in concert with the regulars. As soon as the rebellion was over, these corps, with few exceptions, were disbanded. Upper and Lower Canada continued to be garrisoned by the regulars.

In 1855, after the departure of most of the regulars for the Crimea, the Legislature of the Province of Canada voted the necessary amount for the equipment and pay of 5,000 volunteers, which were styled Class "A"; authority being also granted to furnish the arms to Class "B," but these were to clothe themselves and to receive no pay.

In the month of May, 1862, the Legislature of Canada passed a bill for the increase of the militia with an expenditure of \$250,000. The Trent affair, which had happened in November of the preceding year, gave a valuable impulse to the volunteer movement.

In 1863 the Canadian Legislature passed a bill to muster and drill 100,000 men during six days at 50 cents a day per man. The expenditure amounted to \$450,000. The force was not satisfied with the management