

## CHAPTER XIX.

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.

1288. 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.

1289. 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 1649-51 there was a camp volant of about 100 volunteers patrolling between Three Rivers and Montreal. In 1664 the whole of the men of Montreal able to carry arms were enrolled as volunteers. The regulars from 1636 to 1664 were twenty, forty, seventy men and no more. In 1665 came the Carignan regiment, and the militia system was further developed. The regiment partially returned to France in 1669-70, and in 1670 the rest was disbanded. In 1674 the Count of Frontenac gave the militia a definite form; each parish or cote formed a company who were embbrigaded in the time of war only. From that time to the capitulation of Montreal, in 1760, the militia took part in several contests with the English and the Iroquois and gained high distinction. The garrisons kept by the King in the few forts of the colony never amounted to more than 150 men, under a captain with the rank of major. After the conquest the militia 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 a 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