THE NECESSITY OF SUPPORTING A DEFENSIVE FORCE IN CANADA.

The following pages are written with the intention of bringing before the notice of the Legislature and the public the various arguments in favor of supporting an efficient defensive force in this Province, and with the full belief that if the subject is properly considered, investigated and understood, the majority of politicians of every party will arrive at the conclusion that it is advisable that Canada should support a well-organized Active Force.

The subject may be divided under two heads:

1. The different reasons which render it advisable to have a Militia Force.
2. The best system by which one can be organized and maintained.

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A military organization should be supported in this Province for two reasons:

1. In order to raise a military spirit in the people.
2. To be prepared for war, offensive or defensive.

In the first place, then, the greatest and most patriotic statesmen of ancient and modern times have been deeply impressed with the necessity and advisability of encouraging and maintaining a warlike and military spirit among the people over whom they were called to govern, fully sensible of the fact that where a nation loses its warlike virtues and love for national and military glory, it must, sooner or later, inevitably succumb to some more warlike invading power, after vainly endeavoring to protect its rights and preserve its liberties with the arms of foreign mercenaries.