

recoil of the service 7-pr of 200 lbs. with a 12-oz charge, and that he was making carriages of the same size and weight which would be very much stronger than those of the service. I suppose he has by this time made them.

"I am glad to say that every one in this quarter of the globe is alive to the enormous power we have acquired by it. You know that in this country they are accustomed to move artillery by mule, camel and elephant transport. Now we have no guns between the 7-pr. of 200 lbs and the 9-pr. R. H. A. gun of 6 cwt. The former is carried by mules on the N. W. frontier of India, by camels at Aden, by elephants in Burmah, and whenever an expedition is expected to meet with any serious resistance a R. H. A. battery is dismounted and put on elephant back. Here we have the transport at hand, and my idea is to have the present gun of 380 lbs as the field gun, one of about 500 or even 600 lbs as a gun of position—both these could be carried on mule or camel back—and a siege gun of 12 cwt. for elephants; the half of either forming but one animal load. I say we will take siege guns to Cabool yet on pack animals.

"Again if instead of a muzzle-loader we made the gun a breech-loader we can have it in more pieces and therefore carry a heavier gun. There would then be the two lengths of barrel, the breech plug and the screw cap over joint—four pieces in all—which could be carried separately on pack animals or, in the smaller natures, by hand. For wheel transport over difficult country it might be arranged to carry the breech half on the carriage and the other half on the limbers in place of the present ammunition boxes, or between two small limber boxes containing only a few rounds. Thus the weight of the gun would be distributed over the four wheels in place of two only. The great advantage however, is the facility with which the guns in pieces can be man-handled and carried over a swamp or rocky ground where no other transport could take it and be put together in any position required. This will be enough to lead you to think over it and decide as to its utility in your part of the globe. If you should wish to know more about it write to General Wray, R. A., at Woolwich, who has strongly recommended it for India, and knows all about the trials at Woolwich, and also to Major Noble or Sir W. Armstrong, at Elswick. I must tell you that the Commander in Chief of India has recommended to government of India that they get out a battery of these guns at once, as he considers it a most important invention.

"I claim to be *bona fide* the inventor of the system, though of course Sir W. Armstrong & Co. must have all the credit of the manufacture and the shooting results."

C. B. LE MESURIER,
Lt.-Col., R. A.

Departure of the Earl of Dufferin

We are indebted to the *Quebec Mercury* for the following interesting reports of incidents attending the departure of His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin from Quebec.

LAST MILITARY INSPECTION.

The farewell inspection of B Battery by His Excellency the Governor-General was held to-day (the 18th instant), on the Esplanade, at 10 a. m. The Battery was drawn up facing D'Auteuil street, the demi-field Battery on the right under Captain Short, the Band in the centre, and the garrison division under arms on the left under Captain Duchesnay, the whole being under the immediate command of Colonel Montizambert. The Commandant, Lt.-Col. T. B. Strange, received His Excellency with the customary compliments, and a close inspection was made of men, horses, guns and harness. Everything was in excellent order—possible brighter than usual, as the men had

taken special pains to present a smart appearance on this, unfortunately, the last of so many inspections by their popular Viceroys. The usual "march past" followed, after which the guns trotted and galloped past, the latter movement being especially well performed. The field division then unlimbered, and, coming into action, proceeded to fire a Viceregal salute of seventeen guns. An especially interesting feature of this part of the proceedings was the apparently instantaneous collapse of guns and carriages at the end of the salute, for from the saluting point, on the clearing away of the smoke, the gunners were discovered reclining on the "disiecta membra" of their pieces. This really smart piece of work, elicited special praise from His Excellency, who advancing with his staff watched with interest the rapid process of "putting together again, by all the king's horses and all the king's men." The Battery was then formed up and advancing in review order saluted. His Excellency then stepped forward and in his usual happy style, made his farewell speech.

"After six years residence in Canada, much of which time had been spent in the Citadel where he had had every opportunity of noticing the conduct of the men of the Battery, he was happy to bear testimony to their general steadiness, sobriety, attention to duty, and good conduct: as also to the uniform courtesy with which he had invariably been treated by all ranks both in his official capacity and as an individual. During his frequent visits he had noticed with pleasure the manner in which the officers had applied themselves to the instruction of their men, and the zeal with which the men had profited by their instructions. Although they had had to contend with many difficulties in the self-denying performance of these duties, he was sure that the day would come when every man present would be proud of having done his duty to his Queen and Country. The personal friendship of Col. Strange and the officers of B Battery was not one of the least advantages he had secured by his residence in Canada. He had taken the liberty of placing in the hands of Col. Strange a sum of money for the purchase of a cup, or some piece of plate, to be competed for annually by the men of the Battery, as a slight souvenir by which they might be reminded of the interest he had always taken in their welfare. He could assure all ranks that the officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners of B Battery had no better or truer friend than the Governor-General, who is now about to leave them." Col. Strange then called for three cheers for His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada, which were given most vociferously by the men, accompanied by "a tiger, another one, and a little one in." He then called for three more for Her Majesty, which was right royally responded to, and in which his Excellency joined most heartily, himself calling for the "other one." The Battery was then marched home, well pleased at this additional proof of the kindness and interest ever shown to them by His Excellency since his arrival in Canada, and adding another to the numerous list of all kinds and classes of men who have been bound to the triumphal chariot wheels of our departing Governor-General by the bonds of affection and respect.

SATURDAY.—The day broke with an overcast sky and occasional showers, but the mass of the people were early astir, and bent on making a general hearty demonstration in honor of the departure of Earl Dufferin, the most popular Governor Canada has seen since the historic days of Sir Guy Carleton, afterwards Lord Dorchester.

By eight o'clock the Quebec Active Volunteer Forces, horse, foot and artillery, were assembling in all their martial array at the Armoury, on Dalhousie Place, and by half-past eight they were joined by the Lancers and B Battery, under Lt.-Col. Montizambert, with their fine band,

from the Citadel who marched direct to the Queen's wharf to form the guard of honor. The Battery were soon followed by the 8th Royal Rifles, under Col. Almey, with their full band, who proceeded to the Lower Town. The Battalion took ground on the wharf to the left of the Artillery. The field Battery took up their position on Durham Terrace, and fired a salute as the Governor left the Citadel. The Quebec Garrison Artillery formed line from the Place d'Armes, and the 9th Battalion Voltigeur Rifles completed the line to the Esplanade. The Governor, with his suite, left the Citadel about nine o'clock, being received with the national anthem and a general salute from the various regiments, acknowledging the honor with uplifted hat as his carriage drove past each corps, and also in response to the cheers and salutations of the people thronging the streets. The Catholic clergy and the pupils of Laval University and Quebec Seminary were out in full strength in front of the Archbishop's Palace, and the Seminary band played numerous airs and "Auld Lang Syne" as His Excellency passed. The City Police, under Superintendent Heigham, marched in full force to the Queen's wharf, taking charge of the pavilion and its approaches, while the Dominion River Police, under Chief Trudel, formed in line to the slip where His Excellency embarked in the steamer *Dolphin* for H. M. S. *Sirius*, anchored in the offing.

His Excellency, in company with Col. Littleton, A.D.C., Captain Ward, A.D.C., and Captain Hamilton, arrived at the Queen's wharf about half-past nine. When he alighted from his carriage he was presented with an address by His Worship the Mayor, and also with the silver trowel and mallet with which he laid the corner stone of Kent Gate and Dufferin Terrace. He was also presented with a bouquet sent by Madame Duval, wife of the Chief-Justice. Amongst those present we noticed His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Patrick Macdougall, Sir John A. Macdonald, Mr. Joly, Col. Strange and officers of B Battery, Colonel Duchesnay, Colonel Lamontagne, Colonel Forsyth and a large number of the *élite* of Quebec and the Dominion, including many ladies.

After the address and reply thereto His Excellency embarked on board the *Dolphin* and was conveyed to the war ship *Sirius*, which was to carry him down the river, but owing to the heavy sea, thought it advisable to immediately embark on board the *Polynesian*, which he did after remaining on board the *Sirius* about twenty minutes. The *Sirius* fired a salute of 19 guns, and at half-past eleven the *Sirius* and *Argus* weighed anchor and moved down the stream with the steamer *St. Lawrence* following with 200 passengers on board. Many other steamers were going to accompany His Excellency down the river, but owing to the heavy sea and roughness of the weather, did not go.

The Citadel guns boomed out a parting cannonade as His Excellency left our shores.

We are sorry to learn that Capt. H. F. Perley, of the N. B. Engineers, has carried out his resolve to retire from the Presidency of the N. B. Provincial Rifle Association; a skilful marksman, and an energetic worker, he was the right man in the right place. We hope the Association will still have the benefit of his council and the example of his skill.

The Broad Arrow says of the English Volunteers: "The force lacks organization and cohesion. The liberty which has been accorded up to the present time of Volunteer combinations, has brought about in many cases most ridiculous results. We do not hesitate to express our opinion that the time has arrived to set our Volunteer house in order by the conversion of the whole of the Volunteers in seaport towns and along the coast into garrison artillery."