

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING EXPEDITIONS TO THE NORTH POLE.

Under this title the *Queen* recently gave a very interesting account of the results of a recent Polar expedition undertaken by Lieut. Payer, an officer in a Tyroler Jagt Regiment, accompanied by Lieut. Weyprecht, of the Austrian navy. Lieutenant Payer has always applied himself with great earnestness to geographical studies, particularly to the problems appertaining to North Polar exploration. He had accompanied two German expeditions, which he undertook to pilot along the east coast of Greenland; but he was obliged to give up the attempt, for this proposed route between the east coast of Greenland and the west coast of Spitzbergen proved to be as impracticable as the one tried by explorers between the west coast of Greenland and North America, known as the North-West Passage.

Early last year the two explorers undertook, with exceptional courage, to explore the Polar Sea lying between Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla in a small Norwegian yacht of ordinary build. Their bold venture met with a fair amount of success; and as the result was the discovery of an open

dition of the upper layer of the sea and other facts prove Dr. Petermann's theory regarding the Gulf Stream to be correct. If the scanty equipment of the little "Isbjorn" yacht in which Lieut. Payer and Weyprecht undertook their expedition, had not compelled them to turn back, it would doubtless have been possible for them to have advanced much higher than 79° in a north-easterly direction.

What unfortunately they could not accomplish at that voyage, it is hoped will be realized this year. Dr. Petermann, and the great majority of the German geographical societies, have given their entire support to the new Austrian expedition, which is to sail from Bremerhaven about the end of the present month, and which Dr. Petermann regards as the greatest event in the history of modern Arctic exploration.

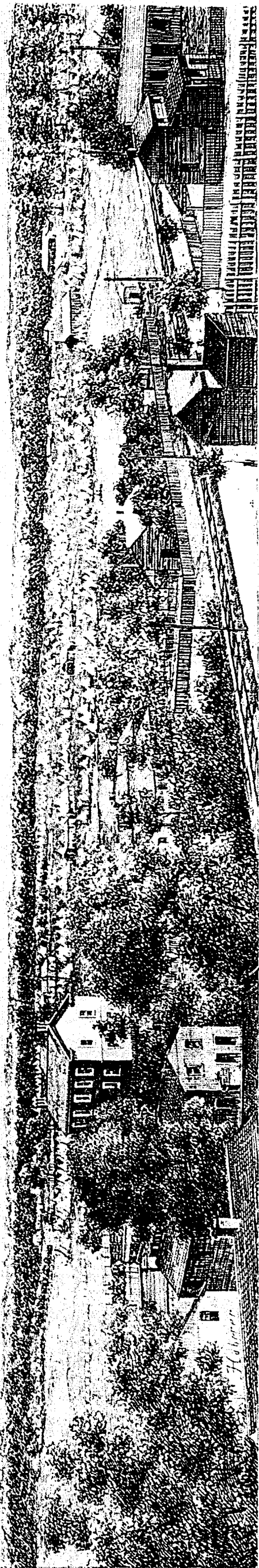
The object of this Austrian expedition will be the further navigation of the ice-free sea which they met with last summer to the east and north, and the exploration of the Arctic Ocean to the north of Siberia. The plan of the voyage is as follows: The expedition being provisioned for a period of three years, the first winter is to be spent in Cape Ischeluskin, the most northern promontory of Asia. During the second summer, the exploration of the central Polar Ocean is to be continued,

from little more than a portable house of nine rooms and kitchen, which is to be put up in the Seven Islands in 80° 38' northern latitude, the most northern point at which an expedition has ever ventured in these regions. Great importance is attached by Professor Nordenskiöld to the cargo of fifty reindeer which he will ship from Norway, together with the necessary fodder and a number of lapps to attend them. The scientific gain from the proposed observations to be made will, it is expected, be exceedingly valuable. The chief object will, however, be in the spring of 1873, after pushing as far northwards as possible by vessel, to proceed by sleighs drawn by reindeer in the direction of the Pole, and if possible to reach that point. In this attempt Professor Nordenskiöld casts to the winds Dr. Petermann's idea of an open ocean extending to the Pole. Lieut. Payer has expressed his opinion that Professor Nordenskiöld's idea of reaching the Pole by sleigh is not to be thought of. The Swedes, however, place great confidence in the leader of the expedition, who is known to be an energetic and skilful man, well acquainted with the North Polar regions, whether he has already made no less than five voyages. Besides the two already mentioned, there are several other North Polar expeditions in preparation. Count Wilczek, who has

tailed the advantage of a good start. Only the English, hitherto so forward in the ranks of Arctic exploration, are unrepresented in the enterprise; but the Royal Geographical Society are taking steps to press upon the Government the importance of an expedition to the North Pole by way of Smith's Sound.

WHARF AND SHIPPING AT MOODY, DIETZ AND NELSON'S MILL, BURRARD INLET, B. C.

The accompanying view represents the wharf at Moody, Dietz and Nelson's Mill, Burrard Inlet, British Columbia, with the barges "Hydra," "Montana" and "Henry Adderly" and the ship "Othello" loading for New Zealand, Shanghai, Melbourne and Calcutta, respectively. A partial view is also obtained of the Inlet, with the surrounding shores covered with standing timber. The lumber trade on the Pacific for the last two years has been languishing, but is now improving and mill-owners on Burrard Inlet expect for years to come to be kept fully employed at remunerative prices.



Right Wing. Queen's Own Cavalry

Left Wing.

T H E C A M P A T N I A G A R A .

Polar Sea or Polynia—which they consider will afford, under favourable conditions of ice and weather, an open way to the Pole—they are now on the point of setting sail at the head of an Austrian expedition, fitted out in the hope of solving the riddle concerning the North Polar Sea, which has during the last three hundred years cost the lives of so many brave seamen and undaunted explorers.

The famous geographer, Dr. Petermann, of Gotha, supports from scientific reasons the opinion that the easiest way to reach the Pole would be by the Polar Ocean stretching between Nova Zembla and Spitzbergen. It was hoped that a branch of the Gulf Stream, which flows from the Gulf of Mexico to the shores of Europe, and confers such an exceptionally high temperature on part of the Norwegian coast, kept this portion of sea free from ice. Lieut. Weyprecht and Payer's expedition to Spitzbergen last year confirmed this assumption, and thus every prospect is supposed to be afforded of penetrating to the interior of the Polar basin. The Nova Zembla sea, explored to a certain extent by Lieut. Payer and Weyprecht, appears to be free from ice from about 75° north latitude to 59° east longitude. Though the year 1871 was very cold and unfavourable for observations, the temperate con-

dition, has chartered a small vessel, and intends to accompany the Austrian vessel as far as the most northern coast of Nova Zembla, taking with him provisions for the larger vessel. Dr. Petermann also reports that two Norwegian vessels of the seal-fishing fleet will proceed, after the fishing season is over, in the direction taken by the Austrian expedition, and make explorations in the Siberian ice sea.

France, too, is bestirring herself, and M. Gustave Albert has issued a circular declaring his intention to voyage in the same direction as the Payer-Weyprecht expedition. Another French explorer proposes to expand the manner of journeying practised during the late war, and to get at the North Pole by way of balloon. He has not yet hit upon a plan of return, however, with the news of his discovery, if his gas gives out, as it is very doubtful how he would procure a fresh supply so very far north. The American expedition, under Messrs. Hall and Beresford, will proceed from the American side after wintering, and attempt to reach the Pole in the course of the present summer.

Thus the great international race for reaching the North Pole has again commenced in earnest, and America has cer-

THE CAMP AT NIAGARA.

Camping out is one of the best modes for training our volunteers to the duties of active military life. There they meet in large bodies and may be drilled in the larger field movements of which mere company drill cannot give them an idea. There, too, they learn something of the soldier's life; not merely its routine of daily exercise, but also in the matter of each man being able to provide for his own personal wants.

But the mere sixteen days devoted annually to this exercise cannot have much effect in teaching the volunteers the business of the soldier. The time is too short, especially as according to our system so many new recruits come in every year. It would be better were it practicable that a month or even a couple of months consecutively should be given, so that the men should be well grounded once for all in the military camp life, than that they should be asked to fritter away a little more than a fortnight every year in getting but a very elementary knowledge of it. However, the camping out system has been a great improvement upon former arrangements and has added not a little to the soldierly bearing of the vol-