

TABLE NO. II.

Nature of Gun.	Weights of Projectiles.	Powder Charges.	Muzzle Velocity.	Total Energy in Foot-Tons.	Energy per Pound of powder in Foot-Tons.
	lbs.	lb.	ft.		
French 6.35	99.3	16.5	1312	1185	71.8
English 7	115	30	1561	1943	64.8
German 6.796	123	23.35	1550	2073	81.7
French 7.038	165.4	33.1	1486	2533	76.5
English 8	180	35	1419	2492	71.2
German 8.238	217.2	37.48	1385	2880	77.1
French 8.499	317.6	61.7	1427	3496	72.7
English 9	250	50	1420	3484	69.9
German 9.490	306.4	52.91	1312	3657	69.1
French 10.838	476	88.2	1378	4273	71.1
English 11	535	85	1345	6115	75.5
German 10.236	414.5	70.55	1312	5511	78.2
French 12.6	760.5	136.69	1312	9777	68.4
English 12	700	110	1300	8205	74.6

Information is wanting as to the powers of endurance of the French guns, but the foregoing table will show how closely they approximate in power to English and German guns of similar calibres. The largest French piece, it will be seen, throws a considerably heavier projectile than our 12 in. gun, and burns 26.69 pounds more powder, a heavy charge for cast iron to withstand. It may be mentioned, however, in this connection, that certain large Rodman guns have recently been lined with tubes in the United States, and have given excellent results, while converted guns in this country have also shown high powers of resistance, as in the case of the Palliser 9 in. 12 ton converted gun, from which 500 battering charges of 43 pounds of powder and 250 lb. shot were fired, and more recently with the 8-in. 7-ton gun, throwing 176-lb. shot with 35 pounds of powder. From this piece 500 rounds were fired.

Across the Continent.

THE TRIP OF MAJOR GENERAL SMYTH AND PARTY.

MAJOR GENERAL SELBY SMYTH with Captain the Hon. MILES STAPLETON, arrived in Ottawa, on Monday evening the 15th inst., by train from Toronto. The Major General, we are happy to say, is in the enjoyment of good health, and well pleased with his trans-continental trip—a description of which will be found below copied from the *Victoria (B. C.) Colonist*:—

"Major General Smyth, accompanied by Capt. the Hon. Miles Stapleton, A. D. C., left Ottawa on the 24th of May last on a tour of inspection of the Militia camps at Niagara, Cobourg, Kingston, Brockville, Holland Landing and Guelph. They left Sarnia July 2nd and went via Lake Superior to Duluth; thence by the Northern Pacific Railroad to Moorehead, and down Red River to Winnipeg, Manitoba. There Hon. W. Fitzwilliam and Capt. Ward joined them, and on July 19th the party left Winnipeg and proceeded on wheels as far as Shoal Lake, 190 miles from Winnipeg, which they reached on the 23rd of July. The first day they passed through the settled parts of Manitoba—fine, rich soil. Almost everything green had been eaten by grasshoppers, and the farmers were much disheartened. At Shoal Lake they met a party of Montreal Police with saddle horses and a baggage wagon, who had been sent to meet them. Left Shoal Lake next day with escort, etc., and on the morning of the 27th reached the H. B. Co's fort, at Fort Pelly. Nine miles further on, at Swan Lake River, the barracks of the Mounted Police were reached. This force comprises 300 men. The force was raised in Canada for duty on the Plain, where they maintained order. They are armed with Snider carbines and are dressed in scarlet

tonics (out of respect to the partiality entertained by the Indians for the red or "King George" uniform) and white cork helmets, breeches and boots. The barracks are situated on a rocky plateau, the only rock the party had seen thus far, and are in a singularly bad situation. While at this point on the 25th July a communication arrived from the Lieut. Governor, notifying Major General Smyth of rumours of disturbances among the French half-breeds at Fort Carleton. On the 28th July, accompanied by Colonel French and a troop of Mounted Police, the party left the barracks for Fort Carleton. On the 5th of August they passed the South branch of the Saskatchewan River and arrived at the Fort on the 6th. Matters were found not to be so bad as had been rumoured, and the mere presence of the force was sufficient to bring in one or two of the turbulent half-breeds to apologise for their conduct. The Cree Indians were found to have turned back the telegraph party and a party of geological surveyors, informing them that as they had no treaty with Canada they would not allow them to pass through and threatening to steal their horses and throw their articles into the river if they went on. Rev. Mr. McDougall having been instructed to allay the distrust of the Indians, was on his way there. Col. French and force were left at Fort Carleton to look after the half-breeds. Major General Smyth, before leaving the troop, inspected them, and expressed himself well pleased with their appearance, and the excellent condition their horses were brought in after the remarkably rapid march from Fort Pelly. On the afternoon of the 7th the Major-General and party crossed the Saskatchewan River, which is here 400 yards wide. The appearance of this river is disappointing. There are no rocks, and the river is coloured by the yellow mud swept from the banks. The soil on either side is of extraordinary fertility. On the 12th the party encamped near the H. B. Co's post at Fort Pitt. Next day they found the party that had been sent to await their arrival with fresh horses. As they approached Fort Edmonton the roads became muddy and boggy owing to the party having struck the southern edge of the forest region. On the 21st they reached the barracks of the Mounted Police on the Saskatchewan 18 miles below Fort Edmonton. Having been delayed a day by a narrow but deep and rapid stream, which had to be rafted. The country as far as Fort Carleton was wooded prairie, with bunch grass and very rich soil. Abundance of wild flowers and sweet scented roses as thick as buttercups in the fields at home were met. Clumps of poplar, alder, and willow and at times a stretch of oak and rolling land, one or two small alkali plains, crossed by wide and deep ravines worn in past ages by streams which are now miserable little rills at the bottom, were seen. As an illustration of the richness of the soil, the Hudson Bay Company's servants at Fort Edmonton have raised wheat for 40 years in the same field, without the aid of manure or rotating crops. The Indian trade that used to be very profitable at this point has now all gone South. The party left Edmonton on the 24th, and reached Deer river on the 29th, after five days of very bad roads through a thickly wooded country. At this place they found Col. McLeod, Assistant Commissioner of the Mounted Police. He was sent up to render assistance in case of the difficulties at Carleton proving serious. On the 30th they left with fresh horses and an escort only, the troop establishing itself on Bow River. That day the party got their first glimpse of the Rocky Mountains—a grand white peak showing it-

self above the waves of the rolling prairie. As they mounted the next day they saw a little more of the mountains, and after passing this point they had beautiful views of snow capped mountains which, although 100 miles distant, seemed only ten miles off, standing out clearly cut against the horizon. By this time they had left the forest behind on the other side of Red Deer River, and on the 31st left the wood entirely and struck the open plains, to which place the half breed guide led them. On the 4th Sept. they reached Fort McLeod, a post established by the Mounted Police last winter. On the way down some buffalo were killed by Capt. Stapleton and Mr. Fitzwilliam; but this occasioned no delay, as they expected to meet a large band of buffalo near Fort McLeod. Fires were made with buffalo chips, no wood being accessible. On the way down they passed a large band of Blackfoot Indians, who invited General Smyth to encamp with them; but being anxious to reach Bow River the General was compelled to decline the invitation. In the evening the Chiefs came into the camp and "Crowfoot," one of the principal Chiefs, had a long "pow-wow" with the General, expressing his friendly disposition and his pleasure at having the Mounted Police amongst them. On the 5th Major General Smyth went with Col. McLeod to Fort Shaw, Montana Territory, to confer with the American General there. The remainder of the party went among the spurs of the Rocky Mountains to shoot, but found little or no game, as the Indians had been over the ground before them. The mountain streams were all well stocked with trout and a large number were caught. Gen. Smyth returned on the 15th, and on the 16th the party started across the mountains of the Kootenai Pass, leaving their wagons behind them. The party consisted of fourteen persons and twenty-five horses in all. For the first two days the progress was very slow—the trail being an Indian one, made by the Kootenai Indians, who go through the pass twice a year to hunt buffalo, and purposely leave the trail in a bad state to throw obstacles in the way of the horse-stealing raids of the Blackfeet. Owing to the fallen timber and the steep ascents the progress was very slow. On the 18th the first range was crossed, from the summit of which a fine view of tree-clad mountains on either side was had. On the 20th crossed the second range, and the 21st reached Kootenay River, a fine stream of a green blue colour. On the 23rd they reached Joseph's Prairie, where Mr. Vowell and party, sent to meet the Major-General, were met. On the 25th the escort of mounted Police turned back. They had escorted the party some 1,500 miles and contributed greatly to the comfort of all. Major General Smyth, finding he had to make a long detour to get round Shepherd's mountain, and wishing to see Gen. Howard, who had received instructions from Washington to meet him concluded to go found by Walla Walla, Capt. Ward kindly consenting to inform him of anything of interest on the road to Hope. At Walla Walla Major-General Smyth met Gen. Howard, and was the recipient of kind attention at his hands and of the U. S. officers in garrison and citizens generally. At Fort Vancouver the soldiers paraded and a Royal salute was fired in honour of the distinguished foreign visitors. The party remained three days at Portland, where they enjoyed the unbounded hospitality of the citizens, and arrived at Victoria on the 21st October, after a pleasant trip, the weather having been exceptionally fine (only two really wet days being experienced), and without meeting with the slightest accident.