

fences, Torpedoes may be valuable auxiliaries in the new system of naval tactics for purely defensive purposes, and even then the time and care requisite will more than counterbalance their value, while the fact remains that if any portion of the active defence fails, they could be removed by the attacking force with perfect impunity.

We are of opinion that the elaboration of a system of tactics in which Torpedoes were combined, would be a mere waste of time.

The Honorable Sir George E. CARTIER Bart., Minister of Militia and Defence, arrived in this City on Monday evening, 16th inst., at 7 o'clock. He was received at the station by Militia Staff Officers in uniform, a guard of honor from the Canadian guards with the requisite band, the Mayor and Corporation, and all the members of the Senate and House of Commons in the city.

He was escorted to the Mayor's carriage, a torch light procession of firemen being formed, the whole proceeded to the City Hall through densely crowded streets, the people enthusiastically cheering the celebrated statesman.

On arriving at the City Hall, His Worship the Mayor read the following address:—

To the Honorable Sir George Etienne Cartier, Baronet, Minister of Militia and Defence.

The Corporation of the City of Ottawa desire to express their unfeigned satisfaction at your return to the capital, and beg to express the hope that your health has so far improved as to give assurance of early and perfect re-establishment.

On behalf of the citizens we beg to express our full appreciation of the important services you have in the past rendered to the country, and sincerely hope you may long be spared to continue your valuable labors for its welfare.

EUG. MARTINEAU,
Mayor.

City Hall, Ottawa, Sept. 16, 1872.

Sir GEORGE replied at considerable length in both languages, the Hon. JAMES SKRAB, Messrs A. WRIGHT, M. P., and J. M. CURRIER, M. P., addressed the people.

At the termination of the proceedings the procession was reformed and escorted the Honorable Baronet to his residence on Metcalf Street.

He left this city on Friday the 20th inst., for Montreal, en route for Europe, where it is said he will remain for three or four months.

On the evening of his arrival the intelligence was received that he had been elected M. P. for the County of Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, thus proving the soundness of the principles established by Confederation, that Canadian statesmen no longer represent sections.

There is no man in Canada at the present, nor has this country ever produced an individual that has written his name in bolder, bolder, or deeper characters on the pages of its history as well as on that of the British Empire, than Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER

Bart., the country can claim great and unselfish Statesmen, but the Minister of Militia and Defence deliberately sacrificed his personal prestige in order to advance its interests, and consolidate its diverse races into an homogeneous British Nationality.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.]

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir,—Permit me to call your attention, and also that of your numerous readers, to the following italicized passage in the following extract in the "Leeds (Eng.) Mercury."

"The Canadians wear the triumph which they won in the Rajah of Kolapore's Prize on Saturday with unusual modesty, yet their victory was of a most surprising character. In the first place, the rifles they shot with were the old converted pattern, and the barrels were not grooved like the new ones which our Volunteer use."

SAPPER.

THE TORPEDO SERVICE.

REPORT OF EXAMINATION OF OFFICERS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS IN TORPEDO SERVICE.

U. S. NAVAL TORPEDO STATION, NEWPORT }
R. I. July 31, 1872. }

Rear-Admiral A. Ludlow Cass, U. S. Navy, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

ADMIRAL: We have the honor to make the following report of the result of the observations of the board, convened by order of the honorable secretary of the Navy, to witness the examination of the officers who have just completed the course of instruction at the torpedo school.

The scope of examination, and the practical experiments upon which our opinions and recommendations are based, are noted in the accompanying journal of the proceedings of the board, to which your attention is respectfully called.

Recognizing as the board does, the pre-eminent importance of an efficient offensive and defensive torpedo service in time of war, it has been with unusual interest that the degree of excellence which the school has now attained has been noticed.

The proficiency of the officers of the present class in the various branches of physical science in which they have been instructed, exhibits an interest in the specialty to which they have been assigned, creditable alike to the *esprit de corps* of the class and on the zeal and efficiency of the Academic Staff of the school.

The rapid development of the station in point of conveniences for theoretical instruction, and in the means for manufacturing torpedoes for the use of the naval service, gives evidence of an energetic and judicious administration of the executive department, of which the board would speak in terms of high commendation.

Notwithstanding all that has been accomplished, however, a further expenditure of money is needed to make the school and station equal to the growing demand of the service for efficient torpedo armament, and, we

think, the success already attained warrants the bureau in urging that the institution should be fostered through the medium of favorable legislation and liberal appropriation.

From the results of the examination, and from the character of the experiments which the board has had the pleasure of witnessing we beg leave to submit the following recommendation and expressions of opinion:

A vessel of such speed, steering qualities and dimensions as will render her fit for making experiments in harbor-water and at sea, with all classes of spar and towing torpedoes, is looked upon by the boards as an indispensable adjunct of the torpedo school.

A fleet of launches and row-boats, fitted with the different appliances used in the service of all varieties of torpedoes is deemed equally essential.

The importance of acquiring all needed apparatus for making elaborate experiments is recognized, and the desirability of repeating as far and as completely as possible all European experiments, with a view to engraving into our own torpedo system and service any features or perfection considered valuable, is strongly urged.

The board is disposed to consider exclusive reliance on the electric fuze, of any class or character, not sufficiently well supported by results heretofore developed in torpedo warfare to warrant the total abandonment of the contact (percussion) or detonating fuze, and therefore recommends that a series of experiments be made with torpedoes fitted with both the electric and contact (percussion) fuzes, in order to determine whether the latter is not, under many circumstances, a valuable auxiliary to the more mechanical and theoretically perfect electric fuze.

The board would recommend that *pari passu* with the perfecting of the means of operating offensively with torpedoes, especial attention be paid to experiments tending to develop the best means for defending vessels underway and at anchor against torpedo attack.

To make certain that the officers have the means of becoming thoroughly skilled in the operation and practical working of torpedoes, we recommend that it be made an imperative rule, that at least one day in seven of the whole course be devoted to the working of torpedoes afloat, and that the explosion of different kinds of movable torpedoes under or against both moving and fixed objects of attack, simple and inexpensive in their construction, be constantly practised.

In conclusion the board would suggest that all graduates of the school be designated in the Navy Register by suitable notation, in order that commanders of squadrons and vessels may be able to select, from those indicated as experts, officers for torpedo service.

We further think, in view of the great advantages which are to be derived from a thorough knowledge of the construction, manipulation, and uses of torpedoes, that in the interests of the service, the school should be thrown open to officers of all grades, it being understood that no officer under instruction, whatever his rank, shall be connected with the academic or executive staff, or exercise command, authority, or right to quarters.

We have the honor to be, Admiral, very respectfully, your obedient servants,
JOHN RODGERS, Rear-Admiral, U. S. Navy.
J. C. HOLWELL, Commodore, U. S. Navy.
A. C. RUIND, Captain, U. S. Navy.
D. L. BRAYNE, Commander, U. S. Navy.
ROBT. F. BRADFORD, Commander, U. S. "