

The water sewerage or drain is below, and is from six to eight feet deep, so that small boats can be towed all the way, and has down-grade enough to make quite a current. We rode by this train of cars across the Boulevard Sebastopol, to the head of the Rue Rivoli, alongside of the palace and Tuilleries' gardens to the Place Concord, a distance of more than three miles, where we disembarked into boats and sailed under the whole length of the Rue Royal, coming out by the side of the Church of the Madeleine. All along this main channel are openings of trapdoors, covered with gratings, at the head or each cross-street, which are marked by the names of the streets on the side of the tunnel. By this means complete ventilation is secured. On the top of the tunnel are two large iron pipes through which passes the fresh water supply for the city— one from the aqueducts and artesian wells, the other from the water pumped up from the river Seine.

There are also three lines of telegraph wires inclosed in lead pipes. It is well known that those great sewers are built for double purpose, and that one is for the underground transportation of troops in the times of an insurrection or war. By this means Napoleon can transport, secretly, troops from one part of the city to the other, suddenly appearing from the ground at almost any point. The telegraph would also be serviceable on such occasions. Besides this navigable sewer, which is fitted up especially for pleasure trips, there are smaller sewers running under twenty-five of the principal streets, and the whole length of the sewerage of Paris, large and small, including that under construction, I was informed, is over three hundred miles in length, and by these means the drainage of Paris is affected on a magnificent scale, and far surpasses the Subterranean wonders of ancient Rome.

REVELATIONS OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN DIPLOMACY.

A correspondent at Florence, writing on the 8th ult.; says,—I am enabled, on very good authority, to send you a few facts which will throw some light on the perplexed history of the last month. M. Ratazzi's determination to connive at the incursions of the Garibaldians on Papal territory was, I am assured, arrived at in consequence of the advice of Prince Napoleon and the reports sent from Biarritz by M. Nigra. The Prince strongly recommended the Italian Government not to ask anything of France, but to advance boldly to Rome, and thus create a *fait accompli* which France would not venture to disturb. As for M. Nigra the following was the enigmatical reply which he obtained from the emperor to his arguments as to the necessity of an immediate solution of the Roman question. "Il ne faut pas compromettre ma politique. Je resterai à Biarritz." These words were interpreted at Florence as giving a tacit consent to the settlement of the question being undertaken by Italy, and recruiting officer for Garibaldian volunteers were immediately afterwards opened publicly, both in the capital and the other principal towns. As, however, republican tendencies had been observed among many of the volunteers, the Government organized a corps of its own, officered from the regular army, which acted with the Garibaldians. This

corps, commanded by Major Ghirelli, actually entered the Papal States, but when its commandant proclaimed Victor Emmanuel at Orte his men left him in a body and joined the bands commanded by Menotti Garibaldi. Ghirelli then returned to Florence. Meanwhile, the Government got everything ready for crossing the Papal frontier. The King ordered his troops to occupy Velletri and Viterbo, and General Ricotti proceeded to the army with his staff to take the chief command, when a telegram arrived at the Palace from Prince Napoleon, stating that French intervention had been decided upon in the Cabinet Council at St. Cloud, and that he and M. de Laveletto had alone voted against it. Victor Emmanuel, alarmed, then sent for Ratazzi, and requested him to postpone the order to cross the frontier. Ratazzi urged upon the King the bad policy of such a step, saying that it would alienate the people from the Government, and that the intervention was merely a threat which would never be fulfilled if Italy marched on to Rome; and finding the King was immovable, resigned. What followed is well known. I will only add that in the Battle of Monte Rotondo the Papal troops chiefly consisted of Frenchmen of the Antipes Legion. The prisoners taken by Garibaldi were sent to Florence, and it was somewhat startling to see men in the French uniform, many with the order of Legion of Honor on their breasts, being taken as captives through the streets of the Italian capital.

CANADIAN MILITARY NEWS.

The military authority have given permission for private sleighs to drive across the Esplanade at Quebec during the winter season.

A Soldier of the 69th Regt., at the annual course of musketry with his Regiment recently made the extraordinary score of 69 points in the third, 69 in the second, and 69 in the first classes. When it is remembered that he belongs to the 69th Regt. it may fairly be considered "a remarkable instance of coincidence."

MILITARY BALL.—The Mersea Volunteers have made arrangements for holding the military ball at the Leamington Town Hall on New Year's Eve. The committee consists of energetic and practical men, and no pains will be spared to make the ball pleasant to all who may attend it. Ticket—\$1 75 each.

The memorandum of a despatch from Sir John Michel to Lord Carnarvon, lately published, points out in a very clear and unmistakable manner, that the first steps towards incorporating the Red River territory with Canada, must be the establishment of safe communications with Fort Garry for military and other purposes.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT A SOLDIER.—Last Tuesday night, after the soldiers of the 10th had gone to bed in the Victoria barracks, Montreal, one of them rose from his bed and came over to a comrade, saying that he would shoot him. The man who was threatened rose, and seized hold of the rifle in the hands of the other soldier, but during the struggle the rifle went off, wounding the man, who was the object of the murderous attack, in the leg. The would-be murderer was at once arrested and placed in confinement.

The 74th Highlanders, ordered from England to New Brunswick, lay in St. John forty years ago. Their arrival is looked forward to with much interest.

During the first day of the mayoralty election in Quebec, the mob gathered round the poll in St. John's Ward, grew so noisy and threatening that the returning officer, Mr. Bolduc, felt it incumbent on him to make a requisition for troops. Two companies of the P. C. O. Rifle Brigade were accordingly sent out at three o'clock, and drawn up in front of the poll house. Everything passed off quietly after their arrival.

THE RIFLE MATCH for the Cup presented by the County of Simcoe will take place in Barrie, on Monday 30th, of December, at 1 p. m., not on the 21st as was originally intended. We trust some members of the Battery and of the Infantry Companies of Collingwood and Bowmore will go down and return with the Cup. Many of them have proved themselves to be good shots, and this is a good opportunity to test their skill with their brethren in Simcoe. The distance will be 200, 400, and 600 yards, 5 shots at each range, Snider rifle. All competitors to be in uniform. Members of companies in uniform will go and return the same day, at one fire.—*Collingwood Enterprise.*

HOW NOT TO DO IT—W. H. Russell in his work on Canada, tells the following story—another illustration of 'How not to do it.'

He says that some thirty years ago the old flint lock was dealt out to the men along the borders, and of course flints were needed. These were accordingly sent by the War Department. In course of time the flints were superseded, and various improvements in muskets adopted. Still the barrel of flints was sent out as regularly as the appointed month came round, and were sent the year he was in Quebec, (1866.)

He tells us another story illustrative of the red tapeism that still clings to the Department. A ship brought out from England to Quebec a huge spar that was in everybody's way during the voyage. It taxed the resources of the proper officials when it got to Quebec—and what was it? Why a huge Canadian pine, which had gone home in its rough state, had been hewn and prepared, and then sent out to its native soil again, to be a flag staff on the citadel.

BROCKVILLE & OTTAWA RAILWAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY—This fine Battery was inspected on Thursday last by Lieut. Col. Jackson, Brigade Major. They paraded in full marching order and presented a very smart and soldier-like appearance, numbering three officers and 44 Non-Commissioned Officers, and men.

After about an hour's drills by Lieutenant Hume, and Low, and Capt. Worsley, they were highly complimented on their fine appearance, steadiness under arms, and proficiency in drill.

Immediately after the men were marched to Wall's Saloon, where the Captain had provided the usual annual supper for them. It is needless to say that the supper was in Wall's best style. The chair was occupied by Sergt. Major Conway. After doing justice to the good cheer, speech and song were the order of the evening. The men separated at an early hour, highly pleased with the evening's entertainment; but not without expressing their warm attachment to Captain Worsley and his subalterns.

The officers were entertained at the Captain's house, and also spent a pleasant evening.—*Brockville Recorder, Dec. 12th.*