

duced a failure! This very torpedo scheme has been copied without being improved from a series of experiments lately made by the Austrians with a really effective machine which did not want a scow and a tow-rope as well as permission to get within 1500 feet of its antagonist, who must at the same time be so accommodating as to remain perfectly still to accomplish the purpose for which it was designed—that of a most effective, though from a variety of reasons, unreliable agent for harbour defence. The *Journal* makes a great mistake if it supposes that any machine invented or capable of being invented can, by its own volition, be directed, submerged beneath the water, to any point at the mere will of an operator on shore. In this case two things are assumed which are pretty sure never to happen, and those are that a hostile ironclad of the class of the *Thunderer* or *Devastation* will of necessity approach within 1500 feet of any object in an enemy's harbor without first trying the power of its artillery, the consequences of such an operation being decisive as to the fate of the torpedo, or that it is at all requisite for those vessels to approach within that distance of the shore; and, secondly, it does not necessarily follow that with their motive power the vessel would for a moment remain at rest, and the success of the torpedo depends altogether on both contingencies. Our contemporary need not depend on Captain Ericsson's ingenuity for the defence of the coasts and harbors of the United States. Archimedes defended Syracuse for seven months but the city was taken and the great engineer lost his life nevertheless, and if occasion should arise the *Thunderer* and *Devastation* would find their way to Albany in spite of Fort Lafayette, West Point, or the torpedos. The safety of the cities of the United States depends on the honor, generosity, and good faith of Great Britain, a far more certain defence than Ericsson's torpedos, and the mere fact that such power is in her hands ensures the peace of the world while that preponderance exists. The people of the United States had better take care how their international obligations are fulfilled, it would be humiliating to have peace dictated at New York by a couple of ironclads.

The organisation of the Red River expedition is proceeding as rapidly as possible. All the details have been arranged and the troops will be prepared to move at an early day. For obvious reasons no publicity will be given to the plan of campaign, but we are authorized to say that nothing has been forgotten. Our readers will take the arrangements as given by the Press *cum grano salis*—consisting altogether of guesses, not one near the truth. The expedition, as far as the Volunteers are concerned, will be composed of levies from the military districts of Ontario and Quebec in certain proportions, and such officers as are approved. The numbers already offered are consider-

ably in excess of what will be required, although it is always best to be on the safe side. Arrangements have been made to push forward supports as rapidly as may be required. No effort has been spared on the part of the Militia Department to provide for all contingencies. We believe it will be a great success, and are certain that the Adjutant General will lose no opportunity of making it so as far as Canada is concerned.

The Fenian invasion has so far developed nothing beyond the expense incurred in transporting troops to the frontier, the loss of money directly and the indirect losses sustained by depreciation of property and other causes.

These gentry threaten positively to make a movement on Sunday, 1st May, in force: their organs, the *New York Press* announce that not less than 30,000 men are to be employed in the movement with artillery and other appliances in proportion. Let them come—the people of Canada will face the contingency, and having disposed of the tools will then see whether the manipulators can be brought to book and made to feel for the outrageous villany they have abetted, in the only way they can be reached and that is through their pockets.

It is absurd to suppose that matters can go on as they have done since 1866; that our neighbours across the line will be allowed to foster Fenianism as an aggressive institution against this country, that they will be permitted to have an arsenal, army and general depot at Trenton in New Jersey, a President and Executive at New York with depots of arms and munitions of war wherever they please along the frontiers. If the people of the United States believe that their treaty obligations are fulfilled by conduct such as this in which press, people and Government are *particeps criminis*, the other party to the covenant will have something to say thereon and that it can be said with effect the utterances of the *Army and Navy Journal* shows, by acknowledging that two British war ships could capture New York.

The solution of the Fenian problem is to be found in that direction, and the sooner it is brought to this decisive arbitrament the better for all parties.

Meantime, to show the race of idiots are not yet extinct, Senator Chandler of Michigan with that absence of all dignity or honesty which characterizes all public men in the United States, wants to acquire the North West Territory and Canada, but can't have either. We should remember that this country annexed Michigan by force of arms in 1812. In the event of war we would try to do so again and we might have the senator as member for his county in the Commons of Canada. Apart from the farce of the thing its serious aspect is that it will lead to actual warfare if not checked in time. Such announcements as:—"The

New York Fenian Congress has adjourned and except that O'Neill has been elected President nothing reliable is known of its proceedings. It is, however, asserted that a war policy has been resolved upon," are not calculated to calm the exasperated feelings of the people of Canada or to inculcate anything but hatred of the people and institutions of the United States. We think it is full time for Great Britain to interfere; make those braggarts eat their *leek* as they did in 1812, and insure the peace of North America by compelling the suppression of Gen. O'Neill and his ragamuffins.

The following was omitted in our last issue in reply to "Bushwhacker's" letter:—Paragraph 61 of the new Militia Act reads: Her Majesty may call out the Militia, or any part thereof, for actual service, either within or without the Dominion at any time whenever it appears advisable to do so by reason of war, invasion or insurrection, or danger of any three; and the militiamen when so called out for actual service shall continue to serve for at least one year from the date of their being called out for actual service if required to do so, or for any longer period which Her Majesty may appoint. The case under consideration does not come under either heads—the men will be regularly *enlisted* for service, and the matter is in the hands of the proper authorities, who will doubtless deal with it according to the best interests of the country.

This letter of our Montreal Correspondent echoes the opinion of many people who think the Government ought to be prepared to lay before the public at large all the private information in their possession respecting the anticipated Fenian raid. Very little reflection is necessary to convince any reasonable man that such a course would be precisely that desired by the enemies of Canada, and, therefore, if for no other reason, the Canadian Executive must maintain a "masterly silence." Those people must also be aware that it is not with the Fenians alone this country has to deal, but with their aiders and abettors, the people and government of the United States, and it was to take precaution against the non-execution of the municipal laws of our neighbors as well as to guard against the possible damage a lot of lawless brigands might do that the creditable display of force on the frontier was recently made. Our correspondent shews conclusively that there would be no lack of Volunteers in the hour of danger. The complaints about uniform reflect no credit on the Captains of Companies, and less on the men; but it is an evil of slight account which will be easily remedied. Canada was defended by Militia soldiers in 1812-15, whose sole allowance in the way of necessities was *one blanket per man*, and a good deal of the uniforms worn after the first campaign were made of cloth captured