

by the failures in the British navy, have not been applied so advantageously as we would suppose a people possessing their reputation for sagacity, would apply them. The fact, however, seems to be that they are blest with engineers who have certain theories, or, more properly speaking, crochets, and for the sake of demonstrating these, they risk the usefulness and reputation of their navy.

Very successful in the construction of Monitors for coast and river purposes, the American Naval engineers have endeavoured to create a sea going fleet built upon the same principles. This experience is beginning to demonstrate, to their great dissatisfaction, as altogether impracticable, but it is not till after they have spent several millions of dollars that they realize the unpleasant fact. The transition state of Naval architecture at the present day naturally induces Navy failures, but it is sheer absurdity to go on constructing a class of vessels which experience proves to be defective, if not altogether useless.

THE ASSASSINATION

The examination of Whelan on the charge of the murder of the Hon. T. D. McGee was resumed on Thursday last and continued on Friday and Saturday when a great mass of evidence was adduced all of which strongly confirms the opinion that Whelan is the actual murderer, it also appears that he had quite a circle of accomplices both in Ottawa and Montreal. In the latter city a Fenian Circle has been discovered and all the documents connected therewith, including rolls of the members and their proceedings have been seized and are now in possession of the authorities. One Doody was head Centre in Montreal, who, with a great many more, is now in custody. It is said that the Government are in possession of all the facts and justice will not be long overtaking the murderers.

A Rifle Club has been formed in Ottawa under the name of the Metropolitan Rifle Club, it is composed of a number of the leading Volunteer and Militia officers who have before done so much to make the Rifle meetings at Ottawa so pleasant and successful, we understand it is the intention of the Club to hold a tournament some time during the approaching season which we have no doubt will be a great success.

The Dominion Parliament has voted the sum of \$1,200 annually to the widow of the late Hon. T. D. McGee, and \$4,000 gratuity to each of his daughters.

We publish in the present number the first letter from our Montreal correspondent, who will hereafter furnish us with regular reports of all Volunteer matters occurring in that city.

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MONTREAL.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On the evening of the 9th of April a large meeting of the officers of the Volunteer force was held in the Victoria Armory; Colonel Dyde presided; there were also present, Lieut. Col. Smith, A. A. G., Col. McPherson, D. A. G., Brigade Major Bacon, Lieut. Col. David, and other Volunteer officers. Colonel Dyde said he had called this meeting to express in the name of the Volunteer force of Montreal, their utter abhorrence in the late dastardly assassination of T. D. McGee, and to express their sympathy with the widow and orphan. After paying a tribute to the gifted and other noble qualities of Mr. McGee, Col. Dyde said, that he intended to issue an order for a general turn out of the whole Volunteer force to join in the funeral obsequies. Lieut. Col. Osborne Smith said, Mr. McGee was the true friend of the Canadian Volunteers, and he could testify to his labors on their behalf, and thus we must consider him tonight not in the capacity of statesman, writer or orator. After expiating on his great grasp of mind, which enabled him to know full well how important was the defence which stout and willing hearts could circle that constitution and that flag for which he labored when living, and on which dying, he has left the signet of a martyr.

Lieut. Col. Smilie then moved "that the officers, non commissioned officers and men of the Volunteer force of the city receive with the most profound feeling of horror and indignation the intelligence which has informed them of the cowardly assassination of the patriot, the Hon. T. D. McGee, which with the most respectful sympathy for his widow and family, they hereby desire to record.

Lieut. Col. David said language failed him to express his feelings on the occasion, to the truest friend the Volunteers ever had. He felt sure that the nation would demand that the matter be sifted to the very bottom. He knew all the Volunteers would second his motion.

The resolution was now put and carried unanimously.

Lieut. C. P. Davidson, Victoria Rifles, said he was personally acquainted with Mr. McGee. His loss was felt by all classes, as he was a friend to, and a well worker for everyone, he was a great favorite, especially with young men, with whom he employed much of his time. He possessed a most gifted eloquence of speech, and on the dryest subject he was most versatile, he Lieutenant Davidson, too, thought the matter should be thoroughly sifted. The memory of Mr. McGee was written in their hearts, and the national monument would be the country he had assisted to consolidate, he would therefore move the following resolution: "that the members of the Volunteer force desire to express their obligation to Colonel Dyde for having afforded them an opportunity of recording their feelings on this sad occasion, and they confidently pledge themselves that the force will carry out such orders as they may receive with respect to paying the last tribute of respect to the memory of the murdered patriot with the most heartfelt willingness and energy.

Sergeant Bowden, of the Montreal Field Battery, briefly seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Colonel Dyde

said that orders, as, to the time, place of assembly would be duly issued. A vote of thanks to Col. Dyde was then passed.

Never has Montreal witnessed a more imposing and impressive pageant than that afforded on Monday last, in the funeral of the late lamented and gifted orator, Thos. Darcy McGee. The whole populace vied one with the other, in doing honor to his remains. At any early hour preparations were visible, and military and citizens might be seen on the move to their respective rendezvous, at night the whole city seemed astir. The houses and stores all profusely draped in black, and flags half-mast, added much solemnity of the scene. A continuous stream flowed into St. Catharine street towards the residence of the late orator, and also to the immediate neighborhood of St. Patrick's Church. The day was fine, and the air just cool enough to make it fresh and invigorating; the sun shone brightly, and nature arrayed itself in all its splendour as if to grace the scene. The funeral cortege left his late residence at 9:45 for St. Patrick's Church, where mass was performed, and a most impressive and eloquent sermon, delivered by the Rev. Father Farrell, full of encomiums and praise of the late patriot and statesman, more beautiful and touching language than that which characterized his address, it would hardly be possible to conceive, and many of his hearers were moved to tears, and wept audibly. The procession then wended its way to the French Cathedral, where the "Libera" was sung, after which His Lordship delivered a short and impressive address, touching on the melancholy occasion, at the termination of which the line of march was again taken up, and the procession moved with slow and measured space to the Roman Catholic Cemetery, the various bands of music with, their mournful strains adding much solemnity to the scene. The Volunteers turned out *en masse*, there were present Grand Trunk Brigade, Artillery, Major Stratton; Hochelaga, Captain Geddes; Royals, Captain Savage; Montreal Light Infantry, Captain Smith; Engineers (two companies) Capts. Kenny and Rutherford; Garrison Artillery, Capt. Cole; Cavalry, Capt. Muir; Royal Guides, Captain Ramsay, Chasseurs Canadiens, Colonel Tetu; Victoria Rifles, Lieut. Col. Hutton. The Field battery, Lieut. Col. Stevens, commanding, was stationed on Victoria Square, and fired minute guns during the ceremonies, two hundred rounds being fired altogether.

From your city, we noticed at the funeral Rifles (2 companies) Capts May, and Mac Gillivray; Garrison Artillery, Major Ross; Field Battery, Major Forrest. Their neat, trim and soldierlike appearance elicited general remark, they would evidently give a good account of themselves if their services were called into requisition. They were entertained here by the Victorias, (Lieut. Col. Hatton) who took this opportunity of returning a similar favor to them when visiting Ottawa last year. A company of rifles, from Philipsburg, under command of Capt. Smith, were also present. This company saw some service on the frontier in 1866, and are no doubt anxious to turn out again if needed also a company of Rifles from Lennoxville, under command Lieut. King.

The whole Volunteer force numbered about 1,600. The regulars comprised 100th regiment, Major Cook; 78 Highlanders, Major Fielten; 16th, Major Helyer; Royal Artillery, Capt. O'Hara; 60th Rifles, Col. Fielang; 13th Hussars, Major Russell. The whole force regular, and volunteer, was under the command of General Russell.