

ways—it facilitates alike an advance upon India, and a descent upon Persia, &c."

In the discussion which arose on Captain TRENCH's lecture, Major POORE truly said "It is not in Central Asia but in Europe that Russia is to be opposed" and he then points out that the true way of exhausting the resources of that power is by destroying her trade; and shut up as she is within the Baltic and Black Seas no particular difficulty could be experienced therein; and the reason why this could be so readily effected, is to be found in the great cost of her Executive Government, which 'cannot be kept up except by the revenue on the exports of the country;' and this is owing in a great manner to her peculiar institutions, the great extent of territory governed, and the diversity as well as disaffection of her population.

The folly of the stupid clauses in the Treaty of Paris by which the *Right of Search* was abandoned, is now apparent; it was designed to serve Russia alone, and the whining philanthropists with their ready tools in the administration practically disarmed Great Britain. If ever any people had a warning on the folly of allowing neutral rights during a struggle for political and independent existence, it was the people of England. The war ending in 1815 was prolonged for at least five years by stupidly permitting the United States to supply the want of a commercial marine to her enemies, and the climax of absurdity was capped when the right of search was abandoned. Those able lectures establish the truth that Russia can be beaten at sea, but it involves a general European war, with its more than probable extension to this continent. JOHN BRIDGER, the Peace Society, and the Whig Radicals should admire the work of their own hands.

THE kindness of C. W. EDDY, Esq., Honorary Secretary Royal Colonial Institute, has supplied us with a copy of a lecture by Capt. J. B. O'HARA, late of the 25th or King's Own Borderers, delivered before the Royal United Service Institution, on the important and interesting subject of "Rifles and Rifling."

The gallant lecturer has experimented largely in every matter connected with small arms, and with what, we should say, from a cursory examination, eminent success. His discoveries practically, in what may be called the natural mode by which a bullet receives its initial velocity, contain the germ of a great improvement, not only in small arms, but in heavy artillery, and bids fair to obviate the difficulty of the successful application of the principle of rifling to the monster artillery.

We are not able to bestow the attention this week on a subject of such importance as Captain O'HARA's lecture, the funeral honors of the great Canadian Statesman demands our dutiful attention, but promise our readers a full and copious review of the lecture in our next issue.

The movements of our neighbors of the United States must be always of great importance to the Dominion, inasmuch as their political and social economy will furnish us with precedents to be avoided, and hence marking out the dangers of experimentalism in new tangled ideas of Government and social morality. There are two things which concern us nearly, because our acquisition of the North Western Territories has brought us face to face with the problems both in-volve, and as our neighbors are engaged in seeking solutions of both, we can at least profit by the experience they have already acquired.

Of those, the first and most pressing is the *Indian Question*—the method by which the aborigines should be governed, and their social status elevated by civilization without "improving them off the face of the earth." The magnitude of this problem may be estimated to some extent by a paragraph of the following article from *The Manitoban* of the 17th May, which we copy for the purpose of showing our readers how the Government of the United States deal with those people and how carefully the example set us in this respect should be avoided, for it is very evident that if the Red man had been fairly treated, all the precautions detailed, would be unnecessary. For over two years we have had engineers and surveyors at work on the Canadian Pacific, a line parallel to the Northern Pacific, and distant from one to two hundred miles, through the very heart of the territory claimed as hunting grounds by the Indians, and they have been not only unmolested, but the aborigines are their best hunters and friends, while the Dominion has not been put to one dollar's expense, for military purposes as yet. Still we think with the *Manitoban* that it will be necessary to deal cautiously in these matters, as the greater part of the 60,000 Indians he refers to may at any time be forced across the frontier by the lawless acts and aggressions of the United States settlers, and it is necessary to be prepared in the event of such a contingency not only to give them protection from the military violence of our neighbors, as exemplified recently in Mexico, but to enforce order amongst the Indians if necessary.

"No intelligent Manitoban can be indifferent to the question now exciting great interest in the United States—whether the military operations against the Modocs of Northern California, and the Apaches of the territory of Arizona, shall be confined to those localities, and the savages of the plains between the settlements on the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains shall be restrained from hostilities. On this point the reports are contradictory, especially as to the attitude of the numerous and warlike Sioux or Dakota nation. But whatever may be the result, we notice with satisfaction that troops are distributed along our frontier in sufficient numbers, we hope, to restrain, but at all events to repress any outbreak.

"Mr. Robert Cunningham, in the recent

debates in the House of Commons at Ottawa, is reported to have said that there were 15 posts and 3000 troops at different points in the adjacent territories of Dakota and Montana. The statement was not inaccurate when made, but within a few days the force of last year has been increased by two regiments of cavalry, bringing the number of troops from the Red River to the mountains to 5000 men, one half being mounted. The *St. Paul Press* of April 29 contains an order of Gen. Terry, commanding the department of Dakota, detailing an expedition to protect the Survey of the Northern Pacific Railroad west of the Missouri, which will consist of 1000 dragoons, 1140 infantry, and 75 Indian scouts, total 2215 men, under the command of Col. D. S. Stanley of the 22nd Infantry.

Perhaps our readers may be interested by a more detailed statement of the military organization, which our neighbors find necessary for the protection of a Pacific Railway and its attendant settlements. In July last a Roster of troops in the department of Dakota was published by Gen. Hancock, then in command, which we have consulted. We find that the force then consisted of four companies of cavalry, averaging 100 men, and fifty-four companies of infantry, averaging 60 men—cavalry 400, infantry 3240—total 4640. Deducting the garrisons at Forts Snelling and Ripley in Minnesota (one company at each post, or 120 men), and the total number west of Red River to the mountains will still be 2520, or nine infantry companies more than was represented by the member for Marquette. But if we were correctly informed, four more infantry companies were added during the autumn of 1872, as a part of a column sent to the Yellowstone for the protection of the Railway engineers while this spring, as already mentioned there has been a further reinforcement of two regiments of cavalry. The aggregate at this time, including friendly Indian scouts, is 5830, nearly one half being cavalry. Of course, the escort of the American Commissioner for the survey of the International Boundary is included.

We infer that a necessity exist to patrol the frontier, and the adjacent districts, through which the Northern Pacific Railroad is projected, with half the troops assigned to the department of Dakota, while the numerous garrisons are manned very much as last year.

We have obtained a list of the military posts over the district adjoining Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The first line of forts is in the Red River valley and the vicinity of Devil's Lake, immediately south of Manitoba, and are designated as Forts Pembina, Abercrombie, Wadsworth, Ransom, Lincoln and Totten. The next series are along the Missouri, southward from the Canadian district of which Fort Ellise is the centre, and are Forts Randall, Sully, Rice, McKeen, Stevenson and Buford, besides the stations at three Indian Agencies. All the foregoing are within the Territory of Dakota, commanding the area between longitudes 97 deg. and 104 deg. and latitudes 44 deg. and 49 deg.

In Montana the posts are not so numerous, but are more strongly manned. There are four—Shaw, Benton, Baker, and Ellis. Including the detachments stationed at the Sioux Agencies in Dakota—Lower Brule, Cheyenne and Grand River—the whole number of posts is nineteen.

Who will say that this array and distribution of military force is unnecessary in the presence of 60,000 Indians, who are impress-