

Quickest passages to Quebec previous to the Sardinian:—The Peruvian arrived July 10th, 1869, at 5.55 p.m. Passage, 8 days. The Polynesian arrived July 4th, 1874, at 6.55 p.m. Passage, 8 days 1h. 15m.

This statement shows the actual running time between port and port, no deduction being made for detention by ice, fog, or other causes.

The remarkable speed attained by the Sardinian on her late voyage will be better understood by perusal of the figures of her daily rate of progress, a statement of which we also append:—

1st Sept., off Moville.....	190 miles.
2nd "	175 "
3rd "	320 "
4th "	350 "
5th "	330 "
6th "	328 "
7th "	315 "
8th "	332 "
To Quebec	310 "

Total 2,650 miles.

We cannot dismiss the subject of this unparalleled trip of the Sardinian without acknowledging generally the important influence for good which the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company, under the management of Sir Hugh Allan, wield upon the interests of the Dominion from the great facilities for intercourse between the two continents which they offer to the public; we cannot overlook the immense advantages they afford to trade and especially to immigration. We think we are safe in asserting that no better colonization agent for this country exists than the Company in question, and it is only reasonable to conclude that this power to confer benefits will be largely enhanced by the excellent reputation which their boats are acquiring for speed, as well as for cautious handling, comfort, and satisfactory management in every respect.

The following table shows the quickest outward passages made by the steamers of this line:—

Left Quebec, Green- wich Time.	Arrived at Moville
Circassian....July 8, Sunday ..2.20 p.m.	July 16, 6.46 p.m.
Sarmatian....July 15, Sunday ..2.25 p.m.	July 23, 4.00 p.m.
Moravian....July 22, Monday ..3.00 p.m.	July 31, 7.30 a.m.
Peruvian....July 29, Sunday ..3.00 p.m.	Aug. 6, 5.15 p.m.
Polynesian*..Aug. 5, Sunday ..4.15 p.m.	Aug. 13, 9.00 a.m.
Sardinian....July 12, Sunday ..2.25 p.m.	Aug. 20, 6.40 p.m.
Circassian†...July 19, Monday ..3.35 p.m.	Aug. 28, 1.00 p.m.

*Length of Polynesian's passage to Moville, 7 days, 16 hours, 45 minutes.

†Detained by fog 14 hours.

Left Moville.	Landed Mails at Rimouski.
Moravian....Aug. 11, Saturday ..6.00 p.m.	Aug. 19, 11.00 a.m.
Peruvian....Aug. 18, Saturday ..6.00 p.m.	Aug. 26, 7.00 a.m.

Broad Arrow says:—"While the system of ordnance adopted in our own Service is being proved more clearly every day to be based on sound principles, the Prussians, on the other hand, appear not to be altogether satisfied with their much-vaunted Krupp guns. Intelligent foreigners, with ample technical

knowledge to enable them to improve the opportunity to the utmost, are not admitted to view artillery experiments in Germany so readily as they are in England; neither are official or authentic detailed reports of the proceedings freely and unrestrictedly published. Consequently, it is not easy to ascertain all that goes on in the arsenals at Essen, or at the proof butts, and on the trial ranges at Dülmen. Report, however, which in this case seems to be well authenticated, says that recently a 7-inch Krupp gun burst explosively at Kummersdorf, killing one man and slightly wounding others. It is well known that a liability to burst in this manner is one of the great drawbacks to the Krupp system. And it is an evil the magnitude of which can hardly be overrated. It is not merely that now and again a gun is prematurely destroyed; but if it is known that there is a chance of a piece of ordnance bursting in a dangerous manner, it becomes impossible to get men to work the gun properly; to train, lay, and fire it carefully and deliberately. The detachment or crew will be thinking too much of the danger which threatens them to perform their work properly. And now that the modern development of artillery has concentrated the whole weight of the broadside, formerly thrown by a number of guns, in one or two projectiles, it has become of more importance than ever that not a single round should be wasted. Rumour further asserts that the Prussians, recognising the defects of their own system, are now carrying on experiments with the Uchatius bronze-steel material, and that nine out of twelve such guns, ordered at Spandau, have been tried with satisfactory results. If this is the case, other secrets besides those of the Topographical Department must have been divulged by Austrian officials."

It appears to be very evident that the British ordnance system is at present the best in the world; but our scientific artilleryists must look well to their laurels if the following is true. The London Times announces that "the United States Government not long since sent a committee of artillery officers to inspect and report upon the artillery of England and Germany, with the view of introducing not only the heaviest but also the cheapest system of rifled ordnance into their service. The result of this commission was the recommendation of Sir W. Palliser's system. The first trial was at Sandy Hook with a 10-inch Rodman gun converted into an 8-inch Palliser. This gun, which weighed about seven tons, completed its 750 rounds of battering charges without injury. The officers of the United States Ordnance Committee converted another 10-inch Rodman gun into a 9-inch Palliser gun. This gun weight less than seven tons, and yet it has completed 250 rounds of the battering charges of the English 9 inch 12-ton Woolwich gun without injury. The American officers in their report to Congress say that they consider these trials in conjunction with the

establishment of the 64-pounders and 80-pounders in the English service as conclusive. They express themselves very warmly indeed to the effect that once their country stood foremost in the artillery of the world, that subsequently they felt themselves surpassed, but that now they have obtained a system of manufacture which will secure their former pre-eminence. The American Ordnance Committee conclude with the recommendation to their Government of the immediate manufacture of a 35-ton Palliser gun. It will be observed that this recommendation goes to manufacture *ab initio*, not to mere conversion. The 1,500 64-pounders and 80-pounders in use in England on Sir W. Palliser's system are all converted guns. They have nevertheless successfully resisted the heavy charges of *poudre brute* with which (instead of the slower pebble powder used for the large new guns) they are charged."

DURING the stay of the Vice Regal party at New Westminster, B.C., the Indians of the District presented the Governor General with an address, to which His Excellency replied as follows:—

"Chiefs, I have been looking forward to this day with great pleasure, because I knew that I was to meet great numbers of the Indian people. When I left England your Great Mother the Queen commanded me to go into the country of the Indians, and acquaint myself with their habits, their wants, and their wishes. Before starting on my journey, I thought it well to acquaint myself with all that had been written about them, but particularly with regard to their condition and relation to the land; and, therefore, I quite understand all that they wish to say to me upon the subject. They must remember, however, that I can make them no promise; because, if I were to make them any promise, they might expect more than it would be either reasonable or just they should get. But I am happy to be able to tell them that three good and upright men, who are favorably disposed towards the Indians and acquainted with their wants, will enquire into the circumstances of each tribe, and hear any complaints they have to make. The chiefs have told me that the Indians are a weak, ignorant, and unimportant people; but I am glad to see by their appearance and bearing, that it is their humility which has induced them to make that representation, as they look very respectable, sober, and intelligent. Under any circumstances, there are three persons before whom the Indian stands on an equality with the best white man, and those three persons are—God, the Queen, and the Law. I have only one more parting word to say, and that is, to tell you, when you go back to your homes, to warn the young men against the danger of indulging in intoxicating liquors. I am happy to have met so many Indians here today."

The Governor General and Suite are now on their return to Canada, via Philadelphia.

The Winnipeg Standard, says:—"The Cree to the west are delighted with Governor Morris and his fellow commissioners, and have readily entered into treaties with them. In a few weeks they will have returned, and we will be able to report "all quiet to the Pacific."