

## CONTENTS OF No. 41, VOL. VIII.

POETRY:—	
Changed.....	490
EDITORIAL:—	
Russian Campaign against Khiva.....	480
Escape of Marshal Bazaine.....	487
The News of the Week.....	481
RIFLE COMPETITION:—	
Manitoba Rifle Association.....	487
Fifth Brigade Rifle Association.....	489
York County Rifle Association.....	489
Accurate Rifle Shooting—Creedmoor.....	489
SELECTIONS:—	
Scenes in Yarkund.....	482
The London of the Romans.....	483
The Coming Bayonet.....	484
Russian Designs on Turkey.....	484
Bazaine.....	490
Electrical Torpedoes.....	491
Gunpowder Manufacture.....	492
MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.....	497



## The Volunteer Review,

AND

## MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

"Unbribed, unbought, our words we draw,  
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, OCT. 20, 1874.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words "Printer's copy" written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

**LIEUT. J. B. VINTER**, of Victoria, is our authorised Agent for Vancouver Island, British Columbia. As is also **Captain H. V. EDMONDS** for New Westminster and adjacent country.

We are indebted to Lieutenant Colonel **STUART**, of the Adjutant General's Department, for the following important piece of news, which we publish for the information of the Canadian Army.

The following General Order, dated Horse Guards, London, August 1874, respecting Officers' Dress, has been published.

"The scarlet patrol jacket authorized by General Order 71 of 1872 is to be discontinued, but those now in possession may be continued in use as laid down in section 12 of the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army until worn out.

"Subject to the above exception, tunics must be worn on all occasions; but in order to save expense officers may furnish themselves with a second tunic of serge or

light cloth (in all other respects the same as the Regular tunic) to be worn upon those duties now sanctioned for the scarlet patrol jacket."

THE *Ottawa Times* of the 2nd inst., announces that Major General **SNEYBY SMITH**, of the British Army, will sail from England on the 12th to assume the command of the Dominion Army. While this announcement cannot but be acceptable to the officers of the force we should like to see it accompanied by the *Gazette* affirming the appointment of Colonel **WALKER POWELL** as Adjutant General; but perhaps, this latter is held back in order that the *Gazette* of the "General Staff" should be made at one and the same time. We are sure that General **SMITH**'s appointment will be most gratifying to the force, and equally sure that of Colonel **POWELL** is most earnestly desired. We shall await the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief before saying more on this subject, especially as the advent of a new Minister of Militia bids fair for the infusion of more effective energy in the Department, and has been acquired in the subordinate affairs of command and staff appointment, so that no department of the service is strange to him. This appointment cannot fail to give great and general satisfaction to the officers of the force generally, for it marks the era when the higher ranks of the Canadian Army were thrown open to those officers who had aspired to fill them. We congratulate the Force and the country on Colonel **MACPHERSON**'s appointment.

THE *Ottawa Times* of the 2nd inst. announces the approaching retirement on superannuation of Major **GEORGE FETVOYE**, Deputy Minister of Militia, and the probable accession of Colonel **MACPHERSON**, late Deputy Adjutant General and now head of the accountant's department, to the vacant office, a change which the development of the militia service and its importance as a military organization imperatively demands.

The service and experience of Colonel **MACPHERSON** are eminently calculated to benefit the department of which he is to be practically the head. The growing exigencies of the Canadian Army requires a soldier should fill the position which the inception of the legislative measures necessary for its organization had delegated to a lawyer, and it is peculiarly gratifying to know that Colonel **MACPHERSON**'s experience has grown with the growth of the force of which he is to be the official head.

AN article from a recent issue of *Broad Arrow* entitled "Infantry versus Artillery" will be found in another column. It has been copied because it shews, although in an imperfect and not entirely satisfactory manner the doctrine we have always held and advocated, that infantry properly handled were still as efficient as they ever have been not

withstanding recent improvements in modern artillery, and that the three arms—infantry, artillery, and cavalry—in the order they are named bear the same relation to each other and to the tactical application of a military force as they have ever done since regular armies were first marshalled and the principles of modern tactics recognized.

It has been our ardent wish to have experiments of the kind undertaken by the Bavarian and Swiss military introduced into our ordinary annual drill manoeuvres, the cost would be comparatively little, indeed need not exceed that annually incurred, while the advantage would be so great as to warrant almost any ordinary or possible sacrifice; for let it be remembered that if our troops are to be engaged in active hostilities at any time during the next two generations they will not assume the shape of the attack and defence of strongly fortified positions, but contests with infantry, artillery and cavalry, either in the open or under such natural cover as our woods can afford. It is also very evident that cavalry will play a very secondary part indeed in such a contest, and that the question of "Infantry versus artillery" is the one with which we will have principally to deal. Now, if those experiments are worth anything they prove that artillery against a well trained and well handled infantry is inoperative. It is stated by a competent artilleryman that at 800 yards an infantry soldier will present a mark no larger or better than a quart bottle at 100 yards; a gun with its detachment would present a front equal to two quart bottles in height and six in width. Moreover, modern artillery fire within 1,000 yards is uncertain in range and deviation, so that a skillful officer able to get twelve or fourteen crack shots within 800 yards would stand more than a chance of completely silencing the gun and probably cause the battery to relinquish the position, and advantage few soldiers will fail to appreciate; but the men who are to do this must be men of nerve and endurance capable of properly estimating what artillery fire is worth and the extent of its precise effect. Now, our mode of training infantry soldiers is not calculated to produce men with the specified qualities. At a rifle meeting the ranges are accurately measured, the contest is carried on without any disturbing element, while in the field of battle the danger is apparent, and a contest between both arms requiring the greatest steadiness of nerve and indifference to danger on the part of the individual infantry soldier must be carried on amidst excitement, uproar, and all the disturbing causes of a battle field. It follows that in training we must seek to imitate as far as possible all the "pomp and circumstances of glorious war," and in any experiment carried out as much of the noise and excitement as possible should be kept up; the blank cartridge practice should also be made available towards this end, and mock