

Correspondence between Citiz... Sprite and Lieut.-Colonel
Lord Alexander Russell.

Citizen Sprite to Lord Russell.

Citizen *Sprite* presents his compliments to Lieut.-Colonel Lord Alexander Russell. Citizen *Sprite* regrets to perceive, through the medium of the public prints, certain conduct attributed to Lord Russell, unworthy of an officer and a gentleman. Citizen *Sprite* is not prone to notice *ex-parte* statements relating to the conduct of persons holding Her Majesty's Commission, but he cannot shut his eyes to the fact that some *chevaux de frise*, the property of Her Majesty, have been employed for purposes other than they were originally intended for.

On the Esplanade, a spot of ground long frequented and used by Her Majesty's subjects, without regard to age, sex, quality, or condition, these *chevaux de frise* have been placed; but, notwithstanding the broad insinuations, in some letters, with such signatures as "Schoolboy," "Mechanic," "Citizen," and so forth, Citizen *Sprite* is unwilling to believe that Colonel Lord Russell, who, regardless of expense, maintains horses, carriages, and a large retinue of servants, carrying about with him upwards of 70 tons of private baggage, is so ungallant as to exclude the ladies of Quebec—to say nothing of their babies—from the only semblance of a park within the gates. He perceives that a pony and foal feed upon the grass enclosed by the *chevaux de frise*. Citizen *Sprite* would respectfully enquire if, as alleged, the pony and foal belong to Lord Russell, and if Lord Russell's means are not sufficient to enable him to buy hay?—

9½ Garden Street, Quebec, 1st July, 1865.

Lord Russell to Citizen Sprite.

Lieut.-Colonel Lord Russell presents his compliments to Mr. Citizen *Sprite*. Lord Russell is surprized that Mr. *Sprite* should, even for a moment, fancy that he could be actuated by conduct other than that of an officer and gentleman. Colonel Russell owns both pony and foal, and is quite able to buy hay for them to eat. Lord Russell, however, is aware that animals require fresh air and open-air exercise in this very hot weather, and conceived the idea of taking advantage of the nice situation and the luxuriant grass of the Esplanade for the benefit of his mare and foal. The public of Quebec are nothing to Lord Russell. Lord Russell is not a resident of Quebec, but an Englishman and a relative of that distinguished nobleman, who is said to be without moral fear, and ready at a moment's notice to command the channel fleet, to perform the operation for the stone, or to build another Paul's Cathedral. Lord Russell's mare and foal are of more consequence to him than children, or their mothers. Lord Russell begs to assure Citizen *Sprite* that he is commandant of the garrison, and may do as he pleases.

Citadel, Quebec, 2nd July, 1865.

Citizen Sprite to Lord Russell.

Citizen *Sprite* presents his compliments to Lieut.-Colonel Lord Russell, Rifle Brigade, Commandant of the Garrison. Mr. *Sprite* apologizes to Lord Russell for having, inadvertently, omitted any allusion to an official position, held at different periods by several distinguished officers in Her Majesty's service, as well as by Lord Russell, and in a manner not at all calculated to give offence to the permanent residents of Quebec. Mr. *Sprite*, to return to the subject of his first note, does not

perceive that Lord Russell exonerates himself from blame in the matter of the mare, foal, and *chevaux de frise*. In some things, Lord Russell may do as he pleases. In others, he cannot. Lord Russell cannot offend good taste. Lord Russell cannot, for his private ends, legitimately make use of public property. Lord Russell cannot appropriate to himself the perquisite of the commanding officer of the Royal Artillery, any more than he can that of the officer commanding the Royal Engineers. To the one, the grass within the batteries belongs by courtesy; to the other, that on the slopes and glacis without. Lord Russell is not an officer of Artillery nor a Royal Engineer. Citizen *Sprite* begs further to remind Lord Russell that he may, if he chooses, enclose the powder magazine on the Esplanade by *chevaux de frise*, and feed his pony and foal within the walls of that edifice. Citizen *Sprite* is surprized at the position in this matter assumed by a member of one of the noblest families in Great Britain, some of whose ancestors sacrificed their lives in the cause of public rights.

9½ Garden Street, 3rd July, 1865.

Lord Russell to Mr. Sprite.

Lord Russell presents his compliments to Mr. Citizen *Sprite*. Lord Russell is not accustomed to be spoken to in the manner in which Mr. *Sprite* indulges. Lord Russell begs to reiterate that he will do as he pleases, and that threats, such as he has heard indulged in, of pitching pony, foal, and *chevaux de frise* into the dry-ditch outside of the mortar battery, will be resisted by all the force under his command. Lord Russell is not to be intimidated by Mr. Citizen *Sprite* or by any other citizen of Quebec.

Citadel, 4th July, 1865.

Throwing the Hammer.

We have had a great deal of this sport lately among celebrated players, and genuine Scotchmen. By the bye, is this national skill with the hammer to be attributed to the prevalence of *hard nails* in the land o' cakes? But the monotony begins to tire, and it would be desirable to introduce a little variety in the game. Should this suggestion be entertained, the *Sprite* is willing to back himself for a few thousands, to produce ten men—and they shall all of them be M. P. P's.—who shall beat the world at *throwing the hatchet*.

The Fourth of July.

It is to be expected, after the tumultuous and bloody scenes of the last four years, that the great American anniversary will have been celebrated with unusual enthusiasm, and with more than usual earnestness and sincerity. Let this present day be famous for all time as one of mercy as well as of thanksgiving and rejoicing. Pardon Jeff. Davis, unconditionally; and pardon all those who have fought bravely in the field or honestly advised in the council. The time is fitting; the act would be inexpressibly graceful.

The Courts of Military Justice.

Long may these courts continue to sit, for they are likely to prove a blessing to us. It appears that the prosecution require witnesses of a peculiar order. They have found some of the necessary article in Canada, and if they go on as they have commenced, they will soon relieve the province of all its scoundrelry.