

enlarge further upon the necessity. The fact of the two Gunnery Schools being on the spot would ensure the efficiency of these Volunteer Brigades; the names for the Brigade at Quebec being actually already enrolled.

In view of the above, I recommend a corresponding reduction in Garrison Batteries elsewhere; notably, the Ottawa Brigade of seven batteries might be reduced to two to be retained for the guns in position on Nepean Point. There is no need for a large Garrison Artillery force at Ottawa where there are no works of defence to man, and there is besides a thoroughly good Field Battery in all respects serviceable.

In the course of the summer, ten new rifled Palliser $\frac{3}{4}$ -pounder guns have been added to the armament of Quebec and mounted on the ramparts, and these with the armament already in position, will pretty well lock the gates of the St. Lawrence, when artillerymen are authorized to man them: we have 200 rounds of shell for each gun. Five of the same class of gun have been mounted on Negro Point at St. John, New Brunswick; these with two 32-pounder guns in the same battery, command the entrance to St. John, a harbour of great importance, owning after London, Liverpool, Glasgow and Bristol, the largest amount of registered shipping in the world.

Concrete platforms have also been laid upon the salients of the three splendid forts at Point Levis for the seven-inch guns ready to be mounted. I am happy to say these forts have been carefully pointed and thoroughly repaired by the Department of Public Works. Much has also been done to the works of the Citadel, especially in roofing in the bastions with wood to protect them from the arctic weather prevailing in winter; but much still remains to be done,—in fact Engineers ought to be permanently attached to "A" and "B" Batteries to keep the valuable works of Quebec and Kingston in repair. When garrisoned by Queen's Troops the Royal Engineers were employed on repairing the damaging effects of the winter's frost, all the year round.

In referring to Quebec and the demolition of some now obsolete outlying works of defence, I cannot refrain from an expression of grief at having witnessed the destruction of the stern old Jesuit Barracks, which so many thousand British soldiers have inhabited since the days when British troops landed on these shores, and round whose walls without the fortress of Quebec have surged those mighty waves of battle that have finally decided the fate of Canada. The walls of the Jesuit Barracks were so thick and solid that dynamite was necessary to destroy them.

Respecting the $\frac{3}{4}$ -pounder converted Palliser guns, I may observe that we ordered these guns from Woolwich relying upon the price list, "by authority" published in 1875, wherein the price of each such gun is laid down at £111 6s. 2d. plus 5 per cent, but the charge demanded is £189 11s. 8d, plus 5 per cent. for each gun, and upon remonstrance we are told by the Surveyor General that we must have taken the