

jutant, and Surgeon-Major Campbell, Grenadier Guards, Medical Officer.

Two more old ships which have done much useful work in their day are to be removed from the effective list, but not before it was time. The "Bacchante" and "Euryalus" have for long seen their best days, and they will be no loss to the navy now. They belong to what used to be known as the "Boadicea" type of iron screw corvettes cased with wood, and formed an intermediate class between the unarmed cruisers like the "Sha," "Inconstant," and "Raleigh" and the smaller corvettes like the "Active" and "Volage." The "Bacchante" was built at Portsmouth and the "Euryalus" at Chatham some 16 years ago. The former vessel is memorable as that in which the Duke of York and the late Duke of Clarence served in as midshipmen in a cruise round the world.

Commander R. Patton-Jenkins writes from "The Maples," Addiscombe, Croydon, to the "Times": "May I claim your indulgence for an eye and ear witness of the memorable incident referred to in Admiral Erben's speech at the Chicago banquet. In case for want of circumstantial detail the incident should be allowed to pass into the legendary, I write as senior surviving officer of Her Majesty's late gun-vessel "Cormorant," in which at the attack on the Peiho forts in June, 1859, this incident occurred. Being present at the moment I heard Commodore Tatnall, when stepping on to the quarter-deck, use the words, 'Blood is thicker than water.' Long may this be appropriately applied to the relations between the navies of two great nations which are but families of one race."

The Admiralty have decided to strengthen the Engineer's Department of the navy by entering during the next twelve months 360 engine-room artificers, and 2,472 stokers. By the 1st of April 1895, the present establishment of engine-room artificers will be increased from 1,600 to 1,960; and the stokers from 11,040 to 13,484. The average entries per quarter at the naval ports will be as follows: Portsmouth—Engine room artificers 34, stokers 235; Devonport—Artificers 30, stokers 191; Sheerness and Chatham—Artificers 28, stokers 192. At Devonport, the recruiting for the engine room department is particularly brisk, 25 artificers and 85 stokers having been entered during the past month. The stokers recently entered have been recruited principally from Ireland.

### English vs. Canadian Color Sergeants.

Color sergeants who have the charge and payment of companies, in the Army, have as a rule lots of hard work to perform, and are not generally provided with too many of those little conveniences which go to make life so pleasant

for their cousins of the Canadian Permanent Force.

Indeed, I am sure the majority of color sergeants whom I have known would be glad to exchange their positions and prospects in "the bravest army in the world" for the comfortable billet which falls to the wearer of three stripes and a crown in this little army of ours.

Your color sergeant in the army has the honor of being the commander of the Barrack or Quarterguard frequently, in fact this duty comes oftener than he thinks desirable at times, for instance, when at such large stations as Aldershot, or the Curragh, I cannot find that sergeants of any grade do guard duty in our Permanent Force, and what they do other than orderly duty one week out of four or five, I am at a loss to understand.

The Canadian "flag" has, besides his company store-room, an office fitted up with every convenience necessary, while he of the army has to be contented with a store-room and office combined, and this room is generally occupied as a barrack-room as well by a few old soldiers chosen from the company. There is one advantage in this arrangement that should be noted in that there are fewer opportunities for men, financially hard up, to negotiate loans behind closed doors.

The duties of the Army Color Sergeants are clearly defined, and he knows just what he has to do, but it is different in Canada, at some stations, for here we find him aspiring to and gradually absorbing some of the duties of the Sergeant-Major and Orderly-room Sergeant.

Not to be bothered with applications to the adjutants the captains will, as a rule, although a most improper one, send this non-commissioned officer to make demands on the clerks, in whatever manner most suits him at the time.

It is a very proper rule throughout the service that the Sergeant-Major only has the privilege of entering the orderly-room at all times without permission, and that other non-commissioned officers must apply to the senior clerk for permission to address the commissioned officer or adjutant.

Our "flag" is very comfortably fixed. He is a man of might, in fact people sometimes wonder where the limits of his power rest. He has the ear of the commissioned officer before whom you will often find him "standing at ease." He appoints himself to the staff of all general and other inspecting officers, and with all his honors he yearns for more. He wants a staff uniform, staff sergeant's pay, and what not? And he thinks he will not have long to wait for some of these things.

OLD SOLDIER.

### The Pen and the Sword.

Continuation of the Wordy Warfare Between Morgan and St. John.

To the Editor of the Kingston Daily News:

Sir,—In reading over the *News* of April 18th I noticed an article copied from the *Oswego Times*, which seems to show that St. John is still "talking through his hat"

or looking for qualification to carry out his programme before the summer vacation begins. As regards his defeat in Watertown, the public has heard considerable from St. John, but if you will kindly allow me to give the true version of the affair in your valuable paper I shall be obliged.

St. John keeps growling that he still holds the championship with sword and foil; but the match was for the all-round fencing championship of America, not for "sword and foil." With regard to his statement that the match was governed by rules arranged to suit me, I must say that it is false. When the final arrangements were made in presence of his second and mine, Messrs. Baker and A. W. Horsey respectively, the question was asked, "What rules shall govern this match?" I said, "British tournament rules," and produced a copy which was handed to Mr. Baker and read over in our presence, St. John at once remarking that the rules were satisfactory.

Now about the referee: St. John said there was no one qualified to act in Watertown. He mentioned that one of the officers from Sackett's Harbor had promised to fill the position, but said he had not yet returned from Washington. He afterwards asked whether I would consent to allow my second, Mr. Horsey, to fill the office. I said, "Yes, if I can get anyone to act as my second who knows anything about fencing." St. John said, "I will manage that for you." Shortly afterwards we met two of the Royal Military College cadets, Battalion Sergeant-Major Heneker and Sergeant Osborne, on their return trip from Washington. I introduced them and asked Sergeant-Major Heneker whether he would act as my second. He said, "yes." St. John said that everything was now settled satisfactorily.

About St. John's statement that I used a method of attack with the bayonet which he had never seen before—that is my business, as long as the rules allow it. With regard to his complaint that the referee did not do his duty, I must say that St. John received the full benefit of the doubt every time.

Contrary to the rules I went to Watertown to meet St. John, and if he wants a second meeting Canada is the place for it. I am employed in a position that prevents my competing for stakes, therefore that cannot be entertained.

As Mr. St. John imagines that he is so proficient with the sword and foil, I hope he will continue to practice with the best bayonet fencers that he can find; and when he is ready to come to Canada, I will make it most pleasant and interesting for him.

The pen is mightier than the sword, and St. John has evidently come to the conclusion that it is easier to compete on paper than on a platform 3½ feet high. It is certainly not pleasant to be knocked off to one of the front seats. But St. John may continue to dream that he still holds the championship of America, and travel on his figure by teaching the manly art of self defence.

J. MORGAN, Sergeant-Major,  
Champion of America,