

placement and buoyancy forward by reason of this projection, which, on the ships I propose, would answer the purpose of a ram.

I have given a general outline of what these sea-going ironclads should be, and think the generality of intelligent officers will coincide in my opinions.

These cruisers could keep the sea under sail, as well as wooden ships, and I believe their guns would be fired with greater rapidity and precision than would be possible from a turret.

Turreted cruising ships can only be built with high freeboard which renders it necessary to cover their sides with heavy plating all the way up. There must be a limit to this plating, which can never be made thick enough to resist the largest guns. Six or eight heavy steel shot striking at the water line would drive in their sides and probably cause them to sink, or withdraw from action to repair damages, if such a thing was possible.

To be Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DRILL IN SCHOOLS.

Sir,—As a good deal has of late been said with reference to the introduction of Military training into the Schools of Canada, I would, with your leave, propose a scheme which would, I think, be practicable, efficient and at the same time not expensive, which is as follows :

That the training be mainly confined to the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes for which there is already an annual grant of Fifty Dollars allowed by the Ontario Act passed last year.

And, first, with regard to the Collegiate Institutes: a Collegiate Institute is a High School having four masters and a daily average of sixty boys studying Latin and Greek, and with these I would include such large establishments as the Normal Schools, Upper Canada College, Trinity College School Port Hope, and the Huron College at London, which would make up Twelve or Fifteen Institutes, Schools and Colleges of this class in Ontario; to the Ontario allowance of fifty dollars add one hundred dollars as a Dominion Grant which would ensure of the masters qualifying as drill instructors; furnish these schools with say fifty serge uniforms and carbines; the instruction to be for one hour each day and the course to be what is required for the second class Military School Certificates, paying special attention to the balance step and the extension motions and such parts of the drill as would improve the physical appearance and capacity of growing boys; to have a yearly examination for second class certificates which together with Ten Dollars would be granted to such boys, sixteen years of age, as could pass the necessary examination in drill and Interior Economy before a board of examiners.

As to the High Schools where there is a smaller attendance, a Dominion grant of Fifty Dollars would be added to the Ontario allowance, the instruction to be squad and company drill sufficient to enable the boys to act as good drill sergeants, it would not, I think, be advisable to go to the expense of supplying uniforms or carbines to these smaller schools, but I would suggest that a sort of dummy carbine made of hardwood having a lock and breech block attachment should be supplied, or if it would not be convenient to get up these, half a dozen old carbines without ammunition might be furnished for the purpose of teaching the manual and platoon.

That all field officers should be Inspectors of drill in schools in their own Brigade Division.

With regard to the Common Schools the teachers of these are supplied almost entirely from the Normal and High Schools, and every mother's son attending them should get the goose step, extension motions, and some squad drill, to teach them how to walk and hold themselves, and to give them a decent carriage,

As to the University Colleges, although it might be objected that it would interfere with their studies, I am inclined to think that they should be included in the first class. As far as my experience goes those Colleges which have Volunteer Companies attached to them have furnished a much larger number of officers to the force in proportion to the numbers attending them, than those Colleges which have no Company.

I trust that the Government will not do away with the old military schools entirely, and that they will still be kept up at Kingston, Quebec, and Halifax; they furnish an entirely different class from those which the Military College will produce, and in much greater numbers; and it is at these alone that the first class certificates should be granted.

It seems to me that the scheme proposed is what is wanted, practicable, efficient and not expensive. We cannot keep up a large standing army, though it seems that a small one is absolutely necessary, but the Military Schools and Collegiate Institutes will supply what is wanted, namely, a large body of young men, contentually being kept up and scattered through the country who will be able to drill and officer our Militia at short notice in the event of threatening wars; while the Military College will supply the regular force in time of peace, and in the event of war we shall be supplied with a body of men who have made the army their profession and military knowledge their study, and who will be able to distinguish themselves equally with the splendid body of men whom West Point brought to the fore during the late American war.

19th Feb. 1875.

ONTARIO.

Military Training in Schools.

In the House the other day Dr. Brouse moved for a school committee to report on our present system of military drill, with a view to ascertain if some improvement may not be effected thereon. He referred to the large sum voted grudgingly, amounting to about one twelfth of the entire taxation of the country, feeling that a more satisfactory state of things might be brought about without drawing so on their resources, that was the system of juvenile military drill so taught in school. He quoted from the report of the royal commission in England, in which they approved of this system, he also quoted from authority that too much time was devoted to mental training, and too little to physical training. He set forth that there were 500,000 boys in the schools in the Dominion, and that in a few years a large number of young men would be qualified and who would make the best soldiers they could possibly procure.—Those who were taught when young never forgot the drill. He cited the Prussian system in corroboration of what he stated. Mr. Vail, the Minister of Militia, agreed to a great extent with what had fallen from Dr. Brouse, but he feared that the educational department, was entirely under the control of the Provincial Legislatures. He was sorry that his Honorable friend could not be induced to lay the matter over until next session, that they had now at the head of the militia a gentleman of great ability, and from whom they expected a great improvement of the militia drill, he was not asking too much in requesting that this matter might stand over until next session.

There is no doubt but that Prussia is indebted for the efficiency of her soldiers to the training they receive while at school. Not only their proficiency in handling the rifle and their steadiness in the field, but the muscle it imparts to their bodies. It is therefore desirable that the project should be brought prominently before the people before another session, as the motion of Dr. Brouse is likely to be laid over.—*Port Dover Independent.*

SCHOOL OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.—The first examination of the season was held at the Drill Shed on Tuesday evening, by Col. Laurie, D. A. G., Commandant of the School, when the following cadets received Second Class certificates:—Captain Sandford, 1st G. A., Lieut. W. E. West, 66th Vol.; Lieut. Lithgow, 2nd G. A., Sergt. J. E. Boutlier, 66th Vol.; Sergt. Suckling, 63rd Vol.; B. S. M. McNiven; 1st G. A.; and Bugler Small, 56th Vol. At the conclusion of the examination the successful candidates were highly complimented by the commandant on the manner in which they had acquitted themselves and the thoroughness they showed in their knowledge of drill.—*Acadian Recorder.*

REMITTANCES Received on Subscriptions to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 20th inst. :—

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| Instanton, St. John, N.B.—Maj. Wm. Cannon to Jan. 1875. | \$1.00 |
| Chatham, N.B.—Lt. Col. C. McCulley, B. M. to April 1875. | 2.00 |
| Stratford, O.—Capt. James C. McPherson, to June, 1875. | 2.00 |
| Spencerville, O.—Capt. Andrew Garratoback to Jan. 1875. | 5.00 |
| Mount Forest, O.—Capt. Wm. W. Wingfield to Jan. 1875. | 6.00 |
| Kingston, O.—Lt. Col. John Duff, to Jan. 75. | 2.50 |
| Rezon Falls, O.—Capt. John Wood to July 75. | 4.00 |
| " " "—Lt. Thos. McGrall to July 75. | 4.00 |