TORPEDOES.

The development of submarine warfare has been so rapid of late that is hardly possible to foretell what potent influence it may have on the war now being waged in Eastern Europe. While England, France Italy, and in fact nearly all the European naval powers, have been building huge engines of war, of a tonnage, armor, and artillery never heard of before, the torpedo has been gradually perfected, and threatens, at least under many circumstances, to neutralize them. A torpedo may be regarded as a gun which dispenses with a gun carriage, and which, without the vast and expensive agency of a great ship, inflicts as formidable a blow as that of the heaviest artillery.

The original inventor was David Bushnell, born at Westbrook, Connecticut, 1742. He not only devised a torpedo, but also a submarine rowing boat, intended to convey it to the bottom of the vessels to be attacked. His practical experiments, however, which he was enabled to carry out with the assistance of the private purse of George Washington, did not prove successful, and the invention sank into oblivion until the commencement of the present century, when Robert Fulton, an American sojourning in France, offered a similar one to the French Government. After considerable parleying, it was rejected, and Fulton sold his secret to the British Admirality for $75,000. The so called Catamaran Expedition, an attempt to destroy the French line-of-battle ships and transports off Boulogne, turning out a failure, Fulton returned to the United States, and, during the war of 1812, tried in vain to blow up several of the English blockaders. The rage of the British commanders knew no bounds and the proceedings were termed "unchristian," "the invention of a fiend," etc. Cousin John Bull has a frightfully short memory at times!

In 1829, Colonel Samuel Colt commenced experiments with a submarine to be exploded by a galvano-electric battery: and after many disappointments, he succeeded on October 18, 1842, in destroying the brig Volta in New York harbor, in the presence of 40,000 excited spectators. So far only vessels at anchor had been attacked; but on April 13, 1843, Colt blew up a brig of 500 tons under sail on the Potomac river, he himself being the operater, and at the time at Alexandria, five miles distant from the explosion.

The first European government to adopt the invention was Austria, who laid down a perfect electric torpedo net for the defence of Venice. Russia followed suit, and during the Crimean war protected the entrance of Cronstadt as well as that of Sebastopol harbor by an improved system of ground torpedoes, which kept the English fleet at a respectful distance. The American civil war for the first time clearly demonstrated the tremendous effect of the invention, and at the same time changed its character from a purely defensive to an offensive weapon.

Galled by the soon established superiority of the United States navy, which gradually sealed up all the important Southern ports, the Confederate Government organized a special torpedo service corps; and after sinking torpedoes in every available approach, they proceeded to build small steamers constructed to carry spar torpedoes. These torpedo boats, with an easily comprehensible Biblical allusion were called "Davids," and were in several instances used with as much pluck and perseverance as terrible effect. The United States soon imitated the David, and in 1864 the late Commander Cushing, U. S. N., succeeded in destroying the Confederate ram Albemarle, lying at anchor in the James river. Since then the electric apparatus for torpedoes and the torpedo itself have been vastly improved, and numerous new inventions have been introduced, all of which, however, may be classed under the following five heads: Ground torpedoes, spar torpedoes, Harvey (towing) torpedoes, Whitehead (fish) torpedoes, and the Lay torpedo.

It is very satisfactory to find that the policy adopted by the Canadian Government for the managment and cultivation of the North West Territories is proving very successful, and promises to be attended with the happiest results. There is peace among all the inhabitants; the Indian tribes are contented; the land is being cultivated; and the Legislative Council, which recently closed its sitting several regulations are adopted for promoting the growth and prosperity of the whole region. Amongst these special importance is attached to laws for the adminstration of justice, for the regulation of deeds, for the protection of the buffalo, for the establishments of ferries, for the prevention of gambling, and for the promotion of other needed reforms. All these things tend to develope the resources of the country, and give security to the people, and will thus contribute the future wealth and power which the North-West is sure to attain.

The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, May 30, 1877.

First Municipal Election.

A public meeting was held in the Court House yesterday for the purpose of nominating Candidates for County Councillors. Alex. T. Paul, Esq., was unanimously elected chairman, and having been duly sworn, declared the meeting open for nominations.

The following is a very brief out-line of the proceedings, which, through the excellent management of the chairman, were conducted with his usual ability.

Wm. Whitlock Esq., in proposing Robt. Stevenson Esq., said—Before nominating the gentleman he intended, he wished to make a few remarks. He had been for many years associated with Mr. Robt. Stevenson both in a public and private capacity, and knew him to be a man of strict integrity and honorable views, and thoroughly acquainted with all the Parish business; but said he, *he is a Magistrate*, and in the opinion of these would-be reformers incompetent to fill any public office. He himself had been a Magistrate for 25 years past and *we are all stigmatized* in the contemptible slip I hold in my hand, as a set of unprincipled scoundrels, which I do not think the record of our lives merits. He then nominated Mr. Stevenson.

J. R. Bradford Esq., in a few well chosen remarks nominated T. T. Odell, Esq., as a proper person for County Councillor.

Mr. S. Billings nominated Mr. W. D Hartt for a County Councillor, "not being a Magistrate." Mr. Nathan Treadwell, nominated Mr. Robert Glenn, "not being a Magistrate."

Mr. W. P. O'Brien nominated Mr. Robert Densmore.

The Candidates then addressed the electors, Mr. Densmore being the first speaker, and observed that it was the wish of many friends that he should offer as a Candidate, he had come out at a late hour, and felt he could not be elected, and thought it his duty to "step out," that this would be an introduction and he might come forward at another time.

Mr. Stevenson next spoke, alluding to his residence in the Parish for over 50 years, that he had at various times held different Parish Offices and served the people faithfully. He also referred to the changes effected by him in reference to the Commons Lands, every foot of which he knew, and long before he was appointed a Justice of the Peace, he had resolved to obtain redress for the tenants, and accordingly had a bill drawn up which had passed the Legislature, empowering the Justices to sell the lands to tenants who desired to purchase. The Act proved beneficial to the Town, as by its provisions the land was not to be sold at a less sum than would realize 6 pr ct. on amount of rent. That he had paid a rentage of $13.10, and the amount realized and at interest paid $18.20. This did not look like reducing the revenues of the Town as had been falsely asserted. The same system has been adopted in P. E. Island and Lower Canada.

Mr. Odell addressed the Electors at some length with considerable effect, stating his reasons for offering, being the largest taxpayer, and also desirous to reduce the taxes, as he had essayed to do at the Sessions. He had never been charged with extravagance either in his own or the public business; had held various Parish offices in connection with Mr. Stevenson, and had found him honorable and attentive, and hoped that all who voted for him (Mr. Odell) would also do so for Mr. Stevenson. He did not wish the ticket split but "vote for Odell and Stevenson." His taxes had increased from $50 to $400, and at the rate they were increasing, he feared they would drive the people out of the country.

Mr. Hartt said he had not come forward at his own wish, but at the request of a large number of ratepayers at a public meeting. He had not solicited a vote, and added that if Mr. Odell was the largest taxpayer, he was the largest employer of labor in the town.

Mr. Glenn said he had been called out at a respectable public meeting of ratepayers which was open to every one, he also declared that he had not asked any one for a vote. The Press was not with his party, and after some further observations, indulged in some chaff at the *Standard's* expense, which it can well bear in these exciting times, and take in good part.

A poll was opened at 11 o'clock, when voting commenced briskly. The following is the result as declared by the Sheriff after the votes were counted.

Odell	179
Stevenson	172
Glenn	134
Hartt	115

The Sheriff declared T. T. Odell and Robert Stevenson elected to fill the office of County Councillors.

Cheers were then given for the Sheriff and the Candidates.

☞ "Tax Payer" was received too late for publication.

The following persons have been elected Councillors:—

St. Croix—Russell, Rideout.
St. Patrick—McLaughlin, Stevenson.
St. David—Cotterill, Moore.
Dumbarton—Hill, Emerson.
Lepreaux—Hanson, Baker.
Clarendon—McMonagle, Magee.

What is to become of us? a large majority of Councillors are Magistrates.

A correspondant enquires—"Is our Rural Cemetery to be made a cow pasture and farm? is it not disgraceful that the repository of the dead, is thus sacriligiously treated? The writer adds, "I will publish a statement of facts over my own signature, if the Directors do not attend to the matter at once."

The opinion expressed in last weeks' issue, based upon public feeling, that "St. Andrews would return Messrs. Odell and Stevenson for County Councillors," has been confirmed.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTH DAY was observed here by firing a Royal Salute at the Fort, under direction of Capt. Bolton and Lieut. Hall. The Union Jack was floating in the breeze from the Public Buildings. Very few stores were closed. A game of base ball was played at the Point, by some of our young townsmen and the day passed quietly.

The tug "*Utopia*" is being fitted up by Mr. George Elliot, and is to be ready to make her usual trips between St. George and St. Andrews, to connect with the *Belle Brown* in course of a few days. This will be a great accomodation to St. George and St. Andrews people, and we trust the enterprise will be amply rewarded.

NEW POST OFFICE.—An office has been established at Bartlett's Mills, Parish of St. Croix L.C. Bartlett, Esq., Postmaster. This will be a great accommodation to residents in that vicinity.

The Very Rev. Dr. Hannan was on Saturday last consecrated R. C. Archbishop of Halifax. Archpishop Hannan occupies his high position possessing the esteem and good wishes of the people of Halifax, of all denominations, who join in expressing their gratifications, at his elevation to the prominent and responsible position to which he had been nominated. A very full account of the consecration ceremonies, which were very imposing, is given in the Halifax papers of Monday.

A TRIFLING MISTAKE.—The following little incident is worthy of record: In the House of Peers, during the examination of the magistrates of Edinburgh, touching the particulars of the Porteous Mob, in 1736, the Duke of Newcastle having asked the Provost with what kind of shot the townsguard, commanded by Porteous, had loaded their muskets, received the unexpected reply, "Ou, just sic as ane shoots dukes and fools wi!" The answer was considered as a contempt of the House of Lords, and the poor Provost would have suffered from misconception of his patois, had not the Duke of Argyle (who must have been exceedingly amused) explained that the worthy chief magistrate's expression, when rendered into English, meant to describe the shot used for *ducks and waterfowl*.

The Masonic Fraternity of Halifax will have a big day on the 6th of June, that being the time appointed for the dedication of their new hall situate on Granville and Salter Streets; amongst other amusements provided for the occasion, Mr. A. B. Wilmot, of the Fisheries Establishment of Bedford, will give an exhibition, which will be both novel and interesting, showing the development of a salmon, from the spawn to the full grown fish. Our Masonic friends will leave no stone unturned to make this occasion worthy of the craft.

A GOOSE'S FIGHT WITH A BULL.—A heavy throated bull near this village, noted for his fierceness, accidentally stepped on one of a brood of goslings recently which a stately gander was holding watch and ward over with great solicitude. Straightway the gander attacked the bull, and seizing him by the tail with his beak, his wings lashed the animal's flanks with the greatest fury. In vain the bull wheeled about to reach his antagonist; the gander wheeled with him, all the while retaining his hold upon the bull's tail, and showering blows with his powerful wings with telling effect upon the bull's legs, until he fairly roared with pain and terror. At last the gander, apparently thinking that his adversary had sufficient punishment, let go his hold and the bull took to his heels with the liveliest speed, only stopping when he reached the farthest corner of the field.—*Middletown Argus.*

FOREST FIRES.—For several weeks destructive fires have been raging through the forests in North-eastern New York; also in the mountains surrounding Bennington, Vt., also in New Hampshire and in Canada at various points. In many cases, villages, mills, depots, and other railroad property have been consumed. Thousands of acres of forest are being burned over. Many bridges have been destroyed, and fences have been removed form enclosures, sitting at liberty numerous herds of cattle. In portions on Canada the smoke is so dense as to darken the day, and the whole wooded country north and west of New York is enveloped in a dense smoke.

Thompson & Glendenin have, we understand, secured the contract for constructing the railroad from the Aroostook river to Grand Falls, 19½ miles, the whole to be completed, ready for trains to pass over by the coming fall. *Sentinel.*

Very seldom for the last forty five years has the *Gleaner* had occasion to report an occurence in Chatham of a like nature to that which took place on board the Barque *Sweden* on Sunday evening last, by which a man named Josesh McKenna came to an untimely end at the hands of a companion. About 2 o'clock six sober men went on shore to to take a walk, they walked for about half an hour, on the street they met a person who took them to some house where they all sat down, and this person was sent out for liquor, which was only too readily obtainable Sunday as it was, after drinking nine bottles it is not very surprising that some of them would be in a quarrelsome mood, and what in their sober moments would not be considered as an offence was in this case so considered, resulting in fight and the death of one of the parties.

An inquest was held on the body of the deceased by Coronor Benson, and a verdict of manslaughter returned against Thos. Campbell, who it seems by the evidence had no previous ill feeling toward McKenna but was incited to commit the deed by the provocation received from the hands of McKenna as well as the effect of the liquor, which they drank while on shore.

Campbell has been committed for trial at at the September Circuit.

When so much is being said about the Southern Policy of President HAYES, it is well to realise clearly what that policy is and what so far has been accomplished towards the solution of the educational problem in the Southern States. As explained by the President himself, his sole aim is to treat the South with justice and humanity. Such a policy is needed, and will succeed; and, as now presented by official supports, the prospects of education in the South are pre eminently encouraging. In almost every State a surprising progress is being made in the number of both schools and scholars, and in the efficiency of the instruction imparted. In Virginia the pupils of the public schools have increased from 58,974 in 1870, to 184,486 in 1875. In Georgia there were in 1871 only 42,914 white, and 6,864 colored pupils, whereas in 1875 the numbers were respectively 105,990 and 59,359, or a total of 156,349. In Tennessee out of 200,000 pupils, 25,000 and in nearly every other State there is the same evidence of advancement. The result is that happier influence are at work upon the community; and, aided development of his policy, he will be instrumental in producing a wonderous transformation in the South during his tenure of office.

The cashier, Chapman and President Tracy, of the Farmers' and Mechanic's Bank, were sentenced, the former to six and a half years imprisonment for deceiving the comptroller of currency, and the latter to five years for swearing to a false bank statement. The bank lost $600,000 00 by the crimes of these officers.

Senator Morton publishes a letter, in which he says that if a majority of the Senate shall, at the next session, be of opinion that Kellogg, of Louisiana, was lawfully elected as United States Senator, he will be entitled to his seat, notwithstanding events that have since occurred; unless Kellogg should voluntarily withdraw, the Senate will have to decide the question as it stood at the time of adjournment.

They have been holding an International British celebration at Petersberg, Va.

Hindustan is suffering severely from famine, and the number receiving relief is increasing.

Four inches of snow in Massachusetts on the 24th.

The receipts of the U. S. Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions last fiscal year were $473,371; expenditure, $489,216.

A lunatic ran away with a locomotive on a Pennsylvania railroad, precipitated it into the river and was drowned.

Russian Aggression.

A very remarkable article has appeared in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review* on the development and growth of the Russian empire. It is attracting much attention in poitical and military circles, especially in view of the action which has been taken by the Russian Government since the article was written. The tone of the whole is not particularly favorable to the spirit and pretensions of the Muscovite Power; but it nevertheless contains facts which no student of history can afford to disregard. During the last six years, the writer says, that Russia has made greater exertion than at any former period to augment its military resources; and this, it is contended, can be for no other purpose than that of aggression. The territory of Russia is practically invulnerable; the people are not naturally of a warlike temperament; and the maintenance of such an immense army is considered as most mischievous in exhausting the country, and in deteriorating the race. Military service in Russia is considered to be a detestable form of slavery. The people submit to it as to a law of nature, because they are docile and brave; and simple minded peasants are converted by it, without any will of their own, into blood-hounds, destroyers, or victims. The whole community is crushed by the service, as military service is the primary obligation of life, and must effect every other relation of society. This is a good deal of down right plain speaking in the article, and it is quite well the whole world should understand accurately the character of the Power which is now making so much ado about the liberty, and independence, and safety, of the Christian subjects of Turkey. It looks very much like a case in which the proverb—"Physician heal thyself"—may be applied.

In Clinton county, New York, a large tract of farming country has been swept clean of buildings, fences, trees and stock by the recent fires. Crops that had been put in the ground have been destroyed, and the are utterly destitute.

Take things as they are, and make the best of them. That is the only true and practical philosophy.

Indian remains, with ancient pipes, tomahawks, &c, have been discovered at Hamilton, Ont.

The insane woman who roasted her children at St. Victor de Tring, Beauce Co., Que., is named Richard. She has been sent to Beauport Asylum.

Athens, May 28.

A large crowd assembled under the windows of the Royal Palace to-day. Speeches were delivered, urging military preparations and the formation of a strong Ministry The King was absent at the time.

Madrid, May 28.

The Government intend to take active measures to suppress the insurrection in Cuba. Sixteen thousand soldiers will be sent to the Island from Spain the coming autumn.

London, May 28.

Minister Pierepont and Consuls Bedeau and Fairchilds and a number of Americans, residing in England, will receive General Grant at Liverpool.

The Mayor of Liverpool received General Grant to-day, and to-morrow the latter will lunch with the Mayor at the Town Hall.

A despatch from Berlin says that the steamer Essex, laden with Krupp guns for Cronstadt has foundered off the coast of Sweden.

DIED:

On the 26th instant, at Armstrong's Hotel, after a long illness, Mr. Henry Bradridge, in 59th year of his age, a native of Torquay, Devonshire, England, and for upwards of twenty-five years a resident of St. Andrews, where he was generally respected by all who were acquainted with him.

Ship News.

CLEARED.

Julia Clinch, Maloney, St. George.

New York, Arrived.—Schr. Calais, Maloney, from Calais.

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