

THE PALLISER GUN.

We present our readers to-day with a portrait of Captain Edward Palliser, late of the 7th Hussars, who has been mainly instrumental in urging upon his brother, Sir William Palliser, the munificent donation of guns which the latter has made to the old historic Citadel. We hope shortly to publish the portrait of Sir William, with an appropriate memoir. We publish also a sketch of the B Battery drawing the new 8-inch Palliser gun up Palace Hill, Quebec. There is also a sketch of the coiling Palliser gun-barrel, of which we have been promised a description for a future issue.

YET another experiment in street paving, this time in Cornhill, where a number of asphalt slabs, each with a large leaden disc in the centre, have been placed in the roadway.

THE following advertisement has been inserted in the daily papers this week: To the people of God in the final Babylon; that is, in this great city, London.—Awake! awake! keenly watch events; mark well and obey.—Rev. xviii. v. 4; Jer. li. v. 6. See prophecy regarding her; her cup is full.

"MR. GLADSTONE on ox-tail soup" is the latest manifestation of the ex-Premier's activity. The *Times* is a little sarcastic upon him for his readiness to speak upon every conceivable subject, from Homer's rainbow to cookery, from the ruins of Troy and the sorrows of the Bulgarians to American axes and the Hawarden soup kitchen.

THE Royal Academy Exhibition is this year an extremely bad one; indeed quite unworthy of a detailed criticism. There are, of course, several works of merit, and even of genius; but the contempt we feel for the mass of rubbish quite overpowers the satisfaction with which we regard the exceptions.

MR. SAMUEL BRANDHAM has learnt seven of Shakespeare's plays by heart, and is going to recite them in public. His memory is somewhat extraordinary, and he is turning it to good ac-



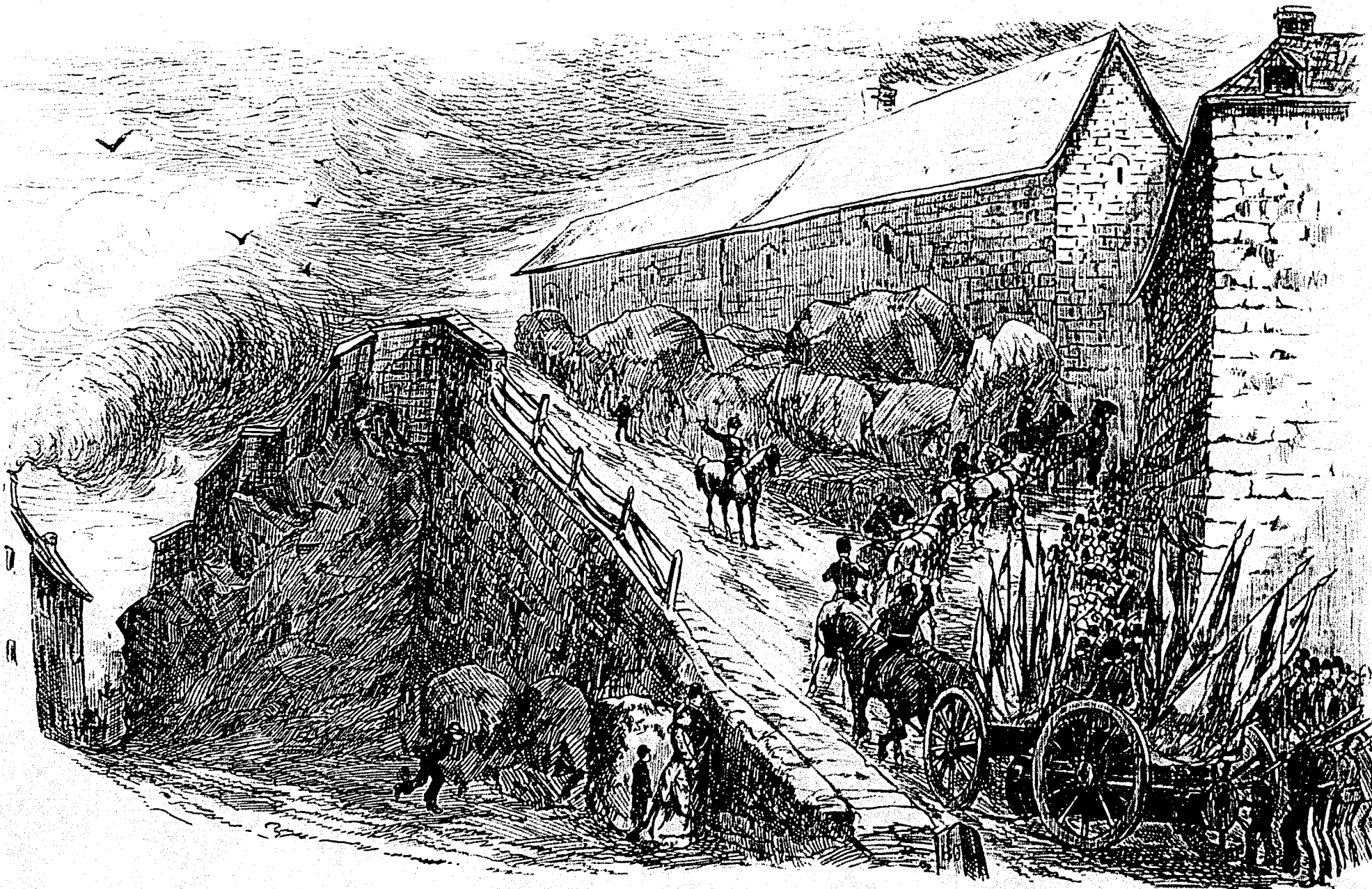
CAPT. EDWARD PALLISER, LATE 7 HUSSARS.

count, for he is supposed to be making over 8,000l. a year by these recitals, and he generously gives some on behalf of charities without taking any fee.

It is now suggested that no person shall be shut up as a lunatic unless certified to be such by one of a medical board, all of whom are to be named by Government in the same way that inspectors of schools, or mines, or factories are appointed. The proposal is a good one, for it seems that persons can be shut up in a mad-house without the necessary formality of being mad, which is rather awkward.

THE friends of the Deceased Wife's Sister are showing unwonted signs of activity. They have apparently grown tired of confiding in the rather feeble advocacy of Sir Thomas Chambers, and are determined to try the effect of a bit of sensationalism. A play of some merit has just been brought out at St. James's Theatre entitled "Such is the Law." The plot turns upon the matrimonial disabilities of a deceased wife's sister.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY and Mr. Stanley, the African explorer, have been settling for themselves the much-vexed question of the "missing link." The details will no doubt be furnished in Mr. Stanley's book, which is expected to appear early next month. Meanwhile, the following instalment may be interesting: On one occasion the traveller observed that the street of a village through which his route lay was ornamented with rows of peculiar-looking skulls. He was told that the quondam owners of the skull had been used for *matina* (food), and that the race lived in the forests of the country. The villagers also called the wood-dwellers "Soko." Mr. Stanley, it seems, had not the opportunity to procure a live specimen, but he purchased a "Soko" skull and skin. The skull he lately forwarded to Professor Huxley, who appears to have decided on ranking it with the human skull. The skin, however, is declared to be that of a monkey. The "Soko" may turn out to be only a monkey, but it seems clear that there is more of the man about him than there was of the famous "Jor," the chimpanzee, whom the late Mr. Monteiro introduced into England, and who died not long ago at the "Zoo."



QUEBEC.—"B" BATTERY C. A. TAKING THE 8-INCH PALLISER GUN UP PALACE HILL.