

a high parapet. This Board has incidentally touched upon this subject before, and in some of its drawings has represented a portion of the terre-plein behind the traverse circles as depressed, in one instance 3 feet. There can be no doubt that the depressing carriage will be served with more confidence by gunners in all positions, high or low. Still as its introduction involves more space, not always available, and an additional cost of perhaps \$7,000 per gun, there will be positions, (as for instance where there is a large array of shore guns on each side of the channel of approach to a harbor, or where hostile ships will have difficulty in developing themselves favorable for an attack), that will admit, in some of the higher barbette batteries of a good service of guns mounted on non-depressing carriages. In these batteries however, as much covering height for the parapet should be attained as possible.

It seems to this Board therefore, that the necessity for the depressing carriage admits of no doubt, and that, as before observed, its introduction is but a part of our system of defence by earth batteries; and further, that for high batteries, where it may be possible to dispense with its use, some further study should be made as to the application of the non depressing carriage to a higher covering parapet. A tracing to accompany the foregoing is herewith transmitted.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE W. CULLUM,  
Col. of Eng's. and Bvt. Maj. Gen'l.  
Z. B. TOWER,  
Lt. Col. of Eng's. and Bvt. Maj. Gen'l.  
H. G. WRIGHT,  
Lt. Col. of Eng's. & Bvt. Maj. Gen'l.

Amongst the very ablest of Canadian Journals the *Acadian Recorder*, in dealing with the general tendency of public opinion, especially as applied to the position this country should hold in the economy of the British Empire, stands conspicuously pre-eminent.

It is simply doing justice to the Editor to say that there is in all the articles bearing on this great question a breadth and accuracy of statesmanlike practical views not excelled by those of any other Journal in British North America—it is evident the writer knows the Canadian people thoroughly.

In the issue of the *Acadian Recorder* of the 10th June is an article on the "Presidential Election" which will be found below, and to which we direct the attention of our readers, because of the sound and able views of our present and near future National policy it contains, and because it shews the fallacy of the idea that annexation would be a possibility, and the tendency of Canadian Conservatism to build up a free happy and God fearing states.

"We suppose that if there is any public routine event, more, than another, occurring beyond the borders of this Dominion, in which our ordinary readers could be expected to take a deep interest, it is that of a Presidential Election in the United States. A concurrence of accidents has thrown these British North American Provinces into the most intimate relations with the United States. We may search in vain through the pages of history, from the earliest authentic records down to the present time, to find such another instance of two countries politi-

cally foreign to each other and yet so intimately related. Speaking the same language and having an immensity of interests in common, we,—both people—pass and re-pass across on three thousand miles of continuous boundary, just as freely and with as little of parade, or fussiness, as we would pass from one county to another in our own little Province. Natives born in our own country flock by thousands and tens of Thousands, to the United States to make that country their home. Native Yankees not indeed in a corresponding proportion, although every year increasing in number, cross over, and settle on our side of the boundary line. There is a sentimentalism, if not even a deliberately cherished principle, which guides these emigrations. There is a good deal of bosh talked and written about the feeling in favor of Annexation. It would be folly for us to undertake to make a political map of North America as it will be, five or six centuries hence; but regarding Canada and the United States as they are in our ideas of to-day, you hesitate not to say that neither of them can ever annex the other in the ordinary course of political events. That is, except as to part. It is probable enough that Maine, and possibly Oregon and Alaska, will become annexed to Canada. He is but a poor observer in the signs of the times, who can think he sees a near prospect of any further or greater annexation than that. The two countries represent two entirely distinct principles—two diverse classes of ideas; and, every year, this becomes more observable. Canada represents the monarchical principle in politics. Some people may, and some do talk about all America becoming Republican. The tendencies of a great part of it are decidedly in the opposite direction. Canada and Brazil represent on this continent, the monarchical principle in very full vigor—more so than it is really to be found in most countries of the Old World. The United States represents the very extreme Democracy—what is indeed sometimes scornfully called Mobocracy,

"There is a certain other aspect of these two countries—Canada and the United States—according to our way of seeing things, which we feel some delicacy in mentioning; because we know that many people will indignantly deny that our view is correct. We believe, however, that Canada, along with its other conservatism, is going to be the stronghold of—putting it in its broadest sense, apart from any sectarian signification—the Christian Church in America. Some of our readers may think that such events as we have had reason to record from day to day, as occurring among our public men, do not favor such a conclusion. They do not, we admit, but a closer view of the signs of the times, such as we shall not undertake to depict to-day, will, we think, bear out what we say. In the United States, in religion as in politics, there is a headlong tendency towards some thing for which we have no word to express. We may describe it as Mobocracy and Infidelity, and very imperfectly describe it by so doing. It is a tendency downwards—to chaos, as we understand chaos to be; but it may be, for aught we know to the contrary, a chaos out of seething of which a millenium will be evolved.

"We have wandered, owing to the very suggestiveness of the subject, from the Presidential Election which we had in view in commencing. The result of the contest to take place, in Yonkeeland, next November, is one in which we cannot but feel some interest. What agonies are being endured

now among the millions of that country relative to the settlement of that great question; whether shall Mr. Grant, the tanner and currier, or Mr. Greeley the practical printer, be President of the United States for the next four years. We do not mention the vocations of these gentlemen in any sneering humour; but only as an evidence of the wonderful progress of democracy. Here are two mechanics, men who have earned their bread by the sweat of their brows, contending for what we may call the Cæsarship of a country as large, as rich, and as powerful, as the Roman Empire in the palmiest of its days. There is, of course, no earthly reason why they should not be candidates for such a position because they have honestly earned their bread by their own labor; but what we have misgivings about is whether, looking especially to such a Presidential contest as this, representative institutions have not been carried to excess in the United States. People who have not been and studied a Presidential Election in the United States, have little idea what it is. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Canada to Mexico, that country is, and for five months to come will be, day and night, in city, hamlet, woods, and prairie, in such throes as could only be otherwise produced by a long spun-out earthquake. Why does not Sir Charles Dilke come out to the United States and do a Presidential Election? Let him but travel about that great country from—say now until November, and then write a book. Let him put in it all that has occurred to him in the course of his travels; and if he does the work honestly, we would predict that he would astonish some of his English chartist readers.

"It is scarcely worth while to hazard a prediction as to who will be the next President of the United States; everybody we suppose, will predict for himself. We have a very strong conviction, however. There are only Grant and Greeley in the field as yet. The Democrats may bring out a Candidate, but if they do, there is little chance of his being elected. It is just barely possible what has never occurred before, nobody may get the popular vote: and then it is difficult to say who would become President. We believe, however, that Grant and corruption will carry the day. Mr. Horace Greeley is a man of too much ability to be President of the United States. That country has produced many great men, not a few statesmen, many talented politicians; but none of whom ever could get himself elected President. There has never been a President of respectable ability since Jefferson's time; and he was only a clever quack. We therefore think there is a poor prospect for Greeley."

It was reported last week that the House Committee on Naval Affairs had before it a project for adding ten steamers to our naval force, and we heartily trust that the measure will be adopted. Unless we begin building, we shall never have a Navy, and to wait until some wretched quarrel wakes our Congressmen to the necessity of providing the ways and means of war fare is disregarding the Scripture, which asks: "What king going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first and consulted whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an embassy, and desires conditions of peace." We have adopted the latter course with reference to