

ship within the citadel wall, and, as the superstructure is only built up along a fore and aft line of the deck, the four guns can be fired together at an enemy right ahead or right astern, or on either beam, or in pinnas towards every point of the compass. Many of the details in the present general design of the *Inflexible* will, no doubt, undergo considerable modifications as the work of construction goes on, and some of the more prominent suggested features, such as the "cork jacket," and the scheme for giving her masts and sails, may be forgotten by the time she is afloat.

We have endeavoured to show our readers the necessity which should impel every man aspiring to command his fellows, in any military operation, to acquire all the knowledge possible to attain and even the scientific value of the movement in which he may be engaged for the double purpose of reducing the possibility of failure and preserving the valuable lives of soldiers committed to his charge.

The weight of public opinion is in favor of this desirable object being attained through a strictly technical system of education, in which one it would be selected for all the prizes, without studying to consider the manifest absurdity involved and which has developed itself wherever that system has been tried, so that competitive examination and special education has become almost synonymous with incapacity and ignorance. We have only to point out that Canada wants a military force for purely local and defensive purposes, and that owing to her sparse population she has no surplus whose only chance of earning a livelihood would be the adoption of military service, and that a standing army no matter how small is entirely beyond her financial resources. If the system on which such a force has been founded hitherto had not been already exploded, it follows, therefore, that as she is obliged to train all her available population to some knowledge of the military profession, the officers of her forces must obtain their professional knowledge in the manner best suited to their circumstances and last calculated to interfere with their industrial pursuits is evident. Then that a collegiate course restricted to preparation for military services alone will be exceptional amongst the mass of officers necessary for even the active force and will never be taken advantage of by the officers of the Reserve, but while this does not argue that such a course is not a necessity, or that a strictly technical education can be done without, it points to the fact that other means must be resorted to for placing within the reach of officers that knowledge of which they cannot avail themselves through the medium of a collegiate course, and this can be done only by societies similar to "The Royal United Service Institution," where the professional knowledge and experience of the first soldiers and seamen of the day are recorded, digested and available in a concrete form simple and effective, by which the necessary knowledge

can be obtained, to a greater or less degree, according to individual capacity, without any struse studies or disturbance of business relations. We have always urged upon our brother officers of the Canadian Militia the necessity that existed for becoming members of "The Royal United Service Institution," and the great value they would receive from the professional papers published in its journal. Up to the present time it did not occur to us that Canada could support a similar Institution, although our talented and gallant friend, *Centurion*, urged an effort being made in that direction over two years ago. The Prospectus (which will be found in another page) has been forwarded to us by Captain and Adjutant DAVIN of the 6th Battalion, shows that active spirits are at work to forward the true interests of the Canadian soldiers. We have amongst our officers as clever, talented, and acute a set of young men as are to be found in any other service in the world. If they take this matter in hand there is little doubt that it will be a decided success, a public advantage and an honor to the country. The prospectus speaks for itself and we could in no way offer a suggestion altering the design except that if it were possible it ought to be affiliated with "The Royal United Service Institution," having the same objects in view and belonging in strict proximity to the same service. Much good might and would be effected by having the members of the one honorary members of the other, the interchange of ideas and knowledge would be equally beneficial, while it could not fail to give our officers the opportunity of acquiring an amount of useful professional knowledge now almost entirely outside their leisure and reach. We hope to see "The Royal Canadian United Service Institution" a flourishing association, as it ought to represent over five thousand officers.

The Minister of Militia performed a grateful and pleasing act in visiting the camp near this city before his departure for Nova Scotia. On that occasion he gave Colonel JACKSON, our esteemed Deputy Adjutant General for his district, an opportunity of making him acquainted with the officers of the metropolitan counties, many of whom represent our largest commercial and landed interests. It is gratifying to know that the Hon. Mr. ROSS found everything satisfactory in camp, and paid a well deserved compliment to the officers commanding corps and the gentlemen of the staff for the excellent arrangements for the health and comfort of the men.

The new comet is now visible to the naked eye. It appears as a dull nebulous star with a faint hazy tail above it. Situated west of the Pole Star and nearly half way between it and the horizon. The comet just now forms an equilateral triangle with the Pole star and the nearest of the 'pointers.' It is moving rapidly, and will gradually grow lower in the horizon.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 26th June, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS (17).

No. 1.

MILITIA BRIGADE DIVISION.

The Head Quarters of the Fifth Brigade Division, Province of Quebec, are hereby transferred from Three Rivers to Berthier, en haut.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

Lieutenant Colonel Alfred G. Forrest is hereby removed from the command of the Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery for having refused to obey an order for a parade on 25th ultimo. In consideration, however, of Lieutenant Colonel Forrest's length of service in the Active Militia he is placed on the Retired List retaining rank.

18th "Prescott" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company, Plantagenet.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant Alexander Stewart McLennan, M.S., vice McLean, promoted.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Sergeant Thomas Van Bridger, vice McLennan, promoted.

Ensign J. L. Woodley having left limits, his name is hereby removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia.

19th "Lincoln" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 2 Company, St. Catharines.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant Robert S. Nass, M.S., vice Theodore Thompson, deceased.

20th "Hutton" Battalion of Rifles.

No. 4 Company, Norval.

Ensign Francis A. Kent having left limits, his name is hereby removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia.

No. 6 Company, Acton.

To be Captain :

Ensign John Shaw, M.S., vice Allan, promoted.