

River under charge of a steady officer, who should have power to deal summarily with any marauding scoundrels who might fall into their hands. Half a dozen scalps would save us a great deal of trouble and very considerable expense.

The question of Volunteer Field Batteries is one now agitating the Public mind in Great Britain and possesses for us the fascination as well as force of a vital question, for it resolves itself into this form, "whether it is possible to organize an effective Field Artillery force from men and horses whose opportunities for drill are not continuous," or does the necessity exist for making the force a permanent one with a full establishment involving great cost? Our own opinion is that it is quite possible to create an artillery force with Volunteers whose drill opportunities are intermittent, and to supply the horse-power necessary from the ordinary working teams of the country. We are persuaded that complete efficiency can be attained by the gunners, that the manoeuvres necessary to take the guns into action and retire them, can be acquired by the drivers; as for parade and show movements, our people have neither time nor inclination to practice them.

In a former article we pointed out the divisions of artillery suited to modern warfare and it cannot be too strongly insisted on that artillery duels decide nothing, that it is only when the fire can be massed and concentrated on infantry that it is effective, and that artillery must be supported by infantry; consequently, without the soldier the artilleryman is nowhere, and as a matter of course his movements must depend altogether on his coverers and supports; this at once reduces the question of speed and horse-power to the ordinary march of an infantry soldier, with probably a burst of eight miles an hour for 1000 yards occasionally, a pace that country teams can well afford; indeed, if those people, like Sir Hope Grant can succeed in proving the converse of the problem involved, there is very little hope that the Canadian army will have an effective artillery for many years to come. In our issue to day we begin the publication of seven letters from the *Volunteer Service Gazette* (English), on this vexed question. If the weight of evidence was to be ascertained by the greatest number of witnesses, we have, on this occasion, three out of five writers against the Volunteer Field Batteries but the value of these opinions is not equal to the practical experience of Colonel Shakespeare, and as it coincides with what we have practically learnt in Canada, we believe it to be the correct idea and at all events must carry it out even although it is against theory. The letters will be interesting to our artillery friends, especially those that deal practically with the subject. Colonel Harcourt is an officer of Volunteer Garrison Artillery, and President of the National Artillery Association.

In another page will be found an article from *Lloyd's Weekly*, of Oct. 8th, entitled "The Seven Resolutions," which will be of surpassing interest to our readers; we have repeatedly heard of the spread of republicanism and sentiment and Communistic ideas in old England; we could not accurately gauge the amount of changes which a fifth of a century would bring about in the political feelings of the people, and the Whig Radicals under Gladstone and Bright had brought the British name into such contempt that we thought it might have a shadow of reality and that Englishmen would endeavour to pull down that glorious constitutional fabric reared by years of patient endurance and defended at the expense of so much blood and treasure. We were led to believe that Manchester would rule and ruin the Empire, and it was with a kind of half shuddering dread we saw a majority of the press and apparently of the people arrayed against the grandest aristocracy the world has ever seen. It was sufficiently perplexing to see the leaders of that body calmly awaiting the result, and to hear it reiterated that the working men of England had desired the downfall of the landed proprietors, at the same time it was loudly proclaimed that the *Cotton Lords* held the suffrages of the working men, and that England had fallen into the hands of the commercial class. But it would appear that those very working men, with that sagacity which is so marked a characteristic of the British artisan, had deliberately chosen to ally themselves with the landed proprietors for the express purpose of effecting practical reforms in the relations between capital and labour, and that again, as on the glorious field of Staines, the nobility of England would force a new Magna Charta for the English people from the hands of the commercial monopolists, and prove themselves what history has acknowledged—the true safe guards of civil liberty and the natural leaders of the English people.

It is certainly a new turn to political affairs to thrust back on the Manchester humbugs the charges to which they must plead guilty, of tyranny and oppression, and to show the world that civil liberty is never endangered by a landed aristocracy, but is, and has always been, subverted by commercial tyranny. No man who has the welfare of his fellow men at heart can find one word of exception to these Seven Resolutions. They are reasonable, right, practicable and thoroughly well adapted to effect the end sought for—that of elevating the character of the working man in a natural and proper manner, without injustice to any other class of the community. The owners of capital have a perfect right to whatever they can make out of it, but they have no right, in enhancing the value of that capital, to enslave that class of the community through whose agency profits are increased, and this they do when by combination they regulate the price of wages or what is the same, that of the commodities produced. With all our

Tory proclivities we wish the English workmen God speed in their good work, and are only sorry that they did not append one more resolution and that would be "that emigration should not only be encouraged but should have direct State aid." This would have been the most powerful of all lovers to effect the end they have in view, viz: the equalization of capital and labor. It is most satisfactory to know that Bradlaugh, Odger and their blackguard confederates have had no part in this arrangement. After all D'Israeli's household suffrage will be probably the salvation of Great Britain as it will take her affairs out of the hands of doctrinaires, the tools of manufacturing monopolists and red republicans, their dupes, and place them in the keeping of those who have ever sought the honor of the empire and the welfare of its people. No event would be hailed with more satisfaction by the people of Canada *en masse* than the downfall of the Gladstone administration and the utter extermination of the peace at any price party.

The British squadron of evolution has proved what we have always asserted, a fair trial of iron-clad vessels as at present designed, would prove that they could not be manoeuvred advantageously under sail and that the war fleets of the future would be largely made up of modern sailing vessels. It would appear that no amount of spars and sails can force one of those unwieldy tubs through the water. "The *Topaze*, an unarmed wooden frigate, accompanied the fleet, running free before the wind she had only her three top-sails and top-gallant sails loose, very seldom hoisting the latter, and very often having to keep in her station as tern of the *Monarch* and *Hercules*, while the seven ironclads were under all plain sail to royals and with Port studding sails out. When chase was made to windward, the *Topaze* went away to windward of everything and in a few hours was nearly out of sight of the other ships. The ironclads bundled along as well as their dead weight in the water would permit, but the majority of them were evidently beating to leeward, rather than to windward." This trial so far goes to prove that the quality of speed was with the sailing vessel, and it is a question under the circumstances whether the ironclads under steam could have overhauled her, their maximum speed under sail being 5½ knots. It is very evident that the navy of the present day has yet to be built. There can be little doubt but those costly ironclads will be relegated to their proper purpose of coast defence; cruising will fall to the lot of the crack wooden frigates as in times gone by. Expert gunnery and thorough seamanship are the qualities on which England must depend for naval supremacy; her wooden walls and gallant hearts of oak have not all passed away, light sturdy ships, with heavy artillery, are best adapted for all purposes.