

jesty last year confided to me the command of
 the finest fleet that ever left these shores, as far
 as ships are concerned, but badly manned and
 totally unorganized. I led that fleet to the
 Baltic and Gulf of Finland, much earlier than
 usual, with imperfect charts and no maps, and
 plots, and conducted them safely through all the
 dangers and intricacies of that little known sea,
 and in conjunction with her Majesty's allies,
 took and destroyed the western bulwark of the
 Emperor of Russia's dominions; and yet, in a
 I would not attempt impossibilities, as suggested by
 an English brigadier-general, and recommended
 by the Admiralty, though disagreeable to my-
 self, by admirals, by the French marshals, and
 by the French admirals, in councils of war, I
 receive insulting letters, and was deprived of my
 command because I resisted, as a British Admi-
 ral ought to do, such unworthy treatment. I
 have no hesitation in saying, had I followed the
 insane suggestions of Sir James Graham and
 his Admiralty, the allied army would have been
 made prisoners, and the greater part of her Ma-
 jesty's fleet lost. I stated this to the Admiral-
 ty, and I demanded a court martial to investi-
 gate my conduct, which was refused, and I do
 not think I can accept an honor until my char-
 acter is cleared. Your royal highness is a sol-
 dier, and I feel satisfied your royal highness will
 pardon the unusual course I have taken to con-
 vey my feelings to her Majesty.

Vice Admiral Sir Charles Napier has, through Mr. Earp, published a history of the Baltic campaign. Our contemporary the *Naval and Military Gazette* of February 28, says that "it is a truthful and vigorous sketch of the difficulties and hindrances with which Sir Charles had to contend, and we are glad to find that the gallant Admiral has found so able and searching an advocate to uphold his cause, for it was high time a just and faithful account of the matters in question should be rendered to the world, that it might know whom to accuse and whom to exculpate—the uninitiated being too often necessarily at a loss, from their ignorance of official tyranny and stupidity, to decide who is right and who is wrong in professional matters." It is quite evident that public opinion in England is with the Admiral, notwithstanding his somewhat querulous temper, and that an ungenerous advantage was taken of his slight failings, both by Sir Jas. Graham and Admiral Berkeley, who allowed private pique to stand in lieu of official integrity and anxiety for the honor and safety of the fleet.

The Ottawa Field Battery turned out on Monday for the last day's full practice of the season; Lieut.-Colonel Coffin, who lately held command of the Montreal Field Battery, and is now attached to the Quartermaster General's Department, under the Adjutant General at Toronto, was present, and after the practice was over, complimented the Battery very highly on their efficiency.

We shall endeavor in our next to give a *précis* of the practise of this Battery since its first organization. On Monday eighteen round shot were fired, eight of which struck the target at 700 yards; four common and two spherical shells were fired; one shell passed through the target and instantly exploded; one shell fell blind, but the range and time of explosion of all but this one, was very good.

THE ACTIVE FORCE—We see by the "Public Accounts," that the Active force, during the end of the year 1855, and the whole year 1856 has cost the Province £36,107 14s. 11d. Of this sum £16,000 have been paid for arms and ac-

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We are very much indebted to Herr Louis Fecht for his admirable translation of a really interesting paper. Herr Fecht served in a distinguished Prussian Regiment during the Sleswig-Holstein campaign, and was one of the combatants at the Battle of Istedt, and is a highly accomplished young gentleman, of whose services in writing for this paper we hope often to avail ourselves.

PRESENTATION—The non-commissioned officers of the 1st Volunteer Rifle Company of Toronto, presented Sergeant James Gray of the Royal Canadian Rifles, on Monday last, at the Company's Drill Room, with a very handsomely bound Bible, as a token of their appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered them during his connection with the Company as Drill Instructor. The Bible is altogether one of the handsomest we have seen, it is bound in Morocco, with paneled sides, richly gilt, and illustrated throughout with first class engravings. The gift is highly creditable to the donors, and will, we are certain, be much valued by the recipient.

We regret to find that several of the Subscribers to this paper have not received their paper regularly for the last two or three numbers. We imagine that this must be owing to the fact that we have not owing to an accident, been able to direct the papers ourselves. The back numbers have been sent today.

RIFLE PRACTICE—Twenty men of Captain Nickinon's Volunteer Rifle Company, Toronto, assembled on Friday last, on the Garrison Common to practice ball-firing at a target, being the first practice of the kind the Company has attempted. We gave the following as the result, and it is highly creditable to the men, many of whom have been unaccustomed to the use of firearms, and must have studied carefully the instructions given for the use of the mimic rifle to be so successful on the first trial.

The number of rounds fired was 200; the first hundred at a distance of 100 yards; 33 shots hitting the target. The second hundred rounds were fired at a distance of 200 yards, 23 hitting the target. In the first 20 rounds, 17 men targetted. At the close of the practice, one man had hit the target 9 times, one 7 times, and three 5 times. Corporal Kirk received the first prize, given by the officers of \$5, Private Henderson the second prize of \$2½, and Private Lindsay the third of \$1.

U. S. Agnecliana. Society.

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The national committee of the United States Agricultural Society, appointed at the annual meeting held at the Stevens Hotel in New York City, Washington, on the 17th day of January 1877, thanks the respective governments of the United States and the United Kingdom for their kind invitation to participate in the exhibition to be held at the society's Annual Meeting to be held at Louisville, Kentucky, during the fall of 1877.

The new arrangement for the exhibition of agricultural implements and machinery of all kinds in actual operation, results from a conviction on the part of the Society that no just award can be made except upon a practical working trial before competent judges, and the first opportunity will be afforded to test the comparative merits of the various machines that may be entered as competitors for the awards, both as regards land for field implements and stationary power for stationary machinery.

A separate trial for reapers and mowers will be made at the appropriate season, special arrangement for which, as to time, place, &c., will be announced at an early date.

It is intended that these exhibitions shall be on the most extensive scale for the purpose of testing the working qualities of these important instruments more thoroughly than has yet been done on any previous occasion, either in the United States or in Europe.

All articles from foreign countries intended for exhibition may be consigned to the "Agent of U. S. Agricultural Society, Louisville, Ky.," by whom they will be received and stored free of charge.

This announcement of the proposed Trial is made at this early date to afford the most ample time for the preparation and transmission of machinery. A circular containing full particulars as to regulations will be issued as soon as practicable, and, with the Premium list, will be forwarded to persons who may apply to the Secretary of the Committee, Henry S. Olcott, American Institute, N. Y., where all business letters should be addressed.

To enable the society to make arrangements on a sufficiently liberal scale, it is absolutely necessary that the committee should know what articles will be offered for competition; and they therefore request that all inventors or manufacturers who may be disposed to unite in the proposed trial will communicate their intentions to the secretary at their earliest convenience.

TRENCHARD, Chairman, Glend, Md.
 J. D. LEE, Assn. Sec., do
 J. T. WATSON, Secretary, O.
 C. L. WARD, Jr., Andover, N. Y.
 H. S. OGDEN, Sec., W. C. Fair School, N. Y.
 Committee on Implements and Machinery of United States Agricultural Society.

Editors of Journals of every description, who are desirous to promote the interest of agriculture and mechanics, will confer a particular favor by an insertion of the above circular.

LATER IN LENSEN.—The ship Samuel Russell, with a valuable cargo of teas, silks, and spices, sailed from China for New York some time since. By stress of weather she had a long passage of about 150 days, which of course nullified the sale of her cargo, the time fixed in the terms of sale for the arrival of the goods having expired. After her departure from China, and before she reached New York, the war broke out, by which means her cargo was worth between \$40,000 and \$50,000 more to her owners than it would have been if she had made her trip in the ordinary time. In other words, had she made a quick voyage, she would have caused a loss to her owners of \$50,000. The last place of detention was in the ice at Norfolk, when her situation for a time was very critical.