

## CONTENTS OF No. 10, VOL. VIII.

PREFACE.—	
Patience .....	118
EDITORIALS:—	
"Centurion" on Militia Re-organization .....	111
Dynamite as a Munition of War .....	114
Imperial Economy .....	115
Armor Plating .....	115
Frontier Rifle Association .....	115
The News of the Week .....	109
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Mittralle .....	110
N .....	117
Bismarck .....	117
SELECTIONS:—	
Militia Re-organization .....	110
The Ashantee War .....	118
Explosives .....	119
Torpedo Accident .....	119
MILITARY GENERAL ORDERS .....	120
REMITTANCES .....	113



## The Volunteer Review,

AND

## MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,  
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1874.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words "Printer's copy" written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

Modern artillery appears to be the great object of Prussian solicitude at present, those used are principally what are known as "Krupp Guns," and are generally constructed of steel. The following notice refers to the latest improvements:—

"The *Borsenzeitung* of Berlin, says that besides the new rifled 21 centimetre mortar, which has been furnished to the German siege train, two other monster guns are now in course of construction for siege purposes. One is a 21 centimetre rifled coil gun, with a projectile of 350lb., and the other a 28 centimetre mortar, with a projectile of 450 lb. weight. Each of the two divisions of the siege train is to have forty of the 25 centimetre mortars, besides 360 guns of other kinds. The 21 centimetre coil guns used on board ship and on the forts on the coast are 200-pounders, and will also be available for the siege train when required. The heaviest gun hitherto used in a siege on land was the rifled 21-centimetre mortar with 180lb. shot. Two only of these were used before Strasburg, and four before Paris. The German army now has at its disposal for

siege operations from 100 to 120 monster guns of much greater calibre than even the 21-centimetre mortar. The new 21 centimetre siege gun was exhibited this year at Vienna by the firm of Krupp, together with a 28 centimetre howitzer.

The following particulars, furnished by Commercial Councillor Krupp to the Imperial Admiralty recently respecting the three new classes of guns for navy and coast defences, with which he proposes to supply the national armaments, namely 35-centimetre guns, 28-centimetre guns, and 46-centimetre, have reached the London Standard from trustworthy sources. The heaviest gun hitherto constructed has been the 36-centimetre gun, or so called thousand-pounder, which, when exhibited at the Paris Exhibition, aroused so much astonishment. It is at present standing in a coast battery at Kiel. In last year's International Exhibition (Vienna) the strongest gun exhibited was the 30½ centimetre, which is destined to serve exclusively as a coast battery gun. Up to the present time the heaviest gun used in arming the ironclads has been the 24 centimetre; and the Kaiser Wilhelm, whose seaworthiness is doubtful, is provided with guns of that calibre. It is intended to arm the new iron-clad frigates, now building at Samuda's in London, with 30½ centimetre guns weighing about 72,000 pounds, and taking a charge of 120 pounds powder with a 600 pound shell. This 20½ centimetre gun, at short ranges, will pierce the 14 inch plates, and at 3,000 yards the 6 inch plates; while the 24-centimetre gun will only penetrate the 10-inch plates at short range. The newly projected 46 centimetre gun, however, will, according to calculations the accuracy of which are indisputable, when loaded with a charge of five cwt. prismatic powder, and a shell weighing about a ton, pierce a 20 inch plate at about 300 yards'—or metres'—range. The only difficulty at present standing in the way of constructing this gigantic engine of war is the setting up of a steam hammer sufficiently powerful to weld together into a solid mass the jolts of molten steel poured together from the various melting pots in quantities of about 100 pounds. The heaviest hammer hitherto employed by Krupp weighs over 100,000 pounds, and to make the new gun a hammer will be required weighing at least 220,000 pounds. As Krupp's workshops and foundries, which are built upon hollow ground, might be seriously damaged by the working of such a hammer, it has been resolved to set the new practising range at Dulmen. The weight of the new gun will be between 260,000 and 270,000 pounds.

We are indebted to the United States Army and Navy Journal of the 14th February, for the following article. The writer or projector is certainly modest enough, but he does not intend to hide his lights under a bushel. Our contemporary's caption is "Torpedoes a Century Old." They are over two centuries older than the inventor, from whom Captain Warrcock about thirty-three years ago, appears to have taken at least a hint:

"Hon. B. Moran, U. S. Secretary of Legation in London, has kindly forwarded to Captain Jeffers, of the Naval Bureau of Ordnance, the following interesting scrap, which deserves preservation. He says: "I enclose herewith a very curious sketch of certain inventions which Mr. James Mc-

Henry found in an English Magazine of more than a century ago. It confirms the Biblical saying that there is nothing new under the sun. He must have known all we know on the subject at this day."

*Authentic Copy of an extraordinary Proposal privately delivered at the houses of Persons of distinction, in and about London; by a Gentleman who wishes to put an end to the American war.*

To all foreign AMBASSADORS, NOBLESMEN, &c.

Lovers of their respective Kings and Countries, may now have an opportunity to introduce a most useful warlike invention, therein to keep off all troublesome enemies, who dare presume to disturb their peace.

The art of War, discovered by me JOHN CROSS, for the benefit of that King who will give me employment.

The particulars are as follows.

First, To fix gunpowder in the water, if a ship or vessel should touch the same, it will instantly be blown up.—2d, To convey a cannon along the bottom of the sea, and fire the same at the distance of one mile and half from the land, under a ships bottom. 3d, To convey a floating battery the same distance from the land, along side of a ship, and fire balls into her under the surface of water.—4th, To convey the fixtures the same distance, along the bottom of the sea which will catch ships mooring and drag them on shore.

N. B. These inventions are to be made use of, when an enemy's shipping comes to cannonade or bombard a town.

Fifth.—To fix gunpowder and bombshells under the earth, so that when an enemy treads on the same it will instantly blow up. 6th, To fix the same materials under the earth, so that when an enemy comes thereon, I will stand two miles from them, and blow them up without using either match or train.—7th, To fix the same materials under a gate, and by opening the same, a whole army may be destroyed.—8th, To fix the same materials under the Earth, and when enemies lifts up anything that I may lay thereon, will be blown up.

These inventions may be made use of when an enemy is on their march.

Ninth, I have also brought to perfection a moving battery, which is to be drawn by horses, and it may reasonably be expected fifty men can withstand one thousand men firing cannons, small arms, hand grenades, &c. &c.

This invention is extremely useful against an enemy when landing or in the field of battle.

Tenth, I will fix a cannon upon a level with the earth, against the walls of a town or shipping that the greatest force of an enemy cannot dismount it or hurt any of the people belonging to it, and is as handy to be worked as a swivel.

For this cannon I will take upon me to account for it to be the most masterly and warlike invention yet discovered.

For your like ingenuity, I bid defiance to all the gentlemen in the service of his Britannick Majesty. I do not presume to boast of my own merit, only so far I do acknowledge I put my inventions together, but God is my instructor, and to him only I owe my talents who is the giver of excellent gift; therefore I am resolved they never shall be hid in the earth; but shall with fidelity be extended to the utmost of my power to destroy the enemies of that King who gives me bread. Should my inventions fall into the hands of cruel enemies, it would be better