

COL. G. J. WOLSELEY,  
COMMANDING THE RED RIVER  
EXPEDITION.

The organization of the Red River expedition is one of those delicate operations in which more than military skill is necessary to secure success. The exceptional character of the duty; the distance from the field of service; and the feelings of Provincial jealousy under which the work was commenced, all tended to make its success difficult; but when to this was added the restriction of the force to so many from each military district; when the Volunteers discovered that they could not enter the service by companies as they had gone to the front to meet the Fenians, then was Col. Wolseley's duty rendered still more difficult. However, it has been the good fortune of the gallant colonel to have organized the expedition, in so far as he was concerned, without a single mishap; and in these days when military officers in high command are not exempt from the criticisms of the press, it is at the least fortunate for Col. Wolseley, that on all sides his efforts have met with general commendation.

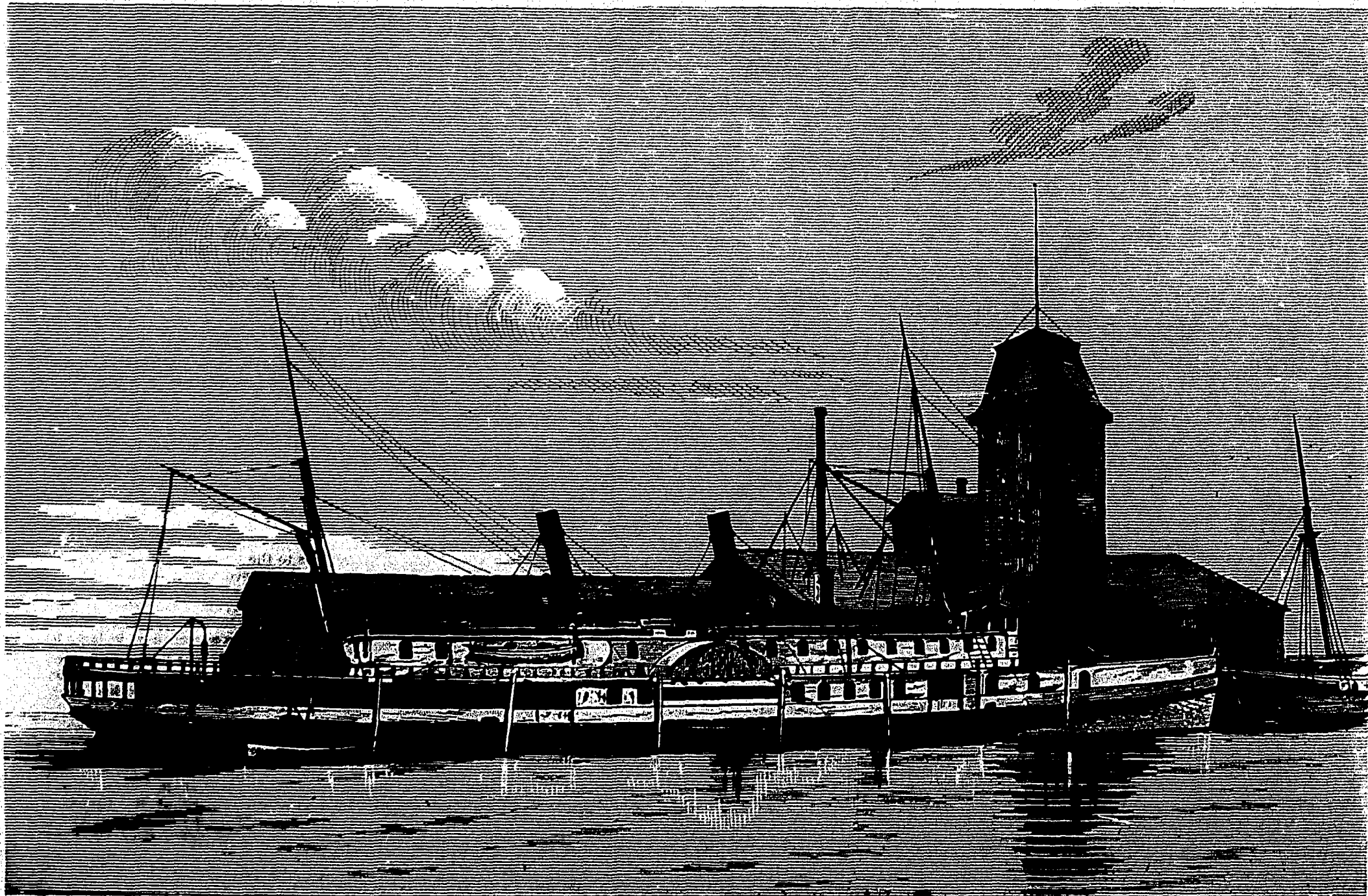
Col. Wolseley has been for several years Deputy Quarter-Master General in Canada. He attained his present rank in the army in 1865, and was attached to the 90th Foot. In 1866 he commanded the Military Camp of instruction at Laprairie, and was of course familiar with all the military movements in this country during that year, and subsequently, to check the Fenian marauders. His selection for the present post was generally anticipated when it was announced that the British and Canadian Governments had agreed to send a joint force, the authorities in both countries having the fullest confidence in his capacity. So soon as his duties at Toronto were completed in forwarding all the detachments to Collingwood, and thence to Sault Ste. Marie, Col.



COL. G. J. WOLSELEY.—From a photograph by Notman.

Wolseley changed his head-quarters, and arriving in Thunder Bay about the end of May, christened the point of debarkation, near Fort William, as "Prince Arthur's Landing," by which it will doubtless be thenceforth known. The colonel found some difficulties in the way of a quick movement forward, for the removal of which prompt measures were adopted. Col. Wolseley is the author of a work on "China," and also "The Soldier's Pocket-Book for Field Service," the latter published by McMillan & Co., in 1869. The numerous decorations worn by him bear testimony to the extent and gallantry of his services in the field, his regiment (the 90th) being entitled to sport upon their colours, among other names, those of "Sevastopol" and "Lucknow."

It is as yet somewhat doubtful, from the conflicting rumours that find their way into the papers, whether the expedition of which Col. Wolseley is Commander-in-Chief, is to be altogether a peaceful one, or whether it may not meet with armed resistance. It is all the more satisfactory therefore to know that the men are under the direction of an officer who will keep them well in hand and provide as far as possible for all contingencies. A correspondent writing from "Prince Arthur's Landing," says:—"A gentleman who has spent many years in travelling through the lakes and woods of British North America, and who knows the route now about to be taken, said, with reference to the 'Standing Orders,' that the orders were excellent, and the precautions which Col. Wolseley had taken to prevent the woods being set on fire and to provide for possible sickness, evinced a knowledge of the country and its requirements which could hardly have been expected except from an old woodsman. It is not often that the English War Office—if it be the War Office—stumbles into the accident of putting the right man into the right place."



THE "CHICORA." From a photograph by Davis.—See page 531.