

Edward Thornton, C. B., the expected new minister at Washington is a son of a gentleman who was also connected with the diplomatic service, and upon whom the King of Portugal conferred the title of Count Cassilhas for three lives; and George the 4th sanctioned its adoption with the usual condition that it should not be borne in the United Kingdom. If our Republican neighbors do not like having a plain "Mr." as the representative of Great Britain at Washington they can bestow upon Mr. Thornton this honorary title of Count, to which he is really entitled while in a foreign country.

An assistant engineer of the United States navy has been courtmartialled for using disrespectful language in reference to the President. It seems that in some discussion with his brother officers, who were very strong in their language against Congress, this person had said that Johnson "had violated his pledge to the people and ought to be impeached." Of course the words were reported, and hence the trial. The sentence was that he should be suspended from rank and duty for a year. Secretary Wells has confirmed the sentence, in doing which he tells all whom it may concern, that it is a lenient one, and that officers in the navy have no right to express their political opinions.

The latest Parisian duel was fought between Prince Achille Murat and the Marquis de Rouge. The Marquis was slightly wounded in the arm. The cause of the duel has been the subject of much gossip. It appears that a gallant officer, whose refusal to grant leave of absence to a gallant and noble subaltern was overruled by a very high authority, wrote a letter, strictly confidential, to one of the combatants, in which he said the service was going to the dogs, and added other things not meant for any eye but his correspondent. Somehow the letter was lost or mislaid, and fell into the hands of a third person, who showed it, or reported its contents to a very exalted person. Hence the duel, which it is said is to be followed by another. *On dit*, that the exalted person to whom the letter was shown, merely observed: "He makes me pay very dearly for the favor I have shown him." The *Figaro* published an account of the affair without mentioning names, and its article was no doubt considered as rendering a rencontre inevitable.

**NEW WEAPONS.**—The Vienna artillery committee, in presence of the Archdukes William and Rognier, as well as the Minister of War and a large number of officers, has just made the *mitrailleuse*, invented by M. M. Montigny and Christoph, of Brussels. This weapon is composed of thirty one steel barrels placed in a common tube. The apparatus opens behind and receives thirty-one cartridges which, by means of a piece of mechanism, enter the barrels. The thirty-one shots are fired successively, and the whole operation only takes thirty or forty seconds. The experiments were not successful; many of the shots missed fire, and very few went straight. The *mitrailleuse* appears very inferior to the cannon on the Gatling system (American). The latter fires 100 to 120 shots a minute, and the former only sixty to seventy. Messrs. Gatling, moreover, have much improved their cannon, and before long are going to submit to the Austrian Government a ten barrelled revolver cannon which will fire 300 shots a minute.

## CANADIAN MILITARY NEWS.

The citadel of Quebec is deemed impregnable. It has now over eighty guns mounted and many others on hand. It is supplied with seven years' provisions for five thousand men.

Quebec is pretty well prepared for a siege just now. Eighty heavy guns have lately been mounted, and there is seven years' provisions for five thousand men within the fortress at the present time.

Another craft of blockade running notoriety, known as the "Let-Her-Be," has been purchased by parties in this Province, with the design of placing her on some route on Lake Ontario.

**MILITARY STORES.**—The *Times* of the 23rd says:—The military store department in Woolwich Arsenal was engaged yesterday and Sunday in shipping at Gravesend, on board the steamship *St. Lawrence*, 400 tons of ammunition, contained in upwards of 13,000 barrels, for transport to Quebec and Montreal.

**MILITARY FUNERAL.**—Staff-Sergeant James Mulholland, of the Queen's own Rifles died Nov. the 8th of inflammation of the lungs. He served with the battalion at Ridgeway, and was universally respected by his comrades. His remains were buried with military honors.—*Toronto Telegraph*.

**DEATH OF CAPTAIN SHERRINGHAM, 16th REGIMENT.**—Many of our citizens who had the pleasure of knowing Captain Sherringham, of the 15th Regiment, who was stationed here with that corps, for many months, will be pained to learn that he died in Barbadoes on the 17th of October. A few days after his arrival there to join the 2nd Battalion of his regiment, he was taken down with a malignant fever peculiar to that region, and died after a short illness. A private letter says: "The death of this promising and popular officer has cast a gloom over the entire garrison." Captain Sherringham was well known in this city, and his many friends and acquaintances here will be pained to hear of his sudden demise.—*Hamilton Times*.

**CONCERT 5TH BATT. G. T. VOLUNTEERS.**—The concert given by the Grand Trunk Volunteers on Wednesday evening the 6th inst. under the patronage of the officers, was a decided success, the music hall being well filled with an appreciative audience, who appeared highly delighted with the performance. The amateurs who took the part of vocalists in the entertainment, acquitted themselves most creditably, and fully merited the applause bestowed by the large audience. The Volunteer band—which we have remarked before is one of the best in Ontario—performed the part of the programme assigned to them admirably, and at the conclusion of each piece were heartily encored. Miss Filgiano's accompaniments on the piano were executed with much taste and greatly admired. After the conclusion of the concert the floor was cleared, and quite a large portion of the audience remained for the dancing, which was kept up to an early hour to the music of the string band of the Volunteer Battalion, and all dispersed highly gratified at the pleasure afforded them. We are glad to hear that a very nice sum has been added to the Band fund, for which purpose the concert was projected.—*Brantford Courier*.

**CHALLENGE.**—Dr. Allen, Mayor of Cornwall, offers to back the St. Regis Lacrosse players against any other club in Canada, Indian or white, for \$100 a side, or a gold medal and flags of value to that amount. The game to be played at Cornwall—twelve players a side.

**RED TAPISM.**—Russell in his work on Canada tells two well known old stories about red tapeism in Canada, which the *Montreal Gazette* caps with another known perhaps to very many of our readers:—During the war of 1812 the Admiralty government gave orders for the construction of several frigates for service on Lake Ontario, and forwarded the outfits from the dockyards at home. Anchors, cables, capstans, even "spars" &c., came duly to hand, and with them several large iron tanks for the fresh water required during a lengthy cruise! The shipwrights stared very hard when the bulky coffers were dumped in the Kingston Dockyard, then the Portsmouth of Western Canada, and very sensibly concluded not to hoist them on board. The tars of lamented Captain Barclay's fleet got along very well without them, and, nevertheless managed to find plenty of fresh water.

**EMPLOYMENT OF VOLUNTEERS TO QUELL RIOTS.**—In connection with the Volunteer Cavalry display at the Court House on the occasion of the late strike of ship carpenters in Quebec, the subjoined circular, from the war Office, may prove of interest. Grave doubts were expressed at the time, by many people, as to the propriety of calling out mere bodies of armed citizens to act against parties who might prove to be their own unarmed neighbors, and toward whom they might be either friendly or the reverse, as the case turned out. The judiciousness of calling on citizen soldiers in garrison cities like Quebec and Montreal (where regular troops are always available), to act in the maintenance of civil authority, has become a frequent question of discussion of late. The following Memorandum, dated "War Office, Oct. 10th," will probably govern the action of the authorities in future, should the necessity for military intervention in civil affairs ever again unhappily arise here: "Her Majesty's subjects are bound, in case of the existence of riots, to use all reasonable endeavors, according to the necessity of the occasion, to suppress and quell such riots; and members of the Volunteer forces are not exempted from this general obligation, and they may, with all other her Majesty's subjects, be required by the civil authority to act as special constables for such purposes; but they must not, when so acting, appear in military dress. The civil authority is not in any case entitled to call upon or order volunteers to act as a military body in the preservation of peace. In case of riots and disturbances not amounting to insurrection, and not having for their object the commission of felonious acts, or the subversion of the civil government, special constables, whether members of the Volunteer forces or not, should be armed with the ordinary constables' staff. In cases of serious and dangerous riots and disturbances, the civil authority may require her Majesty's subjects generally, including members of the Volunteer forces, to arm themselves with, and use other weapons suitable in the occasion, and such other weapon may be used accordingly by members of the Volunteer force, according to the necessity of the occasion."—*Quebec Chronicle*.