

the rest to close the water-tight doors, and failing in that ran on deck. The collision nets were got out, but it was soon seen that the ship was doomed. All hands were piped aft, and soon the order was given, "every man for himself." The vessel had a heavy list, and those on deck had hardly time to climb over the upper side and jump into the sea when she toppled over and sunk, taking with her all the men who were below at the pumps. Sawyer says that on coming to the surface of the water he found himself badly bruised on the side and the clothing torn nearly off him. He, with some others got hold of a picket boat that had been upset, but too many of them got on one side of it and it turned over and sank, taking several men with it. Sawyer kept himself afloat till he got hold of a plank by which one of the sailors was sustaining himself and the both were picked up by one of the boats of the "Dreadnought." Mr. G. Blake, of the Canadian Pacific railway, accompanied the men to Vancouver, and all the railway officials have exerted themselves to the utmost to make the men as comfortable as possible and get them through with despatch.

Moosomin.

The old members of the Northwest Field Force living at Moosomin, N.W.T., met together on Monday, April 2nd, for dinner. The committee was composed as follows: Geo. B. Murphy, Transport; A. S. Christie, Midland Battalion; E. A. C. McLorg, Boulton's Scouts; Rev. W. Milton, Transport; B. A. G. Hamilton, Transport; French's Scouts, Hon. Secretary. The bill of fare was as follows:

POTAGES.

Otter Soup. Strange Soup. Pea Soup.
Poisson.

Fish Creek Smelt. Hungry Souls from
Clark's Crossing. Corned Beef on
the half tin.

ENTREES.

Riel Cutlets. Big Bear Chops and Pound-
maker sauce.

ROTI.

Roast Beef of Old England (Middledone).
Irish Stew. Scotch Haggis.
Chicago Grey Hound Pork.

GAME.

Red Legs a la Batoche. Green Lake Divers.

ENTREMETS.

Bois Prulee au Gratin. Les Buttes des hom-
mes francs. Montizambert Cheese
and Hard Tack.

DESSERT.

Grape Shot. Lead Plums
Ninepounder Pudding and Howard Sauce.
Cut Knives and Saskatchewan Forks
sur la table.

WINES.

Guardposts Port. Saskatoon W(h)lne.
No Canned Brawn.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

London.

One of the officers having kindly presented a silver dessert spoon to be shot for by the juniors, there was quite an interesting competition at the drill shed Tuesday, March 13th. The result was a tie between Color-Sergt. Jacobs and Sergt. Brown. After firing three shots at the longest distance it was still a tie, but the next shot Sergt. Jacobs scored a "bull" and his opponent only an "inner." The scores:

	200 Yards	500 Yards	T'l
2. Col.-Sergt. Jacobs.....	45455-23	33344-17	40
3. Sergt. Brown.....	44434-19	53343-18	3 40
2. Col.-Sergt. Allan.....	55344-23	45403-16	39
2. Lieut. Magee.....	44445-21	45340-16	37
2. Corp. Erskine.....	4444-20	43405-16	36
3. Corp. Shillington.....	44344-19	05045-14	3 36
2. Lieut. Allison.....	44535-21	04343-14	35
3. Corp. Becher.....	54344-20	30403-10	3 33
Tie shots—3 shots at 500 yards:			
Col.-Sergt. Jacobs.....	344-5	16	
Sergt. Brown.....	533-4	15	

Kingston.

Lieut.-Col. Straubenzie, who was second in command at Batoche, in the Northwest rebellion, says he thinks General Middleton should have been satisfied with \$20,000 voted him, and let the matter drop. Straubenzie says that when the proper time arrives he will take a hand in the Middleton-Houghton controversy. His statement is awaited with much eagerness.

OUR SERVICE CONTEMPORARIES.

In Forbes Mitchell's "Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny" we have a vivid picture of the valiant 93rd Regiment, the Sutherland Highlanders, a Highland regiment from top to bottom before it received an infusion of foreign elements after the "thin red line" had won their first honors in the Crimea. But even in the Balaklava epoch there was some infusion of English and Irish in the corps. More than one of the officers—Captain Cornwall, for example, and Dawson—were Irish, and there is mention made in Mr. Mitchell's work of several gallant deeds by privates of the same nationality belonging to the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders. In the "Reminiscences" we read of "Handy Andy, a thorough Paddy from Armagh, a soldier as true as the steel of a Damascus blade;" of "Tim Drury, a big stout fellow;" of "Clery, a most gallant soldier;" of "Patrick Doolan, a real Paddy of the Handy Andy type," &c., &c. Elsewhere will be found an extract from the *Observer* which states the sad truth respecting the present condition of the Highland regiments in the matter of recruiting. We believe a return of nationalities would show that the difficulties of recruiting Highland regiments in Scotland is increasing, and that the Lowlanders and the Hiberno Scottish element in the large cities like Glasgow and Edinburgh contribute largely to the ranks of the so-called killed Highland corps.—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

Lord Brassey argues in the *Times* in favor of "some limitation in the dimensions of our ships of war," and he offers for professional criticism the suggestion that "we may go back for the ideal of a fighting ship to that admirable example of the sea-keeping ironclad the *Alexandra*." He is in favor of:—

"Retaining all the leading features as they are represented in the *Alexandra*, from the bow to the central battery inclusive, the upper works abaft the battery might be cut down, and the after end of the ship armed with a well-armed turret, carrying a pair of heavy guns. The *Alexandra* is about 600 tons smaller than the *Centurion*. Keeping the dimensions at 10,000 tons, it might be possible to give some addition to length and to raise the indicated power from the 8,600 of the *Alexandra* to the 13,000 of the *Centurion*. Such an increase of power would probably secure a sufficient addition to the far from contemptible 14 knots which the *Alexandra* succeeded in maintaining with an admirable uniformity through a succession of commissions."

Passing in review the most recent addition to the fleets of France, Russia, Germany, the United States and Italy, Lord Brassey points out that the average displacement in each of these countries respectively is 9,990 tons, 9,720 tons, 10,033 tons, 9,656 tons and 9,862 tons. He asks, therefore, what are the reasons which

have led to the acceptance of a minimum standard of over 14,000 tons for ships of the British line of battle. He points out that whatever the size of the ship, the head of the officer in command remains, and must remain, as undefended in the heaviest ship as in the slenderest of torpedo boats. Thirdly, a like remark applies to the hull below the water line. He contends further that the fewer the ships—and of ships which cost over a million there must be comparatively few—the less chance of discovering those officers who are best qualified for command. He reminds us that in history will be found a warning that safety lies in numbers; and finally in support of the contention that in designing ships, hydrographical considerations cannot be entirely put aside, he instances the disadvantages under which ships labor if of great draught of water.

The adoption of smokeless powder in the Italian Army is likely to cost Italy dear. According to the *France Militaire*, the smokeless powder used by the Italian artillery has irreparably damaged a very large number of guns. The powder has produced such an effect upon the bores of the guns that some 500 have already been condemned and orders have been issued to considerably reduce the amount of gun practice. Enormous expense will in consequence be necessary to restore the Italian field artillery to its former state of efficiency, no less a sum than £8,000,000 being mentioned as the amount required. If the report as to guns being rendered practically useless through smokeless powder being used be correct, it will probably have an important effect on the development of these powders which has received such a stimulus of late years.

During the past year or two grave allegations have been made to the Secretary of War, by anonymous correspondents, to the effect that responsible officials at the Government Small Arms Repairing Works in Birmingham, known as the Tower, systematically received monetary considerations for setting men on as armorers, and that considerable sums were exacted from the men in order to ensure promotion and transference. In consequence of these complaints the War Secretary deputed Colonel W. H. King-Harman to make a thorough investigation on the spot. Many of the men employed at the Tower made statements, which were written down, and afterwards dispatched to the War Office. This resulted in an order being sent on Tuesday to Lieut.-Col. Nuttall, who has charge of the Tower, to place Lieutenant and Quartermaster C. Locke and Sergt.-Major J. H. Murray under arrest. Sergt.-Major Murray is confined in the barracks at Birmingham, while Quartermaster Locke has been sent to Manchester. In the course of a few days a court of inquiry will be held, which will be presided over by an officer from Chester, and both Quartermaster Locke and Sergeant-Major Murray will be placed on trial. It should be stated that upon these officers devolved the appointment of men who wished to become armorers, while upon their recommendations depended the transference to the several regiments of the men who were skilled in their work.

Much adverse comment has been caused by the action of the Treasury in proposing to take advantage of the increased receipts of Chelsea Hospital by the letting of the sites for the Military and Naval Exhibitions of 1890-91, and the lease of the Gordon House grounds for building plots, which has been partly applied in