

foot high, other methods will present themselves to the practical engineer for accomplishing this work, it is not at all necessary to tie him down to one rule.

A stockade is the best enclosure for the gorge of a work, the plan should be a small bastioned front or tenaille, the structure should be formed of trunks of trees about twelve inches thick, and eleven feet in length, they should be flitted on two sides so that about six inches may be in contact, the top of the stockade should be at least eight feet above the ground, a banquetto one foot nine inches high is thrown up against it on the inside, the tops of the trunks should be pointed, and a strip about two feet in length should be cut with a saw on every two adjacent lengths, so that a loop hole two feet long, two inches and a half in width on the exterior side, and eight inches on the interior should be formed, about four feet in front of the stockade, a ditch should be formed twelve feet wide and three feet deep, the earth of which should be thrown up in a slope from the bottom of the loop hole to within six inches of the ditch.

Outlets through a work should not be more than six and a half feet wide except where waggons are used, when they should not be less than ten feet, when cut through a parapet the sides should receive a slope of three to one, and revetted with sods, it should be closed by a gate properly protected.

The great event of the past week has been the ball given by the Commander-in-chief (Colonel Robertson Ross) and his lady, to the officers of the Canadian army, it came off on Monday evening the 12th inst., at the Russel House, and was attended by a large number officers in full uniform, and over two hundred and fifty of the elite of the city.

The ball room was splendidly decorated, between every window were stars formed of bayonets, and ramrods supported by crossed sabres, festoons of evergreens crossed the windows on each side, descending to the gallery of the orchestra and passing along its front in three graceful curves, over the main door-way and connecting with the window festoons, on either side were two large festoons, the loops at the junction of each being tastefully filled with flowers, which were also plentifully bestowed on the festoons. Over the centre of the gallery a splendid gilt Prince of Wales' feather was placed, two of the flags of the gallant militia regiments that defended the Niagara frontier in 1812-15 were tastefully draped on either side, the whole front of the gallery was draped with ensigns, two bayonet stars shone with particular brilliancy, on either side the Prince of Wales' feather, while below two R's the Monogram of the Adjutant-General occupied a similar position, four others of the old historic flags occupied positions on each side of the entrance, the door of which was covered by two large

draped ensigns, two mirrors one on either side was beautifully and tastefully decorated, and altogether the effect was most brilliant.

The ball was opened by the Adjutant-General and Lady Macdonald, Sir G. E. Cartier, and Mrs. Robertson Ross. The Hon. the Minister of Militia and Defence, was in full Windsor uniform, and on his entrance the band struck up "God save the Queen." Amongst the distinguished guests were the Hon. the Speaker of the Commons, the Hon. Alex. Campbell, Hon. Mr. Tilley, and Hon. Col. Gray.

The Canadian Army was well represented by Lieut.-Colonel Powell, D.A.G.; Lieut.-Colonel Wiley, Lieut. Colonel Macpherson, Lieut.-Col. Jackson, Lieut. Col. D'Orsmeaux, Lieut.-Colonel Brunel, Lieut.-Colonel Chamblain, Lieut.-Colonel Aumond, Major Worsley, Major Ross, Major White, Captain Eagleson, Captain Cotton, Lieutenant Harris, Lieutenant Cotton, Lieutenant Esmond, and many other officers. Owing to recent domestic bereavement, His Excellency, the Governor-General and Lady Lisgar were unable to attend, the vico-regal suite being represented by the Hon. Lieutenant Ponsonby, A.D.C.

The ball room presented a gay and unique scene, the supper room was tastefully decorated with flags and the centre piece of the table was Sir Peter Tait's presentation cup, of which we published an extended notice some time ago.

The honors of the ball was well performed by the gallant host and his amiable and accomplished lady, Lieut. Colonel Macpherson, Wiley and Stewart, deserve great credit for the tasteful decorations which received the finishing touch from the hands of Mrs. Robertson Ross.

The officers of the Canadian Army owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Commander-in-Chief for his constant solicitude for their welfare, and in this case at very great expense he has endeavoured to bring them together outside the routine of discipline, as a means of establishing a proper *esprit de corps* amongst classes widely different in their daily pursuits.

It was a happy idea and will be crowned with all possible success, and Mrs. Robertson Ross may well feel proud of the result of her kindly feeling and consideration. This was undoubtedly the most brilliant affair which the capital has yet seen.

The calamities of a war between the United States and Great Britain appears to have suddenly been discovered by the people of the former country, and especially by their military journals, the flicker of resentment exhibited by the Press and people of the latter at the impudent, insulting, and outrageous claims made by the Government of Washington for indirect losses arising out of the Alabama claims, occurring so soon after the report of the Secretary of the Navy would lead most people to suppose that this sudden desire for peace by a particularly

truculent people was caused more by their inability to wage war than any desire to spare their neighbors, the horrors so faintly depicted when likely to be endured by themselves.

We do not forget in this connection the insulting, outrageous, and mischievous message of the four years mob puppet of the United States, when the idea was prevalent that the mass of old scrap iron at League Island was worth something more than the cost of demolishing it, nor the action of that other sudden convert and apostle of peace at any price principles the *Army and Navy Journal* whose warlike articles so strongly savoured of the true genuine Jefferson. Brisk style of argument. It is very evident that circumstances alone have changed, principles still remain the same, and on the next fitting opportunity we shall have the President's message filled with as stiff a dose of insult as the stomach of the English Whig radicals can bear, while the military journals will howl the war song threatening to annihilate Great Britain with the *Canonius*, and wind up all by blowing the tight little island out of the water by torpedoes, manœuvred from a North river mud scow.

All this is very neat and probably brilliant, but unhappily there are parties between the bullies on the one side and the imbeciles on the other, who do not quite admire all this Punch and Judy play, and whose interests have been more than once sacrificed to pay for the expense of the exhibition.

The civilized world was congratulated on the advent of the true millennium when the Treaty of Washington should have been ratified, the high contracting parties with a lofty desire to accommodate each other at somebody else's expense, forgot on the one side to secure substantial advantages and on the other to guard against dishonest claims.

As a consequence the people of Canada have to be consulted in the first case, and in the second the natural Yankee peculiarity of appropriating unconsidered trifles has broken out in such a serious fashion as to reverse what is supposed would be the condition of mankind after the settlement of the Alabama claims, and make the beating of ploughshares into swords or rather Snider Enfields, a wise and profitable operation.

That there may be no doubt about the little bill presented to John Bull by his dearly loved and rebellious spring Jonathan, the following from the *U.S. Army and Navy Journal* will show what is exactly meant, and we would draw attention to how neatly the case is put.

"Happily, the language of the Queen's speech sets the example of moderation, whatsoever may be the intemperance of some of the English press and opposition politicians in Parliament. Evidently the Government at Washington will follow the same moderate course, and we may hope for a calm consideration of the question