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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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For "THE REVIEW."

### THE MOUNTAIN HOME.

BY CARROLL RYAN.

The trees have grown so high and tall  
Around my dear old mountain home,  
The Pine, the Oak, the Maple—all  
That sing unto the winds that roam.  
About the ivied hall.

Among their shadows long ago  
My youth, all passionate and wild,  
Chased phantoms I have learned to know  
Could only haunt a dreaming child  
Unreconciled to woe.

With wonder through their branches high,  
I looked on each mysterious star  
And thought, if I were then to die,  
My soul could rise and soar afar  
Untrammelled through the sky.

Here was my father's fav'rite seat  
And there was oft my mother's place,  
The path is worn by many feet  
But her's will nevermore retrace  
Their way to this retreat.

Time rolls along its ceaseless wave,  
And years in weary years have past,  
Since through those trees, so tall and brave,  
The red October's blighting blast  
Strewed leaves upon her grave.

Now others share her lowly sleep  
Who then were dear—the old and young—  
Still we must toil along the deep  
With hearts by many sorrows wrung  
And watch, and wait, and weep.  
Waterdown, July 1867.

### NAVAL OPERATIONS

OF THE  
WAR OF 1812-14.

#### CHAPTER I.

In the columns of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW will be found a communication from a gallant and esteemed correspondent (*Sabreur*) expressing a desire that the celebrated *Frigate actions* between the naval forces of Great Britain and the United States during the contest of 1812-14 should be illustrated by the graphic pen of another gallant and esteemed correspondent (G. W.) professionally capable of dealing with the details of those much contested engagements. The latter gentleman having tacitly declined to undertake such an onerous task simply because the materials for full details were not within his reach, the writer of the Campaigns of 1764-64 feeling that he was indebted to

*Sabreur* for the strictures historical truth compelled him to utter during the publication of that part of the narrative relating to General Braddock's expedition, and having himself walked the *lee sid.* of the quarter-deck, has with much diffidence undertaken the task which G. W. declined, apprehensive that he is endeavoring, in more senses than one, to write the Journal of his superior officer.

Sailors are not preachers although they occasionally hear *dec(k) orations*, and also occasionally earn as well as wear them—therefore *Sabreur* will easily understand the motives which influence the writer, who begs leave respectfully to dedicate the following narrative to him.

The Military events of the last contest between the United States and Great Britain were singularly barren of interest and great events—to the scientific soldier the war had resolved itself into a struggle for the possession of Canada, and the predatory efforts of a gallant little column under the command of Major General Ross, whose greatest exploit was the occupation and destruction of Washington, the political capital of the United States, after a sanguinary action at Bladensburgh.

In Canada the colonists themselves achieved some noble deeds of arms, but the British troops proper did not sustain the high character won under Wellington, and their leaders were below mediocrity.

It would seem as if the whole energies of the Empire were concentrated on the contest then approaching its termination in Europe, and that a defeat or victory more or less in America was a matter of small importance indeed—any disaster occurring there could be remedied at leisure.

The same principle appears to have governed the administration of Naval affairs—the victory at Trafalgar had delivered Great Britain from all fear of Naval competition; with a fleet of eleven hundred (1100) sail of all rates and sizes afloat, it was not likely that her Naval supremacy could be called in question—seriously—and it was not till some stunning defeats had been inflicted that the English Admiralty awoke to the

unpleasant knowledge that on the high seas her right of challenge was not unquestioned.

Having no enemy worthy of notice to contend with, the cruisers of the British fleet neglected that strict discipline which distinguished the days of St. Vincent and Nelson while the Admiralty in a fit of economy curtailed the means which enabled the commanding officers of Frigates and smaller vessels to train their cruisers to acquire that knowledge of Naval tactics and gunnery so necessary for effective service. The same pitiable principle operated in reducing the seamen's allowances and rates of pay so that the crews as soon as paid off entered the Merchant service or emigrated largely to the United States attracted by high wages and better treatment—great difficulty was therefore experienced in manning those vessels ordered on Foreign stations, where prize money was scarce and blows plenty; indeed, in Europe, the same cause prevailed to a far greater extent—the commercial navies of the belligerents being almost annihilated.

During the long contest of nearly *eighteen years* the United States alone maintained a position of neutrality, and as a consequence engrossed a large proportion of the carrying trade and Foreign commerce of Continental Europe.

The absurd Berlin decrees and the mischievous orders in Council provoked a good deal of ill feeling on the part of the Government of the United States, and there can be no doubt but the intrigues of the French Court added fuel to the flame if it did not directly precipitate the war—from which direct advantages could be derived—the compulsory evacuation of the Spanish Peninsula by the British forces.

Calculating on the Naval power and resources of the United States as being far greater than they really were, and the exertions it would be necessary for Great Britain to make to maintain her American Colonies and West Indian Islands, and that a Naval check here would compel a concentration of her fleet for purposes of home defence—it is not a matter of wonder if the mind of James Madison, President of the

United States was dazzled by the brilliant prospect afforded of signaling his administration by adding nearly half the North American continent to his rule.

It is evident that if the States were properly prepared and able to inflict a decisive defeat on the British North American Squadron, a very material effect would be produced on the state of the belligerents on the European continent—but although some steps had been taken to put the Naval force on a respectable footing and to render the army effective, the open opposition of the people of the Eastern States rendered all efforts futile—the war was unpopular with the people—such being the ostensible motives for hostilities—the relative condition of the belligerents demands attention.

With all the advantages of an unchecked and unimpeded Naval administration without the routine or jobbery which characterised the English Admiralty of the period, the United States Executive dealt directly with the Contractor and had their ships built under the immediate supervision of the officers which were destined to risk their lives and professional reputation in command of them, it is no wonder if those vessels were effective or whose individual inventive ability had such ample scope, startling innovations in Naval architecture and appliances should have resulted.

As an instance of the effect thus produced the circumstances which led to the construction of those so called Frigates which created such a sensation during the war will be interesting.

Inspired by feelings of hatred to England and wishing to aid the cause of Revolution in France the United States administration in 1794, pushed their complaints against England to the verge of war. To meet such a contingency the President ordered the construction of two 74 gun ships and one 44 gun Frigate, the former to measure 1620 tons according to the American method, but nearly 1750 tons according to the English mode, the difference appears to have been in the manner by which the length between the *perpendiculars* intended to allow for the *rake of stem or stern* is taken—thus the length of the keel for tonnage of the United States Frigate President is taken according to the first system at 145 feet; according to the English it would be 146 feet 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches—the first multiplication of the American system would be the breadth across the *frame* or *moulded breadth* usually called the *breadth of beam*, but the first multiplier of the British is that breadth with double the *assumed thickness* of the plank on the bottom, which thickness would be in vessels of this class *five inches*—this is technically speaking called the *extreme breadth*, the second multiplier of each is the *respective half breadths*. The American divisor is 95, the British 94. Thus—

#### AMERICAN METHOD.

$$145 \times 42.6 = 6308 \times 21.9 = 137198 \div 95 = 1444\frac{1}{2} \text{ tons.}$$

#### BRITISH METHOD.

$$146.7\frac{1}{2} \times 44.4 = 6502 \times 22.2 = 143044 + 94 = 1533\frac{1}{2} \text{ tons.}$$

As the number and size of a ship's guns or the nature of her armament depends in a very great degree upon her scantling, it will be easily understood that a British Frigate of nominal equal tonnage with a so called United States ship was in reality considerably over matched.

Owing to Mr. Jay's treaty all hostile designs against England were laid aside, and as the most eligible means of rendering the timbers prepared for the two *seventy-fours* useful, it was resolved that although begun as line of battle ships they should be converted into frigates being more useful as cruisers and less expensive to maintain. This was to be accomplished by contracting the breadth of beam about three feet and a half and discontinuing the *topside* at the *clamps* of the quarter deck and fore-castle—the 44 gun frigate was to be rated as of 36 guns.

In the spring of 1798, the cost of building those two forty-four gun frigates and one of thirty-six guns came to be submitted to Congress, an explanation of the excess of cost over the original estimates was required—the Secretary at War delivered the following Report:—

"It appears that the first Estimate rendered to Congress was for frigates of the common size and dimensions rated at 36 and 44 guns, and that the appropriations for the armament were founded on this Estimate. It also appears that when their size and dimensions came to be maturely considered due reference being had to the ships they might have to contend with, it was deemed proper so to alter their dimension without changing their rates as to extend their sphere of utility as much as possible. It was expected from this alteration that they would possess in an eminent degree the advantage of sailing—that separately they would be superior to any single European frigate of the usual dimensions—that if assailed by numbers they would be always able to lead ahead that they would never be obliged to go into action but on their own terms—and that in heavy weather they would be capable of engaging double decked ships."

Good sufficient and judicious reasons for the alterations, suggestive of a vigorous and enlightened Naval administration—but these Frigates were intended to mount in reality 62 guns—and the President moulded on similar lines wanted only about five feet beam to be a larger ship than the generality of British 74 gun ships—her yards were as square and masts as stout and the thickness of her topsides greater—measured at the main deck portside it was 1 foot 8 inches, while in any British 74 of 1,800 tons it was only 1 foot 6 inches—at the quarter deck port side, of the latter the thickness is 1 foot 1 inch, of the former 1 foot 5 inches.

The armament of those Frigates were in proportion to their dimensions—the President had *fifteen* ports and a *bridle* of a side on her main deck—*eight* of a side on the quarter deck, and *four* of a side without reckoning the *chase port* on the fore-castle—this gave the ship *fifty four* ports for broad-

side guns, but there were means for mounting sixty-two broadside guns. Instead of her gangways (or passage from the quarter deck to the fore-castle) being four or five feet in width they were *ten feet*—this was to allow room for the carriage and slide of a 42 pounder carronade—to avoid the necessity of uniting the quarter deck and fore-castle barricades (bulwarks) and thus destroying the single decked appearance which for purposes of deception it was necessary to maintain the *stanchions* for supporting the hammock clothes were of extraordinary thickness and so arranged along the gangways as to form ports for four guns on each side, the breechings were to pass round the iron stanchions: chocks were fitted to these gangways to receive the carriages and the guns could be as effectively mounted and worked as any in the ship—the waist still remaining open as in any other vessel of her nominal class. Experience eventually proved that the vessel worked better without the gangway guns and it was decided to add two carronades to the 54 she carried which was effected by fitting the gangway or entrance port to receive a carronade. The United States frigate of 44 guns mounted 30 long 24 pounder guns on the main deck, 18 carronades 42 pounders on the quarter deck, and 6 carronades 42 pounders with 2 long 24 pounders on the fore-castle, total 56 guns. The crew of an American 44 gun frigate was 475 men and boys distributed according to rating as follows, viz: officers and petty officers 80—able bodied seamen 180—ordinary seamen 145—marines 56, and boys 5.

The dimensions of an English 44 gun frigate belonging to the same nominal class as the President (of which there were ten in the British navy at the beginning of the war) would be of a burthen of 1374 tons—length between perpendiculars for keel measurement 143 feet by 42'6" beam. Thus— $143 \times 42.6 = 6077 \times 21.3 = 129136 + 4 = 1374$  tons. The guns of the American frigates were mounted on high carriages and the elevation between decks allowed this being over eight feet, while those of the English vessels did not exceed six feet. The advantages possessed by the former at long ranges is sufficiently evident, and in the then state of Naval tactics fully sufficient to turn the tide of victory—the classes below that described in the British Navy were inferior to those in the American Navy in every respect. The cause of defeat is therefore not far or difficult to seek, nor would it be necessary to detail or analyse it at all, if people would not view national quarrels as matters of personal concern and not refuse to recognise the value of the powers and ability of the enemy of their country.

The prolonged hostilities between Great Britain and France constituted the United States the great carrier of the commerce of the latter power—as England insisted on the "right of search," i. e. that of visiting every vessel encountered on the Ocean to

ascertain whether the cargo contained contraband of war. The mode of manning the Navy at this time added to the complications; the national law of Great Britain that "once a subject always a subject" was followed to its logical conclusion by *impressing* from every vessel visited by her ships of war British subjects or those assumed to be so. As the almost total monopoly of the continental European carrying trade enabled the United States merchants to offer larger wages for able seamen, it is no wonder if their vessels were manned by the very best class of British sailors, nor if their forcible abstraction created great excitement amongst those who were the sufferers by the operations of what was evidently an absurd and unjust code enforced by the strong hand of power.

A very foolish Order in Council permitted the belligerents to "import Colonial produce into the Mother Country, only paying a duty to the Government of the neutral State to whom the carrier flag belonged;" this continued in force from 1801 till 1806; its consequences were those detailed as throwing the carrying trade into American hands and its revocation created great national discontent in the United States.

The naturalization laws of the latter power, loosely framed, were unmercifully abused. Certificates were granted to British seamen on demand, and even the Navy did not hesitate to receive and enrol deserters from the British Men of-War.

Maritime law has always been a fruitful subject of contention, but in this case it would be impossible to say what it really defined or how or by whom it was primarily violated.

Previous to the actual declaration of War many high handed acts had been perpetrated by the British officers on the American coast. Contenting with a power which could only impose a *paper* blockade, it is not to be wondered at if, annoyed at the quibbles and evasions of astute Yankee skippers, and disgusted at the barefaced tergiversation with which they pushed a dishonest trade in contraband of War, a bluff brave seaman occasionally lost his temper, nor does it reflect much credit on the American Government that they invariably took the part of the offender.

To prevent the open trade in contraband of War carried on at New York and Boston, the *Leander*, an old 50 ship commanded by Capt. H. Whitty, in company with the *Cambrian* of 40 guns, was ordered to cruise off those ports with strict injunctions not to use force within any bays or other marks indicating the dominion of the United States.

On the 25th April, 1806, Capt. Whitty was at dinner on board the *Cambrian* while several coasters were being overhauled and were fired at in order to bring them to. A shot from the *Leander* was said to have killed a man named John Pearce on board an American schooner, and this was charged

as wilful murder on the part of Capt. Whitty. The President of the United States issued an order prohibiting the *Leander* from entering any port of the United States and represented the matter so strongly that Capt. Whitty was placed under arrest and sent to England to be tried by Court Martial on "the capital charge"—and after a year's vexatious delay owing to the intrigues of the American authorities he was tried and honorably acquitted. It did not appear on the trial that such a man as John Pearce whose death was charged in the indictment ever existed.

During the summer of 1807 the Halifax sloop of War, commanded by Lord James Townshend, was lying in Hampton Roads, having occasion to send his jolly boat on some service, the crew despite the Mit shipman took the boat ashore and deserted—in endeavoring to reclaim those men the Captain was insulted in the streets and could obtain no redress. This matter was reported to the Senior Officer on the station, who sent the *Leopard*, 50 guns, Capt. S. P. Humphries, with instructions to claim the men from the American Commodore Barrow, on board whose ship they were reported to have entered.

On the 22nd June the *Leopard* chased a strange sail which proved to be the *Chesapeake*, an American frigate of 36 guns (18 pounders) 300 men; when near enough Captain Humphries hailed and said he had "despatches from the British Commander-in-chief;" the answer was "Send them on board, I shall leave to." An officer and boat's crew were sent on board the *Chesapeake* with a copy of the Commander-in-chief's order to search for deserters, and a note from Captain Humphries as follows—

"The Captain of His Majesty's ship the *Leopard* has the honor to enclose to the Captain of the United States frigate *Chesapeake*, an order from the Honorable Vice Admiral Berkely Commander-in-chief on the North American Station, respecting some deserters from the ships therein mentioned under his command and supposed now to be serving as part of the crew of the *Chesapeake*.

"The Captain of the *Leopard* will not presume to say anything in addition to what the Commander-in-chief has stated more than to express a hope that every circumstance respecting them may be adjusted in such a manner that the harmony subsisting between the two countries may remain undisturbed."

After an absence of three quarters of an hour the boat returned with the following answer:—

"I know of no such men as you describe—the officers that were on the recruiting service for this ship were particularly instructed by the Government, through me, not to enter deserters from His British Majesty's ships, nor do I know of any being here. I am also instructed never to permit the crew of any ship I command to be mustered by any but her own officers. It is my disposition to preserve harmony, and I hope this answer will prove satisfactory.

"Signed, JAMES BARROW."

The *Leopard* now edged down towards the *Chesapeake* and Captain Humphries said—"Commodore Barrow you must be aware of the necessity I am under of complying

with the orders of my Commander-in-chief." These words were twice repeated and the only reply returned was—"I do not understand you"—which words were distinctly heard on board the *Leopard* although she was to windward. She then fired a shot across the bows of the *Chesapeake* which was followed by a second, and immediately after by a broadside. Commodore Barrow hailed that he would send a boat on board, but as the frigate was evidently preparing for action the *Leopard* continued her fire; at the third broadside the American colors were hauled down and Lieutenant Smith of the *Chesapeake* came on board with the following letter:—

"SIR,—I consider the frigate *Chesapeake* as your prize and am ready to deliver her to any officer authorised to receive her, by the return of the boat I shall expect your answer; and have the honor to be &c. J. BARROW."

To which Capt. Humphries replied as follows:—

"SIR,—Having to the extent of my power fulfilled the instructions of my Commander-in-chief I have nothing more to desire, and must in consequence proceed to join the remainder of the Squadron, repeating that I am ready to give you any assistance in my power, and do most sincerely deplore that any lives should have been lost in the execution of a service which might have been adjusted more amicably, not only with respect to ourselves, but to the nations to which we respectively belong.

"I have the honor to be, Sir, "S. P. HUMPHRIES."

Lieutenants G. T. Fallen, G. M. Guise, and J. Meade, with a party of men, proceeded on board the *Chesapeake* and mustered her ship's company of whom twelve were recognised as deserters, four of whom only were brought away, three belonging to the *Melampus* and one to the *Halifax*. The *Chesapeake* was badly damaged, had three seamen killed and 17 wounded.

The British Government disavowed the act of Vice Admiral Berkely and Captain Humphries, both of whom were recalled and the right of search was abandoned. Commodore Barrow was tried by a Court Martial and dismissed the Service of the United States.

There were two courses which were open to him, either of which he might have adopted with honor; the first would be to muster his crew and allow one of the *Leopard's* officers to identify any deserter which might be amongst them—the second was to avow he had the men but would not give them up as inconsistent with his country's honor; he did neither—without preparing for action he allowed his ship to be used as a press gang would use a tavern and was therefore justly dismissed.

The conduct of Admiral Berkely and Capt. Humphries although marked by spirit was equally or more reprehensible; it was a direct insult to the United States, and it is a matter for surprise that it was not sooner resented, however such deeds prepared the way for the contest which was to follow.

The French Government has suggested the neutralization of ships engaged on hospital service during war,



### PRINTER'S DEVILS.

A great many persons are in the habit of looking upon and speaking of printers' devils in a manner that reflects no credit on themselves. Those same printers' devils, in nine cases out of ten, are three times as well posted on the issues of the day as the person who slights and speaks lightly of them. There is no class of boys for whom we have a more profound respect than well behaved printers' devils. They know something and are practical, which is more than you can say of all classes of boys. Young Woman, before you again elevate that delicate nose at the approach of a printers' devil, get some one who knows something of history to tell you the names of a few characters that were once printers' devils.

For fear that you will dislike to show your ignorance we will give you a short list of ex-devils of printing offices. If you have heard of any of them quit your flirting, and all nonsense in general, and go to studying. Did you ever hear of Benjamin Franklin? Ben was once a printers' devil. He was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Hannibal Hamlin, Vice President under Lincoln, was a printers' devil. —Schulyer Colfax, who has been Speaker of the House of Representatives for a number of years, was "Nothing but a devil in a printing office" at one time. Horace Greeley who is one of the first journalists on this continent, and an ex-congressman, was a printer's devil. United States Senator Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, was a "Devil." Thurlow Weed, one of the most influential men in New York, and editor of the *Commercial Advertiser*, was a penniless "Devil" in a printing office. United States Senator Ross, of Kansas, commenced his career as a printers' devil.

Two-thirds of the editors of the "States" were once printers' devils.—Permit us to tell you that the men who once did duty as printers have done more to advance the interests and sustain the good name of America than any other class.

### ENLISTING A LAWYER.

Well, mind now, for this is true as Gospel. It was on the 11th of May, 1820, I enlisted a recruit in Dublin, and put the question to him, gave him the shilling, and walked him off to the barracks as fine as a fiddle. Well, in a few days he was claimed as a 'prentice, and so he was had up before the Mayor, and he committed him for trial.

Well, at the following s'izes I was called as a witness, and the lawyer that defended him told me that I did not 'list him.

"I did," says I.

"Did you put the question to him rightly?" says he.

"I did," says I.

"By the virtue of your oath, now," says he. "Just ax me the question, for I don't believe you axed lam."

"How do you know?" says I, "for by this and by that you wern't by."

"None of your business," says he; and he held out his hand, and accordingly I pulled out half-a-crown and clapped it in his fist, and then I axed him the questions, and he said, "Yes" to them all.

"Were these the same questions you put to the prisoner?" says he.

"Yes, they are," says I.

"Well, here's yer half-crown back for ye," says he.

"I can't take it, sir," says I.

"Why not?" says he.

"Why not?" says I; why, sure I can't take it back till yo go before a magistrate and pay the "Smart money."

"You be hanged," says he, and he put the money in his pocket, and I called to his lordship on the bench for a witness that I had 'listed him.

And oh, holy biddy, but there was a roar in the court! Begorra, the judge laughed till the tears ran down his face.

Well the decision of the court being in my favor, I axed the judge if I might take away my new recruit.

And they all roared again, and the counsellor got as red as a turkey cock, and as mad as a bull with the colic; at last he made the best he could av it, and says I to the counsellor, says I, "Don't 'list in the Line next time, sir."

"What then," says he, snappishly.

"Oh, yer 'oner," says I, "stick to the Rifles; that's more in your way."

Well, begorra, when I told the Major, I thought he'd die, and when he'd done laughing he bid me keep the "Smart Money" for my elf.—*Irish Humor.*

### EXPLOSIVE MISSILES.

The following is a portion of the report of the St. Petersburg convention.

Considering that the progress of civilization ought to result in diminishing as much as possible the sufferings inseparable from war; that the only legitimate object pursued in war is to weaken the force of the enemy; that to attain this it suffices to place as many men as possible *hors de combat*; that to make use of expedients which shall unnecessarily enlarge the wounds of the men placed *hors de combat*, or entail inevitable death, is incompatible with the before mentioned object; that to make use of such expedients would, moreover, be contrary to the teachings of humanity.

The undersigned, in virtue of the instructions given them by the Government, are authorized to declare as follows:

I. The contracting parties engage, in the event of war between any of them, to abstain from the use of missiles of any description possessing explosive power, or filled with explosive or inflammable material weighing less than 400 grammes. This restriction to apply to the army and navy alike.

II. They likewise invite all those States not represented at the deliberations of the Military Commission assembled at St. Petersburg, to subscribe to this mutual engagement.

III. In the event of war this engagement is to be observed only towards the contracting parties, and those that may subsequently subscribe to it. It need not be observed towards any who have not signified their assent to the above stipulations.

IV. The engagement likewise ceases to be valid, if a State that has not signed it takes part in a war between parties that have signed it.

V. Whenever the progress of science results in any new definite proposals being made for improving the equipment of the troops, the contracting parties, as well as those who have subsequently joined the engagement, will assemble to maintain the principles laid down to reconcile the requirements of war with the demands of humanity.

### GARRISONMENT OF INDIA.

India, it is clear, must be held mainly by British troops; and the distance of India from this country makes it inexpedient to relieve the regiments which are stationed there more frequently than once in every ten or twelve years. At first sight, then, it seems suicidal to enlist men for less than ten years, when their regiment will probably be sent abroad, before their term of service has expired. But surely if, on general grounds, it is advisable to enlist men for short periods, the fact that such an arrangement would be inconvenient, so far as India is concerned, does not necessarily prove that short enlistments are a mistake, though it possibly indicates that it might be advisable, as indeed has been more than once suggested, to have two armies; one for home and one for foreign service. I am far from saying that I believe the adoption of this alternative to be necessary. On the contrary, even with a system of short enlistments, I think that there need not be any difficulty in garrisoning India. Two deviations from our present practice are required to effect this object. The strongest of our line regiments comprise now about 980 non-commissioned officers and men; the weakest about 600. While the regiment is abroad it is kept up, as a rule, at its full strength; when it returns home is allowed to fall to its minimum strength. The effect of this arrangement, of course, is that the heaviest recruiting goes on when the regiment is abroad, and when, therefore, the cost of the recruits' travelling expenses is heavy; and that the least amount of recruiting takes place when the regiment is at home, and when the expenses are proportionately small. The practice clearly demands a remedy; and the remedy is a very simple one. Let a regiment on leaving England always muster its full quota of 980 men; let it, during its foreign service, be allowed gradually to dwindle till, on its return home, it can only muster 600 men. The process should then, of course, be reversed, and the strength of the regiment should gradually be raised till, on its again sailing for foreign service, it should comprise once more its full quota of 980 men. Under this arrangement the expense of replacing 380 of the casualties while the regiment is abroad will, at any rate be avoided.—*Army Reform,* in *Cornhill Magazine.*

### RE-ARREST OF "CAPTAIN" O'BRIEN.

O'Brien who committed several robberies in the neighbourhood of Mill street in the guise of a Fenian captain, and subsequently effected a daring escape from Marlow bridewell, was recaptured at the foot of Musheru mountain by a constable and sub constable of the Rathcoole constabulary. O'Brien at the time of his capture, was riding a horse he had stolen the day previously. On being searched, he was found to have possession of a perfect armoury, including a single barrelled gun, a horse pistol, shot pouch, strap, and box of percussion caps. The prisoner was placed in a cart, when he commenced cursing, kicking, plunging, and doing everything he possibly could to escape. In a few minutes a considerable crowd collected, and the prisoner began to call on them, in the name of the "Irish Republican Brotherhood," to rescue him, roaring out "I am captain P. O'Brien, of the Fenian army;" "I am a relative of O'Brien, the Manchester martyr." The Crowd became very much excited at this language, and

surrounded the cart with the intention of rescuing the prisoner, some of them lying hands on O'Brien to pull him away. Constable Quinn warned the people to desist, and standing up in the cart with his revolver presented at the crowd, threatened to fire on any man who should attempt to take the prisoner away from him. These threats, and the resolute attitude of the constable, seemed to awe the assailants, and they fell back a little, the sub-constable, who had mounted the captain's horse, came to assist his chief, and, riding in between the cart and the people, kept them at bay with his rifle, while the constable held down the prisoner, who was making strenuous efforts to extricate himself from the firm grasp in which he was held. In this way the party proceeded for about a quarter of a mile, the prisoner struggling and shouting to the crowd to take him from the policemen, and the people following in a state of considerable excitement; but the latter soon became convinced that it would be a dangerous exploit to attack the determined and well armed couple who had the man in custody, and began gradually to drop back, leaving the constables to carry off their prisoner without further molestation.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### FROM IROQUOIS.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Iroquois Garrison Battery paraded in full uniform on Thursday, 24th December, when the Militia Law was read and explained by Lieutenant Millar, (Captain McDonnell being unavoidably absent,) and the Roll opened for Signatures when over forty signed and took the oath of allegiance for three years, nearly all being old members. After which they repaired to the "Grand Trunk Hotel" where a bountiful repast had been provided by the Officers of the Company, and which was served up in good style. Then the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and heartily received. Several short speeches were made and some capital songs given by Lieut. McDonnell, Sergeants McRobie, Hartelle, Gunners Armstrong, Hartley and others. In the several speeches that were given reference was made to the Militia Bill; and the Volunteers seem willing to continue in the service, yet think they are not sufficiently remunerated for their services. Three cheers were given for their Captain, who is a particular favorite among the men, three for the Queen, and then they dispersed to their several homes each being well pleased with the night's performance. Iroquois is the only place in the County of Dundas that has a Volunteer Company, and I think the only one that is not making some efforts to have a public Drill Shed, the Council not being liberal enough to make a grant towards it, although the gallant Captain has offered (\$100) one hundred dollars. The Iroquois Battery has been in existence now nearly seven years, and it is too bad that they have to drill in a private hall not large enough to perform the greater part of the company movements.

### VOLUNTEERING IN NEW BRUNSWICK

SR. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 21st, 1868.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—On the 1st day of July, 1868, (Dominion day) many of the Volunteers of New Brunswick felt that a new era had opened upon the Force in that Province, that they had become part of the defensive Force of the Dominion of Canada, which might at some future day become a nation. They had heard how their brothers in arms in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario were equipped, that they were completely uniformed and presented a creditable appearance on Parade, and that commodious drill sheds were erected by the Public at suitable places and that every arm of the Service was in a high state of efficiency, instead of being partly uniformed as they were, one man with grey trowsers and the other with black, and that they too would be uniformed. Instead of being obliged to drill in lofts and garrets, drill sheds would be built, and last, but not least, instead of officers being obliged to spend large sums from their own means to defray the necessary expenses of their companies that a beneficent Government would provide every requisite means for the efficiency of the Force.

When the first Parliament of the Dominion opened and a Militia Act was spoken of, they hoped that at last their expectations would be realized, and when the Bill introduced by the Minister of Militia became Law, it seemed as if every thing would go on smoothly, and that at last they would become an effective Force and creditable to the Dominion.

For although there were many defects spoken of as existing in the new Militia Act, yet it was better than their own; at all events they could not be worse off than they were for the Force was on its last legs, and some even hoped that the Act would be brought in force as far as New Brunswick was concerned at once, and that no time would be lost by the Militia authorities at Ottawa in putting every arm of the Service on a proper footing. Let us see how far these hopes are being realized.

The whole of the past summer passed away and none of the Adjutant General's Staff or any person connected with that Department visited the Province in an official capacity for the purpose of obtaining information as to the state of the Force then existing so that when the 1st of October arrived (the time fixed for the Act to come in force) every thing would be in readiness to put the Force upon an effective footing.

On the second day of October the officers of the St. John Volunteer Battalion met in their Orderly Room to deliberate as to what was to be done towards the reorganization of their Regiment. They determined that in the absence of any General Orders on the interpretation of the Act, that they would forward through their commanding officer a

series of questions, viz:—How and by whom would the rent of their drill rooms, light and fuel be paid for? Who was to pay for the services of a person to clean arms and accoutrements? And whether the men would be permitted to make up the sixteen days drill in their drill rooms, or if not what proportion would be allowed to be done in the manner above referred to.

This last question is perhaps the most important of the whole, for upon its being answered in the affirmative the very existence of not only the St. John Volunteer Battalion, but that of the whole of the Volunteer Force in the city of St. John depends. For if the men are obliged to perform their sixteen annual drills in eight consecutive days it will be impossible to persuade them to re-engage, as by that means man, if they would be turned out of employment and the greater part if not the whole of the Force in this city which was nearly half of the whole of the Volunteers in the Province will become extinct, and consequently a draft will have to be resorted to in order to fill up the quota required for New Brunswick by four thousand men. Conscription or the draft, or by whatever name you may choose to call it, would, except in the case of war or invasion, be the most unpopular measure that could be enforced in New Brunswick, and after the men had been so drafted and drilled for eight days, would it make them effective troops? I think it would be found that this conscription would introduce a system of providing substitutes who, if their services were required in case of war or invasion, would not be forthcoming, and if so, it would be like trusting to a broken reed to depend upon such troops in the Field.

It will take a great deal of argument to convince me that with eight days drill you can make a man a soldier. Whereas if the men are allowed to complete the required number of drills in their drill rooms by short and frequent drills, after their day's work is over, they will regard military duty as a recreation and amusement and obey orders with cheerfulness and celerity, and if their services are required the Government will have a Force upon which they can depend in time of danger.

Some of the questions asked by the officers above mentioned have not as yet been answered by the Adjutant General's Department, although it is now nearly two months since they were asked, and I am afraid that of some response is not soon given to them before many months the Volunteer Force in New Brunswick or that portion of it which is in St. John, which, by proper management and encouragement, could have been made a credit to the Dominion, will be numbered among the things that were.

Being again to apologise to your readers for trespassing on their patience, and to yourself for the space I have occupied, I sign myself

NEW BRUNSWICK VOLUNTEER.

## ARTILLERY STAFF APPOINTMENTS.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—In your last issue I observe some sneering assertions respecting Lieut. Col. Forrest and the appointment of Assistant Adjutant General for Artillery, and although I have never before taken up my pen as a defender, yet, whether there be truth or not in the rumors respecting the appointment, I think it due to that Officer that the statements of your Montreal Correspondent should not be allowed to go uncontradicted. It is true that Col. Forrest was a short time ago only a Major, but he attained that rank by long and hard service and not by political and other freaks as do many of the Officers in the Province of Quebec. His service as a Commissioned Officer in the Volunteer Artillery, extends over a term of thirteen years, and I doubt if there are more than one or two Artillery Officers now in the Force who have served their country as long a period. From 1855 to 1861 he served in the Ottawa Field Battery, a Battery which has long borne the palm as being the finest in the Province, having on two or three occasions received the Government grant of \$150 or \$200 given to the best reported Corps in the Province of Canada. In 1861 he raised the first Garrison Battery in Western Canada which became the nucleus of the present Ottawa Brigade of Artillery. For nine months in 1865-66 this Battery served with credit alike to its Country and Commander, on frontier service at Prescott, during which time it was frequently inspected by the then Major General Commanding the District, (Major Gen. Hon. James Lindsay,) who on several occasions complimented Col. Forrest on his perfect knowledge of his duties. During this period Col. Forrest acted as Commander at Fort Wellington, having most of the time from two to six Batteries of Artillery under his command, although holding only a Captain's Commission.

Now Sir, if such a long and faithful service in both branches of our Canadian Artillery, besides an almost ceaseless amount of attention and study of the different matters connected with Artillery do not peculiarly fit an officer for a high staff appointment, then the best thing for Canadian Officers who have spent time and large sums of money with a view to their own promotion and the well being of the Force, is to toss their commissions overboard.

And, finally your correspondent winds up with a sentence that no officer who has the interest of the Volunteer Force can coincide with viz: "The fact of Col. Forrest's being a Volunteer is enough." It is currently reported here that the draft is likely to go into operation in Montreal, and perhaps your Montreal Correspondent is desirous of seeing the post filled by a drafted fellow citizen, provided an officer of the Regular

Army will not accept the appointment. The claims of Volunteer Officers, for such staff appointments as the Country has, cannot in the future be ignored as they have been in the past; for who but they, as your correspondent may see if he reads the English military papers, are the chief instigators of improvements in our drill and defence, two of whom I may name—Lord Elcho and Captain Moucrieff, both Scotch Volunteer Officers, and the latter an Artillery Officer.

Although I am in favour of Volunteer promotion, I do not altogether approve of the gallant Col. being appointed Chief of the Canadian Artillery, but if he were appointed a Deputy Asst. Adj. Gen. under say Col. Anderson, C. B., I think we would then have the right man in the right place. Thanking you for your space and hoping your Montreal Correspondent will in future better inform himself before he questions the claims of Volunteer Officers to Staff appointments.

I beg to subscribe myself,

A CONSTANT READER.

Ottawa, 31st December, 1868.

FROM TORONTO.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

I had no idea when penning my last communication that the accidental insertion of the word *Deputy* for *Assistant* in reference to the appointment of Artillery Staff Officers would awaken so much discussion thereon. Perhaps your Montreal Correspondent will now see things in a different light. It has long been the earnest hope of myself and a host of those who have had the great pleasure of benefiting by his instruction to hear that Colonel Anderson, C.B., R.A., Commandant of this Garrison, had been invited and accepted the important post of Adjutant General of Artillery. It was under the impression that no Deputy or Military District Staff Officers would be appointed in consequence of the small number of Artillery, in proportion to the rest of the Volunteer Force, that I sustained the rumour of Lieut. Colonel Forrest's appointment as A. A. G., of Artillery for Ontario. Having passed the Artillery School, in Montreal, in company with that excellent officer, Lieut. Col. Ferrier, I am quite prepared to admit his ability and seniority, but having so many high and responsible duties to attend to at present, I presume he would hardly exchange for a not too well paid staff appointment. Any how the appointment of Lieut. Colonel Forrest, for Ontario, would in no way interfere with Lieut. Colonel Ferrier's or any other officer's appointment for Quebec. It would undoubtedly be a mistake to place a Volunteer at the Head of this branch.

The Legislature have adjourned for a fortnight's holidays to re-assemble again on the 7th of the new year.

Whelan's respite till February, 1st, it is very evident will be his last leave of ab

from the other world and there seems to be no reason why his execution should not shortly after satisfy the claims of justice. His manner now would indicate that he has no further hope of respite through the technicalities of the law.

The Highland Company, of the Queen's Own, it would appear, have unanimously resolved on not re-engaging under the new Act. They will nevertheless be perfectly prepared should occasion arise to volunteer in time of difficulty and, to continue the *esprit de corps* of good old times, have formed themselves into the nucleus of a "Caledonia" Benevolent Society.

The Grand Trunk Brigade, are hurrying on the re-enlistment; No. 3 Company—Capt. Carruthers, have all signed the new muster roll.

The discharged Soldiers in this city have organized a "Mutual Aid" Society, and are receiving every encouragement from Col. Hassard, R.E., and the leading officers of the Service.

Captain Patterson's Volunteer Field Battery, and their friends proceeded to Weston, last night for a Pic Nic. Several immense sleighs crowded gave evidence of a strong muster of both parties to enjoy those interesting re-unions.

A Prosperous and Happy New Year to yourself and readers.

FROM MONTREAL.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The re-enrollment of the several regiments still continues, and as the time approaches, when final returns must be made, and draft or no draft to ensue, great activity is manifested amongst the officers, and a few others to have their quota filled up by that time; still there is a lack of enthusiasm among the rank and file, in the matter of this re-enrollment. No matter how zealous an officer may be, it is difficult to infuse any life in the movement. The Volunteers have an instinctive feeling that there is something wrong with the Militia Bill, and the extraordinary spectacle of the spurious enthusiasm among our French fellow subjects, begotten and fostered solely by their religious and political leaders, is not calculated to allay the feeling among those who know the issues, that there is an *arrière pensee* in this present Militia Bill. The Minister of Militia has the power of disbanding any regiment which may be even one short in its quota, and will he be merciful? Is there a huge scheme fostering in his brain? and how will he exercise his power? In a way it is feared that can bode no good to the volunteer cause, and the impression may be, and certainly is, that all British Officers in Lower Canada, will be cast aside, and their places filled up by French Canadians. This is the little cloud looming in the distance, and it takes no astute mind to foretell its mission and result.

How is it of late, French priests have in

the country districts taken members of their church by the hand, and led them to the recruiting booth, nay, denounced the hangers back even from the pulpit? Whence the religious enthusiasm among the French Canadians? Are they not aware of this little scheme, and are lending their aid to its fulfillment? Time will show whether I have interpreted rightly, but I for one scorn insinuation and boldly proclaim what is evidently the intention of Sir George E. Cartier, and call upon all patriotic and right minded persons to cry down such injustice, and spoil this little game.

Hence dissatisfaction and distrust. But if such an injustice is done, our English speaking Volunteers will raise such a din about official ears, as will astonish weak nerves and short sighted individuals. Of patriotism they are brimful, and treated justly they are ready to make a sacrifice for their country, but to be dodged here and there out of place to please those of the same nationality as Sir George, they will not submit to. No favoritism or nationality, that is the cry, and thorough justice done, mistakes rectified, a few points modified, and volunteering will again be what it was in the past.

Sergeant Bald, 13th Hussars, has been appointed Instructor of the new Cavalry School, and meetings will be held in the new Drill Hall twice a week, commencing with dismounting drill.

It is rumoured here and generally admitted to be true, that in the case of Volunteer Cavalry, it is the intention of the government to re-enroll the horses, that is to say allow each member an annual grant to help him in the keep of his horse. This is good news for it is absolutely indispensable that every cavalry volunteer should own his horse, as it is as necessary for the horse to be well trained as the man.

Capt. Muir's troop of Cavalry have re-enlisted to a man, in fact they were the first to prove their loyalty and long adhesion to the Government under the new order of affairs. Capt. Muir is a fair sample of an earnest, energetic soldier, and to an on-looker, a terrible fellow on duty, stern and exacting, as far as military discipline is concerned, and as such a pattern to some who deem volunteering only fun, a pleasure and a pastime and to do just what they like. His men are thoroughly devoted to him, and on his intimating some little time ago, his intention of resigning, they forced him to keep his commission by unanimously declaring they would also resign if he did so. The new cavalry school just opened will be a great boon to this very excellent and well disciplined corps. The "Guides," or Governor General's Body Guard, are trying to make up their quota.

It would be a pity to see this fine body disbanded. The trouble with them seems to be, the great expense entailed upon each one for the hire or keep of his horse.

A little incident just transpired makes us ask can snobbishness and officiousness go much further. A gallant son of Mursyclept Charles Francis, a private in the 60th Rifles, lately purchased his discharge, and as a matter of course, donned civilian garb. The honest fellow had managed whilst a soldier to lay by for a rainy day, and deposited his savings in the Savings Bank. To withdraw it it became necessary for him to have the signatures of his late officers, and to procure which he sought the barracks. Whilst waiting in the barrack room a pompous little lieutenant approached, when, *dem me*, if the blasted civilian, late full private, forgot his manners, and his late officer at the same moment and forgot to receive *his highness* with "attention" and a military salute, which so exasperated the little fellow that in his fearful wrath he gave him into the custody of a policeman. In the morning when the case came before the Recorder, the late soldier was of course discharged. I have not heard how the insulted and much aggrieved officer felt the snubbing by the Recorder but it is to be hoped that he, and others through him have received a salutary lesson; that tinsel and gaudy clothes do not always make the gentleman now a days. (Mr. Francis has an honorable discharge from the service, and a certificate stating that his conduct has been always very exemplary.)

[Our correspondent in the leading portion of his letter gives voice to ideas that cannot be too strongly condemned. The idea of the Minister of Militia entertaining such intentions as are imputed to him bears absurdity on the face of it, however, we give place to these expressions for sake of the opportunity it gives us for declaring our condemnation of an attempt to raise a cry on political or party grounds, totally foreign to Canadian institutions, and especially volunteering. If there is an "after thought" in connection with the Militia Act, to be hereafter developed it is something which its fiercest opponents have as yet failed to discover. And as to the priests of Quebec using their influence to fill the Volunteer ranks, we think that instead of their conduct causing complaint, it should receive as it deserves, the best thanks of the community of all denominations.

On the very ground from which our correspondent writes Sir Guy Carleton found his best allies in Canadian priests, and that too at a time when British power was all but annihilated on this continent. And so have they always been found amongst the staunchest upholders of British connection in Canada. The idea that it is intended to displace "English" officers and appoint "French Canadians" (we deprecate the appellation of such terms) is sheer nonsense: men will volunteer under whom they please, a French speaking Canadian, it is natural to suppose, would prefer serving

under one of his own class; and so with the others. In the British Army there are Scotch and Irish regiments, and, to come nearer home, in Montreal there are corps of distinctive nationalities, wherein men serve under what officers they please. Again, referring to the matter of disbandment the Governor General *always* had the power to disband any corps, on recommendation of the Minister of Militia and very properly, The Queen possesses the same power over the regular troops of the Empire. Our correspondent is needlessly excited. Sir George Cartier is infinitely above entertaining such petty schemes, and we heartily condemn any attempt to raise a cry the only possible result of which would be faction and disunion. As Canadians we are all one and nothing else.—Ed. Vol. Rev.]

#### THOSE BADGES!

Mr. Editor.—Can you inform me why the Badges won at the late Dominion Rifle Match have not yet been distributed? I feel proud enough of having won one to be anxious to have it in my possession. It may be that the winner's are only entitled to photographs of the Badges, as in the case of the Macdougall cup. In either case I trust you can give the desired information.

QUEBEC.

LONG SHOT.—If there are any who still believe in the power ascribed to the far famed "pocket pistol," they will find their confidence in modern artillery largely shaken by the announcement that it is considered a great matter that one of Whitworth's cannon should have thrown a shot a distance of six and a half miles. Not only is this so, however, but it is well known that no piece of ordnance has ever flung a projectile to so great a distance since first firearms were invented; and it may be safely predicted that men will never be able to construct a cannon which—as far as range is concerned—will do much better than this one of M. Whitworth's. The greatest range which had ever before been obtained fell somewhat short of six miles. The 7 inch steel gun contrived by Mr. Lynam Thomas had flung a projectile weighing 155 lbs. to a distance of 10,000 yards; and according to General Lefroy's "Handbook of Artillery," that was the greatest range ever recorded. But Whitworth's cannon throws a shot more than 1,000 yards further.—*English Paper.*

One night, a judge, a military officer, and a minister, all applied for a lodging at an inn where there was but one spare bed, and the landlord was called upon to decide which had the best claim of the three. 'I have lain fifteen years in the garrison at—,' said the officer, 'I have sat as judge twenty years, in B—,' said the judge. 'With your leave, gentlemen, I have stood in the pulpit twenty five years, at M—,' said the minister. 'That settles the dispute,' said the landlord. You, Mr. Captain, have lain for fifteen years; you, Mr. Judge, have sat twenty years, while this old fellow has been standing up for the last twenty five years, so he certainly has the best right to the bed.'

**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.**

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**TO CORRESPONDENTS:**

All Communications regarding the Militia or  
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ment, should be addressed to the Editor of THE  
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Communications intended for insertion should  
be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected com-  
munications. Correspondents must invariably  
send us, confidentially, their name and address.

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not  
be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the  
Provinces are particularly requested to favor us  
regularly with weekly information concerning the  
movements and doings of their respective Corps,  
including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle  
practice, &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all in-  
formation of this kind as early as possible, so that  
it may reach us in time for publication.

**W A N T E D,**

Agents for "The Volunteer Review,"

IN EVERY

CITY, TOWN, AND BATTALION;  
IN THE DOMINION,  
TO WHOM

**LIBERAL TERMS WILL BE OFFERED**

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OTTAWA.

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## The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1869.

TAKING the opportunity afforded us by the  
opening of a new volume for the year 1869,  
we will briefly refer to the past ere we re-  
sume our usual routine of duty. In turn-  
ing over the pages of the volume just com-

pleted, we are struck by the continued  
activity, and great improvement evident in  
the different corps which compose the Force,  
especially in the matter of rifle competition;  
and this too in the face of difficulties of no  
mean order.

The introduction of a new Militia Bill,  
which was looked forward to by a great  
many in something of the same manner as  
the celebrated measure in the novel which  
was "To give everybody everything" was  
undoubtedly the great event of the year  
just ended. The merits and defects of this  
famous bill have been so often and fully dis-  
cussed in the pages of THE REVIEW that we  
will not further allude to it, save to remark  
upon its effects up to the present time. As  
yet its provisions have not come into work-  
ing order so we cannot judge of its influence  
upon the condition of the Volunteer Force,  
but one effect its passage has had which has  
been of permanent and vast benefit to the  
country—the establishment of our credit in  
England, and the highly significant fact that  
Canadian Securities are amongst the best in  
the money market. Were this the only ad-  
vantage secured by the Militia Bill. We  
would still have cause for congratulation.  
But Volunteers especially have another and  
more personal reason for upholding the new  
measure, which lies in the fact that if the  
people, who are after all the true source to  
which Volunteers must look for countenance  
and support, do not extend to them that  
liberal assistance in the cause of defence to  
which they have established such exalted  
claims, they can retire at the end of their  
term with the full assurance that they can-  
not be called into active service again until  
the idle and illiberal of whatever class have  
been made to perform their share of ser-  
vice.

Another event of paramount interest in  
volunteer annals which occurred during the  
past year was the establishment of the Do-  
minion Rifle Association. This institution,  
which we dare hope is destined to have a  
powerful influence upon the volunteer move-  
ment in Canada, has so far received strong  
and cordial support from the people of all  
the provinces; and we hope that, guided by  
the lessons learnt at their first great prize  
meeting, they who have the direction of its  
affairs will take care to avoid the mistakes  
and complications arising from former bad  
management.

Rifle Shooting may be said to form the  
main stay of volunteering, for it is from the  
high spirit of emulation aroused at the butts  
that corps in a great measure draw their  
principal advantages of endurance, deter-  
mination and pluck. As chroniclers of these  
events, we feel called upon to remark upon  
the manner in which these contests were  
conducted, and it is as gratifying to us as it  
can be to those engaged to have it to say  
now, at the close of the season, that the  
management of the battalion and company  
matches all over the country was such as to

win the admiration, and deserve the best  
thanks of all participating in their advan-  
tages.

With the year just ended the old force  
may be said to have died and passed away,  
and with the new year a new era has begun.  
We are as yet trading upon unknown  
ground. We have all had our say upon the  
faults and blunders of the past, but we owe  
a debt of gratitude to that "Old Force,"  
which cannot be cancelled, and any refer-  
ence made to it naturally awakens the  
recollection of what it has done and  
suffered in days of trial.

A short time ago a western contemporary,  
*apropos* of the matter in hand, took um-  
brage at some remarks we made in our  
issue of the 14th ult., in reference to the  
"yeomanry of Welland." It is evident our  
remarks were either misunderstood or mis-  
applied, or perhaps both, for nothing could  
be further from our thoughts than to cast  
any doubt upon the bravery of the gallant  
men of Welland. What we intended to  
convey was that, through want of proper  
militia and volunteer organization, the  
people of that section were unprepared to  
repel invasion and that consequently corps  
possessing this organization, from Toronto  
and Hamilton, were sent to defend the  
Niagara frontier. At that time Sir John A.  
Macdonald was Minister of Militia and he  
sent those corps to the front simply because  
he had none others. Perhaps it is "fresh  
in the mind" of our contemporary that  
they who fell at Ridgeway were indeed  
gallant youths of Toronto; this fact we  
should think ought to be conclusive. The  
"Queen's Own" and the 13th did their  
duty on that occasion, and if Colonels  
Peacocke and Booker bungled their com-  
mands there is no discredit attaching to the  
men. Again these same corps have done  
their duty under the new Law in a way  
which we hope to see imitated by the  
"sturdy yeomanry of Welland."

Returning to our review of the past we  
find the volunteering during the last six  
months as live and active as ever it was in  
times of peace, and this in spite of the  
gloomy forebodings indulged in by many to  
whom the new Act was distasteful. Indeed  
disaffection to this measure never existed  
among the ranks; and the fact is now  
sufficiently demonstrated that those officers  
who command the esteem of their men, and  
who have won popularity in the past find  
no difficulty in re-enrolling the companies.

When we reach the end of the volume  
now beginning we will be enabled to judge  
the wisdom of the measure; of one thing  
at least we feel satisfied,—something like  
organization will be established and in the  
event of disturbance a sure means will be  
in existence for placing the people of the  
Dominion in the best attitude for defence;  
which is after all the true aim and object of  
militia Legislation however it may be other-  
wise regarded.

When the news of the Spanish Revolution reached us, with accounts of the singularly temperate conduct of the people, we hoped, notwithstanding a show of reason that a new era of freedom and progress had dawned upon the Iberian peninsula, but in this hope we were mistaken. Revolutions which begin by the violent expulsion of the sovereign would form singular episodes in history if permitted to be consummated peacefully. The imbecility of Spanish rule for the last two centuries has passed into a proverb but that rule has ever been supplemented by cunning not devoid of tyrannical force. A ship in the hands of an ignorant crew and a captain who knows not how to work his reckoning may drift along pleasantly enough over summer seas, but when storms arise and breakers are ahead, they, knowing their own worthlessness in the time of danger, take to the boats intent only upon their own salvation. This has been the exact parallel illustrated by Queen Isabella and her advisers in the late crisis which settled the destinies of her house and reign.

A great deal has been written upon this revolution, its causes and probable effects, but it occurs to us that the true secret of the expulsion of Isabella was not contained in any charge of presumed immorality or tyrannical exactions upon the people. As far as the former is concerned those who know the Spaniards can estimate its value among revolutionary causes, and as to the latter—venality of public officials has ever been a sure safety valve, and to rob the Government is a part of every Spaniard's faith from the Monarch to the Contrabandista. The truth however is that Queen Isabella owes the loss of her crown to the clergy. This at first may seem somewhat strange and paradoxical but the solution is easy. In Spain the Monastic and secular orders of the priesthood, occupying two distinct spheres, have been, if not at variance, anything but cordial, and the nobility are jealous of, and hostile to royal patronage being bestowed upon monastic institutions. Those foundations being separated from, and having nothing in common with the people, as a matter of course possess but little influence outside their own territory; whereas the secular clergy who are intimately connected with the people, exercise a leading influence over the thoughts of the multitude. Queen Isabella by persistently ignoring the claims of this powerful party, and by becoming a willing tool in the hands of ambitious and unscrupulous church dignitaries, estranged from her this powerful party, and when the revolutionists rose against her the secular clergy sided with them, not openly, perhaps, but in such a way as to give the people to understand their bias; this is the real secret of Isabella's misfortunes. Had she possessed the support or good will of those people, their influence alone would be sufficient to establish and maintain her throne against all

other political factions.

Spain is Catholic, far more Catholic than England is Protestant, and the Spaniards cling to their faith with a tenacity unknown in more advanced and liberal countries. They also entertain a profound reverence for the throne and believe in the infallible perfection of everything Spanish, as much as do our republican neighbors in everything American. The ideas by which they are individually governed are conservative to the last degree, and being proud and indolent, their passions are not easily aroused with regard to abstract questions of political right or wrong; but when the concentric waves of revolution spreading outwards from the Capital strike in turn upon different sections of the Kingdom, the people of those sections judge the revolution from its effects upon their provincial interests and accord it support or opposition accordingly. Thus when Isabella fled from her throne more than one half of Spain knew nothing about it, and it was not till the revolution came to them that they were roused to action. The present condition of affairs is exactly what might be expected from foregoing causes and the attitude of political factions who, having suddenly found themselves relieved from their allegiance, enter the disputed field on a contest for power, while the nation, torn and distracted, reveals to Europe a humiliating imitation of her sometime daughter—Mexico.

Some good has however been done by the Spanish liberals and let us still hope that wisdom may prevail in their councils and the demon of anarchy shall not be permitted to render useless the efforts of those who honestly desire to advance their country upon the path of liberty and progress.

The Musketry report of the British army has been published. Our readers may remember that, after sending in his annual report last year, General Hay Inspector General of Musketry, retired from the post he had so long and ably filled, and was succeeded by Colonel Haliday. The report of this officer was looked forward to with some interest as in it would be displayed the comparative merits of the old and new, or rather, revised, Musketry regulations. In some respects the old system has the advantage—as notably in the number of men exercised; but in the year 1867-68 we find the infantry figure of merit has risen 23½ per cent. above that of the former year. The number of first class shots are also proportionally greater, as are the number of marksmen, than in the year 1866-67, and the result is regarded by Colonel Haliday as very satisfactory.

The most significant portion of this report is, however, that which refers to the performances of the muzzle-loading Enfield and the Snider breech-loader. As the first evidence of the working of the new arm in

the hands of the soldier this report is invested with more than ordinary interest. We find that 84,039 Infantry have been in training, of this number 37,908 were armed with the Snider, 37,087 with the Enfield muzzle loader, and the remaining 8,044 partly with one and other kinds of arms.

In comparing the performances of the different weapons we find that in individual firing the breech-loader has proved superior to the muzzle-loader, and the number of third class shots were less than half those exercised with the muzzle loader, while the first class is greater between nineteen and twenty per cent. and the number of marksmen double. For rapidity of fire it is calculated that the Snider is to the muzzle-loader about three to one. As an offset to the excellence of the individual practice, we find that corps, armed with the Snider, only averaged 11.70 in independent platoon firing, while those armed with the muzzle-loader averaged 14.04. The inferiority in this mode of firing is accounted for by Colonel Haliday by the fact that two much importance is attached to the time expended in firing the regulated number of rounds. He is persuaded that if the men were to take aim at all times before firing, and were permitted to use the back sight, this mode of firing might be made most effective; and draws the conclusion that the falling off in the independent firing as compared to rapid file firing shows that the great rapidity of the breech loader fire, if not judiciously directed may defeat its principal object, and only lead to waste of ammunition. In the matter of volley firing the Inspector General thinks that the men should fire when they obtain their aim and not as is at present practiced, wait for the right hand man.

The number of Volunteers who went through the musketry course at Hythe amounted to fifteen officers and twenty-seven sergeants.

GENERAL Ulysses S. Grant, President elect of the United States, who at the time of the elections announced that he had no policy, which announcement, by the way, called into exercise no small amount of illogical ingenuity on the part of his supporters, has changed his mind, having thought better of it we suppose. The mysterious Ulysses has spoken at last and the New York Tribune, trumpets the oracular utterings as "Splendid news from Washington." It says:—

"Instead of waiting for the hour of his new office, General Grant announces a policy that will do more good than a thousand orations. He demands from Congress honesty and economy. The time to squander has ceased, and if our easy going representatives intend to vote millions for every plausible scheme, it must be done over the veto of the new President."

Imagine the new President demanding honesty from Congress as the first step in the new administration. Surely he does not doubt the honesty of that august assem-

bly. But what if they cannot comply with the demand. This reminds us of the story of a person, quoting from the play, who said:—"I can call the spirits from the vasty deep." When he was interrupted by the imper- tinent query 'all very fine, but will they come?' So, perhaps, may it be with the president, he may demand honesty, but will honorable gentleman answer as they should. With the terrible consequences before them of having to pass their (dishonest?) measures over the vote of the new president will not this lately intractable Congress he brought to a proper sense of what it should be and do.

Perhaps the President, after passing through the two-fold contests of civil war and public elections, has conceived a poor idea of the honesty of his friends, and has taken this opportunity of giving them a gentle admonition. Once before he spoke and said: "Let us have peace;" and the words have furnished a text for half the newspaper columns of the Union. Has that demand been complied with? Certainly, in a sort of a way. Travel at the South, as his countrymen elegantly say, and enquire. He now demands "Honesty from Congress." Another proverbial saying which we hope will receive the attention it deserves from a patriotic press and public. We will anxiously await the answer which time will accord to this startling demand upon Congress, the like of which was never before proposed to them.

The *Gazette* announces that Colonel Crawley retires from the 6th Daagoons on half pay.

We learn from the English papers that great changes are in contemplation in regard to the Ordnance Select Committee, and the manufacturing departments at Woolwich. It is proposed to abolish the former altogether, and place the latter under one head, who will be at the same time Director General of Ordnance and Commandant of the Arsenal, where, as well as at the War Department, he will have an office. An Assistant Director of Ordnance, and Secretary of the Select Committee. Two Assistant Directors will be on the establishment at Woolwich, and two of the members of the late Ordnance Select Committee and one associate member will be associated to the Ordnance Department of the War Office. It is supposed that there will be increased economy and efficiency; but the Ordnance Select Committee has done a great deal of very honest work.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY for January is one of the best numbers of this popular monthly, the original contributions show a steady improvement in style, and we are glad to learn it is meeting with success among those for whose amusement it is published. We are sorry, however, to note a sectarianism in the leading tale, unworthy of a magazine which aspires to popularity among the general public.

If the annexed item, which we take from the columns of the *Quebec Chronicle*, is correct, our friends in the ancient capital are not attending to their duty. A short time ago we published a letter from one of our correspondents on the volunteer clothing question, and though doubtless much of what he advanced was correct, yet a great deal of the wear and tear of uniforms, if all were known, could be accounted for by similar paragraphs to the following:—

"We have frequently had occasion to point out to the authorities the reckless abuse of our volunteer uniforms. It is not unusual to see the wood-cutter and street scavenger of this city decorated up in undress Volunteer uniform, while performing his daily labor. A magistrate a few days ago in Upper Canada mulched a Volunteer in the maximum fine, under the Act. \$20, for wearing his uniform when off duty. It is quite true the men who willingly and knowingly break the law in this respect are deserving of punishment and censure, but are not the officers who command them more deserving of the reprimand. The government obtain a vote every year of \$75,000 out of the public revenue for the purpose of defraying the expense of providing respectable clothing for our local soldiers, and it is the duty of every officer to see that no waste is permitted. It is a well-known fact, however, that the men of certain companies in this district parade themselves publicly every day—with the knowledge of their officers—wearing the uniform of the service. For the present, we content ourselves by drawing their attention to the fact, and hope that some effort will be made to stop the abuse.

OTTAWA BRIGADE OF ARTILLERY.—We learn with much pleasure that the Officer commanding this fine corps has forwarded to Head Quarter's the Rolls of the six batteries, each battery having its full complement of fifty-five men. The total strength of the Brigade is now 330 men.

CAPTAIN Wilkins of St. Catharines Ontario, in order to fill up his company, offers a double cylinder, 36in., Remington Revolver, as a prize to whoever will bring in the largest number of recruits before next July. The Company's Cup, was to be fired for on New Year's day, we have not yet received the account of the score.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE.—All communications addressed to the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW must be accompanied by the correct name and address of the writer to insure attention.

"CAPT. S." St. John, N. B.—The paper is regularly mailed to you in the paper made up for your city, so the fault must be in your own Post Office. However, we have sent you another copy of the missing number.

"LIEUT. INOQUOIS."—General Order No. 1 of the 26th July 1867 grants an allowance, to commanding officers of Rural Battalions, of three dollars per annum. There is no allowance for captains of Rural Companies.

The Mail for Brantford somehow went astray last week, but we have forwarded the numbers again.

We have received a copy of Col. Denison's letter in reference to the attack upon him in the *London Review*, and which we will attend to next week.

#### REMITTANCES

Received at this office on subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 2nd inst., viz:—

RONDEAU, Co. Kent.—Rev. J. H., \$2.

OSHAWA.—Capt. M., \$2.

WHITBY.—Capt. O'D., \$2.

TORONTO.—Major Jas. S., \$2; Mech. Inst., \$2; Queen's Hotel, \$1.30; A. S., \$1; J. S. G., \$1; G. P. S., \$1.

We have received a beautifully printed Calendar, for the year 1869, from Messrs. J. Hope & Co., of this city.

#### NOVA SCOTIA VOLUNTEERS.

The Anti-press of Nova Scotia have done their best to oppose Volunteering in that province despite, which, however, we find that the number of Volunteers who were actually drilled, according to the official report numbered 5,100. *Appropos*, to this subject we clip the following correspondence from the *Pictou Standard*:—

Broad Cove, C.B.

Dec. 14th, 1868.

MR. EDITOR:—The enclosed note from Staff Sergeant Bingham I received unasked for by last mail, it needs no comment from me, I presume Sergt. Bingham is quite a competent judge in the matter.

The writer of the article complained of in the *Citizen*, stated, "That the 3rd Inverness Regiment is disorganized, or had ceased to exist." The simple fact of 110 men and 6 Company Officers mustering for drill at one of the drill posts of the Regt., with barely three hours notice flatly disproves that statement.

It is true a few of the Company Officers have got somewhat disaffected; but by far the greater are still true and loyal to the core, and they are men that know their duty and are willing to do it. Why this Regt. should be made the subject of such remarks I know not, several other Regiments in the County turned out their quota of men as well as this. Whether they were better men or did their duty better, I leave for the Inspecting Field Officers, and the Drill Instructor to judge.

I am, &c., &c.

I. McLEOD, Lieut. Col.

Commanding 3rd Inverness, Regt., N.S.M.

Baddeck, C.B.

Dec. 5th, 1868.

COLONEL McLEOD,

SIR:—I have seen in the *Weekly Citizen* of the 28th ultimo, a paragraph stating that only part of your Regiment drilled at Lake Ainslie, and that it was such as consisted of "The blind and lame, and that I remonstrated with you saying: For God sake Colonel McLeod send the men home for they are not fit for anything and words to that effect. You of course know that such was not the case, therefore, I think you ought to contradict it,

and not allow such shameful untruths to pass unnoticed, for those who attended drill under my instruction, were at the end of 8 days, well disciplined, and I can candidly say that they understood their drill tolerably well for the short time afforded them. According to my opinion they are a smart body of men, and reflect great credit on your Regiment.

I remain, Sir, yours &c.  
(Signed) W. BINGHAM,  
Staff Sergeant, Militia.

PRESIDENT GRANT.

The following remarkable anecdote we find in the Canadian correspondence of the London *Guardian*. We heard of the incident some months since, but it is the first time we have seen it definitely stated. There is not the slightest doubt as to its correctness but of course it will be indignantly denied by the Radical party in the United States. The correspondent says :

There is an incident in the history of Ulysses Grant not to be found in the Radical biographies, and which, strange to say, escaped the attention of his opponents, for the American fashion is to hunt out blemishes on an antagonist's character from before he was weaned, and to take up the dust of five or six generations, if so many can be discovered, in the hope of finding some old frailty or folly to pelt at a political foe. In the beginning of the war, when Seward was prophesying smooth things, with respect to its short continuance, Grant was working hard on a small farm. He was a West Point man, and had been in the regular service for several years. In the southern part of Missouri there resided another West Pointer—a contemporary of Grant's—who had just raised a regiment for the Confederacy. Grant applied to his old friend for a captain's commission in this regiment, but the colonel declined his services, stating the reasons why he deemed it to be his duty to refuse the offer. Immediately afterwards there was a great demand for officers in the North who knew something of tactics, and Grant easily obtained a commission in the Federal service, in which his promotion was very rapid. In the latter part of the summer of 1865, being the Commander in Chief of the United States army he travelled through Canada. At that time all our cities and towns had colonies of refugees who had escaped with little else than their lives from the great Southern wreck. Among those living in Montreal, I met the Missouri Colonel to whom reference has been made.

On the steamer between Quebec and Montreal he encountered Grant, and the General immediately recognized him, and addressed him with great kindness and courtesy. They conversed for hours together, and not many days after the Colonel got a pardon and return to Missouri. The whole matter is well known to many of the Southern refugees, but as it was regarded as a chivalrous, noble act on the part of Grant, it was considered that it would be ungenerous to let it get abroad during the great contest for the Presidency.

Colonel Bertie Gordon of the 91st Highlanders has been granted a pension of £100 a year, vacant by the death of Colonel Deverell. Colonel Gordon has just returned with his regiment after a fourteen years' tour of foreign service. He has been thirty six years in the service.

HERR SCHNEIDER.

The non-commissioned officers of the Fifth Field Battery of the Prussian Guard Artillery, announce, by advertisement in the Berlin *Vossische Zeitung*, the death of their comrade of war. "Herr Schneider."

This is the name of a goat belonging to the battery, which came into their possession when the army was mobilized in the year 1864, and he soon became attached to the men of the corps, with whom he was a general favorite.

Herr Schneider always marched with the men of the first gun, from whom he also received his rations. He regularly attended parade, took his place among the non-commissioned officers, and appeared to listen attentively to the orders given. When the war broke out in 1866, he marched at the head of the battery, and when they crossed the Bohemian frontier, was promoted to the rank of sergeant by the privates, who presented him with a beautiful collar, on which were embroidered the distinguished marks of his military rank. However, as soon as hostilities commenced, he was tied up to one of the ammunition waggons and kept in the rear, but during the battle of Koniginhof, when the roar of cannon and discharges of small arms were at their highest, the military spirit of Herr Schneider broke out, and he managed to slip away and go to the front at full gallop, the orderly following as fast as he could in order to recover his charge. Just at that moment the Crown Prince met them, and he inquired of the orderly what he was doing with the goat. On being informed of the state of affairs, his Royal Highness appeared much amused, and said jocosely, "Let him go, he has orders to attack the enemy, and will be in the *melee* before any of you."

Subsequently, Herr Schneider returned to his ammunition wagon none the worse for his bravado. After the battle the artillery men promoted him to the brevet rank of sergeant major for having given proofs of his undoubted courage in presence of the enemy, and decorated his collar with a medal made out of a copper pan from the captured utensils of General Count Coronini. After going through all the dangers of the campaign unscathed, he had the misfortune, on the return march of the army after the conclusion of the war, to break one of his legs while leaping down from a wagon; but the science of the regimental surgeon and the needful repose soon reinstated him in his former robust state of health, and he was able to march at the head of his battery on the memorable triumphant entry of the army into Berlin, in September, 1866.

NEW SHIPS FOR THE NAVY.

The *Inconstant*, which has been launched at Pembroke dockyard, is the first of a new class of vessels which it is intended to introduce into the Royal Navy. She is unarmoured, and is to be used in time of war as a fast cruiser. Great speed being of course necessary, her designer Mr. E. J. Reed, has given her finer lines for her size than any other vessel now in the navy. This will be seen at once from her dimensions, which are—length 337 feet, breadth 50 feet, and burthen in tons 4,066 B. M. Her engines are to be of 1,000 horse power (nominal), working up to six times that amount—that is to say, of the same power as those of the *Bellerophon*, which is a ship

just 200 tons larger, and with lines much less suitable for speed than those of the *Inconstant*. With all this in her favour, there cannot be little doubt that she will realize the expectations formed of her, and steam at over fifteen knots. The great novelty in this vessel is that she is entirely cased with wood, so that with the great strength of an iron ship she combines the freedom from fouling and the security when aground of a wooden one. The wood casing is in three thicknesses, and the method of fastening it to the ship may be briefly described as follows:—Edge strips of thickish iron are worked to the plating of the ship, the space between them being filled with the first thickness of wood. The next thickness is worked over this vertically, and is fastened by bolts which screw into the edge strips, care being taken that the bolt holes are not drilled through the plates into the ship, so that there may be no chance of a leak if by accident the wood planking should get stripped off. The third thickness of wood is now worked horizontally over the second, to which it is fastened by screw bolts. The ship is then sheathed with Muntz's metal in the usual manner below the water line. It is found difficult with an iron sternpost to devise means for preventing galvanic action between it and the sheathing; it has, in consequence, been made of yellow metal, and is, we believe, the first one of the kind. The *Inconstant* will carry sixteen guns in all; viz., ten 9-inch muzzle loading rifle guns on the main deck, and 6 7-inch muzzle loading rifle guns on the upper deck, two of the latter being revolving guns. So satisfied were the Admiralty that this would prove a success, that in the latter part of last year they ordered two smaller ones of a similar kind, the *Volage* and *Active*, (of 2,322 tons and 600 horse power each), to be constructed by the Thames iron works at Blackwall. These are now well in hand, and will, it is expected, be ready for launching by about the end of next January.

Another addition to the navy is the *Spartan*, which was launched at Deptford. There is nothing very new about the ship, which is one of the *Blanche* or improved *Amazon* class, but the engines are of a kind novel to the navy and are deserving of some notice. In these works the principle of expansion is carried much further than has been usual in marine engines. The Admiralty are in the habit of contracting that their engines shall indicate six times the nominal power when the steam is expanded three times, while these give out the same power when it is expanded seven times, the steam in the boilers having a total pressure of 70 lb. The expansion can be increased to ten or twelve times when required. The only peculiarity of the engines consists in the construction of the cylinders and valves, a description of which would be too technical to enter upon here. The object of these engines is to secure great economy in the use of steam and fuel, and it is hoped that, with steam of from 50 to 60 lb. pressure, well expanded and afterwards condensed, the consumption of fuel will be below 2 lb. per indicated horse power per hour. The engines are being constructed by Messrs. Rennie, from the designs of Mr. E. E. Allen. C. E.

It is reported from St. John that the Hon. E. B. Chandler will resign his seat in the Legislative Council of New Brunswick in consequence of having accepted the Railway Commissionership.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**BRONZE STATUE OF NAPOLEON III**—An equestrian statue of the present Emperor of the French has just been fixed over the new gateways that lead beneath the great gallery of the Louvre into the Place du Carrousel. It is executed in half relief, in bronze, and is of great size, measuring about 14ft. each way, and weighing nearly a ton. It is being fixed to the stonework by means of bronze bolts, screwed into sockets in the marble.

A correspondent of the *New York Times* tells the following story, apropos of the lieutenant-general's somewhat *neglige* style of dress: One day an intimate friend in the Army of the Tennessee, asked him why he dressed so? "I'll tell you," said the general. "When I was a second lieutenant, I was ordered one day to Washington City, and went in all the glory of a brand new uniform. I was standing in front of the hotel sunning myself, and quietly smoking a cigar, when I became aware that I had attracted the attention of a number of small boys, who gathered around in such numbers, and with such admiring countenances up turned to mine, that I could not but notice them. As I did so, one of boldest of them spoke up in a loud voice and asked, "Mister, where is your engine goin' to squirt?" General Sherman has never been guilty of a completely new uniform since; he buys his uniforms in detachments, and wears them out in instalments.

**GARRISON AMATEUR THEATRICALS.**—Lt.-Col. Campbell and the officers of the Garrison of St. Johns issued cards several days ago for a private dramatic entertainment, which was held in the Town Hall on Wednesday evening last. The Hall which was handsomely ornamented for the occasion, was filled to overflowing with the elite of St. Johns and neighborhood. We have not the time to day, and perhaps it would be thought obtrusive on our part should we do so, to review separately the merits of the respective performers. Certainly, every one will agree in the opinion that all the parts were well rendered—and some to perfection.—*St. Johns News*.

A correspondent of the last received copy of the *London Evening Mail*, writing on the North West question, makes the following closing remarks,—“As it not disputed that the company have a good claim—assuming their charter to be valid as respects the grant of land—to a considerable tract of country round Hudson's Bay, and as it is desirable that the authority of the Government of the new Dominion should cover the whole of British America, there is something to be purchased which the Company can rightfully sell, and perhaps in the purchase of this territory the means may be found to extinguish without further delay their claims elsewhere. The resignation of the Ministry has arrested the negotiations, which it is understood were going on with some prospect of success. This is, perhaps, to be regretted. It will detain the Canadian Ministers until the new Government is installed and in working order. But from the well known views of Mr. Gladstone, as expressed in the report which he proposed for the adoption of the Hudson's Bay Committee in 1857, the new Government will not be adverse to the views and policy which these gentlemen have come here to advocate.”

**VACANT COLONELCY.**—The colonelcy of the 13th Hussars has become vacant by the death of Lieutenant General Allan Thomas Maclean.

**THE MORTALITY AMONGST EUROPEAN TROOPS IN INDIA.**—The report of the Sanitary Commission for 1866-67 shows that the death rate for the European army was 30.95 per 1000 men. This was more than half as high again as in the previous year—much higher than any year since 1861, when it was 45.93 per 1000. The rate of 1861 was the highest on record, and 1866 the lowest; 1071 deaths from all causes occurred, and of these 471 arose from cholera. The per centage of deaths from cholera per 1000 was 13.84. Next to cholera the largest number of deaths was due to fever.

One reads the news from Greece every morning, by telegraph, with a kind of dazed sense of incongruity in the words descriptive of things and events on that "classic" ground. We are told of "the railroad running from Athens," "the steamers to Nauplia, Patras, and Corfu," the "canal at Corinth"—why not of the telegraph to Lacedæmon, the fifteen inch gun at the Piræus, gas on the Acropolis, the breech loader at Thermopylae, ... wanted good against a million spear-hurling cohorts of Xerxes? This mixing up of ancient names and fables with modern mechanical inventions, produces a queer sense of anachronism, look at it in as matter-of-fact way as we please.

The *Savannah News* of the 16th instant, has a long communication from General Jubal A. Early, dated Drummondville, Canada, December 10th, in which the General exposes what he characterizes as the folly and impossibility of the story that General Jackson "once recommended a night attack to be made by assailants stripped naked and armed with bowie knives." The folly and indecency of such a suggestion, he declares, preclude the possibility that it could have been made by Stonewall Jackson. But besides this, the time was in December, when the assailants would have been frozen to death, and at that time few or no bowie knives were to be had. We judge, from this, that General Early would have opposed this scheme chiefly through fear of an arrest of those participating in it, for "indecent exposure," or else he shares the sentiment of the young woman who was restrained from suicide by her objection to being found drowned in anything but her best clothes.

The candidature of the Duke of Aosta for the throne of Spain is said to greatly perplex the King of Italy. According to a correspondent of the *Liberte*, the second son of King Victor is the only prince who has the slightest chance of governing Spain, and the Provisional Government is proportionately urgent in its request that his nomination be permitted by the Italian sovereign. Great pressure is being exercised at Florence, and the mission of Senor Olazago to Paris has but the one object of securing the assistance of the Emperor in this matter. The Duke of Aosta is 21 years of age, of a very mild temperament, and decidedly unambitious; but he is endowed with a ruling spirit in the shape of his wife, the Princess Cisterna, a resolute woman, who strongly favors the idea of becoming a queen. Her influence in favor of the Provisional Government is very considerable.

**RUMOURED REWARD TO MAJOR PALLISER.**—There is a report that the Government propose to give some reward of honor to Major Palliser, whose inventions, particularly his chilled shot, have been and are productive of enormous saving to the country while they add greatly to the efficiency of its armament.

Dr. Usher Parson, the last surviving commissioned officer of Commodore Perry's fleet in the memorable "battle of Lake Erie, died in Providence, R. I., where he has resided for several years, at the age of 80. At the age of 23 he entered the Navy as a surgeon's mate, and immediately joined the frigate *John Adams* soon after the declaration of war in 1812. The officers and crew of the vessel volunteered for service on the lakes.

**WARLIKE MILITARY DINNER IN PARIS, AND CABINET COUNCIL.**—General Bourbaiti, on Monday, gave a dinner at the Grand Hotel to 80 officers of the First Division of Voltigeurs of the Guard. Not only reporters but also strangers, unless they could contrive to disguise themselves as waiters, were rigorously excluded; nevertheless, the *Gauloise* undertakes to say that the General made a speech predicting war with Prussia, which was greeted with thunders of applause. The fact of a Ministerial Council being suddenly summoned to meet at Compiègne this day (Tuesday), writes a Paris correspondent—it not being a regular council day—has given rise to conjectures that something of extra importance must be in the wind. The explanation of the semi-official journals however, is that on Wednesday all the Ministers will be wanted in the Council of State to defend their budgets for 1870. Apropos of the budgets, all hope of reduction is given up, the estimates for the army and navy will be as high as ever, and, in all probability, excuse will be found for augmentations. This is substantially admitted by the *Etendard*.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Army and Navy Gazette* tells us that Marshal Niel, who still remains in office, is a most practical man. It was not long ago that, with a single stroke of his pen, he deprived all the cavalry regiments of their bands, and now more practical reforms are spoken of. If the French horse have now to march without music, it looks as if the French foot will soon have to march without that poetical addition to a regiment—the vivandiere. The list of heroines associated with the French Army in this character is a long one, and to weed them entirely out of the Army would be a most unpopular act. M. Beschereille, in his military sketches, gives us this portrait: "The vivandiere is a distinct type, and has her own immortal page in the history of our wars. She has accompanied our armies in all their battle fields, from Jemappes to the Pyramids, from the icy barriers of the Splugon to the laughing plains of Italy and Spain, from Madrid to Moscow. Turn about the vivandiere is surgeon, sister of charity, soldier, but always a woman, a mother, and the companion of a soldier. She has slept on the marble flags of the palace of the Moors at Seville, and on the flowery banks of the Guadiana; she has heard the gondolier sing on the banks of the Tagus and the Arno, and she has crossed the frozen Beresina. The vivandiere at the head of our victorious armies, has entered Rome, Naples, Berlin, Warsaw, Vienna, and Moscow." After this brilliant sketch it is hard to think that for a matter of economy the vivandiere of today is destined to perish.

A duel with unbated foils took place in the wood of Vesinet, between M. C—, an officer in an infantry regiment in garrison at Paris, and Viscount de Castillon. The combat had lasted scarcely a minute when the former gentleman received a wound in the arm, which was completely pierced, and the seconds put an end to the affair. The two adversaries then shook hands and returned to Paris. The cause of the encounter was an altercation which took place in front of the Church of the Trinity on the occasion of Rossini's funeral.

There are two returns from the election battlefield which deserve more notice than they might receive amid a long list of casualties. Lord Edward Howard has been defeated for Preston, and Sir John Acton for Bridgnorth. With the exception of Sir John Simeon, who stands for the Isle of Wight, these two candidates happen to be the only members of the Roman Catholic communion who have sought the suffrages of electors in Great Britain. Roman Catholic members will, of course, be returned for Ireland; but neither in England nor in Scotland will the Roman faith obtain a single representative. The result is the more observable as the two candidates in question possessed great personal claims. Lord Edward Howard belongs to one of the most ancient and most noble of English families, whose fame is only enhanced by the staunchness with which they have adhered to their ancestral faith.—*Times*,

**RIFLE BRIGADE.**—The company vacant by the death of Captain Buckley, is not likely to be filled up, as there is still a captain supernumerary to the establishment. The *Morning Post* has the following remarks, which will be echoed by many men in the Army, regarding the deceased officer:—"It is not often that the death of a person distinguished in any public or official capacity leaves as great a gap in society as that of the late Captain Buckley, which occurred but a few days ago in so sudden and frightful a manner. The deceased was, in many respects, a very remarkable man. He made staunch friends wherever he went, and was invariably affectionately remembered by all who knew him; no one was too high or too low to be passed by him without a kindly word or good natured action. Had he been in any other sphere of life he would doubtless have made a name for himself in the annals of intellect, for his ready wit and powers of repartee and conversation, together with his remarkable talent of improvisation, were well known amongst his intimate associates. Captain Buckley was a distinguished soldier, having been an actor in the stirring scenes of the Indian mutiny; and had it not been for his unforeseen death, he was to have accompanied Sir John Young to Canada in the capacity of aide de camp.

But to sum up these few words of tribute paid to his memory, what above all will make him for ever regretted was the cheerful, kindly nature which brightened like a sunbeam all those who came in contact with him; the invariable good temper and genuine charity which made him a favorite amongst his brother officers, his friends, and the most casual of acquaintances; and the upright, genial disposition which saw the good points of every man, and made his life, if not one of idle fame, at least one of active usefulness."

The Government's year which is about to close will be chiefly memorable in Volunteer annals for the large extensions which has taken place in it of the practice of forming Volunteer encampments. Favourable by a season, the like of which has not been known for very many years, Volunteers (says the *Morning Star*) have been able to pitch their tents almost at any time from May to September, and to obtain the greatest possible measure of instruction and enjoyment from camp life, at the cost of an insignificant amount of trouble. The test for the formation of military camps having thus decidedly shown itself, we trust that the War Office will be disposed to increase the facilities which Volunteer corps already enjoy with respect to the supply of tents and equipment suitable to encampments. At present the War Office, we believe, sanction the issue of tents, &c., from the Government stores only when an encampment of one or more battalions is to take place under the sanction of the lord lieutenant of the county; but it would be a great boon to many corps, which are not considerable enough to form brigade or battalion camps of their own, if this sanction were given, on application, to any independent corps, without regard to its size. Sprinkled about the country are hundreds of towns, where, but for the costliness of procuring tents and other camp requisites the local Volunteers, numbering, perhaps, 50 or 100 men, would gladly attempt the experiment of pitching a camp. The mode of regulating the encampment would possibly lack uniformity. In some cases strict military rule would prevail, in other the camp might resolve itself into little more than a picnic of armed men; but in any case it would be impossible for even a few score of Volunteers to be under canvas together without gaining an amount of experience which would be invaluable in case of necessity hereafter. In camp, men, even the most fastidious, learn to recognize the need of being able to shift for themselves; and few, however indifferently a camp may be regulated, fail to appreciate the value of discipline and order. If any additional facilities be granted, it should, in our opinion, be a part of the duty of inspecting officers to satisfy themselves that the Volunteer corps within their districts are aware of what has been done, and to encourage so far as it may be within their power, the practice of forming encampments even amongst the smallest corps. The Government have always the means of making good, at the expense of the Volunteers, any damage camp stores may sustain, by impounding a portion of the capitation grant; and it seems to us that the tents would be turned to better account if pitched for a few summer days on the Sussex Downs, or in pleasant Warwickshire meadows, than they would be remaining in the store rooms at Woolwich or the Tower.

**A VESSEL'S CREW DEVoured BY CANNIBALS.**—Advices from Bondova Bay, South Sea Islands, state that the British steamer *Blanche* had shelled a village there, the natives having killed and eaten the master and crew of the bark *Marianne Renny*. Twenty-six skulls were found in the ruins of a hut. The captain and crew of the schooner *Harman* eight in all, have also been murdered and eaten by the natives of Hudson's Island.

Toledo has erected 1,500 buildings this year.

**GENERAL PRIM AND THE PARIS PRESS.**—The *Gaulois*, which, in the early stages of the Spanish revolution, received beyond all doubt, exclusive information from General Prim, has on Monday some information from its special correspondent at Madrid. M. Angel de Miranda, which is believed to be authentic. His letter, dated Madrid, Nov. 28, says that he had an interview with Prim on Nov. 27, and that the General used the following words:—"I authorize you to declare that I have not, and never shall have, any political relations with the Burbons of any branch whatever, I did not take part in a revolution, the first cry of which proclaimed the downfall of that fatal dynasty, to stultify myself a few days later. I will never be the instrument or the protector of a royal family which was a curse to my country." The General further said—"I know that the French press begins to be unjust towards me. I know that both those who desire and those who fear a *coup d'état* impute to me the intention to make one. I am not the vulgar ambitious man they suppose. I have no thought of being the master Dictator, or Emperor of my country. If I had any such wretched designs I could not do better than follow the advice of those who think themselves more liberal than I, and I should urge Spain to become a republic. In that case she would certainly offer me supreme power in one form or another. On the other hand, if I listen to men who believe in physical force, I might easily become Dictator. But I am in power to liberate not to oppress." The correspondent says time will show whether General Prim is a Sylla or a Washington. He can hardly be expected to turn out the latter, because everything shows that he is strongly anti-republican; and this very letter says he has a Monarchical candidate in his eye, but will not disclose his name until the Cortes meets, and is ready to vote.

The Turks are more than a match for the Greeks. They have an army of about 100,000 men, and a navy estimated at 40 vessels of 820 guns, and about 25,000 sailors. Some of their vessels are of recent construction, and powerful armaments, and were built in France and England. The Greek regular army is very small. It only comprised 264 officers, and 7,668 men a few years ago and has not since been augmented. Its navy consisted at the same period of a fifty gun frigate; two corvettes of 25 and 22 guns; a paddle steamer of six guns, and twenty-eight small gunboats, and revenue cruisers. At last census, in 1861, the population of the Kingdom amounted to a total of 1,098,810.

Rascalities practiced by the Spanish Bourbons are constantly coming to light since the dethronement of Queen Isabella. The latest incident reported in Madrid is rather the meanest thing we have lately heard of a King. It appears that a deficiency of nearly a million dollars has been discovered in the funds of the charitable institution of the *Buen Suceso*, destined to the relief of the poor; and the Patriarch of the Indies, to whom the charity is entrusted, has nothing to show for the missing funds but a receipt of the Ex-King Consort, to whom the money was secretly advanced, and from whom it has now to be claimed. This royal scoundrel ought to be garroted if he is ever caught on Spanish soil.

The Army and Navy *Gazette* mentions that it is probable the 13th Hussars will be brought home from Canada, in the early part of next summer. In this event, it is probable that the 13th will go to India in the autumn, to complete its period of foreign service.

Colonel Anderson, Royal Artillery, has been appointed Commandant of the Garrison at Toronto, vice Colonel Radcliffe, R. A., who takes the place of the late Colonel Kennedy, as Commandant of the Royal Artillery in Canada.

The following Commissariat changes in Canada, are announced from the 1st prox.

A. C. Gen. Gould, from London, to relieve A. C. Gen. Smith, at Toronto,—London becoming a sub-station to Toronto.

D. A. C. General Porter, from Toronto, to Ottawa, relieving D. A. C. General Ravenscroft, who is ordered to proceed to England.

Boards of survey to verify the remains of stores and provisions will be held at all stations on the 31st inst.

HOW TO RETAIN A GOOD FACE.—A correspondent has some good ideas on the importance of mental activity in retaining a good face. He says: We were speaking of handsome men the other evening, and I was wondering why K. had so lost the beauty for which five years ago he was famous. "Oh it's because he never did anything," said B.; "He never worked, thought or suffered. You must have the mind chiseling away at the features, if you want handsome middle aged men." Since hearing that remark I have been on the watch to see whether it is generally true—and it is. A handsome man who does nothing but to eat and drink, grows flabby, and the fine lines of his features are lost; but the hard thinker has a hard sculptor at work, keeping his fine lines in repair, and constantly going over his face to improve the original design.

A series of experiments in gunpowder is at present being carried out at Woolwich by the Ordnance Select Committee with the new chronoscope for measuring the velocity of projectiles within the bore of the gun, invented by Captain A. Noble late of the Royal Artillery. The results hitherto obtained are preliminary but have been attended with great success. The instrument has proved itself capable of measuring the hundred thousandth part of a second with great accuracy.

A military regulation, recently adopted in France, is supposed to indicate that the available strength of the Empire has been already called out nearly to its full extent. The Imperial Guard, it is well known, is a picked corps of 35,000 men, formed by the promotion of the best soldiers of the line. But the line no longer furnishes material enough to keep it full. The conscription has already drawn off the strength of the population, and the new levies, so poor is the material, and so numerous are the deaths and exemptions, barely suffice to maintain the regiments at the official standard. In this dilemma it is proposed to divide the Imperial Guard into two classes—veterans and conscripts; which would be equivalent, of course, to a reduction in its numbers, and would, no doubt, seriously impair its efficiency and *esprit de corps*. Is the end so near in France that the Guard must perish without even a battle?

### CANADIAN ITEMS.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.—The last number of this well conducted journal closes its second year of publication, and we are glad to see our military contemporary in a prosperous condition. From its inception to the present time we have watched the progress of the *Review* with interest and have been pleased to note the steady advance it has made all through in public estimation. To have carried successfully a journal devoted to a special subject, for two years, in Canada, says a great deal for the capabilities of its proprietors and for the *esprit de corps* of the body to which it looked for support; and, having so far escaped all the dangers and difficulties that beset its path at the outset, the *Review* may be considered as the established military organ of the Dominion. The *Review* deserves success. Its establishment was a venturesome undertaking, in the face of many previous failures, but was an organ greatly needed. Its course since its first number has been consistent and straightforward, freely discussing all topics of complaint in the service and rendering to the powers that be its best assistance in their endeavors to arrange the difficult question of militia organization. We trust that the New Year upon which the *Review* enters, will see it proportionately increase in usefulness and prosperity.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

DESTRUCTION OF THE DRILL SHED.—Immediately following in the wake of the destruction of the Roman Catholic Church by fire on Christmas Day, is the complete demolition of the large frame structure used as a drill shed, and by the N. R. L. agricultural society as an exhibition building, in this place, which tumbled down with a terrible crash, about one or two o'clock on Monday morning last, and now remains one great heap of splintered timbers and broken boards. The system by which the roof was supported is considered to have been too weak for one of its dimensions, and consequently the great weight of snow which had accumulated thereon is the cause of the misfortune which has now occurred. The building, we believe, was designed by Mr. Geo. Keefer, architect, and erected by M. John Naismith, of Almonte, at a cost to our citizens of eight hundred dollars. Through a misconception on the part of some one, the original plan was not strictly adhered to, and the building was completed at haphazard. It will be a heavy loss to the community generally, but more especially to the Agricultural Society. The Almonte Volunteers had their armory in one end of the building, but it being securely built up with brick their guns were not much injured, one or two of them being but slightly damaged about the stocks. The total loss cannot fall short of \$1000 or \$1200. *Almonte Gazette*.

The *St. John Telegraph* very pertinently remarks: "During the summer the repeal papers were saying that the Nova Scotians would not volunteer for drill under the Dominion authorities—no, never? They were mistaken. The official report shows that while, under the Militia Act, the quota of Nova Scotia was 5,000, not less than 5,100 did actually volunteer and were drilled."

MILITARY EXAMINATION, QUESTION AND ANSWER.—When does a man's case lie in a nutshell? When he is a Colonel.

The *Broad Arrow* announces that a medal is to be granted to all the British and Indian forces, naval and military, who were employed in the operations in Abyssinia.

The public banquet to Mr. Brydges was a demonstration of which any man might be proud. It represented the wealth and the worth of the commercial metropolis of Canada, the different shades of politics, and the different origins of its people. The expression of feeling in his favour and of detestation of the unfair attacks to which he had been subjected, was universal and enthusiastic; and when Gen. Wyndham stated that he had gone out that night, as he otherwise should not have done, to be present at that dinner to Mr. Brydges, from respect for his character, the cheers were again and again repeated, and lasted for some moments. Mr. Brydges himself made a very able and energetic speech, to which no bare matter of fact, report can do full justice. He made a triumphant vindication of his policy; and showed the great service the Grand Trunk Railway had rendered to this country, at very small cost to it; while the undertaking had proved disastrous to many in England, who had spent the millions from which Canada had so largely profited.—*Montreal Gazette*.

COBOURG GARRISON BATTERY.—On Tuesday evening, 22nd ult., the members of this Company, thirty-four, met at their armory for re-enrolment under the provisions of the New Militia Act. The whole company re-enrolled. The men partook of a supper afterwards at the "Pauwels House," provided by the officers of the Company.—*Cobourg Sentinel*.

"Major General Doyle, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, has been made a knight commander of the order of St. Michael and St. George; and Chief Justice Young, of Nova Scotia, has received the honor of knighthood."

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A WHITWORTH RIFLE, warranted in perfect order, with back apparatus, centre vernier, and five fore sights, of best English make, with

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LT.-COL. JACKSON,  
Brockville, Ont.



### GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Wednesday, 9th day of December, 1868.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ADMINISTRATOR  
OF THE GOVERNMENT IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs, and under and in virtue of the authority conferred by the Act passed during the last Session of the Parliament of Canada intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs;" His Excellency in Council has been pleased to make the following Regulation:

In addition to the Warehousing Ports mentioned in the Act passed during the late Session of the Parliament of Canada, and intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs;" and also in addition to the Ports named in Lists sanctioned by subsequent Orders in Council, passed under the authority of the said Act, the following Port shall be, and it is hereby declared to be included in the List of Warehousing Ports, in the Dominion of Canada, viz:

Port of Nova Scotia,

The Port of Parrsboro'

WM. H. LEE,  
Clerk Privy Council.

THE CHURCH UNION.

THIS paper has been recently enlarged to mammoth proportions. It is the largest religious paper in the world. Is the leading organ of the Union Movement, and opposes ritualism, close communion, exclusiveness and church caste. It is the only paper that publishes HENRY WARD BEECHER'S Sermons, which it does every week, just as they are delivered, - without qualification or correction by him. It advocates universal suffrage; a union of christians at the polls; and the rights of labor. It has the best Agricultural Department of any paper in the world; publishes stories for the family, and for the destruction of social evils. Its editorial management is impersonal; its writers and editors are from every branch of the church, and from every grade of society. It has been aptly termed the freest organ of thought in the world.

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