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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. X

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1876.

No. 5.

The Volunteer Review

Published EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON KERR, Proprietor, to whom all Business Correspondence should be addressed.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertions should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. 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 information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:

First insertion, measured by } 10cts. per line.
solid nonpareil type.
Subsequent insertions..... 5cts. " "
Professional Card six lines or under, \$6 per year; over six lines and under fifteen, \$10 per year.
A. Announcements or Notices of a personal or business nature, in the Editorial, Local or Correspondence columns, Twenty-Five Cents a line for the first insertion and 12½ Cents for each subsequent insertion.
Advertisements of Situations Wanted, Fifty Cents the first insertion, and Twenty-Five Cents each subsequent insertion.
Special arrangements of an advantageous character made with Merchants for the Year, Half Year or Quarter.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "WITNESS."

THE friends of healthy literature have, by persevering diligence, placed the *Montreal Witness* in the very first rank of newspapers. The rapid growth of trashy reading, and of what is positively vile, stimulating good people to more earnest efforts than ever to fill every household with sound mental food. A clergyman has lately secured for the *Witness* hundreds of subscribers, and declares his intention to make this one of his first duties in his present and every future field of labor, as he holds that by no other means could he do so much for the future of a neighborhood as by placing good reading in every family.

Successive attacks upon the *Witness* during each of the past three years, culminating in what has been called "The Ban" of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Montreal; although not otherwise desirable circumstances, have done a great deal to concentrate and intensify the zeal of the friends of Temperance and religious liberty in

favor of the *Witness*. Indeed, the fact that the last assault has been followed up for six months with the most untiring efforts to break down the paper on the part of the most powerful moral opposition that could be organized on earth, and has resulted in cutting us off from some, at least, of those Roman Catholic readers whose good will we formerly enjoyed and highly prized, give us perhaps, some claim on the kind offices of those who value free speech and freedom of religious belief. The actual diminution of the circulation of the *Daily Witness* is of course, comparatively small, amounting to about 500 out of 13,000, or less than four per cent., and does not affect us peculiarly, as we can still claim a circulation equal in volume to that of all the rest of the daily city press, probably the majority of our old Roman Catholic reading being such still.

The progress of the paper may be gathered approximately from the following figures:

	Cir. Semi-Weekly		
	Cir. Daily, 1st Sept.	Tri-Weekly 1st Sept.	Ir. Weekly 1st Sept.
1871,	10,700	3,000	8,000
1872,	10,000	3,600	9,000
1873,	11,600	3,600	10,750
1874,	12,900	3,500	17,000
1875,	12,400	3,200	19,700

We have good reasons to be specially desirous to reach the whole country this winter, and have the *Witness* presented earnestly to the notice of every family. To this end we have determined to depart from the usual course of allowing our publications to commend themselves on their merits alone, and to inaugurate on a large scale a competitive effort on the part of all our subscribers to increase the subscription list. This competition will last during the month of October, and will be open to all. The list of prizes will be found below.

If this comes to any who are not familiar with the *Witness*, we may say that for twenty-nine years it has labored for the promotion of evangelical truth, and for the suppression of the liquor traffic. Our effort is to produce a *Christian Temperance Newspaper*, unattached to any political party or religious denomination, seeking only to witness fearlessly for the truth and against evil doing under all circumstances, and to keep its readers abreast with the news and the knowledge of the day. It devotes much space to Social, Agricultural and Sanitary matters, and is especially the paper for the home circle. It is freely embellished with engravings.

The *Weekly Witness* has been enlarged twice, and nearly doubled within four years, and is the very most that can be given for the price—\$110 per annum.

The *Montreal Witness* (Tri-Weekly), gives the news three times a week, and all the reading of the *Daily Witness* for \$2.00 per annum.

The *Daily Witness* is in every respect a first class daily containing much more reading matter than the papers which cost twice as much, for \$3.00 per an.

All of course, are post-paid by Publishers. Subscribers remitting new subscriptions beside their own are entitled to the following discounts on such subscriptions:

Daily Witness	50c.
Tri-Weekly	35c.
Weekly	25c.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "CANADIAN MESSENGER."

THE PIONEER PAPER.

The *Messenger* is designed to supply the homes of the Sunday School scholars of America with family reading of the most useful and interesting sort at the lowest possible cost. It consists of eight pages of four columns each, and contains a Temperance department, a Scientific department, a Sanitary department, and an Agricultural department. Two pages are given to family reading, two to a tale in large type for children, and

one to the Sunday School lessons of the International Series, and a children's column. The paper is magnificently illustrated. There has been a very rapid increase in its circulation during the past year, namely, from 15,000 to 25,000, and the ratio of increase rises so rapidly that the proprietors have sanguine hopes of doubling the latter figure before the end of next year. There has been, as a result of this prosperity, some improvement in the style of the paper, and it will, of course, be possible to introduce more and more improvements as circulation grows. Most of the growth of the *Messenger* has been by the voluntary recommendation of it by friends who have formed their own opinion of its worth, and by the introduction of it into Sunday Schools. Young correspondents say that their Sunday Schools are more interesting and better attended since it has been introduced.

The following are the prices of the *Messenger*

1 copy	\$ 0 30
10 copies	2 50
25 copies	6 00
50 copies	11 50
100 copies	22 00
1,000 copies	200 00

Surplus copies for distribution as tracts, twelve dozen for \$1.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "NEW DOMINION MONTHLY."

In general style and appearance the *Dominion* has, during the last few months, very considerably improved, and it is intended to improve on the present as much as the present is an improvement on the past, and the Magazine of next year will be read with an ease and pleasure greater than hitherto. When we say that these improvements are not to be marked by any change of price, we refer to the full price of \$1.50 per annum. Hitherto the *Dominion* has been clubbed with the "Weekly Witness" at \$1.00, which it will be simply impossible to continue now that one-fifth has been added to its bulk, along with better paper and printing. The *Dominion* is henceforth to be clubbed with the "Witness" at \$1.25, and is better worth its cost than ever before. Twenty-five cents, instead of fifty will be the discount allowed to friends obtaining for us new subscribers being now put into the magazine itself. The object of the publishers of the *Dominion* is to develop a native Canadian literature, and very much has been accomplished in this way during its history of nine years, the age of the magazine being that of the *Dominion* of Canada. Those interested in the same object will not, we think, waste their efforts if they do what they can to make the magazine a pecuniary success, what we presume no magazine in Canada has ever yet been for any length of time.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1. To the person sending the largest amount of money on or before 1st Nov., as payment in advance for our publications..... \$50.00
 2. To the person sending 2nd lar't am't 40.00
 3. " " 3rd " 30.00
 4. " " 4th " 20.00
 5. " " 5th " 15.00
 6. " " 6th " 10.00
 7. " " 7th " 10.00
- Five prizes of \$5 each for the next largest amounts 20.00

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Publishers, Montreal.

195,000. The DAILY and WEEKLY Editions of the
MONTREAL STAR

have now (it is estimated) an audience of *One Hundred and Ninety-five Thousand Readers*, which makes them the most widely circulated and influential newspapers published in Canada.

BOYNTON'S PATENT LIGHTNING SAW.

\$500 CHALLENGE.

That it is the *FASTEST-CUTTING SAW* in the world.

In order to introduce my unrivalled Cross-Cut Saws to the Canadian market, I will send my best saws to any address at **50 cts. per foot** for cash in advance for one month. This is one-half my list price. *Perfect quality guaranteed. Agents wanted.*

E. M. BOYNTON,
80 Beekman St., N. Y.

13-1

DR. WARNER'S SANITARY CORSET,

With Skirt-Supporter and Self-Adjusting Pads.



Patented Sept. 28th, 1875.

Secures health and comfort of body, with grace and beauty of form.

We would particularly call attention to the following advantages:

1st. It affords a convenient and efficient support for the underclothing.

2d. The Self Adjusting Pads are the delight of every lady. They give elegance to the form, and are not in any way injurious or objectionable.

3d. It combines three garments in one—a corset, a skirt supporter, and self-adjusting pads—and yet costs no more than an ordinary corset.

In ordering, give size of waist instead of number of corset usually worn.

Price in London Corl, \$2.00, Satteen, \$1.75, Misses' Corsets, \$1.25, Children's Corset-waist with stocking supporter, \$1.50. Samples sent by mail, on receipt of price.

25 cts. will be allowed for this advertisement, if it is cut out and sent with the order.

Great inducements to good Agents.

Address,
WARNER BROS.,
763 Broadway, N. Y.

5th-1

THE WEEKLY SUN.

1776. New York. 1876.

Eighteen hundred and seventy-six is the Centennial year. It is also the year in which an Opposition House of Representatives, the first since the war, will be in power at Washington; and the year of the twenty-third election of a President of the United States. All of these events are sure to be of great interest and importance, especially the two latter; and all of them and everything connected with them will be fully and freshly reported and expounded in THE SUN.

The Opposition House of Representatives, taking up the line of inquiry opened years ago by THE SUN, will sternly and diligently investigate the corruptions and misdeeds of GRANT'S administration; and will, it is to be hoped, lay the foundation for a new and better period in our national history. Of all this THE SUN will contain complete and accurate accounts, furnishing its readers with early and trustworthy information upon these absorbing topics.

The twenty-third Presidential election, with the preparations for it, will be memorable as deciding upon GRANT'S aspirations for a third term of power and plunder, and still more as deciding who shall be the candidate of the party of Reform, and as electing that candidate. Concerning all these subjects, those who read THE SUN will have the constant means of being thoroughly well informed.

THE WEEKLY SUN, which has attained a circulation of over eighty thousand copies, already

has its readers in every State and Territory, and we trust that the year 1876 will see their numbers doubled. It will continue to be a thorough newspaper. All the general news of the day will be found in it, condensed when unimportant, at full length when of moment; and always, we trust, treated in a clear, interesting and instructive manner.

It is our aim to make the WEEKLY SUN the best family newspaper in the world, and we shall continue to give in its columns a large amount of miscellaneous reading, such as stories, tales, poems, scientific intelligence and agricultural information, for which we are not able to make room in our daily edition. The agricultural department especially is one of its prominent features. The fashions are also regularly reported in its columns; and so are the markets of every kind.

THE WEEKLY SUN, eight pages with fifty-six broad columns is only \$1.20 a year postage prepaid. As this price barely repays the cost of the paper, no discount can be made from this rate to clubs, agents, Postmasters, or anyone.

THE DAILY SUN, a large four page newspaper of twenty eight columns, gives all the news for two cents a copy. Subscriptions, postage prepaid, 55c. a month or \$6.50 a year. SUNDAY edition extra, \$1.10 per year. We have no travelling agents.

Address,
THE SUN, New York City.

Prospectus for 1876--Ninth Year.

THE ALDINE,
THE ART JOURNAL OF AMERICA.

SOLD ONLY BY SUBSCRIPTION.

THE REPRESENTATIVE AND CHAMPION OF AMERICAN TASTE.

Steadily, since its inception, THE ALDINE has been growing in the affections of the American people. As the exemplar of national achievement in the highest departments of illustrative and mechanical art, it has won for America respect and consideration from the most restrictive art schools of the Old World. THE ALDINE plates now go regularly by contract to publishers in England, France, Germany and Russia, and are also copied, without permission, by the punctilious foreigners who have hitherto denounced such appropriation on this side as "piracy." No better proof of superiority could be asked than the fact that it was reserved for THE ALDINE to start the flow of original American illustrations to Europe in the face of all tradition and experience. This Nazareth of the art world has produced a good thing at last!

That this progress has been achieved in a period of general financial depression, shows how deep an interest is felt in the enterprise; and now that the support of the American people has brought it triumphantly to the threshold of their centennial jubilee, the conductors of *The Art Journal of America* are fully impressed with the responsibility of the situation, and are determined to spare no exertion to co-operate with the national idea of demonstrated progress.

Undaunted by the misfortune which in a few moments made ashes and waste of the beautiful work of years, the lapse of a single day found THE ALDINE people housed in larger and finer quarters, and bending every energy to restore and replace their lost facilities. Condolence and sympathy, with generous tenders of substantial aid, poured from every quarter; and while relying wholly upon their own resources, the conductors of THE ALDINE were deeply moved and strengthened for the work by these evidences of the general anxiety for the welfare of their charge.

The idea of THE ALDINE has always been to win its way as a teacher through the interest and affections of the people—to avoid a technical exclusiveness, and to show rather than to talk of art matters. Without abandoning the popular feature, the publishers feel that the time has come for a more particular discussion of topics connected with the artistic and aesthetic culture of our people, and to this end they propose to introduce many new features.

In attempting to describe what *The Art Journal of America* will be, it may be expedient to begin by stating what it will not be.

It will not be imported from England, and "published" here by the addition of an American imprint.

It will not be foreign to the ideas and interests of Americans.

It will not depend for its American character mainly on added pages from the illustrated catalogues of large manufacturers.

It will not hinder art cultivation by using superseded processes of illustration because the

plates are to be had second-hand because there was a popular prejudice, preceding education, that valued "steel-plates," by comparative expense rather than by excellence.

It will be thoroughly American and national, without being narrow or conceited.

It will teach Americans the beauties of their country and the progress of their art workers; but it will also bring home to their firesides examples of foreign masterpieces that shall show the heights to be conquered, and stir the emulation and ambition of our younger civilization.

It will furnish communications on art topics from a corps of regular correspondents at the principal art centres of the world—making a connected contemporaneous history of the higher branches of human industry.

THE ALDINE AND AMERICAN SCENERY

The glories of the unrivalled scenery of our country afford an exhaustless field for the exercise of the painter's art. Many attempts have been made to gratify the popular longing for scenes of "home, sweet home," but it will be universally acknowledged that, so far as our illustrated periodicals are concerned, such attempts have hitherto proved miserable failures—mere caricatures or topographical diagrams rather than pictures. It remains for the publishers of THE ALDINE to inaugurate an artistic movement that shall be worthy of the subject—that shall give American scenery its rightful pre-eminence in the pictorial world.

In this age and country of universal travel, it is astonishing how comparatively few are acquainted with scenes not to be viewed from the windows of a railway car. Ordinary American "tourists" the mission of THE ALDINE will be to reveal the undiscovered beauties, to them "so near, and yet so far." To lovers of nature whose privilege it has been to enjoy the realities, these delineations will come as souvenirs in grateful harmony with the pleasures of memory.

1776. 1876.

The Aldine and the American Centennial.

In accordance with their purpose to give the American people an Art Journal that shall be characteristically their own, the publishers have availed themselves of the approaching anniversary of the birth of the country, to inaugurate that which shall hereafter constitute a principal feature of the enterprise; namely, the artistic illustration of leading historical events in our history. The noble proportions of the THE ALDINE page afford every facility for the most effective rendering of details, without which a succession of pictures on any subject become monotonous and wearisome to a degree.

THE ALDINE AND PICTURESQUE EUROPE.

While all proper attention is given to national topics as a distinctive characteristic of the work, no fear need be entertained that its scope will be contracted, or the cosmopolitan features of art neglected. The publishers are happy to announce the success of arrangements for placing before their readers a series of views of the grandest and most interesting scenes of Europe on a scale which is possible only with the broad pages of THE ALDINE. These pictures are no mere repetitions of the peculiarities of two or three artists, dealing with nature on so small a scale as to afford no opportunity for variety of detail or effect, but they are magnificent full-page plates in every way worthy of costly frames, were they not so appropriately placed in a work which is in fact an ornamental portfolio of high art. This new series of European landscapes will demonstrate the intention and ability of *The Art Journal of America*, to satisfy all demands and to occupy every field of high art illustration.

The art of THE ALDINE, national and cosmopolitan, is permitted to range the entire world of reality, and to soar to the heights of the imaginative so that a surfeit of one thing, however sweet, is impossible. Its subscribers shall recognize that they are supplied not only with the best, but with a healthful and refreshing succession of topics, as comprehensive and exhaustless as the appetite which is so carefully considered.

PRESENTATION PLATES.

Four beautiful designs by John S. Davis, artistically printed in colors, will be presented gratis to subscribers, with the March number.

TERMS

The postal edition of THE ALDINE will be issued monthly, and mailed, postage free, to subscribers at \$6 per annum, in advance. The publishers are only responsible for advance payment where the money has been actually received at the office of publication in New York, or their regular printed forms of receipt signed by the President and Secretary of the Company is produced.

Parties desiring to act as local agents, will receive prompt information regarding discounts and territory by applying through the mails or in person at the office of publication.

THE ALDINE COMPANY,

18 and 20 Vesey street, New York.

JAMES SUTTON, President.
ISAAC NEWTON, Jr., Secretary.



The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. X

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1876.

No. 5,

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The gale of Wednesday last, was one of the severest that has occurred on this Continent for some time—doing immense damage. It spread all over from North to South, increasing in intensity as it progressed Southward. At Halifax such damage was done to the wharves and shipping. At Toronto the end of the new Knox College building was blown out. At Philadelphia it did considerable damage to the Centennial buildings, and in fact throughout the whole of the Northern States, it raged with great fury—roofing houses, blowing down factories, farm buildings, &c., &c., and we fear when the history of its doings is written it will be found that several lives have been sacrificed to its fury.

The Ottawa and Arnprior Curling Clubs have played off for the Royal Caledonian Tankard, the former winning by twelve points. The score stood, Ottawa 45, Arnprior 33.

Mr. W. H. Fuller, late editor of the Kingston *Whig*, has been appointed a member of the Board of Examiners in Military District No. 3, for examination of candidates for cadetship in the Military College, which meets on the 8th inst.

The Bill to change the Presidential term from four to six years was lost by a vote of 154 nays, to 106 yeas, in United States Congress.

Sir John Glover has been unsuccessful in his mission to France to purchase the Newfoundland coast fisheries from that country. He says the French authorities show considerable resentment at the discussion of the subject by the English papers.

The Fredericton *Reporter* says that Lieut. Col. Maunsell D.A.G. has been appointed by the New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery, as a delegate from that Province to attend a meeting, to be held at Ottawa during the session of Parliament, for the purpose of forming a Dominion Artillery Association. The Colonel will also attend the meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association which will take place about the same time.

A large collection of specimens of minerals, principally from the district east of Lake Huron, on exhibition at the rooms of the Ontario Advisory Board, Toronto. They consist principally of iron ores, and are to be sent to the Centennial at Philadelphia as Ontario's contribution to the mineral department.

Considerable dissatisfaction exists in England at the proposed arrangement of having separate teams from England, Scotland and Ireland at the coming rifle meeting at Philadelphia.

The London *Times* considers that Secretary Fish's calling upon European Powers to cooperate with the United States with regard to Cuba, is a virtual surrender of the Monroe doctrine.

A special despatch to the *Times* from Berlin says that Russia has cautioned the Sultan against going to war with Montenegro.

A Russian telegraphic agency has special advices from Constantinople that the Porte in order to eradicate insurrection, is disposed to recognize the independence of Montenegro and cede to it a port on the Adriatic.

Advices from the Cape of Good Hope report that the Zambesi Mission have succeeded in placing a steamer on Lake Nyanza. One hundred natives were employed to carry the vessel past the Murchison Cataracts.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says it is proposed that the manoeuvres of this year shall be held on a more extensive scale than usual. A definite decision is still to be come to as to the locality in which the operations shall be carried on, and also as to numbers, but the Staff of the Commissariat and Transport Department is fully prepared to find the capabilities of the new organization put to a severe test. Between 2,000 and 3,000 horses are understood to be required. Surveys have been made and reports drawn up.

A crowded public meeting was held recently in the Music Hall, Worcester, for the purpose of protesting against the circular recently issued by the Government to commanders of British men of war respecting the giving up of fugitive slaves. The Mayor of Worcester (Mr. F. Woodard) presided. Mr. T. Rowley Hill, M. P., strongly condemned the circular, and expressed his intention of opposing any measure in Parliament which would tend to countenance or imply complicity with the slave trade on the part of England. Resolutions condemnatory of the circular, and expressing dissatisfaction with the Government for having issued it, were passed, and copies will be sent to the Prime Minister and the Marquis of Hartington.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* understands that extensive orders have been received by private firms in England through agents of the Chinese Imperial Government, for detached portions of Martini Henry rifles in the rough, which are to be made ready for transmission to the East with as little delay as possible. They will be finished in China.

The National Rifle Association withdraws the notice to those wishing to compete for a place in the British team that they must guarantee to pay their own expenses. Subscriptions have been promised in favour of those who are not able to pay.

A despatch from Pesth says the people by thousands are flocking to take a last view of the remains of M. Deak. The members of the Hungarian Diet take turns in watching the body.

In consequence of the number of fraudulent enlistments which have taken place, every recruit brought to Woolwich Police Court to be attested is distinctly warned, by order of the magistrates, that a false answer to any of the questions put to him will subject him to three months' imprisonment as a rogue and a vagabond.

An order has been issued by the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief that the carcasses of dead horses are not to be interred within 200 yards of inhabited buildings, wells or other source of water supply, and that when buried they should be covered with quicklime.

During the month of September two shiploads of slaves, rescued by British cruisers were landed at Frere Town, the new settlement in the Island of Mombasa, Eastern Africa. Many of these freedmen are mere children, and come into the hands of the missionaries in the most wretched condition.

The Vienna correspondent of the London *Times* reports that an English Episcopal Church is being built in that city, towards the cost of which the Queen has given £150 and the Prince of Wales £50.

Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, the youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, has been betrothed to Prince Louis of Battenberg, now in India with the Prince of Wales.

The mission of Mr. Outrey to Egypt for the purpose of fostering French influence, is a failure. The *Times'* Cairo letter says that Mr. Outrey interfered between the Khedive and English and French capitalists who are competing in negotiating for further advances to Egypt. The Khedive inclines to the English, but wishes to conduct the operations on a purely commercial basis, and select the party offering the best terms. This displeased Mr. Outrey, and there has been a consequent disagreement.

The St. Petersburg Ministerial newspaper says that the Russian authorities in Turkestan finding their 40,000 men insufficient to suppress the rebellion, have asked for the immediate despatch of 5,000 reinforcements to Tashkend. According to the latest advices from Khokand, the Insurgents have been joined by Kashgan soldiers, calling themselves deserters from Yakook Begs' army, while the Ameer of Bokhara has gone to Sharisbuk, where he is collecting troops. His presence there has excited an armed rebellion in the neighbouring Russian territory of Zirofshan.

The Vanguard Court-Martial.

(BY SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE BROAD ARROW.)

(Continued from page 41.)

The court martial on Captain Dawkins, Lieutenant Hathorn, Navigating Lieutenant Thomas, and the remainder of the officers and ship's company of Her Majesty's ship *Vanguard*, for the loss of that vessel off the coast of Ireland on the 1st of September last, was continued on board Her Majesty's ship *Royal Adelaide*, flagship at Devonport, on Saturday last. The court was composed of the same officers as on previous days, Lord John Hay, C. B., second in command of the Channel Squadron, presiding.

Mr. Lishman, R.N., again appeared for the officers of the *Vanguard*.

On the opening of the court, Lieutenant Evans, who had been under examination the previous day, was recalled.

The President: Were you aware that your station was two cables astern of the *Vanguard*?

Witness: Yes, and also that the speed of the flagship was indicated at seven knots; also that no signal had been made by the flagship to reduce that speed.

The President: Have you any explanation to offer for having intentionally and deliberately forsaken your station and sheered the *Iron Duke* out of the line?

Witness: It was and is my opinion that in a fog, knowing the speed my leader is going at, I should be safer one point, or nearly one point, on her port quarter than directly astern. This opinion coincides with the opinion of the officers of the former watch expressed at the time, and is in accordance with Article 16 in the General Signal book.

The President: Did you consider yourself justified by Article 16 in leaving your station, as ordered by the admiral in command without first obtaining the authority of your captain?

Witness: Yes, as the captain was not on deck at that time. I had on one occasion previously kept officer's watch in a squadron in prescribed order of sailing in a fog. My watch at that time was for about an hour. I have been in the combined squadron, and know their custom in a fog. I am aware that there is an instruction in the fog signal book that close order is to be maintained in a fog.

The President: Did you increase the speed to sixty revolutions without previously communicating with the captain; and, if so, why?

Witness: My orders to the engine room were "As fast as possible." My check on the number of revolutions they would be going was their answer. "If we had the other half boiler turned on we should be going 58." My idea was we were going 54 or 55 revolutions. I have not been in the habit of letting the captain know when I altered the revolutions.

The President: It appears by the registers that the engines were going 54 at 12.30, before being ordered to go full speed at 12.40. Were you aware of that?

Witness: No. No order of 54 revolutions had been given, and the order "As fast as possible" was at 12.35. The orders that had been given were before 12.20, 50 revolutions, 52 then, and at 12.35 as fast as possible. The reason of my going full speed was to get into station. When I heard the steam whistle of the *Vanguard* first it was three points on our starboard bow. I only heard a whistle sounded once for from three to four seconds,

By Captain Lethbridge: I saw the steam flag of the *Vanguard* indicating the speed of her engines immediately before the fog. It was No. 4 flag, but I am not positive what height it was above the gunwale. My impression is that it was half way up. That flag represented to me either 44 or 46 revolutions. If half way up it represents 45. That flag was neither raised nor lowered to my knowledge during my watch and prior to the fog coming on.

Capt. the Hon. J. Ward: You have stated that you placed a man at the steam whistle at 12.30. What was he there for?

Witness: To sound it. He tried to sound the whistle before the steam was turned on from below; again on the captain's orders, and just at colliding. The whistle was not sounded before the collision. The *Iron Duke* met the fog at 12.40. I have never steamed at full speed in squadron in any ship I have been in in a dense fog.

Captain Ward: Are you aware of the precautions to be taken by an officer of the watch in fogs?

The President here ordered the court to be cleared. After being closed about ten minutes it was reopened, and the witness then gave an affirmative reply to the last question of Captain Ward.

Captain Ward: When you last saw the *Vanguard*, before the fog, did you consider that the *Iron Duke* was gaining on her?

Witness: No; I looked through my sextant about 3 minute before the fog, and she was not gaining perceptibly.

Captain Dawkins: In your letter of September 1, addressed to Captain Hickley, you state that you gave the *Iron Duke* a good sheer off. Do I understand that one point alteration in your course is what you would call a good sheer off?

Witness: At the time of steering I did not know exactly how much we had sheered. My authority for it's being a point is the quartermaster.

The President: When did the quartermaster tell you that?

Witness: I think the day after. At the commencement of the fog I could see the *Vanguard's* wake, and I also, I think, just before colliding.

William Mains, chief officer of the Coast guard, who was attached to the *Iron Duke*, was next called, and in reply to the president, stated that he kept watch on the 1st of September on the topgallant forecabin. It was his afternoon watch. He sent a lookout man to the jibboom end. After this he heard the captain give orders about the fog horns. Shortly after he heard the steam whistle. He should think he heard the whistle about fifteen or sixteen minutes to one o'clock. He reported the circumstances, and the officer of the watch held up his hand in reply. The signalman Martin came in with the fog horns. At this time the witness sighted the *Vanguard*. He got up from the position he was kneeling and shouted out, "Go astern, Sir, the *Vanguard* is close under our bows." He received no reply. He then ran along the forecabin, and placed his foot on the ladder leading to the upper battery when the collision occurred. He then saw the officer of the watch. The order then had been given to go astern full speed.

Captain Ward: In what direction did you see the *Vanguard* during the fog.

Witness: When I saw her first she appeared to be close under our starboard bow, inside of our flying boom, but I only saw her for a moment. She was not across the bows of the *Iron Duke* when I saw her. She was then heading about one point to port.

Captain Dawkins: When you heard the whistle of the *Vanguard*, did it have a jerky

kind of sound with it, as if there was some very short interval between the sound?

Witness: No; it sounded like one continuous blast. The sound was more like steam being blown off than a steam whistle. When I first heard this whistle I did not wait to hear it out, but reported it immediately to the officers of the watch.

Lieutenant Hathorn: How long a time elapsed from when you first heard the whistle to the time of sighting the *Vanguard*?

Witness: from one to two minutes, I should think.

James Watson, the look out man placed on the jibboom end of the *Iron Duke*, said he had orders to keep a strict lookout. Nothing was said specially about the *Vanguard*. The witness did not hear any steam whistle while on watch. The only sound he heard was on board the *Iron Duke*. He saw no object. He was not relieved until after the collision. The collision occurred a short time after he went on the jibboom end. When he first saw the *Vanguard* she was distant, he thought, between twenty and thirty yards. He reported her. He did not remember hearing the *Vanguard's* steam whistle at that moment.

The President: This is an important question. Do you mean to say that you have forgotten it? "To the best of my recollection" seems to imply that you had forgotten it. What the court wish to know is what you absolutely did or did not hear?

Witness: At the time the *Vanguard* came in sight I do not believe she was blowing her steam whistle.

The President: Have you forgotten what took place on the occasion referring to the steam whistle?

Witness: No. I do not remember any steam whistle at all from the time of my being first placed on the look out up to the moment of seeing the *Vanguard*. The only thing I heard was a little waste steam from our own valves.

At the opening of the court on Monday a witness, who was on the forecabin look out, and another who was on the top masthead look out of the *Iron Duke* immediately before the collision, both deposed that they heard no steam whistle from the *Vanguard*.

Thomas Price Rose, quartermaster of the *Iron Duke*, stated that on the 1st of September he was at the "conn" between noon and four p.m. After hauling up in a line with the *Vanguard* in the port division the *Iron Duke* was steered a S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. course. When the fog came on the *Vanguard* was right ahead, distant about two and a half cables. After the fog came on he did not continue to steer the same. The officers of the watch told him to give her a sheer out to port, which he did. He gave the *Iron Duke* half a turn of the helm. The order to do this was repeated by a man named Hicks to the helm man, named Caven. The helm was kept half a turn to starboard for about a minute. When the *Iron Duke* was righted he did not remember what helm he gave her. He gave the order, "Steady port." The ship was steering easily that day. She "yawed" about a quarter of a point each way. When steering S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. the most helm he had to give her was sometimes two spokes to a quarter of a turn, to keep her on her course.

The President: State the exact words of the officer of the watch in regard to giving her a sheer.—I do not remember the exact words, but, as far as I recollect, I was to give the ship a sheer out to port. I do not remember his saying a broad sheer; he might have said a broad sheer.

Did you ever hear the *Vanguard's* whistle

during the fog up to the period of the collision?—I heard a whistle just before the collision.

Admiral Chamberlain: As you have stated that the *Iron Duke* steered so well that two spokes to a quarter of a turn either way kept her course, would not half a turn kept steadily over for about a minute take her very considerably out of her course? I could not say what it would take her.

The evidence of the next three witnesses presented no new facts except that one of them, Henry Latters, who was doing duty as officer of the signals at the time of the collision, knew that one of the signalmen on deck having to look out in a dense fog was deaf in one ear.

Lieutenant Stephen Henry Thompson, of the *Iron Duke*, deposed: After being relieved, having given the following orders, "Steer south, half east, close order, columns of divisions in line ahead, on no account get stern; look out men are on the topgallant forecastle, although there is no fog, but I perceive banks ahead, which will in all probability be on the ships in less than half an hour."—I then left the deck in charge of Lieutenant Evans, but remained to assist the signalman, knowing the fog signals are the most difficult of all, and expecting an evolutionary signal would be immediately made by the flagship or some signal relating to guns during a fog. I heard the officer of the watch give the following orders: "Tell the captain the first division are out of sight—a tick fog having come down," and immediately afterwards, "The second division are also enveloped." The captain then came on deck and proceeded on the starboard side of the upper battery, asking the officer of the watch what he had done. I should have added before this that the officer of the watch ordered the quartermaster to give her a sheer. He told the captain he had given her a sheer to be a little on the port quarters of the leaders. The captain said, "That will not do—port."

Lieutenant Tompson, recalled, said: The captain afterwards said "Port" twice again. I was listening with my hand up to my ear for gun signals, also having the fog signal book in my hand. While the captain was giving the order to port the helm I heard a whistle distinctly, on or about three points on the starboard bow. I heard two short flashes, and something which appeared to be other short flashes. There was an interval between the first two and the other flashes. It was very necessary to be perfectly certain of flashing signals by whistle before reporting them. I consequently waited for a repetition, at the same time looking into the fog. I suddenly observed a steamship about twenty five or thirty yards off, between two and three points or thereabouts on the starboard bow. The captain and officer of the watch observed it at the same time, and the captain gave the order "Hard astarboard; full speed astern post engine," and almost immediately afterwards, "Full speed astern both engines." I ran aft to see that the Marines on the telegraph had carried out the orders. The order was then given, "Away all boats' crews," and I immediately jumped into the starboard cutter. At 12.30, Lieutenant Evans gave the order "52 revolutions," and immediately afterwards "as fast as possible," asking down the tube what that would give.

The President: You state you heard the *Vanguard's* whistle about three points on the starboard bow. Were you aware how the helm of the *Iron Duke* was put on that whistle being heard?

Witness: The captain gave orders, "That will do; bring her to her course." I do not

know in what direction her head was at that time, nor do I know how the helm was put.

The President: Had you been an attentive observer for some minutes past of what had been going on in the *Iron Duke* and around her? Were you, on the whole, surprised when you saw the *Vanguard* under your bows?

Witness: Not at the speed we were going, and the orders to port the helm.

Captain Hope: When you placed the forecastle look outs, did you give orders to stand by the steam whistle or to get it ready?

Witness: Look out men take some time placing. The whistle is always supposed to be ready when under steam and if not it requires a blow down the tube to put it on which never takes more than twenty seconds.

Captain Hope: Are you aware if the whistle was not ready when wanted?

Witness: Yes; from twelve to fifteen minutes after being relieved.

Captain Hope: Can you tell the exact order given by the officer of the watch when he told the quartermaster to give her a sheer?

Witness: Yes. "Give her a good sheer." I did not hear the remainder of the order, as he walked off.

Captain Lethbridge: Would the order to increase from fifty revolutions to fifty two have given a slight gain on the *Vanguard*?

Witness: Yes, certainly.

Captain Ward: What was the *Iron Duke's* speed through the water at sixty revolutions, considering the state of the bottom?

Witness: According to my only guide, before leaving Plymouth sixty revolutions would give 8.2 knots.

Captain Edye: You have stated that at 12.35 the *Vanguard* had by her revolution flag increased her revolutions to forty eight. Do you know from experience in the *Iron Duke* what your number of revolutions would be to keep up an equal speed?

Witness: About six revolutions more.

Captain Dawkins: If you had been an officer of the watch, and a dense fog came on suddenly, and you were in the stern of a ship, only one ship being ahead of you, and you heard some short and long blasts of the steam whistle from your leader and could not make them out, would you have approached your leader with great caution?

Witness: I always in a fog approach my leader with the usual caution as officers of the watch.

Captain Dawkins: Would you or would you not have used extra precaution in feeling your way into position on a fog coming suddenly on?

Witness: Yes; particularly in the *Iron Duke*; and I would never keep directly astern of any ship ahead, as I consider going from seven to eight knots, close order, in the *Iron Duke* dangerous, if directly astern.

Captain Dawkins: Is it not almost impossible to command if the ship astern of you keeps directly in your leader's wake, provided the leader has full command of his ship?

Witness: In a dense fog, where you could not see your flying boom, should the ship ahead ease speed suddenly, or stop without a very quick signal, it then becomes dangerous.

During the sitting of the court on Monday, Captain Dawkins received the following telegram:—

"The master of pilot boat No. 4 told my captain that, on boarding a Swedish bark the day after the collision, her captain reported that she escaped being run down by

a man of war the day previous, and where the accident occurred. The ship is still in Dublin."

A letter received by Captain Dawkins states that the name of the bark was the *Ulla*, Captain Vico.

James Daniel Chanter, engineer of the *Iron Duke*, was examined on Tuesday. On the 1st September he was on watch in the engine room 12.30 until four o'clock. About 12.35 increased the revolutions to sixty.

By Captain Dawkins: The pitch of the screw is twenty one foot. At sixty revolutions the slip of the screw is fifteen per cent. That number of revolutions with fifteen per cent. slip would give a speed of ten and a half knots. Sixty revolutions were the maximum speed that the ship went up to the time of the collision.

Lieutenant Evans, of the *Iron Duke*, recalled: When I reached the deck the *Iron Duke* was going fifty revolutions, or about seven and a half knots. When I increased the speed to fifty two revolutions she would be going seven to eight knots, and afterwards she was going $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 9.2 knots.

The President then announced that this evidence closed the first part of the inquiry.

Captain Dawkins, Commander Tandy, and Commander Young were then examined, and described the measures which were taken for saving the *Vanguard* after the collision, as well as for saving the crew. Their evidence differed in no essential particular from the accounts which have already been published.

Next day (Wednesday) Robert Brown, chief engineer of the *Vanguard*, said that immediately after the collision occurred he ran down the engine room ladder and saw a quantity of water pouring down on the top of the port after engine; he also believed he heard, but did not see, a much larger quantity coming in somewhere at the back of the port engines through the inner skin of the ship. Five minutes afterwards all the watertight doors were closed, but the amount of water in the vessel rapidly increased although the pumps were used. No attempt was made to stop the leak.

William George Page, engineer of the *Vanguard*, gave similar evidence, and as to cause of the foundering of the vessel, expressed the following opinion.—"I consider that No. 99 bulkhead should have been carried up to the top of the under side of the upper deck, as I believe that the loss of the *Vanguard* was occasioned by the water running aft over the combings of the engine room on the main deck. The fires being out contributed greatly to her sinking so soon, and the water in the stoke hole preventing the main drain valve being opened, and rendering the steam fire engine, which was a very powerful one, useless, also contributed to this result. Had the latter been worked, she would have floated some time longer."

The engine room artificer of the *Vanguard* deposed that two minutes after the collision the water was half way up his thighs, and that six minutes after the collision the fires were being put out. In his opinion, had the doors of the engine room communicating with the stokehole been closed as soon as the blow was struck, he could have kept his pumps going, and the vessel might have been saved.

James Redgrave, engineer of the *Vanguard*, stated that his opinion as to the cause of the ship foundering was the quantity of water that got into the stokehole and shaft alleys before the doors were closed, so bringing the ship down that the water flowed over the combings on the main deck; also

the leakage from doors in No. 99 bulkhead, filling the starboard tank and the provision rooms, no means being provided of pumping those parts out except by flowing over the shaft passage to the midship provision room. The tank room would not drain over the shaft passage.

David Tiddy, carpenter of the *Vanguard*, was of opinion that the inner skin of the ship was started by the collision, and that this caused the great flow of water that had taken place in so short a time.

Valentine Horne, engineer of the *Vanguard*, stated that in his opinion the cause of the foundering was the large quantity of water that had entered the ship before the doors were properly closed, and the leakage which took place, and caused the water to flow over the engine room hatch into the order compartment.

On Thursday Lieutenant Thompson, of the *Iron Duke*, who went on board the *Vanguard* to assist after she was struck, inferentially deprecated the speed with which hope was abandoned. When the men had been working the pumps only ten minutes, the order came for them to leave. He went on deck and asked Captain Dawkins if it was true that he had ordered them to leave the pumps, and he replied affirmatively. Lieutenant Thompson said that after the men had been ordered from the pumps, he, with a lantern, explored the sick bay and store room and other parts of the ship, finding all quite dry. On the provision room flat, however, water was coming through crevices in the water tight bulkheads, and he remarked to Lieutenant Noble how useless bulkheads were when water poured through crevices like that. The provision room flat had half an inch of water on it. This was three minutes before he left the ship, having been hailed to come up from below, and he was ordered into the galley by Captain Dawkins, who left in the same boat. The sick bay watertight doors were not closed.

Mr. Moore, Chief Constructor, then gave evidence as to the construction of the ship. Probably one of the bulkheads (No. 85) was injured by the collision. Looking at the prow plan, which was based on the reports of the divers, the witness thus stated the nature of injuries received by the *Vanguard*:—The two lower armour plates are driven into the ship about fifteen inches at the lower streak of armour, carrying before it the wood backing and the iron frame of the ship, together with a portion of the recess plate on the inside of the ship, in addition to the bottom plating being cut down to within a few inches of the watertight longitudinal.

The President: Does it appear to be the fact that the prow point never pierced or even touched the inner skin of the vessel at all?

Mr. Moore: From the evidence given by the shipwright divers it does not appear that the prow either touched or pierced the inner bottom at that part.

The President: So that so far as the prow is concerned, the construction of the double bottom secured the vessel from any bad result?

Mr. Moore: Yes; so far as that particular part of the ship is concerned.

Captain Leithbridge: The roof of the double side being secured to the top of the inner skin of the ship's side, are you of opinion that the inner skin of the ship may have been materially injured by it being so, observing, also, that the roof is about two feet six inches below the load line?

Mr. Moore: Assuming that the part called the roof is the recess plate on which the armour and all its fittings are built up, and

which is about six feet below the load line, I am of opinion that when this recess plate was driven in with the armour it carried before it a considerable portion of the inner skin at that particular part, together with the lower deck, which is about two feet above the recess.

Captain Ward: Are there means of transferring at will to any part that may be necessary the suction of the steam fire engine? or is it a rigid fixture?

The President ordered the Court to be cleared, and on being reopened, Lord John Hay stated that the last question was withdrawn.

Two shipwright divers were then examined, and both stated that the fracture in the side of the *Vanguard* was between 87 and 89 instead of between 85 and 87, as shown in the profile plan, and one of them said that the foremost part of the fracture was 6 feet from the watertight bulkhead.

Lieutenant Thompson recalled, said that the water in the provision room flat while he was there was only sufficient to wet his socks a little, and that he attached no importance whatever to such imperfections as he noticed in 99 bulkhead and its doors, as affecting the case of the ship foundering.

Captain Dawkins stated that when the collision took place he did not order the bugle call as a signal for closing the watertight doors, because it was so clear to him from his orders that on anything happening the doors would be at once closed; this he knew was being done almost before his orders were heard, and the doors were reported to him as closed in about five minutes.

(To be Continued.)

Breechloading Small Arms.

On Monday evening, at the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall Yard—under the presidency of General Boileau—Mr. John Latham (of the firm of Wilkinson and Sons) read a paper on "The Progress of Breechloading Small Arms." He said the two competing breechloading plans were now the "bolt" system, which was generally adopted on the Continent, "block" system, which was most in favour in England and America. The Prussian needle gun belonged to the first system, and it was the parent of the Chassepot, the Beaumont, the Manser, the Vetterlin, and a host of other plans, and the most questionable part of its mechanism—the spiral mainspring—has been adopted in the Martini-Henry. In accuracy of shooting it was of necessity defective, but at the time of its introduction its accuracy was far beyond any of the military arms then in use, and for ease of loading and simplicity of manufacture it was still unsurpassed. As a type of the block system he would take a breechloader (Sharp's) which was submitted to the Board of Ordnance at Washington in 1850. It had a sliding block moved by the action of the trigger guard. Some of these guns were used in the Crimea, but it was a breech "firing" gun and was condemned through the defects of the cartridge. At the present time, as improved and adapted for the metallic cartridges in the "Henry" breechloader, it was one of the best of the modern systems. He then passed to the Snider, which was selected some years ago by the English Government. The mechanism of the Snider was precisely that of the earliest known breechloading small arm of which a specimen could be seen at the Tower of London, dated 1537. The success of the Snider was

chiefly attributable to the Boxer metallic cartridges, but its defect was that it was a "six motion" arm, and took so long to load, fire, and throw out the cartridges. But for that defect the Snider action would hold its own against any of the latter systems, and there was a patent (Hunt's) spring extractor adapted to the Snider which would make it a five motion gun. The French Chassepot was an improvement on the Prussian needle gun, but inferior to the Snider. The next plan of breech action which came into notice was invented by Mr. Peabody, of Boston (Mass.), which met the difficulty of extracting the empty cartridge. It was generally known as "the falling block" system, and was of great strength, simplicity, and handiness. In the year 1868 a select committee considered the question of breechloading small arms with a view to replace the Snider by a rifle embodying the smaller bore and quicker twist, which Whitworth had proved to be so much superior. In the trials which then took place the "bolt" principle was rejected altogether as dangerous. The further competition was therefore restricted to the block systems, and the two best weapons were those of Henry (sliding block) and Martini (falling block). They were equal in safety and strength, and the Henry far surpassed the accuracy, but the Martini was a self loading arm, and required one motion less to load than the Henry. The committee took the Henry barrel and the Martini breech action, and proceeded to adapt them to each other; but the cartridge, as usual, was the difficulty. That was partially overcome, and the weight of the gun reduced to 8 lb. 12 oz. The mechanism of the Martini breech action was in substance the Peabody, but a very high ingenuity had been employed to make it a self loading arm, with the lock contained in the falling block. This action, however, was easily deranged, and he had known a variation in the pull off of more than 5 lb. occur in a day's practice. The Martini had a very unpleasant recoil, and the cause of it was that the gun was an engineers' gun, or simply a machine for receiving firing, and ejecting a cartridge, and whether it was to be screwed in a vice or fired from a man's shoulder did not appear to have been considered at all. But the excellence of its shooting was incontestable, and as far as he could learn the soldiers liked their new weapon. Another excellent plan of falling block rifle was the Swinbourne, and its internal arrangement was far superior to the Martini. The Soper, which had recently come into use, combined a high degree of simplicity and accuracy with the greatest of any breechloading arm yet introduced. In any further competitive trials this rifle was sure to take a very good place. With regard to the continental guns, considerable improvement had taken place in the bolt system, and the Manser was the latest modification. The Manser resembled in appearance both the Prussian needle gun and the Chassepot. It was a self cocking arm, having four motions—opened, loaded, closed and fired. It had a strong, sound movement, which was instantly understood by a soldier accustomed to the needle gun, but it was a mistake to suppose that it was either a better arm than the Martini or that it was perfectly free from the sources of danger which existed in all bolt guns. After alluding at some length to the trials made in America of many known breechloaders and the preference being given to the Springfield, Mr. Latham referred to the trowel bayonets which had occupied the attention of the board at Washington. These trowel bayonets were highly spoken of as most valuable to enable troops to throw up

embarkments for shelter. It had occurred to him that it was possible to combine a light steel scabbard for the bayonet with the trowel fixed at the end of it and so provide the present bayonet and yet have an efficient trenching tool. In concluding, he said that in a breechloading gun three things were dependent on each other—the cartridge, the barrel, and the breech action. Having obtained a good cartridge, there were half a dozen plans of rifling and a dozen plans of breech action with which it would perform well. The cartridge depended on the distances they wanted to shoot, and when they had decided which was the best it would be worth while to consider whether it was absolutely necessary that they should have any one form of breech action for the service, and whether the peculiar exigencies of the infantry, cavalry, navy, and artillery might not be easily consulted by the modification of the arm, provided that the same bore and cartridge were employed, but, if necessary, with varying lengths of powder, charge, and bullet. The principles which he thought should guide them in the selection of a military breechloading small arm were these:—For the barrel, take that which would make the best aggregate shooting at 200, 600, and 900 yard; the weight of the gun should not exceed 9lb., the lightest cartridge should be which used would stand cocking about and throw a bullet of 450 to 50 grains, and for the breech action choose that which was most easily repaired by a self skilled workman in a hurry, without recourse or machinery, as, for instance, on a road to Coomassie.

Pneumatic Steering Apparatus.

An ingenious and simple steering gear has been patented and presented to the Navy Department by Passed Assistant Engineer and U. S. N. Mr. Baird states, in his letter to the Department, that steam steering gears, being on deck and exposed to the view of an enemy, are dangerous, and should never be used on board unarmored ships of war; that the heat and leakage brought on deck offer serious objections to them, even on board merchant steamers. He has devised a friction gearing, on the old fashioned drum, without disturbing the ordinary wheel or hand wheel, and has arranged it so that the quartermaster may throw the power on or out by simply shifting a lever. The friction gear is worked by a pair of small engines, situated under the drum, on deck, and are quite out of the way. They are reversed by a simple lever, which is placed vertically in front of the hand wheel, which the quartermaster uses in steering. The engines are worked by compressed air, which is supplied from a reservoir in the hold. The line shaft of the main engine works an air pump, by means of an eccentric, which supplies the reservoir. When the propeller is uncoupled, and allowed to revolve freely by the pressure of the water (the ship being under sail), the line shaft revolves with it and works the air pump, which power is supplied under sail as well as under steam. When the ship has not sufficient headway to revolve the propeller, the gear can be worked by hand, in the ordinary way, and as the weather is then calm, the man can steer easily. In order to prevent any waste of power, and also to regulate the pressure in the reservoir, he has devised an automatic instrument for starting and stopping the air pump. The gearing can be worked by steam, and, in fact, he proposes to connect a steam pipe to the

steering engines, to use it as a steam gear in case of accident to the air pump, if it should be desired to do so. He employs a friction gear, as it would "slide over," in case a very heavy sea should strike the rudder, whereas a toothed gear would break. However, as air is highly elastic, a heavy blow upon the rudder would only force the wheel back a few spokes, and compress the air upon the pistons of the little engines, and ease up the helm very nicely; so that his "friction gear" is only an extra precaution. The design which Mr. Baird has prepared for the steering gear of the new *Mohican* is said to be a marvel of lightness, strength and cheapness, while the completeness of his working drawings bear the stamp of elegance that is identified with the Bureau to which he belongs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW. The real name of the writer must invariably accompany each communication to insure insertion, but not for publication.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 14th, 1876.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir.—It is said on our streets to-day that the men at present in garrison at this place, are to be discharged on the first of May next, and as this is said by persons, who are supposed to know, it is received by most as correct; therefore, I should like to let your readers know what force there is at hand to defend, if necessary, the valuable stores of all kinds which have been accumulating at Fort Osborne from the arrival of the first Red River Expedition on 25th August, 1870, up to the present time.

In the whole province there is I believe only one armed body of Militia, and that a Company mostly composed of English half-breeds under command of John Schultz M.P. It is true that in the town of Winnipeg there is supposed to be a Battery of Field Artillery, but as this corps is only partly uniformed and hardly equipped at all, it, though it is well officered and composed of a fine lot of young men, can hardly be said to be an armed body of Militia; but for fear that it might be thought to be better equipped than it is, I give, what I am credibly informed is the equipment of this corps, upon which the preservation of the peace and the defence of the Capital of Manitoba depend; if our present force is withdrawn. It is as follows:

2 Seven pounder M. L. R. Guns with Mountain Carriage, No Timbers, No Wagons, No Harness of any kind, 75 Serge Blouses, 75 Serge pants, 75 Forge caps, No Great Coats, No Belts, No Swords, No Carbines.

This corps I am informed has been in existence four years and six months and as yet is only equipped as shown above, though the necessary guns and stores complete have been in store at Fort Osborne for more than a year.

I do not wish to be understood to argue for the retaining of the present garrison here, but merely to point out the state of

the Country as regards defence, with the hope that this will meet the eye of the Major General Commanding or some person in Authority who will compel the Local Militia Authorities to organize and equip the Provincial Militia immediately, so that when the time for discharging our present force comes, we will not be found, as we were in 1871, without the armed and Organized Militia.

EQUIPMENT AND ORGANIZATION.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR.—In the present very warlike appearance of the times would it not be a grand thing for Canada to show her loyalty by offering material aid to the Mother Country; offering in case of war or threatened invasion of England to send home a strong contingent, say at least two Regiments of Infantry from Ontario; the same from Quebec; and one each from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick? At any rate could not the Canadian Government offer to raise troops sufficient to garrison Halifax, and perhaps even the West India Islands and Bermuda; and so relieve for home service three or four seasoned Regiments of Regulars? It would not be the first time that Canadians have volunteered for foreign service. Let us call to mind the raising of the 100th Regiment; and how many gallant French Canadians joined the Papal Zouaves; and the many thousands of Canadians who served the Northern States in the Civil War. I recollect sometime ago reading in the Toronto *Globe* some observations as to the comparative benefits derived by England from Canada and from India. Now would be the time to test the subject. Let Canadians only read up in history how the Indian Sepoys have fought for England since the very beginning of this century; how they served in Egypt in 1801; at the taking of the Mauritius from the French, a few years later; of Java from the Dutch; and after that in three or four different wars in China, in Arabia, Persia, Afghanistan, Abyssinia, and recently in Malaga. Most of these countries are several thousands of miles distant from India; some of them further from India than England from Canada. In the event of another European war it cannot be doubted that India would most willingly supply a very strong Army to assist England in Egypt or on the shores of the Mediterranean. Why should Canada be behind hand? There must be thousands here now, in those dull times, who would gladly take the Queen's shilling; some for want of work; some for the sake of adventure and to see foreign lands; and some I trust for the sake of striking one blow before they die for the land of their forefathers—the land of their love.

Your obedt. servant.
A LOYAL ENGRANT.

It is stated there is a difficulty just now in obtaining boys for the Royal Navy: there are no fewer than 700 vacancies.

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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, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1876.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be pre-paid. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words "Printer's Copy" written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage. No communication, however, will be inserted unless the writer's name is given, not necessarily for publication, but that we may know from whom it is sent.

We have for the past nine years endeavored to furnish the Volunteer Force of Canada with a paper worthy of their support, but, we regret to say, have not met with that tangible encouragement which we confidently expected when we undertook the publication of a paper wholly devoted to their interests. We now appeal to their chivalry and ask each of our subscribers to procure another, or to a person sending us the names of four or five new subscribers and the money—will be entitled to receive one copy for the year free. A little exertion on the part of our friends would materially assist us, besides extending the usefulness of the paper among the Force—keeping them thoroughly posted in all the changes and improvements in the art of war so essential for a military man to know. Our ambition is to improve the *Volunteer Review* in every respect, so as to make it second to none. Will our friends help us to do it? Premiums will be given to those getting up the largest lists. The *Review* being the only military paper published in Canada, it ought to be liberally supported by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of each Battalion.

In moments of commercial prosperity people are apt to forget the securities by means of which, and the power under whose protection their operations are carried on, and it is always a very popular cry with the trading class of the community when a season of depression induced by their own recklessness occurs to clamour for the reduction of military expenditure—conveniently forgetting that by it is derived the security under which their peculiar operations are carried on with any prospect of safety or profit.

The following extract from the *Nation* of the 31st December foreshadows a very unpleasant state of matters:

"It is certain that when Parliament meets, there will be found to have been a large falling off in the revenue from Customs. Probably it will not be less than a million and a half. Not that the amount of goods imported appears to have decreased: the decrease is in the value; which seems to denote a great excess of production. Loss of revenue will of course entail either additional taxation or reduction of expenditure. Additional taxation, at the present moment would hardly be borne. On the other hand it is not easy to say in what direction expenditure can be reduced. If there is any superfluity of officials at Ottawa it arises from the political necessity of employing a French as well as an English staff, and that necessity will not relax its hold. Our Eight Constitutional Monarchies indeed, constitute an amount of indulgence in that political luxury bordering closely on licentiousness; but the expenditure on them is Provincial. Unnecessary public works, not actually commenced or under contract, may be relinquished for the present. But the quarter to which the hungry gaze of the Finance Minister will at once be turned probably will be the militia. We have more than once expressed our sense of the value of military training and discipline for a country like ours as a school of national character, apart from the actual objects of external defence; and, therefore, the necessity of reducing the militia would be admitted by us with reluctance and regret. But the object of external defence compared with that of internal administration is remote. No nation ever had more peaceable and unaggressive neighbours than we have had in the people of the United States since Slavery with its train of Irish clansmen has ceased to rule their councils. A quarrel between them and the British aristocracy is the only imaginable cause of war; and even should that misfortune befall us, it is conceded on all hands that our real reliance must be on the British fleet and the pressure which it might be able to bring to bear on the enemy's ports and shipping. The idea of adding to our national debt we trust will not occur to Mr. Cartwright's mind. Canada has gone to the full length of her tether in that direction."

It is just as well at once to speak plainly upon this matter—we shall not stop to correct our contemporary's rather fantastical financial logic—inasmuch as it is rather difficult to see the distinction drawn between Provincial and Dominion expenditure Legislative and Administrative, seeing it is the Canadian people that pays both; but we protest against the idea of looking to the \$1,250,000 per annum paid for the expenses of our military organization being diverted to any other purpose.

A Parliament at Ottawa and seven subordinate local imitations, will not of themselves alone afford sufficient security to the London Stock Exchange, and if the people of this country want to add permanently to its present temporary embarrassment, they will treat this question of militia expenditure as superficially and flippantly as the Canadian press have always treated every measure connected with the same vital subject.

There can be no doubt that our military organization is one of our most important institutions, and it will not be for the interest of the country to neglect it. The

Finance Minister's recent success in negotiating a further loan was due to the Imperial guarantee; the evidence of previous prosperity, the admirable statesmanlike speech of His Excellency the Governor General at Colonial Institute dinner, and lastly the very intelligible fact that Canada had 43,000 British subjects under arms as a necessary pledge of the stability of her Institutions in fact and intention.

Now of those four very cogent reasons only the last remains, and if there is a deficiency in the revenue, the best thing the people of Canada can do is to get rid of some of the superfluous luxuries forced on them as the results of mere party strife, and not destroy the only security they can offer to those to whom they must apply in the ordinary course of business—it is exactly like destroying the goose that laid the golden egg, and the results will be the same.

A semi government organ intimates that a reduction in the district staff is contemplated—that is already too small for the duties it ought to render our military force—in fact, there is not a department connected with it which can afford reduction of any kind.

We publish in another page an article from the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of 25th December, on a similar subject, and from *Broad Arrow* of 11th December, a speech of His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, "On the Army."

It is a most inopportune time to talk of reducing military expenditure when the mother country has mobilized her forces, and such reduction has been always the forerunner of danger as well as the sure precursor of forced and hasty expenditure—even in the history of our small force the events of 1871 should not be forgotten—our small force at Fort Garry were withdrawn in early summer to be redispached over a difficult and dangerous route in late fall.

Those things should be well weighed before such a dangerous measure is undertaken, for it will not be in the interest of the taxpayer that a reduction of the militia estimates is to be effected.

Our contemporaries of the press would serve the interests of the country better if they were a little more jealous of the interests of its principal Institution.

The concluding paragraph of the article quoted from the *Nation* does not reflect much credit on the accuracy of the writer—it is a mere perversion of historical fact—the aggression coming from the Democracy in the past as it must in the future, and the display of strategical knowledge is eminently calculated to mislead, being merely of the order of the usual clap net of the newspaper writers of the "Peace at any Price Party." If the course recommended be adopted we may look for a grievous loss in Canadian securities.

San Sebastian was bombarded by the Corsairs on Saturday of last week.

The following is the scheme for mobilization of the military forces of Great Britain. Under present conditions it is without doubt the best and most comprehensive that could be devised—although to our minds it does look strange that militia regiments should be brought all the way from Ireland to defend London.

We also venture to assert that an invasion of Great Britain will be effected if ever through Ireland. Any attempt on the former would be false strategy if the latter could not be occupied at the same time.

"The next Army List will, we believe, show the addition in its pages of a complete scheme of mobilization corresponding to our actual means, and which, being based on carefully studied documents with which the War Office has been supplied by the Quartermaster General and his officers, is no mere paper work, but a thoughtful and compendious key to operations which could be practically carried out at 24 hours' notice.

"The Army Corps is adopted as the main unit of the Field Army when mobilized; and the headquarters of each corps being once fixed on, with proper relation to the two main requirements of ease in concentration and suitability to the possibilities of invasion, it would become a simple matter to assign to each its share of the Auxiliary Forces, since these are essentially local. The Regulars cannot be so simply dealt with, since their stations are constantly being changed; and in any scheme of concentration infinite confusion would be caused by the attempt to bring, say, the 96th Regiment to its present place in the 1st Brigade of the 1st Division of the 1st Corps at Colchester, from some quarters occupied by it next year in the North of England or West of Ireland. But this apparent difficulty is at once got rid of by considering the order now to be given to it in the barracks it occupies at Colchester as given, not to it numerically, but only so long as it occupies that particular barracks, and to be as of course transferred to the battalion succeeding it in the same quarters. This simple expedient is to be adopted with each unit of the regular army. So long as it is quartered in a particular set of buildings it is attached according to the mobilization scheme, to a particular part of the appropriate army corps. It is furnished accordingly with a copy, unsigned, of its marching orders, when it is required to move at the word to mobilize, showing clearly the exact route, whether by road or rail, and the time necessary for the operation; the commanding officer thus being enabled to prepare for his supposed duty, the possibility of which hangs over him so long as his station remains unchanged. When he passes to a new one he finds a new set of instructions equally applicable, while his successor comes into the position he occupied, in the instance supposed, at Colchester, and will be ready to move at the same word to fall into his proper place with his men.

"The system of route for the regular forces being provided for, the next point was hardly less important—their distribution. Omitting Volunteers for the present, our defence field army would be so largely made up of Militia—since without calling them into the field the numbers would be wholly insufficient—that it became necessary to study with peculiar care the question how best to bestow the regular infantry. It was decided, on grave consideration, that it is

futile to ignore in any complete scheme the possibility of having to act, though it were but temporarily, on the offensive, so far, at least, as to be ready to ship one or two corps abroad. But to do this evidently the Army Corps selected must be formed of regulars. On the other hand, if England were mobilizing her forces, it would be essential to have in each corps at least one body, not less strong than a brigade, as a nucleus and model for the rest. After providing for this latter contingent to each five strictly defensive entire corps, and keeping the Guards together in one division of a sixth, to be posted directly between London and the coast, it was found not practicable not to have quite two complete corps of regular troops. There are but five divisions (each of six battalions only) available, and three of them are required for a corps according to our present model, which, it may here be observed, varies from the continental standard, inasmuch as the divisions are more numerous, and less in size. It follows that the 1st Corps only can be purely of regulars. This is fixed for mobilization at Colchester, where there is the convenience of a camp, and a position suitable to the special defence of the Eastern Coast and the river approach to London. Its three divisions would have their headquarters severally at Colchester, Chelmsford, and Gravesend, where they would be in easy communication with one another in case absolute concentration of the whole was, unhappily, necessary. The 2nd Corps can have but two divisions of regulars and its headquarters and 1st Division fall naturally to Aldershot, the 2nd Division being at Guildford, and the 3rd wholly of Militia, at Dorking. Of the 3rd Corps, which will be mobilized to cover the south of London, a word has been already said. The 1st Division of this is constituted by the Foot Guards, with headquarters at Croydon; and the 2nd and 3rd Division, each of Militia, would be collected at Redhill and Tunbridge Wells respectively. Regard is had, as far as possible, to local conditions as regards the Auxiliaries; but to make up this corps to its normal strength, it is found necessary to add a brigade of Irish Militia; and if the alarm came, the Kilkenny, King's County, and Limerick County battalions would at once find themselves on the way to the ground which, by work carried out quietly all over the kingdom, has been carefully surveyed and reported suitable for their reception near Redhill.

"Of the other five, or more purely defensive corps, there being eight in all, the headquarters of the 1st Division of each are severally assigned to Dublin, Salisbury, Chester, York, and Edinburgh; the particular division in each case has its special nucleus of a 1st Brigade of three battalions of Regulars drawn from the nearest sets of barracks; and the headquarters of the other two divisions are so fixed that the best use may be made of the communications of the country, if it be necessary to throw the three together into one formidable mass. Somewhat the same remark may be applied to the 2nd Brigade of each division, which is usually near, but not with, the first or head quarter brigade, so as to consult the convenience of supply and training-grounds, until further concentration be compelled by circumstances.

"A large part of the forces, including a few regular battalions and the Garrison Artillery, is left out of the corps system altogether. This is for the reason that having spent so much in fortifying our dockyard property, we cannot leave the works to be garrisoned entirely by troops that would

have their real training to learn after the alarm was raised. Hence the formation of a distinct garrison, or sedentary army, divided into separate commands for Portsmouth, Plymouth, Portland, Dover, Chatham (with Sheerness and Tilbury)—in other words, the mouths of the Medway and Thames), Harwich, Pembroke, Edinburgh, Cork, Dublin, Jersey, Guernsey, and Alderney. Many of these include the charge of a large strip of coast. There is a special provision for those numerous petty works round the Irish coast bequeathed to us from the days when our fleet was judged insufficient to stave off all possibility of a French Republic landing, and which are too scattered to become parts of any one or two military charges.

"With regard to the Volunteers a fair consideration of the conditions under which that force is raised shows that, although it might be perfectly possible to call it out bodily and train it, it would be most unadvisable in a national point of view to expect from it as a mass that prolonged service under arms which is a contingency to be thought of should a threatened invasion be actually prepared and yet delayed from time to time. For this reason it has been decided not to attempt to embody it in the corps of the field army, every man of which would necessarily have to be constantly present and ready to march at the word. It is assigned wholly to the garrison army. Each unit has its station; and that it may be represented at this fairly throughout the entire period of any mobilization which may be ordered, and yet no undue strain be put on the civil life of its members, one fourth of the effectives only would be required to be constantly present at headquarters, the regiment making its own arrangements within itself for their relief, which would thus be carried out in the freest possible manner as best accorded with the means and wishes of individuals. There are certain bodies of Volunteers, however, formed especially for the defence of their own parts of the coast line, and which would be mobilized, as it were, almost at their own doors. Of these, two-thirds might be expected to do duty constantly during the period. In this way—and no regimental training at Volunteer headquarters need be interfered with—about 50,000 effective men could be added to the garrison army, without putting any great hardship on that part of our force which undertakes its share of civil as well as of military duties. The metropolitan Volunteers, as a very important and representative body, are specially dealt with. They would form a distinct camp, stationed on the old historic site of Tilbury, and attended constantly, of course, by one-fourth of each regiment.

"It has been shown that certain chief points, as Dublin, for example, are the headquarters for a corps, as well as for a distinct part of the garrison army. It should here be pointed out that there need be no conflict of duties. The Corps General would be the senior while his quarters were in the Irish capital. But should some now Hoche or Humbert appear to vex the West, the corps would move at once into the field, and the local defence of the Bly pass entirely into the hands of the Major General at the head of the garrison troops.

"The Yeomanry fall as naturally into the field army as the Volunteers into the garrison. They are assigned in all cases to the corps to be mobilized near their own county, and put with its regular cavalry brigade or in the reserve. It is presumed they would be called out bodily only when danger was imminent. But in such case their services

would be invaluable on those outlook and other light detached duties for which the only parallel formation in Europe—the Swiss Mounted Guides—is understood to be especially trained.

“There will be two sets of blanks in the printed pages to be added to the Army List. One of these affects the staff to be named. But this need obviously not be filled up. It is sufficient that each officer selected should have a letter of service available only for mobilization. This would, of course, name his brigade or division, and he would at the signal be ready to hand over his ordinary functions to some one not concerned in the scheme, and depart for his new duty at once. The other blanks in the list, marked in asterisks, betoken the non existence of certain units required to make each of the eight corps complete according to our own regulation standard for field service. As might be expected by all who remember the composition of our Militia, which is to form so large a part of these corps, they show deficiencies in field batteries, engineer companies, and pontoon and telegraph trains, services which we do not at present possess in complete proportion, according to modern ideas, to our sabres and bayonets. The question how the deficiencies thus manifest could be filled up without heavy cost is, of course, one that cannot escape notice, though it does not of itself touch the merits of the scheme, which, as we said at the beginning, avowedly utilises that which we have, so far as it will go.”

We have always agreed that the *company* was the true tactical Infantry unit, and that it should not exceed *one hundred* men, such a body being easily handled by the usual complement of a captain and two subalterns.

The fancy of the new school of military men has run on the Prussian system of 240 men with three to five officers, one of which should be mounted. SOLOMON says “there is nothing new under the sun”—and this idea is a proof of his wisdom—the very same being tried in the British Army about one hundred and twenty years ago—company one hundred strong, captain, a mounted officer, and the total results were not illustrated by singular efficiency.

It is certainly a strange idea to mount the *leader* of a company, when the conditions enforced by the range of modern small arms and precision of artillery fire is that of absolute cover at over 1,000 yards.

The following paragraph from *Broad Arrow* of 11th December shews the absurdity of the proposal, and conclusively points out that the smaller body must be the unit:

“The idea which is being worked out in Paris of testing proposed alterations in the formation and manœuvring of infantry by practising them with a battalion made up to a war strength, would seem to be a good one, and one which might be introduced by ourselves with advantage at Aldershot, thus rendering the camp a real school of instruction even in the piping times when autumn manœuvres and summer drills have ceased. From exercises recently carried out on the Champs de Mars, with a battalion made up to a strength of 960 rank-and-file by drafting into it detachments from other regiments, and from the Marine Infantry, the following deductions have been arrived at:—That it is extremely difficult, if not absolutely im-

possible, for the officer commanding the battalion to manœuvre by his voice so large a body of men; that a captain on foot cannot properly control and direct a company of 120 files; that when manœuvring in the present formations the adjutant is of very little use, and that it is difficult to deploy a column of four large companies into line by the diagonal march, while it is found that the extra length of time required to deploy by rectangular movements is hardly appreciable, and the men arrive in their place in the alignment in a much more orderly manner.”

AMONGST the many instances of the statesmanlike common sense which has governed the organization of the Prussian Army, none is more conspicuous than the fact that the natural leaders of the people—the aristocracy—are also the leaders of the soldiers—that office is not left to the kind of *natural selection* Lord CARWELL imposed on the British Army—the following paragraph will illustrate our meaning:

“How closely the interests of the aristocracy are allied with those of the Army in Prussia is evident from the following statistics gathered from the Prussian ‘Army List’ (*Rang und Quartier Liste*) for 1875, published at Berlin on the 30th of last month. The royal family of Prussia counts fourteen of its members in the Army, the Armin family has forty-six, the Bismarck nineteen, the Alvensleben twenty-four, the Blücher fifteen, the Blumenthal fifteen, the Bülow thirty-two, the Kleish thirty-three, the Manteuffel thirteen, the Putthammer twenty-four, the Schwerin fifteen, the Sankendorff twelve, the Treskow twenty-three the Wedell thirty-two, the Winterfeld twenty-eight, the Wulfen eleven, and the Zastrow family ten. From the same publication we learn that there are nine field marshals in the Prussian Army—namely, the King of Saxony, the Crown Prince of Prussia, Prince Frederic Charles, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, Prince August of Wurtemberg, Counts Wrangel, Moltke, Steinmetz, Roon Herwarth von Bittenfeld, and Baron Manteuffel. The senior and oldest field marshal is Count Wrangel, who is ninety-two years of age, and has been in the Army for eighty years, and was raised to the rank of field marshal in 1856. There are also in addition in the Prussian Army fifty-three generals, sixty-six lieutenant generals, and one hundred and fifty-one major generals. The youngest officer in the Army is apparently Prince Frederic Leopold, son of Prince Frederic Charles, and who, although only ten years of age, is shown in the ‘Army List’ as second lieutenant in the First Regiment of the Guards.”

We have to acknowledge the receipt of No. LXXXIII. Vol. XIX of the “Journal of the Royal United Service Institution.” It contains the following articles:

Mance’s Heliograph or Sun Telegraph; The Armed Strength of Europe; The Company as a Military Body; Upper Burma, its Defences and Warlike Resources; Seamen of the Fleet, their Training, &c.; On the Progress of Breech loading Small Arms; Proposed Alterations in the Martini Henry Rifle; Delimitations of some Minute Sea Surface Animals; On the Proposed Enclosure of Dover Bay; Preservation of Biscuit and

other Faniaceous; Diet from Weevils, Maggots and other Insects in H. M. Navy.

The articles are of the usual order to be found in the Journal which has always maintained the highest character as the best text book published in modern days. Indeed we can hardly conceive the idea of any officer of either services attaining a thorough practical knowledge of the science or duties of his profession without being a constant reader of this valuable Military and Naval Journal, and we wish to see it in the hands of every officer of the Canadian Militia.

A FRIEND has sent us a copy of the *Manitoba Free Press*, which by the way is a very neat and artistically got up eight page paper, directing our attention to the account of the annual meeting of the Manitoba Rifle Association, with a request that we would publish it for the benefit of our Manitoba readers, as well as the Force generally, with which we gladly comply.

Our subscribers in the following places will receive with this number their accounts for subscription to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW. Some are of long standing, and we respectfully request immediate payment of them:—

ONTARIO.

Ainsleyville, Bowmanville, Barrie, Caledonia, Clinton, Chatham, Collingwood, Delaware, Ingersoll, Pembroke, Port Rowan, Point Edward, Sarvia, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas and St. Marys.

QUEBEC.

Cookshire, Sherbrooke, St. Hyacinthe, and Waterloo.

The Aldershot Manœuvres.

The following Horse Guards letter, signed by Sir C. H. Ellice, Quartermaster General, has been issued by Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Steele, commanding at Aldershot. It relates to the summer manœuvres of this year:—

“I am directed by His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief to inform you that the reports of the general officers who held commands during the late summer drills at Aldershot on matters affecting transport, supply, camp equipage, &c., have been carefully perused by his royal highness, and that most of the suggestions contained therein have been strongly recommended for adoption on occasions of future manœuvres.

“The journals of the officers of the Quartermaster General’s Staff employed during the summer drills are returned herewith, with separate comments attached to them. His royal highness considers that these journals have for the most part been well kept; but there would appear to be a tendency on the part of all the officers to confine themselves too much to an account of the operations on the several days, and not to enter sufficiently into details connected with the duties of the Quartermaster General’s Department, such as the arrangements made as to encampments, marches, transport,

supplies, and the general comfort of the troops.

"With reference to the 'Regulations for the Summer Drills,' published in General Order 47 of June last, it was a matter of considerable surprise to His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief to find, on the occasion of visiting the camp of the 2nd Army Corps at Coldingly, that the order regarding officers' mess tents had not been strictly carried out.

"In reviewing generally the operations carried out during the summer drills, his royal highness has desired me to convey to you the following observations in regard to the action of the various branches of the Service:—

"*Cavalry.*—In consequence of the transport having only been sufficient to move one Army Corps at a time, the opposing forces were scarcely ever at any period of the operations encamped at such a distance from each other as to allow much scope for the use of the cavalry on an extended scale.

"As regards the performance by the cavalry of duties connected with reconnoitring and obtaining intelligence, there is still room for considerable improvement, although at the same time his royal highness is happy to observe that in this particular great progress has been made by the cavalry service as a body during the last few years. One point which struck his royal highness very forcibly, is the great tendency on the part of the officers commanding bodies of cavalry to employ too large a force on the outer line when engaged in reconnoitring operations, a tendency which is probably to be attributed to the chain of responsibility not being allowed to descend sufficiently to the lower grades. Far more information is generally to be obtained by small parties of two or three men, with an officer, or intelligent non-commissioned officer, than by the employment of a larger force. This being the case, as few men as possible should be absorbed in the outer advanced line; and, in order to allow of a cavalry force being thus economised, the rallying points for the advanced reconnoitring parties in reference to the position or the line of advance of the supports and reserves, should be clearly defined beforehand. With this in view it would appear desirable that cavalry should be instructed to cover a large extent of country with as small a force as possible; and in order to do this effectually, and at the same time to keep up the keenness of those in the junior grades, it is most important that the chain of responsibility should be passed down into these ranks.

"The question of working signalling in connection with the reconnoitring parties in a more practical manner than heretofore is now under consideration, and it is hoped that on the occasion of the next manœuvres more advantage may be derived from this means of communicating intelligence.

"In the tactical handling of cavalry in combination with the other arms during an engagement, it appears to his royal highness that there is at present rather a tendency to encourage undue caution on the part of cavalry officers, and that there is some want of dash and enterprise in making sudden and unexpected attacks on opposing troops. It is doubtless most important that cavalry should never be unnecessarily exposed in masses to the fire of artillery or infantry; but at the same time cavalry officers should bear in mind that in order to afford effectual support to the other arm, cavalry must at times run risks, provided the object to be gained is sufficiently important to justify the risk incurred. Occasions will also frequently

occur when, by rapidly seizing a favorable opportunity, a sudden dash of a small body of cavalry on unprepared or broken troops may achieve the most decisive results with but little comparative risk to the cavalry making attack.

"*Artillery.*—A large portion of artillery was employed than on occasions of former manœuvres, and corps artillery was organized in addition to the three batteries attached to each division. The object of this was to give the officers commanding the artillery the opportunity of bringing a powerful fire to bear on any particular point, by either massing the guns or otherwise concentrating their fire so as to produce great results. His royal highness considers that great stress should invariably be laid on this point, in the manœuvring of artillery in action.

"It cannot be too strongly impressed on artillery officers how imperative it is on them to avoid an unnecessary expenditure of ammunition by firing in an objectless manner, and without the range being known and the gun laid accordingly. With this in view it would appear to be desirable that range-finders should be more generally introduced into our Service.

"*Reserve Ammunition Column.*—This was the first occasion on which Army Corps and divisional reserve ammunition columns have been organised for the manœuvres, batteries of artillery and regiments of infantry being directed to draw on the divisional reserve, and the latter on the Army Corps reserve. Hitherto no other means of supply of ammunition in the field than that from the regimental reserve had been employed; and want of experience with the new system of organization may perhaps account for the reserve ammunition columns not having been worked to the extent they should have been.

"*Supply of Ammunition in the Field.*—His royal highness considers it most important that careful attention should be paid to the subject of the supply of ammunition in the field to troops engaged in action. At manœuvres the ammunition served out at first both for small arms and guns should be reduced to a minimum, so as to render it absolutely necessary that further ammunition should be supplied during each engagement. The duties connected with this supply should also be carried out in a systematic and methodical manner, and the arrangements should be such as would be possible on active service in the field.

"*Royal Engineers.*—All the arrangements made by the Royal Engineers in regard to bridging, entrenching positions, and the supply of water were carried out to his royal highness's entire satisfaction. There were, it is true, but few opportunities afforded of testing the efficiency of the men in the construction of bridges; but whatever they were called upon to do was executed well, and with expedition.

"The telegraphic communication, on the whole, worked fairly well, although communication was occasionally interrupted. This latter circumstance may to a certain extent be attributed to the imperfect state of the wire, which allowed of the insulation being affected by the wet weather.

"*Infantry.*—With reference to the manner in which the infantry were handled, his royal highness need scarcely point out that (while fully appreciating the absolute necessity of infantry when advancing to the attack taking advantage of every description of cover, however small, and of moving across the zone of fire in loose and open order) cohesion is, nevertheless, imperative at the moment of assault against a determined enemy, and to insure this it is more than ever necessary

to have the men thoroughly in hand. To bring about this object the utmost precision should be enforced in all ordinary drill and in parade movements, and therefore on occasion when such movements are executed it is impossible to be too strict in requiring the most perfect accuracy on the part of both officers and men.

"His royal highness observed that there was on the part of general officers commanding a strong inclination, both in attack and defence, to absorb the whole of their troops in the front line, quite ignoring the value to be attached to reserves; this may to a certain extent be attributed to the umpires not attaching sufficient importance to the maintenance of a reserve, which in real war is so essential to ensure success.

"Moreover, in the defence of positions, previous to the real attack developing itself, the troops were not kept sufficiently concentrated in a central position; in fact, as a rule, too great an extent of ground was occupied from the first, which resulted in no reserve being available when required.

"A line of outposts in front of a position should usually be maintained, with the view, as far as possible, of compelling the enemy to show his hand by developing his real attack, and of thus allowing the troops for the defence to be brought up to that point.

"There appeared to his royal highness to be often a great want of enterprise on the part of general officers commanding, when defending positions, in not assuming the offensive when an opportunity offered; a counter-attack delivered at the right moment might often change the result of the day, and in case of retreat might save an army.

"His royal highness also observed that on several occasions general officers commanding seemed to ignore the necessity of preserving a line of communications, their one sole object being to make out flanking movements, an operation often attended with great risk in presence of a vigilant enemy.

"*Control.*—The arrangements made by the Control Department, both in regard to transport and to the supply of the troops, appear to have been satisfactory; but, of course, comparatively little pressure was put upon the transport, owing to the short distance apart at which the opposing forces were.

"*Conduct of Troops.*—His royal highness is much gratified by the exemplary conduct of the non-commissioned officers and men engaged in the manœuvres; the general behaviour of the troops and the cheerful manner in which they endured the discomfort occasioned by the wet weather reflect the greatest credit on all, and tend to show the highly efficient state of the army.

"In conclusion, I am directed to express to yourself personally his royal highness's high appreciation of the able manner in which you, together with the general officers under your command, carried out all the arrangements in connection with the summer drills."

The Austrian, Russian and German Ambassadors communicated Andrassy's note verbally to the Porte on the 1st inst. The Ambassadors of the other Powers, at the same time, declared their Governments saw nothing in Count Andrassy's proposals contrary to the Treaty of Paris. The Porte promised to examine the scheme, and acquaint the Powers with his decision.

THE STILL LAND.

Once more I hear thy tuneful breezes playing
O'er music haunted streams;
Once more my spirit through thy realm stray-
ing,
O, holy land of dreams,

There do the shadows of the faithful-hearted
Wave by me to and fro,
The shadows of the dear ones who departed
In the far long ago.

There is the one who never knew another
Sorrow than for my pain;
There murmured blessings from thy lips, O,
mother,
Slak in my soul again.

There, too, thou art with me fond and tender,
As thou art chaste and fair;
I look in thy brown eyes, unfathomed splendor,
And read—'I love thee'—there.

Not with that cold and measured liking only,
Which here I win from thee,
But love for which, when saddest and most
lonely,
I pine so utterly.

There, from the heroes of the giant ages,
The clash of armor swells;
There, with soft thoughtful look, the ancient
sages
Walk mid the asphodels.

There the old poets, theme of song and story
On th' eternal shore,
To strains of an unutterable glory,
Sweep the rich chords once more.

God! how my full heart leaps up and rejoices,
As through the thrilling calm,
With full accord of their harmonious voices
They pour the solemn psalm.

O, land! O, land! how long will human blind-
ness
To all thy gifts endure;
Land for the lonely! Land which heaven's own
kindness
Hath opened for the poor.

But, lo! the night hath fled and coldly o'er me
The chill grey-dawn light streams,
Vanish the sacred shades that pass before me,
There is no land of dreams.

J. L.

Reducing the Army.

The resolution sprung on the House of Representatives last week by Mr. Springer of Illinois, gravely inquiring as to the expediency of "reducing the Army to 10,000 men," was not expected. It is one of the peculiarities of modern journalism of a certain kind, that however mistaken it may be in advocating a given measure, if iteration and reiteration are only kept up long enough, some member of Congress is sure to be found ready to pull the journalistic chestnuts out of the fire, and advocate the measure. Some time ago we adverted to the very illogical attack of the New York Sun on the Army, which, commencing by the unsupported assumption that the Army was in a demoralized state, deduced from that assumption the curious corollary that it ought to be reduced to 10,000 men. Mr. Springer of Illinois now springs forth with singular heroism at the very commencement of a session, and plays the role of volunteer chestnut puller for the Sun with becoming self-sacrifice, by suggesting the exact reduction asked by the Sun. The motion of Mr. Springer is not all the harm, however, that has been done by the article which obviously instigated it. The same article is quoted in the English military papers with ill-disguised glee, and helps to spread abroad an erroneous idea of the state of our Service; and yet we can truly say that never was a more unfair, unjust, and especially illogical article, written on the Army.

The question of abuses or the reverse, extravagance or economy, efficiency or non-efficiency in the Army of the United States, are yet to be brought up for discussion by Congress. The Springer resolution was put through at once on the previous ques-

tion without debate, and settled in the affirmative by a heavy vote, by men who probably neither know nor cared very much what were the merits of the case. Had discussion been allowed, it is possible that such a resolution might not have gone on the Journal of the House. If the members of the Military Committee are all men of experience in the subject committed to their charge, it is probable that the Springer resolution will disappear into the native invisibility of its originator, before he made his little bid for popularity. That committee numbers in its ranks several general officers who won distinction in the late war; but they are accompanied by others entirely destitute of a like experience, and the outside pressure of demagogues anxious for cheap popularity will press heavily upon the committee as a whole. So far as the advisability of reduction of the Army is grounded on its supposed defects, the committee must necessarily see that the measure proposed can do no possible good and cannot fail to do much harm. The only argument furnished by abuses in the Army, if they exist, is that they shall be reformed, or if that is impossible that the Army should be abolished entirely. Reduction of a force cannot possibly serve to improve its morale, and if anything would destroy it, it would be that.

The harm that is done by these constant sweeping threats of reduction is manifold and obvious. At this present moment there are hundreds of officers, scattered with their little commands over the wilds of the far West, leading a life of hardship and devotion to duty, with the simple pride that they are soldiers serving under a worthy flag. Leave them alone and they will continue to do their duty in the future as in the past. How can they feel, except stunned, dispirited and disheartened, that all their work is so absolutely thrown away, all their sacrifices, zeal and courage so absolutely despised, that a motion is rushed through a portion of Congress without even a debate and passed by an overwhelming majority, which enquires as to the expediency of turning three of every five in the Army out of the service without reason or motive. An officer is supposed in every army under the sun to hold his place during good behaviour. If he misbehaves, the worst military punishment that can be meted out to him, short of death, is dismissal. The Springer resolution coolly enquires whether it is not best to dismiss three-fifths of the officers of the Army for no crime. What spirit, we ask, can any one expect to remain in these officers if these constant threats of reduction be dinned into their ears annually? It is not too much to say that a principal and controlling cause of whatever defects exist in our army to-day, is found in the constant piecemeal reduction which has assailed it every year during the last decade. It makes every officer in the Army thoroughly insecure of his position. It offers him a premium for neglect of duty, while denying him any certainty of reward for its faithful performance. To bring this subject home directly to the members of the Committee, let us suppose that a general convention was now in session, which had power to alter every Congressional District in the United States, and that this convention should introduce a resolution enquiring as to the expediency of abolishing three-fifths of all the present Congressmen, to take effect immediately. What kind of legislative business, we may ask, would be done by these Congressmen during the rest of their session, while this motion was in agitation?

On the simple ground of expediency, and for the best interests of the service, it is time that this piecemeal reduction should be stopped forever in this country. Let it be settled the present session exactly how much army is needed by the United States for indispensable uses, and let that be decided unalterably, and for at least ten years to come. For the sake of the best interests of the country and the Army, we most earnestly deprecate a compromise one way or the other; such as a small reduction this year, to be followed by another next year, and so to final extinction. Such a course can do nothing but unmitigated harm, as tending to destroy every vestige of military spirit, by reducing officers to the level of place hunters, liable to be superseded, with every temptation to neglect duty, and none to fulfil it. The patriotism and wisdom of the Military Committee will be put to a severe test to bring in a bill that shall reduce the expenses of the Army without impairing its efficiency. The necessity of such a bill, and the absolute folly of the reduction inquired about by the Springer resolution, we propose to treat of more fully next week, by showing exactly where the Army is at present, how much is absolutely needed, and how little can be spared without reducing the country to an absolutely defenceless condition.

The Duke of Cambridge on the Army.

In responding to the toast of "The Army" at a dinner given by the Fishmonger Company, on Thursday night, the Duke of Cambridge said:

"The task which I and others are called upon to make very great and important changes in all the institution connected with the army, This has been going on now for a very long period; but it is to be hoped that the time may soon arrive when such changes may cease. Now, in a great organization such as that army with which I have the honor to be associated, constant change is difficult and expensive, not to say detrimental. Just now I used the word expensive, and I know that all these questions connected with army matters have a great bearing on the financial position of this country. Now, in that respect I hope that, though this year may not be quite so flourishing as last year, we have still the right to look upon ourselves as in a most flourishing condition when we compare the position of this country with that of any other part of the world. But now, gentlemen, when we see the enormous exertions which are being made by other countries to place their military establishments on a greatly enlarged footing, compared with what they have been heretofore, it would be, I think, idle folly—to use a strong term—if we did not try to go as far as we could—at all events in our military reforms. Now, on that as on all other occasions, we ought to be guided by the indications of common sense, and we certainly ought not to be led away by views, though natural and consistent with our own interest, and which I myself, in common with everyone in this room, would only be too happy to entertain—namely, that peace should be the order of things throughout the world. Gentle men, there is no finer sentiment than that, and there is no man in this room who is more convinced of the advantages of peace than the individual who now addresses you. I am perfectly convinced that every one in this room is imbued with that sentiment, and yet I for one, and I hope I may induce

others to share with me in that feeling, cannot help coming to the conclusion that we have not arrived at that happy period when all thoughts of warlike operations are to be put on one side. Only just look at what has happened in the year which is passing—look at the threatened interruption of peaceful relations which has occurred, and which I may say still exists between ourselves and China. Look again at the state of our relations with Burmah, look at the sudden outbreak—small though it be, yet not without its difficulty—in the Malay Peninsula, or what is known as the Straits Settlements. Look at the state of the world in general, look at what all the great empires are doing, and will any man tell me that under those circumstances the mere wish for peace, which I and all of you entertain, ought to make us think that there is no possibility of a warlike state arising. It may be before we are many weeks older. It is really so serious a matter that it is impossible for a man in my position to dwell too strongly upon it or to refrain from inducing his fellow countrymen, if possible, to agree with him in that view. But if we are right in that view, what ought we to do? We ought to try and place our military institutions—perhaps I ought to say our naval and military, for we ought never to forget that the navy of this country is its first line of defence, and therefore, in that respect precedes the army—in the most efficient position that we can place them in. Now, how is that to be done? Well, we have been doing our best, as you all know, and only recently we have done as much as we could to show that we are not blind to what is going on, and that we are alive to the necessities of the period; but there is nothing to be done without very liberal means being placed at our disposal. While on that point, I may as well frankly say that it is constantly alleged against the military authorities that they have but one panacea—“Give us more money, and then we will do what you like.” Well, gentlemen, I admit there is a great deal of truth in that. I should be glad, indeed, if anyone would tell me where we could reduce expenditure in order to have more men for, after all, that is really what we want. We want men, and we must get them; and, if we are to get them, we must pay for them. It is often said, “but why more money now than formerly; how is it you could do formerly with so much smaller estimates than now?” Gentlemen, I will give you one more item, and, after that, I will ask you to draw your own conclusions. You see a great deal in the newspapers nowadays of a great gun we have been making—a 31-ton gun. Well, gentlemen, what do you suppose that gun cost? I have good reason to believe that gun will cost £15,000, and I have also reason to believe that every shot fired out of that gun will cost £25. Now, gentlemen, when you calculate that, and when you go on to calculate not merely what five, or six, or eight of these guns will cost, but what the whole necessary armament of such weapons will come to, I think you will admit that it is not very difficult to find out why our estimates are now so much higher than they used to be. And remember it is not only 31-ton guns we require, but we are building large quantities of 35-ton and 32-ton guns, and the necessary ships, which are to have from 14in. to 20in. of iron, to carry them; while we have forts which are to be armed with this enormous ordnance, and which are to be covered with I don't know how many inches of iron plates. Now, if you put all these things together, and if you remember all that is to be done in va-

rious other ways, from very philosophically sound, right and proper views, as regards improving the condition of the soldier—if you add, I say, all these items together, though they may not be very large in themselves, they amount together to something very large indeed. But I contend that every one of them is necessary, and those who civil at the authorities for having only one panacea—viz., to ask for more money—must bear in mind that we ask for more only to get money's worth. Common-sense must tell us that, do what we may, if we don't pay the worth of an article we cannot get it. Now, gentlemen, reflect on the state of things in your households, or your own commercial establishments. Have not all your expenses risen enormously? Have not wages risen in every direction? Are there any large mercantile or commercial transactions going on which do not find this to be a fact? Take railways, for instance; are not railway servants higher paid than they were ten years ago? If that is so, why should not increased expenditure be required in military matters? It is so, and men will not come unless they are better paid. Then we are told we do not get the proper sort of men. Very well, give us more money and we will try and find those sort of men. I don't say we shall be able to do it, because the country is so prosperous, and there is such facility for obtaining employment that it is almost impossible to get the men to come into the army merely on the chance of seeing whether they like the Service. It is our very prosperity that makes it necessary to be more liberal, and I am quite sure that, such being the case, and the country not being less prosperous than it was, I cannot conceive that the great bulk of this great country—people who are so sensible, so reasonable, and so prudent in all their dealings—will have the imprudence not to do everything in their power to support the authorities in their endeavours to make the Army and Navy as efficient as it is right, proper, and desirable that they should be in an empire such as ours. Now, gentlemen, I will, of course, say in reference to the large establishments of other countries that I don't for a moment ask you to maintain anything so large, and for the simple reason that you will not do it. You have not the means; we are not so numerous; we have not the area from which men could be got; but there is another and a more serious reason—you have not conscription. Do you think you would do anything like that in this country? Because, remember, we sometimes see the property of conscription referred to. My own idea is that it is absurd to imagine that conscription can ever be made to go down in this country. The only question whether it may not be, under certain circumstances, not only allowable, but desirable for the Militia. I am not at all clear that the Militia service is not one in which to a certain extent conscription, or, in other terms, the ballot, ought not at times to be employed. At this moment it is the law of the land and only suspended; because, if you cannot find sufficient men for the Militia, you ought to be in a position to raise men by the ballot. But this is not the place or the occasion to refer to that matter at length, and I only refer to the fact because I don't believe in the probability of conscription. I do not advise its introduction, if you can avoid it, for I don't consider it consistent with our institutions or our interests. Beyond that, I go further and say that our Service is so different from that of other countries where there is only home service

to be performed, that you cannot have conscription. How can you have conscription in a service where a large part of the army must be continually abroad? Why, conscription under such conditions is an impossible thing, because it is only justified for the defence of a country at home. There you may have conscription, and therefore, I say, it is an open question whether we ought not to have the ballot for the Militia; but a conscription to send troops to India for eight or ten years, or to the Colonies, is a thing which is indefensible, if not impossible; and, therefore, I hope it will never be attempted. I have merely referred to the fact that, by conscription, you may have a much larger army than without conscription; but we, I am afraid, must wake up our minds to pay for the men; we must make it worth their while to come and serve in the army. Depend upon it there is plenty of good English courage left in us. Every day and every hour shows there is nothing an Englishman cannot and will not do, and I don't think it is a bad thing in him to know that the labourer is worthy of his hire. He likes to know what he is doing for himself, while at the same time he is perfectly willing to do good service to the State. That is a principle which the Government have a right to hope the country will justify them in—paying such an amount of wages to the men as will enable us to secure at all times an sufficiently good and moderately large army.

Manitoba Rifle Association.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourth annual meeting of the Manitoba Rifle Association was held at the Customs House, Winnipeg, last Tuesday. Amongst those present were Messrs G. B. Spencer, President, Lt. Col. John Kennedy, Hon. Thos. Howard, A. McNea, E. G. Conklin, Major Nesbitt, H. T. Shelton, Capt Thos Scott, Stewart Mulvey, Hon W N Kennedy, T H Parr, D McIntosh, A W Burrows, J Macdonald, S. J. Van Ranssler, W. Chambers, W F Gouin, W Fraser, Thos Tickner, Geo Lindoff, Geo H Young, W D Taylor and C N Bell.

The balance sheet and report of the council, as read by the secretary, was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:

President—Hon. A. B. G. Bannatyne, M. P.;

1st Vice President—Capt T Scott;

2nd Vice President—Capt Taschereau;

Council—Lt Col Kennedy, W F Gouin,

Hon M A Girard, D McIntosh, W D Taylor,

A W Burrows, Major Nesbitt, Stewart Mul-

voy, S J Van Ranssler and Geo H Young;

Sec Treasurer—E G Conklin.

Mr Spencer, the retiring president, was nominated for that office, but declined on account of his official duties.

The following vote of thanks, moved by Hon W N Kennedy, seconded by Mr A W Burrows, was carried unanimously:

“That this Association cannot allow Mr. Spencer to retire from the office of President, which he has filled for the last three years, without expressing their high appreciation of the manner in which he has filled the said office, and of the time and attention he has at all times cheerfully given to advance its interests and to which is owing in a very great degree the past success and the present efficient state of the Association.”

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

To the members of the Manitoba Rifle Association for 1875.

GENTLEMEN:

Your council on retiring from office have the honor to submit the following report of the business and work of the association for the present year, which, though not very voluminous, will, it is hoped, touch on the different points of importance and interest which have come before them in the discharge of their duties while acting in your interest.

On taking office at the opening of the year your council found there were more outstanding accounts against the association than the balance in their hands from the previous year would pay, so that they had at once to take steps to raise money for the purchase of practice ammunition, for the affiliation fee to the Dominion Rifle Association and to carry on the necessary works and repairs on the association ranges. This unenviable part of the work of the council was principally carried out by the exertions of the President, Geo. B. Spencer Esq., and the First Vice-President, Hon. A. G. B. Bannatyne M. P., who by their timely exertions placed the funds of the association considerably in advance of the receipts of any other year at the same date, and enabled the necessary work to go on without interruption. This having been done and the ground on which the ranges are situated having been again kindly placed at the disposal of the council, for the practice and meetings of 1875, by His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, your council immediately proceeded to put the ranges and its approaches (as regards paths and bridges) in order and in a fit state for practice. This necessary work along with the change in the system of marking which was adopted to agree with the Wimbledon regulations caused the outlay of considerable money, as it was found necessary to repair the targets, to alter the plan of the marker's butts, and to replace in a different form and at some expense the butts in rear of the targets. Your council all along had been aware of the scarcity of rifles which could be used by members not belonging to an armed company of the active militia, and were very anxious lest the success of the year should be interfered with on this account, but they trusted that the Major General commanding, who was expected to arrive almost daily, would see his way clear to authorize the military store keeper at Fort Osborne to issue on loan a sufficient number of rifles to the association, therefore, immediately on his arrival a committee of your council waited on him and had an interview on the subject, when he authorized the issue of 30 "Long Snider" rifles to the association. These rifles were applied for in the usual way, when it was found that the officer commanding the district required the president of the association to become personally responsible for the safe return of all the rifles into store by a certain date; this the president considering the great issue at stake did not hesitate to do and accordingly gave his written guarantee. These rifles were soon all issued to members of the association and practice was carried on, at first three days in each week and afterwards every day. The association marker, Sergt. Lawler, of the Winnipeg Field Battery, being constantly in attendance and who from the thorough knowledge of his duty and his attendance to orders, gave general satisfaction both to your council and we believe to the members of the association as

a body. During the year the association has used 15,000 rounds of ball cartridges which was purchased from Dominion store at Fort Osborne and it was generally purchased in small quantities on account of the association having no magazine for the proper storage of ammunition; a great deal of unavoidable trouble was thus given to Major Peebles, the supply officer, to whom the association are much indebted for his uniform kindness and the help he has rendered their secretary and range superintendent in various ways. The Deputy Adjutant General having approved the issue on loan of a sufficient number of bell tents complete, your council was spared the expense of erecting the buildings, as these tents together with the association caterer answered every purpose.

Your council having decided to hold the annual prize meeting as early in the season as possible, the preliminary arrangements were pushed forward and everything on the range put in order so that the council were enabled to publish the prize list by the 21st August and fix the date for the prize meeting for the 31st. The prize lists showed a marked improvement over that of any previous year, in point of amount of cash prizes and value of articles offered, and as the entries for the various matches were so numerous your council trust the members of the association were satisfied with the labors of the council in collecting the various prizes and the amount of money which was not obtained without considerable hard work on the part of some, at least, of the members of the council. It being considered advisable by some of the council to have a long range match and the members of the council who were in favor of it required to be responsible for the amount to be offered (\$50 less the entrance fees) a match open to any rifle at 600, 800, 1,000 yards was placed on the prize lists.

The prize meeting was opened on the 31st August by Miss Morris who very kindly consented to be present and fire the first shot. The meeting having been then formally opened the competitors proceeded to business, when the various matches were called and proceeded with in the order in which they appeared in the published prize list. It was found necessary about noon of the first day, both on account of time and on account of the supply of ammunition, to alter the number of ranges to be shot at in the different matches; public notice of the change was given and it seemed to give almost general satisfaction to the members and others present. This with changing the "Long Range Match" into a very short range match were the only changes made in the published regulations. The latter change was made as it was found that there were no rifles on the ground which on our range, at least, could make good scores at the 1,000 yards target. It was hoped by some that the offering of liberal prizes in this match would bring to light some of the long range rifles which were said to be in the country or induce members to purchase first-class rifles and have them to hand in time for the meeting. But finding that they had been disappointed in the arrival of rifles which could successfully fire at the longest range they agreed and urged the change which was done by the vote of those present.

This very successful meeting was brought to a close on the afternoon of the fourth day; the tents were struck and returned into store that same afternoon in good order and condition, and as the Deputy Adjutant General had informed the president of the association that he would require the

targets for the annual rifle practice of the men under his command and that a range further from the city was preferable for their use, the targets complete were returned into store the following day. The bridge plank and other moveable property of the association was also removed and stored in the armory of the Winnipeg Field Battery which was placed at the disposal of the association for the purpose. The meeting now being over the council decided to have the prizes, which had been so well competed for, presented in some public and fitting place. The Court House was placed at their disposal for the occasion by Sheriff Armstrong, and Mrs Morris having kindly consented to present the prizes public notice was given of the fact, and the prizes were presented to the fortunate contestants, before a large and respectable audience which repeatedly cheered the victors as they received their valuable and elegant prizes from the hands of the lady of our much respected Governor. In conclusion your council would wish to report that they have done all in their power to secure a place on the Canadian Wimbledon team for a representative from our Province, but without success, although our scores would, according to published reports, entitle us to at least two places on the team.

THE BALANCE SHEET

which was a lengthy document, showed that the receipts for the year were \$1,469.02 and the expenditures \$1,400.87, leaving a balance on hand of \$68.15.

The meeting then adjourned.—Free Press.

Wire vs. Chain Cable.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal;

SIR: Can you inform your readers whether there is any thing doing in this country in the adoption of wire instead of chain cable. In the English "Nautical Magazine" for this month is a statement which ought to be read by all who are interested in ships. It is very well known that the getting of heavy anchors and chains in ships with small crews is very troublesome, and that careful captains often run considerable risks by not anchoring, simply because to anchor in rather deep water would involve much labor to get up the anchor. The article in question states that "these patent steel wire ropes have now, after twelve months' severe trial, shown that they possess the qualities required—strength, flexibility, lightness, being for similar strength only one eighth the weight of chain, and one third that of hemp rope."

The size needed for the Valarous is 1 1/2 inch, 150 fathoms, weighing 34 cwt., in place of 1 1/2 inch chain cable 150 fathoms, weighing 12 tons. This gives about seven to one's weight. The cable of the Valarous strained at 69 tons strain, the breaking strain of 1 1/2 chain being 62 tons. One great advantage in the wire is its uniform strength compared to chains in which any link may be defective. Another great advantage is the small space occupied by it and the ease with which it can be kept in order. A third very great advantage is the ease by which they can be carried out, as compared to chains or hemp cables. Many other advantages might be cited, but I must not make my communication too long. R. B. Forest

The International Postal Congress has agreed to admit British India and the Free Colonies into the Postal Union.

International Rifle Meeting.

Sir Sidney Halford writes to the London Agent of the Associated Press:—"I am in communication with the Scottish National Rifle Club, which has accepted the challenge from America to send a separate team, and with the Irish Rifle Association, who still have the matter under consideration. I am endeavouring to obtain their co-operation in sending a British Team alone. The Council of the National Rifle Association is so unanimous in its feeling that only a British Team should be entered that there is no necessity to call a meeting on the subject. If I fail in inducing Scotland and Ireland to join in the British Team I shall place my resignation as Captain in the hands of the National Rifle Association. I have every reason to believe that England will not be represented by any separate Team."

REVIEWS.

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, for January, 1876, has been republished by The Leonard Scott Publishing Co., 41 Barclay Street, N. Y. The contents are as follows: I. The Dilemma.—Part IX. II. In my Study Chair.—No. 11. III. Left handed Elsa.—Conclusion. IV. Lace and Bric-a-brac. V. Bee or Beatrix. VI. The First Step in Army Reform. VII. Public Affairs. The periodicals reprinted by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company (41 Barclay Street, N. Y.) are as follows: *The London Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, *Westminster*, and *British Quarterly Reviews*, and *Blackwood's Magazine*. Price, \$4 a year for any one, or only \$15 for all, and the Postage is prepaid by the Publishers.

A Vienna telegram reports that Prince Gortschakoff has instructed a delegate of the International Assistance Committee to inform the Herzegovinians that they must be satisfied with Andrassy's reforms, and need expect no support from Russia. Neutrality is now strictly observed on the Bosnian and Croatian frontiers.

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NEXT ALLOTMENT, MARCH 6,

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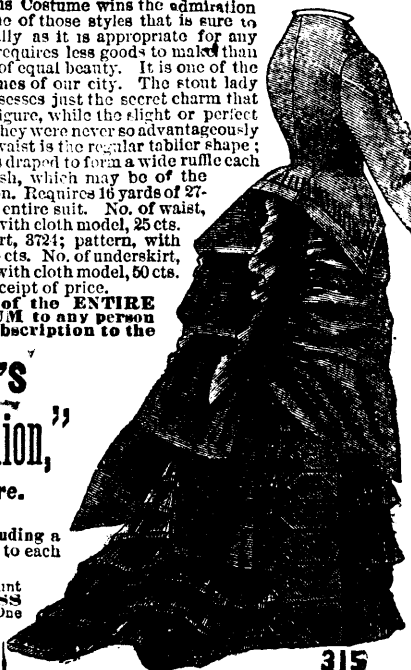
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