



THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE.

(SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.)

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No. 3

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Note and Comment.

An interesting controversy has lately been provoked in consequence of a letter, written by an anonymous correspondent, "L.A.M.L.," in the columns of a contemporary. That writer called attention to a statement in a publication of some thirty or forty years ago in which it was alleged that then, in his time, hung in the R. C. Cathedral at Quebec certain old regimental colors bearing the inscription "Carillon" and "Chateauguay." The writer of forty years since implied that he was a survivor of the war of 1812 and seemed at home in his subject. But it seems that the oldest inhabitant in Quebec remembers nothing of colors in the Basilica.

The well known antiquarian, Mr. Le Moine, replied to the letter in question, and, in the columns of L'Evenement, stated that he had heard of two Canadian militia

flags of 1812 that were in possession of the late Col. Gagy, one of which might be that of Chateauguay. Mr. Le Moine recalls the fact that there were at Chateauguay several independent bodies commanded by such brave men as Lieut.-Col. Macdonnell, and Captains De Bartzeh, Ferguson, Lamotte, J. B. Duchesnay, Juchereau Duchesnay and Daly, and doing justice to the memories of Lieutenants Pinguet, Schiller, Hebbin and Levesque, leaves to others the task of determining what flags they followed to victory. The letter of Mr. Le Moine elicited a communication from the Hon. Boucher de la Bruere, speaker of the Legislative Council, in which he informs Mr. Le Moine that he had never heard of such a flag being in possession of the de Sababerry family.

Then, after referring to the Gagy flags, he says:

"What I can state is that I am the possessor of two flags of that period. After the war they came into the possession of my paternal grandfather, Rene Boucher de la Bruere, as the oldest officer of his regiment. The flags were a gift from the Princess Charlotte of England, who was Queen of the Belgians, and it is unnecessary to say, I guard them as heirlooms of price. I also keep as a souvenir the Chateauguay medal, bequeathed to me by my paternal grandfather, as well as his sword and scarlet uniform." The Hon. M. de la Bruere falls into a slight error in terming the Princess Charlotte of Wales Queen of the Belgians. She was the wife of Prince Leopold, who was afterwards King of the Belgians, but she was also the daughter of George the Fourth. Her early death carried grief into every circle in England, where her virtues made her the hope of those who dreaded the consequences of the life of her disreputable father. Had she lived she would have been Queen of England. What M. Boucher de la Bruere states

is confirmed by Mr. J. A. Macdonnell of Greenfield, in his sketches of the settlement of Glengarry; by Col. Coffin, in his "1812, the War and its Moral"; by Christie, in his History of Lower Canada; by Mr. Robert Sellar, and other historians. Captain Bruere's name is honorably mentioned by Sellar and Coffin. "On the 26th of March following," writes Mr. Macdonnell, "His Excellency issued a general order expressing approbation of the affair at Chateauguay and his peculiar pleasure in finding that His Majesty's Canadian subjects had at length had the opportunity of refuting, by their own brilliant exertion in defence of their country, the calumnious charge of disaffection and disloyalty, with which the enemy had prefaced his first invasion of the province." To Lieutenant-Colonel de Sababerry in particular, and to all the officers and men under his command, the sense entertained by His Royal Highness of their meritorious and distinguished conduct is well known. The Commander of the Forces at the same time acquainted the militia with the determination of His Royal Highness to forward colors for the various battalions of embodied militia, feeling that they had evinced an ability and disposition to secure them from insult, which gave the best title to such a mark of distinction."

The theory is advanced that it may be to these colors the writer of forty years ago referred. But the statement that colors bearing the inscription "Carillon" and "Chateauguay" once hung in the Basilica at Quebec remains unconfirmed and uncontradicted. Though M. De la Bruere stated to the writer that he had learned that such never was the case. It may be noticed that Mr. Lemoine in his letter stated that Mr. D. R. McCord, Q.C. collectionneur emerite, told him he was the proud possessor of two of the Canadian Militia flags of 1812, one the property of the Hon. Mr. McGill. Mr. John (Greenfield) MacDonnell also possesses one of the colors of the famous Glengarry Regiment.

News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades.

Address:
EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P. O. Box 387 Montreal, Que.

TORONTO.

The annual reunion of "G" Company, 48th Highlanders, held last evening at Webb's restaurant, was one of the happiest in the annals of such functions in Toronto. The characteristic esprit de corps of the company brought every man out. Every seat was filled, and every man did his duty. In the chair was Capt. Hunter, the officer in command of the company, supported by officers of the 48th and other regiments. Among those invited, many of whom attended, were:—Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Lt.-Col. Otter, Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Lt.-Col. Mason, Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, Major Buchan, Major Crosby, Major Macdonald, Capt. Macdougall, Surgeons Stuart and Dams, Major Orchard, Mr. Marvin, Captain and Lieutenant Macgillivray, Lieutenant Ramsay, Mr. A. M. Burns, and Alexander Fraser. Following are the names with rank of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the company:

Roll of "G" Company, 48th Highlanders.

Captain C. A. Hunter, Lieutenant G. M. Ross, 2nd Lieutenant J. H. Mitchell, Col. Sergt. J. K. B. Turner, Sergt. Wm. Davidson, Sergt. Geo. Bailey, Lance-Sergt. C. H. Forsyth, Corp. G. Marlborough, Corp. O. H. Phillips, Lance Corp. John Barber; Privates Henry Bailey, S. C. Baker, Wm. Coult, George Dewar, William Evans, Jas. Foley, Culbert Fisher, A. Grant, James Hamilton, S. H. Hunter, William Hendren, A. J. Kemish, Ernest May, Joseph Marlborough, A. Millard, C. J. Merry, N. McLeod, E. M. Hugh, George McLennan, J. C. McIntosh, W. D. McIntosh, William Pigeon, E. J. Reed, J. G. Readman, Fred. Stamburn, James Stevens, James Stewart, William Westall; Staff-Sergt. J. H. Matheson, Bugle-Major Robertson, Sgt. McKim, Piper Murray.

Dinner Committee—Corp. Marlborough, Corp. Phillips, Lance-Corp. Barber.

"Dream not with the rising sun

Bugles here shall sound the reveille."

—Sir Walter Scott.

TOAST LIST.

"Der jungere Uhlanen
Sit round, mit open mouth,
While Britmann tell dem stories
Of fightin' in the South,
Und gib dem moral lessons
How, before der battle pops,
Take a little pray'r to Himmel,
Und a goot long drink of Schnapps."

—Hans Breitmann's Ballads.

The Queen—

"And the Queen—Heaven bless her!"

—Ingoldsby Legends

The Canadian Militia—

"United to a man in defence of their homes,

Their Queen, their country."

—Rev. Dr. McCann.

Our Commanding Officer and Staff—

"And the officers of the regiment I was in.

Was officers—gran' men."

—The God from the Machine.

Sister Corps—

"Then here's a haun', my trusty frien';
An gie's a haun' o' thine."

—Auld Lang Syne.

Our Guests—

"If they were forgotten, there would indeed be a blank."

—Macbeth.

The Ladies—

"Our vicar, he calls it damnation to sip
The ripe, ruddy dew of a woman's dear lip,

Says Beelzebub lurks in her kerchief so sly,
And Apollyn shoots darts from her merry black eye.

Yet whoop, Jo k-kiss Gillian the quicker,
Till she bloom like a rose, and a fig for the vicar!"

—The Lady of the Lake.

"Some were short hour ayont the twal."

—Burns.

"Here is the scroll of every man's name."

—Midsummer Night's Dream.

"All braves in arms, well trained to wield

The heavy halberd, brand and shield."

—The Lady of the Lake.

The menu was admirable, the ingenuity and skill of the caterer having been put under severe tribute. The card on which the good things provided were set forth was most neatly gotten up, being indeed a work of art. The toast list was as follows:

"The Queen," "The Governor General," and "Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario" having been duly honored, letters of apology from absence were read from a number of officers and friends whose engagements prevented them from being present, and all of whom expressed their good wishes for "C" Company. For "The Commanding Officer and Staff," Surgeon Dame responded. He assured the company that the health of the staff was excellent. The ambulance stores were well supplied with all the necessaries requisite for bracing up any of the men or officers who might linger long over the feast, or who endured hardships in the service of their country. (Cheers). "Sister Corps" was coupled with the name of Mr. A. M. Burns, of the "Queen's Own." He said the most friendly feeling had always existed between the Queen's Own, the premier corps of Ontario, and the gallant Highlanders, of which "G" Company was a bright gem. He endorsed to the fullest extent the good advice given to the Company by Capt. Hunter, that each man should take a pride in his company, and as an old campaigner he would express the hope that it would always be up to "G." "The Guests" was responded to by Mr. Alexander Fraser in a brief Gaelic speech, and "The Ladies" by Lieut. Ramsay, "A" Company, and Pte. Bailey, "G" Company. Songs were given by Messrs. Fule, Burns, Capt. Hunter, Lieut. Ramsay, Major Orchard, Dr. Dame, Lieut. Mitchell, Staff-Sergt. Matheson, and Col.-Sgt. Turner. Highland dances were given by Pipers Murray and Trenholm; selections on the guitar and piano by Messrs. Newton and Forbs. The evening was most pleasantly spent, and the company dispersed after two o'clock this morning.—Mail, Feb. 1st.

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The second assembly given under the auspices of the Royal Grenadiers was held in Webb's assembly rooms last evening, and proved a brilliant affair. The band of the regiment, under the direction of Bandmaster Waldron, did itself proud.

The supper was an ideal one from an epicure's point of view. The dresses of the ladies were remarkable for their exquisite beauty. Mrs. George Tait Blackstock wore a gown from Paris which riveted the attention of the ladies during the evening. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was also attired in a modiste's dream.

Amongst those to whom complimentary invitations were sent were: His Excellency the Governor General and Countess of Aberdeen, the Right Hon. the Earl of Ava, Mr. A. J. L. Gordon, C.M.G.; Capt. G. P. Kindersley, A.D.C.; Capt. B. B. C. Urquhart, A.D.C.; Col. Sir Casimir S. Gzowski, Major General and Mrs. Herbert, Capt. Streatfield, A.D.C.; His Honor the Lieut. Governor of Ontario and Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Miss Kirkpatrick, Capt. A. T. Kirkpatrick, Lt. Col. Otter, D.A.G., and Mrs. Otter.

The invited guests were: Arthur L. Armstrong, A. J. Arnold, C. L. Benedict, Capt. Geo. Broughall, W. E. Burritt, Capt. George Brooks, A. J. Boyd, Alfred Boddy, Mr. Burns, Fred. Campbell, J. F. Canniff, V. T. Cronyn, Dr. F. Capon, Mr. Adolphe Caron, W. Cowan, John Dyas, Capt. Duncan Donald, R. C. Donald, Mr. F. B. Dallam, Gwyn Francis, George D. Fisher, II. F. Gault, H. G. Gates, A. E. Grasett, Geo. W. Grote, J. Castell Hopkins, Capt. A. M. Irving, H. V. Knight, Arthur Knowlton, W. L. M. Lindsay, J. Lalor, J. H. Laurie, Dr. C. Meyers, George S. Morrice, A. C. Macdonell, J. F. Mallon, D. A. Merrick, W. J. McWhinney, Dr. George R. McDonagh, J. W. McCullough, Lighthouse McCarthy, G. F. McGuire, H. E. Nunn, Col. and Miss Newbigging, H. R. O'Reilly, Dr. George A. Peters, Dr. W. H. Pepler, F. J. Roche, J. Y. Reid, E. G. Rykert, Bernard Ryan, George H. Roberts, Frank H. Russell, Hector Read, W. A. Sherwood, Dr. C. E. Stacey, F. W. Strowger, C. C. Smith, Grayson Smith, W. R. Strickland, Capt. A. E. S. Thompson, Dr. Charles Trow, Dr. Charles Temple, Mr. J. D. A. Tripp, Mr. John D. Thompson, E. Wragge, jr., Harvey A. Willis.

Others present were:

A—Miss M. Attrill, Miss Arthurs, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Armour, Miss Nora Armour, Mrs. H. D. P. Armstrong.

B—E. H. Bickford, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brousse, Miss Brousse, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Blackstock, Miss Bell, Major and Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Brush, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Beatty, Mrs. Hume Brown, Mrs. R. S. Brown, Miss Badgerow, Mrs. C. Briggs, Mrs. C. W. Bunting, Miss Beith, Miss Benson, Mr. W. A. Bog, Mr. and Mrs. A. Beardmore, Miss Brodie (Port Hope), Mrs. George Bosworth.

C—C. Cockburn, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Croil, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. V. Chadwick, Miss Kathleen Chadwick, Miss Chadwick, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Cox, Mrs. F. C. Cox, Mrs. Alexander Cameron, Mrs. A. B. Cameron, Miss Maud Chittock, the Misses Mortimer Clarke, Miss Castle, Miss Capon, Mrs. David Creighton, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Cawturn, Mr. A. D. Crooks, Miss Cope, Miss G. Cope, Miss Coleman, Miss Campbell, Mr. E. A. E. Chadwick, Miss Mary Cooper, Mr. F. G. Cox.

D—Lt. Col. G. T. and Mrs. Denison, Arthur R. and Mrs. Denison, Mrs. A. E. Denison, W. Homer and the Misses Dixon, Mr.

and Mrs. E. H. Duggan, Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Davidson, Capt. and Mrs. W. S. Denroche, Miss Dewar.

E—Mr. J. F. and Mrs. Edgar.

F—Miss Fulton, Mrs. Fitzgibbon, Mr. B. Forsyth.

G.—Mr. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Gibson, Miss Gibson, Capt. and Mrs. A. C. Gibson, Capt. and Mrs. Gosling, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gooderham, Miss Eva Gooderham, Mr. and Mrs. Casimir Gzowski, Miss Gzowski, Mrs. Greenshields (Montreal), Mr. Angus Gilmour, Miss Mabel Gilmour:

H—Miss Hughes, Aubrey Heward, Maj. John D. Hay, the Misses Hendrie (Hamilton), Miss Heward, Stephen Haas, Miss Haas, Miss Virginia Hugel, Miss Harris.

H—Mrs. S. H. Janes, Miss Janes, Miss Louise Janes, Miss Jones, Miss Constance Jarvis, Miss Edith Jarvis.

K—Dr. E. E. King, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Kerr, Miss Flossie Kemp, Miss Esther Kingsmill, Miss Knowlton.

L—Dr. Lehmann, Thomas P. Long, Mrs. C. T. Long, Miss Long.

M—Miss Nellie Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. May, Miss May, M. MacNair, Lt. Col. and Mrs. James Mason, Mr. J. C. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. M. Macfarlane, Miss Macfarlane, Capt. J. D. Mackay, Mr. J. G. Mackay, Miss Mackay, Mrs. W. F. Maclean, Miss Milligan, Mrs. McCullough, Mr. N. M. Queen, Mrs. F. C. Moffatt, Mrs. Arthur Murray, Miss Helen Merritt (St. Catharines), Miss Muriel Macdougall, Captain Macdonnell, Miss Miller (Buffalo), Miss Estelle Morton, Mrs. W. H. Merritt, Miss McGill (Kingston) Miss McDonell, Mrs. S. McDonell.

N—Mr. E. R. Niviett, the Misses Nairn.

O—Mrs. J. A. Orr, Mrs. Olipuant, Miss Beatrice Osler, Miss E. R. O'Reilly, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr Osborne.

P—Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Pringle, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Pringle, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Pyne, Major and Mrs. H. M. Pellatt, Miss Pattullo, Mrs. W. Pearson, Miss Parsons, Mrs. Phillips.

R—Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Rose, Mrs. John Ross Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Roberts, Miss Riordan, Mrs. Rogers.

S—Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Smith, Miss Carrie Smith, Dr. E. A. Spilsbury, Major and Mrs. Sloan, G. A. Stinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Simpson, Surgeon Major Strange, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Skinner, William P. U. Sloane, Mr. S. F. Sloane, Miss Seagram (Waterloo), Miss Grace C. Stewart, Miss Strickland, Miss (Bessie) Strickland.

T—Capt. Tassie, Reginald Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. F. Thompson, Dr. Thistle, Mrs. Turner, Miss Turner, Miss Blossom Thompson, Miss Ada Temple, Miss Maud Thomson.

W—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Webster, Mrs. J. S. Willison, Mrs. Eber Ward, Miss Worthington, Mrs. Williams, Miss Grace Williams, Miss Addie Wadsworth, Miss Muriel Wragge, Miss Walker, Miss Wood—Empire, Jan. 31st.

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On Saturday afternoon, Jan. 27th, there was a meeting held in the officers' quarters of the 48th Highlanders, at the old Upper Canada College, of a committee representing the city regiments. The

meeting was called to complete the arrangements regarding an open-air skating rink which is being prepared on the old Upper Canada College grounds, and which has been given by the city for the use of those connected with the city regiments only. It is likely that the rink will be completed on Monday night, when electric lights will be placed, but it may not be open for skating until Tuesday morning. Another meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday, after which proper arrangements will be made for the care of the rink.

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Some time ago one of the city photographers offered a large company photograph as a prize in the 48th Highlanders' shooting competition last season. It was won by "H" Company, and the photograph is now ready to be presented to them. It is a fine specimen of the photographic art, and is about seven feet by four, and splendidly mounted. The whole thing is exceptionally fine, and the members of the company are exceedingly proud of it. It will form one of the most conspicuous and notable pictures in the possession of any company in the city.

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Some companies of the various city regiments have already started practising the new infantry drill.

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Some weeks ago Staff-Sergeant Harp, of the 48th Highlanders, met with what seemed only a slight injury to the forefinger of the right hand. Blood-poisoning set in, however, and several operations have been performed, the last by Dr. Primrose, professor of anatomy, in the presence of Surgeon Stuart and E. E. King. Yesterday Staff Sergeant Harp was much better.—Mail Jan. 29th.

HALIFAX.

On New Year's day the officers of the militia force were well represented at the levees held by the Lt.-Governor and Lt.-General Montgomery-Moore, who has made himself very popular since assuming command of Her Majesty's troops in this garrison.

The Provincial Legislature was opened on the 4th ult., and as usual the salute was fired by a detachment of the Halifax Garrison Artillery from the Citadel. The guards of honor were furnished by the 63rd Rifles inside the building, and the King's Regiment outside. The day being mild, great-coats were laid aside, adding to the smartness of their appearance. The Lt.-Governor was attended by his personal staff. Lt.-General Montgomery-Moore and his staff, Lt.-Col. Irving, D.A.G. of Militia, Lt. Col. Curren and Maj. Oxley were also present, and with the ladies who always grace these proceedings with their presence, filled the Council Chambers.

The Halifax Bat. G. A. held their annual meeting on the 30th ult., and the paymaster's report duly criticised and passed. The various committees were appointed for the ensuing year, and a motion was unanimously passed to petition the Government

to build the drill shed upon the old site, as with the present lack of accommodation it is almost impossible to keep the battalion together. A matter which has caused great annoyance is the failure on the part of the Militia Department to pay the proportionate allowances for drill instructors and care of arms due to the new companies. Up to the present time the same allowances have been tendered for companies of 100 men, as were formerly paid to companies of 42 men each, and considering that in addition to usual demands upon their allowances, the Battalion has to care for one 7-in. gun and one 9-in. gun borrowed from the Imperial authorities, it would be simply impossible to make both ends meet. The officers dined together at the Halifax Hotel on the 15th inst.

QUEBEC.

An escort was furnished by the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars to His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor at the prorogation of the Provincial Parliament, consisting of one officer, Lieut. Turner, Sergt. W. T. Martin, and sixteen privates. Owing to the severe weather great-coats, mufflers, and fur caps were worn. After the escort reached Spencer Wood, His Honor, through his A.D.C. Major Sheppard, thanked the men for the way they had performed their duty, and the serviceable manner in which they were dressed; the stirrup irons were covered with cloth to protect the feet as much as possible from the cold. During the closing the men were marched to the Drill Hall and dismounted and horses linked together. No accident happened, although the roads were heavy. The band, which, owing to the withdrawal of the Government grant, had to perform the last year's drill on foot, now consists of 32 members, although the Government pay is only for 24 men.

KINGSTON.

The twenty-second annual ball of the Sergeants and Staff Sergeants of "A" Battery was held the night of January 4th, in the Sergeants' mess-room, Tete du Pont barracks. The stairway and hall had been completely enveloped in Union Jacks, which gave the place a unique and very pretty appearance. The hall had been draped with bunting in a very pleasing way. Sergeant-Major Stroud, president of the mess, acted as floor manager. The committee assisting him was composed of Riding Instructor Gimblett, Sergeants Kelly and McIntyre, and Mrs. Stroud, patroness. James' orchestra furnished the music, and Fred Bristow acted as master of ceremonies. There were twenty-three dances on the programme, and they were thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Sergeant-Major Stroud received compliments from a number of people upon the efficient manner in which he carried out the programme. The other members of the committee left nothing undone that could help to make the evening pass pleasantly.

The supper table presented a very tempting appearance. In the middle of the large table stood the large silver monument presented to the Battery during its stay in Quebec. At either ends house plants had

been tastefully arranged. Mrs. Seymour's catering seemed to suit the appetite of all present. Mrs. Prenter and Williams had charge of the tables.

Letters of regret were received from the following named: Major-General Herbert and wife; Adjutant-General Powell and the Governor-General's Foot Guards, Ottawa, 48th Highlanders, Queen's Own Rifles and Toronto Field Battery, Toronto; Montreal Field Battery, 5th Royal Scots, 6th Fusiliers, Montreal; Royal Canadian Artillery, Captain and Mrs. Rivers, Quebec; Surgeon-Major Neilson and wife, Kingston. Among those present who are connected with the Battery or the Fourteenth Battalion were: Colonel W. H. Cotton, D.A.G., Major Drury, Captain Gaudet, V. S. Massie, Colonel H. R. Smith, Major J. S. Skinner, Major Galloway, Lieutenants C. M. Strange and W. S. Skinner. The ball was altogether one of the most successful ever given by the Sergeants. Everything passed off very well. Mrs. Stroud, the patroness, was kept very busy, but everything was looked after in her usual charming manner. The floor was in splendid condition and the mazy waltz and gliding ripple was enjoyed by all. Fred. Bristow's sonorous voice seemed to be "above par."

NEWS FROM THE SERVICE PAPERS.

An amusing story is told in the Indian papers by a gentleman who calls public attention to the manner in which appointments to the Indian Staff Corps are sometimes made. "A lady friend of mine who once tried to exercise her blandishments on the then Military Secretary at the India Office on behalf of her son, was," he writes, "greatly incensed by being told by this functionary that she had no chance of success as the Queen's India Cadetships were strictly reserved for the incapable sons of distinguished officers!" The correspondent who denounces the present system, and who possibly is a disappointed parent, contends that half of the available cadetships should be offered to youngsters who have stood the test of examination. "Is it," he asks, "fair to the Indian Staff Corps, or to the competitors at the Sandhurst examination, that 18-25ths (nearly three-fourths) of the total cadetships available should be given to young men who have not sufficient ability, or who have not been sufficiently educated, to qualify by open competition?" This complaint would seem to us to be reasonable.

The distinction of having the greatest number of tall men in one company belongs to the 1st Battalion of the Scots Guards. The "A" or right flank company of that battalion has over ninety men on its roll, and their average height is six feet two and a quarter inches. There are twelve men in the company over six feet four inches, and one stands slightly over six feet seven inches. No individual member is less than six feet in height.

Colonel Shakerly says in the Volunteer Service Record: The shooting "pot-hunter" should certainly be discouraged, because

he simply prevents young hands from taking up shooting; but a system of handicapping will soon put that matter right. Except in the case of an officer, I do not think his staying on does much harm. Perhaps sometimes an officer blocks promotion in this way, but unless a battalion is altogether in one town all promotions are very irregular. The latest form of pot-hunter is both commissioned and non-commissioned ranks, the "decoration hunter," will delay promotion far more, and this is a real grievance. In the shooting pot-hunter one has at least a good shot, but the man who stays on for a decoration is very often the last man who should get it, and he merely stays on for that purpose—just being efficient and nothing more. Honorary rank is another mild form of pot-hunting, which is most injurious, filling a regiment with so-called majors till "Tommy" can't tell a real major when he sees him. All these empty rewards can only tend to cheapen the Service, and keep on played-out men who are past their work.

Cavalry soldiers often sleep in the saddle after a fatiguing march, and, although it would seem impossible to march on foot and sleep at the same time, there are authentic instances of the performance of such a feat. Artillery men in the battle have been known to sleep under their own guns, which were constantly firing.

Letters received from Callao tell of some interesting target matches between H.M.S. Hyacinth and the United States cruiser Yorktown with 6-inch guns, and between teams from these two vessels with rifles. In the rifle match the British team won by 24 points. The Englishmen used Martini-Henry rifles and the Americans used Springfields. The teams were composed principally of officers. The distances in the 6-inch gun match were 1,100 and 1,200 yards, the target being 20 feet in height, 5 submerged and 15 feet above water. Of twelve shots fired the Yorktown placed eight on the centre vertical line of the target, two directly at the juxtaposition of the vertical and horizontal diameters. The match was won by the Yorktown by 15 points.

For the third time within a few years the Garrison Artillery is to be re-organised, the principal change being the breaking up of the unwieldy double companies created in 1891. By this arrangement many of the present armament majors will revert to company duty, so as to prevent an increase in the number of the rank. At the last re-organisation, some three or four years ago, it was stated that other changes would be made, and it is presumed that to a certain extent the present system has been found wanting. What will be the results of the new venture remains to be seen, but there can be no doubt that continual chopping and changing is a great hindrance to efficiency.

From the annual returns of British Volunteer corps for last year, now being made up at the War Office, it has been ascertained that the strongest corps in the

Service is the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Welsh Regiment at Cardiff, whose officers and men number 2,166, of whom 2,113 are efficient, and 53 non-efficient. Hitherto the lead has been taken by the Queen's Edinburgh Rifle Brigade, but that corps now falls into second place with 1,997 enrolled and 1,847 efficient. The Cardiff corps is only 108 short of its establishment of 2,274 officers and men; and its present total of efficient is 300 greater than in 1892.

The Council of the National Rifle Association have under consideration the institution of a new prize competition at Bisley this year for the regulars, to be termed "The Army and Navy Competition." The conditions of firing, etc., will be similar to those under which the Queen's prize is shot for by the volunteers, and there will be one or two prizes of £100, decreasing according to scores. A meeting of the Council of the Association will be held on Thursday to consider the final arrangements, when Major E. M. S. Crabb, district inspector of musketry at Aldershot, will attend to convey to the Council the views of His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief on the subject.

The War-office has sanctioned a sum of £6,000 to be expended in the carrying out of the summer manoeuvres at Aldershot this year, which will take place under the supervision of the general commanding, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. The operations will be principally in the nature of "flying columns," one of these leaving camp in August, and another in September. Each column will consist of eight battalions of other arms of the service, and will be formed into two brigades, which will be opposed to each other, occasionally meeting with day and night attacks from the troops left in Aldershot. Each column will be out for a night, the manoeuvring being in the vicinity of Aldershot, and lasting about six weeks. The troops in camp will, for the manoeuvres, be augmented by six or eight infantry battalions.

Major-General G. J. Smart, R.A., has been ordered home from Gibraltar to take over the command of the Woolwich District, in the place of Major-General Nicholls, who resigns.

At Vancouver a rifle match took place between the marines of the flagship, H.M.S. Royal Arthur, and the Vancouver Club, the former winning by one point. The feature of the match was the grand shooting of Lieutenant Collard, R.M.L.I., who made 95 out of a possible 105.

A RESOLUTION FROM AN ENGINEER'S POINT OF VIEW.

A leading article in Engineering is devoted to the construction and recent behaviour of the battleship Resolution. Having briefly given the principal elements of design of this vessel, the writer proceeds to consider the special circumstances that have lately brought her so prominently before the public. He says: "Probably there never was a design got out by the Admiralty upon which

more thoughtful care was spent than on that of the Royal Sovereign class. The discussions of the previous years had prepared the minds of both classes of Admiralty authorities for a proper consideration of the problems involved, and the distinguished naval officers who decided the military features of the vessel were assisted, or, perhaps we should say, held in check, by a chief of the constructive staff, not only thoroughly competent to form opinions, but able to express those opinions clearly and without reserve; in fact, he was a man of the type whose word always commands respect. Under these circumstances it would be disappointing indeed if the design proved defective in so fundamental a way as has been attributed to it. After a long and severe criticism of the alarming character of the newspaper statements, letters written by officers on board the ship to their relatives and friends (subsequently appearing in print); and the absurd questions and replies in Parliament; the article concludes as follows: "To sum up the view we take of this matter, we would say that though the Resolution undoubtedly passed through exceptionally bad weather, the statements as to her behaviour are proved by the facts brought forward; but even if she rolled 45 degrees each way, she had still a fair margin of safety before she reached the point of vanishing stability at 60 degrees heel. We would however, be far away from saying that her captain was ill-advised in using the discretion vested in him, and returning home to refit. With his upper works damaged, and a ship newly commissioned with a strange crew, who appear, however, to have behaved admirably under what were certainly very trying circumstances, the step may have been a wise one; though certainly not to be defended on the score of shortness of incl. one of the reasons advanced. The little torpedo gunboat Gleaner got through safely, and without doubt the Resolution would have done so also had she been put to it. Whether it would have been wise to put her to it is quite another matter; for our ships are so designed that they remain seaworthy long after they have ceased to be safely habitable. The statements as to rivets leaking, etc., have been contradicted on good authority, and the large quantity of water that got below was apparently due to deck openings not being properly secured at first."

THE NEW NAVAL PROGRAMME

No definite decision has been come to by the Cabinet on the subject of the new naval programme. The Admiralty scheme was, it is true, considered at Tuesday's meeting, and certain points determined upon, but the final revision may bring modifications. The main idea of building five battleships in the Royal Dockyards has generally been approved, but as to the exact amount of progress to be made next financial year with these ships no decision was come to. The amount of work to be given out to contract was the principal difficulty. The

desire is to give two or three large orders to private firms, but owing to the shrinking of the revenue the difficulty of squaring accounts operates, and this largely explains why no decision was arrived at. These contract vessels will be in addition to the Dockyard battleships. Encouragement, however, is given by the low prices prevailing just now. One point which has been decided is that no scheme similar to the Naval Defence Act will be produced. Such a scheme for a programme extending over five years was sketched out two months ago, but it was officially departed from, and there is no other foundation for the statements appearing in the papers. Indeed, it is understood that some members of the Government are annoyed at the reports in the press, which reproduce proposals that had been handed down to Portsmouth a couple of months ago. Even then they represented only part of the Admiralty's scheme, but now the conditions are altered. Some of the work then contemplated has been given out, and the next year's programme has been augmented, but no information of this is given in the reports now published.

It is stated that the proposed new battleships will cost about £1,000,000 each, and although the plans for their construction have not yet been actually approved of, they will probably, roughly speaking, be of the following dimensions: Length, 390 feet; extreme breadth, 75 feet; mean load draught, 28 feet; displacement 15,000 tons. With natural draught a speed of 16½ knots and with forced draught a speed of nearly 18 knots will be obtained. The armament will include four 12-inch breech-loading guns of a new type, mounted in pairs, twelve 6-inch quick-firing guns, sixteen 12-pounder quick-firing guns, twelve 3-pounder Hotchkiss guns. There will also be five torpedo dischargers for 10-inch torpedoes, four being submerged tubes and one above the water. The 12-inch guns will be mounted in two strongly-armoured barbets, and these mountings will be so arranged that they can be loaded in any position by manual power, and at fixed loading positions by hydraulic power. The large coal-bunker capacity with which the new ships will be provided will enable them to keep the sea for longer periods than any other battleship at present afloat. It is estimated that from the time of being laid down on the respective building ships the vessels will take about three years to be completed for sea.

In addition to the four battleships a new type of gunboat, to be known as the Linnet class, will, there is reason to believe, be introduced. As far as can be learned at present, four of these vessels will be laid down, and they will be very similar to the Torch and Alert, recently begun at Sheerness. They will be termed "Station gunboats," but, instead of being composite, their hulls will be of steel sheathed with wood and copper. Their dimensions will be: Length, 180 feet; breadth, 32½ feet; mean load draught, 11½ feet; displacement, 960 tons. With natural draught their engines will be capable of realising an indicated horse-

power, when a speed of 13¼ knots is anticipated. The armament will consist of six-pounder Hotchkiss guns, and two Maxim machine guns. The vessels will cost about £60,000 each. It will be seen that the speed of these gunboats will not be great, but the character of their construction, together with their modern armament, will make them specially suitable for the purpose for which they are intended. Two of the four are to be built at Devonport, and will be laid down early in the financial year on the slips from which the gunboats *Haleyon* and *Hussar* are shortly to be launched.

The new Estimates will make provision for the construction of the cruisers *Pow-erful* and *Terrible*, and for the progression of the battleships *Renown*, *Majestic* and *Magnificent*, and the cruisers *Eclipse*, *Minerva* and *Talbot*. In addition to the twenty torpedo-boat destroyers which (at the beginning of this year) it was intended to have built, another twelve are to be constructed of the same type.

The vessels now in course of construction, which are to be completed during the next financial year, are the *Revenge*, first class battleship, 14,150 tons, begun at Palmer's Shipbuilding Yard, Jarrow-on-Tyne, in February, 1891; the second class cruiser *Charybdis*, at Sheerness; the *Forte*, at Chatham; the *Fox*, at Portsmouth; the *Flora*, at Pembroke; and the *Hermione*, at Devonport. All these were laid down at the end of 1891 or the beginning of 1892.—United Service Gazette.

THE LEE-METFORD RIFLE.

The ever-green subject of the Lee-Metford rifle was made a peg whereon to hang a parliamentary question one evening last month. On this occasion the query had reference to the sea service. Commander Bethell asked the Secretary to the Admiralty whether it was intended to re-arm the Navy with the new weapon? The reply was to the effect that the question of introducing the magazine rifle into the Navy will be fully dealt with in the explanation to Parliament in next year's estimates, and that it was now anticipated that it will be possible in 1894-95 to proceed with the re-arming of the Navy with the magazine rifle, and to carry it out in subsequent years as originally intended.

Commander Bethell then asked whether, before the Lee-Metford rifle was decided upon, the Admiralty would take into consideration the claims of another rifle by the same inventor, which appeared to be more simple in construction and a good deal cheaper? He would like to ask whether that rifle, which had been called the Lee straight pull rifle, had been brought before the authorities? The only answer the Commander could get was that the question was one which should be addressed to the Secretary of State for War.

The following are some of the advantages over others of Lee's "Straight-pull Magazine Rifle."—1. Greater rapidity with greater accuracy than any other military arm in use. 2. The contents of the clip of magazine (ten shots) can be fired without removing the arm from the shoulder or the eye from the sights; the full magazine can be held in reserve, and the arm used as an ordinary breechloader. 3. The arm is automatically locked when loaded, a valuable feature for Cavalry service. 4. The number of shots left in the magazine is automatically indicated at a glance. 5. Ejection is forward, there by not interfering with the right or left-hand man or the operator. 6. Certainty of extracting the empty shell, as the leverage is 40 to 1. 7. When the magazine is emptied the arm is automatically locked, thereby notifying the operator that it is so; in no other military arm is this the case. 8. Owing to the lightness of the firing-pin the response of the trigger is quicker. 9. The bolt can be removed in five seconds. 10. The arm can be operated on from the prone position.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE CLUB OF CANADA.

Office of the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Quebec, 1st January 1894.

Official Communication No. 2, 1894.
Record of members' services.

In accordance with the recommendations adopted at the 9th Annual Meeting, a "Service Record" Book has been purchased, which is specially designed to meet requirements of the club.

Members are requested to furnish the Secretary with the information called for in this Circular at their earliest convenience.

The information desired is to include a period extending from date of Graduating or leaving College, to 31st of December 1893.

Members in future will be expected to furnish the Secretary with such additional information as is desirable, at the close of each year, in order that the Record may be kept up to date.

The following information is required:—1st. Full Christian and Surname. 2nd. Place of birth. 3rd. Date of birth. 4th. Military Record.

- (a). Name of Corps.
- (b). Appointments Promotions and Resignations with dates in each case.
- (c). Attendance at Annual Camps or with Corps at Headquarters.
- (d). Staff Appointments.
- (e). Record of Certificates, School of Musketry, Staff College, Hythe, etc. etc.
- (f). Honours and Distinctions.
- (g). Record of Special Service, nature of same etc..
- (h). Record of Medals.
- (i). Such other information as is not included in above and which it is desirable to have on record.

5th Civil Record sketch, with dates, etc.. etc.

By order,

ERNEST F. WURTELE

Captain R. L. Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Royal Military College Club of Canada.

A GORGEOUS NATIVE REGIMENT.

Mr. Clement Scott, fresh from his tour round the world, has been writing of the new Hongkong Regiment, which is one of the most "swagger" in the English service. It was formed to strengthen the garrison of Hongkong, the men being all Mulattoes from the Lower Himalayas. Two companies are Parthans, famous fighting men in our Eastern Empire, five of Punjabis, and one of Hindostanis. They are splendid fellows, averaging five feet nine inches, with a chest measurement of 39 inches, and their gorgeous uniform has been designed by their commander, Colonel Barrow. They wear, when in full dress, a scarlet blouse with yellow facings and golden-coloured "commerbund," or waist sash, knickerbockers of blue, with a red stripe, and white gaiters. On their heads is a bright Kohat hunge, or divided turban, of indigo and gold, which is so arranged that when the men are massed you see either one bright patch of gold or one of purple. Mr. Scott declares that if they were paraded in Hyde Park some summer afternoon, their beautiful uniforms and splendid frames would alike create a sensation. Of course, they have working suits of the dust-coloured Khaki, which is the usual military undress in the East. Their great coats came from the Army Clothing Factory in Pimlico, but the remainder of their equipment is made in Hongkong, under Colonel Barrow's direction. So attractive is the English service to these stalwart hill-men of Northern India, that between February 1st, 1892, and April 9th of that year nearly six hundred recruits were enrolled. Their company officers are all English, and they have been so well drilled until to-day they are as fine a body of men as any in our army.

TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYERS.

The thirty-two torpedo boat destroyers with which the Admiralty have decided to strengthen the navy, have now all been given out to various contractors for construction, and should be completed during the next financial year. Up to the present the only one of the class completed is the Havock, which was built by Messrs. Yarrow & Co., of Poplar. The Havock was guaranteed a speed of 25 knots, and her steam trials showed that she was capable of doing this without difficulty. The remaining 31 boats are guaranteed a speed of 27 knots, and as they are being built by various firms, and are to be supplied with many different types of boilers, it is not unlikely that some may fail to realize, whilst others may exceed, the enormous speed at which they are expected to run. Ten different firms have received orders to

construct these little vessels. In this matter the Admiralty have, perhaps, acted wisely, as the country will certainly be benefited by the spirit of competition which will set up between the different contractors. The orders for the construction of the 32 vessels have been distributed as follows: Havock, Hornet, Hasty, Charger and Dasher, Yarrow & Co., Isle of Dogs, Poplar; Daring, Decoy, Boxer, Ardent and Bruiser, Thornycroft & Co., Chiswick; Ferret and Lynx, and two not yet named, Laird Bros., Birkenhead; Janus, Porcupine and Lightning, Palmer's Shipbuilding Co., Jarrow-on-Tyne; Rocket, Shark and Surly, J. & G. Thompson, Glasgow; Conflict, Wizard and Tesser, J. & S. White, Cowes; Hardy and Haughty, Doxford & Sons, Sunderland; Fervent and Zephyr; Hanna, Donald and Wilson, Paisley; three not yet named, Naval Construction and Armaments Company, Barrow-in-Furness; two not yet named, Hawthorne, Leslie and Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A WELL KNOWN RIFLEMAN.

A well known Volunteer has passed in the person of Mr. George Pearse, better known as Colonel Pearse, whose remains were laid to rest at Hatherleigh on Monday. We have our carefully calculated tables showing the probably duration of life; but what are they? Who would have said that Colonel Pearse, with his fine physique, and in the very prime of life, would in so few days succumb? He was one of the last men who would have been picked out as likely to prove a victim to a mere cold. A hard worker, a healthy liver, and a man whose steadiness of aim and sureness of sight had won him a world wide reputation as an excellent shot, he seemed to be sure of twenty or thirty years of useful life. His death has brought sorrow to many hearts, and cast a gloom over many with whom he was not intimately acquainted. He was of splendid stature and athletic habits and, moreover, a man of good education. He was also a man of many parts. As a Volunteer he gained a wide reputation. Joining the 4th V.B.D.R. some 23 years ago, his energy and interest in shooting soon brought him to the front, and soon after he became a citizen soldier he gained his first success. This was followed by others until in 1875 he won the blue ribbon of the Wembleton meeting by carrying off the Queen's Prize. In subsequent years he was seven times in the final for the Queen's Prize. For twelve years he shot for England in the International team, and to the very last Volunteers in the West had reason to be proud of his prowess with the rifle. Although he will be best remembered as a volunteer, he was a solicitor of ability and energy, well known throughout Devonshire for his pleasant, courteous manners, and his untiring devotion to his official and other duties. His connection with the banking firm of Dingley, Pearse & Co. was less known, but shows how well his time was filled. Colonel Pearse was also a politician. A follower of Mr. Gladstone, he became a Unionist in

1886. Although as agent for Viscount Ebrington, and subsequently as sub-agent for Colonel White-Thompson and Mr. Moore Stevens, politics were to him no mere dilettantism, his political opponents will be the first to admit that he carried his courteous and obliging demeanour into the political arena. It will thus be seen that Colonel Pearse was in a very real sense a notable man. Possibly to his continual activity may be attributed in part his death at the age of 42. Those who did honour to his memory at the graveside on Monday did so with a very keen feeling that his passing hence has left a great void.—*Naval and Military Record*, Jan. 11th.

A STORY OF MACMAHON.

In an editorial in Dr. Russell's paper, the *Army and Navy Gazette*, written at the time of Marshal MacMahon's obsequies, the following passage occurs: "A general officer writes as follows in reference to the death of Marshal MacMahon: 'Do you remember, when Blumenthal was at the Queen's Hotel, Farnborough, in 1871, the Duke of Connaught asking him what had most impressed itself upon him in the campaign of 1870? The reply was striking. Blumenthal said, "MacMahon's advance at the end of the day at Worth. He came on as if he were leading victorious troops." The chief of staff of the crown prince's staff did not however, say that MacMahon was the ablest French general opposed to the Germans. He gave that praise to Chanzy; when the Germans though they had smashed him they found Chanzy was nearer to Paris than they were. Blumenthal also observed, in talking of the campaign, "No one knows better than I do how near the French were to winning the battle of Worth. I always said that we must win the first battle, and I managed to get such a superior number of troops concentrated to do it." I must tell you a story of MacMahon and Bazaine's escape. I went over to see the island of St. Marguerite from Cannes with MacMahon some years after he had ceased to be president. We walked on to the terrace. A French subaltern showed us about, evidently having no idea who MacMahon was, and no one of the guard or soldiers recognized him. We were looking at the place where Bazaine got down, and MacMahon said, "How easy it was to do so." because there was an immense heap of rubbish and earth almost up to the parapet. when the subaltern said, "Yes, quite easy; but that is not the place." "Where was it, then?" said MacMahon. "Why, through that gate of course?" The marshal said, "Who let him out?" "Why, the president and the government, of course!" You should have seen the marshal's face. He was awfully amused. We walked out of the guard-room and thanked the officer, when all of a sudden an old sergeant recognized the marshal, and before we got to the

boat the whole garrison was lining the terrace or coming down to the quay to see the marshal. I pitied the feelings of the poor subaltern!"

CROMWELL AS A SOLDIER.

At a meeting of the Military Society of Ireland held in Dublin on the 3rd inst., Judge O'Connor Morris read an interesting paper on the above subject. Major-General Moncrieff presided in the absence of Lord Wolseley.

In the course of his address the lecturer said that many causes had combined until the present age to disparage Cromwell's fame, but he was one of the most illustrious of Englishmen. Parts of his policy doubtless must be condemned, and his fame had suffered from the extravagances of Carlyle; but the soldier who raised England from what seemed decrepitude to a foremost place amongst the Powers of Europe, and who traced the lines of her empire on the seas, was, it was now seen, one of her mightiest sons, and it was no ordinary statesman who projected the union of the Three Kingdoms and codifications of their still formless law, and who preserved the State from civil war and anarchy. No writer of eminence had yet done justice to him as a great captain. When Charles I. raised his standard in August, 1642, Cromwell was in command of a troop of horse in the rude but large Parliamentary army, and his first experience in the field showed that he had keen insight as to adapting means to ends. The King, who might have been crushed by Essex at the outset, had been allowed to collect a large force; he had routed a hostile detachment at Powick and, marching across the front of his enemy, he advanced through Warwickshire against his "rebellious" capital. The opposing armies met at Edge Hill, and though Essex had the best of the fight, the horseman of Rupert swept the parliamentary levies before them. Cromwell perceived at once where the defect lay—a set of tapsters and poor apprentices cannot," he said, "fight against men of honour." He declared to his cousin Hampden that nothing could be done until Cavalier chivalry was met by the spirit of Puritanism, embodied in a thoroughly trained and prepared Army. He set himself to carry out this purpose with the little body of men in his hands, and the stern fanaticism and the fine dis- of the "godly people" who formed his troops gradually became manifest. Cromwell swayed all minds by the power of his will, and became the master spirit of this movement and the real chief of the levies that were now raised. They saw him organising and drilling soldiers with extraordinary administrative skill in the winter of 1642 and the spring of 1643, and he kept steadfast to his first ideal. The legend which had come down to them as a genuine utterance of the future

chief, "Put your trust in God and keep your powder dry," expressed the methods adopted by him. He made his troops the fiercest and boldest of zealots, but at the same time formed them into real soldiers. The regiments thus raised became by degrees most formidable and trustworthy warriors; they were animated by passions more intense than the Crusaders or the armed swarms of Mahomet; their enemies in their eyes were "ranks of the accursed" and "vessels of wrath foredoomed by God," but their moral power was upheld by material force brought in tune to the extreme of perfection. Such was the origin of the far-famed "Ironsides" which scattered Rupert and his nobles like sheep, which crushed Ireland, subdued Scotland, and was the right arm of the Protector for years; which overwhelmed the best troops of Spain and Dunkirk, and was prized by Turenne, the first soldier of Europe, as the best instrument of war ever found by him. The first occasion on which Cromwell displayed his skill in tactics, which was innate in him, was in a skirmish near Grantham in July. A body of Cavaliers, led by a gallant son of the great house of Cavendish, fell on the Ironsides, but fanaticism and hard training had done their work, and the Royalist horsemen were quickly routed and hotly pursued by the Puritan troops. Young Cavendish attempted to rally, but Cromwell had a reserve in hand, and launched it with such decisive effect that scarcely a foe escaped from the field. With equal daring and skill the rising soldier covered a retreat from Gainsborough with his trained squadrons. The battle of Marston Moor was the first instance in which the tactical powers of Cromwell were seen on anything like a great scale, and the issue was mainly due to him. Many actions followed, and Charles still clung to his game of kingcraft, and, with a strange faith in the divinity of the Crown and apparently without any fears for himself, he played the Army against the Parliament, and believed that he would yet win through their increasing discord. The part played by Cromwell at this crisis was still to a great degree unknown. There was reason to believe that he sincerely wished to save the King and to uphold the monarchy, but he was probably overborne by the fierce zealots who reminded him how Saul had spared Agag and had been visited by Divine vengeance. Cromwell was soon again at the head of the Army, and as Lord-Lieutenant closed the Civil War in Ireland. The troubles of that unhappy land had multiplied since Charles had dealt with the Celtic rebels,—the old native Irish; the Catholics of the pale, the Protestant colonists, and the party of the King had been tearing each other to pieces; but Ormond and Clanricarde, two able men linked before his death by Owen Roe O'Neil, a warrior of no ordinary

powers, had succeeded in uniting nine-tenths of the nation against the Puritans and the remains of the Parliament. Cromwell landed from Milford in August 1649. When he landed Londonderry and Dublin were almost the only places held for the Parliament, and a huge wave of insurrection seemed about to efface the Anglo-Saxon and Scottish settlements. The campaign that followed had been misdescribed by worshippers of brute force, like Carlyle, and by passionate writers of the conquered race, and it had been depicted as a series of blood massacres, the just punishment of atrocious deeds, or as the fanatical orgie of a fruitless tyrant. This was a complete perversion of fact, and Cromwell's conduct in Ireland had yet to be judged impartially by a candid historian and by a competent thinker on war. No doubt he was a stern and severe conqueror; no doubt they turned their eyes away from Wexford and Drogheda; no doubt Cromwell and his avenging host regarded Celtic Papists as accursed idolators dripping with the carnage of 1641 and to be trodden under foot like the doomed tribes of Palestine were crushed at the bidding of the Lord, but when he set foot in Ireland he had to deal with a nation in armed and furious revolt, which had a country difficult in the extreme to penetrate. The experiences of previous Irish wars had shown that under conditions like these it was essential to strike hard at once, and the peculiarities of the Irish climate, fatal in the seventeenth century to British troops, made it necessary to avoid the inland districts, and, if possible, to obtain immediate success. These considerations explained his deeds in Ireland. He was pitiless and inexorable, but he acted upon a far-sighted policy, and his generalship was bold, decided, and brilliant. His severity at Drogheda, he told them himself, was calculated "to prevent the effusion of blood." Just as Villars deliberately starved Fribourg, just as the garrison of Pampefuna would have been put to the sword had it not yielded to the summons of Wellington. The massacre at Wexford, too, was plainly an accident, but, be that as it might, it and the sack of Magdeburg were military operations ably designed to terrify and put down a national rising, and to prevent ruinous marches in a country of wastes, where roads and supplies were alike wanting, and where soldiers perished from all kinds of disease. These measures were completely successful. Ireland was thoroughly subdued in a few months, and if ends were to be obtained by means in war Cromwell was justified by that single circumstance. As for his strategy in the contest on a whole, it was well conceived and, indeed, excellent; he continually clung to his fleet and the coast, and did not march inland until he had crushed his enemy, and, like Marlborough and Wellington, and he would add Wolseley, he showed that he understood the value

of the sea as his base, a truth never to be forgotten by British chiefs. Cromwell then returned to England and in the battle of Dunbar overthrew Leslie and Hamilton, and completed his conquest of the three Kingdoms. Cromwell had most of the gifts of famous chiefs—imagination, judgment, administrative power, the faculty of command in the highest degree, resolution, boldness, and, above all, insight and readiness in the field of battle. Had he had the training of Turenne or Conde he probably might have equalled both; but Cromwell never liked war until he had passed his fortieth year. He was a great military genius; he exhibited the gifts of a true strategist in his campaign in Ireland; and he would have crushed Charles in a few months had he held from the first the place of Essex. As a tactician he stood in the foremost rank, deficient as he might be in routine. He had preeminently the skill to which the victories of the seventeenth century were mainly due. He always seized the occasion when his horsemen could be launched forward with powerful effect and he always kept a reserve in hand to follow up and assure success. His greatest achievement as a chief, however, was the organisation of his renowned Army. His capacity in this respect was wonderful, and he unquestionably fashioned an instrument of war of strength and temper so complete and flawless that England had never possessed its equal.

Major-General Moncrieff said that they had a clear and graphic description of the life of that great Englishman, Cromwell, as a soldier, and it was quite clear to them that his success as a soldier was due to his thoroughly well organised soldiers and disciplined commanders, and to the way in which he kept his reserves in hand to complete his victories.

NAPOLEON AT ST. HELENA.

As the memory of "Napoleon the Little" dies out the culte of Napoleon the Great seems to revive, and new books illustrating or reflecting his career are as much sought after as if his biographies did not in themselves constitute a library.

In this connection a rather curious book has lately been published in Paris, entitled "Napoleon a Sainte-Helene. Rapports officiels du Baron Sturmer, Commissaire du Gouvernement Autrichien. Par Jacques St. Cere et H. Schlitter." M. St. Cere says, in the *avant-propos*, "The documents given in this volume have been published in Vienna, by H. Schlitter, with the authorization of the Austrian Government. They were found in the secret archives of the Imperial Court at Vienna, a collection which contains so many documents of the highest historical importance, and which has—with a liberality the editor would like to see imitated elsewhere—been placed at the disposition of those engaged in literary investigation." M. St. Cere, therefore, translated H. Schlitter's work into French, be-

lieving that it would interest Frenchmen, and be a real contribution to the history of Napoleon.

The appointment of commissioners of the Allied Powers to certify to the safe-keeping of Napoleon in St. Helena arose in this wise: Prince Metternich, having written from Paris to the Austrian Emperor that Bonaparte was on board the English line-of-battle ship, a prisoner, and that they might henceforth hope for peace, was replied to by Francis, in an autograph letter, on the very same day, declining to be satisfied that peace was yet guaranteed. Francis gives his reasons for uneasiness, stating, among other things, that although the French had lost confidence in Bonaparte they still greatly feared him, and that no confidence was to be placed in the French Bourbon government. In fact, the Austrian Emperor saw all sorts of dangers so long as there was a possibility of a return like that from Elba. However, after various propositions,—one of which was made by Lord Liverpool, to the effect that Louis XVIII. should take Bonaparte and have him shot,—the convention of August 2, 1815, provided that the "Imperial Courts of Russia and Austria, as well as the Royal House of Prussia, should appoint commissioners who should proceed to the place of detention fixed by his Britannic Majesty for the detention of Napoleon Bonaparte," to "assure themselves of the presence in such place of the said Bonaparte, but being in no way responsible for the manner of his detention,—*la façon dont le prisonnier sera garde.*" In conformity with this article, Baron Sturmer was nominated the Austrian commissioner. He was ordered to have no communication with the ex-Emperor or his suite; but the instructions of the other commissioners, especially of Count Balmain, on the part of Russia, who were more liberal and looked to personal reception. The commissioners arrived in St. Helena in June, 1816, and at once demanded that Sir Hudson Lowe should give them the opportunity of personally assuring themselves of the presence of Bonaparte upon the island. But Napoleon absolutely refused to receive the commissioners in their official character. They had interviews with Bertrand, Montholon, and Gourgaud, and some of them met Bonaparte unofficially, but not Sturmer; but their position was far from agreeable, for they had nothing to do officially, and only to cool their heels in this out-of-the-way spot, pick up gossip, and write it home. Sturmer's letters to Prince Metternich form the staple of this book in question. Some of the matter is not, as the newspapers say, quite "fit for publication," but most of the gossip is harmless. Still, it is curious as showing the feelings as well as the manners of the period, and therefore worthy of being read by those interested in "choses Napoleoniennes." Most histories do not mention the existence of such commissioners at all.

At last, in October, 1817, the fussy diplomat was relieved from his banishment, to his great delight, Prince Metternich having represented to the Austrian Emperor that "the sending of a commissioner to St. Helena, which the political situation had rendered necessary in 1815, was, on ac-

count of changed political conditions, no longer of importance; the mission was an expensive one, and financial considerations suggested the suppression of the post. "I therefore humbly propose to your Majesty to recall Baron Sturmer, and to nominate for the position of consul-general to the United States of North America." If the baron was as active with his ears and his pen during his stay on this continent as was during his fifteen months in St. Helena, the Austrian archives must contain much gossip which would be "mighty interesting reading."

Admiral Malcolm, who succeeded to the naval command at St. Helena after the ex-emperor had been some months there, seems to have been a prime favorite with Napoleon, who saw him frequently. The admiral reported to Baron Sturmer some of the conversations, and Sturmer reported whatever he heard, sometimes at third hand. Here is a conversation between Napoleon and the admiral:

B.—"Are your people going to keep me here always?"

Adl.—"I think so."

B.—"But you have other colonies?"

Adl.—"You would not be comfortable (vous n'y seriez bien) in any respect."

B.—"What they are doing here in St. Helena is absurd, ridiculous. Now, look at that soldier, perched up on that point of rock, what good is he there? Do you fear that I will make my escape? Why, a bird couldn't escape. I believe that I am forbidden to go down into the town, and that is natural enough; but outside my movements should be perfectly free."

Adl.—"Your movements are free; no one hinders you from going down into the town."

B.—"Yes; with an officer (Captain Popeton) at my heels. No; that would humiliate me. They would take me for a prisoner, and I am not that."

Adl.—"Yet we cannot treat you as a sovereign."

B.—"And why not? They ought to see that I have certain honors as a solace (amusement) to a person in my position. What harm could it do, on a bare rock like this?"

Adl.—"You consider yourself as still an emperor, then?"

B. (After a moment's reflection).—"No; I have abdicated."

Adl.—"You do not wish to be called general?"

B.—"I have not been a general since my return from Egypt. Any other title would suit me. Suppose they call me Napoleon."

Then they passed to the intended invasion of England. The admiral said, "What was the real intention of your great preparations at Boulogne?"

"To cross my forces over the Channel."

"Then the conquest of England appeared an easy matter?"

"No; not at all. But it seemed worth trying for."

The admiral remarked that they had never been able to make out what his plans were exactly

"Oh," said Bonaparte, "they were simple enough. My fleet was to embark a force of troops and make a feint of sailing for America. I was sure that the bulk of your fleet would follow them. Then Vil-

leneuve was to profit by the first opportunity,—of which the sea affords so many,—give your fleet the slip, and get back to the Channel probably two weeks before the English admiral would do so: there he was to cruise while my boats passed over."

At this interview the ex-emperor talked of the execution of the Duke d'Enghien, of the Prussians, and about Russia, and then came to the subject of Waterloo, saying to Malcolm,—

"Do you know that Wellington took great chances there? He ought to have retired and waited for the allies. Without the assistance of the Prussians he was lost."

"Yes; but he was sure the Prussians would come."

"How could he be certain of that? If Grouchy had done his duty, we would not have been left in the condition we were. It was due to Grouchy that all was lost."

"What caused you to open the campaign by an attack upon the Prussians? The position of the English army was entirely much—a much more embarrassing one for you. They were defending the sea-coast and the ports (la cote de la mer), and it behooved you to make yourself master of them."

Bonaparte replied,—

"The character of the generals opposed to me, as I understood them, influenced my conduct. That drunken hussar, always ready to rush into a fight, would have abandoned everything (tout quitte) to come to the succor of the English, and I should have had too many on me at once. I had commenced by weakening his force, and had beaten him. His army was in disorder. Grouchy ought to have prevented him from further interference. But my orders were not carried out, and the results I anticipated from them did not follow. But still, though the Prussians accomplished a good deal, the honors of the day were with Wellington."

In his dispatch of 2nd September, 1816, Baron Sturmer gives a detail of the ex-emperor's daily life. It is from hearsay, but we may be sure that gossip went into particulars at such a time and such a place. The Baron says (we translate freely)—

"His mental balance is very unequal, but he does not show in his appearance any trace of mental trouble. He seems always to be well, and promises to live a long time. No one can tell whether he is resigned to his fate or whether he has aspirations for the future. They say that he has great hopes that the Opposition party in England will enable him to leave St. Helena. Certainly, at least, he still protests against his arrest, and at Longwood insists upon being treated as an emperor. Bertrand, Montholon, Las Cases, Gourgaud, and all his suite continue to render him the same respect and honors as they would have done in other days. He received those strangers who may wish to pay their respects, but he never invites any one to a dinner or soiree, and never leaves the boundary of his enclosure, because he does not choose to be annoyed by the presence of an English officer, whose duty it would be in that case to accompany him. For the same reason, when taking exercise he avoids passing all posts

or sentinels. He rises at noon, has breakfast, and then occupies himself in various ways until three o'clock, at which hour he admits, four at a time, people who may call. He often walks after that, or drives in a caleche, with six horses, rarely going on horseback. He dines at eight, remaining at the table only three-quarters of an hour, plays a game of reversis, and then goes to bed, but often rises during the night to write. He is writing his own history, by the aid of the Mouteur, and is also learning English. His conversation would be interesting if one could follow him, but that is hardly possible, because he flies about from one subject to another. Habitually he sees only his own French followers, and rarely any English. General Lowe shows him every possible consideration, and, to a certain extent, yields to his mania for being treated a l'empereur. But in spite of this he does not like him, and has only seen him two or three times. He seems to like Admiral Malcolm, who plays to perfection the part of a good fellow, but who will no more depart from the orders given him than the other."

Perhaps it may be thought we have given a little too much of Sturmer, whose reports have been buried in the Austrian archives for eighty-seven years, but those interested in the matter may check the other accounts of Napoleon at St. Helena by means of the gossip of the Austrian commissioner.

CORRESPONDENCES.

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FORT STANLEY.

To the Editor Canadian Military Gazette.

Dear Sir,—Through a misapprehension, shared by many both in and out of Toronto, I am afraid that you will have created an undesirable impression upon the minds of your readers by the leading article in your last issue referring to the naming of a certain military place here after the late Governor General, and in order to remove this impression I hope you will find space for this letter.

At the foot of Bathurst street in Toronto, on what was once the lake shore, stands the Old Fort. It was built in the early part of the present century and was, I believe, a factor in the war of 1812. About a mile to the west of the Old Fort the Imperial Government built, on the lake shore, in 1841, barracks "for the headquarters and wing of a battalion," as the brass plate at the barrack gate reads. These barracks were never officially named. The above mentioned brass plate refers to them as "this Barrack Establishment;" old plans and documents call them "New Barracks," and "New Garrison;" the public dubbed them the "New Fort" for want of a name and, I suppose, to distinguish them from the Old Fort. They might as well have been called the "New Rifle Pits" for all that they are like either. Later they were commonly referred to as "the New Fort Barracks" which was obviously absurd. It is these barracks, and not the Old Fort, that have been officially named "Stanley Barracks," after the kindly soldier who, whenever

he was in Toronto, and no matter how pressed for time, always went out to the barracks and called upon Tommy Atkins in his barrack room and took a personal interest in his welfare. Fort Rouille had no connection with either place. The exhibition buildings, still further west, are built upon the site occupied by that historic fort. Apologising for taking up your space, I am, Sir, Yours sincerely,

"STANLEY BARRACKS."

Toronto, 13th Jan., 1894.

Montreal, Jan. 31st, 1894.

To the Military Editor of the Montreal Gazette:

Dear Sir,—Your comments in the Gazette of the 20th inst. in reference to Gen. Sir Fred. Middleton's "Suppression of the N. W. Rebellion, 1885," taken from the United Service Magazine, having drawn my attention to this matter, I procured a copy of that excellent periodical and on page 384 of the January number I read the following statement by him, which I now quote in his own words:

"Most, if not all, of my senior officers were of opinion that we were not strong enough and ought to retire to our last camp and await reinforcements. I differed from them. I considered, though I would have been glad of a few more men, that we were strong enough as we were, and a few days' delay before actually forcing the enemy's position would only render our men more fit and anxious for it, and we could afford to expend more ammunition than the enemy. Moreover, even if reinforcements were found to be necessary we could await them more advantageously where we were, for I felt certain that should we retire we would be followed up and our retirement might chance to become a rout. Even if we fell back unmolested, the fact of our retreating would be made the most of all over the Northwest Territories and a general rising would probably take place. So I determined to hold out at all hazards where we were, even to keeping with us the wounded, whom I at one time thought of sending back."

Now, sir, as in justice to myself, as next senior officer to the General and D.A.G. of the N. W. F. force, and to Dr. Orton, then surgeon major of the 90th (Winnipeg) Batt. and brigade surgeon of the same force, I cannot allow this statement to pass unchallenged, I would ask you to be kind enough to insert the following open letter in most emphatic denial of its truthfulness, and, in order to set your numerous interested readers right in regard to this matter, I shall endeavor to relate, as concisely as possible, what did actually occur upon the occasion above referred to by the General, leaving them to draw their own conclusions as to the accuracy or fairness of the gallant historian's statement.

On the day in question, May 9th. 1885, or, the first day of the attack upon the rebels' position at Batoche, at about 2.30 p.m., I rode up to General Middleton, who was on horseback and alone, near the door of the church (described on his plan), with the intention of proposing to lead

a couple of companies to a certain position, from whence they could outflank and enfilade some of the enemy, who were occupying rifle pits about from five to six hundred yards to our left front, in the vicinity of the cemetery, from which they were keeping a desultory fire on our men. As I came up to him he appeared much excited and told me to order an immediate retreat to our camp of the previous night, some eight miles distant. I took the liberty of remonstrating with him upon the inadvisability of such a step, pointing out to him the extremely bad moral effect such action would have upon our young soldiers, and what an opposite effect upon the enemy. I suggested to him that this would be doubtless claimed as a victory by them, and reported by signals for hundreds of miles in every direction over the country before morning, and that in all probability it would have the immediate effect of turning thousands of the then neutral Indians into "Hostiles." I had some considerable knowledge of the feelings entertained by the Indian warriors of the Northwest Territory, which had been part of my command for the last four years, during which time I had been a close observer of them as he was well aware from certain reports which I had furnished him for the information of the Government several months before the outbreak of the rebellion. He exhibited the greatest impatience during this conversation, and at length flew into a towering passion and said: "I did not call you here, sir, to ask your advice or opinion. I have already consulted with all my officers with whom I desire to consult. You have got my orders, and I insist upon your carrying them out directly."

To this I replied: "General Middleton, I shall execute your orders at once, but before doing so I desire to say that, as Deputy Adjutant General and second in command, I disapprove of and protest against this action, as I feel confident it will result in disaster, not only to this force, but also, unfortunately, to the others acting in concert with us, and to the settlers generally throughout the country, and I desire to wash my hands of all blame which may attach to it."

I then galloped away to convey his orders to the proper quarters. In less than ten minutes the force was in motion, and the half of Boulton's mounted infantry ordered to cover the front of the retreat (the other half being directed to cover the rear), were fully half a mile from the main body, and in full and orderly retreat. As I passed the transport corps, I had given orders to Mr. Sinclair, who was in charge that day, to send 20 teams to the church at once for the conveyance of the wounded, of which there were then some ten or twelve being attended to there by Brigade Surgeon Orton and the other surgeons of the force. I had ordered these spare teams, feeling confident there would be a considerable increase to our casualty list, ere we should reach our destination. As I returned, I overtook and passed them arriving at the church a few hundred yards ahead of them. I did not dismount, but called out at the door for Brigade Sur-

geon Orton, who responded immediately, and to whom I then delivered the General's orders; telling him to lose no time in getting the wounded ready for removal to the waggons, which would arrive directly for their conveyance. He seemed quite thunderstruck, and asked me what I thought of such a movement, I replied that, personally, I highly disapproved of it, and that I had so informed the General.

He urged me to again try remonstrance with him, but I positively declined to do so, relating to him my recent conversation with the General on the subject, and telling him that I would not lay myself open to a repetition of such gross insult, as I had then received from him, for any consideration whatever, adding the words "Not to save the whole force,—myself included—from annihilation." Dr. Orton moving the wounded, over the terrible moving he wounded, over the terrible corduroy road lying between us and the last camp, specially in the rough springless freight waggons, which were all that were at his disposal for the purpose; and declared that he did not believe that one half of them would live to reach their destination. The waggons by this time were just arriving at the church door, and Dr. Orton, looking at them, continued, "No, sir! my professional reputation is at stake, and I positively refuse to murder the patients under my charge, by carrying out this order; so you may send the waggons away, and tell the General that I have decided upon remaining here with the wounded, and taking my chances with the enemy, in preference to so doing." I suggested that as the General was close by, it might be better that he should interview him personally upon the subject, adding that it would be absolutely impossible for him to continue the retreat under such circumstances. To this Dr. Orton immediately consented and walked up to where the General was still sitting on his horse—about fifty yards away—and told him his decision. I did not join in this colloquy; but could see and hear all that passed, as their dialogue was carried on in no undertone. The General was very angry, and spoke of the consequences of "disobedience of orders in front of the enemy," etc., but Orton stood firm and repeated what he had previously said to me upon keeping the wounded where they were and remaining with them himself; also that he had no fear of ill-treatment at the hands of the enemy for either himself or them.

"That simply means then," cried the General, "that I must stay here," and turning to me, he continued: "Colonel Houghton stop the retreat at once and order all back to the positions which they occupied before the order for retreat was given." This, I need not say, was carried out with the greatest pleasure and alacrity, and in less than fifteen minutes afterwards, all were back in their places just as though the retreat had never been thought of, and, happily, without its having been perceived by the enemy. Now I defy General Sir Fred. Middleton or any one else to refute one single statement contained in this letter and I am prepared to substantiate every

word I have said, by my own affidavit, supported by that of Dr. Orton, and corroborated by the testimony of others, who were present at the termination of this episode; and, indeed, I may say of the whole No. W. F., every member of which was aware at the time that a retreat had been ordered and actually commenced, though all may not then have been cognizant of the reason why it was countermanded. It indeed seems strange to me that Sir Fred. Middleton should have committed such an egregious error, as to have deliberately penned such an egotistical and fallacious statement as that contained on page 384 of the United Service Magazine for January, 1894. Is it possible that his memory is failing so fast that he has already forgotten the fact that the very matter to which I have here taken exception, was the subject of both official and newspaper correspondence, in the spring of 1886, the latter being between Dr. Orton and some of the General's inspired and expectant friends; and that it was finally settled, both privately and officially in favor of the former? Or does he imagine that because, whilst occupying the high position of Major General commanding the militia of Canada, he was permitted, through the rules of military discipline and etiquette, the privileges of making incorrect statements, and garbled reports, unchallenged, he will still be accorded the same license of speech and pen, and immunity from contradiction, now, when appearing in the role of an historian, and egotistical auto-biographer combined? Or, has he forgotten that he no longer wields the baton in Canada? I think I have now said all that is necessary, for the vindication of myself and others, from the charge of incapacity, or cowardice—which you will—laid at our door by Gen. Sir Fred. Middleton, who will hear no more from me, until he either disputes the truth of any of the statements contained in this letter (of which I shall, of course, send him a copy) or makes some other libellous accusation—for his own aggrandisement or otherwise—against, or to the disparagement of myself, or any of my brave Canadian brothers-in-arms, with whom I had the honor of serving in this my adopted home.

Sir Fred. Middleton's Suppression of Rebellion in the North-West Territories of Canada, 1885.

Continued

Most, if not all, of my senior officers were of opinion that we were not strong enough and ought to retire to our last camp and await reinforcements. I differed from them. I considered, though I would have been glad of a few more men, that we were strong enough as we were, and a few days' delay before actually forcing the enemy's position would only render our men more fit and anxious for it, and we could afford to expend more ammunition than the enemy. Moreover, even if reinforcements were found to be necessary, we could await them more advantageously where we were, for I felt

certain that should we retire we should be followed up, and our retirement might chance to become a rout. Even if we fell back unmolested, the fact of our retiring at all would be made the most of all over the Northwest Territories, and a general rising would probably take place. So I determined to hold on at all hazards where we were, even to keeping with us the wounded, whom I at one time thought of sending back. At the same time I thought it wise to prepare for possibilities, and I wrote orders to be sent by telegraph from Humboldt to close up the troops on our lines of communication, so as to be at hand if required. I also wrote a dispatch to the Minister of Militia on the state of affairs, which I determined to send by Lord Melgund. He was naturally averse to leave me, as I was to lose him at such a moment; but I explained to him my reasons for wishing it, and he departed that afternoon on the understanding that I was to telegraph to him at Winnipeg if matters became worse, and he was then to return with any troops he might find there. I sent back Mr. Secretan with Boulton and his scouts to strike our camp and bring everything up to us. This was done very quickly and a zareba was formed with the waggons on a piece of open ground about a quarter of a mile back from the church. Towards evening the troops were gradually withdrawn, some of the enemy following them up until checked by a heavy fire from the zareba. A few of them kept up a desultory long-range fire for a short time, killing two horses and wounding one man in the zareba. As darkness fell all firing ceased. We were a little anxious about the steamer as we could hear no whistling, and to let them know on board that we had not retired we sent up a rocket, which, by-the-way, nearly caused a stampede among our horses. The force had behaved well, the officers setting a good example by their coolness, Van Straubenzie and his brigade major, Young being always to the front, and Melgund, Haig, and Freer being of the greatest use to me. Piquets were posted and a trench made round the zareba. No tents were pitched except for the wounded, as all the horses were inside, and except for a little rain the weather was fine. The men lay down, with their arms, along the four sides of the zareba after a hasty supper. Our casualties for the day were two men killed and ten wounded, including Captain Mason, 10th Grenadiers. Next morning, the 10th of May, we were under arms at dawn, but all was quiet, and after an early breakfast I moved out part of the infantry; but we were not able to take up our positions of yesterday, as the enemy was in greater force, and now held the high ground in front of the church. Some of them, apparently Indians from their cries, had taken post at the end of a point of land below the cemetery, to answer which we had to send a party down to the edge of the river. The infantry were placed in as advanced positions as possible to engage the new positions taken up by the enemy. During the day A Battery had some practise at some houses on the opposite bank, and

the two guns of the Winnipeg Battery shelled the cemetery and some rifle-pits. A body of mounted men, 50 in number, called the land surveyor's scouts, under the command of Captain Dennis, joined us that afternoon—a most useful, able body of well-mounted men, all more or less surveyors by profession—and did right good service. That afternoon we constructed, out of sight of the enemy, some trenches and isolated pits which would enfilade their usual advance when they followed our men up in the evening. Just before that time I placed some men in these pits and trenches armed with Martini-Henrys. When the advanced parties withdrew they were followed as usual by the enemy, who were speedily driven back by this unexpected flank fire. After enemy had retired, two shots—evidently long range, unaimed shots—struck the camp, one killing a horse, the other, oddly enough, striking a waggon on which was my looking-glass and before which I was shaving, after which all was quiet for the night. Our casualties were one killed and five wounded.

Having heard that there was a large piece of open prairie to the northeast of Batoche, I sent out during the day Captain French with some scouts to ascertain if such was the case. On his return he reported that it was so, and I resolved to make a strong mounted reconnaissance next day in that direction, with a view to preparing for our final attack, for which I saw our men were getting nearly fit, the retirement this evening having been much steadier, and our casualties for the day less.

The next morning, the 11th of May, having seen the infantry under Van Straubenzie take up their position and "open the ball," I started off with Bolton and his scouts and the gatling to reconnoitre the prairie ground said to be to the north of the village. As we were leaving we met a party carrying on a stretcher one of the Roman Catholic priests, who had been wounded in the thigh by a shot from the rebels fired into the house where he was sitting. The poor man bore the pain with great courage and patience. He was sent off to Saskatoon and, I am glad to say, eventually quire recovered under Dr. Roddick's treatment. Instead of taking the regular trail, I made a detour through the wood, which was inclined to be marshy, for I thought it possible the enemy might have defences on the trail. We soon came out on the plain, which appeared nearly two miles long and some thousand yards broad, with a slight ridge down the centre. We soon saw men moving about near the edge of the woods on the river side of the plain, and a few shots were fired at us. I advanced the gatling to the ridge, supported by some dismounted scouts, and soon drew a smart fire from them. We could see with our glasses that the enemy had a series of rifle-pits all along the edge of those woods, and numbers of them were running up between the woods and disappearing into the pits. Evidently they were prepared for an attack in this direction. Leaving the gatling in action

I galloped off with my aide-de-camp, Boulton, and a few scouts after two mounted men who were watching us on our right. They got away in some woods, and on our return we captured a man on foot coming out of a small wood close to us. He was unarmed and declared he was the priests' man, and, though an Indian, was in European clothes. He was sent to camp, and turned out to be a full-brown rebel. We also captured some cattle and ponies which we took back to camp with us. After continuing our fire on the pits for some time we returned to camp. On going to the front I found we had more than regained our lost ground, my reconnaissance having drawn most of the enemy to the rifle-pits in our front. A party of Midlanders, under Lt. Col. Williams's command, finding the fire blacken from the Indian's post below the cemetery, had, led by him, gallantly rushed it, the Indians boiting and leaving behind them some blankets and a dummy which they had used for drawing our fire. A battery shelled the cemetery and the rifle-pits below, and the Winnipeg Battery shelled a house on the opposite side of the River which was flying Riel's flag. In the evening the advanced parties retired unmolested, not even a long-range shot being fired into the camp. Our casualties for the day amounted to only four slightly wounded, including one officer, Captain Manly, 10th Grenadiers. Our men were now beginning to show more dash, and that night I came to the conclusion that it was time to make our decisive attack.

The next morning, the 12th of May, I left with all my mounted men, one gun of A Battery, and the gatling for the plain. Before starting I arranged with Van Straubensee that as soon as he heard us well engaged he was to move off, and having taken up yesterday's position, push on towards the village. I should, as soon as I had drawn the enemy to the rifle-pits, gallop back and join his attack. I took the same route as yesterday, and on reaching the plain dismounted some of the scouts, and with them, the gun and the gatling engaged the rifle-pits which were soon filled with the enemy. In the middle of all this we saw a man riding furiously towards us, waving something white. I rode forward to meet him, and found it was one of Riel's white prisoners, Mr. Ashby, a civil surveyor. He handed me a letter, which he said Riel had written and sent to me. I opened it and found it was to the effect that if I massacred his women and children he would massacre the prisoners. As I supposed he referred to our shelling the houses, I at once wrote in answer that we were most averse to injuring women and children, and that if he would put them all in one place, or house, and let me know its exact locality no shot or shell should be fired at it. Just then another prisoner, a Mr. Jackson, came up on foot, having been sent by Riel with a duplicate of the letter brought by Ashby. The latter, in a few hurried words, told me that the prisoners were all, at that moment, in a dark cellar in one of the houses, the trap-door of which was kept closed by heavy weights, and that Jackson and himself had been taken out specially to carry the letter, and that they were being rather roughly treated. He then described the position of the house, and honourably and gallantly went back with my answer, fearing, if he did not, his comrades in misfortune might suffer. The other man declined to return. I now proposed to retire, first pouring in a heavy fire with some dismounted men and the gatling, while the gun and the mounted men withdrew, covered from the enemy's sight by the ridge. The dismounted men held on for a short time, unfortunately losing one of their num-

ber, Lieut. Kippen, of the Land Surveyor's Scouts. When the whole party was mounted we went as rapidly as possible back to our camp. Then I found, to my intense surprise, and annoyance, that, owing to a strong wind blowing towards us, our firing had not been heard and the infantry had not moved out of camp. I am afraid on that occasion I lost both my temper and my head. I hurried off alone to the church to try and see what the enemy was about. Just as I got near it a fire was opened on me from the ravine, which soon pulled me up. I saw I was in a fix and turned about to walk back, but the fire grew so hot that I had to run for it, the bullets swishing about me in grand style. Luckily I managed to reach one of our rifle-pits, into which I thankfully dropped. The Brigade Major, Capt. Young, who had luckily seen the affair, advanced with some men and I got back safe and sound. By this time the men had had their dinner, and I directed Van Straubensee to take up our old positions at once and push on cautiously, while the rest of us had something to eat. Straubensee moved off and extended two companies of the Midlanders on the left moving up to the cemetery. The 10th Grenadiers, under Lt. Col. Grasett, prolonged the line to the right beyond the church, the 90th being in support. The Midlanders, gallantly led by their Colonel, swept on through the wood, driving the enemy out of the rifle-pits at the cemetery and between the cemetery and river. The 10th, under their gallant chief, Grasett, now advanced, driving the enemy out of the ravine, the whole giving vent to a rattling cheer, which brought myself and staff speedily to the front, where I found the whole line, which had been splendidly led by Lt. Col. Straubensee, in the wood facing the village, the line being perpendicular to the river; the Midlanders, on the left, the Grenadiers in the centre, and the 90th on the right, commanded by Captain Buchan, Major Mackeand having sprained his leg early in the day, and Major Boswell being left in the zareba with a guard. The guns were now up, and commenced firing from their old position on the village and on the ferry, by which some of the enemy were escaping. The 90th were now quickly extended on the right of the Grenadiers, the extreme right being taken by the scouts, dismounted. About this time Ashby again appeared, having run the gauntlet of the fire of both sides to bring another letter from Riel—who, by the way, he said was in a blue funk—thanking me for my courteous reply, &c., but outside the envelope was written, "I don't like war. If you don't cease firing the question will remain the same as regards the prisoners." Of course no answer was sent, and soon, with the officers well to the front, a general advance of the whole line was made with rousing cheers, the place was captured, the prisoners released, and the fight was over, except for some desultory long-range firing, which was soon put down by two or three parties sent in different directions. About 6 p.m. the steamer Northcote appeared towing another steamer. We were all delighted to see them, and found that except two or three very slight casualties the Northcote people were all safe, but they had a long story to tell. I sent for our blankets and food, and bivouacked in and about the houses in the village, having, however, sent the scouts back to strengthen the guard I had left all day in the zareba under Lt. Col. Houghton, consisting of a party of the 90th, under Major Boswell, and a gun of A Battery. We posted our piquets, and were all glad to get to sleep after our successful day's work.

FRED MIDDLETON.

To be Continued.

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