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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. III.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1860.

No. 52.

THE REVOLT

OF THE

British American Colonies,

1764-84.

CHAPTER XXXII.

Admiral Byron's usual good fortune did not desert him, as the weather at last permitted his fleet to reach St. Lucie on the 6th of January, 1779, just eight days after Comte d'Estaing's fleet had sailed. It is probable that if the weather had not detained the British fleet at Newport fourteen days after it was ready to sail, it would have encountered the French fleet and a general engagement resulted, which would have had the effect of deciding the issue of the war. There could have been little doubt of the issue, and it would compel the French Court to look to the defences of their own coast, preventing them sending military or naval succor to the United States. It would have also prevented the formation of that league called the *armed neutrality* which required the action off the Dogger beak and Rodney's victory to break up. The arrival of Admiral Byron's fleet made the British force superior in the West Indies, and the French were confined to the harbor of Fort Royal at Martinique. Both fleets were reinforced during the winter, that of d'Estaing's by a squadron under Count de Grasse and Byron's by one under Commodore Rowley. For six months the former remained in port with the latter watching his manœuvres, yet no attempt was made to dislodge the enemy from his position, and, as a consequence, when on the 6th of June Byron sailed for St. Christopher to collect and convoy the West Indian fleet d'Estaing sailed for St. Vincent, which was captured on the 16th without resistance, by which seven companies of the 60th regiment became prisoners of war without firing a shot. Grenada was attacked on the 2nd of July, and after a brave resistance from 150 men of the 48th regiment was obliged to surrender at discretion, (as it appears d'Estaing, enraged at being repulsed with a loss of nearly 400

men by such a small force, attempted to impose dishonorable conditions) on the 4th of July.

Having escorted the West Indian fleet a safe distance on their homeward voyage Admiral Byron returned to St. Lucie on the 1st of July where he learned the capture of St. Vincent, and sailed to attempt its recapture. On the passage he received intelligence of the attack on Grenada and at once bore up for its relief—under the impression that the French fleet was inferior to his own when it consisted of 22 line-of-battle ships, three 50-gun ships and ten frigates; the British of 21 line-of-battle ships without frigates and a fleet of transports with troops on board. At daylight on the 6th of July the French fleet were descried getting under weigh from their anchorage in St. George's Bay, with a light breeze, and the British Admiral threw out a signal for a general chase, each ship to engage as she came up, detaching Admiral Rowley with three ships of the line to guard the transports to the windward. The leading British ships close hauled on the larboard tack led by Admiral Barrington in the Prince of Wales were fired upon at seven o'clock by the enemy, who had just then got the sea breeze and bearing away on the starboard tack across the bows of the British and formed their line to leeward. It was here that Admiral Byron discovered the strength of the enemy, and notwithstanding made the signal for close action, which was commenced by the van under Barrington at 7.30 a.m. and immediately became general. As the French passed to leeward along the whole line steering north-west, the larboard division of the British fleet being to leeward of their stations suffered severely, and one of them, the Monmouth, having bore up to close their van was completely disabled. It is probable that had the whole fleet followed her example a decisive action might have been brought on. But Rodney had yet to illustrate the true principle of naval tactics by a *happy* accident and the opportunity was lost. At 10 a.m., the French having cleared the English fleet, came about on the port tack and shewed an inclination to

cut off the disabled ships and transports. To frustrate this the British Admiral tacked to the starboard and bore up to their support, while d'Estaing, whose tactics appears to have been to *fight a little* and sail a great deal, bore up and steered to the windward. The British loss in this action was 183 killed and 346 wounded; the loss of the French, who had returned to their anchorage in St. George's Bay, Grenada, was stated at 1,200 killed and 1,500 wounded, which can only be accounted for by the habit of overmaning their fleet common to the French navy. This further loss so enraged d'Estaing that he treated the people of Grenada with gross severity.

The loss of Dominica, St. Vincent and Grenada was not compensated by the capture of St. Lucia, and as other conquests were contemplated much relief was experienced when the French fleet bore away for Cape Francois in the island of Hispaniola as the hurricane season was approaching.

In Georgia the campaign was carried on during the early part of the year 1779 with great vigor. Gen. Prescott, who commanded in East Florida, had been ordered to co-operate with Col. Campbell in Georgia, but had been obliged to adopt an unusual mode of transportation for artillery, ammunition, provisions and stores,—these were embarked in open boats, perfectly defenceless, and while navigating that network of bay, creek, river, and bayou, so common in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas, were frequently obliged to make wide detours to avoid capture by armed galleys of the enemy. The troops, marching along the coast, were frequently for days together without any provisions but such shell fish as they could pick up. About the beginning of January they penetrated into Georgia and reached the town of Sunbury and immediately invested the fort, which surrendered on the 9th of January at discretion; the British lost one man killed and three wounded, the loss of the garrison was equally trifling. Immediately after this capture Col. Campbell sent an expedition to Augusta, the second town in Georgia and 150 miles from the mouth of the Savannah River.

Gen. Lincoln had been appointed by Congress to the command of the troops of the Southern States, and on the 3rd of January having collected the remains of How's beaten troops he established his headquarters at Perrysburg, on the north bank of the river fifteen miles above Savannah.

Col. Campbell's expedition reached Augusta without opposition, and as many inhabitants flocked in to take the oath of allegiance he detached Lt.-Col. Hamilton with 200 mounted infantry to encourage the loyal and disarm the disaffected, but he soon found how deceptive those appearances were. He met with opposition in many places, and at last was attacked by Col. Pickens with 500 militia, but they were defeated with some loss. During the attention this movement excited a body of loyalists assembled under Col. Boyd in North Carolina, and attempted to force their way into Georgia to form a junction with the British troops. Col. Pickens fell in with this corps and defeated it at Kettle Creek with the loss of their commander and a considerable number in killed and wounded. About 300 however, succeeded in effecting a junction with the British army.

Augusta being too distant from Savannah and of no importance was evacuated. Meantime General Lincoln's force, which was constantly increasing, extended his posts along the frontier in a similar manner to the British, and finally detached General Ashe with 1500 militia to strengthen the post opposite Augusta and improve any opportunity which might arise for crossing the river. On his arrival he found Augusta had been evacuated by the British troops and therefore in accordance with his instructions he crossed the river and followed them as far as Brier Creek. As this was a plan for placing the British army in a state of blockade, Lieut.-Col. Prescott, with a detachment of 900 men, on the 3rd of March, got into the rear of the American troops, and while a brisk attack was made by another detachment in front, surprised and totally defeated them, with a loss of 150 killed, 27 officers, the second in command, and 200 men prisoners, a great number drowned in attempting to cross the river, seven pieces of artillery; several stand of colors, all their ammunition, baggage, and stores, and so completely was the detachment destroyed that out of 2,000 men only 450 rejoined Lincoln's troops; the loss of the British amounted to five killed and eleven wounded.

Fresh reinforcements having reached Gen. Lincoln he again resumed his project of establishing a post at Augusta, for the purpose of intercepting the communications of the British army with the interior and preventing the meeting of the Provincial delegates for Georgia, who had agreed to hold a convention there in May for the purpose of renewing the allegiance of the Province to Great Britain. His force amounted to 5,000 men, of these he left about 1,000 to

garrison Perrysburg and Black Swamp, and with the rest on the 23rd of April he commenced his march up the Savannah River. Five days afterwards Gen. Prescott, with a view to make him return, passed the greater part of his force into South Carolina. The American posts at Perrysburg and Black Swamp were at once evacuated and Gen. Moultrie, who commanded, unable to withstand the force opposed to him, retreated to Charlestown, destroying the bridges in his rear. Expresses were dispatched after Lincoln who refused to return, believing it only a feint of the British General, merely detaching 300 chosen troops to reinforce Moultrie, continued his march. Prescott's original intention was as Lincoln had surmised, but meeting with no opposition and it being seriously reported to him that Charlestown was in a perfectly defenceless state, he suffered himself to be hurried onward with the idea that he could capture it before Lincoln arrived for its relief, and the further he advanced the stronger those assurances became.

At Charlestown all was confusion and dismay. Standing on a point of land between the Ashley and Cooper rivers at their junction; the defences landward were of no account, while seaward and on both rivers it was formidable, and as the British troops were advancing on the defenceless side it is evident that the fate of the town was in a critical position. However, as Prescott advanced with elaborate slowness the people of Charlestown by employing their slaves carried a series of lines and abatis across the peninsula from one river to the other, and having collected the garrisons of the forts on the bay collected a force 3,300 for the defence of the town. On the 10th of May the British troops crossed the Ashley River and on the 17th appeared before the lines of Charlestown—the distance to Savannah being about 112 miles. On the next day the town was summoned to surrender, but as time was a matter of great consequence with the citizens they contrived to spend the whole day in negotiations, in the course of which they made a proposal for the neutrality of the Province during the rest of the war, and leaving its fate to be determined by the peace. But the whole was refused by Gen. Prescott who demanded the surrender of the garrison as prisoners of war. But during the night he withdrew the British force across the Ashley River because the lines were too strong to be assaulted.

The expedition was well planned but badly carried out. The possession of Charlestown would have ruined the ascendancy of Congress at the South. It was the true strategical point and not Savannah, and it is more than probable it would have fallen before an energetic assault, the British troops being 2,400 men, but they had no artillery. After foraging for some days they returned towards the coast, and, embarking on board the fleet, sailed to John's Island,

where they established themselves until the arrival of a supply of provisions from New York.

Gen. Lincoln had reached Augusta before he was convinced that a more serious affair than a mere feint was intended. Establishing a post there he returned down the Savannah River for three days and recrossing it pushed for Charlestown by forced marches until he reached Dorchester at the entrance of the peninsula, and took post there till the British retreated to the coast.

The coast of both Carolinas, Georgia and Florida is covered by a fringe of islands of greater or less extent throughout the whole distance from Cape Hattaras to Cape Florida. Those islands cover large bays, cataracts and inlets, making, as a general rule, safe and commodious landlocked harbours.

John's Island, of which the British had taken possession, is the first large and important one of the group south of the entrance to Charlestown harbour, and is separated from the mainland by an inlet known as Stone River. Its principal use being as a base of operations for foraging parties, and an important *point d'appui* for future operations against Charlestown as well as to compel Gen. Lincoln to act entirely on the defensive, and leave Georgia free. With those objects in view Gen. Prescott had strongly fortified a position on the island and another at the ferry on the mainland, which latter consisted of three strong redoubts joined by lines of communication with John's Island by a bridge which the numerous sloops and schooners belonging to the army furnished.

It was clearly Gen. Lincoln's intention to drive the British troops from this strong position, but having reconnoitered in force on the 4th of June he thought proper to retire as the lines were then manned by 2,500 men.

On the 16th of June Lieut.-Col. Prescott departed for Savannah, carrying with him 1,000 troops and the whole of the vessels which had formed the bridge except an armed float capable of carrying 20 men. Orders had been issued to Col. Maitland to evacuate the post at stone ferry, a work of difficulty and danger in consequence of the limited means of communication at hand. The three days preceding the 20th of June were occupied in those operations, but on that day Gen. Lincoln, who had learned the weak state of the garrison, attacked it at the head of 5,000 men and eight pieces of artillery. At seven in the morning he drove in the British picquets, which were luckily advanced a considerable distance in front of the works, and the firing on this occasion gave Col. Maitland, the officer in command, the first intimation of his danger. A detachment of two companies of the 71st regiment was sent out in advance to ascertain what force was advancing. These fell in with the left wing of the United States troops already formed, and without a mo-

ment's hesitation attacked it with great fury, but as a consequence the two companies, with the exception of eleven men were killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

The whole American line now advanced within 360 yards of the works and a fierce engagement with the artillery and small arms ensued. A regiment of Hessians on the left of the British line gave way and the American troops had reached the abattis in front of the works before a charge of a wing of the 71st regiment restored the fortunes of the day. After a fierce fight of some hours the American troops retreated, carrying away part of their killed and all of their wounded. As the horses had been transported to John's Island no pursuit was attempted. The British lost three officers and twenty-three men killed, two officers and ninety-three men wounded; total, 129 men killed and wounded. The loss of the American troops was not published, but it was ascertained that twenty-six officers had been killed and wounded. It is reasonable to suppose a corresponding loss occurred amongst the men.

General Prescott appears to have been animated by the same spirit of indecision which pervaded amongst all the chief officers of the British army. The post of John's Island was advantageous as it reversed the case with Lincoln and kept him at Charleston unable to move, while all Georgia was open to the British. Nor can there be any reasonable doubt but great advantages might be reaped by affording protection to and encouraging a reactionary movement amongst the people. Indeed, throughout the contest the former Colonists were divided into three distinct bodies, or rather the violent partisans of Congress, and those who adhered to Great Britain, forming about one-half of the whole population, the other half were undecided and generally cast in their vote on the side which had the best prospect of winning. If Gen. Prescott had retained possession of Stono Ferry, which he might easily have done, till autumn the whole of Georgia and the two Carolinas would have been in his possession, but his capacity was not equal to a measure of this kind, and he evacuated John's Island, and passing from island to island at last reached Beauport in the island of Port Royal, where he established a post a little north of Savannah, to which place he returned with the rest of the troops. The only advantage gained by the expedition was the post at Beauport and a supply of provisions plundered with very aggravating circumstances from the people of South Carolina, thus rendering a reconciliation or conquest equally impossible—a consequence of nearly every expedition by the British during this war.

The King of Italy is rapidly recovering from his illness, and is expected to be able to meet the Emperor of Austria at Brindisi about the 28th inst. The birth of a son to the heir to the throne has caused rejoicings throughout the kingdom.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A TALE OF THE SEA by our old friend Mr. Fraser, (Cousin Sandy), is before us, and, in typographical get up and illustration, is the best piece of work of the kind ever produced in Canada, reflecting great credit upon Author, Artists, Printer and Publisher. In the leading poem the author perfectly luxuriates in rollicking fun mixed with that satirical wit which has made him known throughout the land. In this volume Mr. Fraser has given higher indications of poetical genius than what would be expected by those who are only acquainted with him through his humorous productions in the daily press of Montreal and elsewhere. Among these are "The Old Elm Tree," and "Musings at the Chaudiere." In the latter poem he grasps a subject which is really the grand one of the age—Labour and Enterprise. Timber, sawlogs and mills may not be considered by the unreflecting as very poetical subjects; but take a few lines and learn how Cousin Sandy makes them sublime and at the same time pays a kindly tribute to the American gentlemen whose energy has done so much for the region of which he sings.

"And I saw there a colony founded,
Along the once desolate shore,
And the ring of the hammer resounded,
To drown the dread cataract's roar;
And the "crib" in its rushing glory,
Descended with sullen scud,
And the Voyagers laughed at the story,
Of dangers by forest and flood.

* * * The savage has fled from our boundary.
He has shrunk with a timid dismay,
From the mill, and the forge, and the foundry,
And the wigwam has faded away,
For men of a kindred nation,
In whose veins is co-mingled our blood,
On the Chaudiere have taken their station,
And have tamed this once terrible flood."

The kindliness apparent in this and other of the lesser poems recommend them to us and claims forgiveness for the free and easy metre of many lines. We hope Mr. Fraser will meet with extensive patronage which he fully deserves.

REMITTANCES

Received on subscription to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 25th inst.:

OMENEE.—Capt. W. Cottingham, \$4.00
WHITBY.—Ensign Joseph White, \$2.00;
Ensign James Young, \$3.00.
WELLINGTON SQUARE.—Lieut. W. Kerns, \$3.50.
ODESSA.—Ensign Ayelsworth, \$4.00; Capt. Amey, \$4.00.
PERTH.—George Kerr, Esq., \$2.00.
LONDON, Ont.—Capt. Frank B. Leys, \$2.00.
MOUNT HEALT.—Ensign A. W. Thompson, \$4.00.

ERRATA.—In our Montreal correspondent's letter of last week two errors occur, the first of a rather serious kind, which we now hasten to correct. In the second paragraph, sixth line for "trash," read *troop*; and in first line of third paragraph read *Mount Royals*, instead of "Royals."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—B., Montreal. Send it along, will insert it if approved of.

The *German Military Gazette* gives us the following information about the condition of the Turkish Army:—"The Turkish Government is hurrying on the reform of the troops, perhaps in consequence of the disturbances in Dalmatin. The standing army has till now consisted of five corps and the unorganized Redifs. The former, numbering in all 150,000 men, who serve for five years, are not to be increased, but the Redifs are to be organized. For this purpose the term of active service will be reduced to four years and in the fifth the soldiers will be drafted into the reserve. Thus a force of 70,000 will be formed which will be exempted from foreign service. At the same time the Redifs are to be drilled and organized, so that, besides its standing army, Turkey will possess a reserve of at least 240,000, thoroughly trained for home service. Their obligations extend over seven years, but they are liable to be summoned in case of need during the years that follow their dismissal. Thus the Turkish army in a time of peace will consist of 150,000 men; when the reserve is called in, it will amount to 220,000; when the Redifs are equipped, to 460,000; and in case of extreme need, when the extra reserve is summoned, it will number no less than 700,000.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The *Alabama* question is again engrossing public attention.

The celebrated "Historicus" publishes a long communication in the *Times* this morning, wherein he asserts that European States refused to consider Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee pirates, for the same reason that France long before refused to see, in regard to Benjamin Franklin, an analogy in the cases of Paul Jones and Admiral Semmes. He thinks it is complete and thence goes on to draw obvious inferences.

The *Times* in a letter on the *Alabama* Claims, says: "If Minister Motley proposes that negotiations for the settlement of the claims be re-opened at Washington, the proposal will be accepted. We must add that it would be useless to negotiate, or to talk of negotiating; unless each side is prepared to enter upon the negotiation with confidence in the honor of the other. The charge made by the Americans is that we did not show proper feeling towards them during the war; that our want of proper feeling led us to afford unfair assistance to their enemies. The defence is that it was our duty to abstain from showing feeling towards either side; that the alleged unfair assistance was a strict observance of neutrality. It is plain that satisfactory relations between the two countries cannot be restored until we understand and respect the craving of the Americans for sympathy, and they understand the difficulties of our position as impartial bystanders, injured by a war in which we felt bound to abstain from interference. We shall never arrive at the restoration of friendship if we begin in the spirit of pettifogging Attorneys. American writers and statesmen may remember with advantage that our blood is after all not very different from their own. Englishmen have susceptibility as well as Americans. It is not probable that we shall be drawn towards the suggestion that we are insincere and bent on hoodwinking those with whom we profess to be dealing openly.

Daily News in an article to-day on Canadian matters says: "England's settled Colonial policy is a marriage of affection if possible, that failing, one of convenience. No cabinet or conference will ever again propose one of force.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—Your last issue contained a letter from your gallant correspondent "L. C." on the vexed question of the effect produced by the Militia Bill on the Volunteer Force.

As that communication contains only a repetition of former arguments and assertions which have not been proved, it does not require a categorical answer.

The dilemma in which the writer has placed himself is simply that of bringing charges which must involve forgery and fraud either at the local or general Headquarters, and is a matter which should not be allowed to rest there.

In dealing with this subject I felt the delicacy of the position in which your correspondent was placing himself, and as you, Sir, are aware refrained carefully from seeking to penetrate the mystery which a newspaper *non de Plume* afforded. Having no interest whatever in this controversy beyond a desire to do my part towards securing for the country a good system of military defenses, I could have no wish to break through the modest reserve which custom properly allows to those who endeavour to benefit the public by using that mighty lever of opinion—the press—as a vehicle for the discrimination of what the writer conscientiously believes to be true ideas, being satisfied that they would be more likely to obtain attention than if supported by the authority of the most prominent local name.

I can assure your correspondent that it was no want of the necessary material which induced me to leave some of his arguments unanswered, but a desire to avoid conclusions at which he has arrived by the momentum of his own statements.

I should be very sorry indeed if anything in my communications savored of impertinence; in my letter the last paragraph referred to can by no means bear that construction. It was certainly within my province to express an opinion as to the value of discussing a subject which had been pushed to the verge of courtesy before, and as I am convinced that the Press should never be used except to the interest of mankind, I could see no good to be obtained by a series of wholesale denunciations which could not fail to bring discredit on the military force of the Dominion.

There are the proper authorities whose business it is to take cognizance of offences such as "L. C." alleges to exist, it is to them that gentleman should look for the means of establishing the validity of charges of so grave a character, and not to private individuals whose only connection therewith is regret that they should exist even as asser-tions.

In a controversy of this description a time arrives when it must cease, and that is generally when one of the parties losses

temper and resorts to uncourteous language, I feel that period has culminated now, and in closing this letter I would simply remark that no case whatever has been made out against the Militia Bill, and the evils under which the Volunteer force are said to labour can be remedied by proper constitutional measures. As these were the major propositions on which this controversy was founded it is fit they should form its appropriate termination.

I am, Sir,
Your obed't. servant
Ottawa, Dec. 20, 1869. F. O.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—I have to apologise to your valued and gallant correspondent "G. W." for having used the present instead of the past tense with reference to a paragraph from his admirable letter, but still must differ in opinion as to the time ever being propitious for the specified purpose. The great difficulty brought out every bit of military spirit in the country, and even then it would be dangerous to use anything like compulsion. If "G. W." will take trouble of making the necessary enquiries he will find that it was a doubtful matter indeed to determine to what amount it could be enforced with safety. If matters had come to a crisis, and actual hostilities intervened, the strictest compulsory measures might be resorted to with safety, but not otherwise.

It must be a subject of sincere regret to your readers that gentlemen like your gallant correspondent have not the required facilities afforded for the purpose of reducing their system of drill to actual practice, as the simplification he notices is what is actually needed in dealing with the Canadian Militia, and may be condensed in the idea that "whoever can make an efficient soldier of the raw material which the population of Canada affords in the shortest possible time will be doing the country incalculable service," and I believe your gallant correspondent is fully capable of rendering it.

I have always held that a grave mistake had been committed in looking to the regular British service for the great majority of our Staff Officers, thus overlooking the claims and talents of native officers like your gallant correspondent, thoroughly acquainted with the people, and able to adapt the military system of drill and discipline to their social position and habits—those are the men Canada wants and must have.

It is no flattery to "G. W." to say that the readers of the Review must derive both pleasure and profit from his sentiments as those of a man of talent, a gentleman, and a thoroughly practical and accomplished soldier.

It is to such men the country must look for the creation of a military force in the highest sense of the term, and as science demands that the soldier should be some-

thing more than a mere machine. The knowledge necessary to secure that result must be derived from gentlemen like your gallant correspondent who thoroughly understands the material with which he has to deal. I could entertain no opinion but that of sincere respect for the manly character and admiration for the talent of your correspondent, and hope he will continue to favor the Review with those valuable papers alike profitable for precept and practice.

I am, dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Ottawa, 10th Dec., 1869. F. O.

The breech-loading rifle is likely to introduce many changes into the art of war, and since the Prussian campaign in Austria the attention of soldiers has been turned to the probable reforms which will become necessary. As a consequence, various changes in tactics, &c., have been introduced in Prussia, France, and America, to meet the new difficulties created by this destructive weapon. Colonel Bray of the 4th King's Own Royals, who has the experience of long service, and has recently served in Abyssinia, has become so impressed with the necessity of changes in the English Army, that he has ventured to appear in the field of military reform, and proposes a very considerable change in dress and equipment, which, if adopted, would almost completely metamorphose the British soldier and make him an active, well, and comfortably dressed man, able to march, work, and fight with greater ease and facility, and what he would lose in tightness and stiffness, he would be likely to gain in increased efficiency. For these reasons we hope that Colonel Bray's proposal will meet with due and careful attention, as we are greatly struck with several of the changes proposed, viz: the patrol jacket and waistcoat, and waterproof cape, the light great coat, and the proposed method of carrying entrenching tools and ammunition.

Public sentiment in British Columbia seems just now to be directly in favor of Confederation with the Dominion. The *Victoria Colonist* of the 4th instant has the following: "The publication of Granville's dispatch knocked the scales from the eyes of Anti-Confederationists. All now see that Confederation is our immediate and inevitable destiny. All admit the importance of a united effort to obtain the best terms that can be got. Thus the only point of difference existing between the two parties is that, whereas one welcomes the change as a boon, the other regards it in the light of dread and inevitable destiny, and is endeavoring to submit to it with becoming resignation."

One of the most singular members of the Ecumenical Council will be a Chinese Bishop, who is at the same time a manufacturer of umbrellas. This is M. Louis Fauri, Bishop of Kong Toheon, a native of Bordeaux in France, but since, nineteen years a resident of China. The Bishop wears a long moustache and goatee, and from his crown dangles the queue of the Celestials; he is dressed in Chinese costume. The Bishop has a large orphan asylum in his charge and, in order to support it, he has started an umbrella factory, giving employment to a good many hands.

THE VOLUNTEER FUND.

The County Council of Wellington is, in ordinary cases, a very common sense body; wherefore we wonder that at its last meeting it should have done such a foolish thing as to pass the motion relative to the alleged defalcations in the Volunteer fund, which our readers will find in our summary of proceedings, over the amendment offered by Mr. Swan.

The history of the matter is, that during the Fenian excitement of 1866, the County Council made a grant of certain funds for the relief of families of Volunteers, which funds were paid over by the County Treasurer to the Reeves of the several municipalities, to be by them employed for the designated purpose. In the case of this village, the then Reeve, Mr. Jobb, drew a sum of \$372 which he neither paid over to the Volunteers nor refunded to the County Treasurers; and this \$372 the County Council, by the resolution referred to, holds should be made good by this village. Mr. Swan moved an amendment to the effect that Mr. Jobb be held personally responsible, which was negatived by 19 to 8.

Whether the County Council intends to follow up the motion by attempting to enforce the collection of the amount, we do not know; but if it does, we should suppose a brief interview with the County Solicitor would be sufficient to change its views on the matter. The very report of committee on which the motion was founded shows clearly the fallacy of the claim. The County Council in paying the money to one of its members, stepped beyond the rule and must take the risk. The village has a salaried and responsible official for the purpose of taking care of its money, and to him the funds should have been paid. As the case occurred, the money never came into his hands. Mr. Jobb had no authority from this village to receive money on its behalf; and the County Council, having made a mistake in entrusting the money to Mr. Jobb, must cover its endeavours towards getting it back again to that gentleman individually. It is an affair with which the village of Mount Forest respectfully declines to consider itself connected.—*Mount Forest Examiner.*

THE TURKISH IRONCLAD "MOYINI ZAFFER."

The completion of the Turkish ironclad *Moyini Zaffer* affords an opportunity for instituting a comparison between the Monitor turret and a fixed casement, to which latter class this vessel belongs. The planning of the casement of this vessel is most elaborate although of vast complication, and we can not but imagine, from the limited horizontal range of her guns, by the combination of curvature and angles, that the elongation and immobility of the battery will place it at a disadvantage compared with a Monitor turret vessel. Her length is 230ft., and 35ft. beam. Her high freeboard necessitates deeper armour below water for protection, at the same time it increases her rolling. She is plated with 6in. plating, the whole of the battery being backed with teak and cased with 5in. plates. She is pierced for eight guns, but is only to carry four 12-ton Armstrongs with a view to training the guns from one side of the battery to the other. A similar vessel in size, on the turret principle with a low freeboard, would carry double the amount of metal, and be trained more easily than the twelve ton guns on board

this casemated vessels. Taking into consideration a due allowance for the greater area of side armour and battery plating of the Turkish ironclad, a turret vessel of similar dimensions, with the same draught of water, would support 15in. turret plating and 10in. side armour. Horizontal range is of equal importance with armour-plated vessels as impregnability and calibre, and the complicated form of the *Moyini Zaffer's* battery, which has only a limited horizontal range, is a proof that was apparent to her constructor.

SCIENTIFIC DARING.

One dull day, a few years ago, just after noon, a balloon rose in the air at the foot of Cleed Hills, on the western edge of the central plain of England. It was inflated with the lightest of gases which chemical skill could produce, and it rose with surprising velocity. A mile up, and it entered a stratum of clouds more than a thousand feet thick. Emerging from this, the sun shone brightly on the air ship; the sky was of the deepest and darkest blue, and below lay an immense expanse of clouds, whose surface looked as solid as that of the earth, now wholly lost to view. Lofty mountains, and then deep dark ravines appeared below; the peaks and sides of those two mountains next to the sun glittered like snow, but casting shadows as black as if they were solid rock. Up rose the balloon with tremendous velocity. Four miles above the earth a pigeon was let loose; it dropped down through the air as if it had been a stone. The air was too thin to enable it to fly. It was as if a ship, laden to the deck, were to pass from the heavy waters of the sea into an inland unsaline lake, the bark would sink at once in the thinner water. Up, up, still higher! What profound silence! The heights of the sky were as still as the deepest depths of the ocean, where, as was found during the search for the lost Atlantic cable, the fine mud lies as unstirred from year to year as the dust which gathers on the furniture of a deserted house. No sound nor life—only the bright sunshine falling through a sky which it could not warm.

Up—five miles above the earth! higher than the inaccessible summit of Chumborazo, or Dhawalagiri. Despite the sunshine, everything freezes. The air grows too thin to support life even for a few minutes. Two men only are in that adventurous balloon—the one steering the air-ship, the other watching the scientific instruments, and recording them with a rapidity born of long practice. Suddenly, as the latter looks at his instruments, his sight grows dim; he takes a lens to help his sight, and only marks from the falling barometer that they are rising rapidly. A flask of brandy lies within a foot of him; he tries to reach it, but his arm refuses to obey his will. He tries to call on his comrade, who has gone up to the ring above; a whisper in that deep silence would suffice—but no sound comes from his lips—he is voiceless. The steersman comes down into the car, he finds his comrade in a swoon, and feels his own senses failing him.

He saw at once that life and death hung upon a few moments. He seized the valve, in order to open it, and let out some of the gas. His hands were purple with intense cold—they are paralyzed, they will not respond to his will. He seized the valve with his teeth; it opened a little—once, twice, thrice. The balloon began to descend. Then the swooned marksman returned to consciousness, and saw the steersman standing before him. He looked at his instrument—

they were nearly eight miles up, but the barometer was rising rapidly—the balloon was descending. They had been higher above the earth than mortal man or living thing had been before. One minute more of inaction on the part of the steersman, whose senses were failing him, and the air ship, with its intensely rarified gas, would have been floating, unattended, with two corpses in the wide realms of space.—*Once a Week.*

THE QUEEN'S RECENT APPEARANCE IN LONDON.

There was something very impressive in the great simplicity of the Queen's appearance, viewed in connection with the enthusiasm she evoked. In a plain, open coach set a plain, middle aged lady, dressed no better, and not half so smart as many a tradesman's wife, yet it was she on whom every eye was fixed, to whom every salutation was directed. Had she been in royal robes, with a crown of state on her head, and attended by the most illustrious of the land, in gorgeous array, those crowds would not have been so impressive. It was not the vulgar trappings and mere accessories of royalty which so excited the people, it was merely the person of the monarch, as the symbol of government, as the representative of the British nation. And does not this show how alike are Britons and Americans? You have law and power without state trappings. We have the trappings but we seldom exhibit them; and it is not those which make the interest of a royal ceremonial, but simply the person of the monarch. The people turned out in their tens of thousands simply to see and greet the Queen, as you might greet the President. It seems to me that all the difference between our governments is this—that the head of the state is permanent, while the responsible ministry may be changed by the will of the people at any time. Our Queen "can do no wrong." The supreme head cannot be blamed for anything that may occur, and so the authority of the executive suffers no detriment. But the responsible minister, through whom alone the executive can act, may be questioned, challenged, impeached, and changed for another whenever the nation may consider he has done wrong. Let us then rejoice in the advantages of each others system, and be grateful together in the possession of such freedom as was never possessed by other nations.—*Newman Hall in New York Independent.*

THE ROYAL FAMILY.—The Prince and Princess of Wales have now five children, two sons and three daughters, viz: Prince Albert Victor, born January 7, 1864; Prince George Frederick, born June 3rd, 1865; Princess Louise Victoria, born February 20th, 1867; Princess Victoria Olga, born July 6, 1868; and the Princess born Nov. 26, 1869. Their Royal Highnesses were married on March 10th 1863. Her Majesty has now sixteen grandchildren. The Crown Princess of Prussia has three sons and two daughters; the Princess Alice one son and three daughters; the Princess of Wales two sons and three daughters; and the Princess Helena two sons. One of the Queen's grandchildren, a son of the Crown Princess of Prussia, died in July, 1865.—*Court Journal.*

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The *Morning Telegraph*, Liberal, has an article on the subject of renewal of the reciprocity treaty or a modification of the policy of Congress towards the Dominion of Canada through the influence of Secretary Fish, who is a believer in free trade.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

VOLUME IV.
1870.

ON account of the liberal patronage extended to the REVIEW since its establishment we have determined to add fresh features of interest to the forthcoming Volume so as to make it every way worthy of the support of the Volunteers of the Dominion.

To new subscribers for 1870 the paper will be sent free for the remainder of the present year.

On account of the great increase of our circulation we have been compelled to adopt the CASH IN ADVANCE principle. Therefore, from and after the 1st of January next the names of all subscribers who do not renew their subscription will be removed from the list. The reason for this will be obvious to our friends, as it will be readily understood that a paper having so extended a circulation must be paid for in advance, it being impossible to employ agents to visit all the points to which it is mailed.

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

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

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

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

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

DAWSON KERR..... PROPRIETOR.
CARROLL RYAN..... EDITOR.



The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1869.

—We beg leave to inform our subscribers in the Province of Ontario, that Lt.-COL. LOVELACE is the *only* authorised Agent of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, to whom subscriptions will be paid, and his receipt will be binding on us. COL. LOVELACE is an officer of considerable experience, and we trust that the officers of the Force in the West will give him the same fraternal greeting as their brethren in the East have done.

It is gradually becoming apparent that the literary genius of Canada is gravitating towards the capital, and the whilom shanty village on the banks of the rushing Ottawa, is fast becoming the centre of intellectual as well as political vitality. One of the best indications of this fact is to be found in an unpretending announcement which lately appeared in the columns of one of our city dailies stating the foundation of a Literary Club in Ottawa, and we have only to quote the names of a few present on the occasion to give our readers an idea of the strength of the institution:—Charles Sangster, Carroll Ryan, Henry J. Morgan, Rev. Æ. McD. Dawson, Wm. McKay Wright, G. H. Macaulay, Benjamin Sulte, J. S. Bourinot, Mr. Gane, Mr. Wheeler, Hon. J. Howe, Hon. Col. Gray, Mr. Christie, these and others whose names do not occur to us at present, take an active interest in the Club, the avowed object of which is to foster native literature and give literary men visiting the capital an opportunity of meeting kindred spirits in rooms adapted for the purpose. This Club, as we understand it, is purely instituted for literary men and lovers of literature who will find therein a pleasing companionship with minds bent upon the exaltation of native talent. We wish them every success and will chronicle their transactions with pleasure. It is incumbent upon us to support native talent, therefore, let it not be said of us that we gave no honor to a prophet in our own country.

THE report of the Secretary of the navy of the United States lately published contains a great deal of matter of interest. We extract a few portions of it. He says:—

"When my immediate predecessor came into office, on the 9th day of March last, the Navy of the United States consisted of 203 vessels of all classes, and in every condition.

"These measured 183,442 tons, and were calculated to carry, when in commission, 1,366 guns, exclusive of howitzers.

"Of these ships 151 were wooden, and 52 were iron-clad or monitors.

"Of the wooden ships 32 were sailing vessels, 53 were steamers, with some auxiliary sail-power; 44 were steamers, without any efficient sail-power, and 22 were without sail-power of any kind.

"The iron-clads are all steamers, relying wholly on steam under all circumstances.

"Of all these classes only 43 vessels, including store-ships, mounting 356 guns of every calibre, were attached to fleets or returning therefrom. Six more, mounting 36 guns, were in commission for special service; and six others at the various stations as receiving-ships. These, together with 14 tugs and small vessels, attached to the various navy-yards and stations, constituted the whole force of the Navy at that time effective for immediate service. It has since been found necessary to offer for sale, on foreign stations, three of these vessels, which were condemned as unfit for service and unsafe to send home: and 25 more of them have been ordered home to the various navy-yards for repair and alteration, or sale. But one ship, the *Juniata*, at Philadelphia, was under repair at the time of the coming in of the present Administration. The remainder of the Navy not in commission, consisted of:

"First: Forty-six iron-clads and monitors of every class, laid up at various stations, none of which could be got ready for service without thorough overhauling and expensive repairs to hulls, turrets and machinery, 32 of which had been condemned and ordered to be sold, as not adapted to our service; 26 of them never having been in commission.

"Second: Twenty-two vessels of every class yet on the stocks, and on which work had been suspended.

"Third: Sixty-six vessels laid up in ordinary, or unfit for active service in the future."

This gives a fair idea of the strength of the United States Navy before they began to build the fleets of which we hear so much and so often.

Further on we learn that:—

"To restore our small force to an effective condition, and to make it available in the best manner in its large and growing field of operations, in the shortest possible time, with the material at hand, and without addition to the national expenses, was the first duty which presented itself; and to its accomplishment all the energies of the department have been bent."

"To meet these difficulties, work was renewed vigorously at all the navy-yards, and as fast as possible our ships in ordinary were put in condition for service. Those in commission have undergone the same process as fast as they could be spared from their stations."

It is not doubted that any war with a foreign enemy must be a maritime one. The American people are accustomed to success on the ocean; and they would have little cause, and less inclination, to forgive a policy which, at the first sign of a foreign war, sent our Navy hurrying ignominiously to our shores. Yet we have not, at this time, on any foreign station, a squadron whose combined forces would avail for a day against the powerful sea-going iron-clads which both France and England have on the same stations. These are not agreeable facts to contemplate, or to state, but, after giving the subject much investigation and reflection, I have felt it to be my duty to state the truth frankly, through you, to the representatives of the people, that they may determine how much and how prompt action the situation requires.

"It is true our best monitors would, if brought into action, be powerful against any thing that floats, but these are steam batteries, not sea going cruisers. Some of them have illustrated, by successful experiment, their capacity for a sea voyage under favorable circumstances; and the department has, for want of any more available force, lately put some of them in commission for duty on the home or North Atlantic station, but they could not be used with advantage as cruisers on foreign stations. They require several vessels to accompany them, and, being entirely without coal power, must be towed as soon as their coal is exhausted. They would be always dangerous to health in tropical seas; and with broken or disordered machinery they would be helpless in mid-ocean. They are valuable for auxiliary defense of our own shores, but should not be relied upon beyond them."

All this is common sense and easily understood, and the reader may glean from it an idea of the condition of the navy of the United States.

Under the heading of navy-yards the following is somewhat curious.

"We have seen regularly-established Navy-yards. Not more than four of these are capable of fitting out more than two or three vessels at one time. In all, we feel the want of more docks. In our seven Navy-yards we have but three dry docks. This want would be severely felt in time of war, as the floating docks used by the mercantile marine are not suitable for taking a heavy armored ship out of the water; and nothing is really safe for a vessel of war but a regular dry dock, into which she can enter with armament and stores on board, without straining or danger. While I mention these things as a proper subject-matter of report, I do not, at this time, propose any large expenditure for the improvement, in these particulars, of the yards in actual operation on the Atlantic coast. They are generally available for the present, and the most pressing need is elsewhere."

We are delighted at the Secretary's report of the Naval Academy which we must beg pardon for thinking a little hifalutin:—

"The standing of the Naval Academy continues to be maintained. The system of mental and physical training there pursued is of the highest order, covering every branch of practical and professional knowledge, and fitting the student for all the varied duties of his profession. The graduates bring to the service minds enriched by regular and well directed study, and bodies strengthened by manly exercise. In mental and physical accomplishment, in tone and spirit, in character and capacity, they do honor as a class to the institution and to the country."

The report is altogether very elaborate and reflects great credit upon its author, he touches upon many points of vital importance in every navy, and these are few of our readers who have sailed the sea but will acknowledge the justness of the following remarks:—

"Those 'waifs of the ocean' who are now in any navy, and now in any merchant service, have little or no love of country, or feeling of attachment for the flag. They are only held in the service by the slender tie of temporary convenience, necessity and subsistence, often sundered by desertion or discharge, never to be renewed. This class now so exceeds and preponderates over that known as our 'old man o'-war-men' as to give a very undesirable character to the service."

To turn to the conclusion of the report and wind up our comments we will quote the following statistics which, though hardly correct, are yet of considerable significance:—

Mercantile tonnage of France is 4,000,000 tons.

Mercantile tonnage of England is 5,779,000 tons,

The French Navy consists of 430 vessels, divided as follows:

Steam vessels 331, with 75,135 horse power; sailing vessels 99.

Of those launched but still unfinished, 7 steam vessels, 710 horse power; 31 steam vessels on stocks, 13,405 horse power.

This fleet is subdivided into new fleet and old fleet. New fleet has 314 steam vessels; sailing vessels 70, and is divided into—

Armoured ships of every class..... 50

Wooden fighting-fleet screw vessels.... 90

Steam flotilla..... 90

Transport fleet..... 75

Training ships for officers and gunners.. 2

Added this year: 4 iron-plated corvettes,

1 iron-plated coast-guard ship, 2 training ships.

This represents the real strength of the French Navy. The old fleet is rapidly being transformed or going out of the service.

The whole tonnage of the French Navy is 469,009 tons.

NANY OF ENGLAND.

By the British naval list:
Ships of war, floating batteries, receiving ships, training ships, in service 549
Steam screw gunboats..... 170

Total..... 719

In commission, or building, heavy armour-plated steamships, averaging 3,500 tons each (largest 6,000 tons.) 40
Tons.

Whole tonnage of the British Navy is 660,000

Whole tonnage of the navy of the United States is..... 186,552

Proportion of naval tonnage of the United States to mercantile, nearly..... 1-24

Proportion of Naval tonnage of Great Britain to mercantile.... 1-8

Proportion of Naval tonnage of France to mercantile..... 1 4

There would be little use commenting upon this. We give it as the report of the United States' Secretary of the Navy, and will refrain, at least at present, from drawing invidious comparisons.

The condition of affairs in Cuba are worse than ever and the barbarity which characterises the struggle render it one of the saddest episodes of the age. The accounts which reach us are generally furnished by sympathisers of the revolutionists and may therefore be somewhat exaggerated, but there can be no doubt that the Spanish volunteers have been guilty of many atrocities. Some expectation was entertained that the United States government would interfere in a way to bring the difficulty to an end. It is certainly true some powerful outsider entered the field to stop such atrocities as the following.—

"The cane fields of a sugar estate called La Fermina, half way between Bemba and Roque, two little towns in the jurisdiction of Colon, Cuba, a few hours by railroad from Havana, has been the scene of one of the last and most shocking of Spanish butcheries. Nine peaceful, wealthy gentlemen, two boys

among them, were dragged to Colon before the Lieutenant-Governor of the place, there submitted to a kind of drum-head trial, and after being compelled to ride through the streets of the town amid the hooting of the Spaniards, mounted on their own horses, the tails and manes of which were previously cut off, were taken to the lonely spot above mentioned and first mutilated and then shot down and thrown into a ditch by a party of drunken Chapelgorris. These horrible murders in cold blood became known through the boasting of the assassins, and the news spread like wildfire to Cardenas, Matanzas, and Havana, in which places the murdered men have many relations and devoted friends. It is difficult to depict the feeling they created. Far from subduing or intimidating, they have still more highly excited among both men and women of Cuba the spirit of resistance to Spanish rule.

Several ladies of Havana, who have been acting as a secret society for some time past, have gathered among themselves their most valuable jewels and sent them to the charge of the patriotic and accomplished Cuban lady, Mrs. Emilia C. de Villaverde. The jewels are to be raffled, and the money raised thereby will go to defray the expenses of arming and equipping a battalion of patriots named after the most costly of all the jewels sent—Jo Cruz—a cross of 12 diamonds. In order to comply fully with this request of her sisters at Havana, Mrs. Villaverde has caused to be published a spirited appeal to the daughters of Spanish Americans. She is now engaged in constructing a handsome silk flag for the battalion, and when everything will be ready, jewels and flag will be exhibited in some conspicuous place in Broadway."

We wish for the honor of the great men who are famous in the annals of the United States that they would, not even in our quiet sanctum, make us blush for the effrontery of their vile advertising dodgers, who would not recoil from digging up the bones of Washington if they could make money thereby. The name and fame of a hero should be sacred even though he be alive. Witness the following from the *Army and Navy Journal* of New York:—

"Hamlet, moralizing in the graveyard with Horatio, shows how 'Imperious Caesar, dead and turned to clay, might stop a hole to keep the wind away.' But it is less melancholy to reflect to 'what base uses we may come' when dead than to what base advertising uses we may be put to when living. A Southern paper comes to us with the startling headline 'General Lee again in the field.' On reading along we are told that the 'veteran soldier, who, after his struggles on many a field, went into the comparative enjoyment of private life, or rather assumed the less noisy glory of a civic position, which he cannot fail as much to honor and adorn, has again entered the field in behalf of'—What? asks the breathless reader. Why, in behalf of the Double and twisted Criss-cross Sewing-machine! But the climax is capped by the modest announcement of the inventor or agent that, 'this testimony of Lee is like the voice of fame blowing its trumpet tones into the ear of reputation.'"

The vilest English radicalism in the days when Wellington was hooted by a London mob, never descended to so low a thing as this, and we hope, for the credit of our mother land, that it never will.

FENIANISM IN IRELAND.

The Fenians and the Roman Catholic priests in Ireland have come to open war. The Fenians announced through their organs that if the British Government refused the prayers of the various meetings praying amnesty for the Fenian prisoners that Ireland would never again petition, she would demand her rights rifle in hand. Amnesty meetings have not ceased, though the Fenians declare their resolution not to suffer any tenant right demonstration until the greater question is settled. They held one at Tralee which was described as a magnificent success, whoroupen Deano Mawe, who is a thorn in their side, holds them up to ridicule in the *Tralee Chronicle*.

"You know that on a fine Sunday in harvest you could assemble thousands of spectators for any fun that might be going forward. I drove out at one o'clock, when the Killarney contingent, upon ten or a dozen cars, made their appearance, and there was no unusual crowd in the street. I drove round the place of meeting, and though the papers stated the numbers at 3,000, I do not believe there could be more than half that number there; but, be that as it may, certain it is that large numbers of people remained in town transacting their business and never minding the meeting. There is one more important fact which I was near omitting, the total indifference exhibited by the farming class to the day's proceedings. I wonder did you imagine that I would pass over in silence this, 'your magnificent success,' as I passed over your magnificent account of the 'Meany' gathering in an empty shop, which you swelled into the grand proportions of an assemblage of several hundreds? No, Sir, rest assured I will no longer tolerate such liberties with the fair fame of Tralee and its people. They are a religious people, who, within a few years, have erected two magnificent churches to the glory of God. They are not Fenians, nor revolutionists, who look to jump into sudden wealth by seizing the property of their neighbors, but they are a sober and religious people, who seek to procure an honest livelihood by that steady, honorable, and persevering industry by which alone a people can ever become wealthy, prosperous and happy. For the rest, the Catilines of the Fenian factions, whether of the press or of the platform, may be assured that I am not afraid of them. I have been close in contact with them for the last month, and was never better in health and spirits. But stay, I have to ask pardon of the ghost of Catiline for introducing the name of the once formidable conspirator into your graceful company."

The "patriots" will find they have caught a Tarter whom it is dangerous to provoke

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.—The Queenston Mounted Infantry company, commanded by Capt. Robert Currie, was inspected by Col. Durie, D.A.G., and Brigade Major Villiers, on the Niagara Commons last Monday. The Company turned out 34 men and 3 officers, and presented a very soldierly appearance in going through the various movements in which they were exercised. Over two hours were consumed by the Inspecting Officers in testing the acquirements of the men, and when at last they had exhausted the routine of cavalry evolutions, the volunteers were called upon to dismount and act as Infantry on foot. In this they proved themselves equally expert; so much so, indeed, as to elicit very complimentary ap-

proval from the inspectors, who admitted that the company was far ahead of their expectations in drill and discipline, which was a feather in the caps not only of Capt. Currie, but also of Lieut. Brown and Ensign Servos, who have all taken great pains to work the men well up in their training.—*St. Catherine's Constitutional*.

The arrival of Canadian Volunteers at Civitta Vecchia is illustrated after a wood cut in *Le Monde Illustré*, from which paper the following is taken:—

On the 20th of October, 150 Canadian Volunteers for the Papal Zouaves, arrived at Civitta Vecchia. They wore a keppi (forage cap) with gold braid, heavy boots, reddish-brown stockings, joining at the knee a pair of tight trousers. These Frenchmen of the new world have nothing of the American stiffness, but still retain their ancient graceful and easy demeanor and an open and hearty countenance. We believe them to be men to take a place by storm or to crush a *coup de main*, with all the ancient Gaelic vim. But they are very young! Can they endure the fatigues of a veritable war? If it were not for a few heavy beards among them one would easily mistake them for schoolboys on a tramp. Nevertheless, apart from the opinions raised by the Roman question—we hail these valourous youths. They show respect and honour to their faith by their devotedness in the hour of trial.

THE FRENCH PRESS MYSTIFIED.—Curious mistakes occur in the French papers concerning English celebrities. It is a common error to find the hero of Scinde confounded with the man of Acre—both general and admiral mixed up with the historian, and all three with Napier of Magdala, not to mention the other Lord Napier. Thus the *Peuple*, which is the organ of the Emporer, in announcing the arrival of the great nabob of the provinces of Bengal—Orissa and Bahar—at Marseilles, says that S. A. (Son Altesse is the ninth nabob descended from Meer Mahomed Jafferkan, who took part with the English force under Lord Clyde at the battle of Plassey, and as a recompense for his services, was placed on the throne of Bengal on the deposition of Nabob Sooraigood-Dowlah. This means, of course, that Bob Clive overthrew Surajah Dowlah, and that Meer Jaffer helped him which he never did. Meer Jaffer thought it more prudent to wait and see how the fight went, and then sent in his congratulations. The *Peuple* says that, amongst other gentlemen of the nabob's suite is Colonel Layard, of the Beng's army. Why not call him the Assyrian?

The *N. Y. Times* is responsible for the following:—"The Fenian Brotherhood of this city, it is said, are actively and secretly preparing for another expedition against the British possessions on this continent. At the O'Neill headquarters they have a large number of what they claim to be improved needle guns, and many of their most prominent officers are travelling among the circles in adjacent cities and rural districts on secret service. Gen. O'Neill himself has been absent from the city at different times within a few weeks, and returned from one of his trips last night. He leaves again to day. The Fenians are determined to keep their future movements and projects to themselves, not desiring to sustain another failure, either from the interference of the United States authorities who no doubt will prevent any infraction of the

Neutrality laws, or by forewarning their enemies, and thus giving them time to prepare a warm reception for the invaders."

WASHINGTON'S WATCH.

The watch has been found again. What watch? Who has ever been in the United States and knows anything about Washington and Lafayette without having heard the mysterious story of the watch? For the benefit of those who have not learned to connect serious politics with trivial incidents here is the story: During the War of Independence a Swiss watchmaker of Philadelphia, named Weitzel, made a present of a gold watch to General Washington. It was a splendid watch, and the donor showed his sense of its value by attaching a condition to the gift—namely, that Washington should never part with it unless he could give it to some man who had rendered greater services than himself to his country. After keeping the watch for some time, Washington thought he would fulfil the intentions of the giver by offering it to Lafayette. The gift was accepted as a high honor, and when, in 1825, Lafayette revisited America he was quite proud to wear Weitzel's watch. But at Nashville, while he was receiving the felicitations of the people of Tennessee, it was stolen from him. Everybody in the United States was indignant at this during theft, which seemed an insult to the nation. The newspapers raged, and everybody became a voluntary detective, but all to no purpose. The thief escaped, and no trace of the watch could be found. The other day, however, in a western town, an old gentleman chanced to look into the window of a pawnbroker's shop, where to his unutterable surprise, he recognized the watch. He recognized it for he had soon it—having been one of the officers who received Lafayette at Nashville in 1825. He had also kept several newspapers of that date describing the events in which he took part, and among other points giving a minute account of the watch. It seems that it had been pawned by a young girl, who, being questioned, said that the watch had been for a long time considered a family relic, her parents before their death having enjoined her never to part with it.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Dr. Livingstone's last African discovery is of a tribe that lives altogether in underground houses. Some excavations are said to be thirty miles long, and have run underground in them. A whole district can stand a siege in them. The "writings" therein, he has been told by some of the people, are on wings of animals, and not letters. They are said to be very dark and well made.—Geographers and ethnologists will look with impatient interest for further information concerning this remarkable people.

The death is announced of Lady Campbell, widow of Major-General Sir Guy Campbell, and daughter of the unfortunate Lord Edward Fitzgerald, who died of wounds received in 1798. Lady Campbell was in her seventy fifth year.

The death is also announced of Captain Justinian Barrell, who entered the navy in 1791, and was the only surviving officer of Lord Howe's action of the 1st of June, 1794. He afterwards served in the expedition to the Helder, and at the siege of Copenhagen, and from the time or his entering the navy, up to 1811, had been present at the capture and destruction of more than 100 of the enemy's vessels of war. He had been unemployed since 1815.

IRISH WIT.

The following colloquy at cross purposes once took place between an agent and an Irish voter on the eve of an election:

"You are a Roman Catholic?"
 "Am I?" said the fellow.
 "Are you not?" demanded the agent.
 "You say I am," was the answer.
 "Come sir, answer—what's your religion?"
 "The true religion."
 "What religion is that?"
 "My religion."
 "And what's your religion?"
 "My mother's religion."
 "And what was your mother's religion?"
 "She took whisky in her tay."
 "Come, I'll have you now as cunning as you are," said the agent, piqued into an encounter of wit with this fellow whose baffling of every question pleased the crowd.
 "You bless yourself, don't you?"
 "When I'm done with you I think I ought."
 "What place of worship do you go to?"
 "The most convanyant."
 "But of what persuasion is that you won't find out."
 "What is your belief?"
 "My belief is that you are puzzled."
 "Do you confess?"
 "Not to you."
 "Come, I have you. Who would you send for if you were about to die?"
 "Dr. G——."
 "Not for the priest?"
 "I must first send a messenger."
 "Confound your quibbling—tell me then what your opinions are—your conscientious opinions, I mean?"
 "They are the same as my landlord's."
 "And what are your landlord's opinions?"
 "Faix his opinion is that I won't pay him the last year's rent, and I am of the same opinion myself."
 A roar of laughter followed this answer; but the angry agent at last declared that he must have a direct reply.
 "I insist, sir, on your answering at once; are you a Roman Catholic?"
 "I am," said the fellow.
 "And could you not say so at once?"
 "You never axed me," returned the other.
 "I did," said the agent.
 "Indeed you didn't you said I was a great many things, but you never axed me—you were driven' crass words and craked questions at me, and I gev answers to match them; for sure I thowt it was manna: s to cut out my behavior on your own pattern."

By the death of Brigadier-General J. McK. Taylor, Bombay Cavalry, on the 2nd of November, Brigadier-General J. Forbes, C. B., Bombay Cavalry, succeeds to Colonel's allowances and retires from his command. Thus two brigades have become vacant in the Bombay Presidency. It is doubtful whether their future commanders will be appointed until the reductions which are now being discussed have been finally decided upon.

The death is announced of Sir James Prior, who was for many years in the medical service of the navy. He served off Greenland and in the North Sea, in Africa, in the East Indies, Brazil, and on the eastern coast of Africa. He was staff surgeon of the Chatham division of Royal Marines, and was appointed in 1843 Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals and Fleets. He was the author of a life of Burke, a life of Goldsmith, and some medical works. Sir James Prior was born in 1790, and was knighted in 1858.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Gen. Shorman has been elected a member of the London Army and Navy Club.

Mr. Gladstone has denied the report that it is the intention of the Government to close the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich.

Major General Sir Robert Walpole, K. C. B., has been appointed Colonel of the 65th Regiment, vice General Colos, deceased.

Captain the Hon. C. Edwardes, of the Rifle Brigade, has been appointed Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General at Alder shot.

Lord Lytton, it is said, is likely to have the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, vacant by the death of the Earl of Derby.

It is said the Government propose taking a number of the Royal Canadian Rifles, about to be disbanded, into the Government police, under the new Bill.

Major C. E. S. Gloig, half-pay, late 14th Foot, will attain the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the army, in succession to Major General M'Doy, R. A., deceased.

The post of commandant at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, has become vacant by the death of Colonel Edmund Gilling Hallowell, formerly of the 60th or King's Royal Rifle Corps.

By the death of Major General M'Coy, Royal Artillery, Col. H. S. Rowan, C. B., Royal Artillery, will be promoted to the rank of Major General, and a step will go through the regiment of Artillery.

Garibaldi's long-expected work, "Rome in the Nineteenth Century," has been translated from the Italian by Mrs. Colonel Chambers, and is in the press. It will be published in a short time simultaneously with the original.

The vacancy caused in the office of the Commander-in-Chief by the retirement of Mr. Drake will be filled by the promotion of Mr. Freeth, who will become the senior assistant to the Military Secretary. The vacancy caused by the promotion of Mr. Freeth will be filled by Mr. Coleman.

It is said, and on the best authority, that 30,000 rounds of ball cartridge are now stored in the magazine in the Toronto Drill Shed, and the residents in the neighborhood are frightened, particularly since attempts have been made to enter the Drill Shed in the dead of night by, no doubt, evil-disposed persons.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* states that it is not impossible that the recommendation of the Royal Commission on purchase in the army, which advised that appointments to the rank of regimental lieutenant-colonel should in future be made by selection without purchase, may be definitely adopted and carried into effect next year.

HOLY WEEK.—Jack S——, a jolly shoemaker, always kept blue Monday; but on Easter Sunday, having a friend visiting him, he got pretty full and kept so all the week till it came Saturday morning, when his wife said, "John ain't you going to work to day?" He looked at her for a minute in silence and then said: "Jane, is this not a holy week, and have I not kept Easter Sunday, Blue Monday, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday, and now do yer think I will spoil the whole thing by working on Saturday? Not as long as I claim to be a religious man!"

Enlisting in the Papal Zouaves it is said to be a sure passport to a rich wife in Rome, if the soldier be matrimonially inclined.

The good service pension vacant by the death of Colonel Montgomery late of the 1st Royals, has been bestowed upon Colonel Hale, C. B., late 85th Regiment.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* announces that Colonel Johnson, C. B., will not retire from the post of assistant military secretary at the Horse Guards at the end of the present year, as was at one time contemplated.

A Russian corvette in Chinese waters has all her crew of 250 men armed with English snider rifles, and great guns which are all Armstrongs, "excelling anything in appearance which were ever seen in those waters before."

A fine new self-righting lifeboat, 33 feet long, has been purchased with the proceeds, amounting to 500*l.*, from Penny Readings in different parts of the kingdom. The boat is to be stationed at Wells, on the Norfolk coast, under the management of the National Lifeboat Institution.

It chanced one gloomy day in the month of December that a good humored Irishman applied to a merchant to discount a bill of exchange for him at rather a long, though not an unusual date; and the merchant having casually remarked that the bill had a great many days to run. "That's true," replied the Irishman, "but then, my honey, you don't consider how short the days are at this time of the year."

In consequence of the changes proposed by the Royal Commission on Military Education, it is probable that the control of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst may be entrusted to an officer of considerable lower rank than at present—in fact, to a field instead of a general officer, and it is rumored that Lieutenant-Colonel Chesney, R. E., may be selected for the post.

The representatives of several wealthy firms have visited Woolwich yard for the purpose of ascertaining its capabilities for engineering and other purposes. It is stated that the yard will be disposed of early in the ensuing spring, and the amount of its sale (estimated at from three-quarters of a million to a million sterling) to be carried to the credit of the navy estimated of 1870-71.

Rio de Janeiro dates to Nov. 22nd have been received. The allied army under command of Prince D'Eu had moved upon and captured one after another Paguata, Curngatty and other strongholds of the Paraguayans, killing and wounding and taking prisoners nearly 400 of the enemy, and capturing a large amount of war material. Over 900 families were restored to their liberties and homes by these actions. At last accounts the allies were marching on Igaterny, the last outpost of President Lopez.

The *Times*, while admitting the improved quantity and quality and price of the India cotton, does not consider the displacement of American descriptions possible.

The *Times* in an editorial on the Canadian reciprocity treaty, says its rejection by the United States Senate relieves England of an awkward question of free trade, which existed between Canada and the Union. The Canadian tariff would discriminate against direct trade between the Union and England. Canada would recognize a closer commercial interest with the United States than with England, and political is sure to follow commercial estrangement.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS.

Ottawa, 24th December, 1869.

GENERAL ORDERS.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

6th Battalion "The Hochelaga" Light Infantry.

The resignation of Lieut. Colonel John H. Isaacson, is hereby accepted he being permitted to retire retaining his rank.

9th Battalion "Voltigeurs of Quebec."

The resignation of Major Gingras, is hereby accepted.

The Provisional Battalion of Rimouski, No. 3 Company "Anse aux Sable."

To be Lieutenant:

Charles Degagné, Gentleman, M. L., vice Lepage left the limits.

To be Ensign:

Denis Poulin, Gentleman, M. S., vice Smith, left the limits.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

66th "The Halifax" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Lieutenants:

Ensign Conrad West Tupper, M. S., Hugh McDonald Henry, Gentleman, M. S., vice Coleman, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor General.

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel,
Adjutant General of Militia,
Canada

RED RIVER DIFFICULTY.

Latest accounts from St. Paul are to the 18th Dec., and represent Governor McDougall as having issued a proclamation in the name of the Queen, declaring the Territory under Canadian control; that on the same day a force of loyal men occupied the Stone Fort, and the loyal white and half-breeds began rapidly to rally and organize. The insurgents were beginning to disperse, and had withdrawn their forces from the printing office and other places in the town of Winnipeg.

It is also said that Riello, the insurgent chief, is still in possession of Fort Garry with 400 men, and that Col. Dennis is at the head of 300 men, and that an attack is to be made upon Fort Garry.

The report that Governor McTavish had been arrested was not believed.

The editor of the *St. Paul Press* received a letter from a Canadian gentleman, dated Pembina, 5th inst., in which he says Gov. McDougall has not called on Canada for troops, but relies on the people of the Territory themselves, when appealed to, to quell the outbreak, and believes they will do it without bloodshed. The letter continues as follows: "On December 12th, a force equal to the malcontents occupied the Stone Fort, and their numbers were rapidly increasing by accessions of loyal inhabitants, of English, Scotch, Canadian and French origin, with a large band of Indians ready to defend the flag of their Sovereign and restore the reign of law."

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 19.—It seems clear that McDougall and Dennis have organized a force to go to Fort Garry.

The St. Paul People fear that, as the Indian element has been called in by McDougall, that an Indian war may be the result. They say that the insurgents had large offers of Indian help, on the start, which they declined, fearing that it might be difficult to control.

A public meeting was held in Buffalo, on Saturday night, at which great indignation was expressed; that Mr. McDougall should have been allowed to make American soil a base of operations.

Among the efforts of Ontario, during the past year, to attract emigrants was the distribution in Europe of 100,000 copies of a pamphlet full of information respecting the climate, soil, free grant and homestead system, and general resources of that province. Ten thousand large posters in English and 2,000 in German were also distributed. White's mission to Great Britain and Ireland as special Commissioner, was eminently successful. The number of emigrants who arrived and remained in the Province last year, so far as they reported themselves to the agents was 13,892: it is supposed that many others proceeded directly to their friends, or found employment without reference to the agents. Indigent emigrants were furnished with a meal on arrival, and were forwarded at once, free by steamer or railway to their destination. The demand for emigrant labor among the farming population has far exceeded the supply, and all who were willing and able to work, obtained employment at good wages. Newly arrived emigrants have not been encouraged to settle at once on Free Grants, but have been advised rather to obtain employment until they become acquainted with the Canadian climate and mode of farming. A much larger emigration is expected next spring, and vigorous efforts are recommended to municipalities and individuals to take advantage of the influx of labour. A considerable number of tenant farmers with more or less capital is also expected, and the Commissioner proposes to obtain lists of improved farms for sale, and to distribute these among the emigrants of this class. The expenditure for free transport of indigent emigrants was \$3,653, and for provisions \$2,493.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

Lieut.-Col. Ferrier, of the Montreal Garrison artillery, has exhibited to Sir George Cartier and the Adjutant-General the "Stevens gun," invented by R. E. Stevens, Owen Sound. This weapon is looked upon by many as superior to the Snider-Enfield rifle. The firing can be made fully twice as rapid, as there are only three motions with the hand in loading and firing, while there are eight with the Snider-Enfield.

When in Committee of the whole, the House made so many amendments to the Common School Bill that the Hon. Attorney-General, at the instigation of the Revd. Edgerton Ryerson withdrew both School Bills and at the same time assured the House that no New Bills with reference to the Schools would be presented to the Legislature until after a General Election.

A soldier was recently gagged whilst under arrest in the guard house at Halifax. The unfortunate man died; and on the inquest the most brutal treatment was proved against the Sergeant, Corporal and two privates of the guard, and they were finally committed to take their trial for manslaughter.

UNITED STATES PENSIONS.—The United States Pension Office report shows that in June, 1869, the number of army pensioners on the rolls was 185,125, and the military pensions paid amounted to 27,992,868 dols. The naval roll embraced 2833 pensioners, and the aggregate of naval pensions amounted to 430,016 dols. The total amount paid for pensions of all classes and expenses of disbursements reached the sum of 28,422,884 dols., an excess of 4,411,902 dols., over 1868. There are 62,101 claims for pensions yet to be acted on. Daniel F. Bakeman, the only soldier of the Revolutionary army on the rolls who had been pensioned by Act of Congress, died on the 5th of April. There are 887 Revolutionary widows still on the pension list. There were issued from the bounty land division 1650 land warrants, covering 560,040 acres.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN JAPAN.—The *Japan Gazette* of Sep. 11 states that his Royal Highness has been "received on equal terms in his Royal capacity by the Mikado; he has had every possible respect paid to him in his representative character by the community; and he has been permitted, when "off duty," to do as he liked without any obtrusive following or offensive observation. He acted throughout his stay here in such a manner as to win the respect of all; and before parting took the opportunity of expressing over and over again his appreciation of Japan and the community in which he had been received. In one circumstance which happened on his visit to the Mikado a proof was given of the rapid breaking down of the old exclusiveness of the Japanese Imperial Court. After the formal interview, the Prince, Sir Harry Parker, and Sir Henry Keppel were asked to see the grounds around the palace. As they were so engaged a high officer approached, and told them that his Majesty the Mikado was now in a pleasure house in the garden, and would be glad to converse with them. They of course went, seats were provided, and they sat some time chatting. To those who know what the character always attached to the Mikado is and has been by the Japanese, this seems among the greatest evidences of the real approach to modern views and ideas that have yet been given. Since then an uncle of the Mikado—a Miya, only a few degrees less sacred than the ruler himself—has actually dined at the British Legation to meet the Prince, and attended at a ball after the dinner. With him were two members of the Government, both considered to be among the most enlightened men in the country. In this way, then, the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh may prove a very great advantage; as certainly nothing but such an event could have produced so remarkable a change in the Imperial amenities."

GREAT MEN AND LITTLE MEN.—Lord William Lennox recently told the members of the Christian Institution at Dundee, that Mr. Pitt formed a high opinion of a young officer, who was afterwards Duke of Wellington, from the fact that he started all manner of difficulties before he began a service, and never any after it had been begun. Something very similar was noticed of the Duke's great friend, Sir Robert Peel. In council he had an aspect that a stranger would have thought timid. He saw all the difficulties. He questioned and hesitated, till people who did not know him, or the true and almost unaltering characteristics of the highest genius, fancied that he was going into the struggle half-heartedly. They found their mistake when the signal for battle was hoisted. The difficulties were all started before the service began, and never any afterwards. No great man, conscious of strength, plays the braggart. That is the work of little men, with little aims.

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(The Montreal Printing and Publishing Company,
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It is believed by the undersigned that the time has arrived for the publication in Canada of an **ANNUAL RECORD OF PUBLIC EVENTS**, similar to that which has been so long published, and so well known in England. The rapid strides of the Dominion are attracting the attention of the civilized world. It will be the aim of the Editor to chronicle, each year, the leading events so rapidly succeeding each other in the formation of our national character and national greatness.

The Editor proposes to commence with the birth and infancy of the Canadian Confederation. The first volume of his Register will therefore contain the following:—

- I. The Political and Parliamentary History of 1867, including:
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- VII. Obituary of Celebrated Persons.
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It is hoped that the undertaking will receive that encouragement which its importance deserves. The annual history which the Editor proposes to publish will be of great value to all interested in the future of our country.

Should the Register be as well received as the Editor hopes, he will spare no effort to justify future support. All that labour and impartiality can accomplish will be done to ensure the success of his work. He has been promised assistance by men in different parts of the Dominion whose capacity is undoubted. He intends with as little delay as possible, to prepare the volumes for 1867 and 1868.

The volume for 1867 will contain 350 pp., R. 8vo. and will be bound in cloth.

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HENRY J MORGAN

Ottawa, July, 10th, 1869. 23-11

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