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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. X

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We published last week a Militia General Order for a competitive examination in each Military District of the Dominion, of Candidates for admission to the Military College, Kingston, to commence on Tuesday, 5th December, 1876. Thus giving the various military schools ample time to prepare their pupils for this competitive examination; and we shall not fail to notice the school carrying off the palm for having produced the largest number of successful aspirants to our new Military College. Indeed we think a prize should be offered by the Government as an additional inducement for competition.

Our old friend Lieut. Colonel Robert Love lace, of Montreal, and cavalry drill instructor to the Canadian army, who formerly held a commission in the Turkish army, has been promised promotion to the rank of Major General on condition of his entering the Turkish service at the present juncture. We understand the gallant Colonel has declined the offer for several reasons.

Mr. Sandford Fleming and family proceed to England by steamer from Quebec on the 15th inst. The duties of his office will, we understand, be carried on during his absence by Mr. Marcus Smith.

We are glad to learn that the Marine and Fisheries Department have received information that the disputed rights of French fishermen on the coast of Newfoundland have been amicably settled between the Governments of Great Britain and France. All territorial rights on the shore belong to the British, who undertake to preserve law and order, but French fishermen will be allowed to use the beach lines for drying their fish.

Hon. Mr. Burpee, Minister of Customs, has written a note to the Washington Government, through the British Ambassador, setting forth in full the Canadian case with reference to reciprocal navigation of the canals and waters of both countries, under the Washington Treaty. The action taken by the Canadian Government meets with the approval of the shippers and forwarders of the Dominion, and is expected to lead to an equitable agreement alike beneficial to the interests of the mercantile trade of both countries.

The annual inspection of the Ottawa Cavalry Troop took place at Cartier Square on Thursday last. The Inspecting Officer, Lieut. Colonel Jackson, D.A.G., paid a high compliment to the officers for the efficiency the Troop had made in their drill since his last inspection, and for the clear and fine soldier-like appearance of the Troop.

One of the Allans' vessels lately brought out a number of guns, field pieces, and car-

riages, for the Militia Department; some of them being conveyed to the Province of Ontario, and the remainder are to be removed to the arsenal at St. Helen's Island, Montreal.

A veteran of 1812 called at the Militia Department one day last week to receive his \$20 gratuity. He was 82 years old, and was accompanied by his father, aged 101. The latter was asked if he too had not served, but the centennarian replied that at the time of the war he was exempted, as he was too old and had a large family dependent upon him.

We are pleased to learn that a large fish trade has sprung up on the Intercolonial Railway since its opening. Every train brings large quantities of fresh salmon for the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario markets.

The yacht race between the New York Yacht Club's *Madeline* and Major Gifford's *Countess of Dufferin* for the Queen's Cup, comes off on the 10th, 12th, and 14th July.

Last week a French-Canadian from Quebec, named Mousseau, attempted to walk across the Ottawa River in cork boots. He got as far as the middle of the stream, when the swiftness of the current compelled him to return, which he did without accident.

Hon. A. N. Richards has been appointed Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

There was an international rifle match in Oswego, on Tuesday last, between 49th Hastings Rifles of Belleville, Canada, and the 48th National Guards of Oswego, United States. The teams consisted of six men each, and the ranges were 200, 500, and 600 yards. Seven shots were given each man at the different ranges. At 200 yards the score stood: Belleville, 177; Oswego, 174; at 500 yards—Belleville, 150; Oswego, 145; at 600 yards—Belleville, 98; Oswego, 133. During the shooting a heavy storm prevailed.

Mexican advices to Havana announce the death of General Santa Anna, June the 20th, aged 84.

It was merely rumoured in our last that Serbia and Montenegro had thrown off the yoke of their allegiance to the Turkish Empire; but this week we have to chronicle it as a fact—that war has really broken out, and several small engagements have taken place with variable success to the parties engaged. As usual the news is contradictory, but the most reliable accounts give the advantage thus far to the Servians, but is more than probable the Turks will ultimately prevail over their revolted subjects if strict neutrality is observed by the Northern Powers.

Servian official despatches announce that hostilities commenced on the south eastern frontier on Monday, 3rd July. The Servians were successful in several engagements; they captured the fortified camp of Boblinaglar

by assault, after three hours' fighting. The position was defended by several batteries; the Turks abandoned their arms and baggage. The river Drina was crossed on Monday, and engagements ensued before Belchina.

The *Times* of Tuesday contains a special despatch from Vienna, stating that the Governor of Rutchuk declares the Turks do not intend to operate on the Danube with gunboats.

The *Times*, in a telegram, dated Cattaro, July 3rd, says:—"Scouts report that Moukhtar Pasha has abandoned Gatschiko, and retreated into Bosnia, and that the Montenegrins are following up their victory over the Turkish expedition sent against the Rutchi. Medum is beleaguered, and Podgoritza is threatened."

A special from Belgrade to the *Echo* says the Servians have captured the Turkish outworks near Belina, and burned the town.

A council of French Ministers has discussed the Eastern news. It is thought that all the European powers will adopt a policy of non-intervention, to which France is unalterably attached.

The *Standard's* Vienna despatch says Gen. Tchernayeff has issued a proclamation promising Russian aid if the war turns out unfavorable to Servia. Further details of fighting at Suitschan have been received, according to which 1,300 Servians were killed, and 1,500 wounded fell into the hands of the Turks. The latter lost 450 killed and 800 wounded.

The Greek Government has assured the Porte of its pacific sentiments.

The *Standard* this morning has a special from Belgrade stating that 260 more wounded soldiers have arrived there. A harrowing rumour has been current that General Seach's army was almost totally destroyed. The war Minister Nickalich had taken General Seach's command in person. Wounded soldiers who had arrived at Belgrade from Drisa stated that 6,000 Servians were wounded at Bsselina.

The *Standard* Berlin special says.—The following points were discussed at the Reichstoft:—The Danube question, Austria's demand, opposing formation of a great Servian power, and interference at proper time in favour of Armistice.

The *Morning Post's* Berlin despatch says Prince Gortchokoff and Count Andrassey have telegraphed Prince Bismarck the result of the interview of the Emperor at Reichstoft. Austria is opposed to the aggrandizement of Servia and Russia, and demands the free passage of the Dardanelles.

The rumor of the capture of Neyerzigre is contradicted.

The Eastern Question.

The following lecture delivered at the "United Service Institution" on the 14th February last, by Lt. Col. C. E. HOWARD VINCENT, has a peculiar interest just now, especially as by the late news received from the East, we learn that Servia and Montenegro have thrown off their allegiance to Turkey, and are now in open rebellion.

A lecture was delivered at the United Service Institution on Monday, the 14th inst., by Lieutenant Colonel C. E. Howard Vincent F.R.G.S., barrister at law, and late of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, on "The Turkish Forces and the Military Aspects of the Question." General Lord Sandhurst, G.C.B., was in the chair. The lecturer stated that while in Turkey, although he was there without any official character or recommendation, every consideration was shown to him as an Englishman. After paying a tribute to the Sultan as an advanced and intelligent military reformer, Lieutenant Colonel Vincent gave an account of the organization of the Turkish forces. The Ottoman dominions are divided into 120 military conscriptions, and nearly evenly among them are located the seven corps of which the Imperial Army is composed. Following exactly the northern model four units makes up the total of national defence. The standing Army, or Nizam; the reserve, or *Ikoliat*; the Militia, *Landwehr*, or *Redif*; the National Guard, *Landsturm*, or *Mustafiz*; representing, without the aid of the latter force, a paper strength of 750,000 men. Make no note, however, of these figures, nor of any indeed taken from Turkish sources which I may adduce. I frame my data from the concurrence of testimony, but cannot even thus hope to be near the mark. There is no doubt that it would be impossible to put more than half a million of Turks into the field.

"The standing army is recruited by conscription from the Mohammedan population of the Empire. Six times does the faithful Mussulman dive into the ballot box. If in these six years the Nizam does not secure a recruit, the lucky one passes at once into the *Redif*. Such, though, cannot be the good fortune of the majority, and the conscript thus spells out his twenty years of service:—4 years in the standing army, 2 years in the Reserve, 3 years in the *Redif* (1st ban), 3 years in the *Redif* (2nd ban), and 8 years in the *Mustafiz*. The four years in the standing army are usually reduced to three, or even two—a measure reducing battalion strength, but prudent alike on social and economical grounds.

Of the seven *corps d'armée*, three are stationed in Europe, at Constantinople, Shumla, and Monastir; and four in Asia, at Erzeroum, Bagdad, Damascus, and Sanala.

"Each corps consists of 7 regiments (28 battalions) of infantry, 5 regiments (30 squadrons) of cavalry, and one regiment (84 guns) of artillery, with a theoretical strength of 27,000 men, which in war is supposed to be supplemented by 34 battalions of *Redifs*.

"The first corps is frequently termed the Imperial Guard, and Yousouff Effendi, the eldest son of His Majesty, is the titular commander. The men composing it are in a great measure selected from the whole Empire, for the inhabitants of the capital are exempted from service.

"The Turkish infantry may be said to be without its superior in Europe as regards material. It consists of forty nine regiments with four battalions of eight companies.

The system of drill was devised by Hussein Avni Pasha, now Governor of Broussa, but under whose Grand Vizierate and Presidency at the Seraskeriât, the flood gates of improvement opened on the country and the army. The rapidity with which the Osmanli soldierly move is extraordinary and unparalleled—compact independence, to which the neat yet easy uniform conduces. A fez, blue jacket and waistcoat trimmed with red, scarlet sash around the waist, trousers ample to the middle of the calf, then tight as a gaiter, and running into a soft boot of untanned leather. Such is the dress of gunner, trooper, and linesman.

"The infantry is completely armed with breechloading rifles—long Sniders, short Sniders, original, converted, of Tower pattern, of American make, Winchester's Remington's Peabody's—every system, I believe, that inventive genius has devised. Rifles, though, are not of themselves engines of destruction. The recent neglect and hard usage. Without cartridges they avail but little, and there is no machinery for using the complex ammunition required. In time the Henry Martini rifles ordered from the Providence Tool Company will be supplied and more uniformity insured.

"The Ottoman cavalry consists of thirty five regiments of six squadrons each, with a supposed complement of 100 men, armed for the most part with Winchester repeating carbine, sword, and pistol. At best, the cavalry partakes considerably of an irregular character. The men are good Oriental horsemen, but the officers are no less untrained for field service than they are by nature unendowed with dash, energy, and spirit. The country is full of smart little horses, but there is no remounting system, and not unfrequently a fourth of the regiment is on foot, and another fourth are on worn out screws ere a remount can be obtained. Of one regiment it is narrated that, reduced to a few score mounted men, the colonel, after long solicitation, obtained the required sum. The season was winter. He thought that the grant placed at interest till the spring would then enable him to buy more animals. The Koran forbade such a scheme. In the regimental chest the sum was locked. There were long arrears of pay owing to the men, and an order came that the remount grant should be applied to defray them. The regiment of horse became a regiment of foot.

"The Imperial artillery boasts of seven regiments and one in reserve. Each regiment is composed of three horse and nine field batteries of six guns. The former have four pounders, the latter six. The whole of the guns are on Krupp's system and of his manufacture, with the exception of six mountain guns made by Sir Joseph Whitworth's firm, and the six mitrailleuses attached to each regiment. Not only has the whole of the artillery been provided with breechloading cannon, but there are sufficient in store to re-arm every battery. As with the rifles, though, the feeding machinery has been neglected. The guns are there, but ammunition wagons are to a great extent wanting.

"The chief deficiency of the Turkish artillery lies, however, in the horses. The native animals are not adapted to the work, and the entire supply has to be drawn from Hungary. An annual commission is sent, and some good animals obtained at prices varying from £25 to £40. But it is on all sides agreed that the Hungarian horse is deficient in stamina, and in many eventualities it is obvious that even this market would be closed. The scarcity of draught horses becomes a more serious thing when the total absence of a transport corps is considered

—in a country, moreover, where no levy on the inhabitants could produce any result.

"There is likewise no regular engineer corps, as the state of the defences throughout the Empire only too clearly shows, and of course both pontoon and telegraph trains are wanting.

"The medical department of the army, on the other hand, is well organised. The School of Medicine at Pera is turning out excellent graduates—not enough, truly at present for the requirements of the Service, but in time the German surgeons now in the temporary employ of the Porte will be supplanted by Turkish practitioners. One alien alone will then remain, Dr. Temple, formerly of the 18th Royal Irish, attached to the 1st Regiment of Artillery, and Surgeon Extraordinary to His Majesty, exempt by Imperial mandate from the disqualifications of foreigners.

"The military hospitals are numerous, well arranged and beautifully kept. Close to the principal one at Scutari is the British cemetery, the resting place of many a gallant soldier of the Queen. The care bestowed upon it by the guardian, Sergeant Lyne, late of the Royal Engineers, is beyond all praise. Strange is the contrast with the ruined graveyards of the Turks hard by.

"The officers of the Ottoman service form, with the exception of the surgeons, the weakest portion of the entire system. Ill-trained from cradle to school, ill regulated from school to life's close, they possess, though perhaps not by their fault, few physical or moral virtues. Forced to discount their day at ruinous rates, the majority live from hand to mouth, and military proficiency meets with but scant reward. The staff hardly deserves the name, although some of its members receive a kind of special training, so small is it numerically; so weak, for the most part, intellectually; so indolent physically. The military school of the Empire from the peculiar pleasure of the Sultan. The shortcomings of Turkish officers are in no way traceable to any deficiency in the means of education. The schools are of two categories—primary, giving a general education, and receiving boys for four years between the ages of twelve and eighteen, secondary, receiving students under sixteen years of age, and after a four years course drafting them into the army. I visited a school of each character in detail, and many as now are the military colleges in Europe that I have visited, I never found a better system in any country.

"With regard to the reserve or *Ikoliat*, the lecturer stated that arms for the reserve of each battalion are kept at headquarters; clothing and accoutrements likewise. In theory the reserve men, on the outbreak of war, revert to their original corps. But, owing partly to the absence of all methodical civil administration, partly to the imperfect means of communication, there is no possibility of the principal being enforced. Last autumn showed the truth of this statement. The reserve men are seized by the first regiment they meet. Were it otherwise, they would never reach the theatre of operations.

"In the Militia or *Redif*, the period of service is twelve years—the first three, theoretically, in the senior battalion, the second three in the junior battalion. But, with very few exceptions, this second battalion has no real existence. The officers of the *Redif* form a permanent institution in the proportion of two to each company, and one field officer per battalion. For a month in each year the *Redif* is called out for training. Not the whole battalion—the six contingents, in the absence of the second, forming but

one—only four sixths thereof. The Militia man consequently, in the course of his six years' service in the force, goes through four trainings. I was afforded the opportunity in the vicinity of Constantinople of closely inspecting a Redif brigade. It consisted of two battalions, come the the previous day from Asia Minor, leaving that evening for the Herzegovina—eight companies of 100 men, splendid fellows. Called out in mid-harvest from a district depopulated by famine, for a cause in which they took no interest, discontent might well be expected to prevail. Never, though, was the Padishah more enthusiastically saluted than by those 1600 voices. One could but feel that with such men any difficulty might be surmounted. But who was to lead the way? One officer, of wretched mien, to each of those strong companies. What mechanical force was there to support the physical? Long rifles and scabbardless bayonets in the case of one battalion, short rifles and swords in the case of the other. Uniformity alone in the dirty, utterly unserviceable state of the weapons.

As to the last unit in the Auxiliary Forces—the National Guard or Mustafiz—it is the very embodiment of theory. It boasts neither organisation, no arms, nor officers, nor cadres save in misrepresentation to the greatest autocrat, the most deluded monarch of the civilized world.

Now as to the Imperial navy, twenty six ironclads, embracing every description of battery, but, with, I understood, too thin plating for these days. The officers are *au complet*, the men about half. How far either the former or the latter are fit for sea, I will not presume to opine. Practice in navigation they certainly never have. All the year round this glorious fleet lies in idle state in front of the Imperial palace. The Sultan gazes thereon from the presence room of Dolma Bagtshé, and believes when he is told that he rules the world. There are none in his service who will undecieve him. He knows no foreign language, and the Turkish prints are under the censor. Financial difficulties are unknown; dreams of troubles to come do not disturb the Imperial slumber.

Summing up his opinion of the Turkish forces, Lieut. Colonel Vincent said:—The men are admirable, but the officers very imperfect. The guns are numerous, but there are no horses to drag them. The rifles are of the best type, and enough of them to give one to each Mussulman in Stamboul, but there are no cartridges. Truly the engines are ready, but there is no motive power. The ally of Turkey will have to supply it. Officers, horses, wagons, ammunition, meth od must be provided before the Turkish forces are really fitted for European service.

The Eastern Question, as stated by the lecturer, is this:—Whether Turkey in Europe must be maintained intact? After expressing the opinion that if Russia were to make a sudden dash by sea and land on Stamboul its fate might be a question of days only, he went on to show that Great Britain is especially interested in the preservation of the Turkish Empire. He said:—I think that recent events have materially altered the position of affairs. The Eastern Question is indeed connected with our road to India. But think not that this road is solely one for the conveyance of our troops, for the passage of our ships. I received the other day a letter from a most excellent official in the great empire of the east, which affirms this view: the road to India means, indeed, one for the transit of men and merchandise, and also one to the hearts, to the loyalty, to the submission of the vast Mahommedan population to the

Supreme Power. This loyalty, this submission, depends much—those who have been in India know how much—on the alliance of the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty with the Caliph of the Prophet, the Sultan of Turkey. Nor are the new rights so patriotically acquired over the Suez Canal, any positive assurance that the material road to India will be for ever secure. So narrow, so shifting, so difficult is the passage that even in time of peace the speed of four knots an hour must not be exceeded. Often and often a vessel runs aground. The treacherous sand is here to-day and there to-morrow. The buoys which yesterday marked the course have now to be moved. I am credibly informed that a single boat in a single night is capable of stopping all safe navigation through the Canal, and will not the able and renewed officer, who, if report runs aright, is entrusted, by leave of his Czar, with the portfolio of war at Cairo, see that land defences guard the water way? In short, to be surprised, if, on some future day, the existence of a Treaty, that you now little dream of, is brought to light. The preservation of Turkey is closely connected with our own highest interests. How do we, then, stand as regards the question in a military aspect? As matters are, I very much doubt if any active interference would have such a reasonable chance of success as to justify its being attempted. The Army which is available for continental operations is too small to render any vast assistance, unless everything be prepared, everything favourable, to the execution of a fixed and definite plan. It might be otherwise, were the Militia liable for foreign service in time of war; a practicable scheme I mentioned here last summer. But we can only take things as they exist. On any attempted rupture of the present *status quo*, it is probable that our Mediterranean fleet would be despatched to the Dardanelles. A large portion of the garrisons of Malta and Gibraltar would be moved at once eastwards. Within ten days forty thousand regular troops would be despatched from our shores, and ten days later might disembark on Turkish soil, *i.e.*, at least three weeks after the declaration of war. Remember that, until that declaration, we could not move a man, for such movement would assuredly constitute a *casus belli* of itself. Three weeks in this age is a long time, and, as you will have gathered, my deliberate opinion is that the Turks do not at this hour possess the means of resisting any skillfully planned and energetically conducted invasion. They will not submit quietly—a St. Bartholomew's day might recur—but I do not think that any firm stand could be made, reasonable chances favouring both sides. Nor is this all. Any British army sent to assist Turkey, to uphold our policy of ages, and from which it would be fatal to depart, would meet with every obstacle long before it came face to face with the aggressor. Nearly everything would have to be furnished from the fleet, for in such a state is the country, that it is almost deprived of the usual means of sustenance. The entire transport would have to be provided. At home, even the service is defective. How, then, would it be possible for us to establish it, within the required time, ready for an arduous campaign, thousands of miles away? Horses, again, we should have to send. Have we them here? Can we have them there? Then, also, engines and pontoon trains, to say nothing of ammunition. This is now the state of affairs. If, say a million sterling were spent in fortifying the Bosphorus, Bourgas, Varna, and the line of the Danube; in organising transport; in providing horses;

it might save many millions hereafter. If officers be sent, or at least encouraged, to go and learn Turkish, to instruct the troops, to stimulate the navy, then British arms will be able successfully to co-operate with Turkish battalions. One other thing, too, is all important—the completion of the strategical railway from Adrianople to Shumla. Without that line, I do not see how troops could be moved up to the Danube—how they could be supplied with field equipment.

The lecturer then showed that Austria was in a position to defend Turkey with the immediate aid of 300,000 on the Danube, and trusted that she would, by co-operating with England, summarily prevent any attempt to dismember the Turkish Empire.

A few words with reference to France and Germany concluded the lecture, for which a cordial vote of thanks was passed.

CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE—STRENGTH OF THE CONTENTING FORCES.

The following brief review of the causes which have brought about this new conflict will be read with interest in view of the declaration of war by Servia against Turkey: The cause of the quarrel which now arrays the soldiers of the Servian Prince against those of his Suzerain the Sultan was developed towards the close of last year by the attempt of the Turks to collect the taxes payable to the Porte by the inhabitants of Herzegovina and Bosnia, two dependencies of the Turkish Empire, situated on the western side of Turkey in Europe. This imposition of tribute has always been regarded by the Christian subjects of the Sultan as oppressive, and they have never failed, when an opportunity presented itself, to protest against it, either by representations of the great powers or by an appeal to arms. The overpowering force of the Turkish battalions which supported the tax gatherers of the Padishah in their annual visitations to the tributary provinces had up to recently suppressed every attempt at resistance, and the most terrible cruelties are charged against the Turks during the times of this forced collection of taxes. This state of things could possibly have no other termination than in an armed revolt of the oppressed people of Herzegovina and Bosnia, which took place, as we have stated, during the summer of 1875, and has progressed, with varying fortunes for the insurgents, during the past ten months. By a series of onslaughts on detachments of Turkish troops Herzegovinians and Bosnians have inflicted great losses on their ancient enemy, forcing him to organize large armies against them, and often to retreat before their daring attacks. The enterprise of the Herzegovinians and the vigor of their resistance to their enemy is illustrated by the several ineffectual attempts of Muhktar Pacha, with a powerful force, to revictual the fortress of Niesic—a strong position on the northern frontier of Montenegro—until a temporary armistice was declared between the belligerents, and in violation of which the Turkish general threw some supplies into the town. This feat, which was proved to be impossible in the presence of Herzegovinian resistance, enraged the insurgents beyond all hope of peaceful settlement of the quarrel, for they saw in it the evidence of Turkish duplicity and bad faith, and prepared to fight the war to the bitter end.

Any event which in the remotest degree tended to re-open the only half settled Eastern question has been invested with extraordinary gravity by the European Powers, and the highest offices of diplomacy have been invoked to settle the apparently most

insignificant question arising within the area of that debatable land, European Turkey. It was, therefore, not to be wondered at that when the flames of insurrection broke out in territory of the "Sick Man" their lurid glare should light up the council rooms of the Continent and force Ministers of State to a hurried consultation as to the means of averting the threatened danger. The peace of Europe has been so frequently disturbed of late years and the balance of power of the great States and Empires being so delicately adjusted on the point of the bayonet, any little jar may precipitate a disturbance, and it would in all probability take a mighty war to restore again that quiescent condition which we have become accustomed to call peace. The Eastern question can be compared only to a great bombshell loaded with fearful explosives and dotted over with fuses which any spark, no matter how accidentally applied, might set blazing toward the charge. Even the flames of a burning cow shed in Herzegovina might prove sufficient to destroy the combustible walls of Europe's temple of peace. It was not a surprise, therefore, to the world when the diplomatic corps of Russia, Germany, Austria and England began to pour despatches into Constantinople giving friendly council and ominous warning in relation to obscure disturbances in one or two of the Sultan's provinces.

These soon brought forth their natural fruits in the congenial atmosphere created by international jealousies. Each one of the great Powers had its particular interests to serve, and in the case of Russia and England these were best protected by the defeat of the ambitious and desires of the other. Russia recognized the revolt of Herzegovina and Bosnia, "the beginning of the end" of "the Sick Man," and strove to fan the war flame into a conflagration that would envelop the entire Turkish Empire in Europe and drive the Moslems across the Bosphorus. The Czar was even willing to take possession of the smoking ruins of Stamboul as payment in full of all the cost of winning such a desirable winter residence. Russian emissaries were busy in the revolted provinces giving encouragement and substantial aid to the peasant bands, and many a soldier of the Crescent was sent to the embraces of the hours of the Mohammedan paradise with a bullet in his breast that was paid for out of the Treasurer at St. Petersburg. On the other hand England, with a vigilant eye to the control of the Key of East, and remembering the blood and treasure expended so lavishly on the heights before Sebastopol, filed an objection to the Russian programme, and presented it at Constantinople, set in the grim framework of bristling caution from the broadsides of her ironed fleets. Germany, believing in her destiny and anxious to complete the unification of her people under one imperial standard, undertook the role of referee, but retired from the ring—temporarily, it is supposed—when England spoiled the match by her belligerent attitude. Austria, with only one object in view, and that self preservation, took an active part in the Council of Emperors, and by assuring the Sultan of neutral sympathy and furnishing the insurgents with powder and bullets, has kept the question open and, therefore, retains a controlling influence in its settlement.

The effect of this influence on the progress of events has been to enable all parties interested to get ready for the arbitrament of war. In reality the conditions arising out of the presentation of the Andrassy note and its withdrawal at the instance of Eng-

land have been equivalent only to a stay of proceedings which was to extent over just such time as certain powerful parties in the case needed for preparation for a vigorous solution by the ordeal of battle. We have seen how the hopes of the Turks and the insurgents have been alternately raised and depressed by the great Powers in order to retain both from any precipitation of a regular organized warfare until the said great Powers were ready to take advantage of the results.

Servia has been held in check by threats and promises until Russian army corps were massed in Bessarabia and the military frontier of Austria was occupied by her swarming battalions. The large standing Army of Germany places her in a position of constant readiness for the most threatening condition of affairs, and England's great Armada is within a few hours' sail of the Golder Horn. It would be absurd to imagine Servia attacking the Turkish Power single handed and with limited resources. The aid of Montenegro, a petty and impoverished little State, with an area of only 1,552 square miles, cannot be counted on to influence the struggle. Even an uprising of the Turkish dependencies in Europe unaided by some one of the mighty empires that almost surround that country, would fail to overthrow the Sultan's power, so that we may infer with safety that the wau-like movement of Servia, which has now become one of active hostility in the field, is but a part of the game that must result in the disruption of the Turkish Empire in Europe.

The forces that will open this Turko-Servian war are so disproportioned in relative strength that we must soon expect to learn of the advance of Austrian and Russian corps across the respective frontiers of both countries. The former, as in the time of the Crimean war, to protect her interests by occupying strategic points in the Danubian provinces, and the latter to watch the movements of the Austrian army. According to the law of 1869, military service is obligatory on all male Mahammedon subjects of the Sultan. Recruiting is accomplished by the engagement of volunteers and by conscription. The term of service in the Turkish army is twenty years, of which four are spent in the regular active army, two years in the first reserve, six years in the second reserve, and eight years in the militia or landwehr. The army is divided into three parts, namely: The regular army, the irregular troops, and the auxiliaries. The law above named fixed the strength of the army at 700,000 men until 1876. Of this force the regular army numbers 150,000 men, the first reserve 70,000 men, and the second reserve, 420,000 men, rendering an annual quota of 37,500 men necessary to maintain the effective strength. The regular army is divided into seven *corps d'armée*, distributed as follows:—

No.	Corps.	District.
1.	The Guard.	Constantinople.
2.	Danube.	Sehoumla.
3.	Roumelia.	Monastyr.
4.	Anatolia.	Erzeroum.
5.	Syria.	Damas.
6.	Irak.	Bagdad.
7.	Yemen.	Sanaa.

The irregular troops compose sixteen regiments of military police; the *Bashi-Bazouks* and the volunteers, such as *Spahis*, *Bedouins*, &c., the whole force numbering about 50,000 men.

The auxiliary troops are the contingents from such of the provinces as have not furnished their quota to the militia or landwehr and the other States or Provinces dependant to the Sultan. Of these, Upper Albania fur-

nishes 10,000 men, Bosnia, 30,000, Egypt 15,000, Tunis and Tripoli 4,000 men.

In time of war the effective army strength of Turkey is as follows:—

	No. of Men.
Active army	203,700
First reserve	105,600
Second reserve	24,000
Military police	32,000
Militia	120,000
Total, regular army	486,200
To these may be added:—	
Irregular troops	50,000
Auxiliary troops	50,000
Total, irregular army	100,000
Making a grand total of	586,100

The army of Servia is composed as follows:—

REGULAR ARMY.	
Four battalions of infantry	2,400
Two squadrons of cavalry	300
Seven batteries of artillery	1,400
Four companies of Engineers	620
Total	4,270
RESERVES.	
First Ban, 80 battalions	67,280
Second Ban, 80 battalions	48,400
Thirty three squadrons	4,950
Twenty eight batteries	5,120
Nine companies of engineers	3,632
Military train	21,168
Total	150,490

Grand Total.....154,760

The gunboats of the Turkish fleets have ascended the Danube above Widdin, and are said to be threatening even Belgrade itself with bombardment. This floating force is comparatively small and will probably be compelled to retire; but in order to guard against any future attempts of the Turks in this direction the Servians propose to torpedo the Danube, and it has even been proposed to obstruct the river at the Iron Gats so as to render it entirely impassable.

The following extract from the correspondence published in the London *Standard* describes the preparations:—

"If the telegrams are to be believed which say that some Turkish gunboats are cruising off Widdin, between that and Negotin the struggle is entering on quite a new phase. From Widdin it is but a few hours' steaming distance to Belgrade, and the gunboats, if they have come, either mean to menace that city or to cover the movement of the Turks across the river to invade Servia through Negotin. The latter is, beyond a doubt, Servia's weak point, but still the attempt on it would now be most hazardous, and, if not successful, would mean a fearful disaster for the assailants. The authorities at Belgrade, however, are by no means unaware of the danger to the city from a gunboat attack. When the Turks, over the fortress they have with their large stores of the very heaviest smooth bore bronze cannon, all eight inch or ten inch calibre, some of them throwing shot of more than 200 pounds weight. When I left about four weeks ago all the arrangements were complete for mounting these on the river walls of the fortress overlooking the Danube, and the same will be done, or now most likely has been done, on the side which commands the Sane. Still it has not been forgotten that a gunboat moving quickly is but a small mark, whereas the city, rising like a small mountain at the

junction of the two rivers, is a very large one, and that with long range shells the houses would get the worst of it, and it would be poor consolation for the forts to hold their own while the city was burning behind them. To guard against this eventuality an extensive system of dynamite torpedoes are being arranged beneath the waters over which the gunboats must come to do anything effectual.

If it does, and the Servians are driven to the last extremities, they are said to meditate a vengeance which is too bad to speak of in temperate terms. Nevertheless, it is spoken of both by civil and military engineers, who discuss—guardedly, certainly—the means of doing it, the amount it would cost, the time it would take, and the number of tons of dynamite it would require. To explain what I mean I must digress for a few lines. Every one knows what a broad, deep and rapid river the Danube is, but it concentrates all its force and fury below the cataracts at a pass called the Iron Gates. Here, opposite the small village of Ticheviztha, it narrows from a width of a mile to about 180 yards wide, and with a depth, as far as can be ascertained from the violence of the current, of from 800 to 1 000 fathoms. The mountains on either side of this are very lofty—nearly 5,000 feet high—but that on the Austrian side is 1,000 feet higher, and on the side is nearly sheer for about 3,000 feet above the torrent. In fact, where it is not perpendicular it rather overhangs the water. When there is a very low Danube the sharp, craggy points of subaqueous rocks begin to show themselves above the water, and between these the passage is most narrow, winding and shallow, and, in fact, can only be passed by steamers, especially built for the purpose, of light draught of water, four paddle wheels, and immense power. At the break up of last winter the floating ice jammed among these crags, the waters backed up, laying all the Banat and vast tracts of Hungary under water. Such a deluge was never known, and whether it was the hideous ruin which this caused first put it into the heads of the insurgents I do not know—all I do know is, that the blowing up of the precipice of Mount Scrieber (the Austrian side) would bring down many millions of tons of rock across the Iron Gates, and long before the obstruction could be removed a vast part of Eastern Europe would be turned into an inland lake."

Such will be the desperate character of the war, and there can scarcely be any doubt but that civilized Europe must soon interfere and put a stop to the contest by removing its cause—the Ottoman Power.

The Riot at Gibraltar.

The Cadiz correspondent of the Times writes, under date June 9th: "By telegrams and despatches received from Gibraltar between German sailors of the four ironclads and the boatmen of Gibraltar seems to have been begun by the Germans, who had been drinking. The Gibraltar Guardian says: 'The German sailors of the four ironclads, now lying in the harbor, began the quarrel, having purposely assaulted some young ladies waiting on the wharf for the return of the pleasure seekers from the bull fight of Algeciras. This insult put up the blood of the Gibraltar men, who collared the assailants. Then, knives in hand, all the German sailors attacked the Gibraltar men, and they defended themselves with sticks, oars, and flagstaffs, and all they could lay hands upon. A hundred were thrown

down, hustled, beaten, trod upon. The bugle sounded, and into the midst of the rioters came the picket of the 23rd Welsh Fusiliers. They were powerless, so were the town police, and although they fixed bayonets, they had to summon others of the same regiment. The soldiers, finding the complaints of the Gibraltar people were just took their part, forced the Germans to embark in their boats and closed the gates. Many of the German sailors were badly wounded. These sailors of Bismark think themselves the lords of the whole world. They are not so. They are all confined to their ships until the fleet of four ironclads leaves Gibraltar harbor, which will be to-night.' The feeling in Cadiz and Gibraltar is strong against the Germans, as it is said, I do not know with what truth, that the German officers could not or would not control their men."

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—I have often thought it my duty to direct attention to many of the weak points in our militia system, hoping thereby to effect reforms—but when I come to consider how year after year able General officers have published reports, which neither Ministers nor Members of Parliament ever take the trouble to read—judging by results—I cannot hope to effect much.

Still it drives a good soldier wild, to see the present state of most of the beautiful and expensive saddlery that was given only a few years ago to the Dominion Cavalry; that belonging to three troops has just come under my notice, and it is but a sample of too many—nummas and panels, completely destroyed and moth-eaten—straps and buckles lost—bridles and head stalls broken and useless—bits black with rust and thrown away in a box; so that when troop appears on parade they use all sorts of bridles, even some with winkers—collar chains only fit to sell for old iron—swords and carbines not much better.

Now Sir, a duly qualified inspecting officer of Cavalry would remedy all this, and teach commanding officers of troops how to preserve such valuable equipment—therefore until the Government are prepared to adopt a more soldierly system in regard to all that pertains to Militia matters, recommend the present annual drill to be given up altogether for it is more than a "harmless joke."

ATTENTION.

OBITUARY.

We regret to learn that a fatal accident through *Somnambulism* took place a few days since in Montreal, involving the death of a Mr. HENRY ORGAN, of Buckingham, England, and son-in-law of Colonel Lovelace, Volunteer Cavalry, &c. &c. The deceased gentleman in his sleep walked out of a two story window, breaking his back and his legs in the fall, expiring in great agony one day after. He leaves a widow and five young children to deplore his untimely fate.

RUSSIA'S MOVEMENTS, if the meagre news received is reliable, appear to have a serious aspect. Late reports represented her as assembling a large number of troops in Bessarabia, which adjoins Turkey on the north east; and now it is reported that 50,000 Russian troops, including 12,000 Cossacks, are approaching Rukowina, in Galicia, which is a division of Austrian Poland, immediately north of Moldavia, in Turkey. Austria's position is painfully undefined, but she has fallen out on a small scale with Servia, owing to the firing into a steamer on the Danube, probably supposed to be a Turkish one. The Montenegrins are in full march into the Herzegovina, and the Moslem Turks there are acting like rats in a leaky ship. The Albanians to the south of Montenegro, who are mostly Greeks, refuse to fight for Turkey.

Servia has made an ample apology to Austria for the firing into one of her steamers, which Austria has accepted.

PARIS, July 5.—A correspondent of the *Universelle* states that the Khedive has furnished the Porte 12,000 men. All attempts of the Turkish army to cross the frontier have been victoriously repulsed.

THE HAGUE, July 5.—The Governor of the Dutch East Indies, telegraphs confirming the report of the loss of the steamer *Lieut. General Kroesen*, in the Straits of Sunda. Two hundred and thirty persons were drowned.

THE INDIAN WAR.—The special correspondent of the *Helena, Montana Herald* writes: Muggins Taylor, a scout for General Gibbon, got here last night direct from Little Horn River. General Custer found an Indian camp of 2,000 lodges on Little Horn, and immediately attacked the camp. Custer took five companies and charged the thickest portion; in camp nothing is known of the operations of this detachment only as they trace it; by the dead, Major Reno commanded the other companies and attacked the lower portion of the camp. The Indians poured in a murderous fire from all directions, besides the greater portion fought on horseback. Custer, his two brothers, nephew and brother-in-law were all killed, and not one of his detachment escaped; 267 men were buried in one place, and the killed are estimated at 500 with only 31 wounded. The Indians surrounded Reno's command, and held them one day in the hills, cut off from water, until Gibbin's command came in sight, when they broke camp in the night and left. The Seventh fought like eagles, and were overcome by mere brute force. The Indian loss cannot be estimated as they have carried off most of their killed. The Indians got all the arms of the killed soldiers. There were seventeen commissioned officers killed. The whole Custer family died at the head of their column. The exact loss is not known, as both adjutants and sergeant majors were killed. The Indian camp was from 3 to 4 miles long, and was 20 miles up Little Horn, from its mouth. The above was confirmed by letters, which say Custer met a fearful disaster. Lieut. Crittenden, a son of Gen. Crittenden, is among the killed.

FLOODS AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A terrific storm prevailed over the northern part of Iowa, Tuesday night on the line of the Illinois Central and Davenport and St. Paul and Midland Railroads, Bridges and embankments on the Illinois Central were washed out, and there are no trains on either to-day. The village of Rockdale was washed out, last night, and 44 persons drowned.

TORNADO.—On Tuesday night a terrible tornado passed through South Burlington, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Stockwell were killed, instantly while lying in bed. Mr. Dyke was instantly killed, and the body found in the wreck of the dwelling, which was levelled to the ground. Numerous others were more or less injured.

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

“Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law.”

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1876.

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

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

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—It is painful to us to be obliged so often to call upon our delinquent subscribers to pay up. Early in the year every subscriber had his account sent him, five months of the year are gone by and no response made by the most of them to our just demand—our patience, therefore, has become exhausted—and an account unsettled by the 1st August next, will be placed in Court for collection and interest charged from time of last payment. *This is the last call that will be made by us upon them.*

The following summary of the actions of the late Franco-German war is taken from “The Official German Reports, Volume 2.” It has been carefully translated, and we are indebted to our contemporary the United States *Army and Navy Journal* for it.

“The war had reached its crisis after the great struggles at Sedan and Noisseville, in which the regular armies of the French empire appeared for the last time in the open field. Hardly a month had passed since hostilities began, and already the three hundred thousand men which the Emperor Napoleon had arrayed against the Germans, were either prisoners of war or shut up in the fortress of Metz.

“The centre of the front of formation of the German army, the Hessian and Bavarian Palatinate, was occupied by the 2nd Army, of which the different corps and divisions, using the railways as much as possible, gradually approached the frontier of Lorraine, pushing their advance guards more and more to the west. The 1st Army, well forward upon the upper Saar, protected the right flank of this growing and advancing force, while 3rd Army, assembled in the neighborhood of Landau, fronted on the southward. As the latter was destined to the double task of covering the left of the 2nd Army and protecting South Germany against invasion by the enemy in Alsace, its offensive advance was, from the first, eccentric from the movement of the other two armies.

“These arrangements of the Germans were to all intents and purposes completed in fourteen days from the issue of the order of mobilization, while on the part of the enemy the rash statement of the Minister of War had failed entirely of confirmation, and even at the end of July those in command of the French army did not consider it fit for any considerable undertaking. Four corps stood between Metz and the Prussian frontier, two other between Saargemund and Strasburg, while a seventh at Belfort, and a reserve at Chalons, were just assembling.

“The attack upon Saarbrucken, rather meaningless under such circumstances, with which the French opened the campaign on the 2nd of August, taking possession of this extreme frontier post for a short time, was answered by the immediate advance of the German army into Alsace. On the 4th of August, the Crown Prince of Prussia, with the 3rd Army, crossed the boundary near Weissenburg, encountering at that point Douay’s (French) division, which was driven back after a gallant resistance. The next day the advanced troops of the Crown Prince reached the Sauerbach, behind which Marshal MacMahon had posted the 1st and part of the 7th corps, in a strong position on the heights between Woerth and Reichsweyer. The battle which the German headquarters had not intended to deliver till the next day, after all their forces had come up, was anticipated by the rash advance of those troops already in the face of the enemy. On the 6th of August, after the 5th army corps had made headway against the outnumbering enemy for several hours, and at first alone, the latter was turned on both flanks by the other German corps, as they arrived on the field, and only escaped complete annihilation by a disorderly flight. The beaten army avoided close pursuit by forced marches, and later by the use of the railways. The 5th (French) corps, whose 3rd division, at Niederbronn, had tried to take part in the battle, joined in this retreat which was continued without interruption to the Marne.

“The middle Saar also saw, on the 6th of

August, a serious affair. The outposts of the 1st and 2nd armies, the latter of which was still closing up to the westward of the Hardt mountains, found on moving forward to the river in the morning, that the important crossing place of Saarbrucken was no longer occupied by the French. Consequently, towards noon, the 14th division deployed its leading troops upon the left bank, to drive off a rearguard of the enemy, which appeared weak, but the whole division was soon hotly engaged with the whole of the 2nd (French) corps, which occupied the woods in front of Stiring and the entrenched heights of Spicheren. Though outnumbered, and several times repelled, the Prussian troops returned again and again to the attack, and it was not till evening, when reinforcements hurried forward from both the 1st and 2nd armies had established an equality of force, that they succeeded in driving back the left wing of the enemy, and thus causing the evacuation of his main position. The advance of a Prussian division against Forbach hastened the retreat of the 2nd (French) corps while the divisions of the 3rd corps, intended for its support, never reached the battlefield. Under the influence of the defeats of Woerth and Spicheren, the whole force collected by the Emperor Napoleon in Lorraine was in the succeeding days withdrawn behind the Nied, and the 6th corps was brought forward from Chalons to Metz. Marshal Bazaine took command of the new Army of the Rhine, which comprised five corps.

“The advance to the Moselle, which had been decided on by the Germans, was carried out during the second week of August, by a general change of front to the right. The 3rd Army, detaching a division against Strasbourg, crossed the Vosges, and on the 14th its head reached the neighborhood of Nancy, while nearly abreast the right wing advanced under the royal commander himself, the 2nd Army in the general direction of Pont à Mousson, the 1st by shorter marches towards the east side of Metz.

“The repeated vacillations of the French headquarters, and consequent countermarches of the Army of the Rhine, left the German commanders for some time uncertain whether the enemy would give battle east of the Moselle, or only after crossing that river. After the cavalry of the 2nd Army, hastening to the front on the 12th of August, had found the crossings of the Moselle above Metz clear of the enemy, and the same had been occupied by infantry as it came up, the belief gained ground that the main body of the French army was retreating to the Meuse by way of Metz. Under this supposition, to push the enemy as far north as possible, the left wing of the 2nd Army was directed to cross the Moselle, while right wing, and from a position on the Nied, the 1st Army, was to protect the movement against attacks from Metz.

“The outposts of the 7th army corps discovered, on the afternoon of the 14th, that the French were leaving the camps which they had occupied on the east side of Metz, and attacked the retiring enemy near Colombey. The latter stopped the movement which had been begun towards the left bank of the Moselle, and two of his corps took part in the battle, in which the Germans engaged five brigades of the 7th and 1st army corps, with a large artillery force, and later some few troops of the 2nd Army. Towards evening the enemy was driven back, along his whole line, under the walls of Metz.

“The German commanders did not leave unimproved the delays of their opponents. In the belief that the Army of the Rhine had again taken up its retreat towards the Meuse,

the 2nd Army was at once moved across the Moselle, and its right wing advanced towards the southern road from Metz to Ver-tun, to stop the march of the enemy by an attack on his flank. The 3rd army corps, following the reconnoitring cavalry beyond Gorz on the morning of the 16th, discovered near Rezonville French troops which were at first supposed to be only a strong rearguard, but proved later to be the main body of the Army of the Rhine, which, fronting westward, awaited before continuing their march to the Meuse, the arrival on their right of the corps which had been in action at Colombey.

The bloodiest battle of the whole war now opened on the plains east and west of Vionville. Unexpectedly attacked from the south and west, Marshal Bazaine gradually engaged nearly the whole of his army in one direction or the other, while on the German side, only the 10th and isolated parts of the 8th and 9th army corps arrived to support the 3rd. The right wing of the latter, however, succeeded in holding the positions first taken up, and in drawing upon themselves, by violent attacks, the main body of the enemy, who thought his line of retreat towards Metz threatened, and was not willing to surrender it. The left wing barred to the French the southern road to Verdun, and though outnumbered, resisted by the heroic sacrifice of its cavalry the superior force which threatened it, till night everywhere put an end to the struggle.

Fully expecting a renewal of the action on the next day, by the French, the German commanders put all the available troops of the 1st and 2nd armies in movement toward the battle-field, but when on the morning of the 17th the exhausted enemy fell back towards Metz, the King of Prussia determined to move himself to the attack with the whole force upon the left bank of the Moselle. In view of the prevailing uncertainty, whether the enemy was to be sought near the fortress, or whether he had resumed on the northern road, the movement towards the Meuse interrupted on the 16th, the German army, on the morning of the 18th, pushed its left wing to the northward, while the right, at Grave-lotte and along the valley of the Manne, fronted towards Metz.

The army of the Rhine awaited the attack of the Germans in a strong, well prepared position on the heights of Amanvilliers, which extended in a long curve to the west of the fortress. Learning this during their advance the latter swung their left wing to the eastward with a view of turning the French right, from the north, and thus the natural fronts of both armies were fully reversed. The centre corps of the German army, the 9th, with the 8th on its right, impetuously attacked the enemy in their front. They carried the advanced positions of the latter, but although later in the day supported and assisted on their right by the 7th and 2nd corps, which had been hurried forward, were unable to reach his main line. Finally the turning movements of the Guard and 12th army corps gave the decisive blow. The right wing of the Army of the Rhine was defeated that evening at St. Privat and retreated westward in complete disorder, and the next morning the rest of the French army fell back from their positions, and again sought refuge under the guns of Metz.

This decisive event on the Moselle ended the first period of the campaign, and new problems came before the German commanders. One half the German force was left on the Moselle to keep in check the army of Marshal Bazaine, which, though driven from the field, had assembled around Metz a force demanding attention, and to forbid it any further part in the defence of

the country. The other half developed along the Meuse, a long front towards the west, to act under the direction of the royal commander, first of all against the army which the enemy was forming near Chalons, and which had already reached a strength of some 130,000 men. While now it was thought sure at the German headquarters that this new army was specially destined for the defence of the capital, a distinct order was sent from the latter point to the commander of the army of Chalons to effect a junction with the Army of the Rhine, which according to a report from Metz, was supposed to be already in movement, and the French began their march from Rheims at the same time the Germans advanced beyond the Meuse—on the 23rd of August. The two armies would thus have passed each other without coming in contact, since it was for the interest of Marshal MacMahon to be delayed as little as possible by fighting, while the Germans in ignorance of the movements of their opponents at first directed themselves towards Paris. On the 25th of August, after many delays and circuits, the right wing of the Army of the Chalons reached the Aisne near Vouziers, and the right wing of the Army of the Meuse was to the southward of Varennes. A further advance of the two armies would have placed them next day, each on the flank of the other, fronting in opposite directions; but the reports which reached German headquarters that evening led to a change which affected the whole future course of the war.

On the 26th of August the Germans began by the right a northward movement, which at once blocked the direct road towards Metz, and later accomplished its aim of completely surrounding the enemy. While the Saxons gained the important crossings of the Meuse from Dun to Stenay, and the other corps of the German army advanced from the southward by long marches between the Meuse and Aisne, daily lessening the space available for the movements of the Army of Chalons, Marshal MacMahon, under the continual pressure of orders from Paris, kept on striving for an end no longer attainable. The Army of Chalons did indeed push the head of its left wing as far as Carignan, but its right, which had been already struck by the Germans and engaged in disadvantageous skirmishes on the march towards the northern Meuse crossings, was driven back upon Mouzon and Remilly on the 30th of August, after an eight hours' battle at Beaumont. The French general drew together around Sedan his thinned and shaken troops, but wasted there his last chance of retreat towards Mezieres, where the 31st corps was beginning to assemble. After a gallant and desperate conflict the Army of Chalons succumbed on the 1st of September to the crushingly superior force of the Germans by which they were surrounded. At the same time an effort of the French Army of the Rhine to break through the lines of the German army of investment before Metz, failed after a two days' battle at Nois-seville.

So many hard fought fights had called for heavy sacrifices on both sides. The total losses of the Germans to the beginning of September amounted to more than 10,000 men in killed and wounded; but the French army had yielded in eight great battles to the energetic leadership and steady perseverance of the Germans, for even when the latter had not been able to place superior forces on the field, and fought in equal or inferior numbers, the enemy had never been able to secure the victory. The devastating effect of the Chassepot rifle had indeed called upon the German infantry for many tactical

changes, which made their command more difficult; but the native firmness and exemplary self sacrifice of officers and men, the powerful and well timed mutual support of the different arms, and the decided superiority of the German artillery had won success under the most hazardous conditions. On the battle-field and in the hospitals the chaplains and medical officers carried consolation and help to the suffering with self-sacrificing faithfulness, and other officials and followers of the army showed an untiring zeal in caring for the needs of the troops.

Except General Vinoy's corps, which had escaped the catastrophe of Sedan, and was still in the field, though retreating from Mezieres to Paris, the resources of France for resistance at the beginning of September were almost entirely confined to the fortresses of the country. Of the latter only the small places of Lutzelstein, Lichtenberg, Marsal, and Vitry had so far fallen, without resistance or after a short defence. The interruption of the German communications caused by the fortresses of Bitsch, Pfalsbourg, Toul, Verdun, and Dadenhofen, which had resisted attempted surprises or bombardments with field guns was limited as much as possible by blockade and provisional investment. As the danger of a hostile landing on the German coast seemed by this time entirely passed, the forces designed for its defence were brought to the theatre of war, and made it possible both to hold the above mentioned positions before the smaller French places as well as proceed with a sufficient siege corps to the formal attack upon Strasbourg, without weakening the active army. A similar proceeding before Metz was forbidden by the presence of the Army of the Rhine, whose strength almost equalled that of the investing force; but the repulse of a powerful sortie had strengthened the belief that a scarcity of provisions would sooner or later cause the fall of both fortresses and army, and the Germans had decided to resist any future attempt to separate the fate of the two. The real end of the war was only to be found under the walls of the capital, towards which the German army again turned its steps when the fall of the Army of Chalons had left open the way to the heart of the country. Of course no one could foresee what turn the domestic affairs of France would take or what efforts or sacrifices might still be reserved for the German armies; but in spite of the uncertainty of the future, the royal commander in chief felt a deserved confidence and entire trust in his brave army, which, used to victory, had already shown itself equal to the hardest tasks, and gained the grandest successes.

The following article from *Chambers' Journal*, on "Great Guns and Armor Plating," naturally suggest the question as to how far the contest between "Force and Resistance" in structures applicable to purposes of modern naval warfare can be carried. It becomes complicated when it is considered that such structures generally are designed with a view to locomotion by one or both of two independent agents, or more properly speaking are under control and producible by human agency, the other entirely outside it—the former being known as steam, the latter wind—which produces a third factor in the problem under discussion—the disturbance of equilibrium in the structure and the element on which it rests—a well known hydrostatic law proves the greater the weight of vessel

the greater the oscillation, and the loss of the ill-fated *Captain* is mainly attributable to this fact. Now increased weight or armor to resist increased gun power demands a greater area for floatation, and as a matter of course renders the efficient management or control of the machine more and more difficult. The records of trials of the various ironclads now existing, show that the limit in this direction has been reached and overpassed—as far as the proportions of length to beam or width is concerned—and the Russian attempt to solve the problem by circular structures has been eulogised by Mr. Reed. But if the weight or armor was to be increased to meet the increased power of the gun, the structures will in the end become too unwieldy for management at all, and no power which can be put on board will be able to control them in a sea-way.

The tendency is therefore to reduce the weight of the armor plating as well as the size of the vessel or structure bearing it—to build the latter of material having a greater power of floatation and of such dimensions that it can be controlled or handled, as the nautical phrase is, either by steam or wind power. It is evident then that the future heavy sea-going ships of the British Navy will be composite vessels, that is, having the frame-work of iron the outer skin and planking of wood, the reason being that where heavy steam engines are employed no frame of wood could be constructed to withstand the strain and torsion to which it would be subjected in a sea-way.

The classes of vessels of which the fleets of the future will be composed appear to be heavy ironclad floating batteries for coast and harbour defence—vessels of the *Inflexible* class for line of battle ships—and the composite vessels very partially or wholly unarmoured, but heavily armed to supply the old frigate. It is evident that wood will enter largely into the composition of the new style of vessels, and that they will be constructed to utilise wind power to a greater extent than any of those monsters of the present day.

Toward the close of 1869 the First Lord of the Admiralty, with all the pomp that usually distinguishes such a ceremony, laid the first keel piece of the *Devastation* at Portsmouth. The theory of very long ironclads had gone so much out of favor that the length of the *Devastation* was settled at 285 feet—more than a hundred feet shorter than some of its predecessors; the breadth sixty-two feet, rather more than one-fifth of the length. Its displacement—that is, the weight of the water which it displaces—exceeds 9000 tons; and the steam engines are capable of working up to 6000 horse-power. An ugly affair it is, without any masts proper, having a mass of iron-work on deck which would have puzzled Nelson or Howe beyond measure. This iron-work marks the strange changes which have been made in the arrangement of the armament of such vessels. The earlier iron-clads were broadsides with a horizontal row of big guns peeping out on each side. Then came the revolving turret on a flat ship rising but a very little way above the surface of the water—a “cheese-

box on a raft,” as some one called it, with two enormous guns mounted in the “cheese-box.” After various modifications and combinations of the broadside and the turret, Mr. Reed, the chief constructor of the Navy, introduced something new in the *Devastation*. There is a kind of armoured wall inclosing a space in the middle of the upper deck; the space occupies nearly three-fourths of the length and one-half the breadth of the entire area of the deck, and the iron wall around it is seven or eight feet high. Within this space are two turrets or circular towers, and various structures and gangways connected with the navigation of the ship and the accommodation of the officers and crew. Each turret rotates, not on a central spindle, but on numerous rollers which work on the deck; and each, thirty feet in diameter, contains two “Woolwich Infants” of formidable character. No wonder that the entire mass has been compared to “a raft with a heavy deck load in the centre.” Upward of twenty steam engines are provided for working the ship in various ways.

When laid down, it was believed that the armour would resist the shot of a twenty-five ton gun, the largest at that time ventured on in any navy; but improved gunpowder in cubes, called “pebble powder,” had so increased the velocity and force of the shot as to render greater resisting power necessary, and so the *Devastation* was clothed with armour no less than 12 inches in thickness, carried down five feet below the water line; the turrets have armour averaging 13 inches thick; while the wall or breastwork around the inclosed space on deck is also formed of armor plates. Compare this with the five-inch armour of the once mighty *Warrior* and *Minotaur*, and we see what a stride has been made; no wonder that such a ship displaces 9,000 tons of water! Two guns of thirty-five tons were planned for each turret; but by introducing hydraulic gear for moving the turrets and their contents thirty-eight ton guns have been introduced—the heaviest adopted down to the time at which we are writing, with a twelve-inch bore, carrying a 700 pound shot. The *Thunderer* and the *Devastation* are sisterships (if such savage monsters deserve to be called by so gentle a name as sister); and with alterations gradually made, they are approaching the maximum of twelve-inch armour around the turrets, carrying two guns in each turret, the guns thirty-eight tons weight, twelve and a half inches calibre, firing shot of 800 pounds.

And now, what do we hear? Woolwich poot-poots her own thirty-eight ton “Infants,” and is bringing others into existence more than double the weight, namely, eighty-one tons—a hundred and eighty thousand pounds per gun, need we marvel? When anything goes wrong in life, we are prone to ask who’s to blame; and when told that the thirty-eight ton gun is now looked down upon, a similar question suggests itself to the sorely perplexed tax payer who has to provide the money for all these luxuries. The truth appears to be that armour plate makers can now go very far beyond the twelve inches of thickness that was lately their maximum; and that unless armor is eventually to defeat guns and shot, the Woolwich Infants must be more Brobdignagian than ever. And so we come to the *Inflexible*. This mighty ship will be double screw, double turret, with a load displacement exceeding 11,000 tons. The length between the perpendiculars, three hundred and twenty feet, and breadth seventy-five feet long, and sixteen inches bore, firing a shot of twelve hundred and fifty pounds! Those in the secret assert

that such a shot, coming from such a gun, and fired with the improved gunpowder now manufactured, will have an impact or momentum equal to the whole ramming force of the *Iron Duke*, that ran down the luckless *Vanguard*. The steel tube that forms the innermost part of each gun excels in size every single piece until now made, being twenty-five feet long, and twenty-five inches external diameter. When coil upon coil of tough iron have been wound round the middle and breech of this steel tube, the exterior diameter will vary from twenty-five inches to six feet. The Government pay Messrs. Firth, of Sheffield, sixteen hundred pounds for the solid mass of steel to make one inner tube, the boring-out being done at Woolwich. It was last September that the first of these huge guns was tried in the marshes at Woolwich; how long a time must elapse before all four will be ready to be mounted in the *Inflexible*, the future must show. When we are told that the original estimate for the hull and engines of the *Inflexible* was £520,000, and that the armament and fittings are not included; and when we bear in mind that the actual outlay always exceeds the estimates in these matters—we may guess, if we can, how far this ship will go to affect the pockets of John Bull.

We have copied in another page a letter addressed to the Editor of *Broad Arrow* on “Field Artillery,” which contains much practical information and some reasonable as well as desirable suggestions. Our Artillery readers will find a good deal to think over in connection with the suggestions of *Embritus*, for there can be no doubt their particular arm of the service requires remodelling.

Our opinions are not tied to Prussian experiences or practice, history shows those people at a distance of a century and a quarter in the past, achieving as unexpected and wonderful successes, and little more than fifty years afterwards the father of the present Emperor was a fugitive with his capital in full possession of his opponents—their success appears to be due to the fact that both periods the mechanical part of the art of war was in a state of transition, and as their system was defective in the first case, the major and minor tactics of the latter have yet to be proved. The necessities of providing for the changing phrases of a general action will be no more taught by Peace manoeuvres than will the action itself be fought without bloodshed, and therefore the advice to provide for the contingencies of war during peace must mean nothing more than teaching the soldier a thorough knowledge of his weapon as well as habits of obedience, endurance, and self-reliance.

Artillery in a special degree should be adapted to the work it has to do, and those writers who keep the subject before our country are doing good service. Each and every country has its own peculiarity and demands different systems; both Prussia and France had Field Artillery when the English army at the commencement of the Peninsular War had nothing to represent it but the two guns per battalion of infantry—and we know in that contest she took up and took down the conqueror of Jena.

Beyond possible speculation it is almost idle to talk of Field Artillery in the present state of military affairs in Canada—it is of infinitely more consequence to look after the manner in which our Coast Defences are armed.

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

Table with columns: REGIMENTS, Head Quarters, Depot. Lists various regiments and their stations across the British Empire.

Table with columns: REGIMENTS, Head Quarters, Depot. Lists regiments and their stations, including Royal Artillery and Royal Horse Artillery.

Table with columns: REGIMENTS, Head Quarters, Depot. Lists regiments and their stations, including Royal Artillery and Royal Horse Artillery.

Table with columns: REGIMENTS, Head Quarters, Depot. Lists regiments and their stations, including Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, and Army Hospital Corps.

THE SOCIAL FLY.

A jolly old bug is the social fly,
That comes when summer is warm and high;
He summons you at early morn,
By a blast upon his blasted horn,
As round about your head he goes,
And tickles your eyes and tickles your nose,
Till up you start with a shap and a cry,
Made wide awake by the social fly.

The social fly rare freedom takes,
And quite at home himself he makes.
He every privacy invades
By myriad predatory raids;
Has the first taste of every dish
Without an invite, hint or wish,
And drinks your choicest "meath your eye,
For an epicure is the social fly.

The baby cries with a frantic tone,
"Has he got a colic, the precious one?"
The social fly he begins to bore
As he pees away in the baby's ear!
Grandpapa faint would a nap take,
But he watches the fly his circles make,
And cannot sleep while there on high
Whirls and dances the social fly.

He is a friend that closer sticks
Than brethren do in the world who mix.
He doesn't ask if you're poor or rich,
And doesn't distinguish fother frim which,
He feeds as well at the humblest board
As that with richest dainties stored,
His appetite doth ne'er deny -
Forever at home is the social fly.

Up stairs and down, in every place,
The bold marauder runs his face,
At market or church—no matter where—
He meddles in meat and joins in prayer,
He's an artist too, and will travel o'er
Your face, its delicate lines to explore,
He's your chamberlain when sleep draws nigh
The bustling, busy, social fly.

But some the social detest,
And scruple not to call him pest,
And German paper on many a plate
Settles his everlasting fate;
But justice follows, as 'er it will,
And for every fly that his enemies kill
A dozen will come the place to supply
Of that rollicking bug, the social fly.

Another Warning Voice from 1805.

BY MAJOR-GENERAL T. B. COLLINSON, R. E.
1793-1801.

(Continued from Page 312.)

A Marine Army.

But to utilize these advantages which Providence has given us, for the benefit of our commerce in peace and our security in war, the last two of the five principal improvements required in our war system should be taken in hand and placed on a better footing.

An expeditionary equipment has an aggressive sound, but, in our present condition, it is really as much a part of our defensive system as the mobilization scheme just published. For, in case of any serious war, our dependencies and military posts all over the world would require such additions immediately as would use up a considerable portion of our Regular Army at home, and more than all our present transport Fleet. We could no more avoid occupying certain points on the ocean in strength, than we could hesitate about moving regiments to their appointed places for the defence of our shores. Some provision has been made in the mobilization scheme for the troops for such an expeditionary force, but the difficulty and the delay in sending out expeditions from home has not been in the selection and preparation of the troops, but in their equipment and transport. The equipment for war of a certain force of troops has been laid down on paper, but if it is not to be one more record of official good intentions, it requires to be put into a more practical form for actual use. It is not enough to have a mass of war stores stacked in bulk in great storehouses; there are certain of them, including cavalry

and artillery equipments, and guns and ammunition, which any expeditionary force would require to have with them ready for action on landing: these should be kept at the places of embarkation, and arranged, not merely for the voyage, but so as to be immediately available for use at the end of it, so that each ship-load of troops will find themselves landed fully equipped, for a time, with stores and provisions. We have been too much in the habit of treating troops and stores as two species of goods, which are to be carried somewhere somehow, but when and in what order has been thought a secondary concern—to the shipper, at least. In the Crimean War, the shipment of guns and artillery stores from England, in this general cargo fashion, was one of the causes of the confusion and delay that occurred in that expedition. But if we are really to take full advantage of the ocean as a base of operations, these points must be considered, experimented on, and practiced just as much as for land transport.

The subject of our sea transport has been ably discussed by Captain Hoseason, R. N., both in this Institution and out of it. He has shown, not only the inefficiency of this system of taking up tonnage on the spur of the moment, and shovelling troops and stores in as they happened to come, but the extreme extravagance of it. It is like a man buying up the corn of a province without having any means of taking it to market; he is at the mercy of the carriers. We have now six regular troop ships in the Royal Navy, and five belonging to the Indian Government; the total tonnage of these eleven vessels is about 33,000 tons (old measurement); they would, therefore, carry about 16,000 men, with guns or horses, on a long sea voyage. This is a poor provision for an empire on which the sun never sets and wars never cease; not enough to punish an African Chief with. An ocean empire, like Great Britain, in which some expedition is going on every year, and every one of them joint expeditions—naval and military—should have a regular organization for the purpose, something like a "unit of sea transport," such as Napoleon had in his mind in 1805, only, of course, on a larger scale. This unit, whether of one vessel or more, would contain a complete section of an army, of all branches, with a proportion of stores and provisions; and the vessels would be, not merely transports to convey them to a port and have done with them, but would be attached to that division of the army during the expedition; they should be felt to be their real base of operations, their great depot and means of supply; ships and troops should form one whole machine, fitted to each other for the whole work to be done. A British Army would then be able to fall back upon its movable base and proceed with it to another line of operations, refreshed and in complete condition; while the enemy would be expending time, resources, and the strength of his troops in changing the seat of war by land; and one such "Marine Army" would be a match for two on land.

We have no proper place of embarkation for our expeditions at present. They are dispatched from one of the dockyards or from Woolwich Arsenal, as it happens to be convenient for the vessels. The wharf space in any of the dockyards available for this purpose, is only large enough for one or two vessels, and even that would be required by the Navy in war time, and that at Woolwich Arsenal would be fully occupied, in any serious war, with the despatch of the

reserve stores; and it would not be desirable to enlarge the accommodation there with the object of embarking troops also; for the reserve stores would be sent in different vessels altogether from those above alluded to, which would be only for the active force and for the equipment required for immediate use.

Its Strategic Points.

When Napoleon was organizing his great scheme of combined naval and military strategy, one of the most important class of preparations that he had to make, was to plant depots of provisions for the force at certain places on the route of operations. If the epoch of the affair had been seventy years later, he would have substituted coal for provisions. We can have little doubt, from his great care in providing those, that one of his first proceedings would have been to plant depots of coal in numerous and secure places; he would have considered economy in such a matter as still more "ridiculous" and "ignorant" of war, than he did in provisions.

We have a good many harbours for the re-fitting and re-coaling of our naval forces, scattered over our ocean empire, but not enough for carrying out the defence of that empire on an efficient system of naval and military strategy; and in many of those existing, there are not sufficient means of protection, or for putting the coal on board expeditiously. Our chief lines of strategic operation will probably be those of our most important sea commerce, because they are also our lines of communication with our great productive colonies and dependencies. One of the greatest of these is the line of commerce to India and Australia; and, perhaps, at the present period, the two most important places in the world to Great Britain, outside of her own islands, are Suez and Singapore. We have lately obtained a legitimate footing of control towards preserving the freedom of the Suez Canal, both in peace and in war; and whatever the consequences of that step may be, commercially or politically, there can be no doubt that it will be of the highest value towards the naval and military defence of the empire. Singapore must always be the centre of naval operations for the protection of our immense trade between Great Britain and India, on one hand, and China and Japan and the Pacific Islands on the other, and also as the nearest point in the line of communication to Australia. It would be a serious danger to our connection with those countries, if the opposite coast of Sumatra should ever be occupied by a hostile force.

The extension of our trade to the north of China and to Japan, and the spread of Russian power on the north-east coast of Asia, and of the United States on the north west coast of America, together render Hong Kong no longer so advantageous to us as a naval and military station as it was. Some position nearer to the Japanese Islands, which would also have a climate more favourable to our northern race, would now be desirable for a strategic harbour to protect our trade in those seas. Also some more connecting links between Singapore and Australia are now required, as that is a line of communication, like a road in a forest country, that offers many advantages to an attacking party.

It is impossible for us to escape from the necessity of securing such strategic positions on the ocean; if we do not make them deliberately in peace we shall have to do so hastily and expensively in war. In 1805, the fear of being attacked in the East In-

dies, and of losing one of our West Indian colonies or the Cape of Good Hope, was sufficient to give great anxiety to the British Government, and to take up the attention of a large portion of their forces, both naval and military. It was with them more a question of prestige than commerce; but with us now, the commerce with those same countries has become a question of necessity to provide occupation for our people; and secure harbours for coal depots are far more necessary for the protection of that commerce than provision depots were in 1815.

To the Unprofessional Reader.

At our public schools we leave the boys to settle their disputes among themselves, because we think a man should be trained to defend himself and defend others in life; he is not a man else.

That is what we soldiers and sailors want to persuade Great Britain to do in the world school, to be trained to defend herself and to defend others; Great Britain is not a nation else.

Well, and have we not always defended ourselves? says the English countryman. But you have never trained yourselves, and your backwardness has encouraged the enemies of peace to deeds that have forced you to rush in and lose a deal of blood in your clumsy ignorance; if you had shown yourselves prepared, you might have prevented it.

But, says the countryman, why am I to be prepared to defend others more than anybody else? Because you are the only nation in the world in a position to do it. You are safer from attack on your own land than any other nation; you have resources which draw wealth from all parts of the world to your shores; you have responsibilities all over the world. You are, by all these, made the peace officer of the world, and if you don't take up the duty, some other nation will have to be appointed instead, and you are not at present prepared to do the work committed to you.

Surely, says the countryman, we are paying more for Army and Navy than anybody else; and look what an Army and Navy we have to what we used to have.

Look what armies and navies they are getting on the continent of Europe, compared to twenty years ago. When a pugnacious boy comes into a school, there will be a deal more fighting until he finds his level; so when a nation increases its armed strength, other nations must be prepared for war until it finds its level. Europe has gone back from peace to war; we may think it a great backsliding, a grievous waste of the resources of civilization; but to sit down, and cry about it, is not quite manly. If your boy at school was to do so, you would tell him that he must take the fighting with the bread and jam, just as they come; he can't expect a school to be all bread and jam.

Well, says the countryman, we'll hold our own yet. I don't think, my friend, you quite know what that means at the present period of your history. It means a great deal more than sitting still to watch the coast of Great Britain. Europe is getting now into the condition described by Austria in 1814: "A situation which is not peace, but more destructive than actual war; in which a single Power, already too formidable by its greatness, continues alone armed, and is prevented by no opposition from occupying one independent State after another." If Great Britain allows herself to be a party in such a situation, it will not be her own land only that will be threatened, but her colonies and India; and "holding

our own" will then mean, that the Government of the day is in a better state of preparation than it was in 1803, when it was said of them, "they were unable to remonstrate in such a manner as became the Ministers of a great and powerful nation, or to interfere in such a manner as to aid those in whose favour they mediated." If we are to "hold our own" better than that, if we are to prevent the lapse of Europe into despotism, whether autocratic or democratic, and if we are to preserve in our dependencies true liberty, political and religious, we must take the patriotic advice of Burns, which he gave to the defenders of 1805, only applying it to the whole Empire of Great Britain:—

"Be Britain still to Britain true,
Among ourselves united;
For never but by British hands
Mann British wrongs be righted."

Field Artillery.

SIR,—In going more into detail upon what I fear, to the generality of your readers, is a very dry and uninteresting subject, I beg leave to notice, first of all, that in determining the powers of horses in gun draft, the mistake is constantly made of dividing the number of horses into the weight behind them, thus assuming each horse draws an equal share. Of course, we know this is not the case, and that horse power diminishes with increasing distance from draft. More than sixty years ago the Prussian artillery reformer, General Scharnhorst, calculated that in a team of six harnessed in pairs, the centre horses drew five-sixths, and the front only five-ninths, that is little over half what the wheelers drew; in other words, if this estimate be correct, the ratio of draft power in the several pairs is 18:15:10; that of the wheel to the front pair, would thus be as 9:5. Much depends on the length of traces, and we may take credit for having teams better harnessed now than the Prussians had in those days, for we certainly excel them at present in this respect; but even supposing the front horses to draw three-fourth, what must the wheelers do? and, making due allowance for the great difficulty of working six horses together in perfect accord, this is, perhaps, more than can be fairly granted. We must still admit there is great waste of power in the third pair; any one may form an opinion on this point by watching a gun in rapid movement being halted, or either in slow or rapid motion, making a wheel about, or turning even a quarter circle. As to exposure in action, some experiments lately made in Switzerland showed that the chances of a gun being disabled by the artillery fire of the enemy, comparing the shots that struck gun, or carriages, and limber, with those which would have struck men and horses in a team of six, were as one hit in the former to four in the latter. The drawbacks to the third pair of horses and driver were clear—viz., one third more expense in the draft, with no corresponding increase in risk of casualty, and greater difficulty in training and management of teams, moreover as we unlike our Continental neighbours, must be prepared to send batteries by sea on any service in Europe, we have an additional interest in having the number of horses at the minimum compatible with perfect efficiency. I shall now take some examples of weight behind team. In our horse artillery gun this is about 32 cwt., in the 9 pounder field battery it is 36 cwt. It is to be hoped that in time all guns of the same calibre as these are will be of equal weight.

The German 9 centimetre field gun would almost correspond with an 18 pounder with us, yet it has less weight behind team than our 16 pounders, viz., 37½ cwt., while the latter has 42½ cwt.; the German gun, like our much lighter 9 pounder, manoeuvres with a team of six horses. Our light field battery ammunition waggons which, strange to say, are still manoeuvred with their guns (*vide new drill book*) have in drill order a weight behind team of more than 33 cwt., and in time of peace at home only four horses are allowed to them, in "marching order" packed with camp kettles, tents, gunners' kits &c.—an arrangement certainly unsuited for future war—and including six gunners seated (sad sight) upon the ammunition boxes (two reserve men being as much as each waggon should carry) the weight behind team comes to about 47 cwt. On service six horses are allowed to pull this load, but twenty, if harnessed in pairs, would not prevent those at the wheel from being overweighted; the ridden horse (on near side) is cruelly so. The share of draft weight for each wheeler, supposing a team of six, would in this case, upon Scharnhorst's estimate, be 100 lbs., to which is to be added 70 lbs. for shafts, and about 23 lbs. for the driver's valise on the off horse, and at least 150 lbs. for the man on the near horse, besides about 42 lbs. more on each animal for harness. The French used to calculate 720 lbs. as the limit a horse should be called upon to draw when mounted. The late General Chesney thought this too much for horses working with cavalry, and I believe we consider about 500 lbs. as the limit for horse artillery in India where the climate is more exhausting, roads inferior, and horses not so well adapted for draft as our artillery remounts at home. 700 lbs. is probably more than enough to exact from the mounted wheel horse, even in the divisional field artillery, but admitting it we still find the mounted centre, as well as wheel horse, overweighted, the latter very much so, while both front horses pull less than their share; and just as the strongest chain is weak if one link be overstrained, so the finest team becomes unserviceable if one horse be overworked. The French horse artillery wagon, corresponding to that of our 9 pounder gun, has a weight behind team of about 32½ cwt.; for their gun team the weight is less, but they allow only four horses for each. Thus it would appear, that with horses probably superior to theirs, we have in some cases six to do less work than they get done by four. The inference from the foregoing remarks, if they be admitted as correct, seems to be, that no adequate advantage is gained by the increased expense of more than four horses, harnessed in pairs, for when the draft is very heavy, the wheelers in a team of six must be overweighted, while the front do less than their share of work, and that it would be more effective, as well as more economical, to hold the third pair (if a third be decided upon) in reserve, to relieve the others when tired out, or to replace casualties. Exposure under fire would at all events be much lessened by this means; but for the ammunition wagons a better alternative would be to abandon altogether the antiquated system of mounting any part of the working gun detachments upon them, and also the loading of them with tents, wood, cooking utensils, and soldiers' packs. It has been well remarked by our artillery authorities that "no convenient arrangement of camp equipage can compare in importance with the primary object" of the wagon, viz., "to carry a full proportion of ammunition," and that "other means must be found in time

of war for the carriage of tents," &c., than the loading of these wagons with them. This was the decision years ago of competent artillery officers; nevertheless no steps have, it is believed, been taken to prepare in time of peace the "other means;" and the makeshift was officially recognized of lessening the weight by "removing temporarily the projectiles" from the wagon boxes. When shall we learn to do as the Germans do in military training, viz., the counterpart in peace of all that would be required in war, even to the practising of disorder, and rallying therefrom, in their cavalry charges. This system of packing ammunition wagons is the more reprehensible with us because it cannot be adopted in India, where the greater part of our field artillery is located, and it leads there to the sham practice of turning out for inspection, and "marching order parades," in a fashion that cannot be followed on service. In India, the Commissariat Department provides carriage for all baggage. It would be destruction to gunners' kits to pack them either on the wagons or gun limbers, on a march in India; and the sooner we improve the mobility of our field batteries, as well as horse artillery, by having separate ammunition columns and baggage transport the better. The ammunition might be distributed in a more suitable form of cart, built solely with a view to its carriage, than in wagons with limber, originally designed to carry much beside the ammunition. It is evident that six horses in three such carts could transport much more ammunition than a team of six in the present cumbersome wagons. These carts could carry boxes similar to those now in use, so that exhausted limbers might be at once replenished by an exchange of their ammunition boxes when empty. Wolsley's excellent Pocket book for Field Service draws attention to the want in our army of lighter transport carriages. It says "our artillery wagons and equipment are the heaviest in any army." Some of our transport carriages have a draft weight when packed of 46cwt., and yet only four horses are allotted them. Others, with more than 30cwt., are drawn by two horses. In the Red River Expedition, it seems two-horsed wagons, with a weight of 20cwt., were found to work well over "every bad road."

With such experience, it is hard to understand why we continue six horses to our light field guns. We keep up the same number as were formerly used with the 24 pounder howitzers and smooth-bore 7 pounder guns, in which the weights behind them were respectively 43 and 41cwt. Attention has been for many years so concentrated upon the mechanical improvement of the gun, that its tactical handling has been comparatively neglected, and yet as much depends on this, as on the excellence of the gun itself. Perfection in the weapon won't atone for tardy and complicated movement in battle. The French Chassepot was a better weapon than the German needle-gun in 1870, and the Austrian field gun was superior to the Prussian in 1866, but in the handling of the weapons, and in the mobility of their field artillery, the Prussians were superior to their enemy in both campaigns. In future it will be of more importance than ever to field batteries to be capable of rapid deployment in action. Short and handy teams, with no more men or horses or ammunition than are indispensable, pushed to the front, and a thorough good system of feeding them, and supplying ammunition from reserves kept at comparatively safe distance, will give great advantage in future over artillery inferior in this

tactical respect, when the guns themselves are at all evenly matched in mechanical virtues. It is evident that to be properly efficient light field batteries must be able to move rapidly for short distances of a mile or two, and it will be indispensable that all the men required to work the gun should be carried with it into action. Spare ammunition columns must be kept distinct from, and yet in constant communication with, their guns, and no organization that ignores this can be efficient.

Those who have studied the development of field artillery believe that "mistakes in its employment in action will in future very seldom be capable of repair." It was noted lately in the *Times* that a distinguished artillery officer had remarked, "L'artillerie anglaise, il y a peu de temps, était à la tête des artilleries de l'Europe; dans quelque années elle sera à la queue." This was said with reference to the mechanism of our guns, but we have probably little to fear on this account; it is in tactical handling that we are behindhand. No foreign Power can approach us in perfection of our parade turn-out of batteries; but these who look below the surface, and see efficiency in nothing that is not suitable on service, know our field battery organization is sadly wanting still, while judging from the new field exercise book for both the horse artillery and light field batteries, it can only be said we have improved a little on the old one. There are now only 143 manœuvres or formations for practice instead of 199! The old spirit still infects our system, whereas, to meet the entirely new requirements of artillery tactics, Hamlet's advice to the players, "Oh, reform it altogether," should be the motto for those who would improve our artillery field training.

May 3, 1876.

EMERITUS.

The Indian Massacre.

DETAILS OF THE ROUT OF CUSTER'S EXPEDITION.

Chicago, July 7.—A special to the *Times* from Bismarck recounts the late encounter with Indians. On the morning of the 25th an Indian village 20 miles above the mouth of the Little Horn was reported three miles long and half a mile wide, and fifteen miles away. Custer pushed his command rapidly through. They had made a march of 78 miles in 24 hours preceding the battle. When near the village it was discovered that the Indians were moving on in hot haste, as if retreating. Reno with seven companies of the Seventh Cavalry was ordered to the left to attack the village at its head, while Custer with five companies went to the right and commenced a vigorous fighting, during which he lost Lieuts. Hodgson and McIntosh, and Dr. Dewolf, and twelve men, with several Indian scouts killed and many wounded, he cut his way through to the river, and gained a bluff 300 feet in height, where he entrenched, and was soon joined by Col. Benton with four companies. In the meantime the Indians resumed the attack making repeated and desperate charges which were repulsed with great slaughter to the Indians. They gained higher ground than Reno occupied and as their arms were longer in range and better than the cavalry's they kept up a fire until nightfall. During the night Reno strengthened his position and was prepared for another attack, which was made at daylight. The day wore on. Reno had lost in killed and wounded a large portion of his command, forty odd having been killed before the bluff was reached, many of them in hand to hand conflict with the Indians,

who outnumbered them ten to one, and his men had been without water for thirty-six hours. The suffering was heartrending. In this state of affairs they determined to reach the water at all hazards, and Col. Benton made a rally with his company and routed the main body of the Indians who were guarding the approach to the river. The Indian sharpshooters were nearly opposite the mouth of the ravine through which the brave boys approached the river, but the attempt was made, and though one man was killed and seven wounded, the water was gained and the command relieved. When the fighting ceased for the night Reno further prepared for attacks. There had been forty-eight hours' fighting, with no word from Custer. Twenty four hours more of fighting and suspense ended when the Indians abandoned their village in great haste and confusion. Reno knew then that succor was near at hand. Gen. Terry, with Gibbon commanding his own infantry, had arrived. Soon an officer came rushing into camp and related that he had found Custer dead, stripped naked, but not mutilated, and near him his two brothers, Col. Tom and Boston Custer, his brother-in-law Col. Calhoun, and his nephew Col. Yates, Col. Keough, Capt. Smith, Lieut. Col. Cuthendon, Lieut. Thurgess, Col. Cooke, Lieut. Harrington, Dr. Lord Mackellogg, the Bismarck *Tribune* correspondent, and 180 men and scouts. Only one Crow scout remained to tell the tale. All were dead. Custer was surrounded on every side by Indians, and the hewes fell as they fought on the skirmish line or in line of battle. Custer was among the last who fell, but when his cheering voice was no longer heard, the Indians made easy work of the remainder. The bodies of all save the newspaper correspondent, were stripped, and most of them were horribly mutilated. Custer was not mutilated; he was shot through the body and through the head. Col. Smith arrived at Bismarck on Wednesday night with 35 of the wounded. The Indians lost heavily in the battle. The village numbered 1,800 lodges, and it is thought there were 4,000 warriors. Gen. Custer, was directed by Gen. Terry to find and feel of the Indians, but not to fight unless Terry arrived with Infantry, and with Gibbons' column. The casualties foot up 261 killed and 52 wounded.

"Despatches from Gen. Terry, dated from his camp mouth of the Big Horn, July 2nd, confirm newspaper reports of the fight on the 25th of June on the Little Big Horn, and of Custer's death. Terry has fallen back to his present camp. I have sent full despatches to the Lieutenant General, who will probably communicate them. I have not yet received Gen. Terry's report of the action or list of casualties." The Secretary of war and Gen. Sherman are both absent from Washington, attending the celebration by the Army of the Cumberland, in Philadelphia. The presumption is that there will be an immediate conference upon the subject of the Indian war, now fully inaugurated.

Canadian Press Association.

The Canadian Press Association members were tendered a reception, on Thursday, by the New York Press Club. Appropriate addresses were made. In the afternoon the City Hotel, the Post Office and other buildings were visited. In the evening Gilmour's Garden was visited by invitation.

REVIEWS.

The *New Dominion*, Monthly for July is received. It has for its frontispiece a portrait of the late Hon. Malcolm Cameron, and gives the history of the honorable gentleman's early life. The contents are—A Visit to St. Helena; The Legend of the Happy Island (Poetry); *His Jewel*; Quetzalcoatl—the Mexican Messiah; Tecumseh Hall (Continued); Chebucto; Laura's Effort; Lucky and Unlucky, &c., &c. John Dougall & Son, Publishers, Montreal; Price \$1.50 per annum.

The Celebration of the 4th at Philadelphia.

AN IMMENSE MULTITUDE PRESENT.

Philadelphia, 4th.—The day was ushered in at sunrise by the firing of a national salute in Fairmount Park and ringing of chimes throughout the city. The troops were reviewed by General Sherman in front of Independence Hall. The stand, with seats for four thousand invited guests, which had been erected, was entirely filled. The members of the Japanese Centennial Commission were among the first to take their place on the platform. The arrival of Governor Hayes, General Sherman, and General Sheridan was a signal for great cheering. General Howley then called the immense assemblage to order, and the orchestra of 250 musicians, under the leadership of Gilmore, opened with a grand overture—"The Great Republic"—arranged by Geo. F. Bristow. While the music was in progress shouts of enthusiasm signalled the arrival of Dom Pedro. At the conclusion of the music General Howley made an address. Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, made the declaration of independence from the original manuscript. Following the reading of the declaration came the greeting from Brazil, a hymn for the first centennial of American Independence, composed by Carlos Gomez, of Brazil, at the request of Dom Pedro. The announcement of this portion of the programme was received with every manifestation of favor. The Emperor arose to his feet, with the rest of the distinguished personages present, and listened with great attention. Bayard Taylor recited a national ode composed by himself.

The statue of Humboldt erected by the Germans in East Fairmount Park was unveiled to-day in the presence of the German societies and with appropriate ceremonies.

THE VICTIMS OF "THE FOURTH."

Dr. Henry H. Beecher, proprietor of a drug store, Philadelphia, while making preparation for colored lights for display, was instantly killed by an explosion which set fire to the building, completely destroying it. His brother, John H. Beecher, and Bernard Kausman and Wm. Young were also killed. J. C. Beecher, father of the doctor, was badly burned, and his wife was with difficulty removed from the house.

In addition to the casualties previously reported, five men were killed during the celebration in New England on Tuesday.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, Bible House, New York City.



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REFERENCES.—By kind permission we refer to the following: Franklin S. Lane, Louisville, drew \$13,000. Miss Hattie Bunker, Charleston, \$9,000. Mrs. Louisa T. Blake, Saint Paul, Piano, \$7,000. Samuel V. Raymond, Boston, \$5,500. Eugene P. Brackett, Pittsburg, Watch, \$300. Miss Annie Osgood, New Orleans, \$5,000. Emory L. Pratt, Columbus, Ohio, \$7,000.

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Prospectus for 1876---Ninth Year.

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

It will not hinder art cultivation by using suppressed processes of illustration because the plates are to be had second-hand and because there was a popular prejudice, preceding education, that valued "steel-plates" by comparative expense rather than by excellence.

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

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

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1776. 1876.

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