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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. VI.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1872.

No. 26.

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL

(Continued from Page 281.)

On the 29th October, the expedition crossed the height of land which divides the waters flowing into the Arctic Ocean from those which ran into the valley of the St. Lawrence; at this time there was about eight inches of snow on the ground, heavy snow storms prevailing; on Kashaboiwio Lake, and Lac des Mille lacs, the Tug steamers were useless, pipes being frozen. On the 30th October, at Baril Portage, a way for the boats had to be cut for half a mile through ice three quarters of an inch thick, the moving of the boats and stores across Baril Portage not being completed until after midnight. On the 31st October, by midnight French Portage was crossed. On the 1st November, "Deux Rivieres" was reached, the boats and stores having been taken across "Pine Portage" during a tremendous snow-storm.

On the 2nd November, the men were compelled to jump into the half-frozen water to haul their boats along, owing to the shallowness of the stream. On the 4th November a way through ice had again to be cut, and at Loon Creek the water was so shallow that it took thirty (30) hours to get some of the boats through, during the greater portion of which time the men were obliged to be in the water; the stores had to be taken out and carried along the shore, while it required not less than twenty men to pull the empty boats through the mud, thus the expedition was pushed on day and night, its commander exhibiting personally to the officers and men an example of activity, energy and endurance, most honorable and praiseworthy; the same spirit with which he was animated being thus communicated to those under his command, all vied with one another in the display of similar qualities.

On the 11th November, Colonel Osborne Smith, fell in with the expedition on the Lake of the Woods (having come from Fort Garry, bringing with him twenty experienced voyagers of the Hudson's Bay Company, and a serviceable supply of provisions; a point was reached within fifteen miles of the North west angle, when further advance was stopped by ice, the Camp having to be formed for the night on an island; next day an attempt was made to force a passage which succeeded for a certain distance, but finally the troops were landed on the ice and marched to the North west angle, every man carrying his rifle, accoutrements, knapsack, and blankets. From the North west angle of the Lake of the Woods, to Fort Garry (about 110 miles) the distance was marched in four

and a-half days, (the cold being intense) and on the 18th November, the whole of the expedition arrived safely at its destination without accident or the loss of a man, in three weeks from the time of leaving Thunder Bay, in four from Collingwood, and in five weeks from the time I received orders to despatch it, the force required was in Fort Garry, completely equipped and ready for service, the distance from the point of departure in Ontario being about one thousand (1,000) miles, all of the men however having previously travelled great distances to the rendezvous. These facts speak for them selves, proving the efficiency both of the men and of the system.

From the time the troops left Thunder Bay, till their arrival at Fort Garry, the weather was unusually cold, stormy, and unfavorable, causing considerable delay. Every night the men had to camp out, and the privations to which these hardy Canadian soldiers were exposed, may be imagined from the fact, that on their arrival at their destination, they marched across the Red River and the Assiniboine, on the ice into Fort Garry, and the day afterwards the thermometer had sunk to many degrees below zero.

Mr. Dawson, of the Department of Public Works, accompanied the expedition through out this trying march from Thunder Bay to Fort Garry, and afforded it the greatest possible assistance, he speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the officers and men, of their cheerfulness under privation, of their hardihood and energy, that the hardships endured, and the difficulties overcome in the Expedition of 1871, were incomparably greater than those encountered in 1870.

In point of time there can be no comparison, the expedition of 1870 having occupied about three months in making the same journey which that of 1871 accomplished in less than one.

It is true that upon neither occasion was there any enemy to meet or "Military Laurels" to be gained by the officers and men of these two Expeditions—the soldiers, nevertheless, who bore so well the hardships inseparable from both, are justly entitled to honorable consideration; the Expedition of 1871, composed entirely of Canadian Militia, commanded by a Canadian officer, and so promptly carried out, will long be remembered with feelings of pride by every Canadian as one of the most successful and remarkable marches of the kind.

By the Gazette of 16th October, 1871, Manitoba was constituted Military Dis-

trict No 10 and already the Militia System of the Dominion has taken root therein.

The active force consists of a Provisional Battalion of Riflemen, at present on duty, of 312 officers and men, of whom 200 are stationed at Upper Fort Garry. 2 officers and fifty men at the Stone Fort twenty miles lower down the Red River, and two officers with fifty men at the Hudson Bay Company's Post, at Pembina, on the frontier of the United States, where there is a post and detachment of the United States Troops.

In addition to this Battalion, two Cavalry Troops, one Demi Battery of Artillery and nine companies of Infantry have been authorized to be formed, and their organization is progressing.

Lieut. Colonel Osborne Smith, C.M.G., at present commanding the Militia in this District, reports that the "Demi Battery of Artillery is now organized, armed with two bronze rifled Mountain Guns (7 pounders), and that it will prove a useful and efficient corps; that four out of the nine Infantry Companies, gazetted are also formed, the organization of the remainder progressing, and that the Cavalry Troops will succeed in their organization as "Mounted Rifles."

Colonel Osborne Smith, in his Report on this District, which will be found in the Appendix, states, "that the description of force best adapted to the country is Mounted Rifles; that an excellent military spirit appears to actuate all classes, and their physique is admirable—perhaps no better material for Mounted Riflemen could be found anywhere than among the buffalo hunters of the great Western Prairies. The population from which the Force has been drawn, exclusive of Indians and scattered settlers, may be estimated at ten thousand.

"The settled country is well situated, geographically in a strategical point of view, for the formation of Companies.

"From the parallel of 49° (the boundary line of the United States), the chief settlements extend due north, along the Red River, for about ninety miles; this line of settlement is crossed by another running nearly east and west from Point de Chene on the River Seine, to the eastward, to Prairie Portage to the westward, on the Assiniboine River. Both these rivers converge at Winnipeg (Fort Garry), falling into the Red River.

"The settled country thus forms a cross, of which Fort Garry may be considered the centre, sixty miles north of the boundary line at Pembina, with Point de Chene and the Prairie Portage, distant

thirty and seventy miles respectively, to the east and west."

"The Companies of the Provisional Battalion that are at present stationed in Upper Fort Garry are very insufficiently provided with barrack accommodation, the buildings occupied by them, in the Hudson's Bay Company's Post being more shabby, affording inadequate shelter to the men; the fact of so large a number of soldiers, moreover, occupying these storehouses of the Hudson's Bay Company puts that commercial company to considerable inconvenience. If it be intended, therefore, to maintain a portion of the Active Militia on duty for any length of time in the Province, I would recommend that a fort, or defensible Barracks of log huts be constructed in a suitable military position for the proper shelter and accommodation of the troops.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 11.

(British Columbia.)

The Gazette of 16th October, 1871, constituted this Province, the most distant of the Dominion, into a Military District (No. 11), but as yet no steps have been taken towards appointing any Staff, or enrolling the militia.

The time, however, has now arrived when it is desirable to do so, and I would therefore recommend the formation of certain corps of Active Militia, composed partly of Infantry, and partly of Artillery, for this District; that suitable arms, clothing and equipment for such be ordered and despatched from England, direct to the Province by sea, that the usual assistance in aid of Drill Sheds and Amories, be allowed, a Military School established, Officers of the Reserve nominated, to take the enrolment of all men liable by the Dominion Militia Act to Military service, and a competent Staff officer, be appointed to command the whole of the Militia, in the District, assisted by two Brigade Majors, one of whom should be with his Commander at Victoria, the other at some place on the mainland.

GRAND TRUNK BRIGADE.

The Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Brydges numbers 2,261 officers and men.

On the 1st July I inspected a portion of this Brigade on the Champ-de-Mars, in Montreal, when a Review was held, and *feu-de-foie* fired, it being the Anniversary of Dominion Day, and again on the 8th of July I inspected about 800 men of the Brigade, who took part in the field day held at Logan's Farm. On both occasions the soldierlike bearing and efficiency of the corps present was conspicuous.

Lieutenant Colonel Brydges Commanding, has brought this special Brigade to a high state of efficiency, thus rendering great public service to the country. He is well supported by his officers and men, among whom there is much *esprit-de-corps*. There are many men in the ranks who have served in the Regular Army, and in point of general efficiency, this Brigade is superior to any in the Active Militia of the Dominion. The officers and men are employes of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, from all of whom military service is required. Having recently inspected the Armoury of the Corps belonging to this Brigade, who are stationed in Montreal, I found everything in excellent order, admirably arranged, and the Armoury itself, in point of cleanliness, simplicity and convenience, a perfect model.

With a view to increasing the efficiency of this Brigade, I would recommend that the Artillery Corps belonging to it be trained as far as possible to Artillery Exercises, under the instruction and supervision of the Inspector of Artillery, and provided so soon as the Department is in a condition to do so with suitable armament.

Major. T. W. Worsley is the Brigade Major of this Brigade, and this Officer's Report will be found in the Appendix.

CAVALRY.

The present strength of the Cavalry in every District is too weak in proportion to that of other arms, there being but one regiment, five squadrons, and nine independent troops for the whole Dominion. The gradual increase of the Cavalry, and the organization into District Regiments is recommended, also that an additional period for drill should be allowed, so that all Cavalry Corps might be drilled and paid for thirty-two days in the year, sixteen of those days with the respective Brigades, during the summer season, in Camps of Exercise, the other sixteen days during the winter, "Regimentally," at the Head Quarters of Corps, where, if possible, a Drill Shed should be made available as a Riding School. It is further desirable to adopt the following measures:

(1st) that as far as possible, all Cavalry Corps be largely composed of farmers and their sons, who possess horses, are in easy circumstances, and reside in the frontier counties.

(2nd) that the horses in future, in all cases, be enrolled as well as the men in the respective troop, (a retaining fee of \$10 per horse, per annum, being paid to each man, on condition of his providing a proper description of animal at the time of the annual drill, or for service when required.)

(3rd) that the present horse allowance of 75 cents daily for each effective horse, at the time of the annual drill, or when on duty, be increased to \$1.

(4th) the forage allowance of hay, to be increased from 14 to 18 lbs. per horse, on the same occasions.

(5th) that in future issues of uniform clothing to the Cavalry, pantaloons, buttoning at the ankle, be substituted in lieu of trousers, (which are better adapted for riding purposes, and conveniently be worn along with the ordinary long boots used in Canada.

(6th) that hunting spurs be adopted. A number of Cavalry Snider Carbines are being received from the Imperial Arsenals in England, and the Department will shortly be in a position to re-arm the whole of the Cavalry, with the same carbine used by the Regular Army, which is a far superior weapon to the Spencer Carbine.

During the past summer the Canadian Cavalry corps made some very creditable marches to and from the District Camps of Exercise at the time of Annual Drill, and I would particularly call attention to the long march of the New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry to and from the Camp at Fredericton, and to the march of a Squadron of Cavalry from Sherbrooke, in the Easter Townships, to the Camp at La Prairie, proving the efficiency of these Corps; as this arm of the service fulfills most important purposes by its power of mobility, the desirability of maintaining efficiency in this respect, by practice, is apparent, and I would recom-

mend whenever circumstances admit that as a general rule, cavalry corps in every district should march to and from the respective Camps of Exercise, at the time of Annual Drill, instead of moving by rail or steamboat on such occasions.

With care and good management, Cavalry are capable of astonishing marches, and not the least extraordinary march of recent occurrence was effected by the Cavalry of the Guard, in England (probably the heaviest Cavalry in the world), who, on the conclusion of the autumn manoeuvres last September, marched back to London in seven and a quarter hours, a distance of thirty-four miles, having previously practised field operations for ten days.

ARTILLERY.

It is with great pleasure I have to state that during the past year, not only has the inspection of the Artillery been better attended to, but means have been adopted by the establishment of Schools of Gunnery at Kingston and Quebec, under the command of professional officers of the Royal Artillery, (who are lent by the Imperial Government) to carry out the practical and scientific instruction required, more thoroughly.

On the departure of the Regular Troops, the Fortifications and armament at Quebec were handed over to the Dominion Government. The new Forts at Point Lévis, opposite Quebec, (which are of a most formidable description) are not yet armed, but the Imperial Government have notified that guns of a powerful description, suited to the requirements of modern warfare, will be mounted on these works.

At Quebec itself, 187 guns are mounted, at Kingston 85, at Toronto 9, and there are guns of position mounted at other places. Although some of these guns are obsolete pattern, yet many of them are powerful and of considerable calibre, and would be useful for purposes of war.

The amount of Artillery ammunition at present in store, although adequate for ordinary purposes and sufficient to provide the necessary annual practice allowance for all Artillery Corps for several years, or to meet the probable demand, resulting from possible Fenian invasion, is however, altogether quite insufficient in the event of war.

The organization of the two Schools of Artillery (A and B Batteries) formed at Kingston and Quebec, as authorized in General Orders of 20th October last, has been effected, great eagerness having been displayed by both officers and men of the militia to join them. These Schools not only provide for the scientific and practical instruction in Artillery exercises of such officers and men as are attached to them, but they furnish guards for the forts, magazines, stores and armament at those places.

The School of Gunnery at Kingston, consists of 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Assistant Surgeon, seven Sergeants, six Corporals, four Bombardiers, three Trumpeters, 130 Gunners, (among whom there are eighty nine English-speaking, and fifty-four French speaking Canadians) and is quartered in the Citadel.

Both these Batteries are complete in numbers, except as regards skilled Artificers and specially trained Sergeant Instructors, but application has been made to the Imperial

Government to obtain the services of the latter, consisting of one Master Gunner, two Laboratory Foremen, two Ordnance Armourers (called in the Regular Army "Armstrong Armourers," two Sergeant Instructors in Garrison Artillery, and two Sergeant instructors in Field Artillery, the latter, in addition to Gunnery, to be able to instruct in Riding, Driving, Field manoeuvres, &c., &c., and as soon as the services of these are obtained both Batteries will be complete.

The Battery at Kingston is under the command of Lieutenant Colonel French, Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores. The Battery at Quebec under Lieutenant Colonel T. B. Strange, Inspector of Artillery for the Province of Quebec, and the scientific and practical instruction of officers and men of Artillery militia corps will be carried out by these officers, who both belong to Her Majesty's Regular Army, are carefully trained and skilled Artillerists, well versed in all the duties appertaining to their special arm.

Eight horses have also been authorized for each of these Batteries in order to give instruction in riding and driving drill, and I would beg to recommend that the number of horses be increased from 8 to 16 in each Battery, and thus afford the means of carrying out far more completely Field Artillery instruction.

The Militia officers attached to these Schools of Gunnery all belong to various Artillery Corps of the Active Militia, and when duly recommended are authorized to join the Schools for the short course of instruction which lasts three months, receiving during this period at the rate of \$1 per diem, with barrack accommodation and the usual ration allowances, fuel, light &c., authorized in the Imperial army, on the termination of which period, should they have shown any peculiar aptitude for military science, they may be retained for the "long course" of instruction of nine months, provided they are so desirous, and that there are vacancies for them in the School.

So soon as officers have passed through the probationary three months' short course of instruction to the satisfaction of the Commandant of the school, they receive the pay of their rank, in addition to being provided with barrack accommodation, free rations, and the same allowances of fuel, light &c., &c.

On the termination of the long course of instruction, those officers who pass the best examination, and are otherwise most efficient may be retained from time to time indefinitely, (if approved of at Head Quarters), on the recommendation of the Commandants, according to their merits, desires, and the requirements of the Public Service, such officers being then available to act in their turn as instructors to others, and thus in a few years there will be no inconsiderable number of scientifically trained Canadian Artillery Officers in the Dominion.

The non-commissioned officers and men at the Schools of Gunnery in like manner all belong to various Artillery Corps of the Active Militia, or enrolled in such previous to admission. Nearly the whole of the number of men at present authorized, will remain at the respective schools for twelve months training and duty, at the termination of which period they may either leave the schools, returning (in a military point of view) to their respective corps; or should they so desire, and it is in the interests of the public service, they may on the recom-

mendations of the Commandants be retained indefinitely from time to time for further duty

By this system, whilst maintaining the necessary military guard over the forts and magazines at Kingston and Quebec, provision is made for a steady flow of both officers and men through these practical Artillery Schools, which cannot fail in time greatly to increase the efficiency of many Militia Artillery Corps, and to spread very generally throughout the country a knowledge of that especial science.

During the period officers and men are attached to the Gunnery Schools, for duty and instruction they are for purposes of discipline and military duty, under the Queen's Regulations and Articles of War as defined in the Militia Act, the same as if on active service with their respective corps, and are in the event of misconduct, or other causes of an objectionable nature liable to be summarily dismissed therefrom.

"A" Battery has 37 men and "B" Battery 30, who formerly served in the Imperial Army, but are now enrolled in the Active Militia of Canada, the uniform worn by officers and men being similar to that of the Royal Artillery, in point of appearance there is little difference; there is every reason to hope also, that in due time there will be no inferiority in point of efficiency.

Of the officers and men now undergoing instruction at the Kingston School of Gunnery, one officer and 63 men belong to Kingston Field Battery, nineteen men to the Toronto Field Battery, nine men to the Wellington Field Battery, four men to the London Field, one officer and two men to the Ottawa Garrison Artillery, one officer and one man to the St. Catharines Garrison, one man to the Hamilton Field Battery, four men to the Toronto Garrison Battery, and one officer to the Cobourg Garrison Battery.

The average height of the men at present attending this school is 5 feet 8½ inches, their average chest measurement 37½ inches. Of those now attached to the Quebec School of Gunnery, 52 belong to the Quebec Garrison Artillery, 23 to the Quebec Field Battery, 38 to the Montreal Garrison Artillery. The average height of the men is five feet eight inches, average chest measurement 37½ in's.

The Report of the Dominion Inspector of Artillery, details the course of instruction and duties carried out at the Schools of Gunnery, as well as the object and nature of these institutions, and which as that officer correctly observes, "marks a new era in the steps taken to train and instruct the Dominion Artillery."

I would again respectfully urge (as recommended in last year's Report,) that, if possible, pay for 32 days' drill instead of 16, be allowed for this special arm; that out of the above period of thirty-two days, every Battery of Garrison Artillery be brought in succession to some Port or Battery and drilled in Artillery Exercises for sixteen days consecutively, during the summer, the drill for the remaining period of 16 days to be carried out in the winter season, in Drill Sheds at the Head Quarters of Corps, when in addition to gun drill, lectures on Artillery Science may be given; that in the case of Field Batteries, the summer drill of sixteen days consecutively, be carried out in some Brigade or Divisional Camp of Exercise, the remaining period, as in the case of Garrison Batteries, during the winter at Head Quarters of Corps; that as far as possible, the

drivers of Field Batteries should be taken from among the agricultural population, possessing horses, that these horses be regularly enrolled in the respective Batteries, their proprietors receiving a retaining fee of \$10 per horse, per annum, on condition of undertaking to provide suitable animals when required, either for annual drill or actual service, that at the time of the annual drill or when called on for duty, the horse allowance be increased from 75 cents to \$1 per horse per diem; and the forage allowance of hay from 14 to 18 lbs.; that the annual Parliamentary vote for improved Artillery be expended in the acquisition of the new M. L. R. 9 pounder field guns, (similar to those now being issued to the Horse Artillery in England), these guns, (believed to be the most formidable of the kind yet invented), whilst being lighter than those at present used, have far greater power, accuracy and extent of range.

The population of Artillery to Infantry in the Dominion is far too small. I recommend a gradual and steady increase of the Field Artillery, until every Brigade throughout the Dominion there is attached at least, one Field Battery. At present the proportion of guns to men is little more than one gun to every 1,000 men available, which is quite inadequate, three guns being considered the least, and four a much better proportion for every 1,000 men.

The Report of the Inspector of Artillery, (which will be found attached,) contains many valuable suggestions for increasing the efficiency of this powerful arm, and I concur in the recommendation therein submitted.

(To be continued)

An extraordinary rifle match has just been concluded at Sir H. Haldord's seat in Leicestershire, between Mr. Edward Rose and Captain Fenton. It was to settle an undecided tie for the National Association Cup competed for at the Wimbledon Meeting of 1870, but it eventually assumed quite the character of an international match, and the excitement among the spectators was very great. Mr. Ross won the match with a score which has, it is believed, never been equalled—certainly not in public—by him or any one else. At 200 yards, out of twenty five shots twenty four were bullseyes, and one a centre; at 600 yards, twenty-three bullseyes and two centres; giving a total of 197 points out of a possible score of 200.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. The *Civil Service Gazette* remarks, "The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in 1lb., ½lb., and 1lb. tin-lined packets, labelled—JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England

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DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 18th June, 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS (18).

No. 1

ACTIVE MILITIA.

Inspection.

The Adjutant General will inspect the Division assembled in Camp at Niagara on Saturday, 22nd instant, the Division in Camp at Windsor on Monday the 24th instant and the Camps at Kingston and Prescott on subsequent days.

Wimbleton Detachment.

A Detachment of twenty Marksmen belonging to Corps of the Active Militia will embark on board the Steamship *Scandinavian* at Quebec, on 22nd instant, and proceed under command of a Staff Officer of the Militia, as representative Canadian Riflemen, to compete at the Rifle Matches to be held at Wimbleton, England, next month. These Marksmen have been selected from among many of the best shots in the Dominion, with due regard to respectability of character.

The individuals composing this detachment will report themselves at the brigade Office, Quebec Military District No. 7, at one p.m., on Friday, 21st instant, and be handed over by the Deputy Adjutant General of that District to brigade Major Worsley of the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, the Officer detailed to take charge of the party.

The Adjutant General feels confident that the individuals selected for this honorable service will prove by their conduct and good discipline as well as by their skill in the use of the rifle, worthy representatives of their country and of the military force to which they belong.

In announcing the despatch of this Detachment the Adjutant General desires to call the special attention of the non-commissioned Officers and men of the Active Militia, now performing or about to perform their annual course of target practice in the various camps of exercise, to the event, in the hope that it may tend to promote increased emulation and efficiency.

Should circumstances admit of the annual despatch of a similar detachment to England in selecting individuals due regard to character and conduct will invariably be paid, for although skill in the use of the rifle is indispensable, respectability of character in

a representative of the Dominion is of primary importance.

Sergeant Major L. Kelly, of 2nd Battalion Rifles G. T. R. B. will accompany the Detachment proceeding to Wimbleton and perform such duties as the Officer in command may direct.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL DRILL,
1872-73.Military District No. 1
Divisional Staff.

Adverting to G. O. (14) 31st May last, Captain Thomas R. Jackson, No. 5 Troop, 1st Regiment of Cavalry, to act as Orderly Officer to Officer commanding the Division.

Provisional Battalion on Service in Manitoba.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence for three months from the date of his departure from Manitoba is hereby granted to Brevet Lieut.-Colonel T. Scott, of the Provisional Battalion on service in Manitoba, to proceed to the Province of Ontario on private affairs.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Ottawa Field Battery of Artillery.

To be Supernumerary 2nd Lieutenant provisionally:

Edward Skead Gentleman.

Gunner Henry Lepine having completed his period of service in this Battery is hereby transferred to the Store Branch of the Department of Militia and Defence.

Gananoque Field Battery of Artillery.

Gananoque Battery of Garrison Artillery is hereby changed into a Field Battery to be known as the "Gananoque Field Battery of Artillery." Guns, waggons and the necessary equipment will be furnished when the Department of Militia and Defence is in a position to do so.

To be Captain:

Captain William McKenzie, G.S.

To be 1st Lieutenant provisionally;

1st Lieutenant John Brown Haig.

Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

No. 4 Battery, Ottawa.

To be Supernumerary 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally:

Carroll Ryan, Gentleman.

No. 6 Battery Ottawa.

Errata in G. O. (17) 14th June 1872 read "To be supernumerary 2nd Lieutenant provisionally: Edward Alphonse Mara, Gentleman," instead of "To be 1st Lieutenant."

1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards.

Numbers one and two companies, Civil

Service Rifles, will cease to be Rifles and Independent Companies, and are hereby attached to and will form part of this Battalion.

To be Major Commanding:

Brevet Lieut.-Colonel and Major Thomas Ross, V. B., from Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery.

To be Captains:

Brevet Major and Captain William White V. B.

Captain James Pennington Macpherson, M.S.

John Tilton Esquire, late Captain N.B. Militia (provisionally.)

Lieutenant Henry Stuart Weatherley, V. B.

To be Lieutenants:

Lieutenant John Walsh, M.S.

Lieutenant Charles Edward Laumann, V. B.

Ensign George Morrison Patrick, M.S.

To be Ensigns:

George Malloch, Gentleman, (provisionally).

William Horace Lee, Gentleman (provisionally).

John Stoughton Dennis, Gentleman, M.S.

To be paymaster with rank of honorary Major:

Honorary Captain and Paymaster Horatio Asprey Wicksteed from Retired List.

To be Adjutant:

Lieutenant and Adjutant John Rhodes (late Royal Artillery) from Ottawa Brigade G. A.

To be Surgeon:

Assistant Surgeon Edward C. Malloch, M. D., from Retired List.

To be Quarter Master with rank of honorary Captain:

George Grant, Gentleman, (Quarter master h.p. 100 Reg.)

15th Battalion or "Argyle Light Infantry."

To be Major:

Captain Lawrence H. Henderson, V. B., vice Thomas C. Wallbridge who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

No. 1 Company Belleville.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant John Albert Gordon Crozier, V. B., vice Henderson promoted.

No. 6 Company.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign James W. Whiteford, M.S., vice Dunnnett, promoted.

To be Ensign:

William Frederick Meyers, Gentleman, M.S., vice Whiteford promoted.

22nd Battalion "The Oxford Rifles."

No. 3 Company, Princeton.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign George F. Williamson, M.S., vice F. B. Horner, promoted.

To be Ensign, provisionally :
Sergeant Robert Howes; vice Williamson promoted.

No. 5 Company Norwich.

To be Ensign, provisionally :
Charles Burgess, Gentleman, vice Mullins, promoted.

*24th "Kent" Battalion of Infantry,
No. 7 Company, Chatham.*

To be Lieutenant :
Ensign Harry Mercar, M.S., vice James Richardson, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Ensign :
George R. Atkinson, Gentleman, M.S., vice Mercar, promoted.

No. 3 Company, Blenheim.

To be Captain :
Lieutenant Conrad Rowe, M.S., vice John K. Morris, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 4 Company, East Tilbury.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :
Color Sergeant Silas B. Lambert, vice R. Smith, left limits.

25th "Middlesex" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Quarter Master :
Loftus Cuddy, Gentleman, vice David W. Vary, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 1 Company, Delaware.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :
Sergeant John McIntosh, vice Billington, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 2 Company.

The Head Quarters of this Company are hereby changed from Komoka to Napier.

To be Captain :
William Baltimore Lindsay, Esq., M.S., vice John Stevenson, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Jacob Christopher Beer, Gentleman, vice Joshua Irvine, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Ensign, provisionally :

John Dunlop, Gentleman, vice Thomas Powell, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

43rd "Carlton" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company, Richmond.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :
Color Sergeant John Riolly, vice John Hill left limits.

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant-Colonel—a few months being required to complete the five years—as a special case in consideration of his long service in the Active Militia :

Major Thomas Ross, V.B., Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

To be Major :

Captain Richard Tyrwhitt, M.S., No. 8 Company, 35th Battalion, from 17th August 1871.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Sherbrooke Troop of Cavalry.

Brevet Major and Captain Samuel A. Stevens is hereby permitted to retire retaining his Brevet rank.

The resignation of Lieutenant William McCurdy is hereby accepted.

Quebec Field Battery.

Adverting to G. O. (15) 31st May last, Lieutenant-Colonel Lamontagne on ceasing to command this Battery is to be considered as seconded from the Artillery whilst employed on the Staff.

51st Battalion of Infantry, or "Hemmingford Rangers."

No. 6 Company, Hemmingford.

To be Ensign, provisionally :

Paymaster Sergt. John Lathan, vice John Fisher whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 8 Company, St. Remi.

To be Lieutenant :

Sergeant Finlay Dewey, M.S., vice John Duncan left limits.

53rd "Sherbrooke" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 1 Company, Sherbrooke,

To be Ensign :

Robert Henry Stansfield, Gentleman, M.S., vice Edward Short who has failed to comply with orders or to qualify.

58th "Compton" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Major :

Brevet Major and Adjutant Frederick M. Pope, M. S., vice C. Noble, resigned.

64th Battalion of Infantry or "Voltigeurs de Beauharnois."

To be Paymaster :

Quarter Master Cyrillo Guimond, vice P. Giroux, deceased.

To be Quarter Master :

Sergeant Ferdinand Leduc, vice Guimond, promoted.

65th Battalion or "Mount Royal Rifles"

To be Surgeon :

Emmanuel P. Lachapelle, Esquire, M.D., vice E. Mount whose resignation is hereby accepted.

Rimouski Provisional Battalion of Infantry

To be Adjutant with rank of Ensign :

Philedelpho Hudon, Gentleman, M.S.,

No. 4 Company, Ste Cecile du Bic.

To be Ensign :

Sergeant Octavo Sylvain, M.S., vice J. Talbot, left limits.

BREVET.

To be Major, as a special case in consideration of his long service as an officer in the Active Militia :

Captain Michael W. Baby, G. S. Quebec Field Battery.¶

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence is hereby granted to Lieutenant Colonel MacShane, 62nd Battalion, for one month from 10th instant, on private affairs.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

78th "Colchester and Hants" Battalion of Infantry or "Highlanders."

To be Paymaster :

Gordon Hugh Ross, Esquire.

To be Quarter Master :

Captain James Dickson, Q. F. O., late 3rd Battalion Colchester.

To be Assistant Surgeon :

Surgeon Duncan McLean, Q. F. O., late 5th Battalion Hants.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

A Company of Rifles is hereby authorized to be raised at Lower Fort [Garry] by Captain George Davis, who will be appointed to its command when the Service Roll has been received at Head Quarters. Arms and the necessary equipment will be furnished when the Department of Militia and Defence is in a position to do so.

By Command of His Excellency the

Governor General,

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel

Adjutant-General, Militia,

Canada

There is as much difference between the sins of believers and the sins of carnal men as between a meadow accidentally overflowed with water and a stagnant marsh.

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1872.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WAINSWRIGHT GRIFFITHS, at present on a tour through British Columbia, has kindly consented to act as the Agent for the VOLUNTEER REVIEW in that Province.

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 in 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.

MECHANICAL SCIENCE, applied to modern warfare, has given the soldier the breech-loading rifle which, for rapidity of manipulation certainty of action and accuracy of aim, appears to be all that can be desired.

It would appear that at present the mechanism of small arms has not been so far improved as to make a repeating rifle a valuable or specially useful weapon—those that have been tried as a general rule were not approved of, and although many valuable specimens of such arms as the Spencer carbine, which appears to be peculiarly adapted to Cavalry are in existence, none of them have been adopted as the exclusive weapon par excellence of any arm of the Military service.

While the problem of small arms appears to be solved for the present—that of Artillery is still surrounded with great and grave difficulties, both scientifically and mechanically; and the appearance of a new variety in the shape of a repeating cannon—the far famed *mitrailleuse*—helps to complicate what has become of a very knotty problem.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. FLETCHER, of the Scotts Fusilier Guards, has communicated some valuable knowledge to the military profession, in a paper read before the Royal United Service Institution, on the "Employment of mitrailleurs during the recent war and their use in future wars"—on this interesting subject.

The pattern of those *machine guns* most approved is known as the Gatling gun; its inventor, a citizen of the United States, claims for it the following advantages:

First—Equal range and greater accuracy and precision than field pieces.

Second—Rapidity and continuity of fire viz: 200 shots per minute, each bullet weighing half a pound.

Third—No resighting or relaying between each discharge there being little or no recoil.

Fourth—Lightness.

Fifth—Greater power of ricochet fire.

Sixth—Economy in money, horses and men.

Colonel FLETCHER who is a member of a committee detailed to report on the value of the Gatling gun shows that while it possessed many advantages it was not as effective as a field gun at ranges over 1200 yards, because it required a greater weight of ammunition to produce the same effect—it could not batter in breach—its missiles had no incendiary character and it could not search out by its fire a wood, house, trench or wall; but inasmuch as the smaller variety under certain conditions would be useful as a defensive weapon, the Committee had recommended the adoption of the smaller gun of 0.45 calibre to be issued at the rate of one piece to each battalion of infantry.

Its use by the French army during their recent disastrous contest with Prussia was detailed, and the contempt of the General Officers of the latter army for a weapon limited in its application appears to be justified.

During a very interesting discussion which ensued on the subject of its use in war—the fact was established that it would be useful to defend—a bridge, the gorge of a work or ravine, the head of a sump, in trenches, or to enfilade the ditch of a fortification; in the open or where at all exposed to artillery fire it was worse than useless, as it inspired soldiers with a false confidence which was dispelled the moment it would be disabled—the first act of a modern battle being to bring a concentrated fire of artillery to bear on the enemies position and in that case the *mitrailleuse* was sure to go down.

It is very evident that it cannot supersede the use of field guns, and even as an auxiliary its value is very doubtful; all that was

conceded during the discussion on this very interesting paper was that it might be a valuable auxiliary in defensive operations—in covering boat attacks or cavalry reconnoissances.

The warmest advocates of their employment declare that it would be folly of the worst kind to reduce the proportion of artillery by one gun for the purpose of substituting the *mitrailleuse*—that at best it was but an auxiliary to infantry fire—and it was argued that its adoption would involve an increase of the *impedimenta* of an army, where it must necessarily remain with the reserve.

There does not appear to be any great advantage in advocating their utility for use in Canada—a few might be attached to our Artillery service or to our Frontier battalions for the purpose of defence in sudden raids—otherwise we cannot see of what use they could be.

In order, however, to compare their equipment with that of an ordinary 9 pounder field gun, we give the following from estimates prepared by Colonel Wray's committee:

Equipment of a 9 pounder Field battery of six guns; 1 captain, 1 second captain, 3 lieutenants, 1 assist. surgeon—total 6 officers
 1 sergeant-major, 1 quartermaster-sergt., 6 sergeants, 6 corporals, 6 bombardiers, 85 gunners, 81 drivers, 2 trumpeters, 1 farrier, 4 shoeing smiths, 2 collar makers, 2 wheelers—total 197 men.

Equipment of Gatling battery of twelve guns, 0.45 calibre; 1 captain, 1 second captain, 3 lieutenants, 1 assistant surgeon—total 6 officers.

1 sergeant-major, 1 quartermaster sergt., 6 sergeants, 6 corporals, 60 gunners, 20 drivers, 2 teamsters, 1 farrier, 2 shoeing smiths, 1 collar maker, 1 wheeler—total 101 non-commissioned officers and men.

9 pounder battery of six guns: 6 guns, 12 waggons, 1 store waggon, 1 forge waggon, 1 general service waggon, 1 store cart, 24 rounds per gun.

Gatling battery of 12 guns; 12 Gatling guns, 0.45 calibre, 6 small arm ammunition carts, 1 store waggon, 1 forge and general service waggon combined, 2,208 cartridges carried with each gun—26,496; 9000 cartridges carried with each S. A. cart 54,000—total 80,496 or 6,708 cartridges per gun.

Horses required for 9 pounder Field battery of six guns; 12 officers, 2 staff sergeants, 1 non commissioned officers, 2 trumpeters, 1 farrier, 1 shoeing smith, 4 spare—total riding horses 34; 48 guns, 22 ammunition waggons, 6 store waggons, 6 forage, 4 general service, 2 store carts, 1 spare—total draught horses 150.

Horses required for batteries of twelve Gatling guns; 12 officers, 2 staff sergeants, 12 non commissioned officers, 2 trumpeters, 1 farrier, 1 shoeing smith, 4 spare—total 34 riding horses; 24 guns, 12 small arm ammunition, 6 store waggons, 6 forage and general service combined, 8 spare—total 56 draught horses.

The weight of a Gatling gun is—

	Cwt.	qr.	lbs.
Gun carriage complete.....	7	0	7½
Lumber.....	5	0	25
Six drums filled.....	3	2	00
Shield.....	0	3	25
	16	3	1½

The space occupied by both batteries on the line of march would be as follows:

9 pounder battery.

6 guns, 8 horses each.....	114 yds.
12 waggons, 6 horses.....	180 "
1 store waggon, 6 horses.....	15 "
1 fore, 6 horses.....	15 "
1 general service waggon, 4 do	11 "
1 store cart, 2 horses.....	8 "
	343 yds.

Gatling battery.

12 guns, 2 horses each.....	84 yds.
6 carts.....	42 "
1 store waggon, 6 horses.....	15 "
1 general service waggon and forgo combined, 6 horses..	15 "
	156 yds.

There can be no doubt but economy of weight, space, men and horses would be secured by the Gatling battery—but it only throws a *half ounce* bullet—the Field gun throws a 9-pounder shot, shell, or case shot; in the first case the fire would only be effective on infantry or cavalry unlucky enough to find its way into the range of 1200 yards, and against nothing else. In the other the same effect would be produced at double the distance, and the shot would smash any ordinary obstacle, while the shells would burn up and search out every building affording the slightest covering for troops.

It would therefore appear that although the mechanical advantage may be great, the actual effect produced is not such as to warrant the employment of the gun as a military weapon under the ordinary conditions governing the use of field artillery.

The largest Gatling yet produced carries a *half pound* ball, but the committee reported against it as fulfilling none of the conditions of artillery while the weight would be greater.

It has always been held as a sound political maxim that the Judicature of a country should be jealously guarded from corruption or aspersion, and that it should never be subjected to the will of a faction.

There is another institution whose growth has been imperceptible and whose ultimate influence on the destinies of British North America has not received that careful consideration from our Journalists or public men which it deserves.

Modern civilization involves the same necessity which attended all communities in a more primitive and less artificial stage of existence—that of armed protection—and it has been well established that the moment

the soldier becomes a *politician* the liberty of the citizen is forfeited.

Exceptional circumstances called the *Canadian army* into existence, its development has been necessarily of slow growth, and it has as a general rule received very little consideration for its advantage from the *Press* of the Dominion.

Successfully solving as it was intended the problem of an *armed nationality*, its ranks have been recruited from the mass of the people, and the soldier now busily engaged in the duties of Camp life at the *annual drill* will within the next three weeks be exercising the duties of an elector or jurymen, or engaged in the important functions of civil life.

The great importance of training individuals so circumstanced to understand the different functions they are called on to fulfill is apparent to the meanest understanding, and the difficulties attending the necessary instructions are not only formidable but thoroughly well understood, as must also be the danger of fomenting a spirit of insubordination by appealing to the passions and prejudices of class and creed, thus attempting to turn the servants of the whole State into the tools of a faction to the destruction of its dearest and most cherished institutions.

It is evident that the portion of the *Canadian Press* which has achieved an evil notoriety by this practice, have not considered the consequences of their own acts, or are too reckless to stop to think on the subject, yet it is very certain that the lesson taught by the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 with the destruction of life and property in Paris was due to the very course which some of our contemporaries have taken up.

The *Montreal Herald* of the 7th inst. has an article on the *Militia Law*, in which under a pretended anxiety for the interest of the individual an attempt is made to shew the *farical uselessness* of the camps of instruction, and to endeavor to check the military ardor of those who willingly offer themselves for the service of their country.

The whole of the long article is taken up with criticisms of the system of drill and tactics laid down by the Adjutant General, but as they are not written by a soldier or any one at all capable of judging in the matter, deserve no notice—a prophesy on the near and certain disarmament of the European powers, and the immediate approach of the *padle's* millenium, when Chambers of Commerce—or notably the *Montreal Board of Trade*—will adjust the affairs of the Continent by arbitration, and assertions respecting the dissolution of the Volunteer force consequent on the insistence of the Militia authorities on the *Montreal* contingent doing its duty.

Altogether it would be a very pretty article if it was not calculated to be used as part of the machinery at the ensuing elections, and is simply *villainous treason* to the best interests of Canada.

Within the whole boundaries of the Dominion no one place is so exposed as *Montreal*, or has more need of a military force for its protection, and yet here is a leading Journal representing one class of its merchants at least, doing its utmost to discourage the efforts made for the preservation of their properties and lives from the hands of any band of ruffians who might think it worth their while to cross the borders—for it must be recollected that *Montreal* is the sole weak point in all the long frontier of Canada.

It would have been more to the purpose if the *Herald* had advocated increased pay and privileges for the Volunteers, but its patrons begrudge even the small remuneration they now receive, and endeavor to make political capital out of it as a wasteful expenditure.

Would the *Herald* tell the people of Canada the actual loss the merchants of *Montreal* suffered in depreciation of stocks, business, &c. during the *Fenian raids*, and whether a repetition of those manoeuvres are wanted? It fortunately happens, however, that *Montreal* is not all Canada, or the *Herald* the organ of all its people.

The mercantile class at *Montreal* are charged with discouraging their employes from serving as Volunteers, and hence the *Herald's* bit of military criticism.

The *Globe* has tried another tack; it came out with abuse of the Militia Department because it could not find camp equipment for 7,500 Volunteers at the *Niagara* camp, where only some 6,000 were expected.

If the supporters of both the *Herald* and *Globe* will give the Department sufficient money to equip the troops, no cause of complaint will occur, but with the full desire both have to make political capital out of every question affecting the Canadian army that is impossible, so that the Volunteer has to thank both those would be friends of his for small pay, bad food, no blankets, or tents, and every grievance with which the force is afflicted.

It would be well if the soldiers of the Canadian army would recollect at the polls the usage they have received at the hands of those loud-mouthed pretenders of public zeal and patriotism, and put every political economist down as an enemy of the country.

The Legislator or Journalist that endeavors to retard the development of the military energies of Canada, is a traitor to the best interests of the country, and no friend of British connection.

Owing to the magnitude of *General Orders* for the last two or three weeks, we have been unable to give our readers the usual information respecting current events, especially those which mark historical periods in the development of our political life.

The last session of the first Parliament of Canada was closed on Friday, the 14th inst., by His Excellency Lord Lisgar the Governor General.

Very great interest was attached to this event, as it was known that it would be the last public act of His EXCELLENCY previous to departure for England; accordingly the ceremonies on the occasion were more than usually imposing.

At three o'clock, P. M., the Governor General's carriage containing His EXCELLENCY, Lieut. POISSONBY, A.D.C., and Mr. TURVILLE, his private Secretary, drove up to the grand entrance at the Parliament buildings, where he was received by the ADJUTANT GENERAL at the head of a brilliant staff; a guard of honor formed of the Civil Service Rifle Companies under the command of Major WHITE, with their splendid brass band, was drawn up outside, and a salute was fired by the Ottawa Field Battery under the command of Lieut. STEWART.

His EXCELLENCY having proceeded to the Senate Chamber and the Commons being summoned by the USHER of the Black Rod, the Honorable the SPEAKER addressed him as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency a Bill intituled:—

"An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1872, and the 30th June, 1873, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service," to which I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.

To this Bill the ROYAL ASSENT was signified in the following words:

In HER MAJESTY'S name, His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR GENERAL thanks her loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this Bill.

After which His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR GENERAL was pleased to close the FIFTH SESSION of the FIRST PARLIAMENT of the DOMINION with the following

SPEECH:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have much satisfaction in relieving you from an attendance in Parliament which cannot fail to be inconvenient to many of you at this season of the year. I thank you therefore all the more for the time and attention which you have diligently bestowed on the discharge of your public duties.

The interest and importance of various questions which have been discussed and decided will render the Session memorable in the annals of the country.

Your adoption of the Articles of the Treaty of Washington which affect Canadian interests, has placed in a clear light your determination to share the fortunes of England. The generous disposition evinced under the trying circumstances of the time has added strength to the honorable position of Canada, both as regards the British Empire and the United States.

The vast project, of which you have so wisely matured the conditions for carrying a railway to the shores of the Pacific, will open a new pathway for England as well in peace as in war, to the East, and will, I trust, be productive of the most essential benefits to this Dominion by giving facilities to traffic of all descriptions, enhancing the value of the public lands, promoting their settlement, and drawing closer the ties which bind the sister Provinces together by easier access and multiplied intercourse.

Few who have not considered the subject have any adequate conception how large an extent of economical advantage, the possession of great navigable Rivers like the St. Lawrence and its tributaries comprises. The outlay you have sanctioned on their improvement, and on that of the auxiliary canals, is a safe investment. It will be amply and speedily repaid by the augmented volume of trade flowing down all the channels opened to its course, for it will be swollen by the confluence of your own accumulating productions with those of your Western neighbours.

It is highly satisfactory that the condition of the revenue is so prosperous as to enable you to advance the interests of the Country by commencing the construction of these works at once, without delay or misgiving.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In Her Majesty's name I thank you for the supplies which you have so cheerfully granted.

I heartily congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the revenue, and on your having been enabled by the repeal of the duties on tea and coffee to diminish the burdens of the people.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The joint address with which you have honored me on the eve of my departure is most agreeable to my feelings.

I shall assure you hold in grateful recollection all my life the expression of your respect and esteem.

I have watched with deep interest in my official capacity the proceedings of four Sessions, and made myself otherwise acquainted with the views and wishes of the Parliament and people of Canada, and I earnestly hope that the good intelligence which prevails between them and the people of England may last constant and unimpaired for generations to come.

I have now the honor to bid you farewell, with those serious thoughts which the word farewell naturally awakens, with every acknowledgment of the many courtesies and the effective assistance which I have received at your hands and with the most cherished and ardent wishes for the welfare of the Dominion, with which I rejoice to think that my humble name has been connected by an honorable tie for more than three years.

A levee was held immediately afterwards for the purpose of saying farewell to the officers of the Staff. At the conclusion of the levee His EXCELLENCY retired accompanied by the Staff, and was loudly cheered by the spectators as he drove off.

On Saturday morning, the 15th inst., His EXCELLENCY, Lady LISGAR and Suits, left by the steamer *Queen* for Grenville, en route to Montreal. The Militia Staff under the ADJ. GENERAL were in attendance, the guard of honor of the Civil Service Rifles commanded by Major WHITE with its band, and the Field Battery under Lieut. STEWART. His EXCELLENCY and Lady LISGAR shook hands with most of the gentlemen present bidding them a kind farewell; a salute was fired—hearty cheers given, and Lord LISGAR, Governor General of Canada, bowed his adieu to the Capital of the Dominion.

The mass of *General Orders* consequent on the assembling of the Camps of Instruction, prevented due notice being given to the very important article on the *Canadian Militia* copied from the *United States Army and Navy Journal*, in the last issue of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW,

It is undoubtedly a subject for gratification to find competent professional judges outside our own country, speak of the "Canadian Militia system and the Militia Department as in a state of admirable efficiency," and it will enable those who have the interests of the Dominion really at heart, to bear with equanimity the sneers or misrepresentations of the tinkers and tailors of the Canadian press, who have set before them the very patriotic task of depreciating the only Military force on which the safety of the country depends.

A force raised at the minimum of expense in money and time and managed with an economy unknown in the private business of the critics.

THE MINISTER OF MILITIA and the ADJUTANT GENERAL have good reason to be proud of the Army they have called into existence; and that is evidently the opinion of our neighbours.

During the past week Camps have been formed at Windsor, Niagara, Kingston and Prescott; in every case the contingents to each Camp considerably exceeds the number assembled last year, thus proving the soundness of the principle of voluntary service.

The incidents of Camp life must be of great value in a statistical point of view, and we will gladly insert any communication from our friends under canvass on the subject of their experiences.

It is with sincere pleasure we have to announce the appointment of Colonel the Hon. JOHN GRAY, as Chief Justice of the Province of Manitoba. We do not know a man better fitted for the position in the Dominion of Canada—as a lawyer, a statesman, and a

scholar—all those qualities combined with a suavity of manner and bearing which cannot fail to make him popular in Manitoba. We congratulate the people of that Province on their good fortune, and personally as well as on public grounds regret the departure of Colonel GREY from amongst us.

REVIEWS.

The *London Quarterly* for April, republished by "The Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton St., New York," contains:

- The state of English Architecture.
- Thomas Carlyle.
- Trado with Chiua.
- Masson's life of Milton.
- Modern Scepticism—The Duke of Somerset.

The British Parliament: its history and eloquence.

- Diaries of a Diplomatist.
- Education, Secularism and Nonconformity.
- Concession to the United States.

There has been hardly any number of the *Quarterlies* equal to this in the interest or variety of the subject discussed.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Geneva Board of Arbitration on the "Alabama claims," met in that city on the 15th June. Lord Tenterden made a formal demand on the part of Great Britain for adjournment; the United States agent stated that he had received no instructions from his Government. At a subsequent meeting the Board adjourned till Wednesday, 20th inst.

There have been terrific Thunder storms in London and in the Northern and Midland counties, one or two steamships were struck by lightning and much damage done.

The Whig Radical Administration are still trying to *linker* up the moribund Washington treaty, and are only succeeding in thoroughly jeopardising every interest with which it is connected.

The trial of Marshal Bazaine is the chief topic of interest in France; a commission has been sitting on the subject of the capitulations during the late war—it has in nearly every instance censured the officers in command.

In the bill for reorganizing the French army are two very sensible provisions—the first depriving the soldier of the elective franchise while in service—the second preventing the officers being eligible as a representative during his period of service.

When pending negotiations are completed the departments of Marne and Haute Marne will be evacuated by the Prussian army of occupation.

The Italian Government have enacted a law suppressing convents in Italy; the Pope has requested Cardinal Antonelli to protest against this encroachment on Papal rights and the laws of the Roman church.

Spain appears to be in a chronic state of excitement; it is almost impossible to form an administration, and society appears to be in a state of dissolution.

The German Reichstag by a majority of 88, passed a bill proscribing the Jesuits, How far this measure may be a wise one it is hard to say, proscription is always a foolish mode to accomplish any end, and in this case it is sure to be defeated as the Jesuits will assume other names and act with far greater force to accomplish their objects.

The Musical Jubilee at Boston appears to be the great and absorbing event in the United States. The Grenadier Guards were received with great enthusiasm—the National Anthem "God save the Queen" being played for the first time since 1776, by an English military band in that city.

Whatever may be the future of the Washington Treaty, it does not appear to give the people much concern—the authorities are said to be preparing for eventualities by arming some of their coast batteries with heavy guns.

An Indian war in Texas is dreaded, 10,000 braves are said to be on the war path.

Throughout the Dominion of Canada peace and prosperity reigns. The retiring Governor General Lord Lisgar has been worthily feted by the good citizens of Montreal, and must carry with him from Canada pleasing recollections of the loyalty, goodwill, and desire of the people to make his stay amongst them agreeable.

Active measures are in operation for the commencement of the great works of the Dominion—the enlargement of existing and construction of necessary Canals, as well as the construction of the Pacific Railway—no difficulty will exist in having a large portion of the latter open in less than five years.

The period of annual drill having called the Canadian army into the field, Camps have been established at Windsor, Niagara, Kingston and Prescott; the contingents appear to be far larger in point of numbers than at any other period, showing that the system on which the force has been organized is sound in principle.

THE GERMAN EXODUS.

VILLAGES DEPOPULATED—WHY HANS SETS HIS FACE WESTWARD.

It is a rather curious fact that just at this present moment, when the fortunes of Germany appear to have reached the top of the wheel, the number of her sons who are desirous of leaving her and of seeking a home in the Far West is greater than it has ever been at any former period. The emigration question is assuming very serious dimensions for some parts of the kingdom of Prussia, but more especially the provinces of Pomerania, West Prussia, and the more motherly districts of Posen. In most of the villages

in the first-mentioned province, many of the peasants' houses are either empty or being pulled down, and the small proprietors are selling for twenty-five per cent. under recent values, in order to realize quickly and reach the land of promise with the least possible delay. Little holdings which only a short time ago were very much in demand, are now a mere drug in the market, and it is difficult to find purchasers at any price.

A Pomeranian landowner writes that his own village which is only a very little one, had lost thirty of its most able laborers on the 1st of April, and that another village in his neighborhood had already lost all its inhabitants except three families; but these intended to follow the lead in a few weeks. The place would then become a "deserted village in the strictest sense, though not at all like that of Goldsmith's "Sweet Auburn," as the desertion is not occasioned by the rich man's vanity of a park, but it is directly against his wishes and interests. He would gladly keep his poorer neighbors with him if he could, for with them his wealth will emigrate too.

It is easy to obtain ocular demonstration of the height of the present emigration fever by paying an evening visit to the Potsdam or Hamburg Railway Station. At the former I have often seen hundreds of emigrants encamping on the bare boards, sitting on their luggage, surrounded by the wreck of their household goods, and soothing their babes, while waiting for the next train for Bremer where they will embark for America. The first instinctive feelings at such a sight is one of pity; but it is certainly very much misplaced, as the emigrants are for the most part extremely happy in the hopes that have prompted their step, and which in most cases are fulfilled.—*Berlin Cor. of the Manchester Guardian.*

Broad Arrow understands that the Admiralty has it under consideration to test the endurance of a 25-ton gun, as mounted in the *Monarch*, *Glatton*, and *Hotspur*, by rapid continuous firing, such as usually occurs in a naval engagement or bombardment. The 25-ton gun is officially limited to 100 discharges with a reduced charge of 85 lbs. of powder, miscalled a "battering" charge. These being fired with intervals of days, weeks, or months between every few rounds suffice to endanger the life of the gun; but if the same number of rounds were fired in one day's continuous practice, the effect would be still more injurious. As this continuous fire is what naval guns are wanted for and the disabling of the gun would disarm the *Hotspur*, or that of two guns the *Glatton*, it is of some importance that a 25-ton gun should be so tested in times of peace, when a failure would be of comparatively small consequence.

The British Army contains 117,701 Englishmen, 15,380 Scotchmen, and 44,092 Irishmen

AN OLD WOMAN'S REVERIE.

When slowly in the crimson west
The evening shadows gently fall,
And twilight hour—the one lov'd best—
Comes stealing softly o'er us all,
I love in easy chair to sit
And muse when quietly I knit.

I dream of years when I was young,
And lovers blinted I was fair,
And of my eyes in rapture sung,
Or praised my silky nut-brown hair.
'Twas long ago—yet here I sit
Before the fire, and calmly knit.

Alas! those locks are scant and gray,
The eyes have lost their witching light
The lips that praised have pined away,
And over all has fallen the blight
Of time—and here alone I sit
Before the fire, and sadly knit

I think of those who've gone before—
The dear ones I so fondly loved—
And yielding to the magic power
Of memories all too deeply moved,
I softly weep, as I here sit
Before the fire to dream and knit.

And soon I too shall pass away,
And one who now is young and fair,
Will often sit at close of day,
As twilight shadows gathers near,
And tell how mother used to sit
In the old easy chair and knit.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the *Daily Standard*, dated at Victoria, Vancouver's Island May 3rd, from our talented and gallant friend, Lieut. Colonel Wainwright Griffiths, whose admirable letter will be found below.

A few intelligent Canadians like the gallant Colonel would be a very desirable addition to the population on the Pacific Slope, as they would disseminate a proper knowledge of this country, its resources, products and physical and political development.

The *Standard* is a respectably sized daily with a fair sprinkling of general and local news:

NATIONAL DIFFICULTIES.

VICTORIA, 1st May, 1872.

EDITOR STANDARD.—It is not without some diffidence that within a week of my arrival in this fine Province of the Dominion, I venture to obtrude a few remarks, bearing on the future of our common nationality—Canada. I have been principally instigated to do so by the interest with which I read the editorial articles in recent issues of the *STANDARD*. One, on the subject of the "Independence of Canada," brings us face to face with the situation to which it is futile to persist in so imbecile blindness. It is impossible to misinterpret the result of the tendency of parliamentary opinion in England, as is justly observed in your able article, if colonies mean expense the national policy will become anti-colonial. A strong conservative Government might retard the progress of this tendency, but it is to be doubted if, in the present temper of the nation, there be any chance of such a change. That England is pursuing a *line of policy* which will eventuate to her in dishonor and contempt, and that when she has succeeded in denuding herself of her colonies, she will sink to the level of a third class power, I make no more doubt than I do of a future state. But the end is not yet—It is unlikely that trouble will arise out of the Alabama claims; and that matter once settled, it is difficult to imagine any other probable cause of dispute between England and the States. Canada providing for herself a military force adequate to any possible requirement short of war with the States, will cost

the mother country nothing, and as long as that is the case there will be no anxiety at home to hasten the separation. On our side the connection is clung to with a loyal affection which will certainly avoid precipitating of matters. It is therefore a gratuitous search for trouble to beg the question of Independence before any necessity whatever arises for its consideration. It is quite possible that it may be many years before any such necessity does arise. The longer the interval, the better for the Dominion, and if that interval be well employed I am inclined to think that Canada need entertain no fears as to our future independence, the growth of a patriotic pride, and of a belief that the broad domain of Canada, extending from ocean to ocean, contains territory and resources to make a great nation, has been for the last five years at least rapid and vigorous. The people of Ontario and the more eastern provinces, living in close observation of the institutions, customs and manners of the States, find no attraction in republican institutions, but on the contrary are strongly repelled from them in favor of our own, so superior, constitution, which they perceive to afford the fullest extent of republican liberty without the corruption and periodical turmoil attending the working of that of the United States,

The central portion of Manitoba in process of rapid settlement by Ontario men, cannot fail to be strongly imbued with the same sentiments, and even were we shunted into independence to-morrow it is questionable if the States government would consider it advantageous to attempt the coercion of an unwilling people. It is common certainly, to imagine that the United States are rulers more by popular sentiment than by the actual governing power; but were that as much the case as is popularly supposed, it is probable that Mexico, a state far weaker than Canada ought to be in five years time (or indeed is now) would ere this have been annexed. There is also an opinion gaining ground amongst thinking Americans, the existence of Canada along the northern border of the States, would keep their territory compact, and would be advantageous in many ways, but the amount of respect which Canada independent would command, will much depend on the proper use of the interval which may elapse before her independence becomes a *fait accompli*. It depends largely upon population. The hopeful, sanguine, progressive and patriotic Canadian of to-day, bears bitterly impressed upon his memory poor "Maud Muller's" aching thought "what might have been!" What might have been as to territory if British diplomatists had been less easily mesmerized into a fool's paradise by astute American statesmen! What might have been if both the Imperial and Colonial Governments had done a tithe of their duty as to immigration during the last thirty-years? He knows that had our rulers in times past been half as energetic in proclaiming the advantages of Canada, as those of the United States have been in publishing those of their country, we might at this day have been a nation of ten million instead of one of four. But it is not yet too late. The previous governments of the provinces are aroused to the importance of receiving our fair share of the immigration, and this is one of the cardinal points which the earnest Canadian should continually bear in mind, and unceasingly advocate. How many English immigrants might be brought under the old flag, even from under the very stars and stripes, out of the very jaws of Uncle Sam, if our provinces were ably represented there

by energetic and popular men? I myself saw instances in San Francisco during a brief stay of three or four days, where infinite good might have been done by an accredited agent of the Government of this Province, and I also met a gentleman, a former member of the British Legislature, who was precisely the man for the work. Any sum expended in the payment of good agents would return its value a thousand fold to a young colony in very few years.

But it is absurd to suppose that the neighboring republic, will cease to secure the lion's share, while even in our own Canadian railroad stations the advantages of settlement in the United States are flaunted in the eyes of the immigrants from a dozen placards flaming in all the colors of the rainbow, while some despicable piece of whitey brown paper, stuck in an obscure corner, merely sets forth, in rusty ink and bad type the doubtful capabilities of the "Muskoka District," or some equally hyperborean asylum.

But, as I said before, it is not too late. We are awakening to all this, and the next five years ought to see our population increased by half its present amount. Immigration, therefore, and the speedy construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway are the two things that will make us a nation, and on neither point do we now find reason to despond. At this critical hour of our nascent history let us thank providence that we are ruled by statesmen. There can be no fear that the minds which conceived the birth of a new nation by the grand measure of Confederation, will be blind to the vital need of the iron cord which is required to bind together the extremes of the territory. Without the railroad, Confederation would not be worth the paper which the terms are written on, with it a great nation is consolidated. It is a matter of surprise, that people have been found timid and shortsighted enough to doubt the determination of the government in the matter. Those who do so scarcely appreciate the astuteness of Sir John and his other colleagues, or the British feeling, the high courage and the pertinacity of Sir George. Depend upon it, the men who have created a mighty state and nearly solved the problem of an armed nation as against a large standing force are not the men to stultify their own work, by neglecting the corner stones of the edifice.

The encouragement to those "of little faith" which your columns of a day or two ago administer in this case is therefore very satisfactory. And let us further recall to mind other encouraging circumstances. It is something to have before us the examples of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads of the United States themselves not built without strong opposition, and much scepticism. It is something to know that our own line will be both shorter and easier of grade. And it seems absolutely providential that recent troubles should have raised Fort Garry, a natural half way house, into wealth and importance.

Opposition is, of course, to be expected, but it is perhaps fortunate that the present opposition in the Dominion House of Commons is known to be factious. It is patent to all thinking Canadians that, having no party cry, but the (at present) meaning less one of "reform," the Grits, a name suitable in vulgarity and ugliness to the tactics of the party it designates—if they could succeed in ousting the present Dominion Government, would be only too glad to pursue the policy inaugurated by their predecessors. Ample evidence of this may be

found in the conduct of the new Government of Ontario: And indeed to give a certain person his due, that party though factious and unscrupulous in political warfare is not destitute of Canadian patriotism.

That the *Montreal Witness*, and Mr. McDougall should oppose the railway is not surprising. Montreal is the headquarters of the annexation clique, a party happily contemptible both in influence and numbers, and Mr. McDougall, one of the most unpopular men in Canada, is ripe for anything since his Manitoba failure. In Ontario no annexationist would dare give public utterance to his sentiments.

Of course American gold and American influence will be unsparringly used to counteract the great Canadian national project, a fact which of itself should suffice to alarm and to intensify Canadian patriotism. The idea of being dependent for communication on a foreign power, being one utterly degrading and revolting. That the Dominion government is fully alive to the importance of this principle, and has the enterprise and the energy to apply the remedy, is evidenced by the rapid construction in spite of the great difficulties of the country, of a route to Fort Garry within our own territory, not only practicable during the Summer months but actually comfortable, along the chain of lakes, traversed by the outward and return expeditions of 1870-71.

With the railway constructed, the ports of British Columbia should become great and flourishing, and be the direct media through which the products of the East will penetrate direct to central and eastern Canada, and Canadians are not blind to this and the many other national advantages of the line.

In fact there is no reason to doubt that the great national will set so strongly in favor of the undertaking that no government would venture to neglect it.

But I fear that I have been led to trespass far too largely on your indulgence. Permit me, in concluding to congratulate the Province of British Columbia on the possession of a press, which appears to me so far as my short experience goes, to be singularly free from the local pettiness so often discernable in the newspapers of comparatively small and isolated places, and to deal with public questions with remarkable breadth and soundness of views.

G. W. G.

FRENCH CAPITULATIONS.

The following summary of the conclusions reached by the French Commission on Capitulation is taken from the *Army and Navy Gazette*. The Council of Inquiry is engaged in publishing its decisions on the various capitulations. It commenced with the fort Lichenborg, and declares that that rock was gallantly defended by sub-Lieutenant Archer. According to the Code, a place should not be surrendered until a practicable breach has been made, but the committee says that this was impossible. Marshal, the committee finds, was not well defended. It is admitted that the garrison was insignificant—that there was not a gunner in the place, and that the means of defence were wanting, still the Commandant Captain Leroy is found guilty of great weakness and incapacity; no breach was effected, and he neglected to destroy his guns and ammunition, which were afterwards used by the Prussians, before surrendering. The Committee acknowledges that Vitry-le-Francaise was not in a position to stand a siege; its garrison composed of Mobiles,

were raw recruits—these were reinforced by thirty-five artillerymen, commanded by an officer. The commandant intended to perform his duty, but the civil authorities declared they would not aid in the defence. Major Torquem was then ordered to evacuate the place. However he is reprimanded for not having destroyed his guns and ammunition himself, instead of trusting to the promise of the unpatriotic civil authorities.

As regards Toul, the committee finds that the garrison was ineffective, that the Maire, the Municipal Council, and principal inhabitants behaved badly in constantly wishing the commandant to capitulate. Major Duck is complimented for resisting the enemy, the Maire, etc., but reprimanded for not having destroyed his guns and ammunition. With respect to Laon the committee declines to pass judgment on the commandant who was blown up with the citadel when the Duke of Mecklenburg appeared before the place, but finds that Laon was garrisoned by men more inclined to desert than to resist. The population too objecting to a bombardment, wished to arrest General Theremin d'Hame, and hand him over to the enemy. Lieutenant Colonel de Noue, who defended Soissons, is found guilty of utter incapacity and great weakness. He maintained no discipline, allowed officers to go on leave when the place was about to be invested, capitulated before a breach was made, and grievously sinned against a variety of other regulations. The defence of Schelestadt, according to the Committee, was well conducted, looking at the composition of the garrison; the commandant, however, was blamed for having slackened his fire to allow the peasants in the vicinity to get in their harvest, for having surrendered before a breach was made, and for not having destroyed his material.

In the case of Verdun, General Guerin de Waldersback is praised for having shown great activity and courage at the commencement of the siege making frequent sorties, cutting off convoys, etc. Afterwards, however, the General opened negotiations with the enemy, and surrendered the place, when it might have been defended. For this he is blamed.

As regards Sedan, the decision of the court has already been published; it is decidedly unfavourable to General de Wimpffen, for taking the command from General Ducrot, and stopping the retreat on Mezieres, which that officer had ordered. Phalsbourg had the advantage of being in a position to stand a siege; the ramparts were in a good condition, the garrison a fair one, ammunition abundant, with provisions for four months. Commandant Taillant held out to the last, and then threw open his gates and surrendered at discretion. The Prussians, in recognition of the conduct of the garrison, allowed the officers to keep swords and baggage, and to choose their own place of imprisonment. The commandant and several of his officers have been decorated. Neufbrisach had a garrison of 5,000 men, but on 4,000 of these so little reliance could be placed that the commandant was afraid to admit them into the body of the place. Acts of cowardice and insubordination were frequent, and the courts-martial established to try the culprits acquitted them. The commandant then disarmed the sedentary guard and the Franc-tireurs, and, fearing a mutiny, destroyed a large portion of his ammunition, guns, and rifles. Under these circumstances Lieut. Colonel de Kerhor is excused for having surrendered the place. Montmedy appears to have been pretty well defended, though the first commandant, Captain Ro-

boul, who commenced the defence was suddenly removed by the orders of Dr. Testlin, a Radical Commissioner of National Defence, at Lille. That gentleman, on the denunciation of three officers who left Montmedy—how or why the report does not say—appointed another commandant, who had to be replaced almost immediately by a third, who saw the siege through, and only capitulated when *in extremis*. The fort of La Fere was gallantly defended by a naval officer, and the committee has given absolution to the officer who surrendered the citadel of Amiens, who was placed in difficult circumstances, as the garrison objected to fire on the town for fear of injuring the inhabitants. As far as these reports have been published, they show that the forts were almost without exception ill prepared to stand a siege, whilst the towns were exposed to the fire of the new long range guns, and entirely at the mercy of the enemy. If some places surrendered before a breach was made, it was because the walls were not fired at. One French commandant, severely blamed, politely asked the Prussians to breach his walls before requiring to capitulate, and a small hole, which does not appear to have satisfied the Committee, was made.

In the Report of the Adjutant-General of Militia for last year, it is stated that but one corps put in the last annual drill every company being up to the regulation strength, and the 23rd Battalion is spoken of in language of praise as this particular corps. Now this is a matter of no consequence in one sense; but it is no small slight to the Battalion and Company Officers of the 22nd to find themselves ignored in a matter of fact; for as the details of the Report have it, every company of the Oxford Rifles was full, and as a matter of course the 22nd had no right to be overlooked under circumstances so peculiar. So far as the Report goes, the mistake perhaps might have passed unchallenged; but when worse particular stress placed on the matter of a full quota by the 23rd, it is just as well to correct the "Volunteer Review" in its mistake. More than this; no corps can show a higher general average than the 22nd, none a higher figure for the last six years—a feature that might have attracted attention.—*Woodstock Times*.

GUNBOATS.—The last of the iron mortar boats built during the Crimean war, and which have been lying high and dry at the lower end of Chatham Yard since that time, was launched on Tuesday. Those not required for harbour service are to be floated into the large basin at the extensive works. Two 10 inch 18-ton 400 pounder guns were landed at the Gun Wharf, Chatham, from the Royal Arsenal, on Monday. They are intended for the *Badger* and the *Fidget*, the two iron gunboats recently launched. The authorities have decided that a large building is to be erected at the Gun Wharf in which to store the massive iron-carriages and slides upon which the heavy guns are now mounted. At the present time there is not sufficient room for any quantity of these carriages to be stored here. It is also intended to lay down a tramway on the wharf, in order that the heavier ordnance continually being shipped or unshipped may be more easily moved about.—*Broad Arrow*.

EARTHQUAKE.—The seaport of Hioada, in the Japanese Island, Cebishon, was visited by an earthquake, and 500 persons lost their lives.

CORRESPONDENCE.

17 Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.]

WIMBLEDON TEAM.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir:—I write to call your attention to this subject, as I have not noted any reference to it in your columns lately. The first Canadian team started from Quebec last Saturday on their journey to join the National Rifle meeting on Wimbledon Common. The men are selected from the various Provinces, and individually are good shots, but as a team collectively really a great deal ought not to be expected of them: for those who are accustomed to team shooting well know that men must be accustomed to shoot together, and so gain that mutual confidence which is the great requisite of team shooting.

If these teams are sent for several years, it will likely improve and encourage right shooting; for in my own Regiment I find more attention is paid to the matches since it was understood that a trip to England might be the prize attained.

In the preliminary contests "Quebec" Province came out a good way ahead, and eight from that Province have gone; from "Ontario" six, and from "Maritimo" Provinces six more.

The Adjutant General has well chosen the Commanders or Captains. Major General MacDougall will, no doubt, take care that the first representatives of a force, whose organization he had much to do with, are placed in an advantageous position.

Major Worsley, who is the member of the Team placed in command, is certainly the right man in the right place: a well known "crack shot" and well used in match and team shooting. He will be at us here at Wimbledon, having formerly attended meetings there, detailed for that duty from the School of Musketry at Hythe.

We wish the Team every success.

A RIFLEMAN.

Montreal, June 20th, 1872.

FROM MONTREAL.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

A very sensible letter in regard to Volunteer Camps, appeared in the *Montreal Gazette* of Wednesday. It has so often been asserted that the Militia Law being at fault, is the cause of the falling off of the various battalions in this Province, but it is refreshing to read a little common sense view of the matter. A ten "years old volunteer" asking why it works well in Ontario, writes: "Witness Niagara Camp to-day. Why is it that our ranks are depleted and our companies with difficulty kept at half their proper

strength? Facts are stubborn things, and this is one of them. Our young men have been driven from the ranks and voluntary enlistment, killed by the selfishness of those who have the most at stake. Of course there are many honorable exceptions. But even before annual camps were spoken of, if a young man was seeking a situation, and it was known he was a volunteer, the chances were very much against his procuring one. And even after the affair of '66, more than one young man found the door shut on him or another filling his place as a reward for staying at home. And to-day, Sir, a volunteer is looked upon as little better than a fool for his pains, and a nuisance. There are many reasons why very able-bodied young men should receive every encouragement to serve his three years in one or other of our volunteer corps—reasons both political and physical,—and there is no lack of young men both willing and ready to more than fill our ranks did they receive the encouragement they should. As to the advantages of these annual camps over the old system, there can be no two opinions. There are many absolutely necessary duties to learn that can never be acquired by feather-bed soldiering at home."

There is no question but that he is in the main correct. Employers in general, throw cold water on the whole volunteer movement, many make it a *sine qui non*, that none of their employees belong to any such organization. One very prominent dry goods house, the head of which is one of the pillars of the Young Men's Christian Association here, has made itself particularly notorious in this respect. Such people are thoroughly to be despised, of course there are allowances to be made in extreme cases, but a certain amount of consideration is due both to the man and the motive.

Preparations for the camp are progressing, the Garrison Artillery parade at the Quebec Gate Barracks, this Thursday evening; Col. Bond & Co. meet on Friday, when uniforms and accoutrements will be distributed.

The Garrison Artillery will drill at the Quebec Gate Barracks, instead of going to St. Helen's Island, the Brigade go into barracks about the middle of July. This fine regiment will make a good turn out.

The "Victoria's" will probably turn out 250 men, the "Prince of Wales" are having a large number of recruits, will be inspected on Saturday previous to departing to camp at St. Andrew's on Tuesday.

No. 1 Troop, Major Muir commanding, had a large muster on Monday evening, when it was decided to purchase new clothing themselves, as they despair now of getting any from Government.

The Hochelagas are making every effort to turn out in their former strength, and with their energetic Adjutant and Officers will no doubt be successful.

FOREIGN, MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

The German Government has determined to introduce the muzzle system of the musket manufacturer Mauser, of Wurtemberg.

The British are arms producers in no small way, as the monthly returns of the small arms trade at Birmingham proves. In April the value of the arms made was £30,000, and of ammunition, not including gunpowder, £105,000. In 1871 about five times this value of arms was made.

New rules for the picketing of cavalry horses have been promulgated in the British service. Chain reins will no longer be classed as equipment. Instead of the chain rein a rope of white cotton for use as a halter will be supplied. A similar rope will also be issued as a forge-cord, or as a heel-rope, in order that every mounted officer and man may have two such ropes always in his possession as equipment.

GENERAL FURICH, who was so severely censured by the commission on capitulations in their report on the surrender of Strasburg, has been retired from active service in the army. In the debate in the French Assembly on the Army bill, General Trochu, in a vigorous speech, charged the Bonapartes with corrupting the army, and was greeted with applause from all parts of the Chamber.

MARSHAL BAZAINE received on May 9th, the order which he was then expecting from the Government to surrender himself. A colonel, with a company of one hundred dragoons, was sent to escort him to Versailles, where he arrived late at night. No one was to be allowed to see him during the following eight days. Public feeling was greatly excited by the news of his arrest. Of the numerous friends he used to reckon in Paris, only six have had the courage to call upon him.

"The official Gazette of Strasburg confirms the news," says the *Constitutionnel*, "that the military engineers are opposed to the construction of new fixed bridges to unite Alsace and the Grand Duchy of Baden. In consequence, the authorities of the annexed provinces and of the Grand Duchy of Baden have decided on simply establishing eight bridges of boats, four at the cost of Alsace, and the others to be paid for by the Duchy." They do not desire to expunge their "silver streak."

HENRI ROCHEFORT sailed from France for New Caledonia, May 21st, together with several other persons who have been convicted of participation in the communist revolt. The Paris journals of May 23rd, generally agree in the expression of the opinion that the recent debates in the Assembly have inflicted a crushing blow to the hopes of the friends of the Empire. It is understood that the party of the left in the Assembly, will, after the close of the impending trial of Marshal Bazaine, demand the impeachment of the members of the last Ministry under the Empire.

The Emperor Napoleon, in a letter dated Chiselhurst, May 12th, and addressed to the generals and commanders of the French army, makes the following acknowledgments: "I am responsible for Sedan. The Army fought heroically with an enemy double strength. After 14,000 had been killed and wounded, I saw the contest was merely one of desperation. The army's honor had been saved. I exercised my sovereign right and unfurled the flag of truce. It was possible that the immolation of 60,000 could save France. I obeyed a cruel, inorable necessity. My heart was broken, my conscience was clear."

B.