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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, NOVEMBER 11, 1872.

No. 46.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

As we are happily free from the plague of Presidential or other unnecessary elections in Canada, we can turn our attention to more pleasing matters.

General Orders of the 31st October contained an appropriate and well merited compliment to the President of the Dominion Rifle Association, and the Canadians army may feel proud of the accession of Lieut. Col. Gzowski to its ranks.

The following correspondence will be read with interest.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Ottawa, Oct. 30, 1872.

Sir.—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to forward to you a copy of a letter from Sir B. Frere of the India Office, enclosing a letter from His Highness the Raja of Kolapoor, containing an expression of His Highness's gratification on receiving intelligence that the challenge cup presented by him for Competition at the National Rifle Association Meeting at Wimbledon, had been won by volunteers from the Dominion of Canada. I have to request that you will take the necessary steps to inform the members of the Dominion Rifle Association of the contents of His Highness's letter, and at the same time to express how much pleasure it affords His Excellency the Governor General to be the means of forwarding a communication arising from a circumstance which reflects so great credit on the Volunteers of the Dominion.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed,) H. C. FLETCHER,
Governor's Secretary.

C. S. GZOWSKI, Esq.,
President,
Dominion Rifle Association.
(COPY.)

INDIA OFFICE,
London, Oct. 11th, 1872.

My Lord.—I have been requested by Col. George Sligo Anderson, the Resident at the Court of His Highness the Raja of Kolapoor, to forward to your Excellency the accompanying letter from the Raja expressing His Highness's gratification at the prize for rifle shooting which was given by the late Raja, having been won by the Canadian competitors at Wimbledon.

I have &c.
(Signed,) H. W. FRERE,
His Excellency, The Right Honourable EARL DUFFERIN, K. P.

he Raja's letter which follows, though somewhat novel, is valuable as expressive of goodwill and friendship towards the British Empire. It reads thus:

(COPY.)

(TRANSLATED SUBSTANCE OF A KHURETOR.)

To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Dufferin, K. P. Governor General of Canada.

From Shreevan Maharaj S' wa Chulraputtee Sahib Sirkir Kurteer.

After compliments—When my father the late Raja Chulraputtee Maharaj, was in England, he from a feeling of friendship for the English nation, and to encourage the practice of rifle shooting, established a prize to be annually contended for at Wimbledon. I have heard that the prize thus established was this year won by the Canadians, and therefore address your Lordship to express the satisfaction felt by the Highnesses the Ranees and myself, that the name of My father, which is so well known in India and in England, should in this way be known in Her Majesty the Queen's trans-Atlantic possessions, and beg your Excellency to convey our congratulations to the successful marksmen. I trust that your Excellency will by frequent correspondence keep up friendship between us.

Chunab Rajah's, corresponding with 13th September, 1872.

The Raja's Challenge Cup, herein referred to, and the Cup prize, used by the Merchants of London England, to the team are now in Mr. Gzowski's possession. After they have been exhibited in the principal cities of Great Britain it is intended to exhibit them in the Provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

The two cups constituting the Raja's prize are quaint productions of Hindoo character. They are of silver gilt, with heavy chains attached of solid gold. In reality they are vases, with a convex shield pattern all over them, and just below the necks are highly conventionalized lions heads. To these are attached solid gold balls and the heavy chain just mentioned. They are sixteen inches high. The Merchant's Prize is something truly beautiful in design and workmanship. It is a cup with heavy silver chains.

The base is in the shape of a shield, and is decorated with heads of lions and moose, emblems of England and Northern America. The cup is ornamented on its sides with silver, representing a modern rifle contest at Wimbledon, and an ancient archery meeting in the woods. The two are separated by the royal arms, and those of the city of London, beautifully executed in enamel. At the li-

is a band, ornamented with maple leaves and beaver, broken on two sides with crossed rifles and the paraphernalia of a rifleman. The cover is curved and terminates in a final full four inches high, of oak leaves with an acorn at the apex. The whole wrought in silver and silver gilt.

Party M of the Canadian Pacific Railway survey in charge of E. W. Davis, Esq., C.E., reached Fort Garry on the 15th Oct., all well after an arduous summer's campaign in the woods east of Fort Garry. Their labors have resulted in the discovery of a practicable route of 104 miles between Eagle and Sturgeon Lakes. It is understood they will remain at Fort Garry for the present.

From Great Britain we learn that the municipal elections through out England, have resulted in heavy Conservative gains, which are attributed to the passage by Parliament and the enforcement of the Licensing Act. Much dissatisfaction was expressed at the working of the new Ballot Act. At some of the polling places the process of voting was so slow that many persons were unable to cast their ballot before the hour arrived for closing the polls.

Thomas Hughes has issued an address to his constituents of Frome, informing them that he will not stand as a candidate at the next election for member of Parliament.

Low and Gladstone oppose the raising of the money to meet the American claims by a loan. It is probable that exchequer bonds will be issued as a compromise for part of the fifteen millions, so as to spread the payment over a considerable period.

The Hon. Sir Samuel Martin, puisne Baron of the Court of Exchequer, will probably succeed the Right Hon. Lord Penzance as Judge of the Court of Probate and Divorce.

The Daily News and Telegraph are jubilant over General Grants re election to the Presidency of the United States, and hope he will take care of Cuba and Mexico. Those organs of English democracy forget that one belongs to Spain, and in the other the people choose to govern themselves. Although the Republican party in the States are responsible for revolutions in Cuba and anarchy in Mexico, as well as the murder of Maximilian, it is those that have yet to be atoned for.

The Express of London, has reported that a steamer, worth £100,000, the decoration of which is the work of the United States.

A report on board the British steamer, the Sparrow, reports that Lieut. Moore of the Gunner M. Honey of that vessel, on the 5th ult., performed the feat of swimming across the Hellespont, from Abydos to Seatos.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS.

(from the Broad Arrow, August 31.)

(Continued from Page 533.)

MONDAY, AUG. 20th.

Northern Army.—Except church parade, we have no record for yesterday. This morning, however, the war is said to have really commenced, one half of the northern army having begun its march on its way southwards to meet the enemy. Nothing could have been more discouraging to troops than the weather from about one o'clock a. m.; and at three and up to half past four the rain fell in torrents, so that the tents were as saturated as if they had been dragged through a river before the time came for striking them. Six o'clock was the hour fixed upon for the march yesterday by Lord Mark Kerr, but subsequently half past five was adopted, and this morning the *revue* sounded at a quarter past four. The Transport Branch of the Army Service Corps had been astir since three, and activity became general throughout the scattered encampment of the 4th Division by half past four, when the rain ceased for a short time. But the previous three hours had rendered the tents 28 per. cent heavier, than they are when dry, and so much was added to the load which the transport wagons had to carry. At five the rain descended in a heavier and much more determined looking downpour, and no one imagined that the division would have to set out in such weather when the distance to Hazely Heath was a short twelve miles and there was the whole day to do it in. Even old soldiers thought it impossible that last night's order was to be adhered to. They regarded it as certain that the march would be postponed till the afternoon, if not till to-morrow, the day originally fixed for both divisions to set out for the south. Here it may be desirable to state why the original plan of marching the two divisions from Aldershot on the same day and at the same hour was departed from. As first formed up at Aldershot, the 4th Division was on the right, but by a change of formation it became the left of the two divisions. When this change had been accomplished it became apparent that in order to get into their respective position on the line of march, the two divisions would have to cross each other, an operation which would retard the onward march by two or three hours. In order to avoid this, the order was issued for Lord Mark Kerr's Division to leave Aldershot a day in advance of that of Sir C. Staveley, but this arrangement might have been adhered to and still the men of 4th Division might have been saved from such a thorough drenching as they got in the early hours of this morning. To their credit be it said, they struck their tents and came soaking to the regimental parades in thorough good humor. The bands played lively airs as the rain rattled like hailstones on the drums. General Walpole, commanding the whole of the northern army, was at the divisional headquarters to see the march commence. It was a sight to see 7,000 men, long trains of wagons and many hundreds of horses setting out in such thorough discomfort. The first of the troops got fairly off soon after half past five, and by a few minutes past six they were all out of camp on their way to Cove Village and Cove Common. The right column under the command of Col. Stevenson, C. B., moved along by Cove Village, Minley Manor and Hartford Bridge flats to Hazely Heath.

Its advanced guard was one troop of cavalry one half battalion of infantry, and the E Battery of the Royal Artillery. The remainder of the infantry of the 3rd Brigade and the Royal Engineers followed. The left column, under the command of Major General Maxwell, C. B., marched across the Farnborough road and Cove Common to Elmora Bridge, then by the south of the canal to Pontail Bridge, and by the bank of the canal for about a mile to a point south of Reading Road Bridge, and thence by the north western road over the South Western Railway. The formation of this column was the same as that of the right column. The cavalry Brigade and a battery of the Royal Horse Artillery under the command of Major General Shute, C. B. moved by Crookham, Winchfield, Hurst, and Phenex Green. The baggage wagons followed the respective columns to which they belonged.

Lord Mark Kerr headed the Division as it was getting out of Aldershot, but at a point on the road he halted, and inspected his two columns as they marched past. His Lordship was attended by these members of his staff—Col. E. Newdegate, assistant adjutant general; Lieut. Col. H. Blundell, assistant quartermaster general; Major Parsons, deputy assistant quartermaster general; Capt. Hume, Capt. England, and Captain Salis-Schwabe, aides de camp.

For the first hour after the 4th Division began its march it began to rain "cats and dogs," and any one who knows what Cove Common is will pity the troops who had to march over it in such weather. Before they reached the better sheltered and more rural country nearer Hazely Heath the rain ceased and by the time they had reached the camping ground, the infantry had walked themselves dry. The cavalry reached the Heath at twenty five minutes to nine, and the first of the infantry about ten minutes later. The men got up the tents, wet though the canvas was, with creditable rapidity, and the camp was completed by about eleven o'clock. The formation is this—headquarters are pitched near the centre of the heath in front of Parkis Farm. At some distance in front of the headquarters tents is Maxwell's brigade; to his left, Col. Pakenham's brigade. To Maxwell's right are the hospitals the Control and the artillery, and on the extreme left the cavalry. There are no outposts, because we are as yet too far from the enemy to render such a precaution necessary. All the divisions reached the camping ground with one exception. When just near the Heath, Col. Newdegate, Lord Mark Kerr's assistant adjutant general, received a bad kick on the leg from the horse of a Control officer. He was conveyed to the village of Hartley Row, close by, but in an hour or two felt able to come in a carriage to his tent. After the arrival of the division, the soldier servant of Col. Fiennes, of the 9th Lancers, met with an accident while going to water a horse. The animal got entangled in a rope and fell over, breaking his own back, and the servant's leg.

Southern Army.—The southern army played a little war game by themselves. Sir A. Horsford's cavalry brigade at Bottle Bush Down made a reconnaissance in force, accompanied by a battery of Royal Horse Artillery, along the Salisbury road, in the direction of Blandford. Sir A. Horsford on this occasion represented the defending force. On reaching a point which commands a view of one end of the camp on the Blandford Race Dawn, they must, one would think have been close to the ground patrolled by the enemy's outposts. Here for the first time, a gun was fired sullenly, as if in warning, followed by other discharges at con-

siderable intervals. The cavalry halted at once, in beautiful formation; the 7th Hussars and 12th Lancers on the right, supported by the six guns of the Horse Artillery, while the 10th Hussars, forming the left of the line, had on their right a detachment of Lancers to act as a connecting link. The artillery promptly replied to the challenge, and the whole line held their ground manfully in the face of what became an artillery duel, but unfortunately, Col. Baker's Hussars and Lancers were not supported by infantry at that moment, or for a long time afterwards, and so could not venture on any further advance. Indeed, had the enemy known how adventurous the cavalry were in this respect, there would have been a splendid opening for General Brownrigg's infantry. For he probably did not know and from other causes was not in a position to act with effect. General Pym Harding's brigade, in marching across Launceston Heath, was deceived, it is said by the direction in which the smoke was blowing into taking the guns of a hostile for those of a friendly battery, and having suffered heavy loss in consequence, was compelled to retire. A similar fate befell the Bays, also forming part of General Brownrigg's army; but in justice to them, it must be explained that they had to work across on an open common commanded by a lofty knoll, on which artillery were posted, while Sir A. Horsford's force had the advantage of numerous fields and hedgerows, behind which they sheltered in turn till they were prepared to rush across to the next. But this knoll itself, though invaluable as a position, was a costly one to hold; and Col. Baker had frequently to bring up reliefs. The main body of Sir A. Horsford's infantry meanwhile had made a long detour to the left, feeling for the enemy in that quarter, and skirmishing almost too carefully, lost valuable time without corresponding results, for the ground over which they marched had been explored already by the videttes of the light cavalry and their own artillery was far in advance. Companies of the 16th, 17th, and 50th Regiments of the South Down Militia, as they came up, were either told off to act as supports to the cavalry or pushed forward, a field at a time nearer to the enemy. At last, the puffs of smoke from hedges near at hand showed that these were tenanted by skirmishers of the invading army; but in accordance with the fighting throughout the day they did not betray their presence till the very last moment. Even the cavalry lay so close in ranks, four deep, beside the hedgerows, one rank of horses being almost in the ditch, and the other three ranks pressed tightly together that their position was rather conjectured than ascertained. About half past one the firing ceased, and the umpires drew together to compare notes and express their opinion. As far as the advantages of the fighting went these seemed to be principally on Sir A. Horsford's side; he had gained ground and lost none. But as he had failed to make the enemy disclose his actual force, the object with which the expedition was undertaken was held to have failed. General Brownrigg, on the other hand, knowing himself to be in an enemy's country, made no effort at all to disturb Sir A. Horsford's position.

The Umpire's staff to day were Col. Herbert, Col. Nicholson, R. E., Lieut. Col. Andrews, R. A., Captain Home, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General; Captain Rees, 7th Dragoon Guards; Col. Sir Garnet Wolseley, C. B., Col. Belfield, R. A., Capt. Purso 42nd Highlanders; Major Harrison, R. A., and Capt. Ritter, R. A.

TUESDAY, AUG. 27.

Northern Army.—This morning the reveille sounded in the camp of the 4th Division, at Hazely Heath, at 4.15, while the grey dawn was yet breaking. There was no time to be lost. If a lazy fellow said unto himself, "Yet a little more sleep, a little more folding of the hands to rest," his tent was ruthlessly struck over him, and as continued slumber in the face of the camp was impracticable, he had forwirth to arise and dress in the open air. The tents fell to the bugle sound at five o'clock precisely, before which time the smoke had been long rising from the camp kitchens, and presently the men duly received what the standing orders, in defiance of the facts that cups are institutions unknown to soldiers, think proper to call "a cup of coffee." The "fall in" sounded at 5.30, and no time being wasted in parading, a custom that was as hard to get rid of as it was wearying and irritating, the heads of the column were in motion at 5.40. In considerably less time than an hour not a vestige of the 4th Division was visible on Hazely Heath, with the exception of a few mysterious barrels, which may have been left for the convenience of the 3rd Division, but which that force, when it arrived, thought proper contumaciously to disown.

Following the principle adopted in yesterday's march, the division marched in two columns, each of which took a different route. Two brigades under General Maxwell, preceded by a squadron of cavalry, a battery of artillery, a detachment of engineers, and the train of the Royal Engineers, took the route to the right. Their road was by Hound Green, Strathfieldsaye, Westend Green, and Silchester to the Common. The country on the line of marching is a splendid landscape all along. Nowhere in all England can one find more picturesque rural scenery. It had a highly exhilarating effect on the troops, who marched in first rate style. The villagers crowded to see them on several village greens, and near one of the entrances to Strathfieldsaye the Duchess of Wellington, in a Victoria with three horses abreast, witnessed the column marching past. The officers in command of the various battalions returned the compliment by having their bands playing as they came in front of her grace. There were two halts—the first for ten minutes, about four miles from Hazely Heath; the second, just after the troops had crossed the Great Western Railway. The Duke of Wellington saved the column about a mile of the march by allowing them to pass through a farm on the Strathfieldsaye estate; and when Lord Mark Kerr and his staff arrived at the encamping ground they were received by the Duke of Wellington. The second column consisting of one brigade, a squadron of cavalry, a battery of artillery, and a detachment of engineers, was commanded by Col. Stephenson. They took the route to Wiler's Green, Chandler's Green, Inge's Green, Brambley, and the Pamber End to Pamber Common. The advanced guards reached the encamping ground at a quarter to ten, and the main body of the division at ten o'clock. Silchester Common is not sufficiently extensive for the encampment of over 7000 men; but Pamber Common lies close by, and no inconvenience is felt from the fact that one portion of the camp is separated from the other by a road of about half a mile in length. The march to day was a good twelve miles. The formation of the camp is thus—the tents of the headquarters are pitched on the east end of Pamber Common. At a short distance nearly in front of them, but to the left are the artillery. To the left of the artillery is a

brigade of infantry, and the transport with one regiment thrown forward *en echelon*; the 9th Lancers on the extreme left. Forward to the right of headquarters are two batteries of artillery; the cavalry brigade is on the right of these two batteries; and in front of all are the 2nd and 3rd Brigades at the west end of Pamber. This formation has been made with reference to the water supply, which in camping arrangements for an army of so many horses, must be a matter of prime consideration. As the defending force had not yet neared the enemy's country, there were no outposts but the usual pickets were established.

Returning to the camping ground at Hazely Heath, we find it stated that the advance Guard of the 3rd Division came winding down the grassy slope, and on to the pleasant sward under the oak trees which make so beautiful the strip of common in front of the Village of Hartley Row. Some time before one o'clock it was very pretty to watch the continuous stream of redcoats emerging from under the trees, and it was good to note with what spirit and vigor the men stepped out to the cheery tunes which the bands were playing. At Hartley Row there diverges two roads on to Hazely Heath. The left hand one is the easier, especially for vehicles, as well as more direct, and it was it that was chiefly taken by the 4th Division yesterday. But there was no staff officer accompanying the advance guard as a guide, so the officer after a moments hesitation, took the turning to the right, and the column followed as sheep follow their leader. The result was that, in the narrow and steep road leading on to the heath, there were several blocks and stoppages, and thus it was considerably later than had been the case on the previous day before the whole road was clear of baggage. The march was conducted in three columns. The heavy brigade of cavalry, accompanied by the battery of Horse Artillery, came from Bourley by the left hand road, marching independently. The brigades of Parke and Anderson had assembled near All Saints Church, and took the same route as that followed by the cavalry. The latter were accompanied by its own regimental transport. The baggage of the two infantry brigades just named fell in with the rest of the baggage consisting of that of Erskin's brigade and of the division, and the whole followed the route taken by Erskin's brigade by Cove Village and Minley. The arrangement was rendered advisable in consequence of the superiority of the way by the roads on the right route, over those traversed by the left column. The arrangement for the marshalling of the baggage was said to have been very good, and the start creditably smart, as was anticipated when an officer of so much experience and energy as Major Hand, of the 82nd Regiment holds the appointment of baggage master. An hour after the march of the advanced guard every wagon was in motion. The rear was brought up by the auxiliary transport troops of the Royal Artillery, which are intended for the uses of the Militia regiments when they join the army at Pewsey, whither to their own disgust, they are to be conveyed by railway. From the outset the hired transport began to give indications of its deficiencies. Rotten harness broke at the first essay at starting, and at the very beginning it was necessary to assist several of the pairs of screws by pairs of Army Service Corps horses. Several hired transport wagons came on to Hazely Heath towed in this manner, and some said the Army Service Corps horses were not only dragging the loads, but tugging along the tired horses as well.

Owing in part to the delay of the baggage at the steep leading on to the heath, and partly to the circumstance that the 3rd Division being accompanied by the general commanding the Army Corps and his staff, the tale of baggage was much larger, the 3rd Division were considerably longer this morning in getting their camp pitched than had been the 4th Division the morning before. So late as eleven o'clock Sir Charles Staveley and his staff, as they sat on the edge of a gravel pit, were awaiting with what patience circumstances admitted of the arrival of the headquarter tents. At half-past eleven the pitching of the tents was not completed.

(To be continued.)

ARKANSAS AMUSEMENT.

They appear to have rare and exciting sport in Arkansas, if the following letter from the *Missouri Democrat* is to be taken as a specimen:—

"MY DEAR BOY.—The double barrel that you sent came safely to hand, and I was only shot at once while I was carrying it home. Bill Slivers popped at me from behind the fence as I was passing his house, but I had loaded the two shooter as soon as I got it, and he didn't jump from behind that fence but once. I am glad that one of the barrels is a rifle, as I needed it for long range practice. The other I can fill with buckshot, and can riddle a man nicely at close quarters. I mean to try both barrels on those Jetts when I meet them. You see old man Jett stole a mule from us in the war, and when it was over pap laid for him and killed him. Then Nigger Tom Jett, as we called him—the dark faced one—he laid for pap and plugged him. Then I picked up a fuss with Tom and cut him into gibblets, and since that time his brother Sam has been laying for me. I know it is his turn, but I think my double barrel will prove too much for him. If you want to see fun come down for a while, and bring a rifle. It don't make any difference which side you belong to, and it isn't even necessary to join the militia. It is easy to get up a grudge against somebody, and all you have to do is to lay for your man and knock him over. Behind my pig pen is one of the sweetest hiding places I know of, and it is so handy. A good many people come within range in the course of a week, and a man can pass his time right pleasantly. I wish you would pass me a catalogue of Sunday school books with the prices if there are any in St. Louis. If we can get them on time we will have a big lot of books. I am Superintendent of the Baptist Sunday School now, and am running it under a full head of steam. Old man Byers, who was turned out, is right mad about it, and swears he will chew me up; but he will chew lead if he don't keep clear of me. My wife wants to know if you can't send her a new set of teeth without her getting measured for them. Her twenty five dollar set was busted all to flinders by a pistol shot that went through her mouth but it didn't hurt her tongue. Write soon to your friend and pard.

"P. S.—That sneaking ornary cuss, Sam Jett, crept up last night and fired at me through the window, but he didn't happen to kill anybody except a nigger girl. I mean to go for him, though, to day, and will be glad of a chance to try the double barrel.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for libellous expressions or opinions in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR—Would you kindly inform me if there is any truth in the report that our Government intend sending a Canadian Brigade to the Autumn Manœuvres of 1873, and also if it is possible to obtain regulation cross belts, swords, and sword belts (for officers) from the Government Stores, and if so at what prices?

An answer in your next will greatly oblige.

A VOLUNTEER.

We have to inform our correspondent Volunteer that the Government have not as yet entertained the question of sending a Brigade to England, although its political and moral effect would be of great advantage to our general and local interests.

There are no swords or sword belts for officers at present in store, the intentions of the Militia Department with respect to renewing the supply have not yet been declared.

ED. VOL. REV.

MONTREAL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Who are the drill instructors of the Volunteer force? they are captains and commanding officers; in some cases with certificates, and in other cases without; as to the eligibility of such, of course speaking more generally of this section of the country, there is no question that in this matter there is great need of reform. In other words the \$20,000 that is annually given as instructor fees for the instruction of the Volunteer force is not spent in its legitimate channel, but simply in many cases pocketed by the officers, or given to inferior men who have no more knowledge of the drill than the man in the moon. How is it possible for an officer to be instructor for his own company when he himself knows next to nothing about it; yet that man draws Government allowance, his company virtually goes without instruction, I should be sorry to state that this is the rule, there are exceptions, but I dare not assert that such are few and far between. In Montreal, that boasted of a staff of six or seven effective officers, these men have nearly all left, but the drill allowance is still drawn.

It is certainly degrading to the service to see the captains, self-styled instructors, acting sergeants duty, and also pitiful to witness officers when at drill overlooking mistakes, simply because they are unable to correct or explain them, although the regulations say most distinctly that to be drill instructor to a company, the party must have a second class and for a battalion a first class certificate, when it is a notorious

fact that many draw pay as instructors who have no certificates.

Truly in this matter the whole thing wants sifting, what is required is, say four competent drill instructors, men who will do their work without fear or favor, and who have no interest but in their duty. These instructors to exact off the officer the same attention as they do off the men, and to see that they know and do their several duties, we would then not witness such sights as was witnessed during previous camps, of officers acting actually as drill instructors, making fools of themselves, and unable to execute the simplest movements; no wonder the men under such command are raw and undisciplined. Forty thousand dollars is annually spent or allowed to drill instructors, of this Montreal receives say two thousand and four hundred, distributed as follows:—

(\$40 per company.)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Victoria Rifles, 6 Cos..... | \$240 |
| Prince of Wales, 6 Cos. | 240 |
| Mount Royals, " " | 240 |
| Hochelaga Light Infantry, 4 Cos | 160 |
| Artillery 6 Cos. | 240 |
| 2 Engineer Corps | 80 |
| 1 Cavalry .. | 40 |
| Stevenson's Battery | 200 |
| Grand Trunk Rifles 6 Cos..... | 240 |
| " " Artillery 6 Cos..... | 240 |
| " " Engineers 1 Co..... | 40 |

\$1960

Add to this salary of instructors at military schools, which is \$400, and you have in round numbers \$2400. This would give a salary of \$600 to four competent instructors, and whose services could also be utilized at the military school. I will be bound to say that in a very short time we would present a very different state of affairs, both officers and men would then take a pride in posting themselves up, and a spirit of rivalry would then prevail, which could not but have a salutary effect.

As matters now stand, an officer dare not be severe with the men, he would soon lose a number of them, so he has to go and beg, and put up with little short of insubordination. An outside drill instructor would proceed fearlessly with his duty, the officers could but say to their men while under the instructor's orders, "we cannot interfere, you must do what is required of you—your duty."

With respect to the differences that exist between Col. Bond and Major Robinson of the Prince of Wales Rifles there has been a great deal of cross fire and recriminations, and it would be well for all parties concerned were a strict investigation held, and the matter fully ventilated. Mr Hunt the popular bandmaster of the Grand Trunk Brigade was the recipient of a complimentary dinner rendered him by the brigade.

Over sixty persons sat down to a sumptuous repast served by Host McGlanaghan in a very creditable style; Major Doran occupying the chair. The viands having received full attention, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and heartily drunk, the band playing an appropriate air to each. In responding to "The Volunteers," Capt. Atkinson dwelt particularly on the decline of the volunteer force in this city and demonstrated that the real cause was the illiberal and ungenerous policy pursued by the employers. He mentioned several

instances of harsh treatment undergone by volunteers at the hands of the mercantile community, and declared that in many cases the fact of a young man being a volunteer debarred him from obtaining employment. So far is this opposition carried that competitors at the rifle matches frequently only obtain absence from business by feigning sickness, and then have to shoot under an assumed name.

The remarks of the speaker were frequently interrupted by the hearty endorsements of the company.

This has become a notorious fact, the greatest enemies of the volunteers are their employers, whose selfishness denies to their men the short time requisite for drill.

In proposing the toast of the evening the chairman spoke in very complimentary terms of Mr. Hunt, the sentiments being heartily endorsed by the enthusiastic applause of the company. In the course of his remarks, Major Doran took occasion to mention a fact not known to many, viz., that the Grand Trunk band, has frequently given its services gratuitously and at no little sacrifice for charitable purposes, and later on Mr. Hunt in alluding to the foregoing testified to the willingness always manifested among the members to engage in such works.

In responding to the toast Mr. Hunt said he was quite at a loss to know why he had been made the recipient of such honors; he had tried to do his duty, if he had succeeded it gave him great pleasure and he would ever strive to go on in the same path.

The evening was enlivened by several selections by the band and songs by the members of the company, which made the time fly so pleasantly that it was far in the "wee sun hours" ere the last "good night" was said.

The dining room was tastfully decorated with handsome flags and devices in swords and bayonets.

On the 12th the Prince of Wales Rifles celebrated the birthday of the Prince of Wales, by a concert in the Mechanics Hall, in behalf of the General Hospital.

The walls of the Drill shed are being covered in for protection from injury from the host.

Horse epidemic fast dying out.

B.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Our Montreal correspondent discloses a very discreditable state of affairs in connection with the Volunteer force of that city, and one that requires attention from the District Staff as well as the Headquarters.

We cannot conceive how any gentleman holding the rank of Captain, could be ignorant of the necessary qualifications to drill his own corps. The rules of the service demands that he should hold a proper certificate of qualification, and we are of opinion no authority should interfere between him self and his men. The affairs of drill instructor is not necessarily that of drill sergeant. An adjutant is properly nothing but a drill instructor and if we are to have soldiers they should learn their discipline from their own officers.

Still the whole affair is discreditable to the local force, and a remedy should be found for it at once, our only fault with the present system is that it copies too closely that of the regular army, and the various staff officers do not look more closely after their commands.

There is only one remedy for the selfishness of the Commercial class and that is to embody and drill the population of all incorporated villages, towns or cities without exemption except physical disability.

ED. VOL. REV.

RIFLE MATCHES.

COUNTY RIFLE MATCH.

The Cup and Prize Money presented by the County Council, to be competed for by the Volunteers Militia of Simcoe, were again shot for over the Barrie Range, on Friday last the 25th, and won by Capt. Graham, No. 1 Co., Barrie. The following are the winning scores:—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Captain Graham, | No. 1 Co., | 44 Points, |
| Private Wainman, | No. 7 Co., | 42 " |
| Private Sproule, | No. 8 Co., | 37 " |
| Sergeant Sutherland | No. 4 Co., | 36 " |
| Private Ward, | No. 5 Co., | 35 " |
| Sergeant Gilkinson, | No. 3 Co., | 34 " |
| Lieutenant Green, | No. 1 Co., | 34 " |
| Corporal Stewart, | | 31 " |
| Ensign Russell, | No. 5 Co., | 31 " |
| Corporal Roseman, | No. 4 Co., | 31 " |

We are sorry to see officers contending for prizes which were evidently intended for the rank and file—the men who, in the event of the Force being required for active service, would have to use the rifle. We cannot help thinking that it is rather beneath the dignity of officers to be contending for small money prizes, which should be left exclusively to the non-commissioned officers and men.

DRILL EXAMINATION.

The following were the successful competitors for the Drill Prizes:

For the cleanest and best-fitted arms and accoutrements, in marching order. Sergeant Stephens, No. 5 Company. 2nd prize Sergt. Hamilton, No. 2 Company.

For Manual and Firing Exercise.—This prize was divided between Sergeant Stephens and Sergt. Hamilton.

The Special Drill prize was also taken by Sergt. Hamilton.

The Marker's prize was after a rigid examination, awarded to Sergt. Harris, No. 2 Company.

MILITARY ATHLETIC GAMES.

Marching Order Race.—1st prize, Private W. Hayes; 2nd prize, Sergeant Major Bassett.

Hurdle Race.—1st prize Private Lee; 2nd prize, Sergeant Major Bassett.

Three legged Race.—1st prize, Priv. Ward 2nd prize, Sergt. Harris.

Sack Race.—1st prize, Sergt. Harris; 2nd prize, Sergt. Gilkinson.

Wheelbarrow Race.—1st prize, Corp. Stewart; 2nd prize, Sergt. Hamilton.

Stanging High Jump.—Sergeant Major Bassett.

Running High Jump.—Sergeant Major Bassett.

Putting the Stone.—Sergt. Gilkinson.

We understand that these games are to take place annually; and considering that they are intended to encourage and foster our Volunteer System, we hope the good people of Barrie will give them their support

and countenance. Volunteers, like other men, like to be looked at and admired, knowing as they do, that as tax payers they contribute their share to the cost of the defence, and in addition give their time and service.—Barrie Examiner.

SMOKELESS GUNPOWDER.

(From Belgravia.)

Gunpowder, ordinary black gunpowder though it has seen some service and done some hard duty in its time, is not so perfect as to fulfill all requisitions desired; wherefore from time to time experiments have been directed to the manufacture of a substitute.

The only substitute yet invented which has met favorable notice from practical sportsmen is Schultz's wood-powder, which, from its being granulated, and consequently permeated by air can never generate fire of itself. This explosive, invented by Captain Schultze, a Prussian officer, was originally manufactured at Potsdam, near Berlin, and the factory catching fire in 1868, instead of exploding—ruining the neighbourhood, and leaving many widows and orphans, like the recent gun-cotton explosion at Stowmarket—burned quietly to the ground. A company of English gentlemen, fond of field sports, foreseeing the advantages to be derived from its introduction into England, purchased a site for its production in the New Forest, and thither we must carry our readers on "a visit to the Schultze gunpowder manufactory," at Redbridge, near Southampton.

Here and there, at intervals wide apart, are various buildings of light structure, from one of which rises a tall chimney, instrumental in raising steam to drive a 15 horse power sawing machine, which rapidly creates the "wood powder" to be turned into use for the gun by the following process.

The grains, being collected in a mass are subjected to a treatment of chemical washing, whereby calcareous and various other impurities are extracted, leaving hardly anything behind save pure woody matter, cellulose or lignine. The next operation has for its end the conversion of these cellulose grains into a sort of incipient xylodine, or gun cotton material by digestion with a mixture of sulphuric and nitric acids. The mixture is then subjected to a spontaneous combustion, the chief product of combustion being gum and oxalic acid, but it is, moreover, liable to combustion of a sort that may be practically called spontaneous, so slight and so uncontrollable are the cause sufficing to bring it about. Cellulose or woody matter, otherwise termed lignine, partially converted to xylodine is, the inventor affirms, subject to neither of those contingencies. Our readers will un-

derstand that, inasmuch as the wood is not charred, its original hydrogen is left, and by and by, at the time of firing will be necessarily utilized toward the gaseous products resultant. Next, washed with carbonate of soda solution and dried, an important circumstance is now recognizable.

The grains, brought to the condition just described, are stored away in bulk, not necessarily to be endowed with final explosive energy until the time of package, transports, and consignment. Only one treatment has to be carried out, and it is very simple. The liguicous grains have to be charged with a certain definite percentage of some nitrate solution and drying. Ordinarily a solution of nitrate of potash (common saltpetre) is employed; but, in elaborating certain varieties of white powder, nitrate of baryta is preferred.

Having traced the new powder to its final stage, we may contemplate it in the light of two distinct scrutinies—theoretical and practical. Review of the chemical agencies involved or that may be evolved, suggests the reaction, especially under prolonged moisture, whereby sulphide of potassium should result. Practice is confirmatory: Under the condition indicated sulphide of potassium, more or less, does result, and proportionate to the extent of decomposition is the powder deteriorated. Inasmuch as the Schultze gunpowder is wholly devoid of sulphur, so is the particular decomposition adverted to impossible; and theory, at least fails to suggest any other decomposition as probable, or even possible.

All the handling requisites for manufacturing this explosive are cheap and fluent, so that if it did catch fire no loss could ensue. The "plant of modern" -made cotton gunpowder is a... taking of the gun... and wood-powder... rate with its cheap production. An explosive is often "better known than liked," such as gun-cotton; but Schultze's wood-powder requires only "to be known to be liked," as a trial of it, lately made for the satisfaction of its reader by the conductors of the Land and Water journal, recently showed. Indeed, it was proved to give more penetration than gunpowder, and it costs less. There is also no smoke, and consequently the second barrel can always be used at once, instead of waiting for the smoke to clear away, as when using black powder.

The reorganization of the German artillery which has been much spoken and written about of late, beams on the 1st November... The reorganization of the German artillery... res expected of them by the grouping and distribution of the batteries according to their kind; such are the advantages and the aim of the reorganization of the German artillery. It ought not, however, to be forgotten that besides, thirty new batteries are to be created."

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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, NOVEMBER 11, 1872.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WAINWRIGHT 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.

The principle of competitive examinations as applied to candidates for all civil employments is no doubt correct, provided it is not abused or pushed to absurdity.

All countries where it has been tried as the sole test, concur in furnishing evidence to the effect that it is no remedy for any of the mischiefs alleged to exist in selection by merit or through patronage.

In England the boast of the Whig Radicals and their admirers is that it has thrown open the public offices to the people, and the *ne plus ultra* of democratic perfection has been the consequences as far as the departments are concerned.

However, the shield has another side: Every one has heard of Mr. AYRTON, and the amenities with which his office of First Commissioner of Public Works is administered—a good specimen of the genuine democrat no doubt—but *Blackwood* for October, at page 482, says the following is a sample of the manner in which the competitive examinations are managed, under the Government of which he is a shining light, and the Commissioners of which he is the chief.

"An assistant it seems was wanted for the Curator at Kew, and the treasury having consented to allow the expense of such an office the Civil Service Commissioners were desired to ascertain by competitive examination the candidate best fitted for the appointment and to report accordingly. The Commissioners named the successful candidate and he was appointed. When he entered upon his duties it was discovered, and he himself admitted, that he did not possess one single qualification for his office."

As a knowledge of Botany theoretical and practical was all that could be required, it should be no hard matter to find a person able to fill such an office; it appears, however, that it was all *theory* and no *practice*.

Not only, however, is the Civil Service of Great Britain handed over to the mercy of Commissioners, her Army and Navy is also made accessible to ripe scholars like the Assistant Curator; in fact it would appear that the English press has written the people into the belief that all knowledge can be acquired at school, and there is no need whatever for the laborious and painful acquisition of practical application which our forefathers esteemed beyond all mere theory.

Putting aside the too familiar pen and ink portrait of the military officer of the period, with his camp stool, spectacles and map, seated in a ditch or gravel pit, while his intelligent soldiers were fighting like Indians under cover; we have the no less strange picture of what it is supposed the seaman of the period ought to be.

Colburn's Magazine, writing of English naval artillery education, says:—

"Except in the matter of gun-carriages, naval gunners have added little to artillery science. If they would do as much in other branches of the science as they have done in this, they would place the nation under deep obligations to their schools of gunnery. But a low standard of education, and a bad curriculum of scientific study, keep the naval schools of gunnery far in arrear of the corresponding institutions in the army for Royal Engineers and for the Royal Artillery. Muscular training is put for mental cultivation, physical activity for intellectual attainments, and the result is that naval artillery officers, though capital operative laborers, have little notion of scientific acquirements. Many specially seamanlike questions connected with the use of heavy ordnance at sea call for solution—new practical methods of range finding under various conditions; a proper mode of sighting guns for aiming in motion; the effect of deck curvature upon the sights; easy modes of distinguishing the most vulnerable portions of hostile ships; the best modes of manœuvring so as to expose the broadside at an impenetrable angle while hitting the enemy at right angles; systems

for combining the effective employment, under different conditions, of the three great nautical weapons—the gun, the torpedo, and the ram, in the same ship; tactics for ships with weak defensive, but strong offensive powers to employ against ships with opposite qualities; and generally, the whole area of subjects likely to be included in future naval battles, lies untouched, unstudied and untaught. These and such like intellectual problems are the proper subjects of study and of instruction for the future admirals, captains and commanders of our fleet, and not mere physical drudgery, in dragging guns about from one point of bearing to another. In the education of its gunnery officers the navy might most usefully learn a lesson from the Military Staff College and from Chatham and Woolwich."

Like Mrs. GRADGRIND they should know all the "*ologies*."

Young Gentlemen don't tempt the briney now till they are turned seventeen, they are trained in a staff college on shore, would make passable marines, horse or foot as the case might be, but as for a practical knowledge of seamanship they know as much about it as the Assistant Curator did of the duties of his office.

The old practice was to put a boy on ship-board before he had attained his twelfth year—his nautical education was cared for by the ship's schoolmaster—the practice of his profession was taught him step by step by able seamen, warrant officers and the officers of the ship—he could go aloft in a gale of wind—use a marlin spike or sail needle without kid gloves—train a gun to hit at least five times out of every six at a cables length and head his division of boarders if necessary, and at seventeen would be an accomplished seaman if he was worth his salt. In fact the whole practice of his profession had become a portion of his every day life, and it was to those men England owes her safety as well as the position she holds in the comity of nations.

Theoretical and scientific knowledge is absolutely necessary, but without practice it is useless; and the folly of requiring men whose whole lives must be passed in practical application to waste the period in which they could best acquire the habits fitting them for the discharge of their duties in mere study, is bearing its fruits by depriving the country of trained seamen and putting in their stead a class of theorists who can neither take a vessel into nor out of port.

FROM the time the first idea of the "Navy of the Future," as it was rather pompously called, took practical shape in the construction of the ill-fated *Captain*, we have not failed to point out how thoroughly false the theory on which it was based has been.

The notion that a vessel without sufficient buoyancy to rise to a sea without sufficient free board to prevent that sea washing her decks from stem to stern and submerging her several feet deep, with her centre of gravity placed at such a height as to make her roll through an angle of 23 to 40 degrees, her motive power dependant solely on con-

plex machinery liable to derangement at any moment, and the want of stability so notorious that it would be impossible to fight her guns in an ordinary gale, could only be entertained by the most visionary theorist without the slightest practical knowledge of the conditions the machine designed should fulfill, and it can only be accounted for by the intense desire to ape every Yankee notion in mechanics or science, which is so marked a characteristic of the fast Englishman of the period.

The experience of the United States has had no effect on English naval administration; it is of no use to point out that the whole fleet of Monitors from which the designs of the *Devastation* and her sister ships are copied, are quietly allowed to rot at League Island, and our astute neighbors will sell them off without tuck of drum as old scrap iron, while English imitators are endeavoring to achieve mechanical impossibilities in order to prove the system a true one.

One of the best specimens of English mechanical skill, the *Devastation*, a monitor designed according to Mr. Childers' notion, a description of which was given in our last issue, has been quietly tried with her engine making 70 revolutions per minute at Spithead, the result being a break down by the cracking of the discharge cisterns of her pumps, rendering her useless and helpless, for one of the boasted features of her construction was that she carried neither mast nor sail and could steam 3000 miles on her own supply of coal.

The *Daily News*, (English) in commenting on this failure pertinently says, "that the *Devastation* in war time will be exposed to more serious dangers than heavy seas. Machinery, even the best and most thoroughly tested, is liable to sudden derangement. Whenever that happens, whether at the uncertain distance of three thousand miles, or when engaged on Mediterranean purposes, the *Devastation* is doomed to lie and await the advent of some friendly tug. The breaking of screw or helm, the bursting of her boiler, or other interior calamity, would render her useless, for sails she has not; and a strong current might drive her against a rock. At the same time, from her construction, she cannot hold many fighting men beyond those employed on the guns, and perhaps a company of Marines. Imagine our new monster, then, broken down in machinery, and surrounded by sloops upon which her guns can have no effect. She would close like a porcupine; the crew would be inside her and the enemy outside; and the question would have to be proved which of the two could best afford to wait for the other."

There need be no waiting if a hostile tug came along, or a boat with a torpedo on board. In the first case the monitor would visit an hostile port with her flag over the bows, in the other she would visit the bottom of the sea. It would be no case of waiting.

The opinion of the late Chief Constructor of the British Navy is taken from *Broad Arrow* of the 19th Oct., and it is not of a character to assure the minds of a people whose safety depends on the efficiency of their fleet.

"On Saturday last Lord Gordon Lennox, M.P., and Mr. E. J. Reed, C.B., ex-Chief Constructor of the Navy, arrived at Portsmouth Dockyard from London for the purpose of inspecting the *Devastation*. The usual visit of courtesy was paid to the Admiral Superintendent of the Dockyard, and Rear Admiral Sir Leopold M'Clintock afterwards accompanied his two distinguished visitors to the *Devastation*. A general inspection was made on board, without, however, descending below the berthing deck. In the course of the look round the upper deck and its "fixings," the *cul de sac* formed aft by the superstructure (the broadside superstructure built up round this breastwork and finished off with a double ellipse, the *cul de sac*—on the low aft deck) excited much attention, and was pronounced by Mr. Reed to be, in his opinion, even more objectionable than he had supposed from the description which had reached him. The strength of the plates and frames of this part of the superstructure having been pointed out, the ex-Chief Constructor explained that his objection did not at all turn upon small questions of scantling in the present case, but was directed to the whole form and principle of construction, which he held to be entirely unsuited to withstand the shock of heavy pooping seas, to which a ship with such very low freeboard aft, and such great draught of water as the *Devastation*, must be unusually liable. He was further understood to complain of the interference of the superstructure with depressed fire from the turret-guns as soon as the turret is turned away from a fore and aft position, and to regret that the top of the superstructure had not been of a reduced height, without reference to the mere cabin space, so as to be everywhere below the range of the guns and not to cripple the fighting power of the ship. Mr. Reed also expressed his astonishment at finding the *Devastation* immersed beyond the maximum draught of water which he, as her designer, had assigned to her. After leaving the *Devastation* Lord Henry Lennox and Mr. Reed visited the new docks and basins of the dockyard extension works. In the article upon the *Devastation* in the *Times* of Monday last, the rule observed was to describe the ship as she really is, and avoid, so far as it was possible, any remarks comparatively upon the *Devastation* as Mr. Reed intended she should go to sea, and the *Devastation* as she will now be with this "superstructure" given to her upon the recommendation of the committee that examined and reported upon the designs of ships. In the original drawings of the *Devastation*, she has certainly a much better appearance than she now carries with the superstructure added to her. Mr. Reed designed her as a low-freeboard monitor, and is understood to maintain that, as such, she would have performed all the duties at sea under equal condition of weather, that she will now be able to do with this increased hump upon her back. No one will be found bold enough to doubt the correctness of Mr. Reed's calculations for the ship, nor his present assertions, but as the superstructure has been added, the Biacay waves must judge between him and those who recommended and designed the superstructure. The *Devastation* according to appointment, was to leave Portsmouth on Monday last, under steam, for a contractor's trial of her engines. This means

simply that Mr. Anderson and staff, from Messrs. John Penn and Son, the manufacturers to take charge of the engine-room for the day's trial, and will drive the engines at such speed (and for such a length of time as may be requisite to thoroughly test their adjustment and working in every part previous to the ship making her speed trial over the measured trial course in Stokes Bay. If everything is found satisfactory, the trial of the ship's speed will be made in a few days, but the engines are multiplex in their arrangements, are the largest yet tried of their kind, and the chances are that it may not be possible to enter upon the speed trials so early as contemplated."

The matter for wonder is that a practical people like the English will submit to charlatan interference with such a vital interest as their Navy, and permit its control to remain in hands so thoroughly incompetent to administer them. The Chief of the Admiralty should be a seaman, as the Chief of the Army should control the War Office.

The results of the over-reaching policy of our neighbors of the United States, and the trap they have so elaborately prepared to circumvent the "Britishers"—by the Washington Treaty—is likely to bear bitter fruits for themselves.

During the late Franco Prussian contest both Government and people sold arms as well as munitions of war to France. About this transaction there has been an investigation some time ago which resulted, as might have been expected, in the acquittal of the Government of all blame.

But as coming events cast their shadows before, we may judge of what is to follow by the deprecatory article in the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of the 2nd November, in which the action of Mr. WASHBURN, the United States Minister at Paris, "in so promptly accepting the position of foster parent to the Germans interned in France during the war," is urged as a set off against any trifling damage Prussia might sustain by the violation of neutrality of which the United States has been guilty.

It is not quite possible that the astute KAISER and his astute Minister will view matters in precisely the same light, although Mr. WASHBURN comes home gushingly to announce that his prompt action of succouring what few Germans, if any, remained in Paris during the contest, was not due solely to his own philanthropic impulses, but to the direct action of the President.

The case seems to be the KAISER having quietly nettled the United States by the *San Juan* decision, for which he was thanked by Mr. BANCROFT DAVIS, its Minister at Berlin and knowing full well that writhe as they may there can be no help for it, thinks this the proper time to put in his little bill for damages. The result of the German Arbitration based on the new rules of International law laid down by the Treaty of Washington, making it impossible to dispute or question the justice of the claims.

An old proverb says, "curses like chickens come home to roost," and in this case retribution followed quickly on the enforcement of injustice, and the KAISER will be likely to add half a billion of Thalers at least to his other acquisitions, not won by his sword or spear however, but by the supreme astuteness of Washington politicians.

Any advantage the United States has acquired at the expense of this country will be pretty dearly paid for, their respected friend the Pious WILHELM being quite a match for any Philadelphia lawyer.

"A cable report of a fortnight or more ago, to the effect that the Emperor of Russia had formally withdrawn his congratulations shortly before extended to M. Thiers as President of the French Republic, on the success of his administration, was too briefly worded, and withal of so extraordinary a character, that it seemed to require explanation. The explanation has now come, and is furnished to the public by the correspondent of the London Times. The cable despatch was no mere sensational item, after all, but only a too brief and insufficient statement of an important fact. It appears that Mr. Gambetta's revolutionary speech at Grenoble furnished the Czar with what he deemed a fitting occasion for interfering in the internal affairs of France. Immediately following the delivery of this speech M. Timaschoff, Russian Minister to France, hurried from the watering place where he was enjoying himself, to Paris, and without loss of time informed M. Thiers that his Imperial Master would not stand any more republicanism in France. Taken in connection with facts, his message was in effect to this purport—that while the three Emperors were willing enough to tolerate for a while the nominal Republic under Thiers, they would immediately declare war against a real Republic under Gambetta. The President was notified that if the French Republic "should once more become the centre of revolutionary movements in Europe, the powers which had heretofore been on friendly terms with France would not hesitate to stifle the French Republic," and further, "that no matter what the wish of the French nation may be, or in how many departments M. Gambetta may be elected, the three Imperial powers are not going to permit the Republic of Gambetta to come into existence to trouble the peace of Europe and to endanger the stability of their own thrones." This is not the language one independent power is accustomed to use to another, and that compelled to listen to it can scarcely be called independent.

"The mere continuance of a Republic in France, it appears, is regarded by the three Emperors as a danger to their Thrones. It may be said that as the Emperors tolerated and even extended congratulations to the Republic of M. Thiers, it is not a Republic *per se* that they are so violently opposed to, but only to a Red Republic, such as they believe Gambetta's would be. But this, if put forward would be but a subterfuge, for everybody knows that the Republic, as Thiers has it, cannot last beyond the President's life time, if so long, and that the toleration afforded it by the Emperors is given in the belief that it is a more temporary expedient, shortly to be succeeded by a monarchy of some kind. It comes to this that the Emperors have determined not to allow a regular, permanent Republic to be

established in France, and that they have taken it upon themselves to dictate to France what her form of Government shall be.

"In all this we do not read that the wishes of England are consulted, or that she is supposed to have anything to say in the matter. It seems to be considered that she has retired from continental politics, and provided that no enemy crosses the "strip of silver sea" to attack herself, the nations of the continent may fight it out among themselves. No one now seriously advises that she should repeat the folly of three quarters of a century ago, when she waged a war of 20 years or more for the purpose of effecting a restoration of the Bourbons to the French throne. But it may appear to many that it was a gigantic mistake to allow Prussia to seize Schleswig Holstein, thus preparing the way for the acquisition by that grasping Power, perhaps at no very distant day, of the whole Baltic and German Ocean coasts, and the establishment of a naval force that may yet dispute with England the supremacy of the seas. It is evident that the three Emperors, not content with ruling autocratically in their own extensive dominions respectively, are determined that they will in a manner rule all Europe, and dictate what shall be the form of Government that other countries must have. As we have said when the Imperial Conference met, it is virtually a combination of Eastern against Western Europe; and the part that our own country may be called upon to play may well be a matter of anxiety to every lover of England's fame and honor among nations."

The above article which is copied from the *Mail*, furnishes a glimpse of the danger overshadowing the peace of Europe, from the new Holy Alliance, and the position England occupies with reference thereto.

It will be evidently futile to suppose, as the writer appears to do, that she will be allowed to isolate herself from the rest of Europe, or indeed that it would be possible for her to do so.

The best and most far seeing of English statesmen have always held it as the first article of statesmanlike policy to prevent Antwerp or any other stronghold on the Flemish or Dutch coasts, remaining in the hands of any of the great powers, for this purpose the independence of the minor states had always been guaranteed and jealously defended.

At the beginning of the present century, Denmark had fallen under the influence of the Great Napoleon; to neutralise any advantage to be derived from the accession of its naval force to France, Great Britain despatched a fleet that bombarded Copenhagen and seized the Danish navy. A violent and unjustifiable proceeding, judged by John Bright's standard but one of those acts of policy dictated by sound sense, and a due regard to national safety.

The peace at any price party have reversed all this. They allowed Prussia to seize Schleswig Holstein, and the next step will be the annexation of Holland, the erection of Antwerp into a Gibraltar, within twenty-four hours of the British Coasts, a standing menace, as well as a positive danger which

will render the next struggle not one for naval supremacy, but one for national existence.

It is evident that the interests of Great Britain are in a perilous condition. That the world at large has good reasons for denouncing the miserable *doctrinaires*, the result of whose policy has been to undo the statesmanship of centuries, and to place in the hands of the petty German Elector, a power their predecessors would not suffer either Louis XIV, or Napoleon to possess.

What flippant writers of the new school calls "the folly of three quarters of a century ago" will be found to have been wisdom of the highest order, compared with the folly of the imbeciles that have stripped England naked to her shame before her enemies. And moreover, it is not history to state she waged war to restore the Bourbons. She fought for her national existence, which is now again imperilled.

In another column will be found a description of the trial of Sir JOSEPH WHITWORTH'S breech-loading 9-pounder field piece, and if when properly tested it will be found to answer in practice, to its trial record may fairly be called the *Gun of the period*.

A series of articles on *artillery* have lately appeared in our columns, and our readers will remember that we maintained the proposition that breechloading rifled artillery would eventually be that adopted for Field Garrison and Naval service, that it had not a fair trial hitherto, and that all mechanical difficulties connected therewith would be overcome.

We had no idea that our predictions would be so soon fulfilled as the report seems to indicate, but it is evident that a large stride has been taken to supply the necessary consideration.

A most remarkable feature is the extreme trajectory attained fully six miles and this with a charge of 2½ lbs. of powder, as the *New York Times* truly says, it will be necessary at this rate to take into account the curvature of the earth in range finding, and to keep in warfare a strong force between the hostile lines of encampment for the purpose of compelling artillery to maintain their distances; as it is evident the new weapon would effectually prevent troops being massed in bivouacs or camps within its extreme range, the deviation at which is reported to have been only 41 yards.

It would appear that Prussia made rather a profitable speculation out of the late war. The *United States Army and Navy Journal* states that the cost of the contest was as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Army | 855,611,222 |
| Navy | 7,255,400 |
| Postal service | 1,600,140 |
| Telegraphs | 1,118,889 |
| Interest on War Debt | 11,796,114 |
| Sundries, &c. | 1,322,754 |

Thalers..... 378,704,499

In return for this outlay she has received from France:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Indemnity | 1,353,300,000 |
| Interest to March, 1877.. | 40,000,000 |
| Fines levied on Paris.... | 53,500,000 |
| Contributions levied on France..... | 14,657,961 |

Thalers 1,441,487,961 as well as the accession of territory in Alsace and Lorraine, the taxes from which will add materially to the Imperial resources, after paying all expenses a clear profit of a billion of thalers has been secured for the Imperial Treasury.

The practice of making war support itself is no peculiarity of the Prussians, the First Napoleon carried the system to extremes and thoroughly demoralized the French soldiers thereby.

It should, however, be a lesson to our political economists who are so anxious to do without soldiers, the result of the contest being the transference of so much capital to those who neither toiled or spun for it.

In our issue of the 4th inst., the beautiful verses inserted under the title "The only Flag for Canada," was written by our talented friend, W. P. Lett, Esq., city clerk, and originally appeared in the *Citizen* about five years ago, their poetic value is only equalled by their loyalty and truth.

INFANTRY TACTICS.

It is with great pleasure that we perceive that His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge has ordered a change in the tactics of Infantry attack, for the British Army. The use of breech-loading rifles, and the greater range and accuracy of artillery fire, have rendered the close formations hitherto employed for the supports and reserves unsuitable, and have necessitated somewhat freer tactics to enable troops to advance without excessive loss over ground swept by the fire of men in position. No one who has carefully read the history of the two last great wars waged on the Continent of Europe, can fail to perceive that the superiority of the Prussian troops, was, in a great measure, owing to the care with which the science of war, in relation to modern improvements in fire arms, has been studied by their officers. If in many treatises on the campaigns of Sadowa, and on the battles fought in France are examined, it will be seen that whilst the strictest discipline has been preserved among the German soldiers, a greater freedom of action has been allowed to the individual man to permit of his using his rapidly firing arm with the fullest advantage.

These principles have been recognized in the recent order for the English Army, and it will be readily understood by all officers who have had practical experience of such matters, that extended formations are in no way connected with looseness of drill, but

that the teaching of the soldier in light infantry movements requires fully as great care as his instruction in what may be termed the mere solid formations. We would recommend to the officers of the Dominion Militia a careful study of the subjoined order, so that they may be able to adapt its requirements to the men under their command and to the country in which they might be called upon to operate. The science of war has, it is sad to perceive, advanced *pari passu* with other sciences, and if we are not to be found wanting when occasions arise, we must learn lessons from these countries and those armies who have been forced to acquire their experience at a terrible cost of life and of suffering.—Communicated.

INFANTRY TACTICS.

The following Memorandum has been issued at Aldershot, signed by Colonel Sir A. Alison, Assistant Adjutant-General:—

His Royal Highness wishes, with the view of meeting the present requirements, that the following formation for opening an attack should be tried. The formation of a brigade of three battalions to be as follows:—Three companies of the battalion to skirmish; the supports to consist of three companies at open order 150 yards in rear of the skirmishers; the reserve or third line of two companies of same battalion 150 yards in rear of the supports, also in open order. The remaining two battalions to advance in line of half battalion columns, at deploying distance, 200 yards in rear of the reserve of the skirmishers. The attack to commence by a general advance. If required, the skirmishers would be reinforced by the supports and by the reserve of the skirmishing battalion columns which would deploy and advance passing over the skirmishers, who would retire and reform. The advance would be continued, either by echelons of half battalions or in line, or by alternate half battalion columns to be commanded by the majors. These columns would offer a ready means on pushing forward on the enemy's flank, of assaulting any weak point in the enemy's position, or of opposing an attack on the flank. These majors should be continually practised in command of these half battalion columns, and should thoroughly understand how quickly to adapt their movements to the exigencies of the service, and to profit by any opening offered by the movements of the enemy, without waiting for orders. Should the division consist of three brigades, two brigades would be formed as described, the third being placed as a reserve some distance in rear, and if possible, out of range, or protected by some formation of the ground. Guns should be so placed as to be able at a distance to bring a concentrated fire on any part where the attack was to be made, firing, if necessary, over the infantry. This system does not necessitate any alteration in drill, though many details may be laid down more accurately after the formation has been tried a short time. The accompanying diagrams show the formation of skirmishers:—1. Four companies in skirmishing order, four in support at open order. 2. Three companies skirmishing, three in support, and two as a reserve. N.B.—If we adhere to our own drill there would be two companies skirmishing, two in support, and four in reserve (all in open order by the present proposal).

REVIEWS.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the *New Dominion Monthly* for November, it is as usual replete with sound and entertaining articles.

General Grant has been re-elected President of the United States for the next four years. His opponent Horace Greely has resumed the editorship of the *Tribune*, which he aims to make a power in the land. He publishes the following note.

"The undersigned resumes the editorship of the *Tribune*; which he relinquished on embarking in another line of business six months ago. Henceforth it shall be his endeavors to make this a thoroughly independent journal, treating all parties and political movements with judicial fairness and candor, but courting the favor and deprecating the wrath of no one. If he can hereafter say anything that will tend to heartily unite the whole American people on the broad platform of universal amnesty and impartial suffrage, he will gladly do so. For the present, however, he can best command that consummation by silence and forbearance.

"The victors in our late struggle can hardly fail to take the whole subject of Southern rights and wrongs into early and earnest consideration, and to them for the present he remits it. Since he will never again be a candidate for any office, and is not in full accord with either of the great parties which have hitherto divided the country, he will be able and endeavor to give wide and steadier regard to the progress of science, industry and useful arts, than a partisan journal can do, and he will not be provoked to indulge in those bitter personalities which are the recognized bane of journalism.

"Sustained by a generous public, he will do his best to make the *Tribune* a power in the broader field it now contemplates, as when human freedom was in peril it was in the arena of political partizanship.

"(Signed),

"HORACE GREELY."

A proposition has been submitted to the Spanish Government for a tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar which might be connected with the shortest route to India. The length to be traversed would be 13,800 metres, while that of the contemplated Dover and Calais tunnel is stated as 32,000.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Black Sea Fleet visited Sebastopol recently, and went over the town and its environs with the object, it is said, of deciding whether it shall be made a purely naval port, or a naval commercial port,

THE FOUR TRAVELLERS,

Four travellers one winters night
By my father's board so free,
And he asked them why they left their
homes.
And why they crossed the sea,
One said for bread, and one for gold,
And one for a cause of strife;
And one he came for a false love's sake
To lead a stranger's life.

They stayed amid our haven's long
And learned our mountain ways;
Nor grieved for their homes across the sea,
Their friends of early days.
And they were brave by flood and field,
And they were blithe in hall,
And he that came for a lost love's sake
Was the blithest of them all.

Now he that fled so far from strife
Hath a goodly household band;
And he that came to seek for bread
Is lord of my father's land;
And he that came for gold alone
Hath married my sister fair,
And the oaks are green, and the pastures
broad
By their pleasant homestead there.

And when they meet by the winter's fire,
Or beneath the bright woodbine,
Their talk is oft of a whelming stream,
And a brave life given for mine.
For a grave by our mountain rivers side
Grows green this many a year,
Where the flower of the four sleeps evermore
And I am a stranger here.

OFFICIAL EXPERIMENTS AT SOUTH- PORT.

The London *Daily News*, of the 9th inst., gives the following account of experiments with the new Whitworth gun:—

On Tuesday and yesterday, experiments were made on the Sands, near Southport, with a new breech-loading nine-pounder rifle gun, made by Sir Joseph Whitworth & Co., Manchester. The weight of the gun is eight and three-quarters hundred weight, and the weight of the carriage 10 cwt. Both gun and carriage are made of the fluid compressed steel, commonly called "Whitworth metal." The well known advantage of the material is its ductility and much greater strength as compared with ordinary steel cast in ingots. Instead of trying to hammer cast steel into required solidity, Sir Joseph Whitworth's method is to subject the molten metal in its fluid condition to hydraulic pressure. Particles of air, commonly remaining in cast steel, are thus got rid of. No amount of hammering might have sufficed to render it sound, but it is found that by exerting a pressure of twenty tons per square inch upon a fluid column of steel, in five minutes the column will become shortened as much as half an inch per foot of length, this diminution showing that something other than solid steel has been expelled. Experiments has shown that, whereas a pressure of eight tons per square inch will produce an ingot free from air cells, yet a pressure of 20 tons per square inch is necessary to render the steel as strong and ductile as it is required to be. Having obtained a perfectly ductile material many times stronger than iron, Sir Joseph Whitworth is enabled to enlarge with safety the powder chamber of his guns. Being able to bear the strain, the chamber of the breech can be charged with a much greater weight of powder than is practicable in other breech or muzzle loaders, and thus the length of ranges can be increased.

The weather throughout Tuesday, although fine was unfavorable to good shooting, a strong head-wind blowing in gusts from the south-west. At the same time the makers of the new gun must be congratulated on the accuracy and steadiness of the

firing, conducted as it was under very adverse conditions. The experiments commenced with five rounds of common shell, 9lb. weight, at an elevation of three degrees, and with a powder charge of 2½lbs. The longest range effected was 2,030 yards, and the shortest 1,800 yards, the deflections varying from one foot to eight feet. This was followed by the firing of ten rounds of common 9lb shells, at an elevation of ten degrees, and with a powder charge of 2½lbs. The longest range effected was 4,368 yards, and the shortest 4,251 yards with deflections chiefly to the left, varying from 1½ yard to 6 yards. Ten rounds of solid shot were fired at an elevation of 40 degrees with a charge of 2½lbs. of powder, when the extraordinary range of 10,320 yards was made with a deflection of only 41 feet. Every one of the shots were projected upwards of 10,000 yards. One of the most interesting experiments was made to show the strength of the metal. A cylinder, similar in every respect to the breech-end of a nine-pounder muzzle-loading gun cut off at the trunnion, was loaded with one and a half pounds of powder, the charge being screwed into the chamber by means of a powerful steel screw, thoroughly well lubricated, and through the centre of which a hole one-tenth of an inch in diameter was made to permit the escape of gas. The visitors all stood at a reasonable distance whilst the cylinder was discharged, and when fired it produced a strange rushing sound, more resembling the noise occasioned by the sudden discharge of steam from an engine than an explosion of gunpowder. The cylinder was thrown forward several feet and the sand was blackened for many yards by the escape of gas; but when unscrewed the cylinder was uninjured, and, strange to say, two rings of fat which had been placed in the chamber were not melted. The only result was the widening of the vent to exactly double its original diameter. At an elevation of three degrees the results were—1,928 yards, no deflection; 1,911 yards, deflection one foot to the left; 2,030 yards, deflection three feet to the left; 1,860 yards, deflection one foot to right; 1,925 yards, deflection eight feet to right.

The concluding experiment of yesterday was intended to ascertain the penetrating power of the shot, and for this purpose a steel target three inches thick was fixed in a sand bank 100 yards from the muzzle of the gun, and at an angle of 45 degrees. The charge of powder being 2½ lbs. and the projectile shells, without bursting charges, of 9 lbs. weight. The first shot hit the target obliquely. The second passed over it through a sandhill, and was found in a pool of water 150 yards off. The bullet was again placed in the gun and fired at the same range, when it passed right through the target, buried itself in the sand, and could not be felt when probed for at a depth of three feet.

Yesterday the weather was somewhat unfavorable, being rainy in the forenoon and misty afterwards. The experiments of the day were, not so much directed to accuracy of aim as on Tuesday. The first had for its object to show the effect of Pettiman's concussion fuses intended to burst on the shell grazing the ground. The trial began about noon. Ten rounds of shrapnel were fired, the first at a range of 200 yards; the result was not satisfactory, owing to the softness of the sand in which the shell became embedded. It was simply for rapidity of firing, and, as above stated, without close attention to aim. Five shots were fired in fifty seconds; fifteen rounds were fired in three minutes; thirty six seconds, including a loss of thirty-four seconds from three tubes missing fire.

The gun was next fired at an elevation of two degrees, and ten shots were fired in one minute, 43 seconds, or at the rate of about six to a minute. Then followed ten rounds of case or canister shot fired at a target of 28ft. by 9in.—the object being to show the destructive effects of the gun and projectiles. Therangewas 200yds, and the number of hits obtained with the scattered shot on the target was 230. In the trials for rapid firing Mr. Leeco also experimented with a new system of special naves on the gun carriage for preventing recoil. On the break being applied, and the shot fired, the recoil was only about 18 inches, whereas, on the ordinary plan it would have been about five feet. The gun was then elevated to an angle of 42 degree, with a common shell of five diameters of 13 ounces, and a charge in the gun of one ounce of powder, and the range obtained by this charge was about 500 yards. Another shot was fired with the same kind of shell at an elevation of four degrees, the result of which was equally satisfactory. It was not deemed necessary to carry the trials any further, and they were therefore brought to a conclusion yesterday.

Sir Joseph Whitworth was from ill health unable to be present on either of the two days, but was represented by his manager, Mr. Leeco, who superintended the experiments. There were present Colonel Campbell, of Woolwich Gun Factory; Admiral Halstead, Major Anderson, of the Royal Artillery; Major Dyer, Commander F.N. Ramsay, of the United States Navy; Mr. Crossley, Halifax; Mr. Ramsbottom, and Mr. Laird, &c. France and Brazil were also represented by several military visitors. The whole of the experiments during the two days were carried out with a single gun. Sir Joseph states that, in a trial of one of his breech loading guns with an enlarged powder chamber, the projectiles being six diameters in length, and made of compressed steel, and having a maximum of three inches, an iron plate four and a half inches thick was penetrated. The resisting strength of the steel of the new guns is said to be twice that of those now in use, while the economy of production is much greater. The projectiles are fixed as they are cast, and require no preparation except the ordinary dressings that all castings are subjected to. The breech of the gun is closed by a heavy sliding block of steel furnished with straight line threads or teeth inclined at a very small angle to a plane perpendicular to the axis of the gun, and forming a portion of a screw-thread which would be traced upon a cylinder of extremely large radius. The breech piece is moved horizontally by a rack and pinion, and the small obliquity of the thread causes it to tighten itself with great force against the rear of the gun. The powder chamber has been enlarged in diameter, and reduced in length, being two diameters long, and containing a charge of 50 per cent. more of powder than the service charge of a muzzle-loader. The mechanical features of the breech-loader are thus recapitulated in a pamphlet by the makers:—A heavy breech piece, with a large area of bearing surface, slightly enlarged shot chamber, and a diminished windage in the bore of the gun.

A fleet of five German men-of-war is now fitting out for a cruise around the world. The expedition will be under the command of Admiral Werner, and will be gone eighteen months. The fleet sail directly to the West Indies, and thence will proceed to New Orleans and other ports in the United States.

THE RECENT STORM.

To the Editor of the Liberal.

S. Shore of Lake Winnipeg.
29th Oct., 1872.

Sir,—I have no doubt you will have accounts from other parts of the province of the recent storm. It began to be felt at the south end of Lake Winnipeg about two hours after sunset on the evening of the 24th. During that and the preceding two days we had frequent showers, accompanied with thunder. The wind on the 22nd was from the south, on the 23rd it blew from the north, and on the 24th it changed back to south, from which quarter it blew a stiff breeze all day. Shortly after sunset the wind changed around to the north, and towards midnight it blew a gale. By daybreak the country for miles around was under water. The waters of the lake, as you are aware, are very shallow, and the result of a change of wind is a motion of the water in the direction of the wind. The rise from the extreme low water point during a south wind is often as much as from four to five feet. All those who have skiffs or canoes are so well aware of this that at night they haul them up on land. But the raise of water on the night of the 24th was so sudden and so much greater than usual, that three fourths of the canoes and skiffs were adrift before the people became aware of the danger. By midnight the water rose to the level of the Indian tents. The first warning they received of their danger was from the crying of the children, who were aroused by the cold water. There was then a great alarm. The canoes were all afloat, and drifting away rapidly; the night was intensely dark, and the rain was pouring in torrents and the wind was bitterly cold. Mothers stood in the water with their children in their arms, and with their screams added to the noise made by the crying children. At one point there were seven tents, the occupants of which numbered about forty. Mothers could not in the darkness ascertain if all their children were safe. By the time the canoes were secured it was found impossible to save any of the articles in the tents, as the water was rising and the gale increasing. The whole of the party made their way to higher ground. In the morning only the top of their tents were visible.

About a mile and a half from this party was another, of two tents. The occupants were aroused about midnight, and made for their canoes. One family escaped along the shore to a higher spot of ground, but were obliged by the rising water to leave it and seek another, and were in imminent danger of having their canoe swamped by the billows, which were now of tempestuous size. During the whole night they were exposed to the storm, shifting from spot to spot dreading to go to the high land for fear of swamping. About three in the afternoon they arrived at the place where the other Indians were camped. Enquiry was made with regard to the occupants of the other tent, but little or no information could be obtained.

The storm continued with unremitting fury all day. In some places the driftwood which has lain for years at the highest water mark, was carried in some cases over the marshes two and three miles inland. Occasionally a shower of soft snow would take the place of rain, to yield in a short time to a pitiless hail. The thermometer stood all day at about 42°. The wind broke down trees of enormous size and tore away the banks of the lake in many places. Towards daylight of the 26th the wind abated slightly,

and the waters began to recede. Nothing had been heard of the occupants in the remaining tent, and shortly after sunrise a party of Indians went in search of them. The water was still high, but the wind was slowly dying away. The thermometer stood at 32°, freezing point. Slight showers of sleet occurred at short intervals. In about three hours the men who went in search of the missing family met with the body (for it could scarcely be called anything else) of the father. When restored to animation by the camp fire he gave an incoherent and tragic account of his combat with the storm. It was with great difficulty, and indeed not until he had had some sleep that a correct version of it could be got from him. It would appear that after securing a great many of his articles in his canoe the letter was carried away to a short distance, but between was deep water. The family consisted of the father, mother and five children when he observed that the canoe was beyond his reach he removed with his family to ground slightly higher, and then, a little after midnight, he constructed a stage of driftwood, upon which he placed his children. The water soon rose and swept this away, but not before the children were carried to a point still higher. Another stage was formed here and both father and mother held this to the shore by some branches of willow. Before morning this also gave way, being broken by the waves which were now dashing against it. By daylight the water carried within his reach a few saw logs belonging to McArthur & Co.'s mill, which had been lying here since last spring. Of these he secured five and lashed them as well together as the constant motion would permit, with a sturgeon net, over the top he placed the bark which had formed the covering of his tent. He then removed his wife and children from the wreck of the last stage and placed them on the log raft. Strange to say this hastily constructed raft withstood the storm for nearly ten hours. During the whole of this time Kay-pay-wa set-way was in the water, holding the end of the net on one arm and grasping the willows with the other. Towards evening some of the logs showed signs of working out, and while he moved towards them to secure them better a wave came and washed the whole before it, carrying it beyond his depth. For a long time he looked at it tossing on the waves, but the rising water compelled him to look to his own safety, and after some difficulty he succeeded in reaching a slight elm tree, the branches of which were barely strong enough to support him. Here he remained all night, and until rescued next morning. From his position he could see nothing more of his wife and children. The point to which the wind would bear them would be distant about three miles, and he thinks they were half way across this distance when he saw them last. The logs still held together and as far as he could see they were all on the raft, notwithstanding the sea which was now running.—But this was the last seen of them. Search has been made for the bodies but so far it has proved futile. Two fates awaited them. The raft was either broken up before reaching the high land, in which case they would have been drowned in deep water; or the raft may have reached the shore and benumbed with the cold and from want of food, they may have been unable to extricate themselves from the tons of drift with which the shore was lined, and thus have been killed by the very logs to which they may have owed their safety so far. The Indian, whose name is Kay-pay-wa set-way, is son of the old chief

Big Ears, of Oak point, and is stated to be a good hunter and an industrious man. He is recovering very slowly from the effects of his fearful exposure, but he will never forget the awful result of the flood of Wednesday.

The total rise of water from lowest water-mark was about fifteen feet on the exposed part of the lake, and on the marshes it would be about ten feet. The whole of the delta of the river was covered with water, and as this forms the hay ground of the settlers from the rapids down, a dearth of hay will throw them into the same condition as last year's fire did, for there is not a straw of hay where there were hundreds of stacks on Monday last. It is all swept away and mingled with the drift or rushes and timber.

The total rainfall exceeded 10 inches during the continuance of the storm. This includes melted snow and hail.

Yours, &c.,

B.

THE COST OF STANDING ARMIES.

From a mass of interesting military statistics published in the Berlin "Post," of recent date, it appears that the various European powers maintain under arms more than five millions of men in constant readiness for war, besides the reserves and militia, who are subject to more or less military duty. These five millions of men in the prime of life, represent so much labor withdrawn from the useful industries, whose aggregate production would amount to more than the total production of many important countries, as a few only of the European States have a male working population of five millions between the age of eighteen and fifty. But this loss of production represents only a part of the aggregate loss involved. The non-productive soldier must be paid, and productive labor must be taxed for his wages. He is also a wasteful customer and to feed and equip the standing armies employs the labor of at least two millions—perhaps more—of farmers, carriers and artisans; who are thus prohibited from contributing to the natural welfare and prosperity of the community. When all these considerations are taken into account, some idea may be formed of the enormous cost of maintaining exclusive military systems; and when it is remembered that these systems, nominally established to insure internal peace and security from invasion, are a constant temptation to war, with its inevitable accompaniments of waste, destruction of life and property, and increase of taxation, there is reason to hope that the people that have long and patiently borne these increasing burdens will soon demand that armies shall be disbanded, military establishments reduced, and international disputes hereafter be settled by diplomacy.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* learns that Mr. Reed, whom it describes as "formerly member of the English Admiralty," was asked by the German Government to undertake the organization of the German fleet, and the supervision of the defensive fortifications in the Baltic and the North sea. The appointments thus offered Mr. Reed were worth, it is stated, 500,000 francs a year. It is stated, however, that "the distinguished English engineer" has declined the offer of the German Government.

DOING WITHOUT SOLDIERS.

(From the Broad Arrow.)

It is delightful to meet a real visionary in this realistic age—a being with the experiences of Sandford and Merton, and the philosophy of Rousseau. And yet, why should we be so delighted? The existence of such a being is guaranteed us by many common facts, hardly perhaps regarded in this curious and interesting light. Do not quick advertisements prove that grey hairs are no necessary accompaniment of age? that short people need not despair? and that the human nose may be trained like the verbena or the vine? Is it not demonstrated that medical men can be dispensed with by keeping in store certain patent pills, unguents, and plasters? Have we not books intended to make every man his own lawyer, his own veterinary surgeon, in fact every thing but his own grave digger? All the learned professions whose members live upon the ills or quarrels of others are clearly unnecessary in the modern utilitarian and visionary philosophy. Men are no longer a bundle of habits, but a bundle of professions, and he is obviously able to do everything for himself.

Need we be alarmed if this visionary tendency affect military matters? Banish the doctor, the lawyer, the conveyancer, and the judge, and there is clearly no need of the soldier. If there are to be no more quarrels, and universal peace is coming, growing out of universal brotherhood and the banishment of all wrong and injustice, we may settle the conditions of the new social state according to our fancy. Let us get rid of politicians, who make laws that have to be mended, and unmake what their predecessors have made. Let us get rid of financiers, who tax us until we have only four shillings in every pound we own that we can call our own. Let us eliminate all evil, and begin life afresh, with bread enough for us all, and love, music, poetry, and happiness for everybody. We may as well be thorough while we are about it; and, if the golden age is to return, let us take crook and pipe and resume the proceedings of a pastoral era. Our only chance of escape from present evils is by resuming a primitive simplicity. We must forego all we have gained, including the daily newspaper, and take to sleep, milk, and apples, as things of course.

We can't turn curds to milk again,
Nor now, by wishing, back to then;
And having tasted stolen honey,
We can't buy innocence for money.

But, not to be led away by the visionaries, let us make a generalization. Time still tells its tale, in spite of scientific appliances; doctors are still needed, though patent medicines were never so abundant; lawyers abound, through *causæ mecum* are common; and evil is not less common, through centuries of preaching and millions of preachers have been at work upon it; similarly, soldiers exist, though peace upon earth has been the creed of Christian people for eighteen hundred years. It is no use resisting the inevitable, and men and women who desire to abolish the soldier are no more reasonable than those who wish to abolish the physician or the student of the law. There are quacks of many kinds, and the anti-military quack is the least reasonable of all.

Examined, for instance, what the soldier's functions are. He has been called the international policeman, and hence may have run away with the notion that he only exists for international purposes. This is a part of his *raison d'être*, but by no means the whole. He exists for attack but also for defence, and for defence in its broadest

sense—the defence of the country, the Sovereign, the law and the constitution. We may be imperilled by a foreign foe, and soldiers cannot be extemporized any more than physicians and lawyers can be. We might be threatened by an internal revolution. The soldier represents law and order. He is sworn to maintain both. He is the ultimate resort of law. Our liberties are guaranteed by law, but what guarantees the law? The constitution! Well, that is a quibble; but what guarantees the constitution? Force, physical force, represented on the one side by the policeman, on the other by the soldiers. When one resort fails, recourse is had to the other. No one thinks of abolishing the policeman, but it is fashionable, in some circles, and with certain savans, to discuss the abolition of the soldier as if he were a superfluity, only useful in case we want to attack, perfectly unnecessary where we only wish to defend. This may be called social science, but it deserves no other name. Any single right that we possess may come to be guaranteed by the most skilled physical force. The policeman guards our houses, and he is trained in order that he may do it. He is to all intents and purposes a soldier, though he is unskilled in the use of the rifle, and dresses in blue. He has many functions to perform, and they cannot wisely be delegated to any one else. The soldier is a superior policeman. He represents another branch of law, yet he may be called upon to see the execution of the ordinary laws of order and decency. We may not want him often, but he is ready to our hand in case we do. We do not love and respect our neighbors because hanging is the punishment for murder, but it is sometimes necessary to enforce law in this rough and summary way. Thus we are apt to reason as if law made itself or were capable of carrying itself out; as if the constitution were everything, and the physical force upon which it reposes nothing. But, though Atlas may carry the world on his back, he must have something to stand upon, even if it be a tortoise.

Great Britain is a compound of classes and interests, many of them in fierce and unceasing rivalry. Respect for law protects the rights of each, and the law ranges through the civic to the military, as we have shown. The nobleman enjoys resistance, if needs be, against all who would hinder him in free and full use and enjoyments. The home of the poor man is his castle, for the same reason. A revolt, and soldiers have had to put it down. And it is, in part, this consciousness of physical resistance to insurrection that makes us as respectful nationally as it does individually when our thoughts soar no higher than the policeman. The removal of grievances by force is an exploded dogma. The Chartists were divided upon it, the Fenians have suffered for it, and it is now disclaimed by the most hot-headed demagogues. We owe the result to education and experience, to a belief in the certainty of punishment, a profound impression of the loyalty of the military class. The check is so subtle that we never think of it; it has become a part of our national conscience. But not the less dangerous would it be to remove it. Remove the insensible restraints of home, of civilization, and see what men become! Remove the military embodiment of law, and what might be the result?

Calbourn's Magazine, writing of English naval ordnance, says: "The system of rifling which destroyed its gun and damaged 70 per cent. of its shell in the effort to accom-

lish the least useful work, was that preferred in the competition of 1865, and, being named the 'Woolwich' system is still in use. The present infliction of injuries upon heavy ordnance thus rifled by their escaping projectiles, which necessitates the minute inspection after every fifty discharges, a cool target practice, and has disabled so many guns, makes thoughtful artists ask what might be the effect upon British guns of another naval bombardment of a Japanese fort; while the failure to perforate the 'Glutton's' turret awakens attention to the meaning of a rifle system which has decidedly the lowest velocities.' And the small contents of the 700-lb. common shell reminds us that the relative bombarding value of shells correspond with the squares of their bursting charges, so that, as to the most powerful shell, the 35-ton, 25-ton 18-ton, and 12-ton guns stand respectively as the numbers 405, 1,225, 649, and 324. The failure of rotary power necessitated the shortening of the shell, and consequent diminution of powder capacity; so that these bombarding values originally stood at 405, 2,070, 1,024, and 324 respectively. It will thence be seen that the bursting power of the 12-inch common shell for the 35-ton gun is only one-fifth that of the original 12-inch shell for the 25-ton gun."

The London Naval and Military Gazette waxes humorous ancient collisions in the British navy. "The colliding system appears to have come in need in the navy. Running aground having been a trifle overdone, collisions are now more *en règle*. Certainly the example was set by a flag officer's ship running down one of his own, squadron, a costly iron clad, which appears to have been more damaged than was at first anticipated, and it is not, perhaps, a matter of much moment that smaller vessels, like the *Tholia* and *Lia y*, should follow the one thus set, them by an officer who is held in the highest estimation at Whitehall, and doubtless is equally popular in the squadron he commands. Further, while cracking an iron-clad is not taken any serious notice of, there having been no court-martial to investigate the case, it would seem unnecessary fussily to haul over the coals a commanding officer who merely smashes up the elaborate figure-head of some *Anna Maria* of the mercantile marine. Therefore, like A. Ward, 'we'll let it pass.' But in the *Lively's* case there seems to have been an almost comical feature, and the old adage, 'More haste less speed,' seems to have been especially applicable; for in going at top speed to avoid an expected gale she ran into a schooner almost before she knew she was there, and had consequently to take the longest vessel into tow, and do tug's duty, which is by no means 'lively' work. We expect the *Caledonia's* leave men, who were taking passage on board, will return by rail, and thus avoid any more of that exercise known as 'rammole' drill."

It is understood that the Government scheme for military reorganization, which is shortly to be presented to the Assembly, divides the French troops into four units, capable of prompt mobilization in time of war. Each of these armies is to be divided into three army corps, with their headquarters established in large towns. *Each corps* is to consist of three divisions of infantry, one brigade of cavalry, two regiments of artillery, and one regiment of engineers. Each corps is also to have two regiments of reserve artillery.