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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, APRIL 19, 1872.

No. 18.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

BY G. W. G.

"Sir Charles Dilke has at least set one good example to his countrymen, not only by getting married, but also by getting married without any nuptial pomp and circumstance. He walked quietly to church from one quarter, and the lady from another. He made no long wedding tour, and was punctually in the House of Commons on the opening night."

We do not agree with the conclusions of the *Church Herald*, from whose columns the above is an extract, but think that Sir Charles Dilke has, in his ostentation of simplicity proved himself to be the snob we have long deemed him to be.

We are also surprised that a newspaper of the *Church Herald's* supposed conventional knowledge, should speak of the approaching marriage of the Marquis of Bute to the daughter of "Lord Howard." Canadian journals generally, indeed, seem to be as incorrect, or as ill-informed on these little matters, as American sheets, and half of them seem to require the information that a title without a Christian name belongs only to a peer, or by courtesy only, to the eldest son of a peer using his father's second, or other title, as a courtesy title. In the present case we believe the nobleman in question is "Lord Edward Howard." In the same way we used constantly to see "Lord Cecil," instead of "Lord Adalbert" (or whatever his name was) "Cecil," figuring in the Toronto newspapers, at the time that visionary gentleman was attracting public notice by his eccentricities.

The illustrations to the "Rifle Exercises" 1870, afford us some idea of what we suppose to be the new Infantry and Rifle Packs. But, so far as we know, the Canadian Army officer is in possession of no full description thereof. Would the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* if in its power, oblige some of its readers by full and accurate information. It is observable that there seems to be a difference in the number and arrangement of pouches and belts between the figures intended respectively as delineation of linesmen and rifles.

Speaking of belts and pouches, might not a reform for which the soldier, both of the

English and the Canadian Armies, would owe an eternal debt of gratitude to its originator, lie within the powers of initiation of the gallant officer at the head of the Canadian Force?

Would it not be a great thing to be the abolisher of pipeclay, and to originate the substitution of brown belts?

The lines of white glitter also, which would bring Rifle officers in action into disagreeable and unnecessary prominence, might be very advantageously modified by the adoption of bronze belt ornaments and scabbards in lieu of silver and steel.

FROM MONTREAL.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The Prince of Wales' Rifles have formed a Rifle Association. The following officers are elected. Colonel F. Bond, President; Major Robinson, Vice-President; Lieut. Mudge, Sec. Treas.; Sergeant. Porteous, Assistant do; Committee—Captain Bond, Capt. Milloy, Sgt. Major Johnson, Sergt.-Major Baillie; Sergts. Quinn, Stewart, Batchelor, Corporal Hill and Pte. Morrison. The association propose offering several valuable prizes for competition during the ensuing season.

The Prince of Wales' Rifles have lately lost a very efficient officer by the death of Capt. Robinson. His remains were interred with the usual military honors.

The officers of the Richmond County Rifle Association elected for 1872-3 are

President: Col. Hanning, Danville.

Vice Presidents: Lieut.-Col. King, Sherbrooke; Major Williamson, Kingsbury.

Secretary: Captain Mairs, Melbourne.

Members of the Council: John H. Graham Richmond, William Beattie, Melbourne; J. J. Goodhue, Danville; Timothy Leet, Danville; Capt. Watts, Drummondville; and the officers of the 54th Battalion.

From Toronto comes the news that the annual drill of the district is to be at Niagara this year, from this I infer we are also to go into camp at Laprairie.

Col Martin of the "Hochelegas" has returned from England.

B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW*.

Sir.—In your issue of the 18th March, you represent me as saying that in Nova Scotia, under our old Militia system we had 300 (three hundred) well trained officers and the same number of sergeants. What I really said and what we really had was 3000 officers (three thousand) officers and the same number of sergeants, my special point being "that in addition to a trained reserve of 50,000 men available at a moments notice completely organised; we had 6000 trained and uniformed men, all armed with rifles, and all trained instructors as well," a position in which we were, in my opinion, very far ahead of the present system which gives us less than 4000 men under arms, with no trained reserve whatever,

Yours,

NOVA SCOTIA.

April 15th, 1872.

REVIEWS.

With the promptitude which so eminently distinguishes "The Leonard Scott Publishing Company," we have *Blackwood* for April on our table at this early period of the month.

The current number contains:—The Maid of Skea, Part IX; A century of Great Poets; French Home Life; A True Reformer, Part II; New Books; The Ministers, the Parliament and the Country.

The *New Dominion Monthly* for May is full of interesting articles, it has two wood cuts, one of Horace Greely, the other of Guiseppe Maggini the Italian Revolutionist.

The *Phrenological Journal and Life Illustrated* for May has been received and is full of interesting articles.

Edwin James, the celebrated English lawyer of New York, said in a lecture Wednesday night: After eleven years' residence in America, he was led to believe there were more Monarchists in that country than there were Republicans in England.

One hundred and seventy years ago the first daily paper in England was published. Its name was the *Daily Courant*, and the publisher was one Elizabeth Mallet, and the first number appeared in February 1702.

This Whig-radical Government of England in their zeal for Army and Navy reorganization and in the effort, as the *Broad Arrow* phrases it, to eliminate the *Tory* principle from the services—have so far succeeded in throwing both into inextricable confusion.

Under their regime sailors instead of being taught to go aloft to hand topsails were drilled to form squares, to receive cavalry, and as a consequence the disasters are more numerous than could be reckoned during a smart war under the old management.

When seamen are more expert at handling a rifle, and in the manual and platoon exercise than launching a boat in a sea-way such accidents as that occurring on board the *Ariadne* may be looked for as a regular occurrence.

We have heard of and seen a seaman fall from the fore topsail yard in a heavy gale, but he was first beat senseless with the slack of the fore topsail, the halliards having been carried away, now a days they have improved on that practice, and will fall from the main top cross trees being probably too well drilled as infantry to have much activity in hanging on to a lift or brace. We should not wonder to hear of cavalry manoeuvres being next taught and Jack turned into a veritable *horse marine* before Mr. Goschen is done with improving the Naval administration.

The climax of absurdity has however been reached in another direction, and in none more fatal if possible to the future of the British Navy, for it appears that the armament of the fleet had been handed over to a board of Artillery officers with no less a personage than that universal genius the great Sir Henry Storks at its head, a man whose qualifications fit him equally for pacifying rebellious *niggers* in Jamaica, commanding the Army, inventing controul, manning and arming the Navy, and making equal impartial and disastrous failures in each and every operation in which he has been engaged.

The *Broad Arrow*, if not a very active friend of the Whig-radicals is at least not a foe, treats the question of Naval armament in its issue of 9th March as follows:—

"We understand that the 6½ ton naval guns are at the present moment ordered to be turned down to 4½ tons, to meet the want or supposed want, of the Navy for guns of this weight. The waste involved in this proceeding is obvious, for the 4½-ton gun could be made at half the cost for which the 6½ ton guns were manufactured. There are about 700 of these guns, the whole provided with costly iron carriages, which must also be sacrificed if the turning-down process is continued; or, are we to believe, that it is intended to replace the guns turned down by new 6½ ton guns?"

On the 16th *Broad Arrow* says.

"We have reason to believe that it is the intention of the Government to institute an inquiry into the present system of rifling naval guns, which are now so frequently injured by their own projectiles as to suggest a

grave doubt whether it is advisable to continue the use of studs to give rotation. The latest instance of failure is that of the guns of the *Royal Oak*, one of which was injured by the breaking up of a Palliser shot, and another by the premature bursting of a shell. These accidents, following the disasters to the guns of the *Hercules* and the *Bellerophon* and the recent splitting of the tube of the 35-ton gun, have caused serious apprehensions to be entertained as to the endurance of our guns were it unfortunately necessary to use them in actual warfare."

On the 23rd ult:

"The question we raised last week, as to the cutting down of 6½ ton guns into 4½-ton guns for the Naval Service, has not remained long without an answer. On Tuesday Major Arbuthnot put the question in the House of Commons, and received an answer from Sir Henry Storks, speaking on behalf of the War Office. After the hints we gave on the subject, it is scarcely needful to observe that the only satisfactory part of the answer is that only one gun has been, as yet reduced below efficiency; but that the responsibility of the acts of naval men should be assumed by the War Department is, in the opinion of several officers of distinction with whose remarks we have been favoured, of grave import, and may hereafter result in national disaster."

And on the 30th ult:

"From the growing interest excited by our remarks on the conversion of the 7-inch 6½-ton guns into 4½ ton guns for the Navy, we were satisfied that the maladministration arising from the interference of the War Department with the armament of the Navy, is beginning to be seen in its true light. Our well-informed contemporary the *Globe*, in its issue of the 26th instant, speaks of the uneasiness prevalent in naval and military circles respecting the sweeping changes that are made in the *personnel* and *matériel* of war and alludes to the fact that hundreds of 7 inch breech-loading guns have been rejected as useless for naval purposes, and returned to the War Department. These useless guns have cost a million sterling, and looking at the amount of money wasted on rash and ill-advised changes, we cannot but think it is in this direction that our statesmen should aim at economy, in combination with increased efficiency. A Parliamentary Committee put an end to the expenditure on the now discarded breech-loaders and lead-coated shot, which would otherwise, in all probability, have continued to the present hour. We suggest, therefore, that another Parliamentary inquiry would afford the best means of bringing to light the causes of the present misdirection in the departments alluded to, and also of utilising the mechanical science of the country in such a way as to perfect the naval armament, upon which the very existence of our great maritime power, humanly speaking, depends. To revert to the subject which suggested these remarks, can we be lieve, if the Admiralty, instead of the War Office, had been responsible for the manufacture of guns and carriages for the Navy, that a million sterling would have been expended on the now-discarded breechloaders, and that the manufacture of wooden and other inferior gun carriages would have been continued so long after their inefficiency had been proved? Would guns have been made of one size and then cut down to another, at double the cost for which the smaller size actually required might have been produced? Sir Henry Storks must be as well aware as we are that it is only throw-

ing dust in the eyes of the House of Commons to talk of technical mysteries in connection with a subject which, when stripped of official mystification, is as easy to be understood as a sum in arithmetic.

While our authorities (we don't know whether naval or military, or neither is responsible) are busily engaged in lessening the power of our 6½-ton guns by reducing the thickness of the wrought iron coils, on which their strength and safety from breaking up (even if hit by light projectiles) depends, Sir Joseph Whitworth, as *Naval Science* informs us, is moving in the opposite direction, and has succeeded in very greatly increasing the power of guns by means of a new and simple breech-loading apparatus, combined with an enlarged powder chamber. This arrangement, Mr. E. J. Reed states, "will add enormously to our offensive power." The Whitworth breech-loader recently experimented with, is only of the size of the Service 12-pounder, but has a penetration far surpassing the heavier newly-adopted 16-pounder—a gun which is now considered by the majority of Artillery officers to have too large a bore. Where, we ask, are our pilots? and who is at the helm? but more than all, who is responsible for this comprehensive scheme of Artillery?

The history of reckless extravagance, impotence and efficiency never reached a tithe of what those extracts disclose under the most inefficient and corrupt Tory administration England ever had since she possessed a Navy.

Well might the Duke of Somerset taunt his associates with having troops that could not march and ships that would not swim, imbecility and incapacity are the leading characteristics of Gladstone's administration.

The launch of the *Thunderer* at Pembroke on the 25th March was an event even in the history of the mechanical wonders of the creation of the British Navy. The *Broad Arrow* from whose columns we extract an account of the operation, appeared in a previous issue to be doubtful of its success which it views with no little exultation. The *Thunderer* weighs 5,000 tons of iron and when fully equipped will weigh nearly 10,000, she will depend on steam alone carrying neither masts nor sails, is a monitor with a free board of 4½ feet above the water,

Broad Arrow says the greater part of her crew will be *stokers* and we presume the balance artillerymen; she is no ship in the common acceptation of the term, but a floating battery and it is very doubtful whether she could be safely sent across the Atlantic even though she could carry 1750 tons of coal.

She has every fault of her class, will be unmanageable in a sea way, and her ability in action will be doubtful.

Under the old system of ship building the most successful ships and best specimens of Naval architecture both as adapted to the particular service, and for practical purposes was designed and built under the superintendence of the Naval officer whose life and professional character were at stake in the issue.

It must be recollected that the problem those builders had to solve was a far more difficult one than presents itself to the consideration of the Naval Architects of the present day inasmuch as the vessel had to be built to sail and fight, whereas now-a-days she has only to use steam power to do as she pleases (theoretically at least) with the element in which her life is to be passed.

Under the old system we had manageable ships, they did not capsize in a gale, go ashore in a dead calm, or roll so fearfully in a sea-way as to prevent the possibility of movement on board.

The vessels of this class will we fear be useless in a heavy sea and their efficiency in action doubtful.

The *Thunderer*, an ironclad ocean cruiser of the same type as the *Devastation*, was successfully launched at Pembroke Dock yard last Monday. Although she was commenced in 1869, the suspicions as to the utility of this class of vessel and of her stability gained such strength that it was determined to delay the construction of the *Thunderer* until the *Devastation* had been completed and her properties fairly tested. The success of the last mentioned vessel was such, however, as, in the opinion of the authorities, fully justified them in proceeding with the sister ship. During her construction, committees have sat upon her design and compelled alterations to be made, while from the day she was first laid upon the stocks her peculiarities have given rise to many debates in the House of Commons. She is still a monitor in every respect, constructed upon the principle of the *Glatton* and the American monitors, with certain differences, which give her a special character. Thus, instead of having as low a freeboard as possible, a height of four feet six inches has been allotted to the hull above the water line; and instead of being constructed upon as small a scale as possible she has been built on a scale sufficient to enable her to carry the unprecedented armament of four 35 ton guns, admirably mounted upon Captain Scott's gun-carriage with the capacity of storing during a voyage the extraordinary supply of 1750 tons of coal. With such capabilities as these she has a burthen of 4500 tons, a length of 235 feet, and an extreme breadth of 62½ feet; and large as these proportions are, one of the few defects the Committee of Ships' Designs find in her is that she is not large enough.

Carrying as she does an overwhelming armament, protected as she is by iron plating of from 12 to 14 in. thick, and stable as she is reported to be upon competent authority, the *Thunderer* fully justifies Sir Spencer Robinson's remark upon ships of this class, that "in proof of the constructor's department having exercised unusual forethought, it is only necessary to say that our most recent and most powerful ironclads carry not only more powerful artillery, but 9 inch armour where our rivals carry 7 or 8 in., and that no naval Power has ships approaching the combination of armour plating heavy guns, speed, and sea-going qualities possessed by the *Devastation* type." The Committee of Ships' Designs, too, in considering the qualities of this class of vessels, give it their strong approval, but they considered that such ships should be larger, and plated with heavier armour; and at the same time recommended the addition of the superstructure which the Admiralty thought fit to adopt. In fact, their most forcible objec-

tion applies to the height of the bow, which is only 9 ft. out of the water, and they recommend, if actual trial proves this height to be insufficient, that the fore-castle should be raised to the necessary level.

With all her weights on board, the *Thunderer* is expected to draw about 25 ft. to 26 ft., and her freeboard will then be 4 ft. 6 in. She is propelled by engines of 800 nominal horse-power, but guaranteed to work up to 5000 horse power. As she is to rely upon steam alone, and is totally unprovided with masts or sails, she is provided with two distinct sets of engines, connected with twin screws, and capable of acting independently of each other. The object of this arrangement is that if one of the engines is disabled, the ship will not be left without any means of motion beyond the caprices of the waves. Perhaps one of the most remarkable features of this wonderful vessel is its capacity for stowing away coal. It can carry more than twice the quantity of the largest of our ironclads, being able to provide itself with a sufficient consumption for twelve days, or as much as 1750 tons.

The ceremony of christening was gracefully performed by Mrs. Meyrick, of Bush House. Owing to the prow projecting from the stem, a special contrivance was fitted for breaking the bottle. The cords suspending the weights over the dog shores were cut by Mrs. Meyrick with a chisel and mallet. The chisel and mallet, as well as the tray which contained them, are masterpieces of fine workmanship, and reflect credit on the art workmen of the establishment. Inside this tray was a fine picture of the ship, with the following leading particulars respecting her:—"Her Majesty's ship *Thunderer*, twin screw armour-plated turret-ship, named and launched at Pembroke Yard, the 25th of March, 1872, by Mrs. Meyrick. Armament, four 35-ton guns; engines, 5,600 horse-power, indicative, length between perpendiculars, 285 ft.; breadth, extreme, 62 ft. 3 in.; depth in hold, 18 ft.; burden in tons, 4407."

It may be interesting to know the view taken of this vessel by Mr. Ericsson, the famous designer of monitors. In a letter which he wrote from New York, in February, 1870, criticising the proposal of Mr. Robeson, the Secretary of the United States Navy, as interpreted by the English press, he maintains that "while the security of the maritime cities and dockyards of the United States against foreign aggression has of late years been deemed assured, the means thus relied upon have suddenly lost their potency." For, he adds, "Mr. Reed is now building Monitors, carrying the full thickness of solid armour possible, by adopting the turret and abandoning freeboard and sails. The *Devastation* and *Thunderer*," he continues, "may steam up the Hudson in spite of our batteries and our monitors, and dictate terms off Castle Garden." The *Times* observe, "this is strong language for an American, apparently unaware that Mr. Ericsson is a Swede.

ANTICOSTI.

From the position of this island, situated in the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, and the South-west point of which is about fifty miles from Gaspe Basin, and twenty five miles from Mingan on the north, it is astonishing, considering the short distances from both mainlands, that it should remain a desolate waste. It extends 130 miles, and it contains 4,200 square miles of earth, rock and lake, the former, in many places, being equal for vegetable products, to land on

either shore. During the summer, it gives the marine hunter as good a chance to make money from it, sea harvest, as he could obtain from any fishing or hunting grounds on either the north or the south coasts. It occurs to us that Anticosti as a place of settlement for sea-faring people—has been rejected by the hardy Acadians who reside in more desolate localities—and for what reason?—not that there is any lack of material on the fishing-grounds in the vicinity of the island in summer, nor has it lost its local reputation as a hunting-ground during winter—but because these people have not had sufficient knowledge of the climate and the natural advantages of the island. The geographical position of Heath Point, Anticosti, is just 100 miles north of the Magdalen group, which, as sea islands, are noted for their agricultural products. The Island of Anticosti is however, not to be supposed to equal any of the latter group in vegetation; on account of isolation its climate is variable, and appears to belong to itself. But we question, whether, after studied observation for one year on any portion of the South Coast, that its climate will be found to differ greatly from any locality situated on either shore of the St. Lawrence, between that and Quebec. Mr. Julian, at one time keeper of the lighthouse at Heath Point who lived on Anticosti long enough to bring up a large family—informed the writer that from the first spring of his residence at that point, he annually worked at and extended a garden in the vicinity of the lighthouse, from which he obtained sufficient potatoes, cabbages and other vegetables of a hardy nature for kitchen use to supply his family until the return of the crop of the following year. In a line 138 miles north-west from the spot where an artificial garden was made at Heath Point, lies another neatly fenced in sandy patch, belonging to the Hudson Bay Co. at Mingan, where potatoes and other vegetables are annually produced. During the writer's visit to Mingan, this garden was productive to an astonishing degree, a result no doubt, brought about by proper manuring and the determination of Mr. Peter McKenzie, then in charge, to carry out the established rules of cultivation. We believe this is the most northern locality where anything horticultural has been attempted.

La Liberté of Paris announces that the committee of artillery has declared at length as the condemnation of the French field artillery. It has reported to the Minister of War that this condemnation, already pronounced by the opinion of the Army, has been ratified by experience; that the French artillery is no longer on a level with the progress made by other nations and that all the efforts which can be made for its improvement would afford only insufficient and for that reason dangerous palliatives; and that it is necessary to adopt a system of artillery entirely new; the guns to be breech-loaders. As to the material to be used it will undoubtedly be steel, since we learn from the American report on the Paris Exposition that even in 1867, the opinion of French officers had settled upon this material, though no examples of it were presented in the Exposition. The report of the committee was a necessary consequence of the late war, in which the lesson of the inefficiency of its artillery service was not the least notable of the many France received—*Army and Navy Journal*.

A quiet man rang a door bell one night. "Is the gentleman in?" he asked of the servant. "I don't know. Did you wish to see him particularly?" "Oh, no! I merely wanted to tell him his house was on fire."

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 26th April, 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS (11).

No. 1.

STAFF.

The resignation of Major P. Gerraghty as Orderly officer to the Deputy Adjutant General of Military District No. 10 is hereby accepted.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

St. Catharines Battery of Garrison Artillery.

To be Captain:

1st Lieutenant Josiah Greenwood Holmes, G. S., vice Thomas Oswald, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be Lieutenant:

Willard Copeland, Gentleman, M. S. vice Holmes promoted,

2nd Battalion or "Queen's Own Rifles," Toronto.

The resignations of Ensign Hugh John Macdonald and Quarter Master John Samuel Grassick are hereby accepted.

19th "Lincoln" Battalion of Infantry.
No. 4 Company, Beamsville.

To be Lieutenant:

Michael Kew, Gentleman, M. S. vice J. Kew, appointed Quartermaster.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Thomas B. Henry, Gentleman, vice Jacob B. McKay, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 6 Company, Virgil.

The resignation of Captain Edmund Short is hereby accepted.

26th "Middlesex" Battalion of Infantry.
No. 3 Company, Harriettsville

To be Lieutenant:

Frederick J. Choate, Gentleman, M. S., vice W. McKee, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Ensign:

William Thomas Nugent, Gentleman, M. S., vice W. G. McMillan, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

29th "Waterloo" Battalion of Infantry.
No. 4 Company, Winterbourne.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Corporal James Glennie, vice Charles Hendry, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

31st "Grey" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company, Owen Sound.

To be Ensign provisionally:

Sergeant Francis Wrigley, vice W. B. Stephens, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

34th "Ontario" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Lieutenant-Colonel, from 12th April, 1872:

Major James Wallace, M. S., vice Fairbanks deceased.

43rd "Carlton" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 7 Company, Manotick.

To be Captain:

Ensign George Cook, V. B., vice Peter Davidson, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank, as a special case.

48th "Lennox and Addington" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Assistant Surgeon:

John J. Clement, Esquire, V. B., vice A. K. Aylsworth, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

56th "Grenville" Battalion or "The Lisgar Rifles."

The resignations of Paymaster Edward Jessup and Quartermaster James Young are hereby accepted.

Barrie Infantry Company (Mounted.)

The resignation of Ensign Joseph Rogers is hereby accepted.

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant Colonel:

Major Stephen Fairfield, M. S., 48th Battalion, from 22nd March, 1872.

Major George Shepherd, V. B., 56th Battalion, from 12th April, 1872.

To be Majors:

Captain George Henry Boulter, V. B., No. Company, 49th Battalion, from 15th June, 1871, as a special case, on account of his long service as an officer in the Active Militia.

Captain Salter M. Jarvis, V. B., Adjutant 2nd Battalion, from 19th April, 1872.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Brome Troop of Cavalry.

The formation of a Troop of Cavalry is hereby authorized in the County of Brome, to be known as the "Brome Troop of Cavalry," with Head Quarters at Sutton. Arms and the necessary equipment will be furnished when the Department of Militia and Defence is in a position to do so.

To be Captain, provisionally:

Lieutenant Sherman Nathan Boright, from No. 6 Company, 52nd Battalion.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

ERRATUM. - In No. 1 General Order (9) of 12th instant, read "Ensign Robert Douglas Wintle, V. B., 2nd Battalion Rifles, G. T. R."

B." instead of "Ensign Robert Douglas Wintler, V. B., 1st Battalion."

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant-Colonel:

Major Martin Hunter Peters, V. B., N. B. Brigade Garrison Artillery, from 30th January, 1872.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

63rd "Halifax" Battalion of Rifles.

Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Kerr Mackinlay, is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank, as a special case on account of his long service as an officer in the Active Militia.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Winnipeg Field Battery of Artillery.

To be 1st Lieutenant provisionally:

Lieutenant George H. Kellond, from Winnipeg Rifle Company,

Kildonan Rifle Company.

The resignation of Captain John F. Bain is hereby accepted.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY BRIGADE.

2nd Brigade of Garrison Artillery Toronto.

To be Captains:

1st Lieutenant Walter Moodie Tenny, V. B., vice Carlaw, promoted.

2nd Lieutenant Abalom Greely Allison, M. S., vice Bourlier, retired.

To be 1st Lieutenants, provisionally:

Sergeant William John McQuire, vice Tenny, promoted.

Gunner William George Hopper, vice James F. Johnson, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be 2nd Lieutenants, provisionally:

Gunner Joseph Litton Gabbett, vice Allison, promoted.

John Kelly, Gentleman, vice Hardman.

1st Battalion Rifles.

To be Captains:

1st Lieutenant Frederick Henderson Brydges, V. B., from 1st Brigade of G. A.

Lieutenant Wilfred Bailey, V. B., vice Knott, left limits.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

William Foster, Gentleman, vice Wilkinson, left limits.

BREVET.

Captain John Taylor, V. B., 1st Brigade G. A., G. T. R. B., from 28th February, 1872.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence is hereby granted to the following officers, for six months, from date of embarkation, to proceed to England on private affairs:—

Major F. C. Stratton, 1st Brigade G. A.

Captain F. H. Brydges, 1st Battalion Rifles.

No. 2.
"B," BATTERY SCHOOL OF GUNNERY.
Citadel, Quebec, April, 1872.

The following Range Report of Competitive Artillery Practice with heavy guns, which took place from the Citadel, Quebec, on the 11th, 12th and 13th inst., is published for general information.

Names and Number of Rounds.	Pts. Gained.				Wind and Rem'ks.
	Elevation.	Direction.	Fuze.	Total.	
Sergt. G. Stewart;					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	5	3	4	12	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	21	15	4	40	8.5
Q.M. Sgt. Connolly.					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	5	3	3	8	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	24	14	4	39	10.15
Gunner T. Glitchrist,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	19	11	8	38	6.55
Bombr. F. Labbie.					
1 solid shot.....	5	3	3	8	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	2	3	3	5	
Total.....	19	14	4	37	10.1
Bombr. Morrisotto					
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0	
2 do	3	3	3	6	
3 do	3	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	3	3	3	6	
5 do	4	3	4	11	
Total.....	18	11	7	38	6.30
Gunn. E. McDonald,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	20	11	4	35	6.44
Sergt. Maj. Lynden					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	3	3	3	6	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	18	14	3	35	7.00
Gunner McKenzie,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	19	12	4	35	7.00
Sergt. Reynolds,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	19	13	3	35	8.5

RANGE REPORT.—Continued.

Names and Number of Rounds.	Pts. Gained.				Wind and Remarks.
	Elevation.	Direction.	Fuze.	Total.	
Gunn. Blodreau,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	18	13	3	35	8.25
Gunner Wilson,					
1 solid shot.....	5	3	3	8	
2 do	3	3	3	6	
3 do	3	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	3	3	4	6	
5 do	3	3	3	6	
Total.....	20	15	3	38	9.35
Gunner Fortier,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	9	
5 do	3	3	3	6	
Total.....	18	13	8	34	7.88
Gunner McDermott					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	3	3	4	6	
5 do	3	3	3	6	
Total.....	22	12	3	34	8.25
Gunner Doyone,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	17	13	4	34	8.40
Gunner Baldwin,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	10	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	15	13	6	34	8.45
Bombr. A. Moore.					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	3	3	3	5	
3 do	3	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	3	3	4	5	
5 do	4	3	4	11	
Total.....	18	14	4	34	9.5
Gunner Pomerleau					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	7	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	17	18	3	38	8.50
Gunner Neve,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	5	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	6	
5 do	4	3	3	6	
Total.....	21	12	3	33	9.25
Gunner Lyven,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	6	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	6	
5 do	4	3	3	6	
Total.....	20	18	3	33	10.12

RANGE REPORT.—Continued.

Names and Number of Rounds.	Pts. Gained.				Wind and Remarks.
	Elevation.	Direction.	Fuze.	Total.	
Gunner Pritchard,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	6	
5 do	4	3	3	6	
Total.....	19	17	3	52	10.80
Gunner J. Moore,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	5	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	7	
5 do	3	3	3	6	
Total.....	10	13	3	32	11.11
Gunner Colombe,					
1 solid shot.....	4	3	3	7	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	7	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	18	14	3	32	12.5
Corporal Barwis,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	4	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	3	3	4	6	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	18	12	3	30	7.0
Corporal Howard,					
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	12	
5 do	3	3	3	6	
Total.....	14	12	4	30	7.14
Corporal Walsh,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	5	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	7	
5 do	4	3	3	7	
Total.....	17	13	3	30	7.40
Gunner Welfare,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	5	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	6	
5 do	4	3	4	11	
Total.....	14	13	4	29	7.00
Corporal Pelletier,					
1 solid shot.....	2	3	3	5	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	0	0	0	0	
5 do	3	3	3	11	
Total.....	18	11	3	29	10.6
Gunner Madden,					
1 solid shot.....	3	3	3	4	
2 do	4	3	3	7	
3 do	4	3	3	6	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	5	
5 do	4	3	3	5	
Total.....	18	0	3	27	11.25
Sergt. Dunn,					
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0	
2 do	4	3	3	6	
3 do	4	3	3	7	
4 shell.....	4	3	4	11	
5 do	0	0	0	0	
Total.....	11	9	4	24	8.20

CONTENTS OF No. 17, VOL. VI.

POETRY.—	Page.
Thanksgiving Hymn.	202
EDITORIAL.—	
"Invasion of Canada".....	198
The Narrow Gauge.....	198
Thanksgiving Service in Ottawa.....	199
Lieut. Jukes of the <i>Ariadne</i>	199
The <i>Washago Pioneer</i>	199
Commutation of half-pay officers.....	199
Hon. Joseph Howe's speech at Y.M.C.A.....	200
Important epoch in history of Canada.....	200
Resignation of Lt.-Governor of Manitoba.....	201
News of the Week.....	193
CORRESPONDENCE.—	
From Montreal—Communicated articles.....	97
St. Catharines—Augustus Jukes, Surgeon.....	197
Colborne—Capt. A. Vars.....	197
SELECTIONS.—	
British Navy—Rupert and <i>Holspur</i>	191
The Alabama claims in Europe.....	191
Our military organization.....	195
Ocean Steam Lines.....	195
Destruction of Antioch.....	196
The British Navy.....	196, 201
Petroleum.....	196
Another Iron-clad Ram.....	196
The Lumber Trade.....	197
Report of the Committee on Reorganization of the British Army.....	202
Obituary—Lieut. W. A. Jukes, R.N.....	204
Inquiry into Paris Insurrection.....	201
Foreign, Military and Naval Items.....	
MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.....	204
REMITTANCES.....	198

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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, APRIL 29, 1872.

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

Our correspondent "Rollo" appears to labor under a mistake that we were advocates of a system which entailed on the patriotic and military portion of the people the whole burden of military service.

On the contrary, it will be found that from the very first the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, though strongly opposed to the enforcement of the ballot, always advocated the equalization of military service, the relief of officers from the most onerous of the present burthens under which they labor, the increase of the pay of the volunteer and such measures as are calculated to render the Canadian Army more efficient.

We are opposed to the ballot because it would force into the ranks the man incapable of acquiring the habits or discipline of a soldier—the coward—and the individual better and more profitably employed for the State in some other capacity.

As the Prussian system possesses rare fascinations for most soldiers an example from the working thereof will exactly illustrate our position; during the late Franco-German War, an order was delivered to M. Krupp, the greatest iron manufacturer in the world, to join his company and battalion to march into France, he offered to find a substitute, it would not do, he telegraphed to Prince Bismarck that he would be obliged to discharge 8,000 then engaged in his foundries: of course the absurdity of forcing such a man to do duty as a private soldier was apparent.

Now the ballot is all very well but if it is to be enforced in Canada *every man must serve*, there can be no exceptions and a repetition of the Prussian dilemma is certain, with this difference, that a despotic monarch and a despotic minister have dispensing powers a free government have not.

In order, however, to meet the contingencies of the case, as far as Canada is concerned, a *poll-tax* on the property of those unwilling to serve and inducement offered to those willing will distribute the burthen of military service equally; we can see no reason why the farmer should pay his share of taxation and risk his life to defend the merchant who pays little or none and will take good care to keep out of harm's way.

The ballot was devised for use in case of war, every man then whose physical condition fitted him to act as a soldier, willing or unwilling, coward or otherwise, would be compelled to take up arms, and for such a contingency it should be reserved.

Experience acquired in the working of the present volunteer system unmistakably points out that the Captain of a company is the proper party to keep its ranks full, but care should be taken that the operation involved none of the contingencies pointed out in our correspondent's letter.

The commanding and staff officers of a battalion should also be men of influence in their neighborhoods, selections by merit or seniority are not always happy, and it is too much the fashion after the dignity of field officers rank is attained for the individual to get careless as to the keeping up of the strength of even the company from which he was promoted, he had won his spurs, and it was only reasonable they should be worn in dignified ease.

Now, that feeling ought not to prevail, the higher the rank the greater the responsibility, and the deeper ought the interest be in every detail; at the same time the military authorities should take measures to make the burthen of service as light as possible on individuals, and the State should neither demand nor enforce pecuniary sacrifices.

With the volunteers as civilians all those arrangements rest, they possess great influence, and why do they not compel their representatives to set matters right; it is

evident that the militia authorities can do nothing without legislative consent, and the leading officers of the force should see in their respective districts that this question of military service shall be made a prominent one at the general elections.

The measures required are: first, a poll tax on property for exemptions; second, the assumption of responsibility for arms and clothing by the municipalities; third, increased pay and allowances for officers and men; for every other contingency the Militia Act is amply sufficient.

Now, as the term of an *Armed Nationality*, to which "Rollo" takes exception, we hold it to be strictly correct, and have no hesitation in saying that instead of 40,000 partially disciplined soldiers the country could furnish more nearly 100,000; his own letter proves that there has been since the force was first embodied a constant succession of men filtered through its ranks and they have acquired sufficient knowledge to handle a rifle.

Officers naturally look to the retention of well drilled men in their ranks as the *ne plus ultra* of military efficiency, now the express object of our Militia Act was to make soldiers of the whole male population capable of bearing arms, and it would be obviously impossible to do so on the Prussian system by forming Reserves, inasmuch as our people must be free to come and go as they please.

What has been effected hitherto and in the future will be to lighten the whole population with partially trained men who can be made efficient soldiers within a period of three months after taking the field, and the whole necessities of the case have been met, it would neither be possible or advisable to form reserves in the sense our correspondent contemplates.

The Militia Act has, therefore, produced a powerful *Armed Nationality*, far more efficient than any force that could possibly be brought against it, and in so far, our assertion of that fact was correct; the few unprovided contingencies which have arisen can be easily adjusted, ample provision made to encourage the willing soldier, promote and foster a military spirit amongst our population and all the balances be so evenly adjusted that every man will do the duty assigned him and fill the position for which he is best fitted, mentally and physically, to his own profit and the public good.

It would be very desirable that officers of the volunteer force should follow "Rollo's" example and discuss the subject from their own stand points, the columns of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW shall be always open to those desirous of giving expression to their opinions on professional subjects, the only restrictions imposed being confined to personalities or discipline; the only way to obtain a remedy for an evil is first prove its existence.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing,"
"Drink deep or taste not the Florian spring,"

The writer in the *Toronto Telegraph* of the 17th instant would exhibit true wisdom in taking the advice at the head of this article; according to his own showing he monopolises all the practical military knowledge and patriotism of the Dominion, and as a general rule like all pretenders he is not remarkable for modesty or moderation.

In our issue of the 15th we plainly stated that he dared not make the charges he has brought against the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Army over his own signature, for the very simple reason that the public would at once discover the character covered by the obscurity of the editorial closet, as well as the personal motives that impelled him to take up the role of the pure and disinterested patriot and bearer of false witness; whatever his intentions may be it is evident that he is not a soldier in feeling or principle, has had no military experience and is utterly incompetent to criticize any of the various matters embodied in the article referred to.

As the general election is approaching unprincipled articles are sure to appear in journals of the peculiar *morale* of the *Telegraph*, they are written for a purpose and a bad one, as a matter of course no amount of misrepresentation could be too gross for the objects of the writer.

The present article in question bears a far greater resemblance to the plea of the pettifogging attorney than to the exposure of abuses by the soldier or the patriot, and it may be set down as an electioneering squib of the lowest, worst and most mischievous character, as it attempts to excite ill-feeling amongst the officers and men of the volunteer force.

We shall not subject the name of the gallant soldier who commands the Canadian Army to contamination by using it in reference to any allegation made by the *Jefferson Brick* of the *Telegraph*, but with respect to the officers placed at the head of our Artillery schools, the necessity for their appointment arose from the fact that no officer of the volunteer force was competent to fill the positions.

An officer of Artillery requires a scientific and practical education and training extending over a lengthened period, which it was impossible for volunteer officers to acquire, and the three months heretofore allotted to the course of instruction at the Artillery Schools was just sufficient to qualify them for the rank of *bombardiers*; if the *Escrito* of the *Telegraph* understands the term.

When the Imperial troops were withdrawn those schools were closed, the Militia Department on the recommendation of the Adjutant General, determined to open one in Ontario and one in Quebec, by which the higher training of the Royal Artillery Schools would be secured to officers and men.

The school in Ontario was put under the charge of Lieutenant-Colonel French of the Royal Artillery, whose scientific and practical acquirements were widely known in the service, that at Quebec under Lieutenant Colonel Strange, who resigned an honorable and lucrative office at Woolwich to accept the position, and whose abilities as a scientist, artillery officer and literary man are far better known than the *Toronto Telegraph* notorious as it is will ever become.

The impudent assumption of knowledge evinced by calling in question the propriety of such appointments would be quite sufficient to stamp the *Telegraph* man as an insolent Charlatan, while pretended indignation at the precedence justly accorded those officers betrays the selfish and unscrupulous demagogue.

There is, however, one point on which his zeal for the well-being of the volunteer force has overstepped itself--the case of the sick soldiers--it was disgraceful simply on their own part and by their own conduct, as his is in bringing it forward; but *arcades ambo* rendered according to Dr. Mooney's free and easy translation.

As it is possible the course followed by the *Telegraph* may impose on people at a distance we give its character limned by a contemporary and *pari passu* of its writers.

"It was at first an evening sheet; and in a few months attained, if not a paying circulation, at least a circulation respectable in volume. But it was terribly disfigured from the first by a most abominable style of reporting police and other items. Yet this very peculiarity made it thrive. It did not need to make the offer recently made by a new *Brunswick* daily, of being sent "free to all the tavern keepers in the Riding," for all the publicans in Ontario took the *Telegraph* at their own expense. It exactly suited their atmosphere. Then it was changed to a morning daily was enlarged, paper and premises both. Then came secessions from its staff, changes in partnership, etc. The fact was, there was hardly room for two metropolitan Tory journals. The *Telegraph* failed, too, from month to month, in getting up a war with the *Globe*. The latter took up the cue of never mentioning the name of the *Telegraph* in its columns, and that nearly extinguished it. A battle with the *Telegraph* every day in the columns of the *Globe* would have been a capital advertisement for the *Telegraph*, but it was utterly denied that favor."
—*Advertiser*.

Its role as the organ of disappointed military aspirants at Toronto has not been a happy one, it encouraged insubordination amongst the soldiers of the first expedition at Fort Garry, now its *Jefferson Brick* makes a grievance of the fact that they were not thanked in General Orders for breaking open the gaol and liberating by force a comrade charged with felony.

Throughout its whole course it has been in the hands of a knot of little demagogues who would stick at no amount of misrepresentation to accomplish their ends, and it has never considered the public interest when its own was in any manner involved, such

a course may be a koon business one, but there are higher considerations which a journal professing to be an exponent of public opinion should always keep in view.

With a mixed population it is not wise to excite one section against the other; with a military force kept together by the loosest of all bonds, it is not patriotic to tamper; and while a fair, candid and moderate statement of abuses will always merit respect, reckless and false charges distinguished by their malignity and distortion of facts will only command the contempt of all right thinking men.

Will *Jefferson Brick* let the people know what a staunch uncompromising advocate of their loyalty and patriotism they have got in him, by publishing his real name and pretensions to considerations.

Such an accomplished military critic should not hide his rush light in the editorial corner of the *Telegraph* office, but set it up on an hill that all Canada, and the States too, may rejoice in the blaze. He is decidedly standing in his own light by losing his identity under what Tony Woller calls the *ve* of that protean individual the editor. In fact he is doing his own talents injustice and destroying his pretensions by a too close incognito according to his own showing, and he ought to know he is fit to fill any office such as Minister of Militia, Adjutant-General, Commander-in-Chief of Horse Marines or the Lake Squadron.

Now, as the people of Canada occasionally want a man to fill some one of those offices and more frequently that of a village pedagogue, for which *Jefferson Brick* by the way shows special aptitude as he talks learnedly on grammar, the interests of the country suffers a greater loss by this sacrifice of talents and the people would, without doubt, if they know who he was elect him at once to the first vacant office, he might even aspire to a seat at the Aldermanic Board of Toronto for which his aptitude at peculiar facts would render him highly eligible. Won't the *Telegraph* trot him out.

Six months have scarcely elapsed since the Dominion Government authorized the establishment of schools of gunnery at Kingston and Quebec. The great importance of this step is not generally known to the reading public, for, no one, save those acquainted with the material of war, can fully realize the great necessity of having the stupendous military works and stores of the country guarded by properly educated officers and men. The ordinary civilian has no conception of the vast and intricate nature of the Canadian armament which was so suddenly thrown upon the shoulders of this infant government.

He would be quite satisfied to know that the extensive fortifications of Quebec and Kingston were in the hands of a few old pensioners or civilian caretakers, and would only awake from his mistaken sense of secu-

rity by one day ridding in the papers of the loss of several million dollars worth of property by fire, or, even by negligence; for, be it known, that modern war material requires constant watchfulness to prevent its becoming inert from atmospheric influences, or a source of danger from spontaneous combustion, or chemical action.

It was no doubt with an eye to these evil possibilities that a wise legislature brought into existence the two batteries of artillery which form the Canadian Schools of Gunnery, and which it is hoped will be sources of professional improvement to the Dominion Artillery, the two batteries and the companies at Manitoba, are, as a substitute for a regular force, perhaps, numerically, the weakest in the world. In this respect we are even more conspicuous than our neighbors who boast of having an army of only 30,000. Canada may exclaim with gusto that she has only about 500 embodied!

After this, the Yankees cannot affirm that they control the largest country on "air," by the smallest army. A brief account of the school of gunnery at Quebec, which, since its formation six months ago has made rapid advancement besides arming, in the depth of a Canadian winter every bastion in the Citadel with Tim. B. L. Guns; the solitary exception being the King's bastion, armed by the Royal Artillery before leaving, may be interesting. There has been a course of lectures with practical drills culminating in the competitive practice of which I send you an account.

With few exceptions the men composing the command had no military experience of any kind, but unlike the ordinary army recruits, they are of a far more educated class and have not adopted the life of a soldier so much from necessity as choice. Many indeed there are who have left comfortable homes and whose connections are highly respectable, to embrace an opportunity of following a military career.

A few of the inevitable "black sheep," however, put in an appearance, only to be "shown the Gate" promptly at any manifestation of confirmed worthlessness. The soldier upon joining the battery is at once put into the awkward squad from which he cannot emerge until he has mastered the rudiments; his character and habits, his abilities and education ascertained and duly recorded. From the awkward squad he goes to small arm drill, and so on, upward through the great labyrinth of artillery, technically, theoretically and practically he enters into that vast field of science from which it takes so many years of incessant study to come out a proficient.

The first fruits of the school have been gathered in a recent competitive great gun-practice which took place on the 11th, 12th and 13th inst. The system of firing pursued was that recommended by the committee on competitive practice for the Royal Artillery last year,

It is a subject of great importance with arms of precision to select, the most intelligent and naturally keen sighted non-commissioned officers and gunners as Artillery marksmen instead of the wasteful practice of allowing every man to fire. Accordingly the selection of marksmen on this occasion was economically made by pointing unloaded guns. The distance of the target (1,300 yds), which was placed on the river ice was taken before commencing practice, by the officers of the battery using the gunner's spirit level quadrant to find the angle of depression; the height of the bastion above the River St. Lawrence being known. That the practice was excellent despite the plunging fire from the battery was only natural considering the intelligent status of the men, who are as a rule educationally superior to the Rank and File of the Regular Army. It is to be regretted that there are not more openings for a class of men who are not compelled to enlist by want of means, but impelled by a passion for military service; doubtless, however, with the natural growth of the Dominion forces those who join in its infancy will have a better chance of the prizes (if any such there be in Canada) that the profession of arms generally offers to the well conducted and valiant.

A very great drawback at the school has been, however, the absence of horses without which it is impossible to teach practically the movements of field artillery.

We are not in a position to know exactly how the Gunnery School at Kingston progresses, but have no doubt but they are doing their work steadily and satisfactorily.

For the practice of this Battery see General Orders, page 209.

The above communication shows the value of these Military Schools and is a sufficient practical answer to all snarling critics.

The old Whig maxim that Colonies are a source of power to the Crown, therefore dangerous to the liberty of the subject, and the duty of every true patriot would be best fulfilled by forcing them into independent political existence, has been improved upon by their successors, the Whig Radicals, who assert that they ought to be disowned and abandoned, because they are costly and return no profit, politically or otherwise.

That both propositions are false has been known, but lately, a Mr. Archibald Hamilton in a paper read before the Statistical Society has proved the fact, that the greatest proportion of British Trade is with her Colonial dependencies, that the largest profit even in the shape of direct revenue is derived from it, and her most costly mercantile transaction; those already yielding least profits are with her foreign customers, especially the United States, to which Mr. Gladstone's administration would so complacently have sacrificed Canada.

From the statements made, it appeared

that the whole value of British exports is £222,000,000 sterling, of this the Colonies actually absorb £51,000, in the following proportions: British North America, £1 5s 8d per head; Australia and New Zealand, £8 10s 6d. The Cape Colony, £8 12s; the West Indies, £2 7s. In nineteen years these colonies have paid to the Imperial Treasury £45,000,000 sterling.

The stock arguments of the Manchester School have always been that the Colonists taxed British produce and manufactures for their own advantage, and there can be no doubt that we levy an import duty which is paid by our people, so that we contribute not only a fair quota to the Imperial Treasury but are obliged to pay taxes again on the same article to support our own Government.

Taking our population at 4,000,000 souls our exports would realize in value about £5,200,000, of this £520,000 would be the annual contribution of Canada to the Imperial Treasury, a sum that covers the whole cost of Great Britain's armament in North America including the squadron on that station; and if we take the population of the West India Islands at 800,000 souls, they receive £1,880,000 sterling of exports, and pay into the Imperial Treasury £188,000 sterling per annum, so that her possessions in the west are an actual source of direct and increasing profits.

The account however does not stop there, she would be obliged to maintain her North American squadrons to protect her commercial relations with these pets of the Manchester School, the Yankees, if she had no colonies in America, and therefore those dependencies not only pay for the force necessary to protect her interests but yield her a profit besides.

Mr. Hamilton states that the whole expenditure for a period of nineteen years was £443,000, but it must be remembered that over three-fourths of that sum went to the maintenance of Gibraltar, Malta, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Aden, the penal settlements and other objects of a strictly imperial nature, so that the much abused colonies have paid for their own protection and also for that of the foreign trade of Great Britain.

In fact by the actual returns the total cost of British North America, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and the Cape of Good Hope, territories containing over four and a half million of square miles of the richest land, with the most varied and valuable natural products in the world, peopled by over seven millions of inhabitants is just half a million pounds sterling or barely what British North America pays into the British Treasury annually. We commend this fact to the political economist.

In this view of the case Mr. Hamilton assumes that the Exports are profits and takes the rate of taxation on income at ten per cent. as in the nineteen years above stated, the total value of Exports was £450,000,000 sterling.

Whether placed in that light or as duties derived from colonial imports the results would be the same, so that so far from the colonies being a charge on that patient and much abused animal the British tax payer, the representative of the tribe of Isaacar has quietly been adding to his comfort by the labors of the colonists.

In the discussion which ensued on the reading of this paper it was shown that the trade followed the flag, that the actual profits derived from the foreign trade bore no proportion to that derived from the Colonies and that the greatest calamity that could befall the British manufacturers would be the adoption of that course on which John Bright, Gladstone and his colleagues had tried to force the colonies, and their independence would be followed by discriminating tariffs which would speedily reduce the importance of Manchester.

The proportion of British trade to the United States is just twelve shillings and two pence sterling per head, to France six shillings, Spain two shillings and eleven pence, and Russia eleven pence, Portugal ten shillings and four pence, and Holland £2 16s. 8d. sterling.

This exhibit does not tell for the advocates of disintegration. The civil war in the United States disabled England's most formidable commercial antagonist, and nothing will revive the competition except the separation of Canada from the empire. Three years after that event British manufactured goods would be as great a rarity in the North or South American continent as they are now on the Pamir steppe, and it would be very doubtful indeed if they would not experience a corresponding decline elsewhere.

If England can boast of her advanced school of political philosophers, Canada can show her small coterie of doctrinaires, but we have a protection from their machinations which the mother country lacks, and it is an overwhelming preponderance of the agricultural interest, who know what taxation means, and who will not be influenced by the aspirations of youthful advocates, the dreams of broken merchants, nor the plottings of effete politicians.

During the discussions on this very interesting paper a question was raised as to the value of land in the colonies. Speaking for British North America of its 3,000,000 square miles of an area, over two thirds are arable lands, and the vast proportion of it richer soil than is to be found in the British Isles.

The remaining portion is forest, mountain, and pasture lands, valuable in no ordinary degree, producing minerals of all descriptions from gold in paying quantities to coal.

What the future relations to the Empire may be will rest with the statesmen of Great Britain—not of the Whig Radical School.

Mr. Edmund the Home Rule Candidate has been returned to Parliament from Wexford after an easy contest.

RANGE REPORT.—Continued.

Names and Number of Rounds.	Pts. Gained.			Total.	Time.	Wind and Remarks.
	Elevation.	Direction.	Fuse.			
Gunner Russeau,						
1 solid shot.....	3	1	0	4		
2 do	4	3	0	7		
3 do	4	3	0	7		
4 shell.....	4	3	0	7		
5 do	0	0	0	0		
Total	15	0	0	21	8.49	
Sergt. Lyle,						
1 solid shot.....	1	0	0	1		
2 do	11	0	0	12		
3 do	12	0	0	12		
4 shell.....	0	0	0	0		
5 do	4	0	0	4		
Total	13	0	0	23	9.20	
Gunner Lambert,						
1 solid shot.....	1	0	0	1		
2 do	3	0	0	3		
3 do	3	0	0	3		
4 shell.....	0	0	0	0		
5 do	4	0	0	4		
Total	11	0	0	21	11.10	
Gunner Smith,						
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0		
2 do	0	0	0	0		
3 do	4	0	0	4		
4 shell.....	4	0	0	4		
5 do	8	0	0	8		
Total	16	0	0	22	6.15	
Gunn. J. McDonald,						
1 solid shot.....	3	3	0	6		
2 do	3	3	0	6		
3 do	2	1	0	3		
4 shell.....	4	0	0	4		
5 do	0	0	0	0		
Total.....	13	0	0	22	.15	
Corporal Small,						
1 solid shot.....	1	3	0	4		
2 do	4	3	0	7		
3 do	4	3	0	7		
4 shell.....	0	0	0	0		
5 do	0	0	0	0		
Total.....	22	0	0	21	7.22	
Gunner Cannon,						
1 solid shot.....	4	2	0	6		
2 do	0	0	0	0		
3 do	0	0	0	0		
4 shell.....	4	2	0	6		
5 do	4	2	0	6		
Total	13	6	0	18	7.25	
Bombr. Holland,						
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0		
2 do	3	3	0	6		
3 do	3	3	0	6		
4 shell.....	0	0	0	0		
5 do	2	3	0	5		
Total	8	9	0	17	8.45	
Bombr. Chapman.						
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0		
2 do	1	3	0	4		
3 do	1	1	0	2		
4 shell.....	1	1	0	2		
5 do	2	1	0	3		
Total	5	6	0	11	9.30	
Gunner Farron,						
1 solid shot.....	0	0	0	0		
2 do	0	0	0	0		
3 do	0	0	0	0		
4 shell.....	3	2	2	7		
5 do	3	2	2	7		
Total	6	4	2	12	7.50	

I certify that the foregoing is an official copy of the Range Report of Competitive practice of "B" Battery School of Gunnery.

M. DUCHESNAY,
Lieutenant & Adjutant.

MEMO.—(40) Forty men competed, but (1) man was ruled out on account of his having been assisted in the laying of his gun.

M. DUCHESNAY,
Lt. and Adjutant.

The following are the names of the 12 non commissioned officers and men who have become Artillery Marksmen, and as such are entitled to wear Gold lace badges of cross guns.

NAMES.	Pts.	Time.
Sergeant G Stewart.....	40	m. 8. 5.
Qr.-Master Sergt. P. Connolly..	39	10. 15
Gunner T. Gilchrist	38	6. 55
Bombr. F. Labbie	37	10
Bombr. G. B. Morrisette.....	36	6. 36
Gunner E. McDonald.....	35	6. 44
Serg. Maj. A. Lynden.....	35	7
Gunner M. McKenzie.....	35	7
Sergt. J. Reynolds.....	35	8. 3
Gunner Bilodeau.....	35	8. 35
do D. Wilson	35	9. 35
do F. H. Fortier.....	34	7. 30

Lt.-Colonel T. B. Strange, Commandant of the School of Gunnery (B Battery) having requested permission to present a silver badge to be worn by the winner of the highest score for combined Artillery and small arm practice, the request made is hereby acceded to, and the offer thankfully acknowledged.

Major Montizambert of the Quebec Garrison Artillery at present attached, to the School of Gunnery Quebec (B Battery) having requested permission to present a challenge cup to be held by the best shot each year, in the School of Gunnery, to become the property of the winner who holds it two consecutive years, the request made is acceded to and the offer thankfully acknowledged.

By Command of His Excellency the
Governor General.

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

IF WE KNEW.

If we know the cares and crosses
Crowding round our neighbor's way,
If we knew the little losses
Sorely grievous every day,
Would we then so often chide him
For his lack of thrift and gain,
Leaving on his heart a shadow,
Leaving on his life a stain?

If we know the clouds above us
Held but gentle blessings there,
Would we turn away all trembling
In our blind and weak despair?
Would we shrink from little shadow,
Lying on the dewy grass,
While 'tis only birds of Eden
Just in mercy flying past?

If we know the silent story
Quivering through the heart of pain,
Would our manhood dare to doom them,
Back to haunts of guilt again?
Life has many a tangled crossing,
Joy hath many a break of woe,
And the cheeks tear-stained are white,
This tho' blessed angels know.

Let us reach into our bosoms
For the key to other lives,
And with love toward erring nature,
Cherished good that still survives
So that when our disrobed spirits
Soar to realms of light again,
We may say, "Dear Father, judge us
As we judge our fellow-men."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

Continued from page 203.

66. In view of the foregoing considerations it is recommended that plan (a) or plan (b) should be respectively applied to those artillery districts in which the adoption of either would be the more economical and convenient.

67. It has been proposed to train Militia Infantry regiments at the depot centres of their respective brigade districts; but Militia Artillery regiments could not in every case train at their respective artillery centres since these are supposed to be at the Royal Artillery head quarters, where the means of imparting special instruction in garrison gun drill do not always exist.

One or more convenient training stations for Militia Artillery must therefore be selected in each artillery district on the coast, where the necessary means of special instruction already exists.

68. The question as to the best mode of providing permanent staff for the Militia artillery regiments is one of considerable importance, and is closely connected with the question as to the best and most economical method of providing Instructors of Volunteer artillery.

69. The committee is of opinion that the permanent staff of any Militia Artillery regiment may not only suffice for the duties connected with the yearly training of their regiment, but may also act during at least ten months of each year as instructors to Volunteer corps thereby rendering it possible in all districts largely to reduce the number of Volunteer Artillery instructors, and in some districts to absorb them altogether.

70. At present all the instructors of Volunteer Artillery are sergeants of the Royal Artillery, and it is suggested to apply this system in future to the Militia Artillery, absorbing as soon as possible the present permanent staff and replacing them by Royal Artillery sergeants.

71. Each Militia Artillery regiment should of course be provided with a permanent staff in the proportion of two sergeants to each company or battery. A certain number of these sergeants should be attached during the year to the depot centre of the artillery district, or to the depot centre of

the line district to which the Militia Artillery regiment territorially belongs, according as plan (a) or plan (b) may be selected for adoption, and would be employed, when not required for the yearly training, in instructing those Volunteer Artillery corps which might happen to be at or within easy reach of the depot centre; while the remaining sergeants of the artillery permanent staff would, when not required for training, be detached as instructors to the head quarters of the different Volunteer Artillery corps within the district.

72. The proposed arrangement of artillery districts, showing their respective component counties; their respective establishments of Reserve Forces of Artillery; and their respective training stations; is given in Appendix (F).

73. As an illustration of the working of plan (a), the first English artillery district comprising the counties of Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, York, Westmoreland, Notts, Derby, Leicester, and their eleven Line centres is here taken.

The Reserve Forces Artillery of this district consist of 3 Regimental Militia Artillery thus distributed at—

Berwick.....	4 batteries.
Hartlepool....	4 "
Scarborough..	6 "

Total 14

Volunteer Artillery 84 batteries—viz, at—

Tynemouth... 3	} Northumberland... 20
Alnwick..... 6	
Newcastle... 11	
Sunderland... 1	
Seaham..... 11	
South Shields. 4	} Durham 18
Hartlepool... 2	
Whitehaven... 1	
Carlisle..... 1	
Maryport... 1	
Harrington... 1	} Cumberland 4
Scarboro'... 2	
Filey..... 1	
Hull..... 6	
Hornsey 1	
Burlington... 1	} Yorkshire 12
Flamboro'... 1	
Guisboro'... 8	
Whitby 1	
Leeds..... 7	
Bradford.... 1	} York..... 1
York..... 1	
Sheffield... 8	
Bowling.... 1	
Heckmondwikel	
Batley..... 1	} 1
Halifax.... 1	

Total 84

Within this district the three Militia Artillery regiments would possess in the aggregate twenty eight regimental staff sergeants.

The number of recruits passing through the Artillery depot centre in any one year may be estimated at 150, and would not be likely to exceed fifty at any one time.

Of the twenty-eight Militia Artillery sergeants, there might be employed during ten months of the year—

In instructing the 6 Volunteer batteries at Alnwick.....	2
3 batteries at Tynemouth.....	1
11 " Newcastle.....	3
12 " Durham and Sunderland.....	4
6 " Hull.....	2
8 " Guisboro'.....	3

7 " Leeds.....	2
8 " Sheffield.....	3
55 batteries.....	20

Leaving the isolated corps in Cumberland and Yorkshire to be otherwise dealt with for purpose of instruction. The twenty sergeants above specified might be at all times employed in recruiting for the Royal and Militia Artillery, under the orders of the artillery lieutenant-colonel. There would remain eight Militia Artillery sergeants stationed permanently in the artillery centre for the instruction of recruits.

It is assumed that the artillery depot centre would be the brigade head quarters, and ready provided with what may be considered a sufficient staff.

Supposing either Newcastle or Sheffield, which are headquarters of Royal Artillery field brigades, to be selected as the depot centres of this artillery district it would only be for the purpose of training recruits since the Militia Artillery regiments of Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire must be sent for their yearly training to the convenient training stations on the coast—Tynemouth, Sunderland, Hartlepool, where all the means and appliances already exist for giving instruction in garrison gun drill.

As an example of the working of plan (b) the case of Northumberland is taken.

This county constitutes a Line district, having for its depot centre Newcastle.

The Reserve Forces Artillery within this district consists of—

1 regt. Militia Artillery... 4 com. or bat.
Volunteer Artillery 20 batteries.

The Volunteer batteries are disposed as follows;—

At Newcastle (Line depot)..	11 batteries..
Alnwick.....	6 "
Tynemouth.....	3 "

The Militia Artillery would possess 8 sergeants as permanent staff taken from and supernumerary to, the Royal Artillery; of whom two would be employed in instructing the 6 batteries at Alnwick; 1 in instructing the 3 batteries at Tynemouth; while the remaining five, attached to the depot centre at Newcastle, would be available for the instruction of the 11 Volunteer batteries of that place.

These sergeants would all act as recruiting agents for the Militia Artillery of the county, as well as for the Royal Artillery, under the orders of the artillery lieutenant-colonel.

The outside number of artillery recruits passing through the depot in any one year would be fifty, and would therefore never be likely to exceed twenty at any one time.

The plan here suggested of training Militia Artillery recruits at Line depot centres, does not involve the provision of any additional barrack accommodation. A sufficient margin for Militia Artillery recruits was left in estimating the capacity of the depot centre barrack; and the Militia artillery sergeants might draw lodging money where quarters were not available.

Within the artillery district, of which Northumberland forms one of the component counties (see Appendix F), there are several stations which would be convenient for the special instruction and yearly training of the Militia Artillery regiments of Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire, all comprised within the artillery district; viz Tynemouth, Sunderland, Hartlepool, and Paul's Point, at all which places there are existing means of instruction in working garrison guns.

REGULAR AND YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

75. It is not possible to effect the same intimate connection between these two branches of the cavalry service as proposed to be created between Line and Militia Infantry; because it could only be in very exceptional cases that men would volunteer from the Yeomanry for service in the Regular Cavalry.

The Yeomanry consist of the farming class who are attached by personal interest to the soil, while the Regular Cavalry obtain their recruits, for the most part, from the urban population.

The suggestions for dealing with this subject are therefore limited to the following measures:—

76. Adjutants of Yeomanry regiments to be appointed in future from captains on the full pay of Regular Cavalry regiments.

The permanent staff sergeants of Yeomanry regiments to be sergeants of Regular Cavalry.

Cavalry officers to be allowed to go on half pay after a certain length of service for the purpose of serving as officers in Yeomanry regiments.

77. As it is proposed that in future the officers of Yeomanry, like all other officers of the Reserve Forces, shall qualify professionally for the rank which they may hold, as well as for promotion to a higher rank, facilities should be given for professional instruction by attaching officers of the Reserve Forces Cavalry to Regular Cavalry regiments on the system which has been so successful in instructing officers of the Reserve Forces Infantry and Artillery.

78. It might be possible to extend the system of forming cavalry training schools at cavalry stations conveniently situated with respect to the Reserve Forces Cavalry Corps; where Yeomanry recruits on first enrolment might receive their recruit training; and where officers on first appointment might learn their duties; a certain number of the permanent staff sergeants of the Yeomanry regiments of the district being attached to the depot centre for the purpose of instruction.

ON RECRUITING.

79. The brigade districts into which the country is proposed to be divided will constitute so many recruiting districts, each of which presided over by the lieutenant colonel of the depot centre, will form the special recruiting field for the Line and Militia Infantry battalions of the brigade.

80. These will, it is expected, as a rule, obtain their recruits within the limits of their brigade district, although recruits may be allowed to enlist from any locality for the Line regiments of any brigade; and although Line regiments will not be precluded from accepting recruits wherever they may be stationed at home.

81. Under a system of voluntary enlistment the recruiting arrangements must obviously be very elastic; and where the occasion requires it, particular regiments, which may find it very difficult otherwise to obtain their necessary supply, may be allowed on special authority to send recruiting parties into brigade districts other than that to which they belong.

82. Thus, if it were not considered desirable that any battalion should possess an exclusively English, Scotch or Irish character, such a result might be precluded by means of the recruiting arrangements above referred to, whereby each battalion, obtaining a certain number of recruits in its proper Infantry district and by enlistment at its temporary head quarters, might be required to

supplement these, in such proportions as might be desired, by recruits drawn from districts in any part of the whole United Kingdom.

83. One of the great advantages anticipated from parcelling the country into districts of limited area is that thereby every corner of the country will be more thoroughly explored and worked for recruiting purposes than heretofore by the recruiting machinery of the different districts.

This recruiting machinery will, for the Line and Militia infantry, be supplied in each district by the permanent Militia staff attached to the depot centre, under the orders of the lieutenant-colonel of the depot.

84. The committee is of opinion that in the case where a district is formed of two battalions belonging to the same regiment, one supposed to be always abroad, the casualties of the foreign battalion may be supplied with certainty and regularity, even under the present recruiting laws. Recruits from the depot being of a rule, drafted into and forming the lower stratum of the home battalion; and the supplies of men required to feed the foreign battalion being drawn off from the upper stratum of the home battalion. By this method the drafts for India, consisting of men of the required age, would at all times be ready made up, and might be despatched as required.

85. The case of a district which is composed of two linked regiments however, present difficulties which it appears almost impossible to surmount, unless the Secretary of State shall have the power to transfer men by a stroke of his pen, from one of the linked regiments serving at home to the other serving in India; and that power can only be obtained by enlisting all recruits for general service in the Line battalions of any brigade.

86. The periods at which Indian drafts must be despatched are arbitrarily fixed by the Indian climate. If those drafts may not be supplied by the home battalion, they must be composed of men fresh from the depot, recruits of a few months service; and the conditions as to age will probably be found very embarrassing.

So long as the demands for Indian drafts are limited to seventy or eighty men for each regiment, which constitutes the present average, it might be possible to supply that number of men of the required age straight from the depot. The operation of the system would be to pass into the home battalion all recruits under the age for Indian service, and to retain the others at the depot until the time should arrive for despatching the drafts. But when the short service system shall come into fuller operation the demands for Indian drafts would be proportionally increased; and it would be found often impossible to make up the yearly draft without resorting largely for aid to the home battalions. When that time arrives one of two courses must of necessity be adopted viz:—

— Either the number constituting the depot must be largely increased at the expense of the battalion serving at home, the latter being proportionally reduced; or some arrangement as to terms of enlistment must be made which will admit of the linked battalion at home supplying a large part of the draft to be sent abroad to its sister battalion.

87. It would seem moreover, very desirable that the system proposed to be inaugurated, though differing in name in two adjacent districts, should be identical and uniform in its action; and if the proposed mea-

* One district having two battalions of the same regiment, while the other has two independent regiments.

sure of enlisting men for general brigade service should be viewed as tending, in a very small degree, to weaken the line which now separates two independent regiments, it is hoped that the good sense of the army may be relied upon to accept a provision, the advantages of which are so palpable to the general good of the service.

88. In time of war it would be convenient to enlist recruits for general service in the Line and Militia battalions of any brigade district.

89. Recruiting for the Guards, Engineers, Rifle regiments and Cavalry, must be general over the whole surface of the country under the following arrangements:—

Whenever any of the above named services have occasion to send recruiting parties into any particular Line brigade district the authority for their doing so should be communicated by the adjutant-general of the army through the general commanding the division to the lieutenant-colonel of the brigade depot concerned.

90. Recruiting for the Royal and Militia Artillery, will, as a rule, be by artillery districts, in the same manner, and with the same general qualifications, as recruiting for Line and Militia Infantry is by infantry brigade districts.

91. But an artillery district will comprise many infantry districts, and the question arises—how are the requirements of the Artillery in respect to general recruiting to be reconciled with the requirements of the localized infantry regiments, and with the jurisdiction of the colonels of infantry centres over their respective recruiting districts; so not only shall there be no clashing of interests or authority, but that the different services employed in raising recruits may act in perfect concord.

92. Since it would be impossible to ensure a fixed and certain supply of recruits from each of the recruiting districts into which the country is supposed to be divided, the Royal Artillery must have facilities for obtaining specially qualified recruits in such districts as afford the most favourable field for their recruiting operations.

93. Whenever, therefore, the colonel commanding the artillery of a division might apply to the divisional general for authority to raise recruits in any one, or in several, of the Line recruiting districts comprised within the command exercised by the general; the latter, should he see fit to grant the application, should instruct the colonels commanding these Line districts that the artillery had been authorized through the agency of the Artillery lieutenant-colonel, to raise so many recruits (specifying the number) in their respective Line districts.

94. It is indispensable that the officer placed in special charge of a recruiting district should have this information, since the entrance of a party of Artillery to raise recruits within his special recruiting field might seriously affect his calculations, unless the number of recruits to be thus exceptionally raised were known and allowed for by him beforehand.

95. The general should obviously be charged with regulating the recruiting service of his divisional command. That command comprises many Line centres or recruiting districts; and the general should therefore be the judge—in the event of the artillery applying to raise an exceptional number of recruits in any particular district, whether that number can be spared without seriously prejudicing the efficiency of the localized force for which that district forms the special recruiting ground.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—In an editorial of your issue of the 15th inst., occurs the following passage, "It is a subject of just pride to the Canadian statesman and people, that they have succeeded in solving the problem of an armed nationality." Now, Mr. Editor, I trust that I am not one of those people who are in the habit of finding fault, merely for the sake of finding fault, but if we Canadians have really succeeded in solving the problem of an armed nationality, it is certainly news to me, and I think will be news to the greater part of your readers, who as I believe are chiefly members of the Active Force. That such of our people as have carefully, prudently and constantly ever made it a rule to have neither act nor part in the volunteer or any other movement looking to the defence of the country, should in consequence of so seldom troubling themselves about such things, really not understand what is meant by an armed nationality, and so not understanding, should be quite willing and indeed anxious to believe that nothing more is necessary to be done is quite possible. But such people alone will not feel inclined to smile, when you seriously discourse of our having successfully solved the problem of an armed nationality.

An armed nationality as I understand it; is one in which every man of suitable age to bear arms, is capable of taking on himself at a moment's notice the duty of a soldier, and of acquitting himself satisfactorily in the discharge of such duty. Are the Canadian people in that position? No, by my faith, they are not. And I will venture to say that if the present volunteer system is continued, they will not succeed in making even a respectable approach to it, which in our present circumstances is perhaps all that is desirable or necessary. If a *terce en masse* of our population was required next week or month to repel some sudden attack of our giant neighbor, beyond forty thousand more or less, of very partially drilled volunteers, out of a population of four millions, would we have a single regiment to show, in whose ability to be of service, the most sanguine could confide? May heaven long keep us from such a solution of the problem of an armed nationality, as this would be! And this unhappy result, would be directly traceable to our vicious but by some people much be praised volunteer system. Had the service been made compulsory, had a certain number of men been drafted during the last ten years, each contingent, as its two or three years term of service expired, being formed up in a compact and available reserve, each Reserve Battalion being kept as intact and well defined as when forming part of the Active Force, with

arms and accoutrements ready at Head Quarters to be delivered at a few hours notice; we might indeed without a misapplication of language, boast that we had done something towards solving the problem of an armed nationality. Nothing of this kind can or will happen, no such result can be arrived at under the volunteer system—a system which is in great part kept alive (after its defects have been discovered, and repeatedly and ably exposed in your own columns) by the incessant, the fulsome laudations of it, coming from persons who ought to know better, but whose patriotism appears to be somewhat in excess of their judgment. Believe me, Mr. Editor, men will not be found to volunteer, with the prospect of being formed up in reserves when their time has expired, nor do I see that any blame can attach to them for declining to do so.

But failing to form such reserves, and allowing our partially drilled men to be absorbed in the great and chaotic mass of the people, we in great part waste the money spent on their military instruction, and inasmuch as we are concerned, the solution of the problem of an armed nationality remains as far off as ever. If our present volunteer system turned out every three years forty thousand men, who having really and truly completed the prescribed drill forthwith made way for an equal number of fresh men. Then, though no care should be taken to form reserves, something at least might be said for it. Every volunteer officer however, knows that to suppose anything of the kind as actually taking place, would be the most egregious nonsense. In point of fact, some volunteers drill for one year (*i. e.* six teen days) only, others for two or three years, and a large proportion have been in the force for seven or eight years, if not indeed since its original inception. The longer a man has been in a company, and the more efficient he has become in consequence the less is his Captain willing to part with him, and naturally exerts himself to the utmost to prevent his making way for some green hand. But the volunteer who has been nine years in a Company, has taken the place of three men, who under a different system would have received a certain amount of military instruction and in so far have assisted us in solving the problem of an armed nationality. A volunteer officer myself, and one of long standing, I may without exposing myself to the charge of self conceit, pretend to know something of the working of the system, and it is now many years since I came to the conclusion that the sooner it was abolished, and a different system substituted for it, the better it would be for the true safety of the country. For years past the force has been upheld only by the unceasing but not unwearied efforts of the Company officers, who have sacrificed time, money, and I fear in some instances self-respect, rather than confess that the company could not be kept to

gether. May I ask, what right has the community to exact or expect such sacrifices from any set of men? There is an old saying about not driving a willing horse to death. The advocates of the present system so far from agreeing with the spirit of that aphorism, seem to think that as soon as one poor fellow breaks down and retires in disgust, it is of no consequence and all right as another fool will certainly be found to take his place, some one who having no objection to humble pie as an article of diet, will consent to coax and wheedle his neighbors to join the company, and ever after be their most humble servant, and very careful how he offends them in the discharge of his duty. In short, the officers are in a false position and discipline and efficiency suffer accordingly. The men cannot always be had when required, and consequently a full company in camp is the exception rather than the rule. The men's pay is not quite equal to that of daily labourers throughout the country, and they therefore never weary of grumbling about the sacrifices they make in becoming volunteers, which is of course pleasant for the officer who induced them to join, and highly conducive to discipline and a cheerful discharge of duty. In a word, volunteering is played out. The novelty which was its chief attraction has worn off. Men no longer present themselves as volunteers, (at least in this part of the Province) but must be coaxed and entreated. And there being no immediate danger of invasion the movement is discouraged by thoughtless people, who do not understand or will not seek to remember that a soldier cannot be created simultaneously with the emergency which requires his services. These people have come to look on volunteering, as mere playing at soldiers, and are much given to bestowing a pitying smile on those who are so foolish as to abandon their usual avocations for so barren an amusement. I am far from wishing to convey the idea that volunteering in Canada has not been productive of some good results, or that the money spent upon it has been squandered; on the contrary, I do not think that we have at all paid too dearly for our whistle; but it is time, it long has been time that the system were changed. What we want and must have is a system which making the officers more independent of the men, will enable them to put in practice a more healthy discipline. A system which will not throw on a few patriotic, energetic and self-sacrificing young men, the great burden of keeping together a force in which the whole community is equally interested. A system which will gradually train to arms a considerable proportion of our people, and never losing sight of such trained men, will enable us to put our hands on them the moment we may require them. Such a system is the *draft*. When it is put in force and not before we will indeed have made a considerable step towards solving the problem of an armed nationality.

Yours &c.,

ROLLO.

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