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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. V.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1871.

No. 12.

### VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. II.

THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

(From the United States Army and Navy Journal.)

#### THE REVOLVER.

WITHOUT any doubt the introduction of the revolver into cavalry service has doubled the destructive power of the latter; and of all revolvers introduced the old "Colt's" is by far the best. It shoots straight. No other revolver that I am acquainted with is sighted with the precision of Colt's. Many others shoot as strong, some stronger. Many are loaded with much more facility and more easily cleaned. But the fact remains that, for active service, Colt's revolver will be adjudged the best pistol extant by any and every officer and man who has to stake his life on his weapons. The reason is this: Screw a Colt's revolver into a vice, with the two sights in line with an object, and when you pull the trigger the ball will go exactly where it is aimed. All six bullets can be put into the same hole. With no revolver that we have ever seen; other than Colt's, can this be done. Smith and Wesson, Dean and Adams', etc., all are nice looking revolvers, easy to clean, easy to load, shooting strong—in all respects but one better than Colt's. But the one excellence of delicate and correct sighting has overbalanced all these other claims and renders Colt's *primus inter pares*.

It is a strange thing that gunsmiths and inventors appear to entirely overlook this fact of precision. Revolvers and pistols are advertised daily, whose simplicity, ease of loading, and penetration are duly vaunted to the public. Civilians buy them to keep them from possible burglars. It's all their good for. Their sighting is simply nil.

What good is a strong-shooting, quick-loading pistol to a man who does not know where his bullet will fetch up when he points it at a mark? The inexorable logic of experience teaches soldiers, sailors, hunters, and desperadoes, North and South, that they can rely on a Colt's pistol, when a Smith & Wesson's, etc., will "shoot all over."

You must keep cool in loading a Colt's revolver. The weapon is a valuable one and requires as much care as a watch. Neglected, it becomes as useless as a blunt sabre,

refuses to resolve, misses fire, and misbehaves itself generally. Arm a lot of green-horns with it, and they will render it useless in six weeks. Give it to men who know its value and they will do wonders with it.

In the hands of the Southern cavalry the revolver became their pet and pride. The terrible use it was put to in broken ground, at close quarters, by Mosby's troopers, doubled its real efficiency by its moral strength. Our future cavalry will do well to accept the lesson taught by this fact.

The true use of the revolver lies in irregular warfare, where single combats and sudden encounters of small parties take place, on horseback, in narrow lanes, among woods and fences, where the sabre cannot be used. In such places, and wherever regular order is broken up, the revolver is invaluable. In pursuits, patrols, and surprises it is superior to the sabre. In line charges in the field the latter is always conqueror if it is sharp.

The use of the revolver should be as carefully taught as that of the sabre. Ammunition, to practice with, is not thrown away here. The weapon should be inspected every day by company officers, as none gets out of order so soon if neglected.

But one thing should be impressed on every man—never try long shots when on horseback. This is the way ammunition is wasted. Target shooting may be made very instructive and useful, as men soon grow proud of proficiency in pistol shooting and improve from emulation.

For loading Colt's revolvers a powder-flask and bullets are much better than compressed cartridges. The latter have hardly any strength. I have seen pistols burst in firing a second shot from their use. The first bullet stuck in the barrel midway, the powder not being strong enough to expel it fully. The second burst the pistol.

Copper cartridges, with fulminating powder inserted, is better than either. The Remington pistol uses these; but I have not seen any of Colt's pattern arranged for the same purpose. If they ever are, the pistol will be nearly perfect, as copper cartridges are waterproof, and stronger shooting than loose powder.\*

The revolver on the right hip should have a cord fastened to it a yard long. The men should be practised in firing at a target when passing at speed, and then dropping the pistol on the opposite side, to use the cord while they handle the sabre.

Thus employed at the very instant before

\*The latest pattern of Remington revolvers are well sighted, and shoot well; as, using copper cartridges, they are preferable even to Colt's.

closing, the pistol is a terrible adjunct of the sabre. In the second part of this book the necessary drill will be given to practice this charge, the sabre in the left hand or held between the teeth.

Put in this matter the men must be taught never to fire before the word. The moral effect of a reserved volley is tremendous. Irregular file firing during an advance is both useless and demoralizing. Patience under fire makes veterans so formidable. Their reserved volley sweeps everything before it. Thirty or forty feet from the enemy's line is the time to fire, altogether and aiming low. Then the reserve of cold steel will come with double the efficiency, real and moral, and no cavalry, be they heavy or light, cuirassiers or lancers, that does not follow this system, can stand against your own line.

#### CARBINES.

With regard to the best weapon for dismounted men it is hard to decide. I have seen several different carbines, all good in their way. The Spencer carbine was latterly in very general use, superseding Sharp's. There was but little to choose between them. I have fired as many rounds in the course of twenty minutes out of Sharp's as out of Spencer's. The latter fires seven rounds pretty rapidly but it takes some time to reload. The Henry rifle, or sixteen shooter, is a magnificent weapon, quickly loaded, and firing as quick as a Colt's revolver. It is also very accurate. Colt's rifle, although very expensive, is, I am inclined to think, as good or better than any, in the hands of men who are cool and know how to use it. The six shots are fired more rapidly and far more accurately than by any other piece extant, but the loading must be done without flurrying. It is a poor weapon to give green troops on this account. A simple breech-loader that requires no capping, is probably the best weapon for volunteer cavalry troops. We have seen one called Howard's rifle, or the "thunder-bolt," that exceeds in simplicity and lightness any carbine hitherto used in war. The cavalry carbine of this pattern weighs only six pounds, and loads and primes with only three motions; the two ordinary lever motions of Sharp's and Spencer's and dropping in the cartridge. It cocks itself in loading, and has no external hammer to catch in dresses and let off the piece.

But, the weapon being selected, the men to use it are the real point of importance. The whole difference in action between green troops and veterans lies only in coolness, not courage. The difference in campaigning lies in the art of making yourself comfortable under any and all circumstances;

rain or shine, winter or summer. We shall have more to say upon this in its proper place.

#### DISMOUNTED FIGHTING.

European cavalry officers and the world at large have no conception of the extent to which dismounted fighting was used in the American civil war and the perfection attained in it by our men after very little practice. The instructions therefore are to be found in our cavalry tactics of 1840, which are based mainly on the old French tactics. It will thus be seen that the idea is an old one. But the extent to which it was carried was purely an American innovation. Our country being much covered with woods, mounted fighting is often impracticable. But to men accustomed to fighting on foot no country is difficult. The rapidity exhibited in going into action by dismounted cavalry is marvellous, and the simplicity and adaptability of the system admirable.

In two minutes from the word, "prepare to fight on foot," a line of three-fourths of the men is formed, who go to the front at a run; while the column of horses led by the "number four" out of each set is moved off to the rear, out of danger of stray bullets.

The dash and impetuosity of a dismounted skirmish line is far beyond that of an infantry force of equal numbers. The men come into action perfectly fresh. It is a positive relief to get out of the saddle after a hard day's riding. All of the fighting is done at a quick run. You could not get an infantry line to move so fast. They know well that if they tire themselves running they will pay for it on the march. But the cavalryman is not fatigued. He has no knapsack to weigh him down. His sabre was left on his saddle. He fights altogether on a skirmish line and can do much damage without suffering proportionately. The destructive strength of that thin, elastic line of skirmishers is amazing. A small force can hold a very large area. A large force is practically impossible to turn. Ten thousand cavalry, such as the cavalry corps of the Army of the Potomac once possessed, would form a line of battle from three to five miles long. Thin as was the line, who betide the enemy that massed heavy forces to pierce it! The experiment was tried on both sides, and always to be repented of. The skirmish line would give back in one place only to advance in another. The enemy, overwhelmed by a cross-fire from a semicircle of invisible foes, finally fell back in every instance with heavy loss. The only way to drive a skirmish line is to flank it and threaten the led horses: and to do that requires superior force and a very wide awake leader. And when, after fighting for two or three hours and driving the enemy at a quick run, till the men are fagged out and a success gained, the open ground appears beyond the woods in which the action has been fought. The enemy have retired and it becomes necessary to pursue. In such a case the infantry is powerless to press the enemy sufficiently; but just in the nick of time up come the horses in columns of fours by the roads. The skirmish line is called in and mounted. The men, tired with running, can still ride as rapidly as ever. The horses have been resting and are able to press on. So that we combine the advantages of both infantry and cavalry.

In covering a retreat dismounted cavalry are equally serviceable. Men who know that their retreat is quite secure at a moment's notice will defend a position far more stubbornly than in any other case. Occupying the edge of a wood, the line of a fence,

any obstacle which affords a shelter, our skirmishers will hold on to the last minute, firing on the advancing enemy till they know that every gun and every waggon is out of danger, and then suddenly breaking, silently and swiftly run to their horses, away over the open ground till another defensive position is reached, when the same game is repeated.

In such cases, to cover their retreat, a mounted line of skirmishers is always stationed behind, whose imposing attitude awes the enemy for a brief space, long enough for the footmen to get away in safety, when the recall brings in the horsemen.

I have seen this mode of fighting so often in both aspects that it has grown to be an old story. Its efficiency is great, and it is adaptable to any ground generally deemed "impracticable for cavalry." We know no such ground in the U. S. Volunteer Cavalry.

Open fields we fought on mounted. Our line of battle in corps front was always formed in one way. Each brigade detached one of its regiments to cover its whole front, often half a mile long, with a chain of skirmishers. Two regiments followed behind each wing, at about two hundred yards apart, in line, with sabres drawn. The rest of the brigade formed a third line in column of fours.

There was plenty of room to manoeuvre our guns, which took advantage of every hill to fire a few rounds. Advancing or retreating, this order was alike pliable and useful. It covered an immense front, and its supports were easily shifted. The brigades averaged four regiments, some five. On open ground, such as in central Virginia, around Brandy Station, the mounted fighting was of the most inspiring, romantic and thoroughly delightful kind, as also in the open fields of the lower valley of the Shenandoah. These were the only places where sabre charges were possible, and several times we shared in their wild intoxication. Glorious days were those, and green to the memory of those who shared in them, in the fall of 1863 in that delightful climate.

Whenever woods intervened the mounted skirmish line was dismounted, each squadron officer attending to his own squadron, and the woods cleared on foot. When the ground opened again four legs superseded two.

(To be continued.)

#### THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

The Board of Works has issued an official description in pamphlet form of the great work just accomplished. We learn from it that the idea of such an embankment originated with Sir Christopher Wren, as part of his scheme for rebuilding the metropolis; that it was revived at various times and by various persons; that Mr. James Walker in 1840 laid down a line for the corporation, which has now in the main been followed; and that the whole of the present works have been designed and constructed by Mr. Bazalgette, the Engineer to the Board.

Following in an even line, the general curve of the river, the embankment extends from Westminster to Blackfriars Bridge, rising at each end by a gentle gradient, to open upon Bridge street, Westminster, opposite the clock tower of the House of Parliament, and upon Chatham Place, Blackfriars, opposite the station of the Metropolitan District Railway. It passes beneath the Railway bridge at Hungerford, and beneath Waterloo Bridge. It is about a mile and a quarter in length and is one

hundred feet in width throughout. The carriageway is 64 feet wide; the foot-way on the land side 16 feet, and that on the river side 20 feet, planted with trees 20 feet apart. On the river side the foot-way is bounded by a moulded granite parapet, 3 feet 6 inches in height and on the land side partly by walls and partly by temporary boarding which will be ultimately replaced by a cast-iron railing.

The wall of the embankment is a work of extraordinary magnitude and solidity. It is carried down to a depth of 32½ feet below Trinity high water mark, and 14 feet below low water, and the level of the roadway is generally 4 feet above high water rising at the extremities of 20 feet. The rising ground at each extremity is retained by the increasing height of the wall, which is built throughout of brick faced with granite and founded in Portland cement concrete. The river front presents a slightly concave surface, which is plain from the base to mean high water level, and is ornamented above that level by mouldings topped at intervals of about 7 feet by plain blocks of granite, intended to bear lamp-standards of cast iron, and relieved on the river's face by bronze lions' heads, carrying mooring rings. The uniformity of line is broken at intervals by massive piers of granite with flank recesses for steamboat landing stages; and at other places stairs projecting into the river, and intended as landing places for small crafts. The steamboat piers occur at Westminster and Charing-cross, and between Charing-cross and Waterloo Bridge and both are united opposite Essex street. It is intended eventually to surmount the several blocks and pedestals with groups of statuary.

The total area of the land reclaimed from the river amounts to 37½ acres.—Of this 19 acres are occupied by the carriage and footways, 8 acres are devoted to garden and the rest has been conveyed to the Crown, the Templars, and other proprietors along the line.—Within the Embankment wall and forming a portion of its structures, is placed the Low Level Intercepting sewers, which is an intergral portion of the main drainage scheme. Above it is subway for gas and waterpipes, the dimensions of the subway being 7 feet 6 inches in height and 9 feet in width; and the diameter of the sewer varying from 7 feet 9 inches to 8 feet 3 inches. These are both situated under the footway next the river. The footways for the greater part of their length are paved with 3 inch York stone, with granite curbs; but at the eastern end, where the earth filling is of great depth and recent execution, the paths are gravelled temporarily until the earth shall have subsided. For the same reason the carriage way is at present macadamized.

The total cost is estimated at £1,260,000, and the purchase of property at £450,000. The quantities of material are stated to have been as follows.—Granite 650,000 cubic feet; brick work 80,000 cubic yards; concrete 140,000 cubic yards; timber, (for cofferdam, &c.,) 500,000 cubic feet, cassion (for ditto,) 2,500 tons; earth filling 1,000,000 cubic yards; excavation 440,000 cubic yards; York Paving 125,000 superficial feet; broken granite 50,000, superficial yards.

A colored woman of Hamilton named Roland, better known as "Taffy Mary," died lately at the ripe age of 109 years.

North Carolina unable to produce anything else astonishing, presents a citizen aged 143, who at the time of Braddock's defeat in 1755, was 29 years old and had a wife and three children.

THE INVENTOR OF CHAMPAGNE.

To the renowned Royal Monastery of St. Peter's, Hautvilliers, sparkling champagne is said to owe its origin. This monastery formerly gave, says its historian, nine Archbishops to the see of Rheims, and twenty-two Abbots to various celebrated monasteries. One of these monks (Benedictines), Father Perignon, who died in 1715 has the reputation of being the first to gather the wines from various districts to mix and make them sparkling. Before this period champagne was in good repute, but it is not probable that the scientific treatment requisite to produce what is known as champagne was understood prior to the last century. We have it on record that in 1357 Vincesilans, King of Bohemia, on coming to France to negotiate a treaty with Charles VI., arrived at Rheims, and tasting for the first time the wine of Champagne, spun out his diplomatic errand to the latest possible moment, and then gave up all that was required of him in order to prolong his stay, getting intoxicated on champagne daily before dinner. And we learn likewise that among the potentates of Europe who were partial to this wine was our own Henry the VIII, who had a vineyard at Ay, where he kept a Superintendent in order to secure the genuine production for his table. Mention is also made of Francis I., Pope Leo X., and Charles V., of Spain as reserving to their use vineyards in Champagne. The celebrity of this wine is not of modern date. But it is to the jolly monk Dom Perignon we are indebted for the enlivening qualities for which it is now so popular. He was chosen procureur of the great Abbey for the purity of his taste, and the soundness of his head and devotion to his occupation, does not appear to have shortened his days, for he lived to the ripe old age of four score years. His chief duty was to take charge of the vineyards (of which the monastery possessed the broadest and most favourably situated in the whole country) to receive from the neighbouring cultivators the tithes of the wines they made (their due to the spiritual lords of the abbey), to press the grapes from the monastic vineyards, and blended this wine with those that had come as tithes. "In the decline of life, Father Perignon," says an old chronicler, "being blind ordered the grapes of different vineyards to be brought before him, recognized each kind by the taste and said 'you must marry (mix) the wine of this grape with that of another.' In the course of his wine mixings and blending of one quality with another Dom Perignon who had already by his skill raised the wine of the holy fathers of the monastery to the greatest perfection, discovered the process of making the wine effervescent, and as it was utterly impossible to keep it in this condition by the old process of a bit of wool steeped in oil which was the only stopper then in use, he further added to his celebrity by the employment of the cork which he secured with a string.—*Champagne—Its History, Manufacture, Properties, &c.* By Charles Tovey.

The Rev. Dr. King, an Irishman himself, is lecturing in Washington, in behalf of the British Government, claiming that Ireland has no cause for discontent, that the British Government is the best in Europe, and secures to all Irishmen perfect civil and religious liberty, with impartial administration of the law. He reminds them that he is as good an Irish patriot as any that lives, and, as such, make these declarations.

SILVER ISLAND.

THE SILVER ISLAND IN LAKE SUPERIOR—RICH RETURNS FOR MINING.

(From the Detroit Post)

It is but little over 30 years since the Upper Peninsula was given to Michigan as the sequel of a dispute and as a kind of make weight. It was given to, and accepted by, as a mere barter, an article of little value. Now we have become alive to the fact that there is not a more wonderful, a more beautiful, or a richer region within the National domain.

It has been found to contain ores of an equalled, and almost incredible, richness, producing iron unsurpassed in quality, and copper, both native and in the ore, in abundance and value found nowhere else. Last year, 1,000,000 tons of iron and ore were exported from that region, and 20,000 tons of copper. To procure these metals mines have been sunk one-third of a mile into the earth. Silver has always been found, more or less mixed with the copper of those mines, and in quantities that, in countries where labor was cheaper would have made its search a speciality. But here no attention is paid to enterprises except such as in other countries would appear to be fabulously remunerative. Lately, however, a silver mine yielding such rich indications as to force the attention of the most skeptical has been discovered on the north shore of Lake Superior.

Sailing northwest and by north from Keweenaw Point for about 55 miles we reach a strait two miles wide between the mountainous and romantic "Isle Royale" and the smaller islets called "Passage Island." This strait passed, we sheer west northwest 25 miles and we are under Thunder Cape, a bold promontory at the east entrance of Thunder Bay, and in the British possessions.

This cape towered in rugged grandeur 3000 feet above the level of the lake, looks a fitting seat from which the Olympian Jove might guard with his thunderbolts the entrance to the bay, or launch them at the daring intruder who should disturb the silver treasures at his feet.

Five miles northeast from the cape, and 3000 feet from the main land is "Silver Islet." It is of a rounded, irregular shape, about 75 feet in diameter, and rising not four feet above the level of the lake; when still, and washed over by the waves in storms. It is destitute of vegetation, and to the unscientific eye appears to be of quartz rock merely.

Between Silver Islet and the mainland lies Barret Island, about half a mile in length and 400 feet in width, and clothed with trees and bushes. On this island a dock has been built.

Both islands and their submerged parts, or reefs, extend from northeast to southwest, the points opposite having bold shores. Fort William is inside of Thunder Bay, and 20 miles distant. "Prince Arthur's Landing," where the Manitoba volunteers landed last summer, is five miles east of Fort William, and the silver mining operations of Mr. Berk are 12 miles further still. Silver mining operations were commenced at Silver Island, last September. The shaft, or drift, is of course partly below the level of the lake, and is from 8 to 12 feet in diameter. Breakwaters and cribs had to be erected, as well to ward off the heavy surf that frequent storms send over the island as to keep out the waters of the lake at their usual level. About 80 tons of ore have gone forward to

the smelting works in New Jersey, as the result of six weeks or two months' operations, and about 50 tons more are now ready for shipment. The ore smelted has yielded about \$1,700 currency per ton, whilst the richest mines of Mexico do not exceed \$350 per ton.

Before the bombardment of Paris was an accomplished fact the London *Globe* published the following calculations showing that it was within the power of the Germans to do it: "The Prussian heavy breech loading 8½ inch rifled gun throws a common shell of about 210 lbs., with a maximum charge of 37½ lbs. of prismatic powder. Let us suppose a battery of these guns to be established on the high ground to the left of Vitry, within about 3,000 yards of Fort Bicêtre. At ten degrees elevation this battery would all but reach the *enceinte*, at 15 degrees it would throw shells to the Boulevard d'Italie; at 25 degrees its projectiles would fall into the Jardin du Luxembourg; while at 33 degrees they might be expected to reach the Louvre a distance of about 9,500 yards. The battery would however run the risk of being knocked to pieces by Forts Bicêtre, de Montrouge, d'Ivry, de Charanton. The Prussians may, however bring up some 9½ inch breech loading guns throwing a common shell of 300 lbs. with a maximum charge of 53 lbs. of prismatic powder. At 33 degrees this gun would range about 10,000 yards, that is to say it would throw a shell to Notre Dame from the Railway station at Sceaux. Paris therefore can be bombarded. Whether it will be or not, or whether the bombardment will be effective, is another question. If the Germans bring up their heaviest guns and fire with battering charges the projectiles will range in round numbers as follows: At 10 degrees, 4,400 yards; at 15 degrees, 6,000 yards; at 20 degrees, 7,300 yards; and the highest effective elevation, or 33 degrees, 9,500 yards. Those of our readers who possess maps of the city of Paris, may now measure off these distances with a scale, and so judge for themselves whether the Prussian batteries could be established at a safe distance from the forts. An ordinary carriage can be depended on up to 10 degrees elevation, when however, much higher elevations are used, it becomes necessary to make special arrangements, and in this exists one of the principle difficulties of bombarding at very long ranges.

There are some people who would not only destroy all wickedness in the world, but almost all goodness, when it does not make its appearance under the form or with the sanction of their own particular opinions.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. The CIVIL SERVICE GAZETTE remarks:—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which in any save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in 4lb., 1lb., and 1lb. tinned packets, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

### LIEUT. COLONEL CHESNEY ON PRUSSIAN TACTICS.

On Tuesday evening a highly critical audience, composed principally of officers of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers, assembled in the Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, to consider and discuss the subject of "The Reform of Prussian Tactics," treated in a lecture by Colonel C. C. Chesney, R. E. General F. M. Eardley-Wilmot, R. A., presided; and among those present were General Sir J. L. Simmons, R. E., General Buchanan, Colonels Milward, Philpot, Domville, Penn. Smythe, Gordon, R. A., C. Gordon, R. E., Major Wolfe, and about 100 others.

Colonel Chesney, who was very cordially received, referred to a letter in the collection of Harris Papers, written in 1772 by the first Lord Malmesbury, which drew attention to the very great devotion of the Prussian officers of that day to the study of their profession. The Prussian officers of that day, the lecturer said, were still remarkable for this devotion, and, among other branches, to the study of tactics, which to-night was to be viewed as distinct from that of strategy. "Tactics," as he quoted from a well known Prussian writer, Von Verdy, "could not be reduced by absolute rule," but must be varied according to circumstances, the means at hand, and the objects to be gained. But if tactics could not be taught by rule, certain principles, the same author says, could be laid down by which trained officers could work. He then proceeded to treat the subject historically, commencing with the tactics of Prussia in the school of Frederick, when drill and dressing, originally necessary for warlike purposes, were carried to an absurd extent in such matters as the number of buttons and the precise length of a pigtail. This system continued until the collapse in the revolutionary war, when the battle of Jena decided the Prussian system of unprotected line as against the French column with skirmishers, and the collapse of the Prussian system in 1806 was as great as anything we have seen of the French system in the present war. The lecturer then referred to the introduction of the now well-known needle-gun, which the conservative military mind could not bring itself, when first proposed by Droyse, in 1830, to adopt; but it was finally adopted by the King of Prussia, and used against the Badeners in 1849. Yet the Prussian tactics remained as they were left after Waterloo, and thought was first bestowed upon them when the French had fought and won the battle of Solferino. This battle aroused the deepest anxiety in the minds of the Prussians, and the well-known lecture of Prince Frederick Charles, who put before the Prussians the principles upon which the French had fought and conquered, took a deep hold, not merely because the lecturer was a Prince, but because they felt that the subject dealt with a want of their time. The Prince pointed out that the French fought in loose formation, but, above all, with a design, and from that time the great subject of study was, "How to beat the French by using their own freedom of movement." The result was that the Prussian system was changed in 1861. It was not possible to go into that system in detail, and it was such that no mere drill book could give it. The Prussian Tactical Instructions of 1861 laid aside all attempts to teach men by rule—officers were given principles, and left to

work out their application by themselves. The proposals of Prince Frederick Charles led to breaking up battalions, so as to allow of the formation of many columns, gaining thereby elasticity in the movements of infantry. The Austro-Prussian war, which followed soon after, was too short, the lecturer said, to deduce certain lessons from it; but there were two remarkable mistakes and failures—at Langensalza and Trautena, respecting which the lecturer entered into details, illustrating his remarks by the aid of diagrams and sectional maps, and he showed how the Prussian defeats on those occasions occurred from special causes. It was a remarkable fact in favour of the Prussian system that the General in command at Trautena was in high favour at the present time, and the subject of that defeat had been a matter of special study by the Prussians since, showing that they were not ashamed of profiting by their own mistakes. In proceeding to speak of the advantages attending the company column formation, he related what occurred at the battle of Kissingen, when the Prussians were attacking a town defended by the Bavarians. A bridge had been destroyed, but the piles were left, and on these piles the flooring of an adjacent house was thrown. The Prussians were able thus to cross the water, and crossing in companies they so deployed and were quickly in the town; but this advantage would not have been gained so rapidly if they had had to deploy in battalions. The anonymous German pamphlet, the "Tactical Retrospect," and that which followed when its author was challenged to produce a system in place of that which he derided and condemned, the "Prussian Infantry," 1869 (translated by Colonel H. Aime Ouvry, C. B.), were next the subject of the lecturer's attention. He said he did not in the least believe that these were from the hand of Prince Frederick Charles. It was certain they made high Prussian military authorities very angry, and an elaborate reply was made to the propositions in the last essay by a pamphlet issued with Colonel Bronsart's name, and the tactical parts of which were understood to have been written by Von Moltke himself. The lecturer exhibited the two systems side by side in diagrams—that proposed by the anonymous writer and that set forth in Bronsart's name. The first writer's theory was against having skirmishers, though he adopted them, and used a whole company in a line of skirmishing order, in place of having several companies, part in skirmishing order and part moving up in support; but the prominent feature of the suggested tactics was a line in a sort of "open order." The answer of Bronsart was published only in April last, and Moltke made it apparent that the "open order" system of advance would not work. The anonymous author, who, the lecturer said, was evidently a man of real talent, condemned the present position of battalion field officer, and would leave much more independence to the company officers. Then a great subject with the Prussians had been the study of the conduct of troops, and Von Verdy, in reviewing the march which led to the disastrous battle at Trautena, laid it down that the subordinate officers should invariably be informed of what the enemy was doing, and they should know, too, what were the intentions and views of their commander, so far as it concerns their own fractions. This coincided exactly with the Archduke Albert's ideas; and as Von Verdy was writing before the Archduke had published his celebrated Essay, it might be assumed that two able men in studying the same subject about the same time had ar-

rived at the same conclusions. The lecturer remarked upon the obscurity surrounding the general movements of the conquering armies in the present war, but he pointed out that the value of the column formation was proved in what was done by it at Woerth, where its use by masses gained the day; at Forbach, where it was adopted by companies for a general advance; then, more recently, on the 30th of October, at Le Bourget; then under the Duke of Mecklenburg, near Dreux and Le Mans. He finally referred to the defeat of Garibaldi, on the 26th of last month, as illustrating the carefully studied tactics of the Prussians, and the value to be attached to the training now adopted. Referring to artillery action in battle, he drew attention to the remarkable prophecy, now fulfilled, made by the author of the "Tactical Retrospect," that artillery tactics would be needed in the next war in an extended degree, and that the artillery service should not be confined to beating down an enemy's artillery, but should be concentrated to weaken the hostile line at the necessary point, so as to make the enemy's troops unable to stand the advance of the infantry. In conclusion, the lecturer said that we should not confine ourselves to simply looking on this great war, but we should carefully watch the results and treasure the teachings. We might not always have a protection in "that streak of silver sea," and our army surely should not be behind others in tactical power. It should not be, if ever it had been, that officers should be found in command of troops of all arms without the power to combine them. Above all, he recommended to Englishmen the advice given by a master mind to England, which was applicable now as it was in the time of King John or Shakespeare—that, to be secure, we should not wait invasion, but be prepared, at need, to fight our battles elsewhere than on our own shores, and so insure safety by the respect of our neighbours:—

"What, shall they seek the Hon in his den,  
And fight him there? and make him tremble  
there?  
O, let it not be said! Forage, and run  
To meet displeasure further from the doors;  
And grapple with him, ere he come so high."

The lecturer having resumed his seat, General Eardley-Wilmot invited officers to speak, and, as no one at first rose, he opened discussion by saying he agreed with Colonel Chesney that we should take to heart the lessons which this war was teaching us; but England, it seemed to him, was, in regard to these matters, one of the most wretched countries in the world. If we want to organise our forces we go to France, or Prussia, or some other place for principles, and we had never had a man rise among us to take into consideration the peculiar features of our country, our national character, our national wants, and who considered how the national defence should be brought into one focus. There was a feeling in the army that the defence of the nation should not rest solely upon the army, but that the army should have an intimate connection with the nation—that the soldier, in being a soldier, should not cease to be an Englishman. He thought what he wanted was some one to bring before the country a scheme of defence in which the army, militia, and volunteers should all be connected in one system. He pointed to the example of a little country in the centre of Europe, which on the first rumour of war was able to send in a few days an army of 40,000—which, he believed, a country which had hitherto considered itself one of the greatest in Europe would not have been



able to do. Moreover, if danger had increased, the little country he referred to could have sent 200,000 men armed and equipped, but he believed the other country would have had to wait six years before she could have done so. The little country he alluded to was Switzerland, where it was a principle that the national army should be kept ready, the national industry not being interfered within its organisation. It appeared to him that in the organisation of any system of national defence our ordinary system of industry must be considered. We do not want to adopt the Prussian system. We want something suited to our own character as a mercantile nation—a nation which was as capable of producing great minds as any other nation on the face of the globe. It should be the endeavour of all soldiers in the English Army—and he applied his remarks especially to those who were younger, and would have to meet the demand of the time—to endeavour to raise the character of the army in this direction by making themselves acquainted with what was being done in other services, and so make it impossible for any Government to delay in placing the defence of this country upon a sound basis. It was desirable that every officer should have his mind formed upon the subject of advance in military knowledge. There existed a strong feeling in civil life that the army officers were opposed to all advance; there was what was thought to be the "conservative military mind"; but that conservatism was only opposed to the introduction of that which was bad.

ARMY REFORM IN ENGLAND.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S OPINION.

In proposing the toast of "The Army, Navy and Reserved Forces," at the festival dinner of the London Orphan Asylum, on Wednesday, the Duke of Cambridge took occasion to make the following remarks, in answer to his critics: "As I have not had an opportunity of saying anything on the subject for some time, I cannot help remarking incidentally that I have been somewhat perplexed as to why it should be surmised that I am an individual who has been, above all others, opposed to every improvement and every change in the army. It only shows how little one knows of one's self. I have been living in a fool's paradise; I have had the impression that I was rather an advanced reformer on army matters, and that, so far from setting myself against the spirit of the age, I was extremely anxious to go before it. However, I suppose I must be in error; at least I am frequently told so now. I am quite prepared to meet any charge of the sort; but I cannot help saying, incidentally, in proposing this toast, that I feel as strongly as any man in this room or out of it that the efficiency of the service is the first thing to be considered and that, in comparison with that, everything else is of secondary importance. These being my opinions, I hope I shall always be found to encourage, and not to discourage, improvements, which are essential not only in army matters, but also in every province of life. I am not going to dilate now upon the condition of the army navy, and reserved forces; as far as they go I trust they are in a very efficient state; and if your liberality and that of Parliament will add to their efficiency, no one will rejoice more than I shall. In the position I hold I have generally been told to keep down expenditure; and it is, therefore, a novelty to me to hear that the keeping down of expenditure is not so important a matter as it

used to be thought. I don't deny that doctrine, I go along with it; but it is a new doctrine, and I am a very ready convert to it. I think it is quite a mistake to imagine that military and naval men are extravagant men; I don't think so, although they may often spend money in a way different from that in which civilians would spend it. A military or a naval man who knows what he is about, and who has only the interest of his country and of his profession at heart, is not given to extravagance; at all events, I do not belong to those who have been schooled in extravagance, and I trust as long as I have the honor of being connected with the services they will be maintained in such a condition as to do honor to the country and to deserve the good opinion which the people of England have always entertained of them." Subsequently, in responding to the toast of his own health, the Duke of Cambridge said, "In the position in which I am placed I shall endeavour to do my duty, and I beg to assure you I am quite prepared to give a challenge to answer any charge of shortcoming which may be brought against me at any time from any quarter."—*Broad Arrow.*

ABOLITION OF PURCHASE IN THE ARMY.

A writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—The renewal of the agitation for the abolition of purchase in the army has naturally led to various statements as to the cost of abolishing it. The only available data that I am aware of for calculating the cost of abolishing the purchase system, are to be found in the appendices to the report of the Purchase Commissioners of 1857. The combatant officers in the purchase corps of the army then were: Lieutenant-colonels, 198; majors, 234; captains, 1,420; lieutenants, 2,102; ensigns, &c., 325. I believe the number now to be nearly the same.

In the twenty-four months preceding the war, 41 lieutenant-colonels, 28 majors, 266 captains, 245 lieutenants, and 94 ensigns retired from the service by sale; and that the customary value of their commissions amounted to £1,506,000. During the same period, 3 lieutenant-colonels, 9 majors, 37 captains, 58 lieutenants, and 29 ensigns died who would, of course, have been entitled to no compensation whatever.

From these data it seems that the abolition of purchase would involve the payment of £1,506,000 in the first two years, or £753,000 a year; and if the remaining officers continued to die and retire in the same proportions, that the subsequent charge would amount to:

3rd and 4th years....	£615,000	£1,230,000
5th " 6th years....	505,000	1,010,000
7th " 8th years....	415,000	830,000
9th " 10th years....	340,000	680,000
11th " 12th years....	277,500	555,000
13th " 14th years....	225,000	450,000
15th " 16th years....	185,000	370,000
17th " 18th years....	150,000	300,000
19th " 20th years....	125,000	250,000
Add for 1st and 2nd years as above.....		1,506,000

Total cost in 20 years. . . . . £7,181,000 and even then a continually decreasing annuity would have to be paid for many years.

A live cat was found in the mail bag at a town in Maine one day last week. The Postmaster made diligent search through all the United States postage laws to ascertain the amount of postage on the animal, but found nothing touching the case.

A NEW ZEALAND WATERING PLACE.—New Zealand has its advantages as a place of residence. For instance near Lake Taupo boiling springs abound, and when the natives wish a boiled dish, they put up the article to be cooked in a bag and put it in a boiling spring. They believe in bathing proper, and Lake Tarawera a small lake near Taupo, is always ready at the temperature of a warm bath. The natives all take to the water at a certain hour in the evening—a hilarious time they have. There is this slight inconvenience that as boiling water jets up from the bottom of the lake rather promiscuously the bather who "strikes out" carelessly, may draw back a blistered foot, or arm minus perhaps the skin. Even on land there is danger of breaking the crust and suddenly you find your foot in a caldron of hot water. The visitor needs an experienced friend as much at a New Zealand as at any other watering place.

The Rothschilds are making arrangements to open banking houses in Naples, St. Petersburg and Madrid, which will give them seven great firms in Europe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE AMAZONS.

The existence of these warlike ladies is very doubtful; MONTAUCON, after relating the many wonderful stories which Herodotus and others have told of their achievements, thus concludes:—"Nous ne nous arrêtons point à ces faits trop connus, et quo plusieurs regardent comme fabuleux: il y en a même qui vont jusqu'à douter si les Amazones ont jamais existé." It is highly probable that the word Amazon is not Greek at all, but like many other words, pressed into the language, from an Eastern origin. Spain has, however, produced a real Amazon, and the heroism of Augustina Sarragossa may vie with any of the female exploits recorded by Herodotus or Diodours Siculus: this intrepid woman, when the soldiers refused to man the guns at the siege of Sarragossa, in 1808, rushed forward over the slam and wounded, snatched a match from the hand of a dead artilleryman and fired off a twenty six pounder; then jumping on the gun she made a solemn vow never to quit it alive during the siege.—See Elliot's Life of Wellington.

But the valorous acts of Mary Ambree, exceed all that have yet been recorded of female heroism—

"Shee led up her soldiers in battallie array,  
Gainst three tymes their number by break of the day;  
Seven hovers in skirmish continued shee.  
Was this not a brave bonny lasse, Mary Ambree?  
Shee filled the skyes with the smoko of her shott.  
And her enemies bodies with bullets soo hott;  
For one of her owne men a score killed shee.  
Was this not a brave bonny lasse, Mary Ambree?"  
See old Ballad, entitled "The valorous acts performed at Gaunt by the brave bonny lasse Mary Ambree, who in revenge of her lover's death did play her part most gallantly." This ballad is published in the third volume of 'Reliques of Ancient English Poetry.'  
R. L.

## FROM MONTREAL.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

The report that the Adjutant General intends to recommend the application of the ballot for the purpose of filling up the depleted ranks of the Active Militia, and the payment of volunteer officers according to their respective ranks while under annual drill has been well received throughout, by those interested in the welfare and organization of the Volunteer Militia Force. The mere intimation that such a measure, was likely to be adopted, would swell up the thin ranks of the volunteers so that they would be a credit to themselves and their country.

Drill should be compulsory, non-attendance being punishable with a fine or imprisonment; inspections should be held more frequently, and proper drill instructors should be appointed to the several corps. At present there are several incompetent officers who draw pay as instructors, and who are totally incapable of acting as such. Now that summer is at hand, it is hoped we may have a few field days in order to test the efficiency and strength of the volunteer regiments, and see if they have degenerated as much as it is feared they have. Draft or ballot must be resorted to to give them anything like a permanent effective strength.

The officers class of the Hochelaga infantry, of which mention was made before, have nearly completed their course of drill under Major Labranche, and are now as familiar with the new system of drill as they were with the old. Through the courtesy of Major Martin other officers, not immediately connected with the Hochelagas, have been invited, and have attended throughout the whole course of instruction.

The Garrison Artillery have appointed Major Labranche their instructor, so that with his military school duties and his private charge, the gallant Major will have enough to attend to.

The band of the "Chasseurs" or Mount Royal Rifles, I can't say which, practise in the Drill Hall almost nightly, with a pertinacity worthy of a better cause. A grand ball is on the tapis to be given by Lieut.-Colonel Smith and the officers of his district, immediately after Lent. It is to be a grand affair, some eight hundred guests will be invited, and it will take place in the St. Lawrence Hall.

On Thursday last the remains of Bombardier Alex. Kinlock, of Capt. Ramsay's Battery of Montreal Artillery, were interred with military honors. The band of the Victoria Rifles led the funeral procession which was a large and respectable one. Lt.-Col. Talbot who was for many years on the Staff of this Garrison, and was very popular while a resident here died at Bath, England, on the 16th ult.

The Cadets of the Military School are

making very satisfactory progress under their instructor, Major Labranche, and under the immediate supervision of Colonels Smith and Bacon. The school is doing as well as it was when the regulars were here, and it is in such good hands that its complete success is certain, judging from the work so far done.

Weather mild, and river breaking up already, indicate an early spring. Business active, and evident signs of general prosperity. B.

## FROM BROCKVILLE.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

After an illness of only five days, Captain Worsley, Brockville and Ottawa Railway Garrison Artillery, died suddenly on the morning of the 11th inst.

Deceased was an English gentleman of education and refinement, and discharged the duties of "Secretary Treasurer" of the Brockville and Ottawa, and Canada Central Railways, and Captain of the Battery of Artillery, with zeal, ability, and efficiency, and his gentlemanly bearing never failed to win for him, the esteem and respect of the large number with whom he was necessarily brought in contact during the discharge of his several duties.

Cut off in the flower of life (probably at about 31 years of age) and mourned by all who knew him; but not more sincerely by any, than the officers and men of the Volunteer force.

Deceased leaves a wife and two children, (I believe well provided for) who have the heart-felt sympathies of the whole community in this their hour of bereavement, may God give them grace to bear up under this, probably the most trying affliction of their lives.—Deceased was buried with military honors on the 13th inst., his own battery under command of Lieut. Lowe forming the firing party. The body was placed on a gun carriage, covered with the Union Jack, on the top of which were placed the sword, belts, busby etc., of deceased. The pall being supported by officers of the same rank, viz: Captains Redmond, Bell, Cook and Wilkinson, and preceded by the firing party, and the fine band, which he in his life time took so much interest in organizing and maintaining, doubtless little thinking that his own would be the first funeral at which they would be called on to play.

The chief mourners who followed immediately behind the corpse were, Major Worsley, Brigade-Major G. F. R., cousin; Mr. Macdonald father in law, and the little son of deceased, and Mr. Abbott, Managing director of the Brockville and Ottawa, and Canada Central Railways. Then came two companies of the G. T. R. Rifles, Major McKenzie, one company of the 42nd Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Buell, and one company of the 41st Battalion, Major Cole, followed by the several corps, and Lieut.-Colonels Atcherley, Jackson and McDougall of the District Staff.

The clergy of the town were represented, and the citizens followed in hundreds. To the roll of the muffled drums, and the deep tones of a dead march, the procession moved off in slow pace, arriving at St. Peter's church (English) the body was met at the door by the minister, who commenced that solemn ritual beginning with, "I am the resurrection, and the life saith the Lord." After the usual service in church, the procession reformed and marched to the place of interment, which took them through the principal street of the town. The stores were all closed, flags at half mast, and the people generally turned out to show their sympathy; forty-eight carriages followed the procession, and sidewalks were crowded with pedestrians. Arriving at the grave and the service ended, the usual three volleys were fired, the grave was speedily filled which covered from view all that was mortal of our late esteemed townsman.

The procession reformed and returned in quick time to their quarters.

The firing party performed their duties most efficiently, and the whole force present looked very soldierly and was alike creditable to both officers and men of this District.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—Sometime ago you copied from one of our local papers the score that I made in camp while shooting under the general order of volunteers; 57 out of a possible 60.

As my name does not appear in the published list of returns I have had several letters from various parts of the Dominion enquiring the reason why it was not published, and whether or not I had made the score credited me. I think it best to answer these through the medium of your paper if you will permit me the privilege,

1. That I made the score of 56 out of a possible 60.

2. The reason why my name does not appear in the published list is my being promoted from the ranks, having been gazetted an officer after the order to go into camp was issued, it precluded me from competition.

One person goes farther than the others in questions, he wishes to know what was the size of the target and bull's eye at 200 yards, what was the position, what kind of rifle I used, whether or not I fired with a squad, was it one of our own company who marked at the butt, and if I could again duplicate my score. The former part of the questions are easily answered.

The target was 4 x 6 feet, bull's eye 8 inches and the centre 2 feet square; the position from the shoulder, standing, rifle, a long snider, the marker was a non-commissioned officer from another battalion, placed there by the firing commander, who remained at the firing point, we fired in squads of 12 men; as to the latter part of the question "could I duplicate my score"

is very difficult to answer, I consider 19 out of a possible 20 at 200 yards, a most difficult thing to do, one might shoot a lifetime and never accomplish it, from the manner of putting the question by my correspondent, I think he is somewhat sceptical of its being done; I would say to him that it is possible I could duplicate the gross number 56 out of 60. Since receiving his letter I made an effort but failed to get at the 400 and 600 yards on account of water, but I fired five consecutive shots at the 200 and 500 ranges and made 18 points at each, and I would say to him that it was the Colonel who marked, so that there could be no mistake, this is an approximation, and if I ever succeed in making the other I may let him know. I hope these answers are satisfactory.

Yours truly,

E. A. MacNACHTAN.

Cobourg, March 16th.

THE ONTARIO BATTALION.

To the Editor of the Globe.

Sir,—We have observed in the columns of your paper a letter clipped from the *Nouveau Monde*, and said to have been written by M. Royale, in which it is asserted that the men of the Ontario battalion broke into our store during the late elections and were afterwards driven back by about twenty Metis, we have thought proper to address you on the subject as any statement made by us in your paper is very likely to be read throughout the whole of Ontario; whereas if we inserted a letter in the *Nouveau Monde*, it would probably never attract the attention of the very people whom we at present desire to address ourselves to. We would not write as we are now doing, had our name not come so prominently before the public of Canada in the matter, for the reason that we feel that the men of the Ontario battalion require no justification for their conduct while they have been amongst us; and, moreover, we are of opinion that had parties who pretend to be the friends of the battalion, said less in its defence, where no defence was necessary, wrong impressions would not have gone abroad regarding them, and no one would have ever thought of harbouring any other sentiment than one of praise of both officers and men.

In the first place, as far as we are concerned, we deny that the men of the Ontario Rifles ever broke into our store; and consequently were not driven back by the "Metis," as described by the correspondent of the *Nouveau Monde*.

On the contrary, we can say that ever since the battalion entered the settlement we have never received either an insult or a wrong from any one man in it. In fact, we have been treated both personally and as a firm with the utmost courtesy and in the kindest manner by every one we have met belonging to the Ontario Rifles.

Our name without our sanction has frequently been used both here and abroad against the Canadian Volunteers. Things have been ascribed to us of which we were perfectly innocent, and we should not have been surprised had the men of the Ontario Battalion felt aggrieved towards us by what they heard. But this we can say, that we have every reason to speak well of them, and it has been our endeavour since they came amongst us to return the expressions of friendly feeling we have on many occa-

sions experienced from them. We can give no greater proof of this than by saying that, as men having a large stake in the country, our feelings are those of perfect confidence in the Ontario Rifles.

And now one word, generally, on this subject. We advise the people of Ontario to take heed how they judge of any of the actions of the young men they have sent to this country. It is well known that the farther a story flies the greater it becomes, until at last it frequently attains to be a mountain instead of a molehill. Stories will go abroad, there is no preventing them. Regarding the man serving here, some will be given in a friendly spirit and will most probably have an opposite effect; others will be given from spite or malice. We therefore say be careful, Dame rumour is sickle, and only too ready to magnify. With kind wishes for both battalions serving here, we are,

Yours truly,

BANSATYNE & BROWN.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Feb. 21, 1871.

SAD ACCIDENT TO A VOLUNTEER.—Private James Graham of the Leamington Infantry Company, met with a sad misfortune a short time ago. While attending to one of his horses, he received a severe kick from the animal, which fractured his leg slightly above the knee. It is feared that through some mismanagement he will be lame for life. Private James Graham is highly esteemed by both officers and men of his company, and his friends and neighbours, as a moral and intelligent young man noted for good conduct, and was an excellent marksman. His comrades in arms sympathise deeply with him in this, his hour of misfortune.—*Windsor Record*.

THE FRENCH RETREAT.

The condition of the French army of General B. Urbaki, who sought refuge in Switzerland, was deplorable in the extreme.

Almost all were in rags, and entirely without stockings. Here and there was a man without his hat, or a Zouave with a Prussian helmet instead of his red fez. Boots and shoes had been lost in the snow, and were a rarity; a few who had still some spirit left in them had supplied their place by wooden sabots of their own manufacture.

The men complained of their officers as having betrayed them, and the officers threw the blame on the men, who, they said, were undisciplined and would not stand fire; and mutual distrust and recrimination were the order of the day. They said they had wandered up and down along the frontier line of mountains knowing neither their own position nor that of the enemy, but hampered in closer and closer by the retreating troops of their own army, as well as the advancing Prussians, with whom they had occasional skirmishing. Not having dared to light a fire, and their ration biscuit being entirely at an end, they had eaten nothing but the raw potatoes they had found in the deserted villages, and drunk nothing but snow-water, till starvation and want had forced them to surrender to the Swiss troops at Pontarlier, whence they had been at once sent on by rail to Neuchâtel.

REMITTANCES

Received on Subscription up to Saturday, the 18th inst.

EAST HAWKESBURY.—Capt. Wm. Ogden, \$2.

CALEDONIA.—Capt. Robt. Thorburn, \$2.

GUELPH.—Lieut. T. Hooper, \$1.

ANECDOTES OF THE JERUSALEM EXPLORATION.—Captains Wilson and Warren have told the story of the recent explorations in Jerusalem in a pleasant volume just published—and relate the following anecdotes.—The explorers were greatly troubled by the carelessness and laziness of their workmen any excuse answered their purpose of being idle; "They also took to praying," Capt. Warren adds, "while they were at work; but this was soon put a stop to, and a deduction of pay made for each prayer. We observed that they never prayed either before or after work; indeed the village fellow in his younger days appears to be rather a free-thinker. One good old soul however, we had on the works who asked leave regularly every Friday to go into the mosque, and pray for us all; and as he took the sins of the whole party with him he received working pay for the time he was away." Captain Warren tells another story illustrative of the nature of the Orientals with whom his lot was cast. He had obtained leave from the Pasha to see the interior of the mosque at Hebron, and took with him four of the Pasha's Zaptis; but on going there was refused admission by the governor of that holy place. Indignant at this on his return to Jerusalem, Captain Warren made a direct complaint to the Pasha, who, in reply asserted that he had seen everything. The scene which followed is given in Captain Warren's own words:—

"The lieutenant of Zaptis was called in and the Pasha warned him he must speak the truth, on which he fell down on his knees and swore he would say exactly what had occurred, and immediately began to give an account of what ought to have occurred—how we were taken all over the mosque and how I had been perfectly satisfied. I felt rather indignant, and having brought Mr. Ferguson's plan of the mosque in my pocket, showed the Pasha where I had been, but the officer who stated he had been with Mr. Ferguson, said I had been into every place that he had been in. 'But,' I said, 'Mr. Ferguson was in and saw the monuments.' And you were there too replied the lieutenant. 'But I was not there, and could only look in through a hole in the door,' I replied. 'Ah! then Mr. Ferguson was not there.' And so we went on till I saw that the Pasha had made up his mind that I had seen everything Mr. Ferguson had seen.

DEATH OF TWO CENTENARIANS.—From Torpoint, Cornwall, is reported the death of a Trafalgar veteran named Edward Couch, who was one of the crew of the "Victory" at the famous battle of Trafalgar. It is stoutly maintained that he was 110 years of age. He had for a long number of years been in receipt of a Government pension, and his memory continued good until he died on Monday. On the same day a farmer named Richard Dunning of Levaton South Tawton, Devonshire, died at the age of 101 years. He had lived on the same farm from his birth to his death, and there is no doubt as to his age. In the adjoining parish a cousin of the deceased is living, aged 95 who is still able to ride a moderate distance on horseback.—*London Times*.

The greater part of the once beautiful Bois de Boulogne of Paris is now only a vast area of unsightly stumps of trees.

It is reported that a company is forming to run a tri weekly line of steamers from Collingwood to Duluth via Sault St. Marie and calling at Fort William.



THE  
VOLUNTEER REVIEW  
And Military and Naval Gazette.

VOLUME V  
1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When it was first projected fears were entertained for its ultimate success, as two efforts of a similar kind had been made and failed for want of support; but we are happy to say these fears were groundless, and that the VOLUNTEER REVIEW may now be said to be firmly established, thanks to the support it has met with from the hands of the Volunteer Force of the Dominion. It now circulates largely through Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and even the new Province of Manitoba has extended its generous support. Nor is it confined to these Provinces only, but in the Mother Country, and even the United States it has subscribers and supporters. No other journal in the Dominion has so wide and extended a circulation as the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, and therefore it offers unparalleled facilities to general advertisers. Our terms for advertising will be found liberal on application, either personally, or by letter *post paid*.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

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

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

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

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

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

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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, MARCH 20, 1871.

The English press have at length realised the true way of dealing with the vexed questions which have from time to time been forced on the people of Great Britain by the grasping, over reaching, and impudent self-assertions of Yankee political adventurers. The London Times of the 8th inst. doubts the results of the labors of the High Commission if the United States members and Government will base the questions which must come before it on the avowed instructions of the Senate. The Times states that Great Britain repudiates the assumption for the depredations of the Alabama until it is decided by an impartial arbitrator. And if the impertinence of a cession of territory is mooted the British Commissioners will take care that it is not mooted a second time. England declares that she will only abandon her Colonies upon the expressed wish of their inhabitants, or when the fortunes of war puts it out of her power to defend them. This announcement is stated to be the determination of the British Government; and it is full time the announcement was made. While it at once puts an extinguisher on Yankee assumptions, snubs Mr. Secretary Fish, announces the impossibility of annexation, and will go far to reassure the people of Canada that their interests will not be jeopardized. It would have been better if they declined to enter into negotia-

tions on the Alabama claims, or their corollary "benevolent neutrality," and quietly said they owed no obligations. And if left to the decision of an impartial arbitration Great Britain would be relieved of all responsibility in the case, and the United States allowed to protect their own commerce, if able, during war. If the opinion of the Times has for once been in accord with the interest and honor of the empire, that of other English journals appears to be neither so patriotic or honest; in fact, a desire to play the spaniel is manifest in the following from the London Spectator. It says:

It is only that when America is hostile that Great Britain loses her weight in European politics, a weight which the Americans do not desire her to lose. Once relieved of that special danger, a danger to which no other power in Europe is exposed, Great Britain is unburdened, and can, if her rulers please, once more exert her just authority in favor of moderate counsels or the observance of treaties, and of the right of every civilized people to remain under the government they prefer.

To call this unmitigated twaddle would be too harsh, to call it a direct untruth would be much better, because Yankee hostility could only affect England in one way, and that would be to show her the actual extent of her enemy's power.

During the contest known as the Peninsular war in the beginning of the present century, England committed the monstrous error of trusting to Yankee neutrality—it ended by that power precipitating a bloody and needless contest at the moment she supposed British interests were in jeopardy, and prolonged that contest in Europe for nearly a quarter of a century, costing Great Britain at least £300,000,000 sterling directly, the indirect losses could not be estimated. Journals of the Spectator stamp ought to leave the art of falsification to the New York Herald. There can be no possible objection to their parasitical tendencies.

As far as Canada is concerned we await the issue of the High Commission with confidence. Our leading statesman is a member of it, he thoroughly knows the interests and opinions of his countrymen, and will take care that those are conserved, happen what may; and laugh at the idea of Yankee hostility, knowing full well that instead of lessening the weight of Great Britain in European politics; the case is precisely otherwise. British hostility to the United States would place the funds of that power in a worse position than they ever occupied during the Southern war. And although English journalists may be fools or charlatans, the Yankees know full well that hostilities with Great Britain meant war with Canada, and that war would end in the utter ruin of the Great Republic is as patent a fact as there are snakes in Virginia. It would only require that blow to do what the South would have done as well if assisted from without, and that would be to shiver the monstrous fungus to pieces.

Let the people of England understand at once that hostilities on any of the issues between the United States and Britain would be only a war of Yankee manufacturers and political wire pullers; that its effect on the Western and Southern States would be to burthen them with intolerable taxation, paralyse their industries, and could by no possibility result in their benefit; and that all this is well known by the Washington schemers. That therefore the proper mode of getting clear of all complications is to treat them as they would those of any other foreign and hostile power; and, in order to prevent hostile and treacherous combinations declare at once that Yankee interference in European politics will not be tolerated. If the Monroe doctrine is applicable in America it is or ought to be doubly so in Europe, where the United States will always be a disturbing power. The position Canada occupies is by no means anomalous. We are a vital portion of the British Empire, older in possession than the United States, are perfectly well able to hold our own here, and will tolerate no interference whatever on the part of that power. We are perfectly willing to live in harmony, pursuing our own way without interfering with their concerns, and we have more than once taught our neighbors that we can punish those who meddle with us, in a way to make them remember it for half a century at least.

We have received files of the *Manitoba News Letter* up to date of 22nd of February and are able to state therefrom an outline of the disgraceful insubordination which occurred amongst the soldiers of the garrison at Fort Garry on the 18th ult. A corporal of No. 4 Company, named John Hawman, had been engaged in some gambling transaction with a *metis*, from whom he had won all the money he was possessed of and his horse. Either from a suspicion of foul play or from a desire to recover his losses, the *metis* laid an information before the Attorney-General, who had Corporal Hawman arrested on Thursday, 16th ult., and committed to custody to be tried for the affair, along with another person charged as an accomplice. Forgetful of the duty they owed the country, of their military obligation and honor, one hundred and fifty soldiers of the Ontario Rifles broke open the police station where those men were confined and liberated them by force.

This is the story told by the *News Letter*; other advices state that they set the authority of their officers at defiance, and acted in every respect as an unruly, misguided mob. Whether the latter part of the allegations are true or not is of little moment—the men who won set themselves above law and order could have little idea indeed of what military obedience meant, and the very act of opposing the constituted authorities showed that they would not obey their offi-

cers. The *News Letter* endeavors to furnish an excuse for this disgraceful and dangerous outbreak by stating that Corporal Hawman was illegally committed to prison. If so, that journal should know very well that his legal redress would be much more valuable than his release by the disgraceful means it records. Whatever services the Ontario Rifles may have rendered the country have been entirely obliterated by their own acts. There can be no excuse whatever for insubordination—nor for soldiers interfering with the course of civil justice. The country looks to them for protection, and there in the outlying Province of the empire where they were sent expressly to restore law and order they deliberately set both at defiance, and give their worst enemies the advantage over them.

Having had an opportunity of seeing the splendid state of discipline to which the Ontario Rifles had been brought, feeling justly proud of the soldiers to whom the honor of Canada was confided, it was with feelings of surprise and sorrow that the astounding intelligence burst upon us. That the representatives of the *beau ideal* of military organization were after all no better than an armed mob. Moved by the same impulses and susceptible of the rascally influences from outside scoundrels, which have always made a citizen-soldiery a dangerous weapon, we must confess that it is with infinite pain the failure of discipline in this case is witnessed by us; and while we can find no words of excuse for the actors we are sorry for the example they have afforded to the Canadian Volunteers of the manner in which their duties as soldiers have been understood.

It would be fully of the worst kind to neglect the lesson now taught us. The weak joint in our armor is decidedly that of our reluctance to place the power of punishing our citizen soldiers according to the strict rules of the military code in the hands of the officers in command.

The events at Fort Garry prove that Canada must have a *Mutiny Act* containing stringent provisions, and a *drum-head* court martial, with sentence short, sharp, and decisive, is the only way to teach our soldiers that they have something else to do beside meddling with matters with which they have no concern.

We are quite willing to believe that the men of the Ontario Battalion were the dupes as well as tools of designing scoundrels, of men who would not hesitate to throw the whole country into confusion to accomplish their own petty and selfish ends, but that is no excuse for their conduct; it rather aggravates it. In the United States, where the greatest political license is claimed, if soldiers acted as the Ontario Battalion have done, the ringleaders would be shot, and the abettors decorated with a *ball and chain* for the next two years. If the official report bears out the account of this disgraceful

conduct as told by the *News Letter*, the Ontario Battalion can rest assured that the people and press of Canada have no sympathy with them, but are grieved and annoyed at their conduct. They have not only forfeited the esteem of their countrymen, but they have done their best to bring shame and disgrace on the Canadian army, and inflict lasting injury on their country.

The encouragement given to intending settlers in the North-west will have the effect of filling up that splendid country with people, developing its resources and adding materially to the wealth of Canada. Its area of over 7,000,000 acres of the finest arable land in the world is capable of maintaining a dense population, and the surplus agricultural produce thereof will at no distant day add to the rapidly augmenting export trade of Canada, an element of such value as to aid materially in placing the export trade of the Western States in her hands. The surplus agricultural products of Minnesota, Dakota, and our own North-West Territories must find their natural outlet through Lake Superior. The quantity of wheat (including flour) imported into Great Britain annually is about 90,000,000 bushels; of this Canada furnishes about 6,400,000, and the United States 23,500,000 bushels, or about 38-88 per cent. of the whole. Minnesota, with a little over 500,000 inhabitants, had last year nearly 30,000,000 bushels of wheat as surplus, or six-sevenths of the whole quantity shipped from North America to Great Britain. Owing to the present defective system of communication the farmer did not realize full value for this grain, and as a consequence settlement has been retarded on the fruitful plains of that state. The incoming season promises to be one of great activity in opening up new routes to the North-West, and with a canal at the Sault Ste. Marie, which the Canadian Government will undertake and probably build this year, a new era will dawn on those countries around the basin of the great Lake, and the trade in breadstuffs receive an impetus which must be highly beneficial to the agricultural interests; for no reason can be adduced against two-thirds, or 60,000,000 bushels of the whole supply needed by Great Britain being taken from the North West. The Dominion Government has given the following encouragement to actual settlers, which is far more liberal than those offered by the United States:

The Dominion Government gives 100 acres of land in Manitoba, free, to every emigrant going into the new Province.

It gives to every Volunteer of the expedition settling there 320 acres, free.

It offers to carry emigrants from Toronto to Fort Garry for \$30 per head; children half-price. This about half the cost of going by the United States.

With liberal local government, a splendid climate, and the richest soil in the world, it will be the fault of the people of Manitoba

if they do not rapidly accumulate wealth, especially as their taxes are merely nominal and the expenses of government borne by the Dominion.

We have received the Adjutant-General's "Report on the State of the Militia of the Dominion of Canada, for the year 1870," and will give, in our next issue, such portions thereof as bear directly on the great question of military organization, as well as a lengthened review of the remainder. It is, as usual, written in the lucid and able manner characteristic of all official documents from the pen of that distinguished officer.

The *Globe* of the 13th instant has an article on "Affairs in Manitoba," of the most injudicious description, evidently intended to operate as a political expedient, and its use at the present juncture of affairs appears to be particularly reprehensible. It is no doubt very clever on the part of the writer to offer his brother incendiary of the *Nouvel Monde* as a sacrifice to the outraged law and order of the Dominion, but before doing so it would have been as well to have remembered that his own skirts are not clean of violent exaggeration and misstatement on the other side. Any apology either party may make in the face of the present situation would be futile, inasmuch as the fact remains that the soldiers of the Canadian army have been guilty of mutiny and insubordination, with all the consequences likely to follow in their train, and they have been abused by one journal, while the other hounds them on to set law at defiance, and bring the constituted authorities into contempt for the sake of petty political advantages by which the followers of either party would be benefitted.

"After me the deluge," used to be the favorite saying of an optimist of the last century; but do those journals who follow the evil course of evoking the storm fiend not fear that their own personalities may suffer by the results, or do they consider what effect may be produced on the welfare of the country by enticing and inciting its soldiers to turn the arms with which they were entrusted to uphold law and order against the constituted authorities and trample both under foot. It is time both parties should cease pursuing a course which has had already so disastrous a result. The libels of *Nouvel Monde* would have been harmless if the *Globe* had not translated them, and that journal can take comfort to itself that it did its utmost to provoke the late disgraceful outbreak, and that by its own confession it stands charged with inciting the soldiers at Fort Garry to insubordination, mutiny, and possible murder. The record is certainly not encouraging, but it is there in the *Globe's* editorials, and that journal may rest assured that the end of the trouble is not yet. It is impossible to con-

General Clark have got to do with the disgraceful proceedings at Fort Garry. The *Globe* knows full well that there can be no possible excuse for the troops—they have simply mutinied, and in that one word and by that act embodied and carried into practical effect the greatest evil that could befall a country, "the placing of the constitutional regime thereof under the feet of its soldiers." Except a stringent and decisive measure, calculated to prevent the recurrence of this example is put at once into operation there is no safety in our present organization. Men made tools of once for a bad purpose are readily available at the call of the demagogue, and will repeat the role with variations.

If the patriotism of the *Globe* is not circumscribed by its party necessities that journal will at once retrace its steps and make its dupes at Fort Garry understand that the law and order of the Dominion are matters with which they are connected only so far as their assistance is necessary for their proper vindication, and the protection of those engaged in their administration. The course hitherto pursued by that journal in connection with this affair is only too dangerous to be contemptible, and if the peace of the country is to be preserved it must cease at once to incite one portion of its soldiers against their comrades, and the people of one Province against those of another. "Between the ridiculous and the sublime there is but one step." How easily that can be overpassed is well known, and a journal that prostitutes its pages to demagoguism is on the eve of making the final *pas seul*.

In the VOLUNTEER REVIEW of the 6th of February (vol. v., p. 34), will be found an article taken from the United States *Army and Navy Journal*, entitled "Volunteer Cavalry—the Lessons of the Decade." Our present issue contains the publication of the second article on that subject, as other and more directly important matter occupied its place during the interval. It has been our desire since assuming control of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW to make it a useful repository of practical facts connected with the application of military science to the condition of our social and political economy, and to give our patrons of the Canadian army an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the peculiarities of the military organization of other countries, as well as the practical experience acquired in connection therewith. The organization of the Prussian army, that tremendous military sledge hammer which has broken in pieces the military system of a nation of soldiers *par excellence*, has been detailed in our pages from the pen of an officer of that army, and, beyond some questions of detail which time will enable us to work out, there is nothing in it applicable to the organization which suits the social and political condition of a

free people, whose interests do not demand any acquisition of territory at the expense of their neighbors, and who will not be made the tools of ambitious kings or kaisers for inflicting wrong on others. The study of a cavalry system which has already been tried in actual warfare on this continent will be interesting to our readers; and although we are satisfied that Lieut.-Colonel G. T. Denison has furnished a scheme of organization best fitted to our people,\* yet the papers we now publish are sufficiently interesting to warrant us asking the attention of the officers of our Volunteer force thereto.

\*Modern Cavalry; its Organisation, Armament and Employment in War. By Lieut.-Colonel G. T. Denison.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The weekly record of events presents very little of interest to the public generally. It has not been marked by any great or striking event, although the mutterings of the war storm which has so relentlessly swept over France still vibrates throughout Europe. It is hardly possible that so terrible a political convulsion can be confined in its ultimate effects to the area of its immediate action, or that its direct tendency will be easily counteracted. Accordingly if the *Pall Mall Gazette* is a reliable authority, the year which saw the end of the Prusso-Gallo war may yet witness a *crusade* for the re-establishment of the temporal power of the Pope. The correspondent of that journal under the 13th ult. says:

"It seems certain that forces for the Pontifical States are being mustered in Belgium, a country whose independence rests on its neutrality, and that when all is ready the Pope will leave Rome and put himself at their head and lead them to the field. Funds are pouring into the Vatican sufficient to meet every expense. During the last month the Pope received 1,101,000 francs, and since the 1st of February this sum has been swelled by 400,000 francs more. Nearly all the officers of the disbanded Pontifical army, and the bulk of the soldiers, have embraced the crusade and are now receiving their old pay, while volunteers are mustering in every part of the Continent. Gen. Kanzier is in Belgium, and the day before yesterday Commander Filippini proceeded to Brussels with despatches for the Nuncio and the Bishop of Malines, which are believed to relate to the expedition. An attempt will be made at the same time to effect a papal rising in Rome, and Monsignor de Merode is laboring zealously to prepare this mine. Every morning the ex-Minister of Police reports to the Holy Father the accounts brought to him by his emissaries of the temper of the population, and no pains are spared to foster every germ of discontent. The Pontifical Ministry is reconstituted, and constantly assembles at the Vatican, where it discusses these proceedings and keeps a watch on the situation. There is no doubt that the Italian Kingdom is in a very bad plight. After the rejection by the Italian Parliament of the clause in the Guarantee Bill affirming the inviolability of the Pope's Palaces, Visconti, Venesta and Porrenti would have resigned; but on a consultation with their colleagues they were deterred by the fear of public disorder. This intelligence

has put the Vatican in high spirits, and all its partizans are gaining confidence. Yesterday there was a grand promenade in the Corso, the whole street being thronged with carriages and pedestrians. The Princess Margaret, attended by the Princess Teano and Prince Colonus, appeared in a state carriage preceded by an outrider. Observers remarked that scarcely any of the Roman aristocracy were present. In the morning the princess and her consort would have gone to hear mass at Mary Magdore, but a message was received at the Quirinal that the canons would not supply them with cushions as had been done on the previous Sunday, and it was found that the Pope had forbidden this attention to be continued. The commission for transferring the capital have visited five monasteries, which are to be confiscated to the Government."

What the chances of this movement may be against the Kingdom of Italy it would be impossible to tell, and except his Holiness can reckon on exterior assistance his chances of recovering the domains of the church are very small. Still it is a sign of the times not to be despised, for the court of Rome has always exercised on European politics a vast amount of influence.

From France the only news of importance is the evacuation of the country by the Prussians, and breathing time being allowed to its disheartened people. The French Parliament appears to be earnestly endeavoring to reconstruct the Government, reorganize society, and bring the jarring elements thereof into accord. It has, however, committed the grave and silly error of assuming to itself extra constitutional powers, and by the act of its majority deposing the Emperor Napoleon, in far higher sense than themselves, the deliberate choice of the nation, has proved to the world that France is unfitted for constitutional government.

The future German army of occupation in France will consist, it is said, of a Saxon and Wurtemberg corps and the Seventh Prussian corps.

A new military system is to be established in France by which every Frenchman will be compelled to serve in the regular army three years, and the same period in the reserves.

The Germans continue to retire leisurely from the scenes of their martial glory, and in the homeward march are passing many a bloody and hard fought battle-field. Gen. Von Greben is marching his veterans from the North of France to occupy the ceded provinces. The Emperor William in his journey to Berlin is meeting with ovations at all stopping places. At Saarbruck he was welcomed by the civil authorities and presented with a wreath of laurel; and Frankfurt, that a few years ago was only awed into submission by the presence of Manteufel's battalions, has been illuminated in honour of the return of the conqueror, and the Burgomaster and hundreds of leading citizens have taken a leading part in the rejoicings that marked the occasion. The Emperor does not, it is said, intend to formally enter Berlin at present; but there will no doubt

soon be a grand triumphal procession through the capital. The Czar has sent a brilliant staff to be present at the display and to congratulate the Emperor.

Russia has officially disavowed the existence of any secret treaty with Prussia.

In the House of Lords on the evening of the 13th, Earl Granville announced that the Conference of the Powers on the Eastern question had closed. A treaty had been signed at the Foreign Office abrogating the restrictions on the admission of foreign men of war into the Dardanelles and Bosphorus. The Porte in times of peace may admit into these waters naval vessels of friendly powers whenever needed to enforce the treaty of 1856. The Danubian commission is prolonged twelve years. The protocol expressly declares that no power can relieve itself of the obligations of the treaty without the consent of all the signatories.

A Bill for the reorganisation of the Army has been introduced to the House of Commons by Mr. Cardwell. Its chief features will be, the abolition of purchase, the practice of enlistment for a period of twelve years, the vesting in Her Majesty the right to sign commissions in the auxiliary forces, viz., militia and Volunteers—thus taking an ancient privilege out of the hands of Lords-Lieutenant of Counties; the power to call out the whole militia force by Order in Council; the compulsory service of every man capable of bearing arms without exemption by substitute—with a few exemptions, such as clergymen and physicians—for six months in the militia, by ballot, or twelve months as a volunteer; the regulars, militia, and volunteers to be drilled together. In fact, with slight modifications, the main principle of the measure is that of our own Canadian Militia Bill, and it is easy to predict that it will provide a thoroughly efficient army for Great Britain.

Mr. Roebuck, in an address at Sheffield on the 14th instant, denounced the liberation of the Fenian convicts as a dastardly act, and their reception in America as disgraceful to the country, and as another proof that that country is England's bitterest enemy.

The Joint High Commission have had their opening sessions at Washington, but nothing has transpired as to the scope of their deliberations.

A Washington correspondent says the members of the British High Commission and those on the part of the United States, are socially in accord, and the friendship begun under important circumstances, which led to their appointment, seems to be daily strengthened. Never have the representatives of two great governments met under more favorable auspices to settle pending national questions. The Commission sit daily at the Department of State, and continue these several hours. Notwithstanding speculations concerning their proceedings, it is known from several of the members

that there is an agreement or implied understanding that there should be no premature disclosures of the process of the progress of affairs. This is regarded as eminently proper, for such publication would tend to embarrass the proceedings, if not defeat the great object of the commission; therefore, what appears in the newspapers professing to give information of, the conferences should be regarded as unauthorized, or as mere conjecture concerning the facts. It is, however, safe to say that nothing on any point has as yet been decided. All act with deliberation and with an earnest desire to bring the business to a satisfactory conclusion, and this hope is shared by all gentlemen connected with the administration of the United States Government. Much has been said about Canada in some of the recent newspaper publications, but those who have become acquainted with Sir John A. Macdonald express their opinion that while he will do all he can in the way of general adjustment, he will make no concessions that will injure the interests he has in charge.

The New York Tribune's Washington special correspondent, writing on the 15th says: There is a startling rumor to-night, not generally known, of advices received from Minister Sickles, submitting, as the result of the negotiations he has been conducting for several months past, a proposition from the Government of Spain for the sale to this Government of the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. The amount asked is believed to be one hundred million dollars, payable in instalments.

Mr. Charles Sumner has been removed from the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate. The Secretary of State, Mr. Fish, has been charged with taking this action at the suggestion of the British Ambassador, which he strenuously denies. But at any rate the movement, from whatever course, will tend to facilitate the settlement of all vexed questions; the aforesaid ex-chairman being as mischievous as a monkey, and no better principled than Butler, as far as his desire to rob his neighbors is concerned.

Capt. Macklem, of No. 3 Company Ontario Battalion, arrived from Manitoba at Chippewa on the 13th inst.

#### REVIEWS.

BEAUTY.—The largest collection of beauty ever published in the United States is afforded in the Parlor Album, advertised in another column. This Album embraces the finest specimens of chromo lithographs, steel engravings, and fine wood engravings ever afforded the public. The American Publishing Company of Rutland, Vt., desire an active agent in every town and village to whom they offer liberal terms. Read the advertisement of the PARLOR ALBUM.

## ENGLAND, AWAKE!

THE MOTHER OF NATIONS IS DEAD.

Spirit of England, art thou sleeping?  
Soul of the ocean art thou dead?  
Behold! thy sister is wounded and weeping;  
The waves are leaping; the storm is creeping.  
Hitherto to break on thy slumbering head,  
England, awake! for the shroud is over thee!  
England, awake, if thou be not dead!  
The seas are crying, the clouds are flying,  
Fair France is dying,—her blood flows red.  
Europe in thunder is rent assunder,  
But the mother of nations is dead!

Weep!—and pray that our tears may wake her!  
Pray!—the prayers have been vain of old;  
Scream, tho' the thunder is weak to shake her;  
In the name of the Maker, awake her, awake her!  
The storm hath come—let the bells be tolled.  
Mother, awake! we are waiting aloud for thee!  
Awake! awake! they are bringing the shroud for thee!

They will bury thee quiet, for thy pulse is cold!  
O God! to be sleeping, with thy children weeping,  
And the lightning leaping round farm and fold;

Dark rolls the motion of heaven and ocean—  
Why is the mother of nations cold?

Hush! for I have a charin to move her:  
I will name her glories in times long fled.  
Now, that the doom is so dark above her,  
Come, all that love her, and over and over  
Let the mighty sun of her deeds be said.  
England, awake! we wait wet-eyed for thee!  
By the sons that have dreamed, the sons that  
have died for thee!

She hears; she remembers; she is not dead!  
O hearts! cease weeping, the dawn is breaking,  
England is waking—she lifts her head!  
Her lips shall thunder; the world shall wonder:  
The mother of nations is not dead.

## THE CAPTURE OF OGDENSBURG.

In the fourth volume of *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW* the official account of the "Battles of 1812-15" were published, with all the necessary details of that contest. The site of early contests on the frontier at Ogdensburg were then noticed, and the following written by a citizen of the United States on the capture of that town, one of the most gallant episodes of the war, will be read with interest. The British officer's account will be found at page 237, vol. iv., *Vol. Rev.*

The *Ogdensburg Journal* of the 22nd ult., has the following on the capture of Ogdensburg by the British in 1813:—

"Fifty-eight years ago to-day, Washington's birthday, this place was captured by the British. They came across the St. Lawrence on the ice. The following extract of a letter written by a then resident, will be found interesting.

"OGDENSBURG, February 25th, 1813.

"My Dear Sir:—Ere you receive this, you will have heard of the attack made by the British on this place, on the morning of the 22nd; as is fully the case, your information may be of an exaggerated or imperfect nature, which induces me, having witnessed the whole, to give you this circumstantial account.

"On Monday morning previous to the hour of seven, my servant entered my room to inform me the British were coming across. I immediately arose and could perceive from my chamber window, two companies, one containing about 150 men, crossing above the village, the other of about double that force, coming immediately from Prescott, directing their course for the lower part of our village, this being the most vulnerable point; the first mentioned party, advanced within rifle shot of Forsyth's fortification, but were obliged to retreat with some loss, while the other succeeded in getting possession of the village, after a very feeble opposition on our part. Our cannon were frozen fast, so as to be of little or no use and were basely surrendered after two or three shots being fired,

our loss in killed not amounting to more than three or four and perhaps double the number wounded; the enemy acknowledged but eight killed and forty wounded, some of which are since dead. The public loss on this occasion has been great—say two beautiful long 12-pounders taken with Burgoyne, two brass 9's, two brass 6's, (New York manufacture,) two iron 6's and three iron 4's, nearly one thousand stand of arms, an immense quantity of ammunition, provisions, &c.

"The individual loss has also been very considerable, many houses that were deserted, rifled of everything; those who had the confidence to remain on their premises suffered in a small proportion. They took from the store, provisions, gunpowder, tea, rifle guns, brimstone, &c. to the amount of nearly \$2,500, for which they promised to pay, having frequently asserted their intention to respect private property. Our loss in prisoners was about sixty, myself among the number, but with a great deal of difficulty and expostulation on my part, was permitted to remain on parole, which was a fortunate circumstance in saving my property from the general destruction.

"After they had possession of the artillery and magazine, they sent a flag to Capt. Forsyth to surrender in his fortress, but which he promptly refused, preferring to retreat, which he effected from the west of his garrison circuitously by Judge Ford's house and proceeded on to Black Lake without losing a man. I think it almost unnecessary to mention, that the enemy burned all the barracks, with the two schooners, Niagara and Dolphin.

"As soon as the British were in possession of the village, the river appeared as though all Canada was let loose, the rabble flocked over in such abundance.

"DAVID M. LEWIS."

## PRESIDENT GRANT AND CANADIAN NAVIGATION.

(To the Editor of the Globe.)

SIR.—A person who is not at all posted would suppose, when reading President Grant's message to Congress, that the people of the United States had been used unjustly, and that Canada had shown anything but a friendly spirit toward them. The "Fishery Question" I do not profess to know much about, but I do know that American vessels have as free use of our canals as we ourselves have. They pay no higher tolls than ourselves, and their steamers passing through the Welland Canal have a preference over our own vessels. The fact is well known.

The charge of unfriendliness comes with but an ill grace from Mr. Grant in the face of orders transmitted from Washington since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, discriminating against Canadian vessels and commerce.

Some years ago we had a large trade from Chicago and Milwaukee to Port Colborne, at the head of the Welland Canal. Several deep draft vessels were built especially for that trade, and were doing a good business, when orders arrived from Washington that no more through grain would be permitted to be shipped in Canadian bottoms. The trade was killed without warning, and those vessels have not cleared a cent since. The American Government has put a tax of thirty cents per ton on Canadian vessels entering their ports, and has raised the port dues from \$2.30 to \$5 every time a Canadian vessel enters and clears from an American port, either for business or driven in through stress of weather.

At the straits of Mackinaw we must heave to, go ashore, and bow down to Ghesler's cap in the shape of a seventy cent tax for the privilege to navigate Lake Michigan. The money tax is a trifle, and could better be collected at the port of destination, but the loss of time is no trifle, but a serious loss to the owners of Canadian vessels. Grant has a beautiful theory of free navigation of all water courses which empty into the sea. That theory also includes our system of canals. When writing his message he must have forgotten, if he ever knew, about that tax at the Straits. His theory and that tax will not hang together.

Very recently—in the case of the schooner *Emery*, driven into Erie by storm on her way to Cleveland, the insurance having ran out—it was decided that she could not lay up there with her cargo on board unless a customs officer was placed on board, at the expense of the owner of the vessel; and the weak reason given was, that thousands of Canadian vessels would winter in their ports were it otherwise. I have seen in this port several large American vessels laid up for the winter with cargoes of corn, which was peddled out without interference from our authorities. We had no wish to hinder them. The great number of vessels wintering in a port the better for trade at that port, as they cannot sail without an outfit—and an expensive one too. If the Americans want further favours from us, it is about time they made up their minds to give an equivalent.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

MASTER MARINER.

Hamilton, Jan. 5th, 1871.

## OUR COMMERCIAL DECLINE.

(From the Boston Journal.)

The eclipse of our commercial prosperity and the triumph simultaneously enjoyed by England are not pleasant topics, but it is necessary that we keep them constantly in view. Of course, no American acquiescence in the present state of things, as if it were permanent and irremediable. It was brought about by certain causes, which were resistless, probably at the time, and whose influence must be felt for some time to come. But circumstances are continually changing, and it cannot but be that if our people are watchful of opportunities, and seize upon the most advantageous measures, they will gradually recover that commercial ascendancy for which they are so well adapted and which they have so long enjoyed. In the meantime the facts of the case are to be kept carefully in view.

The last report of Joseph Nimmo, Jr., Chief of the Division of Tonnage, gives us the latest statistics under this head. It shows for instance that of the total tonnage entered at the ports of Great Britain during the year 1869, 68 per cent was British, 3 per cent American, and 29 per cent from other foreign countries; and also of the total tonnage entered at the ports of the United States during the year ending June 30, 1870, 36 per cent was American, 47 per cent British, and 17 per cent from other foreign countries. That is we have 36 per cent of the shipping engaged in our own foreign commerce under our own flag, while England has nearly 70 per cent of the shipping of her foreign commerce. It further appears that during the last ten years' American shipping in our foreign trade has fallen off one half while the British tonnage has increased nearly 100 per cent.—These figures sufficiently indicate how the United States have sunk, and how England has at the



same time risen in the scale of commercial prosperity.

Mr. Nimmo gives seven reasons for this general supercure of American by British commerce, such as, England's priority in steam navigation; her systems of subsidies, her lower rates of interests, requiring less profits; her lower taxation; the greater cost of building ships here; the rebate of British duties on imported goods used on shipboard; and the relentless opposition of certain foreign lines to American lines of steamers. It will be seen that the difficulties as here stated are complicated, some being included in others, and the relative importance of each only being capable of ascertainment by men practically conversant with the whole subject. One result has been to change the conditions of commerce essentially from what they were in 1860. An instance of this is seen in the immense growth of the steam, over the sailing commercial marine, and in the astounding fact that, in our trade with Europe there are now 133 foreign steamers engaged, of which 101 are British, and not one bearing the American flag! It would seem that the time had come for Congress to act seriously upon this vital question. The facts are all before it and the people are anxious to know whether their Representatives have any remedy to apply or even to suggest. We trust that the present Congress will not be allowed to dissolve without something being done to meet this appeal of the country.

A CALIFORNIA OBITUARY.

"BODDLEPOSTER'S" DEATH.

(From the San Francisco News' Letter.)

Boddlepopster is dead! The bare announcement will plunge the city into un-speakable gloom. The death of Boddlepopster was most untimely; he should have died twenty years ago. Probably no man of his day has exerted so peculiar an influence upon society as the deceased. Ever foremost in every good work out of which anything could be made, an unstinted dispenser of every species of charity that paid commission to the disburser. Mr. Boddlepopster was a model of generosity, and weighed at the time of his death 190 odd pounds. Originally born in Massachusetts but for ten years a resident of California, and partially bald, possessing a cosmopolitan nature, that loved a York shilling as well in proportion to its value as a Mexican dollar, the subject of our memoir was one whom it was an honour to know, and whose close friendship was a luxury that only the affluent could afford. It shall ever be the writer's proudest boast that he enjoyed it at less than half the usual rates. Mr. Boddlepopster was the founder of the new Boddlepopster Institute, and for some years previous to his death, suffered severely from a soft corn, which has done as much for agriculture as any similar concern in the foot-hills of our State. In 1863 he was elected an honorary member of the Society for the Prevention of Humanity to the Mongolians, and but for the loss of an eye in carrying out its principles, would have been one of the handsomest whites that ever resided amongst us. There is little doubt that he might have aspired to any office in the gift of the people, so universal was the esteem he was held in by those he voted for. In an evil moment he was induced to associate himself in business with Rev. Albert Williams, and though he speedily withdrew from the firm, he was never able to wholly eradicate the disgrace from

his constitution and it finally carried him to his grave. His last words as he was snuffed out, was characteristic of the man; he remarked:—"Fetch me that catnip tea!" The catnip consolation arrived too late to be of any use; he had gone to the— Fare wvell, noble heart, puro soul, bright intellect We shall meet again.

HOW THE GERMAN ARMIES ARE FED.—The *Weser Zeitung* gives a description of the manufactory of Prussian army stores at Berlin, more than 1,700 persons, adults and youths of both sexes, are engaged from morning till night in preparing 150,000 pounds of peas-pudding (*Cerbswurt*—literary, pea sausages), and 240,000 rations of meat and vegetable preserves, which are daily dispatched by railway. The largest room in the building is devoted to the preparation of peas-pudding. Swine's flesh—especially bacon and ham—are first cooked in twelve large saucepans. The other components of the sausage are peafLOUR, salt and the so called "lupus," the name humorously given by the inventor to the secret ingredient which makes the articles keep, and gives it an agreeable flavor. When the mixture is cooked it is poured into pails, and by skilful kneading the pea sausage soon become firm, and is enclosed in a covering, not of skin, but of parchment. Boys and girls carry the mixture on wheelbarrows to the packing room, where 400 women and girls, after cleansing the outside from grease, affix on every portion the following label: "Put ten ounces, or one third of a sausage, freed from the coating, into 1½ pint of cold water, stir it up, and let it cook for ten minutes." The sausages are carefully packed into pails, and are sent to the cooper's workshop, where they are stowed into 150 lbs. cases, nailed up, and are sent off. The sausage or pudding becomes in time as hard as stone. The genuine article is not obtainable by the public, though imitations of it are sold. Turnips, carrots and celery for the preserves are dressed and cut by about 120 women. The tin cases of the preserves employ 120 workmen; 100 o. are daily slaughtered, and 275 cwt. of bacon daily brought for the manufactory. The preserves, already sold in cases, are boiled in the so called marine baths. Labels, with the directions, are placed on every case. Everything is made the most of, the bones being cooked and supplying excellent broth. Eighteen saw-pans are used for preparing "yullash,"—a mixture of beef and maize, which is much relished by the troops. The works cover about six acres, and are now the property of the State. There are similar establishments at Frankford and Mayence.

THE NEW GERMAN EMPIRE.—The countries now included in the new Empire of Germany are Prussia with a population of 25,000,000 including Hanover's two millions; Bavaria, with a little less than five millions; Saxony, with two and a half millions; Wurtemberg, with one million eight hundred thousand; Baden, with one million and a half; Hesse Darmstadt, with nearly a million; and twenty smaller States, with a population of three millions; giving a total of nearly forty millions within the present area of North and South Germany, which is 205,000 square miles. But as soon as they can be annexed, Alsace, Lorraine and Luxembourg are to be added, raising the population to some forty-four millions, and there are eight millions of Germans in Austria, on whom the Kaiser will look with longing eyes and take the first opportunity of re-annexing them to the confederacy.

The following summary of the Prussian and French war is from the *Kiel Gazette*: In the present war 23 battles have been fought their order being—Weissenburg, Woerth, Spichern, Pange, Mars-la-Tour Gravelotte, Beaumont, Sedan, Noisville, (before Metz), the three battles of Orleans, Amiens, Champagne and Brie, (before Paris) Beaugency, St. Quintin, and the great sortie against St. Cloud. At Gravelotte nearly half a million of men confronted each other, viz, 270,000 Germans against 210,000 Frenchmen. At Sedan there were 210,000 Germans against 150,000 French, and in the third battle of Orleans 100,000 or 120,000 Germans against 200,000 or 240,000 French. The disparity of numbers was greatest at Mars-la-Tours and Belfort. In the former 45,000 Prussians fought from 3 a. m. till 4 p. m., at first against 160,000, and by noon against nearly 200,000 French. In the latter nearly 30,000 or 36,000 Prussians and Badenians confronted 90,000 or 120,000 French. The three battles before Metz—Pange, Mars-la-Tour and Gravelotte—show the largest losses on both sides, the loss of the Germans in the second being 609 officers and 17,000 men. Of all battles during the past century only the storming of Planche-noit, the battles of Belle, Alliance Boredino, Eylau, and Zorndorf can rank in the same category with the battles before Metz. There have been 49 engagements some of them resembling battles, and 20 successful sieges, including Paris, Metz, and Strasbourg.

POLAR ROUTE TO THE PACIFIC.—An accident has occurred in the Arctic Ocean which goes a great way to confirm the theory of the existence of open water in the Polar Sea connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Captain Homan, of the whale ship *Cornelius Howland*, of New Bedford, lately arrived at Honolulu from the Arctic fishery, and reports that he captured off Point Barrow, a polar whale with the head of a harpoon marked "A. G." impeded in the blubber, the wound having healed over. The weapon is supposed to belong to the whaling bark *Ansel Gibs*, also at New Bedford, which has been engaged in the whale fishery at Cumberland Inlet, in Davis Straits on the eastern side of the continent for ten or eleven years past. If the assumption be true that the harpoon was from *Ansel Gibs*, and Captain Homan's belief is strong evidence, there must be, at least, at some periods clear water between the two oceans, for the whale could not have made the circuit of the continent. A polar animal could not exist in the southern seas. It is to be hoped Captain Homan will send the harpoon home for positive identification, as great results may follow its singular discovery. If it should prove as suggested it may be an additional reason why the Government should progress with the long talked of expedition to ascertain the practicability of a Polar passage to the Pacific and probably thus establish the feasibility of Capt. Bent's Thermometric route.

The revenue of Great Britain last year amounts to £71,203,955 sterling, being an increase of \$553,582 over the previous year's revenue, although a considerable reduction in the duties was authorized last session.

An English writer thinks the American early potatoes will come to an end ere long, for as each new variety is claimed to ripen about ten days earlier than any other, the time between planting and digging will soon be used up.

**WANTED**

**A**N Intelligent Boy, to learn the Printing Business. Apply this Office.  
 Volunteer Review Office,  
 Ottawa, March 6, 1871



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,  
 4th day of February, 1871.

PRESENT:  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR  
 GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

**O**N the recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Customs, and under authority given by the Act 31st Vic. Cap. 6, intitled: "An Act respecting the Customs;" His Excellency has been pleased to make the following Regulation;

On, from and after the first day of March, proximo, the Port of Queenston in the Province of Ontario, shall be and is hereby discontinued as an independent Port of Entry, and shall be and is hereby constituted an Out Port of Entry, and placed under the Survey of the Port of Niagara.

WM. H. LEE,  
 Clerk Privy Council,  
 Canada.  
 9-31

Ottawa, Feb. 13th, 1870.

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American Publishing Co.,  
 RUTLAND, VT.

Feb. 25, 1871:

9-6m



**ORDNANCE LANDS SALE,  
 OTTAWA.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that on **WEDNESDAY** the 22nd day of **MARCH**, at noon, will be sold at **PUBLIC AUCTION**, (by J. Birmingham, Auctioneer, at his Sale Room, near the market, York Street, Ottawa, the undermentioned lots of Land in the City of Ottawa, the former sales of which have been cancelled, under the 20th Section of the Act 23 Vic., Cap. 2:

- Lots Nos. 31, 43, 50, 51, 52, North side of Rideau Street.
- Lots Nos. 5, 6, 7, West side of Cobourg Street, Lower Town.
- Lots Nos. 19, 23, 31, 35, South side of Ottawa street Lower Town.
- Lots Nos. 1 and 2, East Wurttemberg street, Lower Town.
- Lot No. 5, South Anglesea Square, Lower Town.
- Lot No. 15, South Bolton street, Lower Town.
- Lots Nos. 50 and 51, North Gloucester street, Central Town.
- Lots Nos. 50 and 51 South Maria Street, Central Town.
- Lot No. 10, (East half) North St. Andrew street, Lower Town.

Purchasers to pay one-tenth of the price down at the time and place of sale, and the balance in nine annual instalments, with interest at the rate of six per cent.

Plans can be seen and information obtained at the Office of the Ordnance Lands Branch of this Department, and at the Auctioneer's.

Further particulars will be found in Handbills, and will be given at the time and place of sale.

By order,  
 E. PARENT,  
 Under Secretary of State.

WM. F. COFFIN,  
 Ordnance Lands Agent,  
 Department of Secretary of State, }  
 Ottawa, February 15th, 1871. } 9-td



**INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY  
 OF CANADA.**

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The Commissioners for the construction of the Intercolonial Railway are prepared to receive Tenders for **TWENTY-ONE SPANS OF IRON BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE** of one hundred feet for each span; and also for sixteen spans of Two Hundred Feet for each span.

Printed specifications, showing the tests which each span will be required to bear, information as to the location of the different bridges; and forms of tender can be obtained upon application at the office of the Commissioners, or of the Chief Engineer, at Ottawa, Canada; or at the Banking House of Messrs. Morton, Rose & Co., Bartholomew Lane, E. C., London, England.

Parties tendering must submit their own plans of the mode in which they propose to construct the Bridges, and state the price of each span f. o. b., at the place of shipment; and also the price complete in place.

Tenders marked "Tenders for Bridges" and addressed to the Commissioners, Ottawa, will be received up to **6 O'CLOCK, P.M., of THURSDAY** the 6th day of **APRIL, 1871.**

The Commissioners will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. WALSH,  
 ED. B. CHANDLER,  
 C. J. BRYDGES,  
 A. W. McLELAN,  
 Commissioners.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY,  
 COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
 Ottawa, 19th Jan., 1871.

4-9In



**NOTICE.**

**PLANS, Specifications, and Estimates** will be received by the Corporation of the City of Ottawa, at the Office of the City Clerk, until **MONDAY THE TWENTIETH DAY OF MARCH** next, for the construction of the following works

A new Bridge across the Rideau Canal from Rideau to Sparks and Wellington Streets; a new Bridge across the "Gully" in Victoria Ward, in a line with Queen Street; and a new Bridge across the Canal from Maria to Theodore street.

Ground plans can be seen at the Office of the City Engineer, where any information required as to the various locations indicated can be obtained.

The following premiums will be paid:

For the Plans, &c., &c., for the new Bridge to connect Rideau and Sparks and Wellington Streets, for the first.....	\$100
For the Second .....	50
For the Plans, &c., for Bridge to connect Theodore and Maria Streets, for the first.....	75
For the second.....	50
For the Plans, &c., for Bridge to connect George and Queen Streets, for the first.....	50

By order,  
 WM. P. LEITZ,  
 City Clerk,

City Hall, Ottawa, Jan. 17, 1871. 4-td

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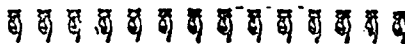
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