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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. VIII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1874.

No. 7.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

BRITISH COLUMBIA has had a small rebellion, or rather the city of VICTORIA. The citizens, to the number of about one thousand, marched to the Parliament Buildings on Monday, the 9th inst., and overawed the House, forcing the retirement of Mr. De Cosmos, the premier, and consequently the resignation of the Ministry. The following is the telegraphic account of the *emute*:—

On Monday afternoon the citizens to the number of nearly one thousand marched to the Parliament Buildings in an orderly manner.

A large police force was on hand, but no disturbance took place.

Dr. Helmcken presented a petition passed at a meeting held on the previous Saturday, the gist of which was "that this meeting deems it inadvisable to enter into any negotiations for capitalizing the Dry Dock Guarantee, or to borrow any money from the Dominion Government until the scheme of Mackenzie's Ministry for the relaxation of the Terms of Union shall be made known; and further that it is distinctly opposed to the Provincial Government interfering in any manner with the Terms, or agreeing to any new terms offered by the Mackenzie Government until they have been submitted to the people for adoption."

The application by the Ministry for a gunboat to be stationed off the Government buildings was refused by the commander of the fleet.

A resolution was also sent to the city members who supported the Local Government calling upon them to resign.

The same afternoon, Mr. De Cosmos resigned, and he has since left the city—it is said, to stand for an outside district for the Commons.

Today the Hon. Mr. Walken, Attorney General of the De Cosmos Ministry, was called upon by the Lieut. Governor to form a Government. It is understood that he has made no changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet.

Considerable excitement still prevails. Mr. Norton, one of the leaders in the attack on the Parliament Buildings, is a candidate for the Commons. Mr. David W. Miggitt, another ringleader of the *emute*, having been threatened with arrest, publishes a card accepting the entire responsibility of the demonstration.

The House meets again on Friday, when the petition will be considered.

The press, who are now in opposition to the General Government, say that nothing but a dissolution of the Local House will

satisfy the country, and charge that the attempt to change the Terms of Union was made in order to violate the Railway clause.

Hon. Mr. Ross, Minister of Militia, on his way to Ottawa, got storm stayed. A heavy snow storm prevailed in Nova Scotia. He returned, so we learn, to Cape Breton.

The Hon. Mr. Blake has resigned his position in the Government, and his resignation has been accepted. Mr. Blake's retirement from the Government is altogether on personal grounds, and has no political significance whatever.

His Excellency Lord Dufferin takes a lively interest in the popular game of curling, and has offered a gold medal to be played for by all the regularly organized clubs of the Dominion who desire to compete; also a silver medal to be played for by the members of the winning club. The matches are to be played on or before March 9th, the returns to be sent in for his Excellency's information.

On the 10th, in the House of Representatives, Washington, Mr. White, of Alabama, introduced a bill for the construction of the Atlantic and Great Western Canal by the indorsement of bonds and the issue of currency notes to an amount not exceeding \$7,000,000, and for the opening to navigation of the Tennessee and Coosa rivers in Alabama, and of the Ockmulgee river in Georgia. Bills were also introduced by Dawes to reduce the rate of letter postage to two cents.

In the Senate Mr. Cameron, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported with out amendment the House bill requesting the President to extend in the name of the United States a cordial invitation to foreign Governments to take part in the Continental Exposition at Philadelphia.

The army reduction bill, under consideration by the House Military Committee, provides for sweeping reductions in the army, among others of five regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and one of artillery. Officers who may necessarily be affected by the reduction are to receive one year's pay on being mustered out. Important changes are also proposed in the number and mode of the selection of officers as commanding generals of the several military departments. The bill provides for the appointment of officers who have served in the Medical and Quarter-master's Departments during the late war, and that the first twenty graduates each year from the Military Academy shall be assigned to regiments and the remainder discharged.

A Fort Laramie despatch says. Lieut. Robinson and Corporal Coleman, before reported as being surrounded by hostile Indians, were murdered. Two Companies of Cavalry under Capt. Egan and Lieut. Allison have been sent in pursuit of the Indians.

The American Fish Culturists' Association held their third annual meeting on the 10th. Hon. Robert B. Roosevelt gave a statement regarding the work of the New York State Commissioners of Fisheries. A number of interesting papers on the subject of fish culture in Maine, California and elsewhere were read.

It is stated that the village of South Windham, Conn., has a case of small pox in nearly every family, and several deaths have occurred. All business has ceased, and no railway trains stop there.

James Gordon Bennett has given \$30,000 for establishing free soup rooms in the various engine and truck houses in the city. The Fire Commissioners have voted to carry out the suggestion at once.

A Brooklyn paper asserts that a million a year has been stolen from the people of that city by a Ring for 10 years past, and sums up amounts already said to be confessed at \$2,100,000.

From Vienna we learn that the *Vaterland* newspaper has been suppressed, and the office and materials confiscated.

The law introducing general conscription in Russia is about to be promulgated.

Capt. Robertson, of the ship *Loch Earn*, which sank the *Ville du Havre*, has written to the *London Times*, giving an emphatic denial to many of the statements made before the French tribunal, which investigated Capt. Surmont's story of the disaster. Capt. Robertson is borne out in his denial by all of his own crew and by the look-out man on the *Ville du Havre*.

The English Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce offers its gold medal, or £20, for the best "revolution indicator" which shall accurately inform the officer on deck and the engineer in charge of the engine what is the number of revolutions of the paddles or screw per minute, without the necessity of counting them.

There is considerable speculation as to whether Disraeli or Earl Derby will become Premier.

The mail steamer from South America reports that yellow fever continues unabated in Rio Janeiro and cholera is raging with great violence in Buenos Ayres and Monte Video. Thousands of people had fled from those cities.

Taylor's pantechmicon and furniture repository, in Belgravia, London, covering an acre of ground, was destroyed by fire on the 14th. Estimated loss \$15,000,000. There were several accidents and two firemen were killed. The fire attracted an immense and unruly crowd, and it became necessary to call out the military to preserve order.

DEATH OF LIVINGSTONE.

INTERESTING SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

The telegram despatch announcing the death of Dr. Livingstone, the African explorer, was confirmed in our columns yesterday. It came from London to this country but was in the first place from Zanzibar, and stated that advices had been received from the exploring party accompanying Dr. Livingstone announcing his death. The details are meagre, as is usual with very important telegrams simply recording the facts that he died of dysentery, at an encampment some distance from Unyanyembo, and that his embalmed body was on the way to England. At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, the Chairman, Sir Henry Rawlinson, informed the gentlemen present that the expedition in search of Livingstone, headed by Lieutenant Cameron, had reached Unyanyembo, and was about to proceed onward to Ujiji. There he hoped to receive intelligence of his whereabouts, and to be able to supply him with the stores and medicines he so much needed. And the Chairman added that in the opinion of Dr. Kirk no intelligence was likely to come from any other source. It is just, therefore, to conclude that the information of his death, which has spread so wide a pang of sorrow and regret, came not from the party of Livingstone himself, but from the Cameron search expedition. It is probable that they travelled but a few days from Unyanyembo when they reached the encampment where David Livingstone was breathing his last, and that they have given to his body the entombment and lining which was necessary to bring it to Zanzibar. This was, indeed, the natural end of such a man, though no one can avoid a keen regret that he could not have died in England after receiving the testimonies of respect and admiration which there awaited him. But those who have read his books of travels must have scanned them to little purpose if they did not see that here was a man predestined to die in harness—one of those indomitable souls to whom the self-made duty is everlasting and the self nothing. And, as an example to others, a bright model of perseverance and self-criticism. David Livingstone dying, surrounded by swarthy attendants, in a tropical forest encampment between Ujiji and Unyanyembo is a greater spectacle than the same man crowned with honors, and passing a peaceful old age in his own country, in the enjoyment of every comfort, amid the filial solicitude of his children.

Rev. David Livingstone was born in 1817 at Blantyre, near Glasgow, Scotland, of parents who were emphatically poor and honest. His father was a small grocery man, as groceries are understood in that country, dealers in tea, coffee, sugar, and spices. His son David, while yet a wee bairn, had to contribute his share of exertion for the family, and worked in those cotton mills to which the village of Blantyre owes its existence. At night time he picked up the rudiments of learning, and a strong test for books. His father was not the man to tread down such inclinations, and by pinching here and clipping there he was enabled to send his son to the university at Glasgow during the winter months, and during the vacation he worked away among the spindles of the cotton mills. During these years he acquired that modicum of Greek and Latin which, in European colleges, appears as the great desideratum. But the young man had

evidently no taste for classical literature. His great wish was then to go to China either as a missionary or as a surgeon. In the former capacity there appeared to be no opening, so he studied medicine for several years, supporting himself in the meantime by his own labors. In 1838 he passed his examinations in surgery, physics, and medicine, and was admitted as a general practitioner. But, though qualified to practice, such seems never to have been his intention, and learning that the London Missionary Society was in want of agents for the African missions, and that a knowledge of medicine and surgery was very much desired, he made application for such work, and was at once accepted. He was ordained shortly afterwards, and in the following year embarked for Natal. It had been his most ardent wish to go to China, but the Providence that shapes our ends overruled this, to his great disappointment at the time. For the opium war was then raging, and after remaining some time in suspense, the London Missionary Society considered it advisable to abandon that field temporarily, and to send their new agent to South Africa. And through this misfortune as it then seemed, science has received the most distinguished benefit, and the Africans found a friend whose exertions to introduce commerce and to put down the slave trade were of unparalleled magnitude, and of great though not lasting success. The commerce steadily increases, but unfortunately the slave trade, put down at one place, springs up again at another, and indeed will continue to do so as long as the white man desires to engage in it.

At Port Natal Dr. Livingstone found himself associated with Rev. Mr. Moffat, a missionary whose unaffected piety had won universal confidence from the negro tribes. Dr. Livingstone devoted himself with ardor to his sacred duties, and very soon acquired the language of the Bechuans, and commenced to make converts among their headmen. He built himself a house at Kolo-beng, to the great admiration not only of the Bechuans, but of the adventurous Makololo, who described it as "not a house but a mountain with several caves." To this home he led his young wife, the daughter of the good Robert Moffat, and here his eldest son, Robert, was born, after which auspicious circumstance the natives invariably called her Ma Robert. For any of the Makololo it is the glory of the mother to have sons, and she is not known as the wife of so and so, but as the mother of such a one. Having now established his basis among the people of the Baitkwan country, he commenced that wonderful series of explorations which has ended so sadly in that lonely encampment in thick African woods, beyond Unyanyembo. His first effort was the exploration of the great Kalahari Desert, and after much suffering he was rewarded by the discovery of the Zonga River. Having constructed canoes, he was paddled down the stream, and after some days found himself floating in the tranquil water of Lake Ngami, the most southerly of the great chain of lakes which occupies the centre of Africa. This was in 1849, the ninth year of his residence in Africa. Next year he returned to the newly discovered Lake Ngami, bringing with him his wife and children, for Charles Livingstone had now been born. This time, however, he did not dare the dangers of the Kalahari, but circuitously skirted around the edges. In spite of these precautions, the children and the good, patient wife suffered terribly, and he returned to Koldberry. Here he was warmly greeted by the natives

and made more conversions, and established a charming garden. But the spirit of adventure was unquenchable, and he determined to strike next time for the headquarters of Makololo at Linyanti. He started again in 1851 for the Kalahari Desert, following the windings of the Zonga, but when he reached lake Ngami he struck out to the right, crossing plains covered with a salina efflorescence without springs, and dreadful spectacle of aridity and barrenness. Beyond was the Burobub country of the Makololo, a land very humid by reason of the many rivers. He soon arrived at Linyanti, the capital, where he found a monarch, Sekeletu, most amicably disposed toward himself. Indeed, every African seems to have loved this extraordinary man, and even those who cheated him did so in a half-hearted sort of way—very different from the brazen assurance with which other travelers have been despoiled. He remained some time at Linyanti to refresh himself and party, and then began to examine the country. He was not long in discovering the great Zambezi River, the chief stream of Southern Africa. His ardent imagination now conceived a great enterprise. It was to open up the Zambezi by means of light steamers, and to evangelize the inhabitants in all the region watered by the river, by introducing commerce and the Bible. Fired with this thought, he returned to Koldberry, and immediately broke up his home and departed for Cape Town with his wife and children, where he laid his plan before his immediate superior, proposing to devote the next to or three years to the thorough exploration of the region and the acquisition of the languages. They most heartily assented, and supplied him with the necessary means, his family being sent to Europe. It was in the month of March, 1852, when he left the Cape to start on the most memorable journey, which, whether we regard the distance traversed, the circumstances attending it, or the difficulties surmounted, is unparalleled, either in ancient or modern times. Leaving the Cape, he made his way to his father-in-law's station, some 200 miles south of Koldberry, and was detained there by some unavoidable troubles, which fretted him greatly. But again the finger of Providence had guided his movements, for when he arrived at his own station, his late so smiling home was in ruins, and the natives left in charge killed or scattered by the Dutch Boers of the Suzereinte. The reason for this extraordinary act of barbarity was the friendship between Dr. Livingstone and certain Bechuans whom they accused of stealing their cattle, much after the manner of a well known quarrel between a wolf and a lamb. He at once departed for Linyanti, the capital of the Makololo, and found the Prince Sekeletu as loving as ever, which was no doubt very agreeable to his feelings after the recent demonstration of the Boers. He visited the Zambezi again, and then being furnished with escorts and porters, and equipped with stores by the generous Sekeletu, he plunged into the unknown wilderness of forest, having turned his face westward. The circumstances of his extraordinary march to St. Paul de Loando, the capital of the Portuguese settlement of Angola, in Western Africa, has been told by himself in a well known and most interesting book of travels. For two years he was wandering, sometimes detained by curious chieftains, who took his appearance as a personal compliment, sometimes by swollen rivers, sometimes by extortionate head men, but still he pressed on bravely until in the fullness of days he found himself in the

Valley of the Cussarye. He was by this time half crazy with fever, often blind with the intolerable headaches it induced, but powerless to contend with it, having exhausted his quinine. But the sight of the Portuguese plantations along the river gave him new courage, and at length he found him in the City of San Paolo. It was an imposing place, having 12,000 inhabitants, and in the harbor were British men-of-war cruising to put down the slave trade. The astonishment of the Makololo, when they saw the sea, was tremendous. They came to Livingstone and said to him:—"Now we have seen it. We marched along with our father, believing that which our old man said was true, that the world has no end. But all at once the world says to us, 'I am finished. There is no more of me.'" And they were greatly impressed by the universal respect paid to Livingstone, for now, they said, they knew he was a great man.

After he had completely recovered from his almost utter prostration, and had, by copious doses of quinine, expelled from his blood the lurking devil of jungle fever, he turned his back upon the sea, although the commander of the cruise offered to take him home without delay. But the Makololo looked wistfully at their father, who had promised to take them back again to Linyanti, and back again he went with them. After numerous adventures he got safely to Seketelu's place of wattles, and was received with transport. He now in earnest explored the Zambezi, marching down its banks to its mouth, on the Mozambique Sea, upon one of which is the Portuguese fort of Tetto. Not far from Tetto are the great falls of the Zambezi, which he called Victoria. At Tette her Majesty's ship *Frolic* soon arrived, and took him to the Mauritius, whence he sailed for Europe, arriving there at the end of 1856. The dreaded march from Koldberry to St Paul de Loanda, and from St Paul de Loanda to Tette had taken four years. Arrived in England, he received such a welcome as has blessed few men. He was specially invited by the Royal Geographical Society, and the then President, the late Sir Roderick Murchison, alluded to him in terms of the most glowing admiration. Medals and testimonials were showered upon the modest man, whose greatest happiness was in being reunited to his family. In 1857 he published a narrative of his travels, which has since passed through many editions.

In 1858 he returned to Africa to explore the Zambezi and its tributaries with steam launches, and to introduce the blessing of civilization among the people. During the course of this expedition he discovered Lake Nyassa and Shirvan, and made many interesting explorations. But his dear wife died six months after the Nyassa discovery, and the expedition was recalled by the Government in 1863. The open hostility of the Mussulmen, and the covert but ceaseless opposition of the Portuguese, nullified all his efforts, and nothing came of an undertaking that had promised so fairly. The climate also was by no means so favorable as Livingstone had believed, and, in deed, had he not been sanguine he might have guessed that the vicinity of large rivers in tropical countries can never be healthy. He returned to Bombay in 1854, and thence reached London in the month of July of the same year. He was received with the same honors, and his portrait, exhibited at the Royal Academy, was visited by crowds of people, never weary of gazing on the plain homely lineaments of one who

had done and dared so much. Perhaps, if his wife had been alive, he might have remained in England for a longer time, or perhaps, for the remainder of his life; for all who saw him then thought that his iron constitution was beginning to fail. At that time he had suffered from attacks of fever two hundred and seventy-five times. But the expedition in search of the head waters of the Nile sent out by the Government stimulated his always keen desire to be up and doing, and he left England for the last time in April, 1865. His object was stated by himself in the preface to his book on the Zambezi and its tributaries. "I propose," he wrote, "to go inland north of the territory which the Portuguese in Europe claim, and endeavor to commence that system in the East which has been so eminently successful on the west coast—a system combining the repressive effects of her Majesty's cruisers with lawful trade and Christian missions—the moral and material results of which have been so gratifying. I hope to ascend the Rovuma, or some other river north of Cape Delgado, and in addition to my other work, shall strive, by passing along the northern end of Lake Nyassa, and round the southern end of Lake Tranganyika to ascertain the watershed of that part of Africa. In so doing, I have no wish to unsettle what, with so much toil and danger, was accomplished by Speke and Grant, but rather to confirm their illustrious discoveries. Having plunged once again into the mysterious recesses of Africa, so long an interval elapsed before tidings were received from him that his friends in England were most seriously alarmed, and a search expedition was started after him in June, 1867. They never came up with him, but managed to get a letter from him, dated July, 1868, from Lake Bangweolo, when he stated that he believed he might safely assert the sources of the Nile to be between 10° and 12° south latitude, and that he thought the Rovuma River was the Rhapsa of the Greek geographer, Ptolemy. This reached England November, 1869. Another communication came to London, May 13, 1869, and was dated from Ujiji. And in 1871, a well authenticated rumor was current that he was making extensive explorations to the west of Tranganyika. From that moment nothing further was heard of him until he was found near Ujiji by Mr. Stanley the correspondent of the New York *Herald*. The discoverer was hailed in England with the heartiest welcome, but his geographical information was not so full as was desired by the Royal Geographical Society, and they started an expedition under Lieut. Grundy to reach him by way of the Congo. The British Government almost at the same time sent out the search expedition under Lieut. Cameron, which had the melancholy fortune of finding the expiring or already dead hero. It is probable that he was not dead when Cameron found him, as he had no persons in his own party who were capable of embalming his body. And as the telegram specially states this, it is fair to infer that it was done by some medical man attached to the expedition of Lieut. Cameron. Peace to his remains! He was a very faithful servant of God, and in him the black man has lost a most loving friend."

MARSHALS OF FRANCE EXECUTED,

For the following list of the marshals of France who have been condemned to death, we are indebted to the *Vorst*:—

Gilles de Laval, called Marshal de Retz, born in 1396, at Machecoul (Loire-Inferieure) distinguished himself in the wars against the English, and particularly at the siege of

Orleans (1429). Accused afterwards of horrible murders and monstrous crimes, he was hanged at Nantes in 1449, and his body was then burned. The people had surmised him Blue Bread.

Louis deLuxembourg, Count de Saint-Pol, Constable of France, born in 1418, beheaded in the Place de Greve on the 19th December 1475, for conspiracy and rebellion against Charles VII. and Louis XI.

Charles de Gontant, Duke de Biron, was son of the great captain of who Henry IV. said, "Biron was my right hand in obtaining my crown." The Bearnais showed him the warmest friendship. They fought side by side in all the great battles. Henry saved his life three times, particularly in the combat of Fontaine-Francaise (1595). At 33 Biron was marshal of France, and in 1598 the king made him a duke and peer. He was of an impetuous character and of unbridled ambition, and not considering him self sufficiently recompensed by his dignities and the government of Burgundy, he several times conspired with foreign countries against Henri IV., who pardoned him. His last crime was of exceptional gravity. It consisted in a scheme for parcelling out France into several small states, with the aid of Spain and the Duke of Savoy. The price of the bargain was, for Biron, the hand of the duke's daughter, and possession of Burgundy, the Limousin, and Perigord. Henri IV. and Sully, who were warned, ordered the marshal to Fontainebleau, and tried to win him back to his duty by mildness and caresses, while showing himself haughty and inflexible. Far from defending himself, he gave way to his temper. No mark of friendship could bend his insatiable pride. The last interview of the two old companions in arms was most touching. Biron was leaving the King's cabinet, and His Majesty, holding the door ajar, said. But avow, then, avow." No answer. Then the King, with a grave and melancholy voice, added "Adieu, Baron de Biron." That was the marshal's death-warrant. He could only obtain from his former friend one favour, that of being beheaded inside the Bastille instead of on the Place de Greve (11th July, 1602). He was forty years old.

Marshal de Marillac, arrested in the midst of his army for conspiring against the life of Cardinal de Richelieu. Beheaded the 10th May, 1632, in the Place de Greve.

Henri II., Duc de Montmorency, made prisoner at the battle of Castelnaudary, fought against the royal troops, beheaded in the court yard of the Capitol at Toulouse, the 30th October 1632, at the age of thirty-seven.

Baron de Luckner, marshal of France, served under Frederick II. during the Seven Years' War. Some time before the revolution he entered the French Army with the grade of lieutenant-general. He adopted the principles of '89, was named marshal and, in 1792, charged with the command of the Army of the North. He took Menin and Courtrai, and crushed an Austrian corps near Valenciennes. But suspicion was excited against him; he was taken before the Revolutionary tribunal, and beheaded in 1794.

Philippe de Noaille, Duke de Mouchy, marshal of France, born in 1715. Governor of Versailles from 1789. He was near Louis XVI. at the time of the insurrection of the 20th June, 1792; and, notwithstanding his great age, defended his King against the outrages of the populace. Arrested in 1794 he died on the scaffold, with his wife, Anne d'Arpaion.

Marshal Ney.—The history of this latter is well known. He was shot on the 7th Dec. 1815, at the age of forty-six."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for
 intellectual expressions of opinion in communi-
 cations addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

MITRAILLE.

(LETTER No. 2.)

It is perhaps gratifying to find Imperial officers of rank manifesting such an interest in the Canadian National Forces, as has been shown by Lieutenant Colonel Fletcher. But the speculations of regular officers avail the Dominion Forces but little. The "professional bias," to quote "Centurion," is too strong. No regular officer can grasp the conditions necessary to the forces of an armed nation, which means to do without regular forces beyond such as are necessary to its efficient instruction of a proportion of the population as officers, and such as may be, from time to time, called out temporarily for particular service, as the Provisional Battalion in the Manitoba. Suggestions and plans for the improvement of the Canadian Militia must be the product of Canadian minds, not necessarily of men born in Canada, but of men to whom, from long residence and intimate knowledge of affairs, Canada has become essentially "first." Regular officers cannot get out of the groove of a system, which we should not follow too slavishly. The British Army is a good model, but not a perfect one, and even its discipline and punishments are not altogether adapted to the totally different social condition of Canada. The Mutiny Act and articles of war, ought to be superseded in our service, by "simplified code of military law" sanctioned by an Act of the Dominion Parliament—a work which no one would be better fitted to draft than Lieut. Colonel Jas. Macleod, C.M.G. I do not see that the service is even much benefited by the Adjutant General being necessarily an Imperial Field Officer. At all events I hope to see that clause of the Militia Act repealed, which so limits that appointment. I know three men at this moment who are fit for the post. One of them is an Imperial Officer, but he has held a militia command in Canada for many years, and is otherwise intimately connected with the country. The Canadian Army cannot be tinkered out of the inspirations of regular military conventionalism. To infuse into it a life redeemed from slavish observance of unsuitable forms, requires Canadian genius, or at least Canadian talent. It should not be forgotten that America in her hour of need, found the leader she required not only in the person of her own countryman, but found him in the ranks of her own militia, and it need not be doubted that Canada can produce her full share of capability.

Colonel Fletcher displays a creditable appreciation of the principal causes which make the material of Canadian soldiery as

good as any in the world, but it would require a much more intimate knowledge of the country to propound a scheme which would be any improvement even on that existing. It is only justice to him, however, to bear in mind that his brochure is 'novedly only tentative and suggestive.

I think Colonel Fletcher ascribes undue importance to the idea that military titles are becoming, as in the States, too common by reason of the retirements of officers from their regiments. The Army List for November shows a retired list of three Colonels (one unhappily deceased) fifty-nine lieutenant colonels and seventy-six majors. The retirements of some of those officers are of old standing. Of several others who still render good service on occasion to the Force (such as Colonel Brunell, Colonel Dartnell and others) it may be said that they ought to stand on an "unattached," rather than a "retired" list, a term which, as has been pointed out, ere now, as an injustice to officers whom circumstances may compel to sever their connection with their original troops, but who may be very desirous to enter another when occasion may serve. At all events a large proportion of so-called "retired" officers would find immediate employment where their services would also be valuable, in the event of war.

That the retired list floods the country with titular officers of high rank who have never held commands corresponding to their rank is scarcely either, a fair allegation. As a general rule, Canadian officers placed in command in situations of emergency, have been found equal to their positions.

However, it is not my purpose to find fault with Col. Fletcher's well meant suggestions. He is rather to be thanked for his interest in Canadian affairs. Neither do I intend any detailed criticism. That task has fallen into better hands. In fact it was the pleasure I experienced in seeing the signature of "Centurion" attached to a letter on the subject, replete with the practical good sense and knowledge which distinguished that officer's communications, that led me to say anything on the subject.

I have not seen Col. Davis' pamphlet, to which "Centurion" alludes. Could you favor me with information as to where to procure it?

I cannot but agree with your correspondent "R." Let us know the real state of the Force.

In reference to your remarks (very just and true) on discipline, arising out of a question raised by the U.S. Army and Navy Journal, as to that of certain corps of the National Guard. I regret to observe that the vicious principle of election seems to have been given into, in the formation of one of the new corps in Victoria, B.C. It happens that the officers selected are an excellent choice; but if the new Deputy Adj. General there does not put his foot down on the principle, he will not be doing his duty.

It is true that the National Guard of the States stand on a footing of organization far less favorable to discipline than does our Militia army. They receive for the most part little Government assistance beyond the authority to organize, and numbers of Regiments are still armed with muzzle loading rifles. Some Regiments are made up of companies, each wearing its own distinct, and mostly, extremely fanciful uniform, the whole presenting a grotesque, and, to the eye of a soldier, disgusting appearance. But there are cases in which a soldierly and energetic commanding officer will be found, by his own exertions, and those of his officers, at no small pecuniary sacrifice too, on their parts, to have procured breech loading arms for the entire Regiment, and to have clothed them in the very neat uniform of the States. I say advisedly, very neat, for although the American soldier in the undress patrol jacket goes about frequently in a state for which we should send a man to the guard room, yet in full dress, a Regiment on parade clothed in the plain blue tunic, with white belts and white gloves, light gray trousers with a black stripe, and neat chaco; arms and accoutrements, and the fit of the clothes bearing testimony to the natural turn for neatness and smartness—such a Regiment is far from being an unsatisfactory spectacle. Such example tell rapidly in the States. We have already seen what have been the results of awakened attention to rifle shooting, in the establishment of Creedmoor, and we may rely upon it that discipline and uniformity in the National Guard will speedily follow the attraction of public attention to existing laxity. Those who have not had the opportunity of close observation, prompted by strong interest in foreign military matters as bearing on our own, will not readily realize the rapidity with which the acute American mind masters drill and technicalities, and it behooves us when once the right spirit (speaking from their point of view) is aroused in the United States, to look to our laurels as well in military spirit, as in rifle shooting.

With regard to the short comings of the military system of Canada, might it not be feasible, under a new Government, supposing it not to be utterly indifferent to the subject to revive, or rather improve upon, an action taken some years ago by a number of influential officers who convened a meeting at Hamilton to consider, and lay before the Department, the state of the Force. Perhaps the present Government, if it really desires to do good, might sanction a commission of officers with power to take evidence. The report of such a Commission could not fail to put the Government in possession of valuable information.

Permit me through your columns to draw attention to one amongst the many slovenly habits, which combine to debase the purity and precision of both speech and writing throughout North America. It is the use of

the word *will* for *shall*. It is an awkward provincialism (originally, I fancy, Irish), tho' it can scarcely be called an error or a vulgarity. But it has become so universal of use by newspaper writers that, in the interests of a certain polish of style which it is to be presumed, appeals to taste of any sort of cultivation, that it is time it were noticed. The Canadian press at least might purify itself, however great a delight the Americans take in clipping, vulgarizing, and debasing their language.

Another approach to the clipping of ordinary terms of speech, which creates so unpleasant an effect on the eye and ear of the reader of American newspapers (and even higher publications), which I regret to see gaining ground in Canada, is the omission of the word "on" before the day of the week recording events—as, "a fire broke out Monday morning." Some people may like that sort of thing as a new fashion, suiting rapidity of utterance, but one would be to imagine what manner of people they would be. If Canadian journalists value purity and dignity of style (which I don't think they do to any very appreciable extent) they have no excuse, with the perpetual beacons of warning held before their eyes by the vulgarities of the American Press, for falling short of a good standard.

"FRANC TIREUR."

P.S.—I had closed these desultory remarks and was about to seal them up when the Vol. Rev. of the 27th ult. was put into my hands. I perceive thereby that you have yourself anticipated my suggestions of a commission of officers to investigate the state of the Force.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—It is reported that the Government intend making a change in the "Militia system." It is to be hoped they will, for the simple reason that the majority of "officers" in command at the present time have never attended a school of "instruction," and are entirely incapable of performing their duty. If our "Militia System" is to be improved, we must have officers that have procured certificates at the schools of "Military Instruction." A commander of a Battalion or company who does not know his drill, is nothing more than a laughing stock for the men under their command.

We have in New Brunswick a great many efficient "Passed Cadets" drilling in the ranks under officers that never have obtained certificates, and I know no more about drill than as follows: "Fours right," "Quick march," "Right about wheel," or some other command that a child could give if he was told. I have seen the men in the ranks telling the captain what words of command to give to bring them in such and such a position, to the disgust of those close by; and when a vacancy occurs it's not an efficient cadet that takes the places, but some favored friend that never saw nor

handled a rifle in his life, and whose presence induces many of the men to leave. We want officers who have the interest of the Volunteers at heart, officers who command respect and who, if any emergency occurred, would know their duty and lead their men to victory. We have such men. Put them in command, and you will see our forces strengthened and respected by all.

CADET.

St Mary's, Feb. 6th, 1874.

REVIEWS

We have to thank the consideration and courtesy of Captain G. A. RAIKES, of the 3rd West York Light Infantry, for the January number of Colborne's *United Service Magazine* for January, copies of the *Army and Navy Gazette* and *Volunteer Service Gazette*, and other professional papers of the most interesting character. As it is our intention to review the various articles contained in these papers, we shall select Colborne's *United Service Magazine*, because it is the oldest military journal in the Empire, and has by far the greatest amount of well-considered professional articles in its pages.

The articles in the present number are as follows:—"The Locomotive Iron Redoubt," by ARTHUR JALLEN, (late Lucknow Regiment), Memorials of the History and Services of the old Nineteenth Regiment of Light Dragoons (Lancers), "Embodied Services of Militia Regiments," by Captain G. A. RAIKES; "Journal of an officer of the 67th Regiment during the North China Campaign of 1860; Co operative Enlistment," by J. CAMERON, Deputy Inspector General; "The Volunteer, the Militiaman and the Regular Soldier; The Trial of Marshal Bizaine; At Montmedzy during the Investment; The Ashantee War, by Captain E. ROGERS; The Navy in 1874; Foreign Summary; Editor's Portfolio; Critical Notes; Naval and Military Intelligence, with an Obituary List; Stations of the Royal Navy in Commission; Promotions and appointments.

Of these articles the most interesting are the first on the Locomotive Iron Redoubt, the third by Captain G. A. RAIKES on the Embodied Services of Militia Regiments, which is a kind of Supplement to the "History of Reserve Forces of the Crown," by the same author, containing valuable information respecting the constitutional forces of Great Britain; destined to exercise considerable influence on the future organization of the *Imperial Forces* of the Empire, whenever the British people awakes to the full appreciation of the condition in which their military system is now placed, and learn that a national army must be drawn from all ranks of the community.

The sixth article on the *Volunteer*, the *Militiaman*, and the *Regular Soldier*, is the most important in the number; especially as it is a most able dissertation on military organization, on the relative duties of the subject to the State and on the Legislative and Administrative bodies to the army, discussed in a thoroughly practical manner by one evidently well acquainted with the historical, political, and social bearings of this most interesting subject.

It is our intention to republish such portions as bear upon the question of an *armed nation*, being that most likely to instruct our readers, seeing our *Militia Bill* was designed to solve the problem involved.

The January number of the *British Quar-*

terly Review (Leonard Scott Publishing Co., New York) opens with an article on "The Ballad, its Nature and Literary Affinities." It begins by giving the original meaning of the word, "a dancing song," and showing that the name was subsequently applied to poems of very diverse character. After describing the main features of the genuine ballad, the fountain-head of history and the drama, it gives many interesting illustrations of the light which poems of this class throw, not only on the manners and customs, but also on the beliefs and feelings of people of old.

"Modern Scientific Inquiry and Religious Thought" shows that science and religion can, and often do, go hand in hand; deep researches in geology, theories of creation, evolution, etc., in no wise interfering with a belief in God, but rather strengthening our faith in the presence of an intelligent Creator.

It is followed by an essay on "Inductive Theology," which takes the ground that man is so constituted that "he must theorize; he must trace effects to their cause, and argue from the cause to the effects it will infallibly produce;" and goes on to say: "There are facts enough at our command, both in the Universe and in the Bible, and we shall not alter the facts by changing the point from which we view them; we shall not be unfaithful to the truth by endeavoring so to conceive it as to make it tell on our generation." The main purpose of the article is to show the application of the scientific method of inquiry to a few of the fundamental truths of religion.

"Mind and the Science of Energy" is a dissertation on the connection between physical and psychical phenomena, which really seems to be a consideration of the question, What is thought? After looking at the subject from all sides, and quoting Lyndal, Huxley, Buchner, and Herbert Spencer, the writer is compelled to admit that no positive conclusion has yet been arrived at.

In "Revision of the Text of the New Testament," after briefly presenting the reasons for a revision of the text, the reviewer considers, in some detail, the principles of the two schools of criticism represented by Dr. Fregelles and Dr. Scrivener. We find here many interesting details relating to the various readings of many ancient manuscripts, together with observations upon the tests by which their genuineness may be tried.

The "Autobiography of John Stuart Mill" does not place before us a very pleasing picture. The poor child, three years old, studying Greek, is certainly a pitiable object. He must have possessed wonderful mental and physical strength, for the precocious brain does not seem to have worn out the body, as so often happens in such cases, and it certainly preserved its vigor to the very last. The impression given is that his life was incomplete—that something was lacking which the reader misses—and one can well believe that the work is, as the reviewer says, "one of the saddest books ever written."

The present number of the Review also contains a pleasant account of Henry Thoreau, the poet-naturalist; Masson's "Milton and his Times;" Mr. Bright's Return to the Ministry; Note to the Article on Herbert Spencer, No. VI., October, 1873; and the usual notices of Contemporary Literature.

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, FEB. 17, 1874.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words "Printer's copy" written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

In this day's issue will be found an article from the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of January 24th, on the subject of the accessibility of the harbour of New York to "Foreign Ironclads," which is instructive as shewing what a singular aptitude commercial men display in disregarding the plainest dictates of common sense, if it involves in the distant perspective the outlay of a single dollar for which there is not a prospect of immediate profit. Nearly two-thirds of the commerce of the United States centre at New York, and yet that port is so utterly defenceless that the Spanish frigate *Arapiles* could lay it under contribution or inflict such damage as half a century of prosperity would not repair; for let it once be visited in that way, one single hostile shot fired into it and the confidence

of foreign capitalists will be withdrawn forever, while no advantages it possess could restore its departed commerce.

Under those circumstances it is amazing to find members of Congress indulge in spread eagle speeches on the power of the United States to improvise means of defence, naval and military, and plead those visionary projects as reasons why they would not sanction any outlay for the reconstruction of their naval force; at the same time they must be conscious that the temptation is offered to any unscrupulous power to resist insolent and unjust demands, which those demagogues are the first to make, by striking a blow at their principal centre of commerce which would not fail to lay all their boasted institutions in the dust. It is well for the people of the United States that naval supremacy is still maintained by Great Britain, and that a good deal of her surplus capital is invested in United States securities, because her interference would at any time turn the scale against aggression or even avert well merited chastisement, as it has done in the late disgraceful *Virginias* squabble.

With a sea board so vulnerable it is wonderful that even the impudence of the Congressional traders has not been long since checked, but the causes detailed have been more effective to protect the independence of the United States than any effort they have been able to make in a military or naval sense.

The patriotic element in that country must make their account to play a small game in the politics of the world, as long as the preponderating element in their Legislative and Executive is purely commercial. It is not against British ironclads New York needs defence.

The following account of experiments on artillery conducted under the auspices of the United States Navy Department on Nut Island, Boston Harbor, will be interesting to our readers; especially as the principle is identical with that which Captain O'HEA has so recently brought to notice, and which we have given to our readers from his interesting pamphlet. Its distinguishing features are the rifling of *only a portion of the calibre* in small arms. According to the results of Captain O'HEA's experiments, it is only necessary to subject about *four inches* in length of the inside of the bore at or near the muzzle to the operation of rifling to secure the requisite rotation which that mechanical contrivance imparts. Mr. WIARD appears to have caught the idea, and in this experiment seems to have arrived at the conclusion that it is applicable to *smooth bore* guns. From what we know of Captain O'HEA's theory it involves a bore gradually lessening in diameter from breech to muzzle, that the projectile must fit tightly at the portion *canalured*, and that it must have attained its full initial velocity at the same point.

In a rifled small arm all those conditions are easily fulfilled, the projectile being of soft metal readily forced through a space smaller than its own diameter by slight pressure. In large ordnance the case is exactly reversed, the projectile being designed for the demolition and penetration of hard substances is itself of harder material than the gun from which it is fired, therefore not compressible by any force applied in the nature of an explosive or by any resistance it may meet in the gun. As a matter of necessity it must follow the laws which govern all modern projectiles and the guns from which they are fired, and those laws involve the destruction of the latter in periods measured by thirty or one hundred and twenty rounds. indeed it is very doubtful if the smaller number could be fired as rapidly from the monitor guns now in use as they could from the old iron 32-pndrs. without rendering the gun useless; and although the United States does possess the best *cast iron* artillery in existence, its period may be easily measured if experiments such as this detailed will insure its conversion into rifled guns.

It is curious that up to the present United States artillery officers were not cognizant of the fact, that rifled ordnance projectiles possessed greater force of penetration than spherical shot, at least the *New York Herald* reporter seems to intimate that the late experiment was necessary to enlighten them on that subject, but we happen to know that artillery officers of that service are accomplished scientists and are no doubt thoroughly alive to the importance of all the problems which its successful use demands to have solved, the principle being the *elimination of windage* altogether whether the shot is spherical or elongated, and on this Mr. WIARD's experiment sheds no light.

We see he has endeavoured to utilise the *spherical shot* on hand by applying the exploded Woolwich system of studs. Well, if our neighbours choose to take up such fallacies there is no one to prevent them doing so, but this is a part of the theory with which professional artillery men will have nothing to do.

There is, however, one curious statement which demands explanation: the conical shot from the rifled gun demolished the target completely which the 460 lb shot from the smooth bore struck at a depth of 6½ inches apparently without any injury beyond the indentation.

Hitherto it has been believed and indeed on the authority of Admiral PORTER, U.S.N., given to the world that the round shot was a smasher, that was calculated to crush in the sides of an ironclad without punching holes through its armour plates which the elongated projectiles was sure to do. This last experiment, if correctly reported, reverses the case, and would put the smooth bore out of competition altogether; but there is a tale behind—it appears subsequently that the round shot did demolish the

target which consisted of five plates of three inches each; in fact a luminated target whose aggregate power of resistance was not equal to that of a single plate of nine inches, so that as far as actual value the experiment is useless, the distance was only 500 yards, so that we can easily understand the contempt with which the experiment has been treated by the United States Army and Navy Journal. It does seem strange that the Washington Cabinet do not give encouragement to the scientists of their own Army and Navy to undertake the solution of the problems affecting the use of heavy rifled artillery, and not leave such a vital question to mere charlatans. One thing, however, these experiments has demonstrated, and it is that Mr. WIARD's knowledge of the success by Germany will never enable him to use the same gun for rifled and round shot, nor will it be likely to solve with heavy artillery the problem which Captain O'Hara has successfully solved with rifled small arms. It is evident from the last paragraph of the report that the experiment does not realize what *windage* means, or the peculiar action of the expanding gas which constitutes the explosive force in the calibre of a gun.

"The New York Herald gives the following account of a recent trial of ordnance on Nut Island, Boston Harbour:—"The experiments were made under the observation of Captain Truxton, Captain of Ordnance of the Navy Department, and under the supervision of Norman Wiard, agent of the Department and inventor of rifling improvement. For the purposes of the experimental tests there were provided two guns of 23 tons each and of 15-inch calibre. One was the common smooth bore, and the other was rifled in accordance with Mr. Wiard's invention; but in other respects there was no difference whatever. One hundred and forty pounds of powder—the largest quantity ever used in a gun—was fired from each, and the projectiles were respectively of 460 pounds weight. The targets consisted of wrought iron plates of 15 inches in thickness, and they were erected side by side, 150 ft. distant. The rifle projectile fired from the Wiard gun was of conical shape, and the one fired from the common smooth bore piece was necessarily round. The one first named went clear through the 15 inch plates, and out of sight into a sand bank in the rear. The demolition of the almost invulnerable target was complete, and so great was the force with which it was struck that a fragment of 300 or 400 pounds was thrown clear across the island, a distance of not less than a quarter of a mile. The projectile from the smooth bore gun penetrated the target only about six and a half inches, and as the advantages were precisely equal, the superiority of the rifled arm was at once established by the experiment, and admitted by the Government authorities of observation. Compared with other comparative tests this style of gun is the most destructive ever yet produced. The improvement, as the Government understands it, does not involve the manufacture of new guns to secure it. Take the present armament of our forts just as they are, and they can be rifled at one-tenth the cost that new guns can be manufactured, and at the same time their efficiency as smooth bore ordnance is not in the least impaired; and including the cost of rifling,

the arms will be cheaper by one tenth than the best English guns, and for the destructive powers their efficiency can hardly ever be equalled. The improvement consists in rifling each gun with two grooves, having for a 15-inch gun a twist of about one full turn in 50 feet, and so stationing the grooves at the side of the bore that neither groove will intersect or cross the bottom or top of the bore, thus leaving it smooth at the bottom and top where the shot would strike in 'baiting,' should the gun be used as a smooth bore for spherical projectiles after being rifled. After the gun is rifled, however, it is proposed to improve the spherical projectiles now on hand by drilling three small holes in each, a little distance from the point of contact the shot or shell would have with the bore of the gun when inserted as if for firing. The holes to be equidistant from each other in the form of a regular triangle. Into these holes in or three brass pins, each to be cut, after the insertion of such, the exact length necessary to support the projectile up and out of contact with the bottom of the bore, so that the windage shall be equal all round. By supporting the projectile in the centre of the bore previous to its receiving its impulse from the powder, the windage all round alike, an achievement is arrived at by most simple means often attempted in this country and Europe without success."

Those who decry the present Military Organization of Canada, had better read the able paper of Lieutenant A. Provost, B. Battery of the Quebec Gunnery School, and then shew under what other system such results could be obtained. As far as the paper goes it is one of the most admirable we have ever read on the "operations of war," and taking the author as a fair average specimen of the officers of the Canadian Volunteer Force, professional military critics will argue with us that no country can produce a finer specimen of proficiency, or a more apt illustration of the value of the system that can produce such results in so short a time.

Colonel STRANGE may well feel proud of the professional soldiers he has labored so hard and assiduously to train for Canada, and we hope a grateful country will bear in mind the great services he has rendered.

The people of Canada generally should be apprised of the progress made in training soldiers under the admirable organization the country possesses, and be happy to be able to give them the first example of the value they receive for appropriations that are mere bagatelles compared with the sums expended in other countries for far less reliable results.

The evidence furnished in this case goes to prove that the system of organization adopted has leavened our population with an amount of military training and knowledge which only needs the occasion to call it forth, and it has been done in so quiet and silent a manner as to escape the public observation.

As it is a matter of most vital importance to the interests of the country that just and true notions of the working of its military

institutions should be brought before the people prominently, it follows that any reticence on the professional subjects of general military subject is wrong, because it prevents the public knowing what has been done with the appropriation for this purpose, leads erroneous notions of the value of military preparedness and embles the cynic and the political economist falsely so called, to misrepresent the value of military service, and wittingly, or otherwise, imperil the safety of the State.

For instance, we have an agitation now going on, the ultimate object of which it is hard to define, but the immediate goal to be obtained looks to what is called increased efficiency in the Volunteer Force. Our opinions on the subject are well known. We do not believe in a reduction of the present nominal strength, but we do in an increased money grant, and we are decidedly opposed to compulsory service.

We believe all the objects to be attained by the possession of an efficient military force can be obtained by our present system with trifling revisions, and anything that will be accomplished by compulsory service will be valueless. We desire to know at what period since its first organization, the Canadian militia has been wanting in the hour of need; and we are sure from the example of the knowledge acquired since, it is not likely to be so in the future.

With such officers as Colonel STRANGE, and proper encouragement, the Canadian militia can be made the best in the world.

Our correspondent "R" says, as a general rule the Volunteer Review "tries to put the best face on militia matters," and advises us "that it is not a wise course;" but we would quietly ask the critics, what course would they follow? "R" has only common report for his objections. "It is said," seems to be about the whole gist of anything that can be said in reply to the Adj. General's Reports. Those who object to the present organization, and urge amongst other objections that "it has been made to serve political ends," forget that a country with representative institutions like ours, such will always be the case, and that in the British regular service "political ends" were just as notorious and much more so than in the Volunteer Force. We are not at all afraid to "point out faults," but decline manufacturing facts to such individuals. We have taken the part of "the active working man," without exhortation, and pointed out clearly the evils affecting the force long before "R" became a propounder of conon drums connected therewith.

All the evils appear to be narrowed down to the supposed failure of the "Dominion Rifle Association;" to attract a larger number of competitors, but the answer is easily arrived at, there are such things as well organised company and battalion matches,

which are not so effective years ago, and that will account for the small interest the agricultural population as a rule take in the Dominion Matches; while the employers of labour in cities, as a general rule, discourage their employeés from taking any part therein, so that as a matter of course it is left to crack shots; and this would not be the case if instead of official neglect the service had been made the political stalking horse suggested.

Our correspondent is very severe indeed on our short comings, and we are happy to see he has arrived at such a sensible conclusion—that "at present it is really not worth while discussing your (our) replies" to his queries, but we would wish to have from him a fair categorical statement of the evils afflicting the present system without vague generalities, or covert insinuations affecting its administration. We promise to give such communication full publicity, always premising that it must not be subversive of discipline, and impersonal.

We are quite as ready as "R," or any other gentleman, to find fault with any mal-administration, breach of discipline, or non-effectiveness, the result of faulty organization, none of those evils exist have exerted or can at any time be proved to have had a place in the military system of Canada. What is now the ground of all complaints connected therewith, distinguishes nearly every military force in the civilized world; and that is the fact, that the pay of the soldier is hardly half of what he could earn without danger in civil life. "R" may write of the evils suffered by the "active working man," but his real cause of discontent is that he is expected to perform the most important duty the State can demand of its subjects, at a rate of wages below the meanest servitude.

If our correspondent wants facts and faults, he must be able to find them out for himself, his course hitherto has been similar to that of Don Quixotte when he charged the windmills, mistaking them for giants.

SAD NEWS.—Not very long ago the eldest son and heir of Lord Elcho was killed by accident while attending the Wimbledon volunteer target practice. His death made the next son the heir. He was the Hon. Capt. Charteris, of the Guards, a young gentleman of more than ordinary ability and good qualities. When the Ashantee war broke out he sought for and obtained permission to go with Sir Garnet Wolseley. He did good service, but was attacked with the fatal disease which has already played havoc with so many of the British troops on the Gold Coast, and was hurriedly placed on a ship going to England in the hope of saving his life. He died on the third day of the voyage and was buried at sea. Lord and Lady Elcho were at Southampton expecting to receive him when the ship arrived with the sad news of his death. A number of other deaths of invalided officers and men occurred on the same ship.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 13th February, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS (3).

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

The Governor General's Body Guard of Ontario.

Adverting to General Order of 31st July 1868, the paragraph therein accepting the resignation of Lieutenant Colonel G. T. Donison, junr., is hereby cancelled, and the following substituted: "Lieutenant Colonel George T. Donison, junr., is hereby permitted to retire retaining his rank."

The Brockville and Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery.

The Brockville and Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery, having become non-effective, is hereby removed from the List of Corps of the Active Militia. Captain George Lowe being qualified, is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank; but 2nd Lieutenant Alexander H. Hume, not being qualified, his name is hereby removed from the list of officers of the Active Militia.

Cobourg Battery of Garrison Artillery.

To be 1st Lieutenant, provisionally: Wearman Gifford, Gentleman, vice Stanton, resigned.

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

The resignation of Lieutenant Herbert Beaumont, and Ensign John Jackman are hereby accepted.

18th "Prescott" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 6 Company, Hawkesbury Mills.

The resignation of Ensign Thomas Hiram Wymun, is hereby accepted.

19th "Lincoln" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 2 Company, St. Catharines.

To be Ensign provisionally: Sergeant Archie Storrs, vice Samuel W. Chambers, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

20th "Hallow" Battalion of Rifles.

No. 6 Company, Acton.

To be Ensign, provisionally: Sergeant John Shaw, vice Alexander Brown, Jr., whose resignation is hereby accepted.

44th "Welland" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 3 Company, Chippawa.

Captain James Stiff is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

BREVET.

To be Major:

Captain and Adjutant Robert Bowie, V.B., 41st Battalion, from 6th December, 1872.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Ensign Alfred Hamlyn Todd, M.S., 1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards, from 24th January 1874.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

"B" Battery of Artillery and School of Gunnery, Quebec.

Captain Frederick Lampton, District Store Keeper, Quebec, is hereby authorized to join the School of Gunnery, Quebec, on probation, for a three months' course of instruction.

Charlevoix Provisional Battalion of Infantry.

No. 2 Company, St. Jean d'Orleans.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant Joseph Blouin, M.S. vice Pierre Langlois, whose resignation is here accepted.

To be Lieutenant:

Sergeant François Xavier Lachance, M.S., vice Blouin, promoted.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant Colonel:

Major Charles W. Raymond, Q.F.O., 67th Battalion, from 15th May, 1871.

To be Major:

Captain Robert R. Call, G.V.B., Newcastle, N.B., from 18th December, 1873.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Lieutenant John T. Fletcher, M.S., No. 5 Company, 67th Battalion, from 19th October, 1870.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

63rd "Halifax" Battalion of Rifles.

The resignation of Ensign John W. Gorham, is hereby accepted.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 1 Company of Rifles, Victoria.

A Company of Rifles is hereby authorized at Victoria, B.C., to be No. 1 Company of Rifles, Victoria. Officers Provisional, unless qualified under 33rd Section of the Militia and Defence Act.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant Francis James Roscoe.

To be Lieutenant :

Lieutenant James Gordon Vinter.

To be Ensign :

Richard Wolfenden, Gentleman.

No. 1 Company of Rifles, New Westminster.

A Company of Rifles is hereby authorized at New Westminster, B.C., to be No. 1 Company of Rifles, New Westminster.

To be Captain :

Henry Valentine Edmonds, Esquire, (formerly Lieutenant London Irish Volunteers, holding a 1st class certificate of efficiency).

To be Lieutenant :

Joseph Burr, Gentleman, (formerly Sergeant-major H.M.'s 52nd Regiment.)

To be Ensign, provisionally :

Adolphus Peck, Gentleman.

RETIRED LIST.

Captain Arthur Thomas Bushby late New Westminster Rifle Volunteers, is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY BRIGADE.

To be 2nd Lieutenant provisionally :

Sergeant J. R. Wissenborn, vice Hugh O'Neil, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

Engineer Company.

To be Captain :

1st Lieutenant Randolph Clarke, C.E., vice H. Munford transferred to 2nd Battalion Rifles.

To be 1st Lieutenant, provisionally :

Color Sergeant James Wilson, vice Clarke, promoted.

No. 2.

CERTIFICATES.

SCHOOLS OF GUNNERY.

Certificates received from Commandants of Schools of Gunnery.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

AT KINGSTON.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATES.

Regimental Division.

Names.

City of Kingston. —Sergeant Thos. Lake, Kingston Field Battery.

Regimental Divisions.

Names.

City of Kingston. —Sergeant Henry Walters, Kingston Field Battery.

Lambton. —Sergeant C. Ellis, Sarnia Battery of Garrison Artillery.

Lincoln. —Gunner Frank Logan, Ste. Catharines Battery of Garrison Artillery.

City of Toronto. —Gunner John Percy, Toronto Field Battery.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

AT QUEBEC.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE.

Regimental Division.

Name.

City of Quebec. —Lieutenant Crawford W. A. Quebec Field Battery.

Erratum.—In No. 2 of General Orders (1) 2nd January, 1874, under the heading of Province of Quebec, Second Class Certificates, Regimental Division of Quebec, read: "Acting Bombardier, Henry Wilkinson" in stead of "Henry Wilkinson."

SCHOOLS OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

Certificates received from Commandants of Schools of Military Instruction.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

AT TORONTO.

SECOND CLASS CERTIFICATES

Regimental Divisions.

Names.

City of Ottawa. —Ensign Alfred Hamlyn Todd, Governor General's Foot Guards.

S. R. Simcoe. —Private Charles C. Chambers, 35th Battalion

W. R. Toronto. —William A. Christie, Gentleman.

City of Kingston. —Gunner S. R. Orr, Kingston, Field Battery.

Lambton. —Gunner W. McWaters, Sarnia Battery of Garrison Artillery.

Lennox. —Sergeant D. Davy, Napanee Battery of Garrison Artillery.

City of Ottawa. —Bombardier J. W. Lurge, Ottawa Field Battery.

do —Gunner Frank Spicer, Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery.

do —Gunner James Hennessey, Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery.

Regimental Divisions.

Names.

City of Toronto. —Gunner C. Hutchings, Toronto Field Battery.

do —Gunner James Bullock, Toronto Field Battery.

By Command of his Excellency the Governor General.

WALKER POWELL, Lieut. Col. Acting Adjt. General of Militia Canada.

Reports from Southern Ohio and Indiana show no abatement in the enthusiasm concerning the Temperance crusade, which has enlisted the leading people in the various communities. The saloon keepers of Shelbyville, Indiana, having served written notice on the ladies that they would hold them accountable for loss of business. An incorporated company, with three hundred thousand dollars stock, was organized next day to fight the rum sellers with legal weapons.

Two saloons have closed in Winco, Indiana, and the druggists voluntarily signed pledges not to sell liquor. The traffic is wholly suppressed in Leesburg, Ohio, and a committee has been appointed to prevent the opening of any new saloons. The saloons closed in Edarville and Georgetown and the campaign is about to open in Dayton, Ohio.

In a whiskey quarrel at Osgood last night, Joshua Mitchell killed his step son Emmet Vandever, striking him on the head with an axe and then shooting him.

Warsen's temperance movement is at fever heat here; 16 out of 23 saloon keepers have signed the pledge and abandoned the business. The movement is taking a decidedly religious turn, and spreading through all the southern counties and into Indiana.

The Sioux are reported as raiding in almost every direction, burning ranches, murdering ranchmen and stealing stock.

A company of cavalry under the command of Captain Wessels left here to-day for Potter Station, on the United Pacific Railroad, where the Indians have been driving in section men, and stealing stock.

A latter telegram from Fort Laramie states that a mail carrier from Red Cloud Agency just arrived reports that Frank Appleton, who was acting as Indian Agent in the absence of Agent Saville, was shot on Monday night by Sioux.

At White Clay Agency, the Indians have driven off the beef herders and taken charge, saying they would do their own issuing.

The Spanish Government has consented to an exchange of prisoners with the Carlists.

Mr. Disraeli, in a speech to his constituents, referred to the result of the election as justifying the course his Government had taken in regard to extension of the suffrage.

General Sir Garnet Wolseley has made arrangements for himself and his white troops to leave the Gold Coast of Rica for England, on the first of March.

The Emperor Joseph left here last evening for St. Petersburg to visit the Czar.

THE YOUTH OF THE PERIOD.

Sam is rather serious in lecturing, after the style of Supper, over fast youths:—
 I something have to suffer,
 And something have to pay;—
 They tell me I'm a suffer,
 But that's their pleasant way.
 I swear a hat that's early
 About the brim; and tall—
 You'll have to get up early
 To catch this child—that's all.
 I think it rather clever
 To swagger and to swear;
 "Is that good taste?" I never
 Have happened to be there!
 To barmalds 'tis my pleasure
 To utter jokes select—
 "And proper!"—I don't measure,
 To see if they're correct.
 I smoke—but I can't bear it;—
 I drink—it makes me mad;—
 But what's the odds? I swear it
 Confirms me as a cad!
 My coat is too short skirted,
 My trousers are too tight,
 My little soul is dirtied
 With revels over night.
 I've nothing to redeem me,
 I'm small and base and mean,
 And it would most beseech me
 If I were never seen!
 Then spare me—spare me kindly,
 A thing of human blood,
 Though blundering so blindly,
 While crawling in the mud?

NEW YORK AND FOREIGN IRON-CLADS.

We publish this week the official report of that part of the debate in the House on the Naval Appropriation bill, in which Mr. Cox, of New York, was taken to task by Mr. Crooke, also of New York, for asserting that the harbors of our principal cities, that of New York especially, actually present to-day no sufficient defence against the best foreign iron clads. Mr. Cox, as we explained last week, quoted this journal as authority for the statement that such vessels as the *Thunderer* and *Devastation* could enter New York harbor in spite of its existing defences, and hold the chief city of the Union at their mercy. As Mr. Cox intimated, the publication of such a fact may seem indiscreet to some people, but we can assure him and our readers that neither our frank confession nor Mr. Cox's public quotation of it will carry any news to the English naval authorities. It is safe to assume that they are well informed as to the condition of our harbor defences and have not failed to calculate the possibilities of their iron clads. Moreover this question of our defensive power has been so befogged by irrelevant discussion—professional as well as lay, we must acknowledge—wherein spread eagles, like that of Mr. Fernando Wood's speech, and total misapprehension of the elements involved and the new necessities to be met, have taken the place of sound argument and intelligent understanding of the real facts, that it is the part of patriotism and wisdom to expose the exact truth. That is what we tried to do in time to remedy a great evil and prevent a terrible danger; for we are not among those who imagine that even a republic, under the "best government the sun ever shone on," is exempt from the penalties that folly incurs.

Mr. Cox, in pointing out submarine defences as our surest and necessary safeguard against foreign iron clads of power preponderating over that of those of our Navy, pursued the right path; and we are surprised that his words and those of the most competent marine engineers we have did not have the effect of inducing the House to vote more than a meagre appropriation for these instruments of naval defence.

But passing by for the present the subject of attack below the water line, we come to the statement of ours quoted by Mr. Cox, and denied by his colleague, that the *Thunderer* and *Devastation* can enter New York harbor. Mr. Crooke declared that "there is not a European iron clad, with full armament on board, which does not draw more than thirty feet of water," and that consequently none could cross the bar at Sandy Hook. Fortunately this is a question of fact and not a subject for argument. Mr. George W. Blunt, one of the New York Pilot Commissioners and a gentleman whose information in regard to the New York harbor is probably more accurate than that of any other authority on the subject, recently told a *New York Times* reporter, in speaking with reference to another matter, that "the bar at Sandy Hook is covered by sufficient depth of water to flood the largest commercial vessel in the world. The *Nu-mancia*, a Spanish iron clad drawing 28 feet two inches, crossed the bar in the summer of 1872."

Now let us see what is the draught of the principal English iron clads, with not only "full armament on board," but also a full supply of coal. We obtain our facts from the reports made to Parliament upon the performances of the ships of the combined Channel and Mediterranean Squadrons, and printed by order of the House of Commons, February 24, 1870

	Forward.	Aft.
Monarch.....	22 ft. 4 in.	25 ft. 6 in.
Agincourt.....	26 " 1 "	27 " 3 1/2 "
Minotaur.....	26 " 0 "	26 " 10 "
Northumberland.....	22 " 2 "	27 " 9 "
Hercules.....	26 " 1 1/2 "	26 " 6 "
Bellerophon.....	22 " 6 "	26 " 4 "
Lord Warden.....	23 " 7 "	27 " 9 "
Prince Consort.....	23 " 9 "	26 " 7 "
Royal Oak.....	23 " 11 "	25 " 3 "
Caledonia.....	24 " 3 "	26 " 8 "
Pallas.....	18 " 8 "	21 " 0 "
Devastation and Thunderer.....	25 " 9 "	26 " 6 "
Glatton (turret ship) and class—mean draught.....	20 feet.	

In fine, as the above shows, the whole iron-clad fleet of England can enter the harbor of New York so far as the depth of water on the bar is concerned. Moreover, the ships would not be weighted to the degree taken in the table. On arriving at New York their stores of coal would be exhausted, leaving only sufficient in the bunkers for evolutions during the attack, and for returning to Canada, say the port of St. John, or to the Bermudas. This loading of their local would, of course, materially affect their draught and enable them to glide over our bar at ease and with safety. The two most formidable vessels of the English navy, the *Thunderer* and *Devastation*, draw fully equipped but twenty six and a half feet of water. With but four or five hundred tons of coal in their bunkers on entering New York harbor, they would draw only between twenty-four and twenty-five feet, and no one who knows our bar would say they could not, so far as draught is concerned, readily cross it. These vessels, it must be borne in mind, were built with special reference to crossing the Atlantic, and without careful regard to the harbor of New York, into which our English friends do not decay to themselves they might some day be called upon to try to force an entrance. The British naval authorities were not so foolish as Captain Ericsson says in his telegram to Mr. Cox, as to build vessels incapable of crossing the bar of the very harbor intended to be entered.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

At a time when the only power from which we in Canada have anything to fear has suffered its army to dwindle into insignificance, and proposals are before Congress for still further restricting the military strength of the federation, it may seem unnecessary to devote much attention to the question of our defensive preparations. It is matter for sincere congratulation, indeed, that not the tiniest cloud is visible at this moment to excite apprehension. Thanks to the Treaty of Washington, there never was a period since the Declaration of American Independence when the harmony between the people of Canada and our republican neighbours was so unbroken. But though the epoch is not one that calls for any strain or special effort of preparation, the time is all the more favourable for calm consideration of our military organization, and a careful elucidation of the system most advantageous to us. In this view a recent brochure by Lt. Col. Fletcher, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor General, is not inopportune, and merits examination.

The pamphlet begins by reviewing the legislation leading up to the present system, which, as is well known, requires the enrolment of the whole male population between the ages of eighteen and sixty, not specially exempted or disqualified. The active militia which stands in the front rank, limited by law to 43,000 men, is raised by voluntary enlistment, and engaged for a term of three years. The degree of efficiency attained under our system is diverse, some of the regiments of Active Militia "comprising very favourably with the best of the Militia of England, others inferior in the matter of training to the very worst." From the ignorance which is apparent, in some instances, as to the existence of faults, Col. Fletcher is led to remark upon the lack of a standard to which the Active Militia would naturally endeavor to conform. As long as the Imperial troops remained in the country, they constituted the first line, and besides affording instructors to the volunteer corps, constantly presented to the latter a high standard of training and efficiency. But the withdrawal and continued absence of regular troops, while no doubt such absence has had its advantages, has deprived our volunteers of a very useful standard of comparison. To supply this want, the writer suggests as a necessity for Canada a small force, well trained, and officered by men who have learned their profession; such force to serve as a training school and as a standard of comparison for the real army composed of the Active and Reserve Militia. The writer proceeds to say:—

"It is suggested to establish in the Dominion three training schools, using those already in existence at Quebec and Kingston and adding another for the maritime provinces, probably at Halifax, where the presence of the regular troops might be of advantage. These training schools should consist of a small force of three arms, viz., cavalry, artillery and infantry, which should correspond with the active militia of the four provinces. The troop, or even half troop, of cavalry would contain the permanent regimental staff of the cavalry of the district, the battery of artillery, in the same

way, of the field and garrison artillery; and the companies of infantry of the militia infantry. Supposing about 34,000 men (*i. e.*, rank and file) to be the numbers of the active militia, divided in equal proportions between three districts; that is, three regiments of cavalry equal to 1,800; twelve batteries of artillery 3,000; and thirty six regiments of infantry 28,000, with possibly a small force of engineers numbering 200, and of a military train 200. These troops, as is the case at the present time, to be called out for yearly training and inspection. The duration of the drill to be fixed by statute, regard being had to real efficiency. To correspond with this force, at each of the three training schools would be one half troop of cavalry numbering about 40 non-commissioned officers and men and 30 horses; one battery of artillery numbering about 250 men, of which two guns only would be fully horsed, requiring seventy-eight horses; three companies of infantry. Each section of each company corresponding with a regiment of infantry, in all 240 men, and a few non-commissioned officers to be instructed in the duties of engineers and train; the whole force at each of the three schools would not be more than 350 non-commissioned officers and men. With regard to officers it would probably be necessary at the present time to obtain commandants of the these schools from the regular army, as is now done at the artillery schools of Quebec and Kingston. These should be selected either from officers who have been educated at the staff college, due regard, of course being had to other qualifications; or from those who, known to be good regimental officers, have passed through one or more of the various schools at Shoeburyness, Chatham, or Hythe."

The idea thus thrown out is elaborated in the subsequent pages of the pamphlet, the object of the proposition being to have in readiness a highly trained body of about 1500 men, supplying a standard of efficiency as high at least as an Imperial regiment, and available in case of emergency. It is intended as an improvement on the military school idea, and an approach apparently to the training afforded at West Point. The author of the pamphlet does not offer his suggestion as a ripened plan, but rather for the purpose of provoking discussion among those whose experience will enable them to discuss the subject with advantage. The cost of three Training Schools such as those recommended, it may be observed, would be about \$60,000. It is doubtful, however, from some of the figures given, whether the expense could be restricted to that sum. Sergeant Majors, for instance, are put down at \$1, sergeants at 80 cents, and privates at 50 and 60 cents. This, of course, is exclusive of rations; but when the present rate of wages is taken into account, it is questionable whether the ranks could be filled up with suitable men at these figures. We do not propose, however, to criticize the details of the scheme. Viewed as a whole, several considerations may be urged in its favour. Perhaps, in the present apathy on the subject of military organization, its greatest merit in the eyes of many may be that it does not propose a large expenditure. On the other hand, unless the expectations of Col. Fletcher as to the efficiency to be attained were realized, the money would probably be spent to very small advantage. We have already in our Manitoba troops the nucleus of a small regular army; the suggestion of Col. Fletcher is designed to provide a body much more highly trained, and serviceable as instructors and officers in the event of an

alarm of war; but there will no doubt be considerable difference of opinion respecting the policy of increasing our military establishment at the moment our neighbours are curtailing theirs to limits which are far from being calculated to awaken the faintest suspicion of an aggressive movement. — *Montreal Gazette*.

THE MILITIA.

The *Montreal Gazette* thus concludes its notice of Col. Fletcher's pamphlet on the Militia, reviewed a short time ago in our columns:—

"The cost of three Training Schools such as those recommended, it may be observed, would be about \$600,000. It is doubtful, however, from some of the figures given, whether the expense could be restricted to that sum. Sergeant Majors, for instance, are put down at \$1, sergeants at 80 cents, and private at 50 and 60 cents. This, of course, is exclusive of rations; but when the present rate of wages is taken into account, it is questionable whether the ranks could be filled up with suitable men at these figures. We do not propose, however, to criticize the details of the scheme. Viewed as a whole, several considerations may be urged in its favor. Perhaps, in the present apathy on the subject of military organization, its greatest merit in the eyes of many may be that it does not propose a large expenditure. On the other hand, unless the expectations of Col. Fletcher as to the efficiency to be attained were realized, the money would probably be spent to very small advantage. We have already in our Manitoba troops the nucleus of a small regular army; the suggestion of Col. Fletcher is designed to provide a body much more highly trained, and serviceable as instructors and officers in the event of an alarm of war; but there will no doubt be considerable difference of opinion respecting the policy of increasing our military establishment at the moment our neighbours are curtailing theirs to limits which are far from being calculated to awaken the faintest suspicion of an aggressive movement.

We think, also, that the people of Canada at a time of profound peace, and in the enjoyment of very friendly relations with the United States, do not desire, even if they could afford, further heavy expenditures upon the militia, or costly experiments with a force which has been but too much disturbed, trifled with, and discouraged already by all sorts of theorists, to say nothing of how it has been made to serve political or party purposes. Is it not better to have a moderately well drilled, contented Force, with fairly trained officers, who take an interest in their duties, than a large, ill assorted, dissatisfied combination constantly taught to strain after an ideal unattainable by colonial volunteers, with the result of deficiency in that plain, practical drill which is sufficient for all the service our citizen soldiery are likely to be called upon to perform? If matters were well enough it would have been far better to have left them in that state. Neither the militia, nor any other institution, can be tinkered at all the time with good results. We do not argue that the Force is in a satisfactory state, and cannot be improved; far from it. We believe there is much room for improvement but should such a bettering be effected, and the militia be made tolerably efficient, it might be well to stop the practice of perpetual change, and allow the Force to become thoroughly acquainted with its organi-

zation, its chiefs and its duties, so that it should solidify, as it were, or assume the form and character of permanency. Thus a good intelligence and *esprit de corps* would be fostered and the country and the service brought into more intimate and confidential relations.

We cannot say at this moment how the Militia Force, especially the Volunteer branch of it, looks on paper. We however, suspect that if closely and critically examined even in that respect it would be found sadly wanting. But how it appears in the country, what is thought of it by our citizens when regarded, as they have the right to regard it, as a ready means of defence, needs no illustration. There was a time, now approaching ten years ago, when the people were proud of their Active Force. They saw the men in the ranks disciplined and enthusiastic—a fine soldiery body. Now the ranks are broken, only the fragments remain to the fore with the lawdly array of captains, and colonels, and other staff dignitaries. There can be no doubt that the present Volunteer Militia Force is neither creditable, or in a position to be serviceable. Probably no branch of the public service yields so poor a return for the money annually appropriated for its maintenance. In connexion with the service there are however a number of excellent officers. It is not their fault, but that of the system that the force is not in a better condition; they would form a valuable nucleus of a volunteer body of a high degree of efficiency. The reform of the Volunteer Militia is one of the legacies of the work, and not the highest of them, handed down to Mr. Mackenzie's Administration, and the country may be assured that the best under the circumstances will be done.—*Ottawa Times* February 10.

THE VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

Among other subjects which should come under the consideration of Parliament during the approaching Session is the condition of the Canadian volunteer army, which at the present time is in anything but a satisfactory state. No one who is a member of the force will venture to defend the neglect with which it has been treated by Government, and under the new regime the Volunteers will look for the new broom which should clear away the dust which has settled upon the Militia Department. Without, on this occasion, discussing the question whether it is expedient to maintain the active force at the prescribed nominal strength of 43,000 men, we propose to touch upon a few of the grievances which at the present time are driving men out of the ranks. First of all in importance is the want of suitable drill-sheds at the headquarters of several city battalions and many scattered rural companies. It is very certain that in a climate like that of Canada it is impossible for men to drill during the winter unless a convenient building is provided, and wherever such a deficiency exists there is an important obstacle to the attainment of efficiency. Especially in the case of recruits is the want of a drill-shed experienced, as commanding officers are always anxious to get young men who have newly joined well grounded in squad drill and the manual exercise against the season arriving when the weather admits of battalion and other field movements being performed in the open air. Among the cities of Ontario at present unprovided with this important desideratum may be mentioned Ottawa and Toronto, both of which, from the number of Volunteers they furnish,

the force, may fairly claim consideration. In the latter, which comprises the headquarters of a field battery and garrison battery of artillery, a troop of cavalry, and two battalions of infantry, exclusive of the Grand Trunk corps, the grievance has been so severely felt that the various organizations are on the point of breaking up. The commanding officers of the Queen's Own Rifles and 10th Royals would not call their men out for annual drill last year because no armoury or drillshed had been provided. The regiments still struggle to maintain efficiency, and, with commendable spirit, the members of some companies have hired rooms at their own expense in which to carry on their drill. That such an expense should be imposed upon them we think every one will agree is most unjust, and certain, sooner or later, to lead to the demoralization of the force. The unexpected suspension of the customary annual training in camp was also felt as an injustice by many young officers, who, in expectation of going on that service, had incurred considerable expense in uniforms and equipment, besides spending several weeks in preparation at a Military School. Another serious cause of dissatisfaction among the men is the incompleteness of the clothing and accoutrements supplied to many corps. Among the troops in camp during the year 1872 this was very conspicuous in the cavalry. At Niagara we have seen men on parade with several varieties of waist-belt, some without any cross-belt, and others without carbines. The harness also was of various patterns, several horses appearing in the ranks for inspection wearing ordinary snaffle cart bridles, with blinkers attached. Some of the sabres of the men sported sword knots, while others were without, and these numerous incongruities completely marred the effect of the martial display, and made the Volunteers feel ridiculous. Considering the very small remuneration paid by the Government to the Canadian militiaman the very least they should do for him is to send him into the field properly clothed, armed, and equipped. Nothing looks so unsoldier-like or tends more to destroy all *esprit de corps*, than slovenliness of attire; but, until the Government do their part, it is useless to expect the men to aim at perfection. If the expense of the present enrolled force be regarded as too great, let the necessary reduction be made; but we claim that those Volunteers who compose the Active Militia should be treated with more consideration and liberality.—*Free Press*.

THE GERMAN ARMY.

According to the new Army Bill of the German Government the establishment of officers in each company, squadron, and battery of the German Army, which since 1861 has, with few exceptions, consisted of a captain, a first lieutenant, and two second lieutenants, is in future to be increased by another officer of the latter rank. This will cause an addition of 1316 second lieutenants to the infantry, 216 to the cavalry, and 169 to the artillery, which would increase the total strength of the corps of officers to nearly 16,000. The number of officers in the French army is upwards of 26,000. There would, however, be a further addition of about 1552 German officers in the time of war, as provision has been made for forming a reserve of 143 fourth battalions for service in the field and 128 for service in garrisons, besides the 143 depot battalions which now exist. The officers for

these battalions will be selected from the retired list. When the new battalions are formed, the total force at the disposal of Germany will amount to 1,262,810 men, or, after replacing all the losses sustained in the Franco-German war (amounting to 114,000 men, including invalids), 135,000 men more than in 1870. Of this force 711,370 men, with 232,170 horses and 2082 guns, are ready to take the field at any moment, and the 143 field battalions, consisting of at least 188,696 fighting men, would be available for reinforcements. The separation of the field artillery from the garrison artillery, which has already been decided upon by the German Government, will only be carried out after the passing out of the new military budget. A considerable increase is to be made in the cadres of the garrison artillery. Its present establishment consists of 88 companies, which number will be nearly doubled. This increase is considered absolutely necessary in order to avoid the inconveniences caused during the war by men of fifty and upwards having to be called in to complete the strength of the garrison artillery. These men were, of course, entirely unacquainted with the new system of gunnery, and much time was wasted in instructing them.

CAPTAIN FIFE ON INFANTRY TACTICS.

On the 17th November, during H.E. the Viceroy's visit to Agra, Captain Fife, 65th Regiment, delivered a lecture on "Infantry Tactics," at the Agra Branch of the United Service Institute for India. Major-General Sir Henry Norman in the chair. Captain Fife was introduced to the meeting by Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, corresponding member of the institution. The gallant lecturer recommended the attack of a position in single rank line, preceded by strong bodies of skirmishers in echelon to it, the immediate front of the line being unoccupied and maintained, that thus so much of the enemy's fire at the skirmishers as might be too high, or otherwise miss them, would be diverted from the advancing line. The skirmishers might be in echelon to each flank of the single rank line with battalion interval between, or half the line might follow in echelon to each flank of the skirmishers. In the former of these two arrangements the advance of the skirmishers keeping a proper interval might be thought to be rather difficult, and on parade it would be so to a certain extent as fire has there no real effect; but in war it would be otherwise, for under fire there is a tendency to edge off from the centre where its effects are greatest towards the flanks where they are least, and this, Captain Fife contended, would more than counterbalance the other tendency of the skirmishers to advance direct at the enemy and close the interval. . . . The skirmishers would be 400 yards in advance of the line, and the enemy's attention would become absorbed in the fire-fight with them at about 300 yards as the line approaches within 700 yards of the position. The lecturer contended that to think that because it might, as the line reached a certain distance from the position, be to the evident advantage of the defenders to cease firing on the skirmishers, and fire only on the line, that therefore it would be done, would be as delusive as to argue that, because it is to the manifest advantage of each man to put as many of the enemy as possible *hors de combat*, that therefore there never will or will be any unaimed fire in battle, the actual

fact being that the majority of infantry fire comes under this head. The line would thus advance without firing, and join the skirmishers before coming under much fire aimed or unaimed.

To place the skirmishers and single rank line therefore in echelon, instead of one directly behind the other, would appear to be a highly advantageous arrangement. This is the leading feature in the attack of a position proposed, and the only one claimed by the lecturer as original, the rest being a new combination of the propositions of others. Captain Fife fully concurred with those who held that, under a heavy fire, troops should move by rushes of alternate fractions, and lie down when halted, if no cover be attainable; and to give more freedom for this, and enable all to fire when lying down, he recommended that single fire should be adopted. Captain Fife argued, from the results of recent wars, that the army which, as a tactical principle, sought fighting at closer quarters than its adversary, was usually successful. In discussing defensive tactics, the lecturer strongly deprecated any tendency to court the eventual entry of the enemy into a position defended, in order to take advantage of his consequent confusion to make the counter attack, and said that it was not the moment of prostration, following a partial success, but that succeeding to prolonged failure, which we should resolve to seize for striking a crushing counter blow.—*Delhi Gazette*.

In a recent speech at Liverpool, on the subject of military training, Lord Derby, expressed a firm belief in the moral taught by the fable of the hare and the tortoise, and, warning "dashing, brilliant young fellows," he encouraged the possessors of "exceptional slowness of comprehension;" then followed a wise truth—"What a man really takes a keen interest in he is seldom too dull to understand and to do well; and conversely, when a man does not care to put the best of his brains into a thing, no amount of mere cleverness will secure a success." With all his varied experience in the wide world and its history at his disposal, Lord Derby chose the modern army of Germany as an instance to bear out his argument: "The most conspicuous instance of complete efficiency and success in active life recently witnessed is that which was obtained three years ago by the military organization of Germany; and I am told by those who ought to be the best judges, that both among Germans themselves and many other foreign critics efficiency and success are ascribed not so much to any extraordinary display of genius or originality of design on the part of some few individuals as to the general habit of minute and almost microscopic attention to every detail of duty. But to acquire and keep up in every-day work a habit of concentrated attention in details two things are necessary—training and energy."

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