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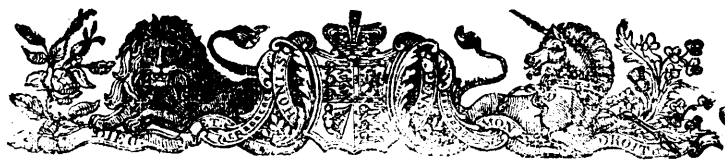
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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1875.

No. 9.

The Volunteer Review

is published *EVERY TUESDAY MORNING*, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON KERR, Proprietor, to whom all *Business Correspondences* should be addressed.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

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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. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1875.

No. 9.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

At a meeting of the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association held in the Printing Committee-room of the House of Commons, on Thursday afternoon, Lieutenant Colonel Gzowski was unanimously re-elected President. For Vice-Presidents—Allan Gilmour, Esq., Ottawa; Lieutenant Col C J Brydges, Montreal; Lieutenant Colonel Hon A E Boisjoly, Sookville; Lieutenant Col R A McKinlay, Halifax; Hon D A Smyth, Fort Garry; Hon R W W Carrill, Victoria. Auditors—John Lington, Esq., Auditor General, and T D Harrington, Esq., Deputy Receiver General, Ottawa. Treasurer—Lieutenant Colonel Macpherson, Militia Department, Ottawa. Secretary—Lieutenant Colonel Stuart, Militia Department Ottawa. A committee composed of Lieutenant Colonels Gilmour, Worsley, and Beer, Captain Mason, and the President, were appointed to select the team for Wimbledon this year. The selection to be made from the names sent in by the Provincial Associations.

The Executive Committee to make arrangements for the annual competitive matches of 1875 were chosen as follows:—Lieutenant Colonel Brauer, Ottawa; Lieut Colonel Chamberlain, C.M.G., Ottawa; Capt. Mason, Hamilton; Lieutenant Colonel Ross, G. G. Foot Guards, Ottawa; Lieut. Colonel Macpherson, Ottawa; Lieutenant Colonel Stuart, Ottawa; Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, D A G Militia, Brockville; Lieut. Colonel Fletcher, C.M.G., D A G Militia, Montreal; Lieutenant Colonel Beer, 74th Btt, Sussex, N B; Lieutenant Colonel Worsley, Brigade Major, Montreal; Major Macdonald, Ottawa; Captain Tilton, G G Foot Guards, Ottawa; W McKay Wright, Esq. A. P., F B A, Ottawa; Lieutenant Colonel Egleson, Ottawa. The meeting then adjourned.

The Hon. Mr Vail, Minister of Militia, on Wednesday, the 21th ult., moved the House into Committee of the Whole, to consider the following amendments to the Militia Act:—

1. That it is expedient to provide that the officer to be appointed to command the militia of the Dominion of Canada under Bill No. 4 "to amend the Dominion Militia and Defence Acts" shall be paid at the rate of four thousand dollars per annum in full of all pay and allowances.

2. That it is expedient to provide that the Adjutant General of Militia at headquarters, to be appointed under the said bill, shall be paid at the rate of twenty-six hundred dollars per annum.

These resolutions elicited a discussion of some length, but were finally carried.

On the 23rd, the Minister of Militia also laid before Parliament the Annual Report of the State of the Militia, which we will lay before our readers shortly; in the meantime we give a synopsis of it. The report is written by Major General Smyth, and contains several recommendations of change. He recommends that a company of engineers and three companies of infantry be stationed at New Fort, Toronto, one at Ottawa, and one in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick; each to have a highly proficient instructor from the Royal Army, but otherwise officered from the Militia. He also recommends that the adjutant of every battalion should be a regular army officer. A responsible officer would be permanently at headquarters of the battalion; camps of exercise would then become of real and substantial value. In his late journey he came to the conclusion that the arms in many cases are badly cared for. He had found the military store depots at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal and Quebec in good order. There are at present 60,000 rifles in the country and he recommends that 60,000 more be purchased as soon as the funds of the country will permit. The price of the rifles is two pounds ten shillings. The amount of powder in store is 200,000 pounds. The clothing in many cases has not been well taken care of. The Active Militia number 42,125; Reserve Militia, 700,000. There are 16 Field Batteries, 6 of which are already armed with the most approved new rifled field gun. The gunnery schools at Kingston and Quebec are praised for their efficiency. He recommends that the district staffs should only be appointed for five years. The larger number of persons with military titles throughout the Dominion is deprecated. The Kingston Military College will prove of great use, and will produce a scientific class of officers.

In reply to the Hon. Peter Mitchell, on the 17th inst., the Premier said the Pacific Railway would cross the middle of Lake Manitoba. At that part the lake was very narrow, so that it could be bridged and thus give a direct line between that portage and Fort Tilly with a saving of about thirty or forty miles in the length of the road.

The steamer *Sarmatian* brings out 200 laborers, and 700 will follow by the steamer of the 4th March.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company have declared a dividend at the rate of 2s sterling per £100 on postal and military service bonds for the half year ending February 8th.

A fire in College Street, Montreal, destroyed \$35,000 worth of property on the 23rd.

The Montreal Curling Club beat Hamilton and Toronto three rinks by thirteen shots on the 24th ult.

The Quarterly Cup of the eighth battalion rifles was fired for on Monday last, and won for the third time by Sergeant E. Hawkins.

At the close of a lecture by Father Chiniquy at Cote-street Church, Montreal, on Tuesday night, there was a row of a rather alarming character. Sticks and firearms were freely used, but no serious damage seems to have been done.

Mr. John Molson has been elected President of Molson's Bank, at Montreal, in place of Wm. Molson, deceased.

The last number of the *Yarmouth, N. S., Herald* contains a list of vessels lost between the years 1760 and 1874, inclusive; by whom they were owned, the master's name, and how and where lost. The whole forming a valuable means of reference. The number of vessels lost in the above period of 114 years was 530, of which 82 were wrecked and all on board lost.

A telegram from Terra Haute mentions several casualties to vessels by the sudden rise of the Wabash River, which had risen to fourteen feet in twenty-four hours.

St. John, P.Q. merchants are, owing to delays on the G. T. Railway, getting their goods from Montreal by sleigh for which they pay 13 cents per cwt., as against 17 cents charged by the Company.

It is said that on the 20th ult., there were no less than 100 cases of small pox in Watertown, N. Y. The disease has been caused by an importation of Chinese rags used at the paper mills. The disease is of a virulent kind, and a perfect panic prevails among the inhabitants. Many persons are sending their families out of town.

The House of Commons has declared John Mitchell ineligible to a seat in that body on the ground that he is a convicted felon.

At Kiel five German war vessels have been ordered in readiness for immediate service, to sail, it is supposed, for Spanish waters, if there is no longer delay in rendering satisfaction for the *Gustaw* outrage.

General Wolsely has sailed for Natal.

The Bill for the organization of a Senate has at length passed the French Assembly.

John Mitchell has issued an address to the electors of Tipperary, announcing himself as a candidate.

Report of Admiral D. D. Porter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6, 1874.

(Continued from page 88.)

The chief improvements should be invulnerability and speed, without which latter requisite a ship of war is of little use, except to assist in the defence of fortifications against the attacks of a fleet.

Harbors cannot be protected by forts alone, for experience has shown that even wooden ships with ordinary smooth bore guns can pass the heaviest batteries in comparative safety.

History records among others the following places defended by heavy works that were obliged to succumb to ships, viz., Copenhagen to Nelson, St. Jean d'Acre to the French passage of the Dardanelles to Sir John Duckworth, Algiers to Lord Exmouth, San Juan de Ulloa to the French and to the Americans, Moro Castle to the English.

Among the numerous instances I might cite our own successes of recent date in the South to show that monitors are as necessary in the defence of harbors as are the land fortifications.

For instance, suppose a fleet of twenty iron clads were to attack the forts at the "Narrows," in the bay of New York, and that one of them should get by, what harm could the forts do the vessels after it had once steamed past Castle Garden, where it could with impunity lay the city under contribution and burn at leisure all the shipping?

No enemy would be likely to attempt such a task, however, with a fleet of well built monitors inside the harbor to follow them up.

Forts are undoubtedly most necessary means of defence, but there are none in existence that a modern iron clad fleet could not pass, unless aided by monitors, torpedoes, and obstructions. Ships have a great advantage over forts, for they can retire from an engagement when worsted and return with reinforcements. Ships that can bring ten guns of the heaviest calibre against one most eventually succeed.

All monitors, and, indeed, every vessel of war, should be fitted with a double screw, for the power of turning rapidly will give a ship so fitted great advantage over one with a single screw, a matter fully appreciated by naval men.

I have adverted to the turning of the turrets in monitors. The advocates of the spindle system will, no doubt, raise objections to any other, but one great fault of this plan is, that in a sea way a ship would be filled with water if the turret was raised. A heavy shot, too, that might not penetrate the turret, might, perhaps, unseat it and render it unserviceable.

When steam is down the present method of turning renders it impossible to use the turret, as there is no means of working it.

I have been struck with the objections to the method in use for revolving monitor turrets, when so simple a contrivance might be adopted, as it demonstrated at Harlem Bridge, where 150 tons are revolved by a hydraulic jack in the hands of one man with comparative ease.

There may be objections to the introduction of this plan into monitors, of which I am not aware, but as a practical and simple method it seems to me preferable to any other.

In organizing a system on which a navy has to be built, it is necessary to take into consideration: first, the needs of a country

for the protection of its commerce; second, the extent of coast to be defended and the exposed condition of the seaboard cities; third, the relations of the country with the other powers of the world and advancement continually made in the science of maritime war; fourth, it is necessary to look deficiencies in the face, and at whatever cost, place the Navy in condition to meet any emergency.

This is not the condition of our own Navy at present. When that is fully considered, it would be the height of folly to call it "efficient," for while that delusion lasts no supplies will be given by Congress, and we will grow more and more inferior every year to other powers.

War is at all times a dreadful alternative; still more so when forced upon a nation so utterly unprepared as we are at present.

I speak strongly on the subject because I know the real condition of the Navy and its present inability to meet the wants of the nation, and I may yet live to see my country humiliated, from the fact that no attention has been paid to the recommendations of those whose duty it will be to lead our ships into action or direct their movements in time of war.

Now is as good a time as any to inaugurate a comprehensive system of naval defence, which would be the proper term to apply to the operations of a non aggressive nation, that does not require a navy with which to wage aggressive war, but simply to protect its coasts, cities, and commerce.

We can only maintain our position among nations by following in their wake in naval matters; if we do not, as we once did, set them the example in the quality of our ships and guns,

We have never had a settled policy with regard to the class of vessels we should build, and I here beg leave to suggest a system which, if adhered to, will soon place us in a very respectable condition, enable us to defend our coasts, and do great damage to our enemies.

Owing to the introduction of the torpedo as a means of warfare, it is not likely that any nation will attempt to invade the coasts and harbors of an enemy as they once did, when protected by these devices, in addition to forts, monitors, and rams, nor can the ports of a belligerent be thoroughly blockaded if proper rams and torpedo vessels are built in sufficient numbers to operate outside. It is impossible to protect a harbor by forts and sunken torpedo mines alone, for our experience during the rebellion satisfied us that torpedoes, unless protected by powerful vessels and forts combined, would be almost useless.

There is no difficulty in taking torpedoes up, no matter how carefully planted, if not under the guns of a moving fleet.

What would prevent boats at night from cutting the wires of any torpedo nest in the channel leading into New York, if the boats were supported by a powerful fleet waiting to move up to the attack?

Even without groping for the hidden wires, the sunken torpedoes could be shattered by others devised for such purposes, and the mine sprung or destroyed by concussion, leaving the way open.

No better plans for defending channels leading to cities could have been devised than those used by the confederates during our war. Their ports and rivers were full of internal mines and yet, except at Charleston, no fleet was ever stopped by their torpedoes or their batteries which were of the strongest kind. Even at the place I

have mentioned, it was found, after the evacuation, that nearly all the sunken mines had been rendered harmless by salt water or interior condensation. Upon one occasion the iron sides anchored directly over one of these mines, containing a ton of powder, and remained there twenty four hours, while the enemy were endeavoring in vain to explode it by electricity.

To be sure, gun cotton, as at present arranged, does away with the difficulties experienced in those days in exploding submarine mines, but there is no difficulty in breaking torpedo wires, even under the walls of a fort, if not protected by heavy ships and guns afloat.

Even suppose our channels obstructed, and that an enemy does not care to try a passage, the blockade of a harbor is just as humiliating and damaging. Mines planted in channels will not prevent an enemy from shutting up New York at both ends, if he is superior to us in iron clads; and it is, therefore, imperatively necessary that we should at once provide for building annually so many tons of monitors, say five thousand tons for the present, until we have thirty-first class monster rams of great speed, armed with monster guns, in addition to our present force, and at least fifty iron torpedo boats of good speed, and not less than one hundred tons each.

The latter should be hauled up under cover, fitted with all the modern improvements, and kept for an occasion, while hundreds of others could be improvised after the commencement of a war.

This is partly the system pursued by Great Britain. She builds annually twenty thousand tons of naval vessels, and finds it the cheapest way of averting war and protecting and increasing her commerce, which has doubled since 1865, while ours have dwindled away to exactly one half.

Too much confidence is felt by our Army torpedo officers in the effects of the sunken devices on passing ships.

No doubt if a torpedo should explode under a vessel it would instantly destroy her; but out of the many planted on the bottom few have been found effective in time of need, especially after having lain for a considerable period; and then, unless the torpedoes are to be fired upon impact or by circuit closers, they could do no harm to a passing fleet, in a dark night, with lights obscured, at a distance of one hundred yards; and what chance would there be of exploding a torpedo nest at the right time? Even supposing a few ships were destroyed, that would not prevent the others from going ahead.

All this tends to show that it is not explosions on the bottom upon which we must rely, but on torpedo vessels and floating projectiles below the surface of the water.

Recent experiments in England develop facts which were partly known to before, but these trials were conducted on a scale of liberality by the British government which has put at rest any doubts on the subject, and a commander has the satisfaction of knowing that he can run within forty feet of a mine of gun cotton, weighing five hundred pounds, without danger to hull or machinery.

A short time since, a committee of naval officers made some interesting experiments with submerged torpedo mines on the ship Oueron, of 649 tons, the packet steam vessel. The first explosion was with 500 pounds of the Waltham Abbey disk gun cotton, confined in a service mine case.

This was fired at a horizontal distance of 100 feet from the nearest side of the Oueron;

the mine being at vertical depth of 36 feet below the vessel's keel, and diagonally 110 feet.

The explosion proved entirely harmless, as did also a second and a third attack at 80 and 60 feet distance.

At the last experiment the mine was sunk only 50 feet outside the outer line of the ship, when all present expected that the vessel would be blown to pieces.

Great pains had been taken to insure her against sinking after the explosion, but the precautions were all unnecessary.

"The mine was fired from Fort Mokton by electricity; then followed the usual upheaval of water, to the height of more than a hundred feet." "As the disturbance struck under the vessel's starboard side, she rose to the motion of the thrown up waves to the height of several feet, and fell again into the outer swell, surging up on the crater's edge."

The Oberon remained apparently unharmed, and it was only after she had been placed in dock that the damage could be seen. It was considerable, but not sufficient to make her leak; and had she been one of a fleet passing a fort, she would have only had her engines disabled, and could still have been towed onward to her destination.

Had the Oberon been thirty feet nearer the mine, she would probably have gone down, but this experiment shows that ships must either be in contact with torpedoes or nearly over them to receive any material damage; and in shallow water the direction of least resistance being over the torpedo instead toward the vessel's bottom, the chances are that a ship with little draught would pass unscathed a torpedo only twenty feet distant.

I have myself seen a side wheel steamer's paddle box blown off, the buckets broken, and a number of bulkheads thrown down by a torpedo exploding under the wheel, while the hull remained uninjured, and I fired a hundred pound torpedo on the Mississippi in ten feet of water, only fifteen feet from the bow of a coal barge, without the latter receiving the least damage, while twenty pounds in contact with the hull would have blown the barge to atoms. These experiments show that ships have a chance to escape destruction from sunken mines. When there are a number of vessels, some of them must get by, as one explosion will probably cause the chain of mines to be broken up.

By experiments lately made in Sweden, it was shown that a mine of dynamite one hundred and six feet from two other disconnected mines exploded them by concussion; from a similar shock the electric wires would be broken.

There are chances, then, which should not exist, for a fleet to pass a fort, and they can only be neutralized by torpedo vessels, monitors, rams, sunken mines, obstructions, and forts combined.

To build a great number of fighting ships on any but the monitor plan seems inadvisable, as we require mostly iron vessels for the defence of our coasts.

It is beyond our power to wage war on the coast of any European nation that is provided with proper appliances for defence. Our policy should be protection to our coasts and aggressive war on an enemy's commerce.

If we should fit out powerful iron clad fleets, and they should engage an equal force of the enemy, the destruction of either or both forces would have no effect to bring about a peace; neither country would suffer materially.

It is only by destroying the commerce of a great nation that we could bring her to terms; hence, one vessel like the Alabama roaming the ocean, sinking and destroying, would do more to bring about peace than a dozen unwieldy iron clad cruisers in search of an enemy of like character.

For this reason I would recommend that we should no longer repair the old wooden ships, but entirely rebuild them with new hulls and improved machinery and guns, and we should build up a fleet of swift wooden cruisers, of at least twelve hundred tons, with the heaviest batteries and a speed of not less than fourteen knots.

If we were to lay up our present vessels, and build a new set, with improved machinery, it would be economy in the end; the vessels would be run on half the present amount of coal, would require fewer men, and would do their work twice as well.

Great Britain, following the example we set her during the rebellion, is building a number of such vessels, but is improving on our models, machinery, and guns of that period.

I lately read an account of the trial trip of two of these vessels just built—the Raleigh, 22 guns, iron screw frigate, 3,215 tons, with sheathed bottom, and 800 horse power, and the Sappho, 11 guns, screw sloop, 1,890 tons, and 350 horse power. The former on her trial trip made 15.3 knots, and the latter, it is supposed, will do still better.

There are now building in England the following fast clipper steamers, that could entirely destroy the commerce of an enemy, with no chance of being overtaken, viz.: The Bacchante, 14; Diadem, 16; Diamond, 14; Egeria, 4; Swan, 26; Sappho, 4. Besides these, there are one hundred and nineteen other sloops and frigates, wooden and of the composite kind, which, if not of equal speed, are very fast vessels, and of the most destructive character.

This is the policy of a great commercial nation, our only superior in commerce, and every year she adds twenty thousand tons to her navy, never by any accident getting behindhand. Who can interfere with British commerce, or maltreat a British subject in any part of the world, without paying damages?

Great Britain has a coast line twenty times less in extent than our own, and the combined navies of Europe could not approach it with safety, while with us, as matters now stand, a single iron clad frigate could blockade our shores from Maine to Texas.

Different opinions prevail with regard to the best plan of constructing iron clad cruisers that can safely go around the world without racking themselves to pieces.

It is necessary that we should have a few of these, say six, to convoy and protect bodies of troops in case we desire to land on an enemy's coast.

Experience teaches us that wood and iron combined do not agree, and ships built on that principle soon decay.

Heavy iron clads, with high free board, are exceedingly uncomfortable, and rack themselves to pieces in a sea way, and in the race between heavy ordnance and iron sides, the guns have gained so great ascendancy, that it is doubtful whether wisdom would dictate building a ship with heavy plating more than three feet above the water. There is a limit to the quantity of iron which a ship can carry, while there seems to be, comparatively, no limit to the size of guns, and the 33 ton cannon now contracted for at Krupp's foundry will perforate any iron clad ever built.

History repeats itself in the course of centuries. Men fought in armor until musket balls made it useless, and the same principles is beginning to apply to the matter of iron clad ships of war, especially as regards turrets and topsides.

I believe that iron sea going ships of war will ultimately be built without any armor on the topsides; that the hull, for three feet above and below water, and the decks will be made as far as possible impervious to shot, but that all the upper works will be ordinary iron through which the shot will be allowed to pass.

This, it is true, will not afford perfect protection to the ship's company in action, as shot passing through the thin iron will knock down everything in its course; but this is better than having a turret of fifteen inches thickness crushed in upon a crew, and I believe men will fight longer and better on an open deck where they can see their enemy and know what is going on.

It is very demoralizing to be shut up in a turret and have men killed by concussion, with the likelihood of a stray shell coming into the port and killing all hands. A few years ago officers and men would scorn such shelter, and I believe at this day that almost any one would rather take his chances on the open deck.

Uncovered guns run little risk of damage by shot at sea. When a vessel is rolling, not more than one shot in twenty takes effect; and there are no serious objections to guns on the open deck, provided they are covered from grape or canister. Bulwarks could be thickened to extend a little over the height of the gun, but only in front of it.

I propose that the hulls of sea going ships should be built as strong as the monitor hull, and light bulwarks and upper works made of iron, with light iron spar deck covered with wood planking.

A vessel the length of the Monadnock could carry eight heavy guns amidships, that could, in action, be run out in broadside. Such a ship might have all her upper works cut away and still be fit for battle. A vessel of this kind should be built without head booms, and her forward after gun should be so arranged as to run out to give her a fore and aft. Add to this a double screw, and you will have a good sea going fighting ship.

A vessel of six hundred or more tons displacement than the Monadnock would carry twice as many guns as she does now, and having light upper works, would be a good sea boat and lively in any kind of weather. The guns could be fitted to lower below the deck when loading, like the English gunboats.

A vessel of this kind should be built on the ratchet system, with double bottom and top frames strongly connected with the hull.

Such a ship with the same steam power would have greater speed than one of the heavy European iron clads, for she would have much less weight to carry. All her upper works being of light iron, with wood sheathing to her bottom, she would cost much less and would last for years.

To enable such vessels to carry a heavy gun right on their bows, they should be constructed with projections forward under water, like the English ships Northumberland, Hercules, Bellerophon, Invincible, etc., and the torpedo vessel Alarm, just built at New-York.

The latter has now mounted right on her bow a fifteen inch gun, and could sustain one of twenty inches, gaining sufficient dis-

placement and buoyancy forward by reason of this projection, which, on the ships I propose, would answer the purpose of a ram.

I have given a general outline of what these sea-going ironclads should be, and think the generality of intelligent officers will coincide in my opinions.

These cruisers could keep the sea under sail, as well as wooden ships, and I believe their guns would be fired with greater rapidity and precision than would be possible from a turret.

Turreted cruising ships can only be built with high freeboard which renders it necessary to cover their sides with heavy plating all the way up. There must be a limit to this plating, which can never be made thick enough to resist the largest guns. Six or eight heavy steel shot striking at the water line would drive in their sides and probably cause them to sink, or withdraw from action to repair damages, if such a thing was possible.

To be Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DRILL IN SCHOOLS.

Sir,—As a good deal has of late been said with reference to the introduction of Military training into the Schools of Canada, I would, with your leave, propose a scheme which would, I think, be practicable, efficient and at the same time not expensive, which is as follows :

That the training be mainly confined to the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes for which there is already an annual grant of Fifty Dollars allowed by the Ontario Act passed last year.

And, first, with regard to the Collegiate Institutes: a Collegiate Institute is a High School having four masters and a daily average of sixty boys studying Latin and Greek, and with these I would include such large establishments as the Normal Schools, Upper Canada College, Trinity College School Port Hope, and the Huron College at London, which would make up Twelve or Fifteen Institutes, Schools and Colleges of this class in Ontario; to the Ontario allowance of fifty dollars add one hundred dollars as a Dominion Grant which would ensure of the masters qualifying as drill instructors; furnish these schools with say fifty serge uniforms and carbines; the instruction to be for one hour each day and the course to be what is required for the second class Military School Certificates, paying special attention to the balance step and the extension motions and such parts of the drill as would improve the physical appearance and capacity of growing boys; to have a yearly examination for second class certificates which together with Ten Dollars would be granted to such boys, sixteen years of age, as could pass the necessary examination in drill and Interior Economy before a board of examiners.

As to the High Schools where there is a smaller attendance, a Dominion grant of Fifty Dollars would be added to the Ontario allowance, the instruction to be squad and company drill sufficient to enable the boys to act as good drill sergeants, it would not, I think, be advisable to go to the expense of supplying uniforms or carbines to these smaller schools, but I would suggest that a sort of dummy carbine made of hardwood having a lock and breech block attachment should be supplied, or if it would not be convenient to get up these, half a dozen old carbines without ammunition might be furnished for the purpose of teaching the manual and platoon.

That all field officers should be Inspectors of drill in schools in their own Brigade Division.

With regard to the Common Schools the teachers of these are supplied almost entirely from the Normal and High Schools, and every mother's son attending them should get the goose step, extension motions, and some squad drill, to teach them how to walk and hold themselves, and to give them a decent carriage,

As to the University Colleges, although it might be objected that it would interfere with their studies, I am inclined to think that they should be included in the first class. As far as my experience goes those Colleges which have Volunteer Companies attached to them have furnished a much larger number of officers to the force in proportion to the numbers attending them, than those Colleges which have no Company.

I trust that the Government will not do away with the old military schools entirely, and that they will still be kept up at Kingston, Quebec, and Halifax; they furnish an entirely different class from those which the Military College will produce, and in much greater numbers; and it is at these alone that the first class certificates should be granted.

It seems to me that the scheme proposed is what is wanted, practicable, efficient and not expensive. We cannot keep up a large standing army, though it seems that a small one is absolutely necessary, but the Military Schools and Collegiate Institutes will supply what is wanted, namely, a large body of young men, contentually being kept up and scattered through the country who will be able to drill and officer our Militia at short notice in the event of threatening wars; while the Military College will supply the regular force in time of peace, and in the event of war we shall be supplied with a body of men who have made the army their profession and military knowledge their study, and who will be able to distinguish themselves equally with the splendid body of men whom West Point brought to the fore during the late American war.

19th Feb. 1875.

ONTARIO.

Military Training in Schools.

In the House the other day Dr. Brouse moved for a school committee to report on our present system of military drill, with a view to ascertain if some improvement may not be effected thereon. He referred to the large sum voted grudgingly, amounting to about one twelfth of the entire taxation of the country, feeling that a more satisfactory state of things might be brought about without drawing so on their resources, that was the system of juvenile military drill so taught in school. He quoted from the report of the royal commission in England, in which they approved of this system, he also quoted from authority that too much time was devoted to mental training, and too little to physical training. He set forth that there were 500,000 boys in the schools in the Dominion, and that in a few years a large number of young men would be qualified and who would make the best soldiers they could possibly procure.—Those who were taught when young never forgot the drill. He cited the Prussian system in corroboration of what he stated. Mr. Vail, the Minister of Militia, agreed to a great extent with what had fallen from Dr. Brouse, but he feared that the educational department, was entirely under the control of the Provincial Legislatures. He was sorry that his Honorable friend could not be induced to lay the matter over until next session, that they had now at the head of the militia a gentleman of great ability, and from whom they expected a great improvement of the militia drill, he was not asking too much in requesting that this matter might stand over until next session.

There is no doubt but that Prussia is indebted for the efficiency of her soldiers to the training they receive while at school. Not only their proficiency in handling the rifle and their steadiness in the field, but the muscle it imparts to their bodies. It is therefore desirable that the project should be brought prominently before the people before another session, as the motion of Dr. Brouse is likely to be laid over.—Port Dover Independent.

SCHOOL OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.—The first examination of the season was held at the Drill Shed on Tuesday evening, by Col. Laurie, D. A. G., Commandant of the School, when the following cadets received Second Class certificates:—Captain Sandford, 1st G. A., Lieut. W. E. West, 66th Vol.; Lieut. Lithgow, 2nd G. A., Sergt. J. E. Boutlier, 66th Vol.; Sergt. Suckling, 63rd Vol.; B. S. M. McNiven; 1st G. A.; and Bugler Small, 56th Vol. At the conclusion of the examination the successful candidates were highly complimented by the commandant on the manner in which they had acquitted themselves and the thoroughness they showed in their knowledge of drill.—Acadian Recorder.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscriptions to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 20th inst. :—

Instanton, St. John, N.B.—Maj. Wm. Cannon to Jan. 1875.	\$1.00
Chatham, N.B.—Lt. Col. C. McCulley, B. M. to April 1875.	2.00
Stratford, O.—Capt. James C. McPherson, to June, 1875.	2.00
Spencerville, O.—Capt. Andrew Garratoback, to Jan. 1875.	5.00
Mount Forest, O.—Capt. Wm. W. Wingfield, to Jan. 1875.	6.00
Kingston, O.—Lt. Col. John Duff, to Jan. 75.	2.50
Rezon Falls, O.—Capt. John Wood to July 75.	4.00
" " "—Lt. Thos. McGrall to July 75.	4.00

Walking on the Water.

Captain Boynton, an American, who went to England a few weeks since to exhibit the efficiency of his life preserving dress, has astonished the Londoners by his achievements on the Serpentine and the Thames. On the 20th of January, says the London News, he excited the wonder of thousands of persons by floating from Wapping to Vauxhall in his waterproof suit. It may be said that never before was Old Father Thames so defied and set at naught by mortal; its depths had no terror to the man who fearlessly committed himself to them, and its yellow tide no power to resist his advance or check his progress. The scene is described as follows:—

"Capt. Boynton started with a flood tide from Wapping Old Stairs. All the begrimed lighters moored thereabouts were crowded with workmen, just arrived from the yards and shops on the other side, and the barges and watermen, young and old, looked on open mouthed at the gentleman who, encasing himself in a armor of India rubber, walked into and along the river without touching the bottom; who could not sink lower than his breast, had he tried ever so hard to do it, and who, by the aid of a light, doubled bladed canoe paddle, set off on his journey, followed by a fleet of boats, and loudly cheered by the amazed and delighted spectators. The Thames, however, ruffled by a smart wind against a heavy tide, was a much severer test than the streamless Serpentine, yet nothing could be more complete than the success of the trip. Rough or smooth, it matters nothing to the American Guardsman, and the spectator is soon possessed of absolute confidence in the safety of the invention. Blowing his fog horn, or whistle, using his axe, smoking his cigar, and waving his banner, his voyage was quite a triumphal water progress, and the voyager seemed to take a special delight in threading his way amongst shipping and boats, taking the arches where the current was most dangerous. Once or twice he purposely allowed himself to foul a barge, in one instance shooting like an arrow under the stern, and between two boats towing behind. Easy it was to see that, clad in one of these suits, a man may venture where a boat could never go, and perform services of the highest advantage to humanity. The wonder expressed in the faces of the sailors, staring over the bulwarks of the crowded shipping in the Pool, or on board the river steamers and barges drifting westward, was not the least comical and interesting feature of the journey, and the omnibus and cabmen pulled up on every bridge until the bold adventurer had passed."

Vicissitudes of Fortune.—Twenty years ago, Giuseppe Garibaldi and John Thompson were making soap on Staten Island. Last Sunday Garibaldi made his entrance into Rome as a member of the Italian Parliament. The whole population turned out to do him honour and he was greeted with tumultuous enthusiasm as the deliverer of Italy. His partner in the soap business, John Thompson, is now president of the first National Bank of New York. As instances of the vicissitudes of fortune, the lives of these men are note worthy. It is well to bear in mind however, that they were excellent soap makers, and attended to their business.

The Duffia Expedition.

By telegram from Calcutta, dated January 2, we learn that the Duffia chiefs arrived at the British camp on the 28th December with proposals for submission. The British force was advancing on the 30th December towards their villages.

A correspondent of the Pioneer Mail sends a few notes on the manners and customs of the Duffias and Abors inhabiting the hills north of Assam, which may prove interesting at the present moment. The Duffias proper live in the hills north of the Durung and Luckimpore districts, and are divided into two classes—viz., the Tagin-Duffias on the east, and the Poschim-Duffias on the west. The raid and outrage which the force under General Stafford is being sent to avenge was committed by the former. This country being contiguous to that of the Abors, they may be almost classed as one race; the only distinctions apparently being that the Abors tattoo their faces, the Duffias do not; the Abors eat snakes, the Duffias do not. The chieftains of both are called *gams*, the slaves and lower orders *hatorias*.

There is no form of government in the land; each village, and indeed each family, being independent of the other. However, in every village there is generally a head *gam*, who is looked on as chief. The names of the chiefs who took the lead in the raid of February, 1873, when forty four of our subjects were carried off into captivity and two murdered, are Nani Abor (apparently the most influential and fiercest off our frontier), Gobind Abor, Hacheng Abor, and Tageng Abor. An exchange of captives has since taken place amongst them; and a *gam* of the name of Puksi, head of an Abor village further east than the others, now holds several British subjects as slaves, although neither he nor his people were directly concerned in the raid of 1873. This naturally complicate matters, and may lead to the Duffia Field Force being brought into collision with the Abors, if the Duffias, when brought to their senses, are unable to get back the captives they have sold or exchanged.

All the customs of the Duffias are primitive. They still continue to practice various ordeals to bring home conviction for alleged crimes—such as the ordeal of touch in theft cases, the accused being made to plunge his arm into boiling water or to touch hot iron, when, if innocent, he is supposed to get off scatheless.

The marriage ceremony is of the simplest. A certain sum, or its equivalent in *mitlun* (bison), is paid for the bride, and there is a big drink and a feast to celebrate the occasion. Should the husband die, the son, if there be one, can do a stroke of business by disposing of the widow, his mother, to the highest bidder. If there be no son, the brother of the deceased takes over the widow or widows, there being no limit to the number beyond what a man can afford to purchase. When a fight is contemplated the women are hidden in the jungles, Males and females are described as well built, and some of the girls quite pretty, though with a Chinese stamp of countenance. The arms of the men are said to be bows with poisoned arrows, a sword, and a dagger, while some carry spears. It is on record that in 1857, when one of the villages was attacked by over 100 of our military police, nearly every one of the latter was wounded, and the wild Duffias of the hills have evidently managed to terrify the tame Duffias of the plains, who believe them invincible. When, however,

they see what breech-loaders can do their education ought to be improved. The *gams* must present an astonishing appearance from the description given of them. On their heads they wear a sort of cone, open at the top, and made of bamboo with a silver coating, and finished off with a pad of bearskin behind, or sometimes the tiger skin, surmounted with feathers, and a silver arrow passed through all. Before Bengal Cavalry quite settle on what helmet to adopt, a committee might adopt the Duffia pattern as a subject for consideration during next hot weather at Simla. If sketches of an Abor Duffia head-dress were circulated for opinion and report to commanding officers of regiments, Colonel Lumsden might then take the wind out of the sails of his predecessor by publishing a minute description, in a lengthy G.O.C.C., describing the improved B.C. *todee*. The rest of the men's dress is said to consist of a toga folded round the body, and made of cotton or coarse silk. The women are apparently rather *decollettee*, and their clothes reach neither very high nor very low; but the same fashion is in vogue at the Alhambra, so we should not be hard upon them. The men prefer strong drink to anything that can be given them; they ferment rice and make beer, and also spirits therefrom, in which they indulge to excess; and, it is said, seldom reach old age. They worship three gods—the god of the skies, the god of the forest, and the god of the rivers; to these they offer sacrifice by killing various animals, and eating them afterwards. Of their three gods, the first (or god of the heaven) is the chief. It is doubtful whether they believe in a future state, their sacrifices being offered as propitiation for present wants and short comings.

Having no medicines beyond herbs, they are very much afraid of epidemics. They wisely isolate cases of smallpox, merely leaving food in the vicinity of the patient somewhere in the jungle. They bury their dead.

News of the North American and West India Fleet reaches us to the 24th of December; H.M.S. *Abourki*, *Seagull*, and *Woodlark* were at Port Royal. The *Seagull*, Commander Stubbs, had just arrived from Cuba, after having completed some very important service with the Governor of Santiago de Cuba, in the most satisfactory and amicable manner. Commander Stubbs' conduct on the occasion has been highly appreciated, and from his discretion in dealing with many matters, the commander has proved himself a good diplomatist. The *Seagull* has been ordered to Bermuda, where it is supposed she will be paid off, having been nearly four years in commission. We hope the long earned reward of promotion will then be bestowed on this most deserving officer, who is now the senior commander afloat. The *Woodlark* arrived to relieve the *Seagull*, as she had been a year on the Jamaica Division, after coming from the West Coast of Africa.—*Broad Arrow*, 23rd Jan.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.—A telegram from Stockholm, Sweden, of the 19th February gives the following particulars of a terrible catastrophe: A match factory in Gottenburg, crowded with work people, took fire to day. The flames spread with such rapidity that the employees in the upper stories were cut off from escape, and many perished in the flames or were killed by jumping from the windows. Fifty one lives are reported to have been lost.

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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, MARCH 2, 1875.

For Correspondents.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, in whatsoever language, to be published. 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.

JAMES B. VINNER, of Victoria, and Captain H. V. EDMONDS of New Westminster, are our authorized Agents for British Columbia.

The Honorable member for South Grenville, Dr. Brouse, has distinguished himself in the Canadian House of Commons by his judicious and enlightened action on military affairs. He has done honor to his head and heart by the mode in which he advocated the claims of the veteran heroes of 1812-15, as well as by the success attending his efforts to secure substantial recognition of the splendid services rendered by those gallant soldiers both from Great Britain as well as Canada; and it argues well for the future appreciation of the soldier's services to find a sum of \$30,000 voted during the present session for and in recognition of services rendered sixty years ago.

But the honorable member has not held his hand at achieving this success, having on the 15th inst. moved that a committee should be appointed to report on the present system of military drill, which with an enlightened perception of its value he would introduce into the educational estab-

lishments of the country and make it a portion of the training which our youths should acquire. Although this motion had to be withdrawn for the present owing to the fact that the House of Commons does not control the educational establishments of Canada, as every Province make its own school laws, yet there can be no doubt of the soundness of the principle involved, or that the honorable member will fail in carrying out so obvious and so necessary a measure.

As a medical practitioner of great experience and repute, Dr. Brouse is fully aware of the value of Calisthenics in developing the human frame, and quite right in restricting the time now occupied in dwarfing the stature as well as confusing the mind of the rising generation by cramming them with a very superficial knowledge of all the o'ologies of no value in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred to the victims, either in this world or as a preparation for the next.

Whereas for the mere physical results alone any Government would be warranted in subjecting the youth of the community to habits of military order and discipline, not for the purpose of creating a military spirit, but for the purpose of physical and mental development,

As the honorable member for South Grenville very evidently understands the true position of each individual in the state with reference to military service, so he has placed in the hands of the Government by his motion the means of fitting the people to discharge that duty in the most natural and inexpensive manner.

The knowledge which he proposes to impart is of a character to benefit a man no matter what his future pursuit may be, if it would only reach to inculcating the habit of obedience it would be a decided gain to social order.

We hope that next session the honorable member will introduce this motion again and stand by it with the unflagging perseverance which is his characteristic.

COLONEL FLETCHER's lecture and Dr. Brouse's motion suggest the probability that the late stagnation in military affairs is drawing to a close, and that a period of renowned activity will give the country that development in military organization which the "Militia Law of 1868" provided for. The need of an efficient staff other than the General Staff now in existence has long been felt, but no steps have as yet been taken to organize the semblance of such a necessary adjunct to our military force. Even at head quarters the staff proper on all occasions of ceremony used, and does not principally consist of officers either on the Retired list or belonging to the Reserve force; this is all very well for the time being, but it is not development, and it is not what is wanted.

There can be no doubt but the Military College will provide a staff in course of time, but in the interim an organization into which the qualified officers of the College could pass should be improvised.

For present use and purpose this organization should consist of two parts, such officers as would volunteer for duty, as Aid de Camps, and an Engineer Corps; the former might be any energetic intelligent young fellows, or others that understood enough of tactics to carry intelligently an order and see it executed; the latter should be volunteers from the professional Engineers of the provinces,—neither need add to the cost of the force, except their services were specially required, and they should be locally attached to the different military districts, inasmuch as their local and professional knowledge would supply a want referred to in Colonel Fletcher's lecture. It is, moreover, evident that the period when meetings for "annual drill and rifle practice" were all that our organization required has passed away, and that we must now delegate minor tactics to the battalion and company units and try to give our soldiers such a knowledge of military operations as "extended Autumn Manoeuvres" can do in the short period allotted our yearly musters—and this cannot be done without an organized Staff.

We have to thank Lieutenant Colonel E. Rios, United States Army, for a very handsome pamphlet issued by the authorities of the "National Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts, containing reports of experiments with Rios's Trowel Bayonet made by officers of the Army."

Our readers will recollect that we published the "Tactical instructions" for the use of this very efficient weapon and intrenching tool in our last volume, Col. Rios is its inventor, and not only so, but has invented the "Hooks and swivels for stacking arms," that we noticed before.

Judging from the engravings in the pamphlet he has succeeded in substituting for the old three sided bayonet a nice, tasteful, and effective weapon which can be used as a tool for rapid field intrenchment.

The pamphlet contains fifty-seven pages, thirty-nine of which are filled with reports on this weapon, and eighteen with beautifully engraved illustrations of it, the hooks and swivels, and the shelter trenches improvised by its use. A number of Trowel bayonets were issued to the United States Army, it is with the reports from the officers under whose supervision they were used that the pamphlet is filled. We cannot do more than summarise the results as shown therein, as follows:—

"Reports of the officers of the Third U.S. Infantry.

Against adoption..... 3
For adoption..... 19

“Reports of the officers of the Fifth U.S. Infantry.

Against adoption..... 1
For adoption..... 27

It is strongly recommended by Brigadier General A. H. TERRY; Colonel P. V. HARGRE, of the Ordnance; Colonel H. B. CLITZ, 10th Infantry; Major M. A. RENO, 7th Cavalry; Captain L. L. LIVINGSTON, 3rd Artillery; Major S. B. VARRI, of the Ordnance, and by the Board of Officers appointed to report on its value in its two fold capacity. We have unfortunately no Ordnance Department to whom we could refer a trial of what appears to be a really valuable weapon, but we hope that from the U. S. Government, and in his own service, Colonel RICE will meet with that encouragement his great scientific acquirements as well as mechanical talents deserve.

Our comrades of the Canadian Army, the citizens of Ottawa, and the numerous friends of the late Adjutant General, will be pleased to learn that on the 4th February, His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army has conferred on Colonel P. ROBERTSON ROSS the command of the 9th Brigade Military District, headquarters Halifax, Yorkshire, England.

The services of that distinguished and gallant officer in the organization of our military force, reflects the greatest honor on his professional talents and ability. He has left this country a monument of his technical and practical skill in his “Annual Reports on the state of the Militia,” and “Reconnaissance connected therewith,” and will be long remembered for the eminent services in connection with the last Fenian raid as well as the Red River Expedition. In both cases he showed what could be done by citizen soldiers properly handled, and demonstrated their capacity for mobilization and concentration in a degree not yet attained by any existing regular force. His services during the Kaffir and Crimean wars are matters of history familiar to our readers; and it is to be hoped that the present promotion is the first step in a series which will place him high up in the British service. As a reorganization of that force is a matter of necessity, the experience gained by the gallant Colonel in organizing our military force will be of inestimable value to the War Office. As there can be little doubt that a system closely analogous to our own is the only solution of the military problem now before the British people, and they have no soldier better fitted by natural talents, training, and practical knowledge for such a service.

The importance of showing what the military strength of Canada is has been illustrated by the emulation the appearance of her contingents to Wimbledon has excited amongst their fellow subjects in the other

great dependencies of the Empire. Last season an “Indian team” of riflemen contended at the great British “Tir National,” and the coming season will witness an “Australian” contingent to the meeting. The effect of these displays will be beneficial to the colonies in every respect, it will enable the people of Great Britain to judge of the value of the dependencies from personal observation of the men produced on their soil, while it will enable the native born Colonist to form an opinion of the wealth, power, and resources of the country to whose Sovereign he owes allegiance.

Hitherto the effort on our part to supply an efficient contingent or sample of our military force has been confined to the Wimbledon contest, and although the annual grant of public money to the “Dominion Rifle Association” may be said to have partly covered the expenditure, yet a great deal of it was borne by private individuals; and on the last occasion notably by the President, Lieutenant Colonel GZOWSKI, who worthily upheld the credit of Canada, by his splendid and generous hospitality; but it is exacting too much altogether from individuals whether public or private to expect that they will bear burdens that properly belong to the country whose interests are benefitted by the necessary outlay.

The result of these annual meetings at Wimbledon and the establishment of a Canadian camp there, which a contemporary has described as the “best and most effective emigration agency in existence,” only confirms the truth of the views we advocated when the question of sending a team there was first agitated; and we think the time has arrived when a further effort in this direction should be made, namely, what has been repeatedly urged in the VOLUNTEER REVIEW to send a brigade of Canadian Volunteers to take part in the English Autumn Manœuvres—a measure well within the capacity of the country.

A paper which had been written by Captain C. K. BROOKE, 15th Regt., Brigade Major at Hong Kong, was read yesterday afternoon at the Royal Naval Institute, by Colonel the Hon. F. THOSIGER, C. B., on “Proposed alterations in the Annual Musketry Practice.”

Capt. Brooke commenced his paper by representing that owing to the question of tactical formation having so much engrossed the attention of military writers that the annual musketry practice, which was an important branch of a soldier's training, had not received the attention it deserved. In order properly to discuss the question the author pointed out that it was necessary first to define exactly what should be the object of all musketry exercise.

This he held was the training of soldiers to inflict the maximum loss on the enemy in the minimum space of time, which could only be obtained when the troops had been accustomed to fire with great accuracy, and under circumstances representing as nearly as possible the normal features of a battle field. He considered that as a much larger

proportion of shots on a battle field would probably be fired at distances between 150 or 400 yards, than was at present arranged for in musketry practice, the proportion of shots fired at that distance should be increased.

He suggested that the target used at this distance should not be made of the present pattern, but of a type to represent more closely the body of a man with the bull's-eye placed in such a position as to represent the most vital part of the man's trunk. That the target to be used should be placed on a moveable truck in order to represent the movement of skirmishers from one place of shelter to another; that a different kind should again be used to place on the edge of an earthwork to represent a man firing from behind a parapet. And that for the musketry practice at long ranges the largest used should be of a greater breadth than height.

In bringing the paper to a close, the author briefly recapitulated the conclusions he had arrived at in the following order:—

1st. That the “any position” must be recognized as the most probable one in future battlefields, and that therefore our soldiers must be trained to practice it in peace time.

2nd. That the proportion between the number of shots fired during our annual musketry practice, and at short ranges, does not truly represent their probable expenditure on the field.

3rd. That by adopting in principle the proposed rearrangement of the different classes, and the alterations in the targets, and in the conditions under which they are fired at, our musketry training will be brought more into harmony with the actual conditions of warfare.

4th. That by obliging every man to make a certain number of bull's-eyes, or centres, and hit before passing into a higher class, a more definite idea of his value as a shot is obtained.

5th. That by arresting a man's shooting, at the moment when it ceases to be possible that he can fulfil the required conditions for passing into a higher class; and by an alteration in the method of computing the “figure of merit,” no shots are wasted, each one having a direct interest attached to it, and thus their value for training our soldiers ensured.

6th. That by establishing a marksman's class, picked shots receive the extra training due to their extra skill.

Lastly. That by the alteration in, and by the importance given to, the skirmishing practice, the battle training of our troops is largely increased, and our musketry training brought into harmony with our “attack formation.”

A discussion ensued, after which the thanks of the meeting were given to the author for his valuable paper.

The above article speaks for itself. We have always held the opinion that our present target practice represented nothing but itself, the habits acquired could never be of use under any other condition, not even in the sports of the field. In training troops, and that is the only value our Rifle Associations possess, the true principle is to bring the practical use of the rifle as near in accord as possible with what must be its use in actual warfare, and therefore it is advisable to extend the principle as much as possible. In our own country where there are

abundance of places available for military manoeuvres, there ought to be a series of special field days for rifle practice in which the ground should be continually changed to represent the contingencies of warfare; and the targets, earthworks, &c., should be of varying character; thus affording training to both officers and men; to the former in designing and constructing field works adapted to the locality; to the latter in practice at spade fortification, cover of all kinds and the best as well as safest mode of attacking entrenched positions.

The subject is one of great interest and requires development.

If the Custom House returns of shipments of arms and ammunition at Capetown, during a single month, are to be taken as any criterion of the amount of trade done in the course of the year, there would seem to be a pretty brisk demand just at present in certain slave-hunting latitudes for such choice, developments of Brummagem civilization. The *Eastern Province Herald* gives the quantities shipped during the month of September last as hereunder:—

	Guns.	Pis'ls.	Powd.	Lead.
To Port Elizabeth	225	..	..	..
" Natal	40	..	..	..
" Mozambique	1244	..	..	..
" Walvisch Bay	15	..	200lbs	6½cwt.
" Lambert's Bay	13	..	550 "	9 "
" Mossel Bay	24	..	1630 "	21½ "
" Port Nolloth	16	..	2 100 "	17 "
" Baboon's Point	1	..	..	..
Total.....	1554	..	2 2480lbs	54cwt.

That eminent and philanthropic member of the "Universal Peace Preservation Society," the Hon. JOHN BRIGHT should be called on to explain the meaning of the above paragraph, as he recently addressed some 5,000 of his constituents at Birmingham. It is to be hoped he duly impressed on them the necessity of being careful of the rights of a "man and brother" although Quashee does not seem to benefit materially thereby.

THE EIGHTH BATTALION.

We are indebted to our Quebec correspondent, for the following account of the inspection of this fine Battalion:—
 "This crack corps of Volunteers having just completed its annual drill, was inspected by Lieut. Col. Casault, C.M.G., on the evening of the 15th ult., Paymaster Forrest having called the roll, the men were put through various military evolutions by Col. Reeve, who commands the battalion, and Colonel Alleyn. Captains Scott and Pentland, Adjutant LeSueur and Lieut Rae. Both men and officers executed the various manoeuvres in a thoroughly soldierlike manner, and drew from the inspecting officer a flattering and well merited notice of their military bearing. There was a large number of people, including a fair share of ladies, congregated at the drill shed to witness the inspection. The regiment was then put through the manual and firing exercises by Lieut. Col. Alleyn, and the bayonet exercise by Captain and Adjut. LeSueur, in all of which the men

displayed proficiency and skill that would do credit to many regiments of Her Majesty's Regular Service. The battalion then marched past, after which the clothing and accoutrements were inspected. Captains Scott and Pentland, and Lieut. Ray then put the battalion through various movements, after which a square was formed, and Lieut. Colonel Casault in a short speech, complimented the corps upon its soldierlike appearance and efficiency. Among the numerous spectators present we were glad to observe a large number of ladies, who seemed to take a deep interest in the proceedings. We also observed Lieut. Colonel Strange, Major Montgambert, and other officers of the B Battery. Lieutenant Col. Turnbull, C.H., who always takes an interest in our friends of the 8th was also present. Our worthy Mayor, Owen Murphy, Esq., was on the ground, and was evidently much pleased with the inspection. Before closing our remarks we cannot but congratulate Lieut. Colonel Reeve and officers of the 8th upon having command of a regiment of which the Dominion may be justly proud. The battalion headed by their band, which by the bye, has wonderfully increased its musical proficiency, marched down the Esplanade and back by way of Ursule street to the armoury, where the men deposited their accoutrements."

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The regular annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association took place on Wednesday the 24th ult., in one of the committee rooms of the House of Commons, and was largely attended by military gentlemen from all parts of Canada. The meeting was called to order shortly after 1 o'clock by Lieutenant Colonel Gzowski, who occupied the chair. Amongst those present of the militia staff officers were:—Lieutenant Col. Jackson, D.A.G., Military District, No. 3, Brockville; Lieutenant Col. Fletcher, C.M.G., D.A.G., Military District, No. 5, Montreal; Lieutenant Col. Munneill, D.A.G., Military District No. 8, Fredericton, N.B. Lieut. Col. McPherson, treasurer of the society, and Lieutenant Col. Stuart, secretary, were also present. The following members of the Council for the different Provinces were also in attendance:—

ONTARIO.—Lieut. Col. Brunel, Ottawa; Captain Stephenson, M.P., 24th Battalion, Canham; Lieutenant Col. Gilmore, Queen's Own Batt., Toronto; Captain J. J. Mason, Hamilton; Lieutenant Col. Skinner, M.P., 13th Batt.; Major Hon. A. McKenzie, M.P., Sarina; Lieutenant Col. Buel, M.P., Brockville; Lieutenant Col. Kirkpatrick, M.P., Kingston; Lieutenant Col. Ross, G. G. Foot Guards, Ottawa; Major Macdonald, Ottawa.

QUEBEC.—Lieutenant Col. Bacon, Quebec; Lieutenant Col. L. R. Masson, Terrebonne; Lieut. Col. Hon. C. E. Papet, Quebec; Lieut. Col. McKay, Montreal; Lieutenant Col. P. W. Worsley, Montreal; Hon. H. Aylmer, M.P., A. B. Caron, Esq., M.P.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Lieut. Col. E. B. Beer, Sussex; and Capt. Tilton, G. G. Foot Guards, Ottawa.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Lieut. Col. McKinlay, Halifax; Lieutenant Col. A. G. Jones, M.P., Halifax.

MANITOBA.—Hon. M. A. Girard, Winnipeg; Lieutenant Colonel Chamberlain, C. M. G., Ottawa.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—J. S. Thompson, Esq., M.P., Cariboo; Edgar Dewdney, Esq., M.P., Victoria; Captain Roscoe, M.P., New Westmin

ster; W McKay Wright, M. P., Ottawa. The Secretary read the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting which were duly confirmed.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report of the Executive Council was next presented of which the following is a synopsis:—

The Council in making this their Seventh Annual Report, desire to direct attention to the number of Affiliated Associations, which now number 23 as against 17 last year.

The Government, as on previous occasions, granted aid in the following sums, viz:—

The Dominion of Canada Rifle Association.....	\$9,500
Ontario Provincial Rifle Ass'n.....	1,800
Quebec Provincial Rifle Ass'n.....	1,700
Nova Scotia Prov. Rifle Ass'n.....	1,500
New Brunswick Prov. Rifle Ass'n.....	1,300
Manitoba Prov. Rifle Ass'n.....	400
British Columbia Prov. Rifle Ass'n.....	400
Prince Edward Island Prov. Rifle Ass'n.....	400
	<hr/>
	\$17,000

The whole of the Provincial Associations have affiliated with the Parent Association this year except that of Prince Edward Island.

County and other local Rifle Associations received grants in aid for the year ending 30th June, 1874, through the Department of Militia and Defence.

It then proceeded to describe in detail the Annual Prize Meeting at Ottawa and the other business incidental to the Council during the past year. It also spoke in satisfactory terms of the Wimbledon team which went to England last year in charge of Lieut. Col. Gilmore. It also referred to the probability of a team coming to Wimbledon next July from the Australian Colonies and urged in consequence the exercising of due care in the selection of a team for 1875.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Lieut. Col. Macpherson presented a financial statement of the affairs of the Association, from the 10th of November, 1873, to the 10th of February, 1875. The balance sheet exhibits the total income from all sources for that period to have been \$11,751.02; while the expenditure amounted to \$10,573.62, showing a balance of \$1,177.39, which, with the balance of \$771.44 carried forward from last year's financial statement, leaves a total balance of \$1,948.83 in favour of the Association. The value of plant in store at Laprairie, Fredericton, Ottawa, and London, England, are estimated as follows:

Plant and buildings at Laprairie.....	\$208 75
" " " at Fredericton.....	90 45
" " " at Ottawa.....	200 00
Material purchased for camp purposes at Wimbledon for Canadian Team, say.....	300 80
	<hr/>
	\$800 00

CHALLENGE PRIZES—VALUE.

MacDougall Vase.....	\$ 200
Merchants of London Vase.....	1,000
	<hr/>
	1,200 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,000 00

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Lt.-Col. Stuart also presented a report which set forth that; the annual prize meeting for the year 1874 took place at the Rideau Ranges, Ottawa, commencing on the 15th September and extended over the four following days. A Local Committee of the Council of the Association superintended and carried out the arrangements for the meeting. In addition to the three extra butts with markers' pits provided this year, a new circular target on the Wimbledon principle, adapted for the Association, and constructed under the supervision of one of the members of the Council (Lieut. Col. Brunel) was added to the number now in use, and the ease with which its apparent superiority over the old form of target was universally acknowledged by all competitors. It is still considered that additional butts are required at these ranges, in order that competitions may be carried on with greater expedition. A gratifying feature in connection with the meeting of 1874 was the presence of His Excellency the Governor General and the Countess of Dufferin at the opening proceedings, the first shot having been fired by Her Excellency. His Excellency the Gov. General again presented three medals for competition, viz.:—A gold medal which was won by Lieut. Whitman, 60th Batt. A silver medal, which was won by Sergt. Bennett, 49th Batt. A bronze medal which was won by Lieut. Balfour, late 8th Batt. A cup was presented by the Association as a first prize in the Battalion Match, in addition to the sum of \$200 in cash, which was won by the 2nd Battalion Grand Trunk Railway Brigade. The weather during the meeting was very unsettled, but the scores made were of a very good average. The same arrangements as last year, for marking in the butts, was again made this year, and ably carried out by men from A. Battery, School of Gunnery, Kingston, under the charge of Lieutenant Peters.

The President desired before the adoption of the report to make a few observations relative thereto. He called the attention of members to the necessity that existed for the association being recognized by the Government as one of the institutions of the Dominion. They had been pioneers in the matter of sending competitors to Wimbledon, and he trusted that for the future representatives would be sent there, chosen for their skill, irrespective of men or the locality to which they belonged. He thought also that some recognition should be made of the liberal way in which His Excellency the Governor General had aided the efforts of the Association.

The report was then by resolution received and adopted.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Lt.-Col. Beer moved, seconded by Lt. Col. McKinlay, that the thanks of this Association are due to His Excellency, the Governor General, for the marked interest taken in the Association in presenting a medal to the Association for competition at the annual matches, and also gold medals as prizes for the highest aggregate scores made by our marksmen at Wimbledon.—Carried.

AID TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Lt.-Col. Skinner moved, seconded by Mr. Casey, M. P., That this Association respectfully requests the Government to make a distinct recognition of the permanent character and beneficial working of the Association by including a regular annual grant in aid thereof of amongst the Militia estimates. Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Lieut.-Col. Beer gave notice of motion for next meeting to change the contributions to the Dominion Rifle Association by affiliated provincial associations, so as to make them give in accordance with their representation in the Council. He also gave notice that he would move for an increase in the number of the Council to 57, in order to give five representatives to Prince Edward Island. Four to be a quorum, and elections to be annually; one half to be elected by the affiliated associations and the remainder by the Dominion Association. Voting by proxy also to be allowed.

AMENDING RULE IV.

In accordance with a motion given last year by Lieut. Col. Beer, the following was added to rule 4th. "But such membership shall not constitute a right to take part in the proceedings at the annual meeting or in the general management of the association."

THE NEXT WIMBLEDON TEAM.

Lt.-Col. Brunel presented a resolution proposing a change in the way of selecting the next team for Wimbledon. It suggested the propriety of a series of contests in various provinces, and the bringing together at Ottawa of the best shots, and selecting the best 20 men, regardless of the Provinces from which they may come.

The consideration of this question was laid over until the election of the new Council.

THE COUNCIL FOR 1875.

The election of a new Council for the next year was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—

ONTARIO.—Lt Col Brunel, Ottawa; Capt Stephenson, M P, 24th Battalion, Chatham; Lt Col Gilmor, "Queen's Own" Battalion, Toronto; Capt J J Mason, Hamilton; Lt Col Skinner, M P, 13th Battalion, Hamilton; Lt Col Lewis, 7th Battalion, London; Lt Col Gzowski, Toronto; Major Hon. A. McKenzie, M P, Sarnia; Lt Col Buell, M P, Brockville; Lt Col Kirk, Patrick, M P, Kingston; Lt Col Ross G G Foot Guards, Ottawa; John Gordon, Esq, Toronto; Major Walker, 7th Battalion, London; Lt Col Egleson Ottawa. Major Macdonald, 59th Battalion, Ottawa.

QUEBEC.—Lt Col The Hon J G Banchet, 17th Battalion, Levis; Lt Col L R Masson, M P, Terrebonne; Lt Col F Marchand, St. John's; Lt Col A McEachern, C M G, 50th Battalion, Ormstown; Lt Col The Hon C E Panet, 9th Battalion, Quebec; Lt Col McKay, Bde. Gar. Art. Montreal, Lt Col P W Worsley, Brigade Major, G T R Bde. Montreal; Lt Col Bond, 1st Battalion, Montreal; Hon H Aylmer, M P, Richmond; A P Caron, Esq M P, Quebec; Lt Col Alleyn, 8th Battalion, Quebec; Lt Col Duchesnay, B. Major, Quebec.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Lt Col Raymond, St John; Lt Col Hon J Ferguson, Senator, Bathurst; Lt Col E B Beer, 74th Battalion, Sussex; Lt Col Domville, St John; Capt Perly St John; Capt Tilton, G G Foot Guards, Ottawa; Lt Col Lester Peters, St John.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Lt Col Wyld, Reserve, Halifax. Lt Col L De V Chipman, 68th Battalion, Kentville; Lt Col J J Bremner, 66th Battalion, Halifax; Lt Col G Cambell, 78th Battalion, Truro; Lt Col S Mitchell, Gar Art Halifax; Major Belcher, 68th Battalion, Kentville; Lt Col A G Jones, M P, Halifax.

MANITOBA.—Hon M A Girard, Winnipeg

Capt Hon Thomas Howard Winnipeg; Dr. Schultz, M P, Winnipeg; Lt Col Chamberlain, C M G Ottawa; Major Kennedy, Winnipeg.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—J S Thompson, Esq M P, Cariboo; Edgar Dawdney, Esq M P, Yale; Capt Roscoe, M P, Victoria; Hon W J Macdonald, New Westminster; W McKay Wright, Esq M P Ottawa.

THE SELECTION OF A TEAM.

Lt. Col. Brunel's resolution for a change in the way of selecting the next team brought on a long and sharp discussion, in which the mover, Capt Tilton, Captain Roscoe, Lieut Col Gilmor, Lieut Col Worsley, Major Cotton, Lieut Col Beer, Mr Casey, M P, Mr McKay Wright M P, and others took part.

The resolution was finally lost on division.

Lieut Col Worsley moved, seconded by Lieut Col Gilmor, that the selection of a team for 1876 be left to the affiliated associations, the number from each province to be in proportion to their representation in the Council, and that the names be sent into the Council at the earliest possible date.

This resolution was also voted down many thinking that although Lieut Col Brunel's proposition was impracticable for 1875, yet that something analogous to it might be possible for 1876.

Lieut Col Beer then moved, seconded by Lieut Macnactan, that the Council of the Association be recommended to arrange the annual matches for 1875 with a view to the selection of the Wimbledon team for 1876, and that a series of matches, with suitable prizes, be set apart for that purpose, to induce the good shots of the Dominion to attend, and that the Provincial associations be requested to co operate with the Dominion by giving encouragement to their riflemen to be present at such matches.

ARMS FOR WIMBLEDON TEAM.

Capt McPherson spoke at some length in condemnation of the rifles usually given to the Wimbledon team, and thought the very best weapon should be given them. He moved a resolution instructing the new Council to attend to the matter and redress the grievance complained of. The resolution was carried.

VOTE OF THANKS.

A vote of thanks was accorded Col Gilmor for his services as captain of the Wimbledon team last year. Votes of thanks were also given to donors of valuable prizes in England.

The President was then moved out of the chair and a vote of thanks accorded him for the able and efficient manner in which he presided and discharged his duties of president of the Association.

The meeting then adjourned.—Times.

BIG REDUCTION.—On and after 1st of May, 1875, tariff will be reduced to (50) fifty cents a word from Canada to the United Kingdom and France, and that the word system of charging messages will be extended to the continent of Europe. This is a large reduction, the price now charged being one dollar a word.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—Later advices from Port au Prince states that about two thirds of that city were destroyed by fire on the night of February 11th. The loss is about \$2,000,000.

ERIN MA'VURNIN.

BY NORAH.

The Montreal *Witness* lately offered a prize for the best poem on Ireland, and the following has been adjudged the prize. The author of it is Mr. A. McDougall, of Pembroke:—

I know Canada is very fair and pleasant—it is well
On the banks of its broad river 'neath the apple trees to dwell;
But the heart is ever wilful, and in sorrow or in mirth
Mine will turn, with sore love-longing, to the land that gave me birth;
And I wish that, O but once again! my longing eyes might see
The green isle that lies smiling on the bosom of the sea.
It is fed with heaven's dew and the fatness of the earth,
Fanned by wild Atlantic breezes that sweep over it in mirth;
And its green robe, starred with daisies, is so brilliant, fresh and fair,
With a verdure that no other spot of earth affords to wear.

There are banks of pale primroses that like bits of moonlight show,
There are hawthorn hedges blossomed out like drifts of perfumed snow,
Blue bells swinging on their slender stems, and cowslips on the lea,—
I was better for the lessons they in childhood taught to me.
From where Antrim's giant column at the north are piled on high,
The sentinels of centuries tow'ring up against the sky,
From mountain top and purple heath, from valleys fair to see,
Where streams of flashing crystal bright are flowing to the sea,
To Kerry's lakes of loveliness that dimple in the sun,
'Tis fair as any spot on earth that heaven's light shines on.

O Erin, my mother Erin! dear land more kind than wise,
I dream of thee till loving tears come thronging to my eyes;
Thou hast nourished on thy bosom many sons of deathless fame,
Who while the world will last shall shed a lustre on thy name.
While "Foyle's proud swelling waters roll on northward to the main,"
While yet a single ves.ige of old Limerick's walls remain,
Shall those who love thee well, fair land, lament that feuds divide
The sons of those who for each cause stood fast on either side,
From every ruined castle grey well may the ban-shee cry
O'er bitter waters once let loose that have not yet run dry.

O would the blessed time might come, when partly feeling done,
The noble deeds of both sides will be gathered into one!
On the battle-fields of Europe thy sons quit themselves like men,
'Till those who made them exiles wish for their good swords again;
Wherever fields were fought and won in thickest of the fray,
Where steel bit steel, thy sons have fought and laurels bore away.
And thou hast bards in deathless song thy heroes' praise to sing,
Or make hearts thro' responsive when for love they touch the string,
Thou hast lovely white-armed daughters, so tender and so true,
As modest as the daisies and as spotless as the dew,
With flashes of sweet merriment, and virtue still and strong,—
They fire the patriot's heart and charm the poet into song.

Thou hast nourished those right eloquent to plead with tongue and pen
For those eternal rights which men so oft deny to men,
And, land of saints, in song like mine but little can be said
Of those who stand for God between the living and the dead.
Thou'rt not without His witnesses, for children of thy soil,
In lofty and in lowly life, are found who walk with God,
Land of hearty welcome! who travels the valleys o'er,
Knows more of human kindness than he ever knew before
While some are kind to friends alone, thy sons, whate'er befall,
More like the blessed sun and rain, have kindness for all.

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The Head of Oliver Cromwell.

"Senex" writes to the London *Times* as follows:—Several imperfect statements having lately appeared on the above subject, let me explain what became of the remains of Cromwell. Partly from printed records, and partly from what I heard from Mr. Wilkinson, to whom some of the press have alluded, I learned that Oliver Cromwell died at Whitehall Palace, on the 3rd of September, 1658, after a protracted illness. He had been long suffering from ague, and his case is cited in medical books as one of a man who died of ague while our warehouses were groaning with Peruvian bark, which we did not know how to use. During this illness he became so depressed and debilitated that he would allow no barber to come near him, and his beard, instead of being cut in certain fashions grew all over his face. After his death the body lay in state at Somerset House, having been carefully embalmed, and was afterward buried with more than regal honours in Henry VII.'s Chapel in Westminster Abbey, where it lay until, after the Restoration; it was taken out of its grave, as were also the bodies of Ireton (Cromwell's son-in-law) and Bradshaw; the latter, as President of the High Court of Justice, having pronounced sentence of death, on Charles I. The three bodies were taken in carts to the Red Lion, in Holborn, and on the 30th of January, the anniversary of King Charles' death, they were removed on sledges to Tyburn, where they were hanged until sunset, and then taken down and beheaded, their bodies buried in a deep pit under the gallows, and their heads stuck upon the top of Westminster Hall, where at that time sentinels walked.

Ireton's head was in the middle, and Cromwell's and Bradshaw's on either side. Cromwell's head, being embalmed, remained exposed to the atmosphere for twenty five years, and then one stormy night it was blown down, and picked up by sentry, who, hiding it under his cloak, took it home and secreted it in the chimney corner, and, as inquiries were being constantly made about it by the Government, it was only on his death-bed that he revealed where he had hidden it. His family sold the head to one of the Cambridgeshire Russels, and, in the same box in which it still is, it descended to a certain Samuel Russell, who, being a needy and careless man, exhibited it in a place called Bare Market. There it was seen by James Cox, who then owned a famous museum. He tried in vain to buy the head from Russell for poor as he was, nothing would do but to pay him to sell it to him, but he refused. Cox resisted still with money, and eventually, to clear himself from debt, he made the head over to Cox. When Cox at last parted with his museum he sold the head of

Cromwell for £230 to three men, who bought it, about the time of the French Revolution, to exhibit in Mead court, Bond street, at half a crown a head. Curiously enough, it happened that each of these three gentlemen died a sudden death, and the head came into the possession of the three nieces of the last man who died. These young ladies, nervous at keeping it in the house, asked Mr. Wilkinson, their medical man, to take care of it for them, and they subsequently sold it to him. For the next fifteen or twenty years Mr. Wilkinson was in the habit of showing it to all the distinguished men of that day, and the head, much treasured, yet remains in the family.

The circumstantial evidence is very curious. It is the only head in history which is known to have been embalmed and afterward beheaded. On the back of the neck, near the vertebrae, is the mark of the out of an axe where the executioner, having, perhaps, no proper block, had struck too high, and, laying the head, in its soft, embalmed state on the block, flattened the nose on one side, making it adhere to the face. The hair grows promiscuously about the face, and the beard, stained to exactly the same colour, by the embalming liquor, is tucked up under the chin, with the oaken staff of the spear with which the head was stuck upon Westminster Hall, which staff is perforated by a worm that never attacks oak until it has been for years exposed to the weather.

The iron spearhead, where it protrudes above the skull, is rusted away by the action of the atmosphere. The jagged way in which the top of the skull is removed throws us back to a time when surgery was in its infancy, while the embalming is so beautifully done that the cellular process of the gums and membrane of the tongue are still to be seen. Several teeth are yet in the mouth; membrane of the eyelid remains the pia-mater and the dura-mater, thin membranes, which I believe lie over the brain, may be seen clinging to the inner and upper part of the skull. The brain was, of course, removed, but the compartments are very distinct. When the great sculptor, Flaxman, went to see it, he said at once, "You will not mind my expressing any disappointment I may feel on seeing the head?" "Oh, no!" said Mr. Wilkinson, "but will you tell me the characteristics by which the head might be recognized?" "Well," replied Flaxman, "I know a great deal about the configuration of the head of Oliver Cromwell. He had a low, broad forehead, large orbits to the eyes, a high septum to the nose, and high cheek bones; but there is one feature which will be with me a crucial test, and that is, that, instead of having the lower jaw bone somewhat curved, it was particularly short and straight, but set out at an angle, which gave him a jowlish appearance." The head exactly answered to the description, and Flaxman went away expressing himself as convinced and delighted.

The head has also a length from the forehead to the back of the head which is quite extraordinary, and one day, before Mr. Wilkinson retired from the practice, his assistant called him into the surgery to point out to him how exactly the shaven head of a lad who was there as a patient resembled the embalmed head of Cromwell up stairs, and more particularly in the extreme length between the forehead and the occiput.

Mr. Wilkinson mentioned the circumstances to the gentleman who brought the

lad to him. "No wonder," said the gentleman, "for this lad is a direct descendant of Oliver Cromwell, whose name, like this boy's was Williams before they changed it to Cromwell. It was curious that this type should reappear to remain after so many years.

When the head was in the possession of Samuel Russell he was frequently intoxicated when he showed it to his friends, and they cut off pieces of the hair, until the head was closely cropped.

A correspondent of the *Globe* of the 23th of September or thereabouts believed that the body of Cromwell after removal from the Abbey, was buried in Red Lion square, and another body substituted and sent on to Tyburn with Ireton and Bradshaw. But it is not probable they could have obtained and embalmed body for that purpose.

The embalmed head is now in the possession of Mr. Horace Wilkinson, Sevenoaks, Kent.

There is a small hole where the wirt was on his forehead, and the eyebrows met in the middle. The head has the appearance of hard, dry leather. There are other details, and there is other circumstantial evidence, and there are records printed and published at the time, but I feel I must not trespass on your valuable space any further, although it is a subject in which many of your readers may take as great an interest as I do.

Pacific Railway Survey.

The report of the Minister of Public Works just issued, contains lengthy reference to the Pacific Railway. Mr. Sandford Fleming thus refers to operations for the fiscal year ending June, 1874:—With respect to the whole survey. I have the honor here to repeat the conclusions which I set forth in my report of January last, 1. That although the information respecting the Rocky Mountain Zone is not yet sufficiently complete to establish the line to the Pacific, several routes have, however, been found on which the obstacles met with, although formidable are not insuperable. 2. That there are reasonable grounds for the belief that the explorations in progress in British Columbia will result in the discovery of a line through the Rocky Mountain region which, taking everything into consideration, will be more eligible than any yet surveyed. 3. That it is now established beyond doubt that a favourable and comparatively easy route, considering the line as a whole, has been found from Ottawa to the northerly side of Lake Superior. This result is the more satisfactory, as unfavourable impressions have been created regarding this portion of the country, many having considered it even impracticable for railway construction. 4. That it will be possible to locate the line direct from the northerly side of Lake Superior to the prairie region without unusually expensive works of construction, at the same time with remarkably light gradients in the direction of the heavy traffic. 5. That the main line from Ottawa to Manitoba can be located in such a way as to render unnecessary the construction of a branch to reach the navigable waters of Lake Superior. 6. That there will be no difficulty in finding a comparatively easy route across the prairie region; that the bridging of the large rivers, with proper

care in location, will form no large proportion of the cost of the whole extent of the railways. 7. That the lakes and rivers of the prairie region may be advantageously used in the introduction of settlers and in the construction of the railway. 8. That with respect to operating the railway in winter, the chief difficulties will be found on the western slopes of the two great mountain chains in British Columbia; but except in these localities the Canadian Pacific Railway will have, on an average, considerably less snow than existing railways have to contend with. 9. That the practicability of establishing railway communication across the continent, wholly within the limits of the Dominion, is no longer a matter of doubt. It may, indeed, be now accepted as a certainty that a route has been found generally possessing favorable engineering features, with the exception of a short section approaching the Pacific Coast, which route, taking its entire length, including the exceptional section alluded to, will, on the average, show lighter work and require less costly structures than have been necessary on many of the railways now in operation in the Dominion. Since the report of January was published, an efficient engineering staff has been organized for the purpose of continuing the surveys between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Coast, with instructions to make examinations in the following sections:—1. From the North Thompson, via River Blue, to River Clearwater, thence to Lac la Pêche and River Fraser. 2. From Tete Jaune Cache, across the mountain chain to Lake Clearwater and thence westerly. 3. From Tete Jaune Cache, down the valley of the River Fraser to Fort George. 4. From Fort George, across the Chilicotin Counties to Tatla Lake and the Homathco Pass. 5. From Yale northerly through the canyons of the Lower Fraser. 6. From Yale to Burrard Inlet. 7. From Dean and Gardner Inlets, across the Cascade Mountains, to the interior of the country. 8. From Fort George westerly, through the unexplored region, to the chain of mountains along the coast. 9. From the North River Fraser, across the Rocky Mountain chain by the Smoky River Pass. In the prairie and woodland regions the following survey work has been inaugurated:—1. The location of the railway from the waters of Lake Superior, at Thunder Bay, to Lake Shebandowan. 2. The location of the railway from Rat Portage, Lake of the Woods, to Red River. 3. A trial location from Rat Portage easterly. 4. Examinations at various points in the lake region between Lake Superior and the Lake of the Woods. 5. Exploration from River Pigeon along the coast, of Lake Superior, westerly to Nezigon Bay. 6. Explorations from River Pigeon easterly towards the eastern terminus. 7. Examinations and instrumental surveys, with a view of improving the portages between the navigable waters of Lakes Winnipeg, Manitoba and Winnipegosis and the River Saskatchewan. 8. Survey and trial location for the railway between the crossing of Red River and Fort Pelly. 9. Examination of the country between Georgian Bay, at River French, and the valley of the River Ottawa at Pembroke and Renfrew. 10. Examination of the country between the Georgian Bay, at Parry Sound, and the City of Ottawa. The several parties have been sent to the field of their operations, and the work of exploration will be pursued with vigor until the close of the season. New results can yet be announced from their examinations.

Army Reform in France.

Writing on the discussion of the military law which is still going on in the National Assembly, the Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—

"As I mentioned a short time since, the point which has excited the greatest difference of opinion from the moment when the discussion on the military scheme commenced in the committee itself, and which has been continued at the Tribune, was whether a French infantry battalion should consist of four companies or six. I stated some time ago, at the time when the committee's report was about to be distributed among the Deputies, the reasons put forward by the partisans of the division of a battalion into four companies and those adduced in support of the division into six. The truth is, that the reasons on one side are as conclusive as those on the other. On several occasions I have conversed with the most authoritative defenders of both systems, and I confess I was alternately convinced by both, for the two opinions are defended and attacked by equally convincing reasons. The Minister of War vigorously supported the system of six companies, while the Reporter of the Committee defended with equal vigor the system of four companies, the Assembly declaring in favour of the latter. There must then be grounds which militate for or against one of the two systems, and after attentively following the defence and the attack, I think the people will arrive at the following conclusion. The Minister defended six companies for four reasons;—1, Because it is the system already existing; 2, because the officials at the Ministry of War are indignant at seeing 'Perkins' presume to interfere in military organization; 3, because during the transformation necessitated by the change the reorganization of the army will be suspended; and, 4, because the change will retard the promotion of officers and augment the already considerable number of what are called 'officers *à la suite*'—namely, officers who are in possession of their rank, but who cannot be actively utilized, and who, while retaining their position as officers, are forced to wait for vacancies to enter the active *cadres*. This last inconvenience is the most serious, but it will be remedied according to the declaration of the Minister and the adhesion of the Committee, by doubling the present number of captains, by styling them first captain and second captain, the latter being something like a lieutenant captain. The Reporter of the Committee's scheme, on the other hand, defended the division into four companies:—1. Because it does not exist; 2, because it is objected to by the officials of the Ministry of War; and, 3, because it approximates to the division adopted in the German Army, which since the war of 1870 has been most looked to as the model of military organization. As for the Assembly, it has voted for four companies—first for the sake of opposing a minister, next to show the officials that the 'Perkins' understand military matters, and lastly, to back up the Committee nominated by itself, against the Minister whom it does not nominate. In to day's sitting on the other hand, it rejected the reduction of the battalions of the infantry Chasseurs against the advice of the Committee. The decision was taken—first, because the Infantry Chasseurs are a very popular branch of the army, and, secondly, because since the last war it is a very prevalent opinion that number con-

stitutes strength, and that to be sure of a victory a nation must be able to arm a considerable number of soldiers. If it were necessary to offer an opinion on this point from an impartial or purely humanitarian point of view, one would be disposed to rejoice at the decision of the Assembly, for it has evidently thereby retarded the definite organization of the French Army for a tolerably long time, and the friends of peace and humanity must be gratified at a resolution which postpones ideas of revenge which have never ceased to prevail in many minds."

Niagara in Winter.

A correspondent of the Rochester *Express* writes the following interesting letter from Niagara Falls:—

If any of your readers have any desire to see the winter scenery at Niagara Falls in all its grandeur, now is the time to visit them. The ice bridge is formed in all its perfections, more so than it has for the past twelve or fifteen years.

The ice columns rear their heads in all their majesty below the American and Horse-shoe Falls, to the height of over one hundred feet. Those at the base of the American Falls reach nearly to the top of the Falls, and are as clear as crystal. On visiting Table Rock the visitor passes between the ice columns and the Falls, and they present to the view of the beholder a magnificent spectacle.

The ice bridge above the falls extends at least a mile or more up the river, and varies in thickness from two inches to five or six feet. Lately a party of seven young gentlemen started from the head of the Third Sister Island and went up the river opposite Grass Island, which is about a mile from the starting point, and stopped at the old scow which is anchored in the river above the rapids; returning, they went under the Second Sister island bridge down to McCullough's Rock, broke some of the rock off as a memento, went over to old scow below the Third Sister Island, and returned home. The distance travelled on the ice bridge was over five miles, and this, it will be remembered, is located over a portion of the swiftest rapids approaching the cataract. It is said the district traversed has not been frozen over before in twelve or fifteen years. In some places the ice seemed frozen to the rocks, leaving but little room for the water to flow between the ice and the bed of the river.

The ice gorge below the Falls is very rugged, it is supposed to be in some places piled up to the thickness of twenty or thirty feet. One gentleman assured your correspondent that in one locality it was forty feet thick, but we took the story in with a good deal of allowance.

The bridge below the Fall is very rough, making travelling tiresome in the extreme to pedestrians, though this does not deter people from crossing and re-crossing the river up to within a stone's throw of the great cataract.

The scenery from both the park and Goat Island is magnificently grand, and is well worth a long journey to witness it. Perhaps once in a life time the splendour of this scenery may only be seen. Parties who have travelled for miles to view the Falls by winter go into ecstasies over what they behold, and claim, as we verily believe, that the sights at this season of the year greatly surpass anything ever presented to view in the summer.

As we have said before, if any of your readers desire to see the falls in all their beauty, now is the time for them to put in an appearance.

REVIEWS.

The London *Quarterly Review* (known abroad as "The Quarterly") for January has just been republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Co., 41 Barclay street, New York. The western gale, which retarded the steamers, have been the cause of the delay in its publication here.

"The Greville Memoirs" has been received with such universal favor, that we experience quite a new sensation on reading a really critical review of them. Such, however, is the one before us, which not only points out the lack of taste, not to say good feeling, that places before the public, records of private remarks and conversations, referring to people still living, but in several instances impeaches the accuracy of the facts given. The gauntlet is here boldly thrown down to the *Edinburgh Review*, which, in the October number of last year, bestowed unqualified praise on these Memoirs.

In the *Quarterly* for October, there was an article describing the "Organization of the Jesuits," the sequel to which, "The Doctrines of the Jesuits," is here given. The information concerning these doctrines is taken from the works of Father Gury, whose "Compendium of Moral Theology" has been designated in Roman Catholic Seminaries in all lands, as the manual of Moral Theology.

The "Life of the Prince Consort" is another work which is receiving high praise from all quarters. In the present notice of it, we have an account of the difficulties Mr. Martin has had to encounter, and the happy manner in which he has succeeded in overcoming them, besides an interesting summary of the Prince's character.

"The English Bar and the Inns of Court" begins with a short account of the origin of Inns of Court, where young men who form voluntary societies for the study of law establish themselves, but is chiefly devoted to a description of the system of legal education in England, and the changes in that system proposed by the present government.

"The Judicial Investigation of Truth" is a long dissertation on the serious defects of English law, with suggestions for a new and perfect code, based on the conditions that while law should be just and certain, it should work in the shortest possible time and at the smallest expense.

"Speeches of Pope Pius IX." This is a review of two volumes of speeches of the Pope, collected and published by the Rev. Don Pasquale de Francis, and being written by Gladstone, will, of course, be read with attention. It contains a brief account of the condition of Rome under the Papal and Italian Governments, of the position of the Pontiff, and the circumstances that have called for his discourses.

The number contains two more interesting essays, one on "Farrar's Life of Christ," the other on "Friendly Societies."

The *Aldine* for March (No. 15 of the current series) is at hand, quite as heavily freighted with good things as usual (which is saying much), and with some peculiarities demanding special attention. Artisti-

cally, it has many features of the first excellence. The first engraving is "The New Doll,"—admirably well done, but one of those things which seem like a waste of fine labor, until one knows that it is a portrait of the daughter of the French writer, Edmond About, by John S. Davis: knowing which, the picture assumes a marked interest. "Evening, Pigeon Cove, Mass.," by Kruseman van Elten, is a full page picture, with good feeling and execution. Two charming smaller pictures follow—"The Modern Adam and Eve," and "The Fisherman's Daughters," both telling their stories to perfection. Then we have another pair of companion pictures, "Confession," and "The Stillness of Death," both worth a world of study for their true conception and faithful execution. Then follow "Happy Hours of Childhood," scarcely equal to the High *Aldine* average; and another full page picture by Mrs. Davis "Dews of Evening," which may be set down as one of the most graceful things in drawing, and one of the most splendid successes in wood engraving, anywhere published within a long period. Three excellent views of Hereford Cathedral (west of England) conclude the art contents of the number: a list of true opulence in illustration, and one appealing to all tastes in its singular variety.

Literarily, the number is a trifle less various, but no whit less meritorious; this number, like the two preceding, proving both determination and ability to make *The Aldine* a high class magazine as well as a rich art-repository. It is especially rich in poetry—all the specimens fine, and one notably so. "Love and Skating," by F. A. Blaisdell, somewhat long, tells a seasonable story very prettily. "Imprisoned," by Mrs. Elizabeth Akers Allen, is in that writers' beat vein, but far too sad for any pleasant reading. "Sorrowful Work," by Kenton Murray, is of the Bret Harte and John Hay order, and worthy of those masters. But the gem of the number, poetically, is "A Spur to Paganus," by Bertha Wylie, a name new to the literary world, but scarcely destined to remain so, this being taken as a test of power. It reads like an emanation from George Herbert or some other sweet English classic, and yet is instinct with the spirit of to-day. For its noble philosophy of heroism, it should go round the world. In prose, *The Aldine* has a somewhat long but very well managed translation,—"The Flute Tortures of Raphael Mengs," by A. B. Neilson; "Harry's Waif," a second story from the fresh and playful pen; with a dash of sadness beneath, of that new Norse writer, Einna Sjierne Jarlsen, which gave us the "Second Lorlei" in the January number; "David Garrick," an interesting but discursive and badly grouped sketch of the great player, by Joseph Watson; an exciting continuation of the serial, "Lost Lillian Bracy," which apparently draws near to its end; papers (in the various editorial departments) on Hereford Cathedral, the Wagner Fever, Wood Engraving, Late Books, etc.

We have an intimation that with the coming number, *The Aldine* intends to step to the front in the interests of the Centennial by commencing the publication of a revolutionary story of rare power and with many startling revelations, claiming to have been kept back for the past forty years, after coming from the lips of the actors in that wondrous drama,—as also by supplying illustrations of the great events of the conflict in the first style of *Aldine* art.

Garibaldi's Latest Scheme.

The correspondent of the London Times in Rome writes as follows concerning the work in which Garibaldi is at present chiefly interested: "Garibaldi's scheme consists of a 'sistemazione,' as they call it, or rectification of the course of the Tiber, to be effected by means of a canal about thirty kilometers in length and one hundred metres wide in emulation of the Suez Canal, from some spot above Rome, at Ponte Mollé, to the port of Fiumicino, Ostia. By this canal which should be navigable, the city would become to all practical effect a seaport; the level of the country along its banks would be raised by the earth dug out of the bed of the canal; the land would be thoroughly drained and laid out for cultivation, and colonized by an agricultural, and seafaring population. To meet the first expense attendant upon such an enterprise Garibaldi propose to devote to it the sum of 20,000,000 lire (about \$500,000), which the Minister of War Ricotti, wished to employ in works of fortification round the capital; and there is no doubt that Garibaldi's motion to that effect would be sure of the support of a large party in the Chamber of Deputies, both of the Right and Left; as, on the one hand, the Minister's scheme of an intrenched camp near Rome has met with little favour, and on the other hand, it is felt that the regulating and embanking of the Tiber is a question of pressing interest, and has been too long and too deplorably neglected and postponed by the Government and by the commission appointed to enquire into it. But besides any favourable vote that his name and his energy may secure in the Italian Parliament, Garibaldi relies on the assendency his character and his service may exercise on the whole nation, and especially on the wealthy people of the capital. With that view, it seems, Garibaldi has addressed himself by letter to Prince Torlonia, congratulating him on the success of his great work of Lake Fucino, and expressing a hope to have him as an auxiliary in his scheme of a canal of the Tiber, especially as the Prince has already before him the surveys of a railway between Rome and Riumiello, an undertaking which could easily be made to proceed hand in hand with Garibaldi's own projected achievement."

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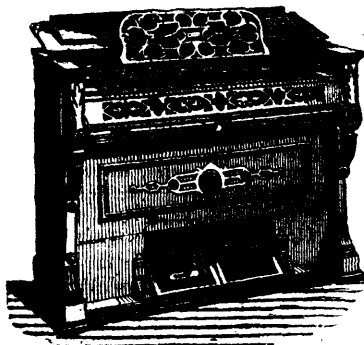
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