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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. V.

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No. 19.

### VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. IX.

#### THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

(From the United States Army and Navy Journal.)

#### CAMP DISEASES—WINTER CAMPS.

In stationary camps and barracks the plague of soldiers is chronic dysentery. Especially among green troops from comfortable homes this pest rages with violence. Campaigning generally cures it. In this matter the doctor is powerless. All the efforts of medical science fail to cure chronic dysentery when it has once taken hold among new troops. Medicine is useless. Change of scene and diet will effect a cure in a week, but no doctor can help the sufferers. I may be able, however, to throw some light on this subject from my own experience. On two occasions before going into active service I was attacked with this distressing and prostrating malady. The first time it was owing simply to constant wet feet, mounting guard in wet weather, and doing all sorts of open-air duty with dilapidated boots. A new pair, purchased, for at the time we could draw none, cured this. The second time, at Perryville, Maryland, I suffered, in common with the regiment, on account of bad water. The spread of the disease was marvellous. On this occasion it was a matter of observation to me, quite unfeeling, that there was but one class of men in camp unaffected by dysentery, namely, the "old bummers," or men addicted to strong drink, openly and secretly. Whatever else ailed them, dysentery or diarrhoea never did. Acting on this hint, I determined to test it by experiment in my own person. When the regiment moved to Washington I slipped out of camp, running the guard, and deliberately went to work to get drunk, with some others. The effect was magical. Three days' pretty free drinking seemed to effect a complete change in my constitution, and I never suffered from dysentery afterwards. This is the only case in which I can conscientiously recommend the use of spirits in the army. On every other occasion, without exception, I never saw it do anything but unmitigated harm. It transforms many a good man at other times into a fiend; and as for officers, I feel no hesitation in saying that nine-tenths of the disasters in our civil war were owing to drunkenness among officers.

In the management of winter camps our army in the field had no reason to fear comparison with any European army. In our second year's winter quarters on the upper Rappahannock and Rapidan, the majority of our regiments lived in a state of comfort unequalled in European services. But inasmuch as the experience of the past is useless in future, unless the officers happen to be men who engaged therein, and as the probable composition of our future cavalry will be as mixed as in the first years of the civil war, a few words may not be amiss.

In our densely wooded countries, the easiest and best way to make comfortable winter quarters is to erect log huts, roofing them with pieces of shelter tent. The walls are chinked with clay, the chimneys thickly plastered inside with the same material, and the camp is finished. Inasmuch as our winters are fearfully muddy, the streets should be corduroyed in all cases, which renders a camp much pleasanter. If there are plenty of young pines and spruce about, a camp can be made exceedingly pretty and picturesque with rustic work of all kinds. Our infantry regiments frequently decorated their winter camps with wonderful taste in this manner, making rustic bridges over every ditch, and running neat fences around the camp.

But cavalry soldiers have little time for this. The great requisite for a winter camp and one that cannot be too strongly insisted on and pointed out, is a good stable. In winter camps it is often too much the custom to house the men first and let the horses go uncared for. The exact reverse ought to be the case. The first care of a cavalry colonel on going into his winter quarters ought to be to see to his stables being put up and corduroyed. The men can make themselves comfortable in one night by pitching tents as in the summer, ditching carefully and corduroying their tent floors. A single day suffices for this. But every hour a cavalry horse stands in the mud, which is inseparable from winter stables, he deteriorates. The second day ought to be occupied in all cases with hauling logs to floor the stables. If the weather is fine, do it the first. The men will make themselves comfortable in any event. The poor horses cannot help themselves.

The stables should be floored the first thing, and a ditch at least three feet deep dug round it.

Dry quarters will save your horses from the scratches. In the spring they will be fat and in good condition, and able to stand a march. After flooring and draining the stables, which can be done in one or two

days if the work is systematized and not left to the men, a roof should be put up, of straw if it can be got—if not, of brush, with a steep slope. It may not be quite watertight, but it is better than the open air. A screen of brush should be put up to the northwest to secure the horses from that cutting wind, and the stable is complete. After this you need only tell the men to make themselves comfortable, and you may be sure they will do it in short order. But if you let them put up their own quarters first, it is ten chances to one that the poor horses will have to stand out all the winter.

In our thickly wooded country there is positively no excuse whatever for a cavalry colonel letting his horses stand out in the winter. The difference between one who does and one who does not is best illustrated by an incident within my own knowledge. In the winter of 1864-65, the brigade of Gen. Devin, to which I was attached, was quartered at Lovettsville near Harper's Ferry, Virginia. One of the regiments, the First New York Dragoons, was commanded by a first-class cavalry officer. Another, the Sixth New York Cavalry, possessed for its commander a recently promoted and very youthful lieutenant-colonel, as brave as a lion, but ignorant of horse flesh beyond riding decently. The dragoon officer in one week from his arrival had stables, with good straw roofs overhead, for all his horses. The other built good quarters for his men, and left his horses almost unsheltered, entirely uncovered.

The two regiments were about equal in strength. In the ensuing mud campaign the dragoon horses suffered little or nothing; the Sixth New York horses went to the devil. At the battle of Five Forks, in April, the Sixth New York Cavalry could only muster forty-five mounted men for action. The New York Dragoons in the same action brought up one hundred and sixty-seven horses, exclusive of officers' chargers. Volunteers could not be more instructive on the point in question.

Winter quarters shall be looked upon as the preparation places for next spring's campaign. The horses must be nursed and fattened up, the men kept at drill to preserve their efficiency. Battalion drills once in two days, individual instruction in fencing, and pistol shooting on the alternate days, are the best. The change keeps the men in good humor; too much battalion drill disgusts them.

In pistol-shooting, two shots a day, at a target, under the instructor's eye, are better than the whole six on one day in volley-firing. Volley-firing ought to be practised only in action, and the exactitude of its

timing is a mere matter of parade, useless in action. It may do for play soldiers to amuse their admirers with. In a campaign correct shooting beats volleys out of sight, except at very close quarters.

The horses should not be drilled more than once a week. They learn their duty much quicker than the men. In the spring-time, after good dry winter quarters, every regiment ought to turn out fat, strong horses, and excellent swordsmen and pistol shots on their backs.

If every general were impressed with the idea, "In winter quarters prepare for spring," his camps would be got into order much more rapidly. That is the best time to bring in recruits. One month in winter quarters among soldiers who have seen campaigns is worth a year's drilling in barracks for a recruit; and a single campaign will have taught a green cavalry corps the necessity for drill. If the men are thoroughly impressed with this the officers will have no trouble. If not, all the martinetry in the world only disgusts them and breeds mutiny.

(To be continued.)

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

March 29th.—Lord Strathmairn in council called attention to the defective education of officers in the army, especially in respect of strategy. He said: The interests of the country are so intimately concerned in the unfortunate state of affairs on the Continent, and the country relies so much for the protection of its rights and position on the efficiency of the Army in the art of war, that I consider it my duty to bring to your lordships notice, with the view to their amendment, serious deficiencies in our military training and education, and especially in its first requisite—strategy. And yet it is strategy, my lords, which in the last few months has made Prussia mistress of the destinies of France, as 65 years ago it placed Prussia and her independence at the mercy of France; and we ourselves have had warnings to which we ought not to turn a deaf ear; protracted and not always successful operations in our colonies against uncivilized insurgents, reverses which checkered brilliant successes in the Crimea, and threw a shade over our imperishable recollections of the Peninsula and Flanders, and an Empire all but lost in India. Before going further I will explain the nature of the deficiencies in our training for war. They arise from our Regulation Book of Instruction which teaches the mechanism of movements but not their strategical object or adaptation to the varied features of ground for troops; they therefore are taught peace, not service, movements; they move, but do not manoeuvre. I am fully alive to the importance of skillfully executed movements: the best devised plans of strategy have often been spoilt by faulty movements. The mistake is to teach movements, but to omit their object. They should be inseparable. In the examination of officers for promotion the same error is committed. Since I held the command of a Bombay division, in 1857 to the end of my command in Ireland, I have never ceased, in reports to my superiors, and instruction to those under my command, to correct this misprision of the first element of an army's education. I stated this also fully, and other shortcomings, to the commission on Military Education, as well as their remedy, and I am glad to see in a new Book of Instruction of October last that some of them have been adopted; but these improvements are few and partial, and

they omit the great desideratum in the instruction of young officers and soldiers of combining drill from its first stages with reason and object; so that the mind once directed in the right way, an ordinary capacity may gradually become a good service officer, and a genius may wing its flight to elevations now, unfortunately, tenanted by Count Moltke and his strategical Staff. All those simple and important manoeuvres which figured in the late Prussian successes are also omitted in the new book. The last of my thoughts in bringing this motion before your lordships is to make the smallest pretension to superior capacity, but I do so under the sense of duty, which tells me that if a British Army be obliged to take the field it should do so second to none in fitness for war. I lay claim to some experience in two matters which lie at the roots of this question—strategy and the state of instruction in the Army. As regards the latter, it has fallen to my lot to command nearly every battery and regiment in Her Majesty's service. I conduct my inspections in a manner which makes my Staff and myself perfectly acquainted with the instruction of officers and men. The remarks, favourable or otherwise, are sent to commanding officers, and copies of them kept as records in the Adjutant General's office. As regards strategy, peculiar circumstances made me acquainted with it from my earliest days. My father was Her Majesty's Envoy at Berlin, where I had a military education, of which strategy was the chief element. In those days Prussia was in the full tide of noble and patriotic efforts to retrieve the disasters which a mistaken art of war had entailed on her, and the wrongs which it had done in 1806 to her gallant army and a resolute people. It is a singular coincidence that mistaken training should, but in a more aggravated form, have been the same error as our own at present—peace but not service, movements. The map and the tactics of Frederick the Great had been replaced by the plummet and paces stick. But in my days there was a reaction, and everything in Prussia was strategy. The atmosphere was strategical, and I imbibed some of its influences. In the Crimea I witnessed the results of good or mistaken strategy; and in India, if I had not been assisted by troops of whom Lord Canning and Elphinstone said, in telegrams and General Orders, "that they had marched from Bombay to the Jumna and Gawlior, from success to success, without a check, under hardships heroically borne, although seldom endured in India," and if I had not invariably had recourse to strategical precautions and manoeuvres, I could not have overcome the difficulties of overwhelming numbers which cut off my base as I advanced, of an unknown country, and a line of operations some 700 or 800 miles long, defended by forts. In 15 actions and sieges I was obliged to reconnoitre night and day, to use turning movements feints to cover a real attack, concentration of fire on a weak or given point and so forth none of which are in our old or new book. The result of my twofold experience has taught me that, as regards officers and men, the English Army is without equal they are a rare combination of ardour when it is required, and of steadfastness when it is necessary; but in consequence of the want of strategical education, they are so deficient in strategical knowledge that if unfortunately, we were involved in war, the odds would be in dangerous proportion against them in the field. I of course except officers of superior talents, with strategical instincts, and who have had other means of instruction. Nor would it be

fair to place the responsibility of our system on present proper names or Governments. It dates from our forefathers, and in fact it has its origin in our insular position, habits and distaste for preparations for Continental wars. I beg your lordships indulgence while I adduce a few illustrations of the want of strategical education of a simple description from the first to the last pages of the book. In consequence of no object being assigned, the young officer or recruit is not acquainted with the reason of the numerous points and parries in the bayonet exercise, nor does he learn that a part of it makes him more than a match for cavalry. He is equally untaught as to the advantage of early or the danger of delayed fire. As regards evolutions of a regiment, when I ask an officer the object of a change of front, as a rule he assigns any but a service one, and I have to explain to him that the service object is to oppose an attack on his weakest point, his flank, or *vice versa*. He is equally uninformed as to firing which should cover the movement, and I show him that early and successive fire from the company of formation will check the enemy and cover the formation, while delayed fire may cause its destruction. A first rate artillery officer of long standing performed a diagonal change of front on the two centre guns of his brigade, but delayed his fire till the flank guns were in the new alignment. I told him the mechanism of the movement was perfect, but that I could not say as much of its strategy; that, if he had opened fire from his guns of formation he might have killed a general, or thrown his assailant into confusion, as well as covered his defenceless guns, throwing up and retiring into the new alignment. And, my lords, when we hear of batteries captured and formations cut up by cavalry, it is only too often caused by delayed fire. And yet this single instruction and these words "early and delayed fire," are not in the book. On another occasion, for the sake of practice I requested an officer of forty years standing, commanding a regiment during the Fenian period in Ireland, when constant depositions and intercepted letters showed intentions to attack barracks, blow up their garrisons, and burn them with Greek fire, to defend his barracks against an attack by the road. Two loopholed defences, with banquette, gave a cross fire on the road. The officer threw his battalion into order; the skirmishers with their face against a wall, 20ft high, with no means of defence, but did not place a man in the loopholed defences. As regards field-days, and movements of large bodies in India or in Ireland. The general officer stationed at the Curragh informed me that he had never heard of a second line, and yet an order of battle for attack or defence without a second line is forbidden by every principle of war. It invites a disaster. The field-days were characterized by constant changes of front a too large an angle against a supposed enemy, so constant that no power of locomotion could have enabled an enemy to change to such distant positions. Flanks were exposed, and as there was no combination between the three arms, collisions and firing into each other ensued. All arms, individually and collectively, frequently took up position on the top of a height or rising ground, which exposed them. Instead of in the rear of it, which would have covered them. And if in former days defeat often, and loss of life always followed on neglect of cover, or of turning movements, use of ground is now indispensable in these days of improved arms. In England I have seen field-days in which the same defects occurred, and we all read in the newspapers an account of a re-

markable field-day at Wimbledon-common last year, written by a noble lord commanding a brigade, whose better judgment appears to have been overruled, of which I will say no more than that it was not a representation, but a ridicule, of the realities of war. And that too, at a time when on account of events in Europe a display of such military inefficiency was to be regretted. It is apposite to observe here that the instruction of the Militia and Volunteers is the same as that of the Army. I now beg to adduce a few service examples of the unfavourable results of mistaken military education in the Crimea and India. As regards the Crimea, I do not wish to ring the changes on Balaklava. I will merely observe that although nothing could be greater than the devoted gallantry of the troops, yet that the charge with a brigade of cavalry, with the Fedurhino Heights with artillery and rifle men on their left line, and a masked battery to their right front, and a large force of all arms in front, was a thing never heard of before, and could only end in loss of most valuable life. Then, on account of neglect, ground and other rules for outposts, pickets and guards of trenches were only too often surprised and driven in. But in justice to a noble Earl I am happy to say that I was told by a very competent authority that he always erinced both zeal and ability, with the best results, in placing his outposts and sentries. Inkermann, though a great victory, was a surprise, which rendered a retirement necessary in the first instance and caused loss of life. In October, 1855—the day of the general and final attack on Sebastopol—Marshal Pothier sent me to tell the English Commander-in-Chief that the French had taken the Malakhoff, and to request the British to take the Redan. General Simpson requested me to tell the French Commander-in-Chief that his troops had been unable to take it. Now, my lords, the cause of this failure was an attack in one line without a second line in support. As regards India, the sieges of Delhi and Lucknow, two main operations of the insurgents, were both caused by misprison of strategy. If the commanders at military stations had by simple strategical arrangements prevented mutinous garrisons from leaving their stations, they would not have formed a nucleus at Delhi. The Siege of Lucknow was ushered in by the defeat of its garrison at the strong village of Chwluht, one march from Lucknow, where they went to attack a large force of mutinous regiments. In disregard of strategical foresight, the left flank of the English troops was posted on the village, which was neither occupied nor watched. Fatal volleys at close range into the English lost were the first intimation of the dangerous flank attack. It was followed by a retreat to Lucknow, with a loss of artillery, and the arrival of the enemy before the city as besiegers. An advance in light infantry order against a fort held by a few mutineers, without reconnoitering or a turning movement, was the cause of the check of one of the finest brigades of all arms that ever took the field in India, with a large loss, including that of a general officer of the highest promise. I now beg, my lords, to close my statement of deficiencies in our education and training for war, its causes and results. I regret the necessity which has compelled me to notice military failings, but I should have been guilty not only of false and culpable delicacy, but of the greatest dereliction of duty of which an officer can be capable if I had silenced convictions which told me British troops had already sustained reverses in consequence of mistaken training, and that for the same reason

they would certainly encounter fresh, perhaps irretrievable, disasters were they to take the field against an army perfected in the art of war. More especially when in the last few months we have witnessed one of the best and most successful armies in the world fall in collapse, not from any want of their proved gallantry, of which I have on so many occasions been witness, but from a neglected art of war. I think that when vast and cardinal changes are announced which point to a great evil, although that evil is not known by bad results, it may be an advantage to the Government and Parliament that they have now before them a plain statement of facts, proving the existence of our military shortcomings; and I venture to think that when your lordships have heard the simple remedies which I suggested to the Commission on Military Education, you will agree that they are as simple as the evil is palpable. I venture to think that another advantage of my statement is that it removes the impression which exists in some quarters that the blame of reverses I have alluded to attach to officers. The statement places the saddle on the right horse. A faulty education is alone to blame. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord concluded by moving that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty for returns of the number and statements of service of garrison instructors, and copies of instructions given to them for the execution of their duties by the Secretary of State for War, as well as copies of any instructions given by him, or of communications made by the Royal Commission on the military education of officers of Her Majesty's Army, consequent on the Commissioners' report on that subject.

THE WIMBLEDON TEAM.

COMPETITION AMONG THE MARKSMEN.

The following are the scores made at the competition for selecting a team of marksmen, Ontario at the Wimbledon Rifle Tournament.

THE KINGSTON COMPETITION.

The complete results of the trial at this place have not come to hand. The result so far is as follows: At 400, 500, and 600 yards for the morning, and 500 and 600 yards for afternoon:

THE MORNING SHOOTING.

|                                  | 200  | 500  | 600       |
|----------------------------------|------|------|-----------|
|                                  | yds. | yds. | yds. T.Y. |
| Sergt. Lawrie, 45th Batt....     | 20   | 8    | 18-16     |
| Ssgt. J. Hunter, G.T.R. Batt.... | 17   | 18   | 19-18     |
| Pl. Harries, do                  | 10   | 22   | 25-01     |
| Corp. J. Wilson, do              | 13   | 12   | 20-15     |
| Pl. O'Neil, do                   | 11   | 17   | 0-21      |
| Pl. Wm. Rogers, 4th Batt....     | 12   | 7    | 11-00     |
| Capt. Werner                     | 20   | 21   | 17-05     |
| Pl. Thos. Johnson                | 16   | 10   | 13-45     |
| Sergt. H. G. Kincaid             | 21   | 18   | 18-00     |
| Pl. Hunt                         | 16   | 16   | 15-01     |
| Sergt. M. Donnelly               | 18   | 12   | 12-12     |

AFTERNOON SHOOTING.

|                   | 500  | 600       |
|-------------------|------|-----------|
|                   | yds. | yds. T.Y. |
| Sergt. Lawrie     | 19   | 11-30     |
| Sergt. J. Hunter  | 20   | 15-35     |
| Pl. Harries       | 23   | 19-42     |
| Corp. J. Wilson   | 22   | 15-37     |
| Pl. O'Neil        | 11   | 11-25     |
| Pl. W. Rogers     | 11   | 9-21      |
| Capt. Werner      | 15   | 10-25     |
| Pl. Thos. Johnson | 14   | 14-23     |
| Sergt. Kincaid    | 21   | 11-37     |
| Pl. Hunt          | 21   | 25-17     |
| Sergt. Donnelly   | 23   | 21-41     |

THE OTTAWA COMPETITION.

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Capt. Cotton     | 206 |
| Capt. Bell       | 196 |
| Ensign McEwan    | 175 |
| Sergt. Harris    | 218 |
| Gunner Russell   | 201 |
| Lieut. Patrick   | 203 |
| Sergt. Wilkinson | 205 |
| Lieut. Walker    | 261 |

THE TORONTO COMPETITION.

| Rank and Name.           | 200 yds. | 500 yds. | 600 yds. | Total. | Total of the 4 practices. |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|---------------------------|
| Sergt. McMullen, 10th    | 18       | 20       | 20       | 58     |                           |
| Private Jennings, 10th   | 10       | 15       | 18       | 43     | 215                       |
| Private Crookall, 10th   | 12       | 16       | 15       | 43     | 240                       |
| Ensign Burch, Q.O.R.     | 19       | 21       | 23       | 63     | 235                       |
| Sergt. R. Durand, 13th   | 20       | 21       | 22       | 63     | 224                       |
| Private Sheppard, 13th   | 20       | 21       | 22       | 63     | 233                       |
| Sergt. Ryan, 13th        | 18       | 18       | 17       | 53     | 230                       |
| Sergt. Bailey, 13th      | 18       | 15       | 20       | 53     | 231                       |
| Corp. Sacke, Q.O.R.      | 19       | 23       | 23       | 65     | 220                       |
| Ensign Dillon, 34th      | 23       | 24       | 11       | 58     | 227                       |
| Corp. Gibson, T. G. B.   | 21       | 25       | 15       | 61     | 220                       |
| Corp. Thompson, T. G. B. | 21       | 19       | 13       | 53     | 222                       |
| Corp. Le De, T. G. B.    | 20       | 16       | 13       | 49     | 217                       |
| Corp. Stevenson, 24th    | 18       | 22       | 13       | 53     | 213                       |
| Corp. G. Durand, 20th    | 19       | 22       | 4        | 47     | 211                       |
| Lieut. Little, 13th      | 20       | 17       | 13       | 50     | 211                       |
| Lieut. Marston, 13th     | 16       | 18       | 15       | 49     | 207                       |
| Lieut. Macdonald 13th    | 23       | 20       | 13       | 56     | 208                       |
| Private Thom, 13th       | 19       | 16       | 16       | 51     | 196                       |
| Lieut. Richards, 13th    | 20       | 17       | 12       | 49     | 190                       |
| Lieut. Mason, 15th       | 22       | 13       | 15       | 50     | 197                       |
| Corp. White, 13th        | 20       | 16       | 9        | 45     | 197                       |
| Private Adams, 13th      | 11       | 12       | 13       | 36     | 190                       |

THE COMPETITION AT LONDON.

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Private Oronhyateka, 40th Batt | 221 |
| Ensign Wastie, 7th do          | 220 |
| S. M. Huscott, 7th do          | 213 |
| Sergt. Dixon, 34th do          | 201 |
| Lieut. Chibner, 22nd do        | 198 |
| Sergt. Ludster, 24th do        | 191 |
| Sergt. Daizell, 27th do        | 194 |
| Sergt. Hall, 27th do           | 191 |
| Capt. McCleughan, 22nd do      | 190 |
| Private Jackson, 7th do        | 187 |
| Sergt. Elliott, 7th do         | 185 |
| Sergt. Backner, 22nd do        | 181 |
| Sergt. Cockburn, 34th do       | 182 |
| Ensign Lamb, 7th do            | 178 |
| Lieut. McKenzie, 7th do        | 161 |
| Sergt. Lucas, 24th do          | 160 |
| Sergt. Ticknor, 27th do        | 153 |

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF  
THE MILITIA FOR 1870.

[CONTINUED.]

*The Honorable Sir George E. Cartier, Bart.,  
Minister of Militia &c., &c.*

In connection with the subject of military schools, I would respectfully point out, that while these schools furnish a ready means for enabling officers to learn drill, and to undertake the duties of commanding companies and battalions, and are of great advantage, yet no military school or staff college has been established for the training of Canadian staff officers intended to fill positions on the staff, and if required to command considerable bodies of troops in the field. Indeed it may be considered, that this at present is the weakest point in the organization of the defensive forces of the Dominion.

The men composing the Active Militia are an admirable body physically, and altho' as yet from the too limited period of time allowed for annual drill, very insufficiently practised in rifle shooting, they are, generally speaking, well enough acquainted with company and battalion drill, to enter into a campaign at once, for in those days when fighting from behind cover, and intrenchment, is so much in use, manœuvring in the open field, when in presence of an enemy, and under fire, is avoided as much as possible. The company and battalion officers have also, generally, speaking, a fair knowledge of drill, and very many of them, as well as some commanders of battalions have attained to great proficiency; but for the training of officers to the higher duties of the staff, no means have as yet been supplied. Under these circumstances, therefore, in view, moreover of the dimensions which the Dominion has now attained, and its increasing importance and position in the world, I would respectfully represent that the time has arrived for the establishment in the Dominion, on a small scale, of a Military Academy somewhat similar in organization to the Staff College in England. It should always be borne in mind that an efficient staff is the most important element in a military body, and that the appointment of unqualified and untrained persons to the staff of an army is fatal to its efficiency or success, and it being recommended in this report, that the five years' tenure of office system, for appointments to the staff, should be brought into operation in future, and that none but qualified officers who have undergone a special examination, should hereafter be appointed to the staff, the propriety of establishing a Staff College to afford the means for qualification, and supply this great want in the military system of the country, is respectfully submitted for the serious consideration of the Government; no great difficulty need arise in effecting this object, and I would recommend that encouragement be given to some intelligent and zealous officers already in the force, to qualify for instruction in the higher branches of military science, with a view ultimately of becoming instructors in a Canadian Staff College. In order to effect this important object, it is submitted that arrangements might be entered into with the Imperial Government for the admission for this purpose, of a certain number of Canadian officers into the Staff College in England; with a view of entering more into the detail of this important subject, I shall have the honour hereafter to submit a special report on the same for the consideration of Government.

## STAFF.

The staff consists of the Adjutant General (who is appointed to the military command of the whole of the Militia of the Dominion,) the Deputy Adjutant-General at headquarters, nine Deputy Adjutant Generals, each of whom is appointed to the command of a military district, and twenty three brigade majors, there being that number of brigades now in the Dominion; and when the extent of the country and strength of the force (the active portion of which alone now numbers forty-four thousand four hundred and fifteen) is considered, it will, I think, be admitted that the above is the least possible staff, through whose instrumentality so considerable an army can be worked.

Certain anomalies, however, exist in respect to the constitution of the staff, which, however, can easily be remedied; for instance, the designation of Adjutant-General, as applied to an officer appointed to the command of an army, is a misnomer, and that of Deputy Adjutant-General equally so to an officer appointed to a minor command, such as that of a military district. An Adjutant General is a staff-officer, appointed to assist a general officer in command of an army, in carrying out the numerous details connected with its drill, discipline, military command and disposition; in like manner, Deputy Adjutants-General are staff officers appointed to assist general officers holding garrison commands, but these staff officers do not themselves hold any command. The officer who fills the post of Adjutant-General of Militia, practically discharges the duties of a general officer commanding an army, holding, by the Dominion Militia Act of Parliament, the military command of a force, which, in constitution, is very similar to a regular army. All the officers being commissioned by Her Majesty, and the non-commissioned officers and men being regularly enrolled and sworn in for a stated period of service; some portion of the force, moreover, being now always on actual duty, and for a short period in every year the whole body.

Considering, therefore, the changed military position of the country, consequent upon the withdrawal of the greater portion of the regular troops, the numerical strength of the Dominion Army, the necessity moreover which has now arisen for its occupying a more prominent position, having to undertake almost entirely military charge of the country in ordinary times, and in all probability in the event of future war a much larger share in its defence, than in past times, and on the principal, moreover, of designating official positions by their proper names, I would beg to submit for consideration, that the time has now arrived to alter the designation of the officer appointed to the military command of the Militia of the Dominion, in accordance with his actual military position and duties, and would, therefore, recommend that he be commissioned as Major-General commanding the Militia, and styled as such; also, that the Deputy Adjutant General at headquarters be commissioned as Colonel, and designated Adjutant-General, that the Deputy Adjutants-General in command of districts be commissioned as Colonels on the Staff; and that the necessary amendments in the Militia Act to enable the same to be carried out be introduced.

I beg to point out that certain inconveniences have arisen in consequence of the Deputy Adjutants-General commanding districts, holding no higher rank than that of Lieutenant-Colonel, a rank also held by

many under their command. In one instance, it has recently occurred that a Lieutenant-Colonel commanding a battalion was senior by date of commission to the staff officer actually at the time in command of the district, and as it is a military rule, universally observed, that the officer appointed to the command of a brigade or district, should hold a higher commission than one commanding a battalion, considering also the numerical strength of the militia in each district and the brigade organization, the propriety of now giving to officers in command of districts a higher commission than that of Lieutenant-Colonel is apparent. By the above alteration (without any increase to the Staff,) many advantages would result, due order and military subordination would be better defined and preserved, the already high military tone and character of what may now be well termed "the Army of Canada," would be greatly increased, be more in keeping also with its organization, numerical strength, responsibilities, and the important position in the world now being taken up by the Dominion itself.

Whenever the Dominion of Canada, has as in recent times, been threatened with invasion, or actually invaded, the practice observed has been to transfer the Command-in-Chief of the Militia, to the General Officer in command of the Imperial troops. The Dominion Government passing an "Order in Council" to this effect, in accordance with clause 61, paragraph 3, of the Dominion Militia Act, which directs that this may be done under such circumstances, and this is provided for very properly, in order to insure unity in the chief command of both armies (Imperial and Canadian,) when in the field—but under such circumstances, it does not follow that the Chief Officer of the Militia loses his command, on the contrary, following military rule, he would continue to perform his duties as the Commander of the Militia, but acting under the orders of the Imperial General Commander-in-Chief.

The Militia of the Dominion is a separate and distinct Army, paid and maintained by the people of the Dominion (the officers of which are commissioned in the Queen's name,) being intended for the defence of Her Majesty's great Canadian Dominion, and this army would be found numerically a "tower of strength" in defence of the country, acting in co-operation with Her Majesty's Regular troops; but it could only be worked satisfactorily in the Field, as an auxiliary one, under the command of its own officers.

The system hitherto followed in regard to staff appointments in the Militia (namely, making such appointments permanent,) is one which military experience has proved to be very objectionable, and as no consideration should be allowed to stand in the way of keeping the staff of an army as effective as possible (which is best done by creating promotion, periodical changes of individuals, and filling up all staff appointments by those officers best qualified and most deserving,) I would strongly recommend that the system observed in the regular army in regard to staff appointments be now adopted for the Militia of the Dominion, viz: That all staff officers of Militia should hold their respective appointments for five years only, and not be eligible to reappointment in the same office.

I would further recommend that the five years' tenure of office, as applicable to the present staff officers, should date from 1st January, 1871, and that in future all officers previous to appointment on the staff of the Militia should qualify for such, and pass a

special examination to ascertain their fitness for staff employ.

By such means, not only would greater regard to efficiency, be attended to, and increased encouragement given to the officers of Militia generally, but a larger number of them would thus become available and qualified for staff duties. Should any emergency arise necessitating the embodiment for the defence of the country of a large force; the advantages of a five years tenure of office system, being the holding out of a great incentive for zealous officers to qualify and become efficient, whilst opportunity is afforded for getting rid of incompetent ones.

CAVALRY AND MOUNTED RIFLEMEN.

This portion of the force numbers 1666, and is as effective as circumstances and the very limited period of time allowed for drill will admit. The value of this arm for frontier service is very great, and no brigade when mobilized for field service can be considered complete that has not some cavalry or mounted riflemen attached to it. Against such raids as Canada has of late years been exposed to, this description of force is most useful. By establishing pickets and patrols along the immediate frontier whenever a raid is expected, timely notice and accurate information of an enemy's approach may be obtained, horses and means of transport more easily removed into the country and prevented from falling into an enemy's hands, thus delaying and throwing obstacles in the way of his advance, and when attached to the field brigade this description of force serves best to cover its front, flanks and rear—feels for, and ascertains the whereabouts of an enemy, acting as scouts. Indeed, an officer in command of a field brigade, which is without some cavalry, or mounted riflemen attached, is very helpless.

At present several brigades are without any mounted corps attached. I would therefore recommend the formation of seven additional troops of mounted riflemen, viz: one troop in the Second Brigade Division, Military District No. 1; one troop in the Fourth Brigade Division, Military District No. 2; two troops in Military District No. 4; two troops in Military District No. 5, and one in Military District No. 6. And this can be effected without any increase to the force by forming the troops of mounted riflemen out of different companies of infantry desirous of the change, and very little additional expense incurred beyond the issue of the necessary saddlery.

As cavalry and mounted riflemen cannot so readily be organized as infantry, requiring, if to be made efficient, a long period of time for drill, I would recommend that thirty two (32) days annually be allowed as the period of drill for all troops of cavalry and mounted riflemen, sixteen days of which to be passed in the annual camps of instruction along with the respective brigades to which they belong, the other sixteen days drill to be performed regimentally at the respective headquarters of corps at such time as might be most convenient for the men; and that the necessary money appropriation to enable this to be carried out be granted by Parliament. To afford proper means for the drill and training of mounted corps at and in the vicinity of London, Toronto, Kingston, and Montreal, I would recommend the acquisition or construction of riding schools attached if possible to the present drill sheds, whereat, during the winter months, mounted corps might be trained and exercised. I would further recommend, as soon as circumstances may admit, and the new arms can be obtained,

exchanging the Spencer carbines with which the various mounted corps at present are armed for the Martini Henry carbine about to be manufactured for the cavalry of the regular army, which will be found a weapon of far greater power, peculiarly well suited for mounted troops, and infinitely superior to the Spencer carbine. Thus the cavalry of the Dominion would have the same arms and ammunition as those about to be introduced into the regular army, which is very desirable.

(To be continued.)

THE MARTINI-HENRY RIFLE.

[CONCLUDED.]

The various trials to which the Martini Henry arm has been subjected since the issue of the report which first recommended its adoption, have now extended over a period of more than 18 months.

The Committee, after a careful review of the results of these trials, after consultation with independent scientific and practical witnesses on the mechanism of the breech action, and after full consideration of the whole question, are of opinion that the short actioned Martini Henry rifle is admirably adapted for a military arm, and they therefore unanimously recommend its adoption into the two services.

They also unanimously recommend the adoption for use with this arm of the short chamber Boxer Henry ammunition, and (for land service) of the Elcho bayonet.

- H. C. FLETCHER,  
Lieut. Colonel and President.
- R. W. HAIN, Major, R.A.
- FREDERICK CHAPMAN, Captain, 34th Regt.
- V. D. MAJENDIE, Captain, R.A.
- J. E. F. AYLMER, Captain.
- ELCHO.
- CHARLES HUTTON, GUNNERY.
- EDWARD ROSS.

The following are Colonel Dixon's general observations on the long actioned rifle referred to in par. 1 of this report:—

"The condition of the arms generally is satisfactory, both in respect of the wear and tear, as well as in not exhibiting anything which may be considered as a fault in construction.

"I think that the principal objections generally made—viz., the want of uniformity in the pull-off—can be remedied. It would be better, in order to do this with the best likelihood of a good result, to alter slightly the size of the axis trigger pin—viz., from No. 6 to No. 5 wire—and to screw the point; this will oblige it to have a head. The pin at present is likely to fall out and be lost.

"I would recommend that the trap in the butt be discontinued, and the hole in the stock left as small as possible.

"From recent experiments I have made, it would seem that the stock bolt should be of soft steel or of iron instead of steel hardened and tempered, and it should also be longer.

"I would recommend that the guard and trigger plate, the butt plate, and nose cap, should be made of brass.

"There is no reason why they should necessarily be made of iron, and on the other hand, it will make a great difference in simplicity and cheapness of manufacture, to make them of brass.

"If the cleaning rod was lengthened so that the head stood level with the muzzle of barrel (when screwed home,) and the soldier instructed to pass the rod gently down the groove before screwing it home, it is not likely that the rod would become loose

through the recoil. The rod might be squared under the head also, and thus give a better purchase for unscrewing and screwing in.

"In all other respects the actions of the rifles are very good, showing no wear, although some have been very badly used. Some defects have become apparent owing to hand work and want of gauges, &c. These would not be found in machine-made guns.

"The barrels show no perceptible wear, as the rejecting plug will not enter.

"Three of the back sights had become unsoldered, owing to the firing of 140 rounds at one time; the liability of the sights becoming loose through rapid firing can be avoided, by screwing them on the barrel, in addition to the soldering process.

"The coil springs show no loss of strength, as they are the same length when out of the block as when first supplied, and sustain the proper weight at the position of full cock and bearer.

MINOR ALTERATIONS IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MARTINI HENRY RIFLE.

1. Back-sight.

To lie back so as to touch the barrel. To be secured to the barrel by two screws as in the rifles sent to Wimbledon, July, 1870. The sliding bar to be reversible, one side quite flat, the other with a very small V notch to mark the centre. A bright line to be drawn right across the centre of the bar, and the spaces between this line and the sides of the flap to be equally divided by bright lines not quite reaching the middle of the sliding bar. The top and bottom edges of the sliding bar to be bevelled off on the side away from the eye. The sides of the sliding-bar to be chequered.

2. Main Lever and Catch.

The lever to fit close to the stock until near the end, where it projects in the form of a loop. The form of catch to be somewhat modified.

3. Form of Stock.

Under this head the Committee recommend—

First,—With a view of saving the face of the firer from a blow by recoil, that the comb of the stock should be somewhat cut away.

Secondly,—A slight hollow to be cut out of the upper right rear part of the stock to receive the thumb of the right hand when firing. This hollow should be roughed by chequering.

Thirdly,—That two lengths of stock should be issued as is done at present with the long Snider-Enfield.

Fourthly,—With a view of strengthening the stock the trap in the butt to be done away with, and the stockbolt lengthened so as to bring its head into a thicker part of the butt, while the bolt itself should be made of a milder steel than that of the experiment arms the hole to receive it being kept as small as possible; and, finally, to prevent the rifle slipping on the shoulder while taking aim, the heel plate to be roughened and chequered.

4. Trap in Butt.

To be done away with, and the hole to be kept as small as possible. It is suggested that the cleaning implements be carried in one of the pouches.

5. Block Axis Pin.

To be made of gun metal; to be a simple pin, kept in position by an eclipse or keeper screw.

6. *Trigger.*

To lie back as far as possible, and to be scored longitudinally to roughen the surface. The axis pin to be a screw and made of stronger wire.

7. *Sword.*

To be of the Elcho pattern, and the knob of spring to be rounded off.

8. *Safety Bolt.*

Indicator to be shifted to fit the bolt when not engaged with the action.

9. *Edges.*

All exterior sharp edges to be rounded off.

10. *Cleaning-rod.*

To be made of steel throughout, with a catch to hold under the top band by the spring of the rod itself. Head to be conical.

11. *Muzzle-stopper.*

The Committee have recommended a cover in place of a stopper.\*

*Programme for the Examination of Witnesses on the Character of the Mechanical Construction of the Martini-Henry Rifle.*

The witnesses will be requested to direct their attention to the mechanical arrangements of the breech action and stocking of the rifle, and to state their opinions on the following points, viz:—

A. On the facility and economy of manufacture of the breech action, in its various parts, having reference not to small supplies of hand made rifles, but to large supplies produced by machinery, at the Government Small-Arms Factory, or at high-class private manufactories, under proper supervision.

B. On the simplicity and efficiency of the breech action generally, and of its fitness, as a whole, if introduced in rifles manufactured as above stated, to do its work in all climates with safety and regularity.

C. On the mechanical character of the various parts, viz:—

1. Of the falling block, and its power to resist the explosion of the charge without undue strain to any of the joints; and at what point or points the recoil would be transferred through the back part of the falling block.

2. Of the spiral spring and the striker, and if when combined and worked as proposed they are calculated to give an adequate and uniform blow to the detonating cap, without damage to the striker or liability in the spring to fracture or loss of power by use.

3. Of the working lever, whether it is properly placed, and if it has adequate power for its duty of lowering and raising the block, cocking the rifle as the block falls and rises, and working the extractor as the block falls, and keeping the block up to its place when firing; and whether this lever is likely to continue to do its work properly.

4. Of the centre pin upon which the lever works, and at the same time the tumbler and the indicator, whether such combined use of the one pin is desirable in the view

\* Two other alterations were suggested by some of the witnesses—viz., the strengthening of the safety-bolt and an alteration in the form and substance of some of the screws. After consultation with the Superintendent Royal Small-Arms Factory, the Committee have come to the conclusion that it is unnecessary to accept these suggestions. The Superintendent Royal Small-Arms Factory recommended the substitution of brass for iron furniture, but after full consideration the Committee have determined not to adopt this recommendation.

of simplicity, efficiency, and permanence, and whether the accuracy of the indicator is permanently reliable.

5. Of the tumbler, sear, and trigger, whether in their combined action they are safe and strong, and capable of proper adjustment of their bearing surfaces, to such an amount of uniform and steady pull, whether large or small, as it may be desired to give, and whether they may be expected to retain such uniform and steady pull in use.

6. Of the safety bolt, as to its simplicity, efficiency, and permanence.

7. Of the cartridge extractor, and whether by its form and the way in which it is acted upon by the falling block, it is calculated to do its work properly and permanently.

8. Of the arrangement of all the parts of the breech action within a closed metal case, and whether such an arrangement is desirable or otherwise, having reference to compactness, strength, and protection from dust and wet.

9. Of the strength and permanence of the mode of stocking.

D. On the measure of importance of any defects which may be considered to exist, the way in which they would show themselves and after how many rounds, the facility if repair should become necessary by reason of such defect, to what extent any such defects, if theoretically assignable, would be likely to show themselves in rifles equal in character of work to the present Government rifles, well made and properly tested and inspected; how far any such defects may be inherent in the Martini action, and inseparable from it, or capable of correction without material change of design, by the fair substitution of some simple and well-known form of detail.

H. C. FLETCHER, Lt.-Colonel,  
President of the Small Arm Committee.  
War-office, 3rd December, 1870

LETTER FROM LT.-GENERAL THE RIGHT HON.  
SIR W. MANSFIELD, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.

18, Grosvenor-gardens, Jan., 18, 1871.

Dear Lord Elcho,—I have inspected the new pattern rifle sword now lying at Messrs. Wilkinsons', in Pall-mall.

This sword unites the length of the old rifle sword to the cutting and chopping qualities of the Goorkha kookery, the lower end of the blade and the weight of the weapon being arranged after the manner of that best of all chopping knives.

If this weapon should come to be the regulation rifle sword for the whole of the infantry, a want will be supplied hereafter the existence of which has hitherto been a constant source of perplexity to British general officers in the field.

Thus, in addition to an excellent weapon, the soldier will find in this newly modelled sword an admirable tool with which to chop firewood for cooking purposes, to cut paths through jungle, to open a way through a thick fence, to fashion the branches of an abattis—in short, to do everything for which a good chopping knife is required.

In our campaigns we have often been exposed to great difficulties for want of such a device; besides that, when billhooks or axes have been rateably served out to troops and companies, a proportion only of the men has been furnished, those men have been thus encumbered with extra weight and an extra implement requiring adjustment on their person.

But, further, it often happens amidst the circumstances of war that the billhooks and axes are not in the front when they are wanted, or that, if they are, they are so bad

and frail they go to pieces in the hands of the men using them.

This was reported to be the case in a campaign of which I had to arrange the details on the borders of Bhootan in 1865-66. I was obliged, consequently, to move the Government of India to buy, at considerable expense, native-made kookeries, and to serve those out to the troops in the place of the British-made billhooks which came from the arsenals. It is probable that these articles are now improved in the Indian arsenals, since the matter was brought prominently to the notice of Government. But I believe it to be true that, according to mechanical principles, a billhook, owing to its shape, can never be so good a tool for the purposes referred to as the kookery, the principle of which is adopted in the new pattern rifle sword. If, in addition to correctness of form, care be taken to put the best material into the rifle sword and to insure a perfect temper in the metal, the application of this weapon to the Army cannot fail to be a great and very practical improvement in the equipment of the British infantry soldier.—

Very truly yours,

W. R. MANSFIELD.

## DOMINION FLAGS.

The various flags used by the Dominion are, of course, modifications of the glorious old flag under which we all desire to live, and have only slight distinguishing features as matters of convenience.

First. The flag of the Dominion is the British red ensign with the Union Jack in the upper corner, and having the arms of the Dominion on the side; this is the flag all vessels should use, and is proper for all occasions.

Second. Flag of the Navy, this is a blue ensign with St. Andrew's cross; and the arms of the Dominion in the centre of the cross; this flag is only intended for the war vessels of the Dominion, and merchant vessels should not hoist it.

Third. Flag of the Lieut.-Governor; a white ensign known as St. George's cross with the arms of the Province in the centre.

Fourth. Flag of the Governor General; same as the Lieut.-Governors, except that the arms of the Dominion take the place of the arms of the Province.

The two last flags should only be used by the officers designated.

PAPER WHEELS.—The Pullman Car Company is running a car on the Chicago and Northwestern road with what are called "paper wheels." The wheels have steel tiers and cast iron hubs, and the paper is introduced in the way of filling under the tiers for the purpose of deadening sound and diminishing the force of concussion. According to the National Car Builder the wheels have been running since July last under this particular car, and had been in use some four months previously. The paper device is said to be superior to wood for the purpose designed, being stronger and lighter, and free from knots, grain or sap. It does not expand or contract, but remains in the condition in which it is put in the wheels without liability of change. It is cheaper than wood and can be moulded, fire and water-proof by asbestos. It is as a substitute for wood, adapted to a variety of uses, especially in the way of ornamentation.

Vice-Admiral Pearse of the British navy died at his residence, East Stonehouse, Plymouth, March 23, after a lingering illness, aged seventy-seven.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 4th May, 1871.

GENERAL ORDERS, (11.)

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

Major Acheson G. Irvine, 55th "Megan-  
tio" Battalion, at present doing duty as  
Major in the 2nd "or Quebec" Battalion of  
Riflemen, in the Province of Manitoba, is  
heresy appointed to the command of the  
two Companies of Riflemen from 1st and 2nd  
Battalions retained for a further period of  
duty in that Province.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

13th Battalion of Infantry, Hamilton.  
No. 8 Company, Waterdown.

To be Captain:

John Glasgow, Esquire, M.S., formerly  
commanding this Company, vice G. A.  
Stock, whose resignation is hereby ac-  
cepted.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

James McMonies, Junr., Gentlemen, vice  
Stock, promoted.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

James C. Ryan, Gentleman, vice J. R.  
Fletcher, whose resignation is hereby  
accepted.

18th "Prescott" Battalion of Infantry.  
No. 6 Company.

The "Hawkesbury Mills Infantry Com-  
pany" is hereby attached to this Battalion  
as No. 6 Company.

22nd Battalion "The Oxford Rifles."  
No. 5 Company, Norwich.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Mountlieu M. Nesbitt, M.S., vice  
George Blackley, who is hereby permit-  
ted to retire retaining his rank.

To be Ensign:

Quartermaster-Sergeant Boliver A. Mul-  
lins, M.S., vice Nesbitt, promoted.

30th "Wellington" Battalion of Rifles.  
No. 5 Company, Mount Forest.

To be Captain, provisionally:

William Washington Winfield, Esquire,  
vice Pearce, resigned.

32nd "Bruce" Battalion of Infantry.  
No. 6 Company, Arran.

The resignation of Lieutenant Thomas  
Foster, is hereby accepted.

41th "Welland" Battalion of Infantry.

Major William Still is hereby permitted to  
retire retaining his rank.

39th "Stormont and Glengarry" Battalion of  
Infantry.  
No. 5 Company.

A Company of Infantry is hereby author-  
ized at Cornwall, to do mounted patrol duty  
when required, to be attached to this Batta-  
lion, as No. 5 Company in place of No. 5  
Company at Williamstown, which having  
become disorganized, is hereby removed  
from the list of Active Militia Corps.

BREVET.

To be Majors:

Captain Edward Thompson, V. B. No. 1  
Company, 13th Battalion, from 24th  
April 1870.

Captain John W. Nesbitt, M. S., No. 5  
Company, 22nd Battalion, from 13th  
April 1871.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

To be Major:

Brevet Major and Captain Frederick Cole,  
V. B. G. S., vice McKay promoted.

50th Battalion, of Infantry "Huntingdon  
Borderers."

This Battalion is hereby permitted to have  
inscribed on its Battalion Colors, the words,  
"Trout River;" and to adopt and use the  
following device and motto: The Ga-  
rter, surmounted by a crown, on which is inscrib-  
ed the words "Huntingdon Borderers." Within the Garter the numeral of the Bat-  
talion (I) in Roman letter. The Garter is  
surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves,  
and, underneath, the motto "Nec aspera  
terrent" inscribed on a scroll. In three  
corners of the Colors a maple leaf.

51st Battalion of Infantry or "Hemmingford  
Rangers."

No. 6 Company, Hemmingford.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant Richard Hayes, M. S., vice  
Sriver, retired.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Frederick S. Proper, M. S., vice  
Hayes, promoted.

To be Ensign provisionally:

Sergeant John Fisher, vice Proper, pro-  
moted.

61st "Montmagny and L'Islet" Battalion of  
Infantry.

Erratum in General Order No. 2, 8th Oc-  
tober 1869, read: "To be Major: Captain  
Calixte Francois David Gagnier, M. S., from  
9th Battalion," instead of "Captain F. D.  
Gagnier."

Quebec Provisional Battalion,

To be Major:

Captain J. Earnest M. Taschereau, M. S.,  
from No. 1 Company.

No. 1 Company Charlesbourg.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant Napoleon Dorion, M. S., vice  
Taschereau, promoted.

Hardley Infantry Company.

To be Ensign:

Corporal John Jowsey, M. S.

Bonaventure Marine Company.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Thomas Arsenault, M. S., vice J.  
A. LeBel, whose resignation is hereby  
accepted.

To be Ensign:

Charles A. LeBel, Gentleman, M. S., vice  
Arsenault, promoted.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

New Brunswick Engineers Company.

Brevet Major and Captain John Edward  
Boyd is hereby permitted, under 32nd Sec-  
tion of the Militia Act, to retire retaining  
the rank of Brevet Major.

To be 2nd Lieutenant:

Henry Fullerton Perley, Gentleman, M.S.,  
vice S. L. T. Carvell, whose resignation  
is hereby accepted.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

1st "Halifax" Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

To be Lieut. Colonel:

Brevet Major and Captain George Mit-  
chell, Q. F. O., vice William H. Creigh-  
ton, who is hereby permitted to retire  
retaining rank.

By command of His Excellency the  
Governor General.

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

In London, every eight minutes, night and  
day, somebody dies; every five minutes a  
child is born. This great city contains as  
many people as Scotland, twice as many as  
Denmark, three times as many as Greece,  
and 400 times as many as Georgetown, D. C.  
In its vast population of nearly 4,000,000, it  
has 140,000 habitual gin-drinkers, 100,000  
abandoned women, 10,000 professional gam-  
blers, 50,000 criminals known to the police  
as thieves and receivers of stolen goods,  
500,000 habitual frequenters of publichouses  
and 60,000 street Arabs. To keep this vast  
multitude of disorderly characters in some-  
thing like obedience to the law, 6,000 police-  
men are necessary. Of the population of  
the city, only about 500,000 attend public  
worship, there being a million of adult ab-  
sentees from church every Sunday.

The North German Gazette has learned  
that several young Englishmen, students of  
the Polytechnic School in Zurich, have has-  
tily left that town to avoid arrest, in conse-  
quence of their having been identified as  
active members of the mob that stormed  
the Tonhalle and attacked the Germans and  
Swiss who were present at the Peace Festi-  
val.



THE  
**VOLUNTEER REVIEW**  
 And Military and Naval Gazette.  
 VOLUME V.  
 1871.

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

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Full and reliable reports of RIFLE MATCHES, INSPECTIONS, and other matters connected with the Force appear regularly in our Columns.

**AGENTS.**

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MR. ROGER HUNTER for that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

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

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

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

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

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

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**The Volunteer Review,**  
 AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, MAY 8, 1871.

**NOTICE TO OLD SUBSCRIBES.**

As a great number of our early subscribers in the Volunteer Force must have been promoted since they became subscribers, they will kindly favor us by sending in their present rank and proper address.

PRUSSIAN successes during the campaign of 1870 have directed the attention of the military authorities of Great Britain to the defects of their own system of military training. Lord Straithairn, whose experience, as Sir Hugh Rose, has been obtained in active service during the trying Indian campaigns of 1857-8, and previously by service in the Crimea, addressed the House of Lords on the 29th of March last on the want of strategical education in the British army. His speech, which we republish, will be interesting to our readers, needs no comment except in so far as it applies to the condition of the Canadian army—in which, "the mechanism of movements are taught, but not their strategical object or adaptation." As ably and forcibly put in the noble lord's address the officer that leads his men under

fire without a thorough knowledge of the object to be attained—the facilities afforded by the ground over which he manoeuvres for its attainment, and the capacity to keep his force in hand, well under cover, and within proper supporting distance, only leads those men to useless and wholesale slaughter. No courage, daring, or endurance can compensate for a want of strategical knowledge, and under the present system of military instruction that is not to be obtained. But in Canada we have all the necessary facilities for acquiring strategical knowledge. Our annual encampments for district and brigade drill affords opportunities for teaching what the object of each movement means, and it is only necessary to have an aide memoire, with the principles explained in the most simple manner, to have a fair share of practice and theory acquired by the officers of our Volunteer force, who are behind no class in general intelligence and esprit. In order, however, to reap the greatest possible benefit from this principle of practical instruction it will be necessary to complete the Canadian army in all its branches. The recommendations of the Adjutant General and Lieut. General Sir James Lindsay should be carried out. A commissariat department is a necessity which cannot be avoided; the same may be said of the medical staff, and an ordnance corps or Quartermaster-General's department is an absolute condition of success. Even in teaching the principles of strategy it is very little matter to an officer what his knowledge may be if he is obliged to advance over ground with the topography of which he is unacquainted.

It has been charged against the officers of the French army that they did not know their own country sufficiently well to manoeuvre in the face of a foreign foe, that they were actually indebted to Yankee enterprise for the maps of the localities in which they were operating, and that the very same blunder was the direct as well as immediate cause of the loss of the battle of Sadowa by the Austrians. A story is told that in one of the subsequent actions the Austrian commanding officer opposed to the Prussian Prince Frederick Charles had no map of the locality in which he had taken up his position, none could be supplied by his staff, and at last it was found that the curé of the village was the fortunate possessor of the required document; it required, however, considerable negotiation to obtain it, and as his reverence would not suffer it to leave his sight, he was allowed to accompany the cherished plan to headquarters. It was there found that both flanks of the position were turned, and very little hope remained of being able to extricate the army from the position in which it was placed. During the night, however, news arrived of an armistice and suspension of hostilities, and as it was evident the campaign had terminated the Austrian General was obliged to apply to the Prussian for liberty to pass through

his lines for the purpose of subsisting his troops.

The whole of this grave and fatal error arose from the absence of a properly organized engineering corps. In modern warfare the movements are too rapid to admit of the old practice of reconnoitering positions and making field maps therefrom—that work must be done before the field is taken, and reconnaissance is now nothing better than *feeling for the whereabouts* of your enemy.

It is notorious that with the exception of some military maps of parts of the Eastern and Western frontiers Canada does not possess anything like a topographical plan on which the slightest movement could be founded. The surveys of its townships are incorrect, at best only a series of straight lines, defining neither river courses, roads, defiles, or any other information; being in fact merely a design showing the assumed number of lots in each, and not always correctly that.

It is evident then that some remedy must be devised for this state of affairs, and as present means can be applied an effort should be made to supply the requisite information. We have already discussed this question, pointed out what means were within reach, and recommended that they should be utilized. It was simply to organize an Engineer Corps in every Military District of the civil engineers and Provincial land surveyors therein. The cost of the measure will be merely that of the parchment on which their commissions would be engrossed, and the printing of the gazette announcing the organization. Those gentlemen should be required to furnish plans of their several localities, with all the possible topographical information in their power, especially relating to roads, swamps, rivers, streams, woods, and heights,—this plan to be endorsed by the Deputy Adjutant General and the Brigade Major (both of whom must be supposed to be measureably acquainted with the country) before being paid for, and within a very short period at a trifling expense reliable data would be accumulated at headquarters, by which the defensive capabilities of any district could be at once pointed out and the necessary precautions taken if endangered. This knowledge could also be rendered available by having the summer drill turned into an actual eight days' campaign, in which the operations would extend over a different portion of the district till the whole of its strategical positions would become thoroughly known to the local force. Some years will elapse before a costly and elaborate system of defensive works will be required in Canada, therefore the exertions of the local engineer corps should be confined to the development of the natural defensive capabilities of each district, and the knowledge of military engineering need not extend further than its practical application to field manoeuvres and the movements of material for an army.

There is at present on the Statute book an act incorporating the "Association of Provincial Land Surveyors and the Institute of Civil Engineers"—an amendment or two would adapt it to the required purpose: 1st, Registration and service in the District Engineer Corps should be made compulsory—with the alternative of serving in the artillery if fitted therefor. 2nd, All future students to be compelled to pass an examination in military engineering before being allowed to practice. By this simple means the country would have a very efficient corps as guides, intelligence officers, and general staff, thoroughly acquainted with all the peculiarities of their locality, and as all our military operations are purely defensive, this description of force would be found by far the best adapted for the discharge of their peculiar duties. The lesson of the campaign should not be thrown away. It is our duty to profit by it, and that can only be done by thorough organization.

The tendency of all so-called reform in England has been to place a dangerous amount of political power in the hands of the half-pauper population of the larger towns, and London in particular bids fair to make an attempt to imitate the scenes enacted in Paris. It would appear as if this latter result was that which the Whig-Radicals desired to achieve, and that is the end as well as object of all their endeavors, because they fancied that this power once placed in the hands of the working-class could be wielded at pleasure by the leaders. As if to illustrate this view of Radical politics we have a speech delivered by the Honorable Auberon Herbert, brother of the Earl of Carnarvon, and one of the Radical members for Nottingham, to his constituents. It will be remembered that this brilliant youth was one of the trio who promised to go, but didn't, into the lobby of the British House of Commons on the occasion of the vote on the dowry of the Princess Louise, in defending the vote in the affirmative given on that occasion, said "*The lands of the Crown are really the property of the nation*"—thus conveying to his dupes, intentionally or otherwise, that those lands, the property of Crown from time immemorial, really belonged to the whole mass of the people, illustrating the doctrine of the French communist "that all property is robbery." English Republicanism is the offspring and natural result of the preponderance acquired by the commercial class in the Legislature—with the contracted ideas of men trained to a specialty they were prone to use the means most ready at their hands, and out of their mill slaves manufacture suffrages sufficient to overshadow the other classes whose interests are of more consequence than theirs.

If we had the Hon. Mr. Herbert amongst our agricultural community as the apostle of those enlightened ideas on political and social economy which prevail in certain districts in merrie England, he would be very

apt to go back a sadder if not a wiser man—our people are very law-abiding, but they would be very likely to treat idiots with contempt, and charlatans to a "*rib on a rail*," any one telling them that the lands they have won from the forest under patent from the Crown was the property of the nation; in other words, of every illo scoundrel who could assert his claim to it by force, would be very likely to get his head broken for his trouble; but it seems the Hon. Auberon had a further dose of *shop-doodle* for his intelligent constituents—looking at and judging of their capacity by that of their representative they certainly must be a queer lot—and the following trash admirably fits them:—

"If we are to look forward we had better ask what is our present position. Our present position is this, as I understand it, and it seems to me a great misfortune, that our present system does not allow us to have a voice and a choice as to who is to step into the first place at the head of this nation. (Hear, hear.) We live in the days in which we have learned to accept nothing unless we can reconcile it to sober reason and to clear intelligence, and I for one will take this opportunity of stating that I think it a great misfortune that there should exist in this country no guarantee whatsoever that we shall not have an extravagant, idle and a corrupt Court (cheers!) we possess no guarantee that a person who is not utterly unfit shall not be placed in the first place we have to give. Against violence, or against unreason, or against disorder, there is only one barrier, and that is the intelligence and right feeling of the people themselves. (Cheers.) To that I will trust; on that I will put my reliance; and when that fails us God help us all, for there is nothing left. (Cheers.) I shall now venture very shortly to point out to you some of the advantages that would result from a change in our constitutional system. I think that if the change should take the form of a commonwealth or a republic we should gain a much greater impulse with real evils that exist among us. I think we should get a great increase of force and energy to deal with that poverty and that crime, and that want which are a great burden to this nation; and I say that for this reason, because I think that men's minds would be carried in a simpler and more straightforward direction. What I notice now is this—that much of the force which exists in this nation is wasted. We are all broken up into parties. There is a party which wants to establish and maintain the Church. (A voice—"Down with it," and uproar.) And there is a party which wants to remove the House of Lords (cheers) and there is a party which wants to preserve it."

This diluted treason, for it is nothing else, is simply the ravings of a mild lunatic; his friends should not allow him to go at large, and he ought to be *preyed* to set the example of equality he preaches; in which case his friends should furnish him with a *donkey* and costermonger's cart and give him a fair start in life, he could earn an honest penny which he is not likely to do in politics; at all events the similarity between his own position and that of the quadruped who is probably labelled by the comparison would not be so apparent.

Towards the close of the last century scions of the French nobility were busily engaged

in working up the masses of their countrymen to the necessity for constitutional changes, in which a million like Mr. Herbert's was to succeed the dead level of poverty which then oppressed the lower classes—their doctrine was too that a "commonwealth or a republic" would give a "greater amount of impulse to deal with real evils," and that a "greater increase of force and energy to deal with that poverty" would be derived from the change. Poor donkeys—the day did come—the force, the energy, and impulse were all there—but they had awaked the devil, and he acted on his impulses by rending them limb from limb. The guillotine drowned their senseless brayings in a deluge of blood, and their unhappy country has not yet, after a lapse of eighty years, recovered from the effects.

Such men as the Honorable Auberon Herbert are either fools or knaves. The administration and party he supports wilfully and wantonly keep the dupes, on whose ignorance he and others trade, in a state of starvation and crime for their own ends. Why does he not try to feed those starving people by sending them to people the Colonies? Is it that all common sense is departed from Englishmen that they listen to the teachings of those knaves and dishonest donkeys, and cannot see that teaching will end in a republic, with fellows like this Herbert pitchforked into offices of trust and honor to the exclusion of the natural leaders of the people, simply because they could pander to the ignorance of the mob by acting with them. To descend to their level would be impossible, because he is many degrees below it, and it is for this we are to change the constitution of Great Britain. We live next door to a republic, blessed with a plethora of political scoundrels such as Mr. Herbert, and have no liking for the breed, who are regarded here as noxious animals to be knocked on the head like other vermin. It is, however, matter for very serious consideration whether those ideas are shared by any number of the English people, or whether they are likely to be. In either case, in common with other Colonists, we shall have something to say in the matter. The Crown of Great Britain is the tie which binds us to the *three Kingdoms*—take that away and we own no allegiance to the English Commonwealth or Republic. We will have no elective monarchy or mob puppet, and we think it is high time to bestir ourselves about what the future of the empire shall be. It is evident the British House of Commons is in no sense an Imperial Parliament; it has overborne the two chief estates of the realm, and is little better than a Revolutionary Junta, controlled by the London mob. It is our duty as the subjects of the British Crown to come to the rescue of the Monarchy, and by a reconstruction of the Constitution, teach those people that they do not represent the British Empire. In fact it would be well if our peo-

ple began at once to take action and address the other Colonies for simultaneous support in sustaining their claims to representation in the *Parliament of the British Empire*—leaving the English people to settle with such leaders as Messrs. Herbert, Ojger and Co., what their local future may be. Apart from outside complications this internal phase must, as a matter of course, give an impulse to the question of the future of the Empire. We have given our ideas in former issues in what shape the new change should be made, and we do not believe there will be any great diversity of opinion on it.

The *Volunteer News* of the 19th of April has an article on "The Volunteers of Canada," drawn from the Adjutant General's Report, in which, after highly commending that able document and the force which it describes, refers to "the necessity of perfecting it by putting the ballot in force in order to secure the necessary amount of organization and drill." Our contemporary must have read the able report referred to superficially if it inculcates no lesson. The object of the ballot was to keep the Volunteer ranks full, to prevent military service pressing unequally on the different classes of society, and to infuse into the whole population capable of bearing arms such an amount of training as our position demands. Our contemporary does us great honor in comparing our military force with the English Volunteers, but if the utterances of the military journals of Great Britain are correct that force is bound by no discipline except what the good taste of the members thereof enforces. Our force in the field is under the articles of war and the Mutiny Act, as well as severe civil punishment when locally employed, in case of failing to fulfil their duty as soldiers. In fact our Volunteer force is to all intents and purposes the army of the Dominion, and behind it we have the Regular Militia, and the Reserve—the first to be wholly embodied by ballot, and the last to fill up its ranks as the necessity arises, for the service of all classes. In fact our Volunteer force simply is the means of bring out our military ardor and placing it in the front rank, and the intention of the Adjutant General's recommendation is to prevent that element being unnecessarily burdened. The service with us is for three years; there are men in existing corps who have served nearly sixteen years, or ever since their first embodiment, and probably will continue to serve as long as they are physically able to do so. Other men barely put in the allotted time, and as the company unit is with our organization the nucleus of the whole, district or township may in a given period exhaust its Volunteer material, while adjoining localities may be deficient altogether of that element. Now, as the very principle of our Militia law demands that every man should be trained to the use of arms, a little gentle pressure in

the shape of the ballot or a threat of it will be likely to make those who would shirk military duty come to the front, especially as by volunteering they have the choice of serving under their own local officers, of leaving the corps at any time with six months notice, and generally having a good deal to say in managing their own affairs. In the Regular Militia all that will be required, and two years *strict service* changed. Under rigid discipline our Volunteer ranks have been always kept full. The changes which have taken place in the corps have had the effect of throwing a practically trained class into our population, and we could put 80,000 men acquainted with the use of arms into the field within thirty days. Any threatened danger would at once bring out the whole available force of the Dominion, and the difficulty would be in restraining the military ardour of the people. The reason is obvious, every man has some property to defend—land acquired under patent from the Crown—won by stalwart arms and stout hearts from the forest, and as the people are not yet impregnated with that meaning of liberty and equality which defines "All property as robbery." They will risk their lives to defend what they have won and transmit it to their descendants. It has at all times been the opinion of every man in Canada who has given the subject thought that a militia bill, similar in principle to ours, is what the United Kingdoms require. The whole male population should be held ready for service, and the Volunteers supplemented as ours are, making the agricultural population the main basis of the system. A regular army being a necessity, its ranks should be filled from the Volunteers, and the service should be for life (21 years) to those who chose, or for shorter periods when not on foreign service—the short service system with such a force is a mistake. Seasoned and acclimatized soldiers give place to men who have to undergo all the hardships of training; without experience, and the country does not gain by the change. To secure the proper class of men it would be only necessary to make the service attractive by offering land grants to invalided soldiers, and establishing in each and every colony military settlements, thus adding to its defensive force and lessening the burdens of the people by permanent reductions in the regular army. A federation of the Empire would add immensely to its strength in this respect and would enable England to withdraw every regular soldier from the Colonies; the defence of her military stations and India would be the only points demanding extra care. For home defence and Colonial assistance in time of war her Volunteers and Militia forces are those on which she should rely.

She has at once the most costly and inefficient military force in the world. To increase its strength so as to restore her mili-

tary prestige would be beyond the power of her resources, vast as they undoubtedly are. The best thing then is to reduce the force by some such process as that pointed out to the number necessary to hold India and the military stations, depending on her own local army and the forces of the Colonies for the rest. With a federation of the Empire there is nothing to prevent her putting a million of men under arms. With one seventh of her population we will answer in Canada for one-tenth of the number, and two-tenths if required; and this result is due to the fact that our militia law draws the force from the whole able bodied population. With very limited resources we have achieved this in less than seven years. With England it would be the work of two years, and in that time she ought to have 650,000 Volunteers and Regular Militia ready for service, a force equal to the whole of our fighting population including reserve.

We quite agree with the *Volunteer News* that a stern discipline is necessary,—as far as Canada is concerned, however, it would not be a matter of great importance to enforce it by compelling the unwilling to serve. Our people are thoroughly amenable to discipline in the face of an enemy; any trouble we have had has arisen from local prejudice and was of no consequence. In fact it is hard to make a man who is a civilian in March a soldier in May, and a civilian again in August forget all his prejudices, though even that is not impossible, and on the whole he is not guilty of greater breaches of discipline than the regular soldier.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The siege or investment of Paris progresses slowly. M. Thiers is evidently not quite the master of the situation, nor do his troops seem to make much impression on the rebels. General Clauselet evidently knows something of his business, and appears to be a fair match for McMahon. The accounts from the scene of action are so contradictory that it is hard to arrive at a true conclusion respecting the real position of affairs. The fighting in and about the city has been fearful, many innocent lives have been lost. An unsuccessful attempt was made by so-called "Freemasons within the city," to mediate between the parties: a delegation waited on M. Thiers, and a procession was arranged to line the walls and ramparts, exhibiting banners and emblems thereon. The delegation was informed that rebellion could not be recognized, and the artillerists at Mont Valerin sent shot and shell with great impartiality amongst the processionists, so that on the whole the demonstration was a failure. Even in a Republic where liberty and equality are fully recognized, law and order must be respected. The fool's paradise, which the Parisian mob has created, seems to be sufficiently short lived. Events seem to point to the restoration of Napoleon. The man of "blood and iron"

is reported to have given Thiers notice that if the peace negotiations are not completed within a given time he would be obliged to take measures to secure that end, and plainly intimated that the Regency in the person of the Empress Eugenie would be the means he should use to accomplish that object. If Bismarck meant that France should recover from the prostrate condition to which the diplomacy and arms of Prussia had reduced her he would have refused to treat with the usurpers in the first place. But it would seem as if the miserable wretches were designedly allowed to tear each other in pieces as well as exhaust the resources of the country.

In the German Parliament on the 2nd May Prince Bismarck introduced a bill incorporating Alsace and Lorraine with the Empire. He said: The annexation of these provinces to Germany was necessary to give her a bulwark against the recurrence of French aggression, cases of which had been so frequent in times past. One instance of comparatively recent date was cited. On the 6th of August, 1866, France sent to Berlin an ultimatum demanding the cession of Mayence. The illness of the Emperor of the French alone prevented hostilities then. During the late war the foreign powers proposed the neutralization of Alsace and Lorraine, but that would be insufficient for Germany and could not be thought of. As for the inhabitants still averse to their fatherland, said the Prince, in conclusion, "we shall strive to win them back." The bill was referred to a committee.

The state of the army and naval defence of the country has occupied considerable attention in Great Britain. Amid all the propositions there are none which combines efficiency with economy and simplicity, and it is a fact that the solution of the problem is as far off as ever. A very emphatic condemnation of Mr., or as he is called, *Citizen* Herbert, and the English Republicans, has been made by a leading Radical baronet, who denounces the party in no measured terms, and boldly states that the Monarchical form of Government, with an aristocracy, is at once the cheapest, best, and most conducive to liberty.

The Lord Chamberlain of Great Britain has issued an official manifesto that Her Majesty's birthday will be celebrated on the 20th instead of on the 21st instant.

From the United States we have another version of the treaty said to be concluded by the Joint High Commission. It has one feature in common with all the others, however, in that it alleges that the indemnity due to British subjects by the United States is said to be \$20,000,000 more than the *Alabama* claims, and that it will be paid. If this is a fact the various Imperial ministries by whose negligence and pusillanimity it was allowed to accumulate, deserve unmeasured reprobation. We have always held Yankee pretensions to be like puff balls,

large and fair on the outside but full of ashes within, and liable to collapse at a touch. We have often advocated the necessity of handing them over to a Canadian statesman for adjustment, and now that has been done behold the results. The Yankees can't offer an equivalent for Canada this time, but we will take State of Maine and pay Great Britain the \$20,000,000. What does the Washington Cabinet say to that? It is further stated that the treaty in all that relates to Canada is to be submitted to the Canadian Parliament for ratification, Sir John A. Macdonald has written his name in deep and lasting characters on Canadian history.

REVIEWS.

*Stewart's Quarterly* for April has the following ably written articles: How I became Member for Marshboro; Canadian Archives; The Dialect Poets; Destroying old Letters; Farewell to Life; In Memoriam—Chas. Dickens's; Pen Photographs—Punshon; Minktan Felledu's Senerado; Highland Superstitions; Notes from Our Scrapbooks; Felix Mendelsson; Bubbles; The Fishery Question; Paris after the Siege; Our Book Table; Chanson; Among the Serials. This first of Canadian periodicals has always maintained a high position in literature and ably sustains its first promise.

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

The *German Correspondent* says: "It will not be the fault of Germany if the late war between this country and France be not followed by a lasting peace. The question is: Will the French at length make up their minds to renounce their long and fondly cherished illusions, and meet the advances of the Germans half way? Will the powers which during the contest remained neutral now use their influence to promote the interests of peace? Switzerland and Italy seem both disposed to accept the *fait accompli*, and we think that, notwithstanding some differences of opinion between us, we can reckon on the concurrence of England, especially as at the commencement of the war English public feeling was decidedly in favor of Germany. It is true that more recently many Englishmen have appeared ambitious of emulating Cato, and adopted as their motto, *Victrix causa Diis placuit, sed victa Catoni*; but on the other hand the cause of Germany has found able defenders in England in such men as Carlyle and Sir J. Sinclair."

In the Imperial Parliament night before, last, notice was given of an intended motion for the reduction of trans-Atlantic postage to one penny.

### THE HISTORY OF PRESIDENT GRANT'S MESSAGE.

A LEGEND OF THE WHITE HOUSE, BY KORN KOB, JUNR.

Thinks President Grant to himself thinks he,  
As he puffed at his cigar 't'be,  
"There's President wanted for '78  
But I reckon that President won't be me  
Unless I get up and get."

So he says to Butler Ben's his name,  
The chap that looks after the spoons;  
"The way that these Democrats talk is a shame  
We'll have to do something to spoil their game  
Or, darn it, we're gone-up coons."

"I aint very much on the speak you know;  
But, Benjamin, you're the mah;  
With pen or with tongue you're a buster to blow;  
Although, with the sword,—well—only so so,  
So make out my message before you go  
And put it as strong as you can."

"At home here my reign hasn't been a success  
So let us go in for a fight;  
A war's just the thing that suits the U. S.  
And England's the nation to go for I guess,  
Say, Benny my boy, aint I right."

"Nond," said old Ben, and he frowned dissent;  
"A pretty nice mess you'd cook,  
Just remember that little affair of the Trent  
And the message the fery old Premier sent;  
How quickly it brought us to book."

"The Lion is old, but his claws are strong,  
There's an ugly gleam in his eye,  
I guess if we riled him it wouldn't be long  
Before he'd be into our wool, ding dong,  
And then maybe, fur wouldn't fly."

We've a much safer game than that to play;  
We are forty millions or more,  
We have money and soldiers and stores O. K.  
And there's the Canadians just over the way  
With only a paltry four.

"Let's bullyrag them and demand that we  
(The only free men 'neath the sky)  
Shall do as we like in this wide countree,  
Shall navigate their river down to the sea  
And fish as we chose on their fishing grounds free  
Or make them show the reasons why."

"The Canucks will cave in right off, and then  
We can brag of how brave we've been,  
We'll sweep all the States from Nevada to Maine  
And you'll be elected to rule us again,  
And who'll be your right hand supporter but Ben  
And 'twixt us we'll run the machine."

The President winked, took another cigar,  
And Benjamin took a horn;  
"I calculate, Benny, we've gotten them thar,  
Let the Democrats now try it on if they dar,  
We'll knock 'em as sure as you're born."

The message was writ, and the Yanks all said  
"I ha'll fetch 'em to time you bet,  
Old Grant is the fellow to shove things ahead  
Canadians might just well go to bed  
And label their houses "To Let.""

TWO YEARS LATER.

(Grant Log.)

"O 'arnal ruin! consarn that old B.  
The Republican cause is bust,  
The Canucks have been one too many for me,  
They read my address 71 A. D.,  
Put their thumb to their noses and laughed he I he  
"Don't you wish you may get our fisheries free,  
And sail from Superior down to the sea  
And do as you like in this wide countree—  
That game, Mr. President, don't suit we—  
And here's the election for '78,  
And I guess that my game is all U. P.  
So, Ulysses, get up and dust."

### NARRATIVE OF THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—CONCLUSION.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

(From Blackwood for Feb.)

The leading brigades reached Fort Alexander on the morning of the 18th August, having descended the river without accident in nine and a half days instead of twenty, as the Hudson Bay Company voyagers, who were ignorant what well-led British soldiers can do, said we should take. By the evening of the 20th all the regular troops were concentrated there, the brigades of militia being echeloned along the river in rear, at close intervals one behind the other.

There was not a sick man amongst those collected at Fort Alexander—all looked the picture of health and of soldier-like bearing. Oh for 100,000 such men! They would be invincible. Up to the 20th of August it had rained upon thirteen days in that month. The work had been incessant from daylight until dark, but no murmur was heard. The men chaffed one another about being mules and beasts of burden; but when they saw their officers carrying barrels of flour and pork on their backs, and fairly sharing their fatigues, eating the same rations, and living just as they did, they realized the necessity for exertion. There must surely be some inherent good in a regimental system which can thus in a few years convert the British lout into the highly-trained soldier, developing in him qualities such as cheerful obedience, endurance &c., &c., unknown to the beer-house lounging rustic.

A fresh batch of news from Fort Garry was here obtained. Riel had summoned together his followers, who had assembled to the number of 600, and had endeavored to organize a force to resist but had not received the support he expected. He had also called a council, who met in secret conclave, no English-speaking man being admitted. Of course it was not known what had passed on that occasion; but when the council broke up, an order was sent to the Hudson Bay Company forbidding any further sale of gunpowder or bullets. This was done, our correspondent alleged, to prevent the supply of ammunition running short should they require it. Riel had been told that the governor would not go into the settlement with Bishop Tache, as the rebels had hoped, and to accomplish which had been one of that prelate's objects in going to Canada. Riel's mind was still much troubled on the subject of amnesty, which the Canadians did not seem in any haste to grant. All letters received ended in the usual strain, "come on as quickly as you can; we are in momentary dread of our lives and property." The general tenor of the news proved two things—first that there was every possibility of resistance being offered; and secondly that should our advance be opposed, the number we should have to meet would be small compared with that at Riel's disposal during the past winter. It was therefore determined to push on at once with the 60th Rifles, the detachment of Royal Engineers and of Royal Artillery with their two 7-pounder guns.

We waited half a day in hopes that the two leading brigades of militia, which were known to be close behind, might come up; but as they did not do so in that time, we started without them, for the wind was fair and when foul it is often impossible to get round the point at Elk Island in Lake Winnipeg for days together.

There are numerous clearances in the vicinity of Fort Alexander where some half-breed farmers have established themselves. There is also a very fine farm belonging to the post in a good state of cultivation. The land is very rich for about half a mile or a mile back from the river, beyond that being a succession of swamps impassible during the summer, but travelled over when frozen in winter. The Fort is like the others already described, but on a larger scale, and has a less decayed air about it. It stands on the left bank, which is about twenty feet above the water, and is two miles from the mouth of the river. There is a Protestant mission here, and much good is done by its schools, in which English is taught. The 21st of August being Sunday, there was a parade for divine service in the morning, at

which the servants of the Hudson Bay Company, and a few half-breed farmers in the neighbourhood, joined us in prayers for the success of the operation we were about to undertake.

The afternoon was lovely with a bright warm sun shining down upon us as our fleet of fifty boats hoisted their sails, and started with a light wind from the S.W. It was a very pretty sight, and a subject well worthy of an artist. As we rounded the point of Elk Island, eighteen miles N.W. from Fort Alexander, evening was falling fast; so we halted for the night in a bay with a wide sandy beach between the water and the high overhanging bank, which was covered with timber, chiefly birch. The boats drew up in a line side by side, with their bows on the beach. Fires were soon lighted and a tents pitched here and there. As one looked down from the high bank upon the busy scene below, where all was cheerful bustle, the hum of voices, the noise of the axe chopping wood, and now and then the crashing sound of a falling tree, one realized how quickly the solitude of the forest is transformed into life, by the presence of man, endowed as he is with so many wants. The climate was that of the south of Europe; and as the sun set beyond a horizon of water; one might have imagined one's self in some Grecian island looking out upon the Mediterranean, the beach covered with the crews and boats of a corsair fleet.

Reveille sounded next morning ere it was light; and after a hurried breakfast, we once more embarked, steering about S.W. for the mouth of the Red River, Lake Winnipeg is 264 miles long, by about 35 miles in breadth, and has an area of 9,000 square miles. It drains about 400,000 square miles of country. Its average depth is not more than from 6 to 8 feet; and those who have navigated it for many years say it is filling up more and more every year. Owing to this shallowness, a little wind soon raises a vrey heavy sea, the waves being so high at times for days together that no boat can venture on it. Many of the detachments in rear were thus detained at Fort Alexander and in the neighbourhood of Elk Island.

As we approached the mouths of Red River, the water became so shallow at places that many of our boats grounded; but as the day was calm and the bottom was muddy they did not suffer any damage.

The scenery is extremely dreary as one nears the river—not a tree to be seen, and only a few bushes at places where the land seemed to be somewhat higher than elsewhere. Great flats of alluvial deposit stretched out into the lake, all densely covered with rushes, a fitting home for the flocks of wild ducks that quacked out a greeting to us as we approached them.

Where the left bank terminates there is a little firm ground, upon which a few Indians were encamped, who fired their guns off as a salute as we landed to cook dinners at about 1 o'clock. A few presents soon made us friends; and they consented to man a canoe to take up a loyal half breed whom we had with us to the Lower or Stone Fort, as it was considered desirable that we should communicate secretly with the Hudson Bay officer in charge of that post. Dinner over, we lost no time in pushing on; but the wind, unfortunately was blowing down stream, so that pulling against the current was laborious work. We advanced in three lines of boats, the guns in the leading boats of one line, and kept ready for action at a moment's warning. We had hoped to have reached the Lower Fort by evening; but night coming on when we were still about

twelve miles from it, we were forced to halt opposite the Indian settlement.

The chief of those loyal swampy Indians soon made his appearance, and had a pow-wow with Colonel Wolseley, being dismissed after a lengthened conversation, with presents of pork and flour. He told us that although every one had long been expecting us, no news of our whereabouts had lately reached him; so that until he saw the fleet coming round the bend in the river, he was not aware that our leading detachment had even reached Fort Alexander.

The Hudson Bay Company's officer from the Lower Fort having been sent for, arrived in the middle of the night, and corroborated the statement. No one at Fort Garry he said, expected us so soon, or knew anything of our doings, further than that some of our boats had been seen on the Lake of the Woods.

An early start the following morning the 23rd of August, enabled us to reach the Lower Fort in time for breakfast.

As we advanced towards it, the people turned from every house on both banks—the men cheered, the women waved handkerchiefs, and the bells of the churches, which are all Protestant below Fort Garry, were rung to manifest the universal joy felt at seeing us. At some places numbers of Indians were encamped, who welcomed us by discharge of firearms. As each man emerged from his wigwam, bang, bang, went his double-barrelled gun. As we neared the stone fort the farms became better, and the left bank more thickly settled—the opposite side of the river being covered with poplar, and aspen and thick undergrowth. The banks became higher and steeper as we ascended the river, exposing to view a section which would have delighted a geological explorer. The surface was composed apparently of alluvial clay and vegetable mold, four or five feet deep, lying over clay interspersed with boulders to a depth of about ten feet; under it again was stratified lim stone of a highly fossiliferous character and of a light brownish yellow color—it was the first limestone we had seen during our journey. The upper half of the banks was nearly perpendicular; the lower half being composed of debris from the clay, boulders, and disintegrated limestone, formed an easy slope. When wet, the mud formed from these substances is of such a soapy and sticky nature that it is almost impossible to walk over it without losing your shoes.

As we pulled into shore in front of the Stone Fort we were welcomed by cheers from all the people, who from below, had proceeded there on horseback as soon as they saw us row past their farms. The union-jack was hoisted by the servants of the company—an emblem of nationality that none had dared to display for many months. Joy was written on every one's countenance.

The Lower or Stone Fort is twenty-one and a half miles by road from Fort Garry, and stands on the left bank of the river. It is a square enclosure, with large circular bastions at each angle, the walls being of substantial masonry and loopholed throughout. There is a good steam mill, where the Hudson Bay Company grind all the flour they require in this northern department. The stone used in all these buildings is quarried from the bank on which the fort stands, which is there about forty feet high. We discharged all surplus stores here, retaining only enough provisions for a few days, so as to lighten our boats as much as possible. A company of the 60th Rifles was mounted on ponies and on carts, and ex-

tended as a line of skirmishers on the left bank, with orders to keep well ahead, but always in communication by signallers with the boats. An officer on horseback was sent to examine the right bank so as to protect us from surprise there, although there was little chance of any opposition being attempted on that side, even should Riel intend fighting. The bandit potentate, according to the news of the day before from Fort Garry, was still in the Fort, awaiting the arrival of his friend Bishop Tache, who was hourly expected. Strict watch and guard was still maintained by his armed followers, whose numbers vary constantly. We took every possible precaution to prevent intelligence of our arrival in the river from reaching Fort Garry. No one was permitted to pass in that direction, although every one was allowed to come within our line of skirmishers. This was done so successfully, that although we halted for the night at only six miles from the place, Riel did not know positively that we were in the river. A vague report that some boats with men in them being on their way up towards the Fort had reached the village of Winnipeg; but there had been so many previous rumours of a similar nature from week to week the two preceding months that no one credited it. We subsequently ascertained that Riel and O'Donoghue rode out late at night in our direction; but heavy rain coming on as they approached our pickets, and being in dread of capture, they returned without any certain information regarding us.

Our advance up the river had much of a triumphal procession about it. Every church bell rang out its peal of welcome; ladies in their best toilettes, squaws with porpooses on their backs, the painted warrior of the plains—all testified joy after their own fashion. There are some small rapids a few miles above the Stone Fort caused by a ledge of limestone cropping up and forming a natural dam to the waters above. The detention caused by having to pole and track up so many boats at one time enabled the inhabitants to get a good view of us, so they assembled in numbers to do so.

The wind blowing against us, we had to halt for the night at a point six miles by road from Fort Garry. Our bivouac was carefully watched by a cordon of sentries on both banks of the river, and trustworthy men were sent forward into the village near the Fort to gain information, and meet us in the early morning as it was intended to march upon the fort at daybreak. The "shave" that night was that we should have a fight, and it was well that we had something to cheer us, for a more dreary attempt at repose it is impossible to imagine. It began to pour with rain soon after night-fall, and continued without cessation until morning. To march upon Fort Garry was out of the question, or at least it would have been folly to have attempted it, when we had the means of going there by water, as the face of the country was changed into a sea of mud. Roads there are none on these prairies in the ordinary acceptance of the term. Places between which there is any traffic are joined by cart tracks, for which a width of about eighty yards is allowed when they pass through a farm; so that when one spot becomes cut up the traveller can have a wide margin to select his way from upon each side of the old path.

This necessary change of plan was annoying, as we had looked forward to advancing upon the Fort in all the pride, pomp, and circumstance of war.

As we bent over our fires at daybreak, trying to get some warmth for our bodies,

and sufficient heat to boil the kettles, a more miserable looking lot of objects it would be impossible to imagine, every one was wet through; our very enemies would have pitied our plight. A hurried breakfast of tea and biscuit was soon over, and we were again in the boats by 6 A. M. rowing in three columns towards Fort Garry as on the preceding day. It poured heavily, and the country was at places a sheet of water, through which our skirmishers on the banks had to wade as best they could. As we approached the Protestant cathedral, the union-jack was ran up to the steeple, and its bells rang out a musical welcome to the expeditionary force. The left bank was neatly cultivated and well settled, the population being entirely of English and Scotch descent. The other bank was a tangled mass of poor timber, and an underbrush of laurel and rose bushes intertwined with Virginia creeper. The moderately rapid current in the river has, in the course of ages, cut out for itself a canal-like channel which averaged from 150 to 300 yards in width. The floods in spring when the ice breaks up have in the last twenty years, doubled in some places the distance between the banks, which are of most tenacious clay, steep throughout and generally about thirty feet high. We landed at a point called Point Douglas on the left bank where the river makes a great bend to the eastward; so that it is only about two miles by road to the Fort it is six there by river. Our skirmishers had collected a few carts and and horses sufficient for the conveyance of some tools, ammunition, &c., &c. The guns were fastened to the trail of the carts, and dragged along in that manner. Messengers who had been sent on the previous evening to the village of Winnipeg joined us here with the information that Riel and his gang were still in the Fort, and that the current rumour was that he intended to fight. He had distributed additional ammunition amongst his men, and the gates were closed and the guns loaded.

(To be continued.)

**BEAST BUTLER.**—In the United States Senate April 6th, Mr. Garrett Davis made a personal explanation in reference to the altercation between himself and Butler in the Senate Chamber last week. Mr. Davis concluded his remarks with the assertion that Butler was the "universally recognized blackguard, coward, and scoundrel of the United States, and does not himself dissent from the general judgment against him."

The amount of timber which will be brought down this season, if the streams are at all favorable, will exceed any former season's production in the Ottawa country.

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The English Army and Navy Gazette recommends that an increased degree of practical education be secured to those who are in futuro to have the command of the ships and fleets, by appointing to the ironclads, months, or certainly weeks, before the vessels are fully commissioned, the captains and commanders, as well as the chief officers of the executive, engineers', and carpenters' departments, with a view to their making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the many contrivances—pipes, cocks, valves, engines, etc., with which such ships are now fitted.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,

Wednesday, 26th day of April, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR;  
GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs, and under and in virtue of the authority given by the 8th section of the Act 31st Victoria, Chapter 6, intituled:—"An Act respecting the Customs,"

His Excellency has been pleased to Order, and it is hereby Ordered that "Ship Harbour" in the Province of Nova Scotia be and the same is hereby erected into an Out Port of Entry, and placed under the survey of the Port of Halifax.

WM. H. LEE,  
Clerk Privy Council, :  
Canada.  
19-31

Ottawa, May 1, 1871.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Wednesday, 19th day of April, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR  
GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Customs, and under the authority given by the 5th Section of the Act 31st Vic. Cap. 6, intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs;" His Excellency has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the Port of Morrisburgh, in the County of Dundas, and Province of Ontario, shall be and the same is hereby ordered into and constituted a Warehousing Port, within the meaning of that Act.

W. H. LEE,  
Clerk Privy Council,  
Canada.  
18-31

Ottawa, April 27th, 1871.



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F. BRAUN,  
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }  
Ottawa, April 1st, 1871. } 15-1m



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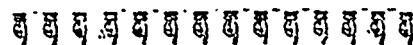
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