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Love Never Lost.

Love is never lost, though hearts run waste
Its tides may gush 'mid swirling, swathing
deserts,

Where no green leaf drinks up the precious life
Yet love doth evermore enrich the soil—
Its bitterest waters run some golden sands!
No star goes down but shines in other skies,
The rose of Sunset folds its glory up,
To burst again from out the heart of Dawn,
And love is never lost, though hearts run waste,
And sorrow make the clust'ring heart a sea,
The deepest dark reveals the starriest hope,
And Faith can trust her heaven behind the veil.

THE GOLDEN DAGON; BEING PASSAGES
OF ADVENTURE IN THE BURMAN
EMPIRE.

BY AN AMERICAN.

The florid style of this book indicates its American origin. It appears that the writer, a medical gentleman, was offered, while at Hong Kong, a cruise in the East India Company's steam vessel *Phlegethon*, "then on her return to Calcutta to destroy piratical junks and disperse the long-tailed buccanniers,"—her surgeon having been accidentally drowned.

The "*Phlegethon* was a small, flat-bottomed iron steamer of eight draught," with a couple of hundred men for a crew, one fourth of whom were Lascars and Malays. No sooner had he stepped on board, than they were off for Singapore. At Penang, he came in for what he calls "the steeple chase of death," by happening to be there when "a Malay ran amok."—"The fellow—a familiar vagabond who hung about the town—had been bamboozed for a theft.—Next morning, even as the golden sun began to glorify the garden, he snatched his wicked knees, and with black locks streaming in the astonished air, and back and loins bare and slippery with palm oil, with staring eyes, and visage all bedevilled, crazed with shame and spite, and drunk with opium, he reeled, like a mad dog, down the thronged lanes between the bamboo and hedges, where blind old men, unwitting of the horror, crept to him but to hit, and maidens came singing from the groves, with great plaitan clusters on their heads, and shiny brown youngsters ran races for cocoa nuts." From Penang the *Phlegethon* started to be of use as "tender, pioneer, pilot, and messenger for the larger ships of Her Majesty's and the Indian navies" in the Burmese war:—

A BURMESE SQUADRON AT RANGOON.

"I retain a moving recollection of the first war-boats I saw at Rangoon, when belligerent messages were beginning to be bandied between the Commodore and the Governor, who, inspired with Dutch courage, had summoned a flotilla from Prome. One morning thirty of these gilded craft came down the river and approached the town in long drawn file. Red flags fluttered in the bow and stern of each, spears glittered, and innocent looking muskets. A thousand paddles, wielded by two thousand vigorous arms, swept the water as one, falling in cadence with the monotonous songs of the steersmen. A thousand triumphal gongs were banged as though they were about to sit down to simultaneous dinner at a thousand Burmese Astor Houses. These Burmese Berserkers executed an impertinent chorus (with *kollet*) in disparagement of their invaders:—

"Burmah-man strong man,
Hoo, hoo, hoo!
Kampuy-man strong man,
Hoo, hoo, hoo!
Burmah-man strong man,
Hoo, hoo, hoo!
Kampuy-man strong man,
(A salute to the Government)
Hoo, hoo, hoo!"

Of course a very few revolutionists of the paddies of the Tenasserim made an effort to show a naughty disposition.

A NARROW ESCAPE FROM THE ENEMY.

"How long the engagement lasted, it is, of course, impossible for me, under circumstances of such confusion, and even dæmonium, to remember; but presently there was a pause: not a pang was to be heard; and dismal slogan was no longer to be caught; the artillery and musketry were still, and all was perfectly silent. The dooce-beaters were squatting around their machines, and one or two of them had begun to bubble. The boy went to the door, and, presently returning, whispered to me, seeming anxious to communicate something important; but, in my condition then, I could not understand him, and hardly gave him my attention. Then there was a stir among the coolies—a quick expression of alarm, they laid down their bubble-machines, and went to the windows on the side next the bank. Immediately, they rushed back in great confusion and terror, crying, 'Barnee, Barnee man; Sulu, Sulu, Barnee man!' The boy again went to the door, and, as he spoke, I could hear their sobs. They had come from below, probably, to assist their friends, but had taken such care to keep at a safe distance from our men, that they had blundered upon this boat in its exposed and helpless situation. There was hardly an appreciable interval between the announcement of their presence and the discharge of their muskets. The roof of the boat was quickly perforated in every direction, and bullets whirled about the bed; they struck the timbers over my head, and by my side, and, more than once, struck the bed itself. With a scream of terror, the dooce-beaters leapt into the water, and then I was alone with the boy. For a minute or two, there was a pause in the firing, the attention of the Burmese being distracted by the panic of the Padoos, but it was immediately resumed, as time directed upon the swimming coolies. Now, remember that I was stark naked, intensely excited (except at blessed moments of insensibility), in a high state of cerebral exaltation, reckless of danger, possessed by a sort of devil resembling *mama a potu* in all its phenomena. The little boy, my only companion, preserving wonderful self-possession and calmness of demeanour, came to me, seized me with both hands, and shook me hard, as if to awake me. He cried: 'Get up, sa; get up, sa; no time to lose now!' and asked me if I could swim. I answered, 'yes,' he all the time dragging over my arms and legs a pair of pilot-cloth trousers and a pea-jacket, after which he led me—almost carrying me, feeble as I was—to the side of the boat furthest from the Burmese, who, probably hearing his exclamations, had resumed their firing, and were rapidly drilling the roof, but still afraid to come down upon the boat, perhaps suspecting an ambush. He led me to the door, and pointed to where, some five or six hundred yards up the stream, our boats were aground, in charge of some seven or eight men, under command of a midshipman. Remember, now, that all our force was engaged at the town of Paga (but now far off) in what direction they lay, I knew not then, that there had been every pause in our firing, which, at this time, was resumed with increased vigour of musketry, and roar of cannon.

Pointing to the boats, the boy asked me if I could swim so far. I replied, 'Yes,' and asked him if he would assist me. He said, 'Yes.' He jumped into the river, and struck out in the direction of the boats, bidding him to follow close behind me. The Burmese, perceiving that I made no progress, indignantly reloaded their fire, and their shells thick and hot fell. I could hear them hiss close by my head and back, pecked the water like nuts thrown upon the surface by the handball. Fortunately, the tide was in my favor, and I swam rapidly, being at all times an expert swimmer. Now I seemed to recover my presence of mind, and to have the balance of my nerves restored. I became perfectly calm, unalarmed—master of myself in every respect—with more self-possession and a cooler comprehension of the circumstances surrounding me than I had ever had before in all my life; nor can I refer all of this to other than almost supernatural influences, though, of course, something is to be attributed to the cooling agency of the water."

The Nine Lizards.

BY DEVEREN.

"It was our *Mary*" that told me the tale. Mike Brady was at work in the harvest-field, when getting somewhat tired, he had busied down beside a haycock, and fell asleep. A small stream ran gurgling by at a short distance from his resting-place, and while he lay snoring away like—like anybody that snores, with his mouth wide open—a lizard, creeping from the water's edge, took the opportunity of walking quietly down his throat. The poor fellow immediately awoke, almost choked to death; but when he stood upon his feet, and recovered his consciousness, the lizard was comfortably ensconced in his stomach, and Mike knew nothing about it.

However, after that day, he became sickly and thin, but his appetite increased accordingly; and although he devoured enough at a meal for six or seven men, he was all the time nearly starved to death. He sought the doctor, who, after calculating upon severe jaundice at last to the right conclusion, and proceeded to act accordingly.

First, he made Mike eat at about fifty sauted herrings, until he was so full that he could not swallow another morsel. In a little while, poor Paddy's thirst became intense, but not one drop of water would the doctor allow him. In short, he was not permitted to take a drink until his rigging first caused him the most terrible agony. Then the doctor ordered a tub of water to be placed on the floor, and, making Mike get down on his knees over it, and open his mouth, he held him in such a manner that he could not even moisten his parched tongue.

In about two minutes, the lizard, whose thirst, no doubt, was fully equal to Mike's, began to crawl up the throat of the terrified man. It had no sooner begun from his mouth into the water, than another and another reptile of the same species followed the first, until no less than nine of my lizard's left that man's stomach. The doctor then pulled him away, gave him a glass of brandy, which he had to swallow drunk, than to laudan. Another dose poured down his throat brought him to life again, however, and—see that is the end of the story.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE CHINESE WAR.

ATTACK BY THE CHINESE ON ENGLISH STEAMERS—CAPTURE OF THE THISTLE—DESTRUCTION OF CANTON.

Despatches from Hong Kong state that on the 15th of January a numerous fleet of Chinese war vessels attacked the English steamers lying off Canton. The attack failed; but the Chinese retired in good order.

The passenger steamer *Thistle* had been taken by the Chinese—a party of assassins, disguised, having embarked as passengers, and murdered her crew of eleven men and boys. The vessel was plundered, and has since been recovered.

Admiral Seymour has disembarked troops who have burned down almost all the suburbs of Canton. The rebel fleet at Whampoa has joined the Imperialists.

The Chinese made an unsuccessful attempt to retake Teu-Totum Fort.

The government of Hong Kong has increased the police force, and taken precautionary measures against incendiarism.

THE PERSIAN WAR.

Intelligence from Bushire to the 17th of January states that the troops were still unmolested by the enemy.

An attack had been made by detachments of cavalry and horse artillery on a depot of Persian stores and ammunition, twenty-two miles from the camp, and the object attained without loss.

INDIA.

A despatch of reinforcements to Persia had commenced. Government has opened a new five per cent. loan for three crores. The Bank of Bengal has raised its discount to 11 per cent. on private bills.

RUSSIA AND THE CIRCASSIANS.

Intelligence has been received from Odessa of the operations of two expeditions against the Circassians, of which the one on the right, under the command of General Kozlovski, completely failed; while the other, under the orders of General Phillipson, Ataman of the Cossacks of the Black Sea, and directed against the soul (chief village of a tribe) Eueme, was successful.

TURKEY.

Admiral Lyons has officially announced his approaching departure. A second landing of British troops is said to have taken place at Balfruck, on the Caspian Sea.—Ammunition has also, it is said, been sent to Teheren by the Russians. Russia, in accord with Persia, is, it is reported, about to establish a railway from Tiflis to Teheran. Rifaat Pasha is dead. He has left a fortune of twenty-five millions of piastres. The Milan journals declare that Austria will maintain her opposition to the union of the Principalities. Russia has obtained the power of constructing a line of railway from Mochediser to Teheran.

BEUF GRAS PROCESSION IN PARIS.

The Beuf Gras Procession went to the Tuileries on Tuesday, according to custom. As soon as it had arrived under the balcony of the Pavilion de l'Horloge, the Emperor ordered every one of the gates of the courtyard to be thrown open to the public, and the crowd of spectators in the Carrousel rushed up to the palace doors. The Emperor and Empress appeared in the balcony, and M. Adeline, the breaker of the Beuf

Gras of the day, and M. Meech, the butcher of the Rue Canton, the purchaser of the beast, had the honor of being presented to their Majesties. The weather, although a little colder than it had been, was still most beautiful, and the carnival folk enjoyed themselves immensely. The anniversary of 1818 (Feb. 24) is completely emerged and forgotten in Mardi Gras. The republican sections had some idea of making a political demonstration at the Place de la Bastille, but they found it impossible to struggle with the holiday feeling, and abandoned the attempt. A few obscure meetings outside the barriers formed the only commemoration of this once great anniversary.

TORTURE IN CHINA.

We find the correspondence lately printed the following statement addressed by M. Livois, Procureur-General of the French Missions in China, to Sir John Bowring, under date Hong Kong, July 12, 1856:—"I have just learned that M. Chapdelaine, a French missionary of our society, was put to death on the 29th of last February by the mandarin of Si-hu, a place situated to the west of Quang-si, near the frontiers of Yunnan. Arrested on the 24th of February, he was brought before the tribunal; the mandarin began by ordering 100 blows on the face to be inflicted on him with a leather shoe sole. He then made him lie down, and he was beaten with 300 strokes on a cane. As during this double torture M. Chapdelaine uttered no complaint nor groan, the mandarin, attributing this long-suffering to the influence of some charm, caused the throat of a dog to be cut, and sprinkled the poor sufferer with its blood, in order to dissipate the magic. Next day the mandarin, learning that Chapdelaine was yet able to walk, he ordered him to be beaten until his strength should be exhausted; when it was announced the victim could no longer move they put upon him a sort of apparatus with springs that crushed him as in a press. In this condition he was hung up. Lastly, when on the point of death, he was decapitated. His head was hung upon a tree, but the children pelting it with stones, it fell down, and was devoured by the dogs and pigs. The body was, some say, interred; others affirm it was thrown into the sewer; but previous to this it was opened, and the executioners tore out the heart, cut it into pieces, and cooked it with fat; they then ate it. Two converts were decapitated with their pastor for having refused to renounce their religion. Fourteen or fifteen more were in prison."

THE BURNING OF THE BRITISH FACTORIES AT CANTON.—A private letter from a gentleman, who has been for some time at Canton, and who was an eye witness of the burning of the British Factories in that city, says:—"During the fire that unfortunately burnt us out of the factories, the whole of the foreign as well as our own goods being consumed, I could not have believed it possible that so much injury could have been done in so few hours. The Chinese hoped to drive us out; but a short reflection upon our position, and the triumph it would have proved to the Canton people, determined the British Commander to hold that part of the garden in front of the burnt factories on which the remaining buildings stand, consisting of the church, and the boat or club house. Our forces are therefore entrenching themselves to resist any attempts to disturb them, and have their flag hoisted on the church tower. The 'Niger' is close abreast of the position, and covers it with her guns. They therefore feel that they are strong enough to resist all attempts to dis-

lodge us. Our communications continue as they have always been, open with Hong Kong; and our ships are stationed in various parts of the Canton river. Yesterday, being Christmas-day, we had service in the factory church. It was reported that the Chinese intended an attack on us, but, except a small alarm, nothing took place.—We are, as you may imagine, always on the look out. In the Factory branch of the river, between certain points, our forces do not allow a Chinese boat to move. They have a boom constructed and laid across the entrance of the main branch of the river, to keep off fire-rafts, with which they strive to burn our ships. We still hold the several forts necessary to command the city and its approaches, and hope, with patient vigilance, to wait instructions from home, which cannot be received before the end of February or beginning of March."

THE REIGN OF TERROR IN NAPLES.—STOCKING PROOFS OF TORTURE.—Domestic visits continue. But the visit which has produced the greatest astonishment in public is that paid to the Prince de C—, whose attachment to the Bourbons had never before been called in question. The Prince has, it appears, a housekeeper who has lived with him for a long time. The housekeeper had a child who is now about 16 or 17 years of age, and who is supposed, rightly or wrongly, to be the natural son of the Prince. Antonio Salvi, the lad in question, had been recommended by the Prince to the superintendent of the Royal stables; and, as he was an admirable horseman, as well as a remarkably handsome youth, he employed him as an outrider. It appears that one day Antonio was in the stables at Caserta, and took a piece of *amadou*, or prepared tinder, and rubbed it against the wall in order to light his cigar. At the slight crackling noise it made, the servant who was on guard at the stable door entered, and seeing a sort of match which is not much used here, as well as the embarrassment of the youth, as the lighting a match is an infraction of the regulations, he at once concluded that Antonio Salvi intended to set fire to the stable. At the cry of the servants the other attendants ran up. Antonio was laid hold of, and at once considered and treated as a Mazzinian of the worst class.—He was beaten, and had his clothes torn, and was then dragged off to the Commissary of Police, who began his examination by boxing him on the face, and nearly knocking him down. He told the truth of the affair, and showed the cigar which he still held in his hand. He was asked where he got the prepared tinder; he replied he had got a piece from one of the grooms of the Comte d'Aguilar, the King's brother.—The groom was at once sent for, and interrogated in his turn. This man, frightened at the danger to himself, denied that he had ever given any to Antonio. The consequence was that the youth was at once set down as an incendiary. He was sent forthwith to Naples, thrown into the horrible charnel-house of Santa Maria Apparente, and put to the torture. His mother heard of the affair, and the Prince de C— lost no time in making inquiry about it, and tried to get the unfortunate young man out of the scrape. Instead of rendering him assistance, the house of the Prince himself was visited on the suspicion that he also was an accomplice. In the meantime Antonio was beaten with a *nerf de beuf*, and his body presented one huge wound. This horrible punishment could not wring from him any other avowal than the one he already gave, and he is incapable of inventing any. Of

course the object is to ascertain if he has accomplices. The magistrates, even if there be any yet among them who remain uncorrupted, will not dare to act according to their conscience, and they will be obliged to condemn him.

A number of pamphlets have been put into circulation against England. They are, of course, a defence of the King's conduct, who is styled in them the greatest man of modern history. In the pamphlets of Terenzio Socco and others, it is denied that torture has existed at Naples, or even the practice of flogging. We have examples of the fact every day. But to put an end to the matter once for all, I need only quote the despatch of the 31st January, 1818, from the captain of the Fair Rosamond to Lord Napier, Charge d' Affaires at Naples. He says:—"I visited the police office, of which so much has been said relative to torture having been committed there constantly. I send you the *proces-verbal*, which was taken by those who first entered it. I found the secret door as described, also the small inner apartment containing the niches or shelves in which the skeletons were found, and the place as described. The bones and parts of the human body had been removed, as many days had elapsed since the office was taken—*Proces verbal of Giuseppe Oddo, Pol. crmo*, January 20, 1818."

"On the 20th instant, passing by the Laico Santo Domingo, I was stopped by a number of people who stood before the police office, at the head of which there was once Silvestri, and now there is Armi. To my great horror I found what follows:—Fresh bones, blood, flesh and human limbs spread about, a secret chamber and several instruments of torture, and a trap-door were there, which indicated a human slaughter-house. Pushee on by the people, crying loudly, 'Vengeance, vengeance,' I made a report of it as an authentic proof of the infamy of those who, instead of doing public justice, were 'impious murderers.'" I will not any longer dwell on this topic, as none, except the *Univ.ers and Assemble Nationale*, doubt it.

The King is still at Caserta, and lives more secluded ever. He is afraid of his own brothers, but above all, of his son, the heir to his crown. The rumor of an approaching change is still current at the court. People, however, no longer talk of abdication, but it is affirmed positively that the King will make some concessions to the Western Powers, and will then make a journey somewhere with the Queen and his family. His eldest son will act as Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom in his absence, (others say the Prince Luigi), not as an *alter ego*, but with instructions very precise and detailed, and to assist him, men who will not only be his advisers but spies on him. Ferdinand cannot make up his mind to lay aside the crown at the age of 47, although that crown is really one of thorns.

PRUSSIA—MORE TROUBLES ABOUT NEUCHÂTEL.—A letter from Berlin says, "The Neuchâtel question increases in difficulty. The Swiss Government is threatening to treat certain citizens of Neuchâtel as deserters, for refusing some time back to bear arms against Prussia. Thirty-six municipal functionaries of Neuchâtel have also been dismissed, accused of participation in the events of September, and the Royalist prisoners who have arrived here describe their treatment as having been most harsh. Fresh instructions have been sent to Count Wenzfeldt to insist that the matter shall be

settled on principle, and not by way of arrangement. Prussia will declare at the conferences that she considers the extinction of the dispute as called for by the public law of Europe, and that she will not accept a compromise."

CONDITIONS OF THE PEACE WITH PERSIA.—The following are the conditions of the peace concluded with Persia, as given by the Paris correspondent of the *Brussels Nord*:—

"One of the Pretensions put forward by Lord Rodolpho that appeared exigent to Ferukh Khan, consisted in the demand for the dismissal of the Shah's Prime Minister, the Sadrazam Mutza-Aga Khan, whom the Shah had just loaded with favors. England has abandoned that claim, and the Sadrazam will be maintained in his present functions and dignities. The second demand of England, on which the Cabinet of London has shown a good deal of tenacity, was still more exigent. It was insisted on, that when he resumed his functions as British representative at Teheren, Mr. Murray should twice receive visits from the Persian authorities before he paid any ransom.— This demand, so difficult if not impossible, for the Shah to accede to, has also been waived. Mr. Murray will be received with all the honors due to his rank, but the Persian Government will not have to take a step that would lower it in the eyes of its subjects, and which, indeed, it would never would have debase itself to. Persia has consented to receive English consuls in all towns where consuls from Russia may be placed. Herat is to be restored on the one side, and Bushire on the other. Such are the most important details of the arrangement."

It is remarked by the Nord, that the stipulation respecting the consuls is a considerable concession on the part of England, which first claimed to place those functionaries wherever she pleased throughout Persia. She now limits herself to having a consul wherever Russia may post one.

SHOCKING SUICIDE BY STRYCHNINE.—A painful sensation has been created in Newport by the death of Mr. William Gummow from strychnine. The Coroner's jury found deceased in the same position, in bed, in which he died, and he presented a most fearful sight. His eyeballs seemed ready to burst from their sockets; his teeth were tightly closed; the features drawn and contracted, and the whole countenance frightfully distorted; his fists, too, were firmly clenched; his feet forced out beyond the foot of the bed, and his limbs in a state of fixed rigidity. The poison was bought by the servant of the suicide. The druggist recollected the latter coming to his shop and asking for arsenic to kill rats. He gave him three grams of strychnine. "I have sold the same (said the druggist) for killing rats for four or five years to many persons. I write the word 'poison' on my packages, and have not a printed label." The Coroner and jury observed it would be much better to have a printed label. The deceased took the whole three grams. The doctor who attended him first tried strong emetics, which produced no effect. He then applied the stomach pump, but his mouth was so firmly fixed, and the spasms and violent paroxysms were so powerful as to shake the gas lamps in the room below, and he could not in any way apply it. His body was bent in a curved form. These were only such symptoms as would be produced by strychnine or hydrophobia.

Fearful Colliery Explosion.

LOSS OF ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY LIVES.

A few moments after twelve o'clock on Thursday night, a most awful explosion took place at the Lunt-hill Colliery, about half a mile from the Wombwell station on the South Yorkshire Railway. The pit belongs to Taylor and Co., and is worked by separate shifts of men night and day. The day workers, to the number of one hundred and twenty, descended at six o'clock this morning. At 12 o'clock 30 of them, who reside near the pit, came up to dinner, the rest remaining to partake of that meal in the pit. Shortly afterwards a fearful explosion occurred, and the frame in which the ropes descend was blown up the shaft and fixed in the gearing above the pit-mouth. Numbers of men from the neighboring collieries flocked to render assistance, and up to 7 o'clock 16 men had been drawn up alive, some of them most seriously injured. The interior of the pit was set on fire by the explosion, and the flames have spread with such rapidity as, it is feared, to cut off all chance of reaching that part of the pit where the 112 men are supposed to be. Some idea of the extent of the fire may be gathered when we state that the flames ascending up the air shaft 220 yards deep, reach more than 20 yards above the top, illuminating the country for a distance round. The cause of the explosion is as yet involved in mystery. The overlooker states that when he went round the pit before the daymen descended this morning, all was then perfectly safe. About 7 o'clock the proprietors and managers had a conference, and decided to stop up the mouths of the working shafts with planks and earth, as the only way of stopping the draught up the air mine and subduing the fire. This plan was attended with partial success, and at about half-past 8 o'clock the flames ceased to ascend above the surface of the ground. Previous to this several miners entered the pit, and penetrated some distance along the main tramway, but found the workings so full of sulphur as to preclude all entrance into them. The stoppings by which the workings were ventilated had been blown down, and the greatest havoc made with the works generally, so that there is not the slightest expectation of any of the miners who are yet in the pit being rescued alive. Twelve or thirteen dead bodies had been picked up the main tramways, and carried to the bottom of the shaft, but it was found so urgent that the mouths of the pit should be closed that they were allowed to remain there. Several of the miners taken out alive are dangerously injured. The pit has only been in work two years, and was considered one of the best ventilated mines for miles around. The seam of coal is what is called a "ner," one (i. e., contains a large quantity of inflammable gas), but the mine was so well ventilated that the draught in the air-ways was often sufficiently strong to blow out a lighted candle. Naked candles, and not Davy lamps, were used in many instances by the miners, but this was considered safe. It is supposed that a fall in some part of the works has led to the explosion. It is expected that some days will elapse before the fire is sufficiently extinguished to permit the pit to be entered. The following is Mr. Webster's description of the state in which he found the mine during his perilous exploration:—He said that on getting to the bottom of the shaft, they found that the lower portion of the slides and boardgates were entirely blown up and destroyed, and on proceeding fur-

that they found the coal around the furnace was in a complete state of ignition. The coal and woodwork in the nearest shaft had taken fire, and the flames were raging furiously. He could compare it to nothing but a river of molten lead being poured down the shaft. They proceeded 200 or 250 yards along the south level, and found the whole of the furnace down, and the coal on fire. They proceeded up the levels and boardgates as far as they dared to venture, until they came in contact with the inflammable gas, and were obliged to retreat.— They returned to the shaft, and then made an examination of the north levels, along which they proceeded for a distance of 400 yards, up to the fourth boardgate. During the investigation they found many dead bodies, and the men who accompanied them brought the remains to the shaft. One man was found close to the bottom of the shaft; further on they found ten bodies in a mass. Not far from the furnace it was supposed that a large number of bodies were lying, as the men generally congregated near the fire at dinner time. The furnace was blown down, and the stables (containing six horses) were on fire. When they got near the up-cast shaft they saw immense masses of coal and rock falling down. The shaft was like a furnace. They were in the pit above two hours. The stoppages and brattices between the two shafts were completely blown away, and therefore, except in the level, the pit was dead, i. e., full of bad air. They would have succeeded in putting up stoppages, but the fire increased to such an extent that they were obliged to retreat.— They were so placed that if they had not retreated they would have been excluded from the air and suffocated, because the air was 'backing' direct from one shaft to the other. Himself, Mr. Coe, and Mr. Maddison ascended the shaft and held a consultation, but their companions ascended in haste, saying that it was impossible for any one to remain down any longer. Of course they then considered it their duty to acquaint the owners with the condition of the mine, and to state that it was imperative to close the shafts, as there was no probability of saving and more lives; and that it was the only chance to render the pit in a condition fit for working it again. Mr. Webster added—My companions and myself, feeling the awful responsibility which rested upon our heads, thought it was only prudent to consult with the men who had gone down with us. They were called in separately, and asked if they were of opinion that it was impossible to get any more bodies out of the mine. They concurred in the opinion that it was impossible, and we acted upon their resolution and our own by covering over the tops of the pits. In a few minutes after we came out of the mine, the cupola shaft was filled with fire, which reached 50 yards above the summit, and the sparks from that body of flame ascended 100 yards higher.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

On Monday, the jury, to inquire into the deaths of the 170 persons killed by this explosion, was empanelled by the Coroner, Mr. Thomas Hadger. The poor fellow into whose death the jury first set to inquire, was Abraham Turner, about 20 years of age, who lived with his widowed mother near the old factory, at Warr. Abraham was single, and was the chief support of his mother. The other son, named Stephen, was married and lived at Hemingsfield.— This son is now among the dead in the pit, and has left, beside his mother, a wife and two other children to mourn his loss, and it is ex-

pected that she will be confined again shortly. William Coldbridge of Lund Hill, one of the firemen at the colliery, described the manner in which he had got the deceased out of the pit. He then said that on the morning of the accident he found all the places he visited in good working order.— He could not form any opinion as to what was the cause of the fearful explosion. It is supposed that there are now over 160 persons in the pit. The pit was worked with naked candles in some parts, and Davy lamps were necessary; generally candles were used. He and all the other men thought it quite safe to use them. He ordered Davy lamps to be used where he thought them necessary. John Warhurst, fireman, said: I was at home when the explosion occurred. I went there immediately afterwards. I found the chair for the stoves was blown up into the headgear.— Power was applied to remove it, but without success, and the rope was cut as quickly as possible. We got into the pit as soon as we could; it was about half-past four o'clock. I, Joseph Coe, and William Bevers, were the first to descend. We heard men at the bottom screaming for assistance. We found a number of men congregated at the bottom and sent them out as soon as possible. I left a man named Hamerton, assisting to get the men out, and proceeded to look round. On reaching the cupola (up-cast shaft,) I found that it was on fire about the furnace. I found a man lying on a heap, of burning coals and took him off. I could only get a few yards further up the boardgate for the fire-damp which fired in my lamp. I returned into the level, and there met with another dead body. I did not recognize either of them. Further on in the south level I found a third and fourth body; after which I returned to the shaft, thinking it was not prudent to go further by myself. I had gone 70 or 80 yards. I went to the cupola and found the fire burning about 25 yards each way, and on seeing it, I went and told the other persons the furnace would fall in; indeed, I saw the arches of the furnace, and some masses of burning coal, fall down the side of the drift leading to the furnace. I expected that if we remained we should all be killed, and the other men were of the same opinion. I saw the stables on fire. We could not get to both the ends of the stables, for the gas fired in the lamps about 20 yards up the northboard. We went up every board, both north and south, as far as we could get. We found inflammable gas up every board.

The Coroner—Can you form any opinion as to the cause of the accident?

I cannot form any, unless it be that some trapper had left a door open in one of the boards. This is a mere supposition, I cannot indicate any particular direction where I suppose a door was left open.

RIFLE AND ARTILLERY IMPROVEMENTS IN INDIA.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY.

The officers of the Indian army, equal as they most undoubtedly are to any others in the world in practical experience, have not made themselves so generally conspicuous in Europe as might on the first view of the case appear reasonable to expect, in any scientific alterations or improvements in professional subjects. Whether it is that India or the Company do not afford the facilities more or less required by genius for the development of its conceptions, or whether it is that men employed, as they have been, more actively than most others

in the practical duties of their profession have no time to give to alterations which their position does not render very urgent, most certain it is that improvements more frequently go from the west to the east, than in an opposite direction. Nor is there anything disparaging, as may at first appear, to the Indian army in this being the case. Second to none as it is in its performances in the field against the enemy, and in the brilliancy of the services it has rendered to the country, it is more than probable that circumstances do not give it that fair field which might be wished from the eminence of some of its members, for advancing ideas on subjects of military improvement. The great distance from home at which it is situated, and the inferiority (perhaps not always so great as is imagined) in the armies usually opposed to it, may have some influence; or it may be, and this most likely is the real obstacle, that the East India Company have no interest in innovations, however advantageous they may appear to be, especially if they create expense, which it is the nature of every important change more or less to do. They may, not unreasonably, consider that if they march along with, without going or attempting to go ahead of what is considered to suffice for the wants of European warfare, such a position is as much as they need care to maintain. Individual enterprise and genius will occasionally, however, break through barriers like these, and, whether with or without encouragement, will strive to bring forward and work out new ideas.

These remarks are induced by the recent receipt from India of accounts of a new rifled gun and rifle musket, the inventions of Lieutenant-Colonel Jacob of the Bombay Artillery. Some of the performances of the latter (the former would as yet appear to be in embryo), though likely to excite less astonishment than they would have done a few years ago, are still sufficiently remarkable, if truly stated, as they appear to be, to be brought under notice. The rifle is described as "single-barrelled, 30 inches long, 24 inches gauge, four-grooved, grooves to take one complete turn in 36 inches of length; good lock, mainspring connected with tumbler by link; half-cock a little above nipple, trap in butt; full stocked barrel attached to stock by bands; steel ramrod with hollow head exactly fitting the small end of the ball; sword bayonet 24 inches (of peculiar form, not easy to describe in words) of the best cast steel; case-hardened iron mountings, and no brass or bright metal of any kind about the piece; long folding sight with slide, both the sight itself and the slide to be made with springs to prevent their working loose. Weight of the whole, sword included, 9½ lbs."

It will be seen that there is nothing in all this very strikingly different from many rifles which have been already manufactured. The great merit of Colonel Jacob's invention would appear to apply to the projectile he makes use of, the effects of which, in an Indian paper noticing the subject, are described as something marvellous. The rifle, like the French field artillery gun of the Emperor Louis Napoleon, discharges either a solid bullet or a shell. Both are constructed of a peculiar form best adapted for flight through the air, and so scientifically has this form been attained, that the bullet or shell can be driven to the same distance with one half as much powder as can be arrived at with any of the bullets of the different shapes now in use. The head of the projectile is formed of zinc or iron for the protection of its figure, and presents in

sectional outline the form of a very acute arch, standing on a cylindrical base of lead, of about its own height, partially hollowed at the bottom to take advantage of the expansion principle, and with four vertical bands on its circumference to fit the grooves of the rifle. Its weight is 56 drs., and with a charge of 3 drs. of powder, it obtains it is said, a range of one mile and a half. The points of these missiles are now made of compressed rod-iron, and Colonel Jacob finds that a 32 gauge shot of this kind of 3 diameters in length—that is, the girth of a spherical leaden bullet 32 to the pound, but three times as long as it is broad—will be perfectly effective at 2,500 yards or more.— These far-flying shot, as they are well called, are converted into shells of a destructive nature by the introduction of a tube charged with gunpowder, and primed with percussion powder, into the centre of the arrow-head; an explosion taking place when the missile is well embedded in the object struck. This would seem to have been practically tested and proved on the 5th of September last at Kurachee by Colonel Jacob and several other officers. A powder-box, consisting of two boards 1½ men thick and 10 feet square, with an interval of 1 inch between the boards, was fired with powder and placed at a range of 1800 yards. This box Colonel Jacob at the 21st round struck with one of his shells and exploded it, causing, as might reasonably be expected with so considerable a quantity of powder, a very violent shock in its vicinity.— At the practice no rest was used; the rifles were always fired from the shoulder, standing up. It would be satisfactory further to know whether the range was measured before or after the practice, as a man taking up his distance and knowing exactly what it is, will much sooner hit a mark than if he has to calculate his own distance, more especially when at these long ranges he cannot have any guide to alter his elevation by seeing where the bullet strikes.

Colonel Jacob, as is usual with geniuses on any subject, is somewhat of an enthusiast. He has in the attainment of the best weapon used up an armory of rifles by the best makers, and expended powder and lead by the ton. One can hardly imagine him in any other position than with one eye closed and the deadly tube at his shoulder. The target walls alone used in the course of his experiments have cost him several hundred pounds. Neither time nor official coldness have had any effect in turning him aside from his object. He has pursued it steadily and unflinchingly, and he now seems to stand, as his perseverance deserves he should do, on the brink of success. His experiments have extended over a long series of years, but he remarks (it is rather a long portion of a man's lifetime) that it is only during the last ten that he has had the means and opportunity of carrying them out upon a scale sufficiently large—a remark which, coupled with the following, rather bears out what has been said at the commencement of this article. He was told, it would appear, on his recommending his four-grooved rifle to the authorities, that as used by the Royal Army was only two-grooved (at the present moment it happens to be three), a similar weapon was quite good enough for the soldier in India; and so it certainly would in reason appear to be.

The official countenance and support withheld in the first instance would appear to be no longer denied, and if Colonel Jacob's inventions are found to be practically as formidable as they appear to be, they seem to have a fair chance of obtaining notice. Whether this rifle will, however,

eventually supersede the present Enfield rifle, hardly and certainly as it is, may hardly be doubted. A very considerable expense has been gone to with the latter, and the army is at present supplied with it, and advanced in its construction. It is, however, moreover, a large quantity of the rifle adapted to its manufacture, a ready method, which would not, it is presumed, be suitable to that of a four-grooved rifle. The possession of the field will be most likely for many a day to come, and a most insurmountable obstacle to any radical change in our small arms. A perfect three-grooved rifle is perhaps the only one that would have any chance of success. If Colonel Jacob would turn his attention solely to the bullet and the shell, and adapt these to the three-grooved rifle adopted into the service, his improvements might have a better chance of being listened to at home. Unfortunately for him, there is so vast a range in the small arm of the present day. The Enfield rifle reaches all that can possibly be required for practical purposes, as far as range and accuracy are concerned. It is sighted up to 900 yards, and shoots well very considerably beyond that distance.

It is rather a mistake taken into by most people, but especially by us, to lay too great a stress upon an extreme range. It would be much better if they confined themselves to distances sufficiently near for taking aim to other than the very keenest and sharpest of vision. The most level ground seldom admits of a man being seen at a mile off, and, except in very clear days and under exceptional circumstances, even horses are not very well defined at that distance. In action it should be remembered that there is generally a good deal of smoke to obscure the view, and much that is done in ordinary practice with small arms at measured ranges, and under other favorable circumstances, will only be approached to a very distant degree in practice warfare. Colonel Hay's report from the School of Musketry at Hythe, seems, like most others, to be a good deal carried away by looking only at one side of the question, and apparently forgetting that many a man who has his distance measured for him, and nothing to disturb the steadiness of his aim, will make very different practice when he comes to have shot and shell booming and bursting about him; with sharpshooters on the other side also firing at him; and feeling, after guessing his range as well as may be, that he has no means of knowing, at anything like a long range, or without a distinct object to fire at, and which he can see and know to fall to his own shot only, whether he has guessed it right or not.— There is no doubt that immense strides in improvement have been made of late years

The Enfield rifle of 1855 is sighted up to 900 yards; the length of the barrel is 3 feet 3 inches; the diameter of the bore .577 or 24 bore. It is three-grooved, having a spiral with one turn in 6 feet 6 inches. The musket length is 4 feet 7 inches; weight, 8 lbs. 8 oz. The bayonet length (beyond muzzle), 1 foot 5½ inches; weight 11 oz. The arm, complete with bayonet, is 6 feet 0¼ inch in length; its weight is 6 lbs. 3 oz. The ammunition is an elongated ball, with an iron cup or wood plug—the latter making the best shooting; weight, with cup or boxwood plug, 530 grams; diameter, .567 to .569 (introduced in June 1855, in place of Pritchett bullet with expanding agent); charge, 2½ drams; weight of 60 rds. and 75 cups, 5 lbs. 8 oz. Penetration at 50 yards, 11 half-inch in boards, one inch apart. The swell of the hammer is done away with. The rammer is generally counter throughout, and held in the stock by means of a roller and spring, obviating the necessity of the swell being forced under top band. The workmanship of the arm is perfect.

It is not by such attacks, however, that we are to suppose, as is so often done, that this improvement will be the effect of driving artillery out of the field. It will, on the contrary, tend only to make the more easily than has hitherto been the case, the action of the two arms. The rifles will be singly changed, and a skirmisher's force will most expect to be able to do as much with a rifle as always did with the batteries of artillery. It is a well-known fact that the improved arm, that some regard to, has been long available for sale to the effect of the most vital production, and one which has long since attracted the attention of continental armies. The French had batteries at the Crimea at ordinary exercise with infantry a ways worked entirely with classes of men, and of distributed about them. The old theory of not firing over your own men will, like many other old theories, soon be exploded.

Colonel Jacob is very properly to be very content with improving the rifle, as an officer of artillery he carries the improvement into his own arm. He has constructed, or is about to construct, an artillery gun with a projectile of the same principles as those of the small of weapon. And here the success he anticipates is somewhat astonishing. With his long gun, he could command a vessel at a distance of 10 miles, and he expects to obtain a range, with force and accuracy, of ten miles or more! Perhaps it would be better if he would limit himself to the utmost distance at which even a gun is supposed capable of seeing the largest object usually fired at with the naked eye. If we go on at this rate, there is no knowing where we may stop. Perhaps, by and by, we may go a good deal further; with guns of the largest calibre, we may get to twenty or thirty miles, and in case of a war with our neighbors, we may have the consideration of seeing their fleet with an army advancing to invade us, under cover, from the beginning to the end of their voyage, of these long-ranged rifled guns of stone. A walk on Dover cliffs under such circumstances will be about as peculiarly ever to be as a visit to the advanced position of a town in the open at the siege of Sebastopol. Ships will commence firing at each other just as they may appear above the horizon, and if they make good practice may never see each other's hulls at all. There will be a complete revolution in warfare. Invisibly armies will combat with each other for days and weeks, and shot and shells of an elongated shape and diabolical character will be thrown in amongst them without the report of their discharge being heard, or a very clear idea existing of where they come from. Seriously is there anything practical or desirable in a ten-mile range? J. W. F.

The name of the Marquis of Westminster has been brought prominently forward for the Order of the Garter in the Official world, now that it is known a second blue ribbon is vacant. The insignia worn by his father the late marquis, was more splendid than that of any other knight. The jewels were of enormous value, and two of the diamonds were, by the will of the late marquis, made heir-loom. Some idea of the value of the whole may be formed from the fact that one of these diamonds cost the marquis £30,000—it was worn on the pomel of the sword.

Accounts have been received from Switzerland of the death there of General Count Ostermann Tolstoy, one of the old veterans of the Russian armies, and who commenced his career under Suwaroff.



CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE.

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1857.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TROOPS HAVING OCCASION TO
ACT AGAINST AN INSURGENT MOB, IN STREETS OR
ALLEYWAYS, AND ALSO FOR OFFICERS COMMAND-
ING IN DETACHED QUARTERS.

BY CAPTAIN M'LEOD MOORE.

1. When Troops are called upon to act in Streets or defiles, where the flanks are confined, it should be understood, that as the flank only of the column can be engaged, it is always desirable that the intervals between the different Arms of which it is composed should be sufficient to enable a change to be made—so as to bring Cavalry, Infantry or Artillery to the front, and admit of their forming without creating confusion.

2. In order to insure this, columns so to be employed should never be large or deep, and dense columns are difficult to move if required suddenly to retire, and on this account, even if it is necessary to move large bodies to particular points, either through streets or by confined roads, a considerable interval should be preserved between the main body and the advanced, in order that the movements of the latter should not be confined.

3. Whether employed independently in streets, or as the advanced guard of a larger force, small moveable columns, consisting of Troops of each Arm should be formed as follows—

- 1 Troop of Cavalry.
- 1 Company of Infantry.
- 1 Gun.
- 2 Companies of Infantry.
- 1 Troop of Cavalry.

These will at any time be in a situation to act either to their front or rear, and to bring into action either arm, that may be required. The third Company of Infantry is attached to the column, in order when acting in streets, that it may be disposable to occupy Houses if required to do so, and there should be attached to it six Pioneers or other men furnished with hatchets, and crow bars, for the purpose of breaking into houses, or of breaking from house to house if necessary.

It may be convenient to carry these Instruments with the Gun so that the men appointed to use them may have their arms.

4. In order to facilitate the bringing into action each description of Force when required, columns such as are proposed should be occasionally formed, and the Troops practised in each movement to the front and rear. The simplest method of doing this is as follows—If the Cavalry in front are to retire and make way for the Infantry, the latter will wheel backwards on their flanks, the Cavalry will then file from both flanks to the rear, the leading files inclining inwards, leaving interval enough for the passage of the Gun, if necessary, and they will re-form either in front or rear of the Gun, as may be re-

quired by the leading files turning to their right and left, and moving on towards the point where their flanks are to stand, where they will give the word right and left form, which brings them to their proper front.

The Infantry, as soon as the Cavalry have passed through, if called on to open their fire will immediately wheel into Line and do so.—If the Gun is required to act, the Infantry will continue wheeled backwards and as soon as the Cavalry have passed the Gun will move up into action, and such of the Infantry as there is room for, on each flank of the Gun will also fire. If the Cavalry are again wanted to the front, the Infantry, as before, will wheel backwards, and the Cavalry in double file from the centre will advance, and as soon as their front is clear will form to it. If the Infantry forming the front have to pass to the rear they will do so, by filing from both flanks, instead of inclining inwards, as directed for the Cavalry, and Artillery, and form—the same system will apply to the Cavalry and Infantry in rear of the Gun, which bodies may either put about and act with rear rank in front, or first countermarch if there is time do so. If the column is attacked it is always to be understood that the Troops in the rear of those engaged are to act as a reserve to them; if both front and rear should be engaged, the 3d Company of the Infantry will be alone disposable to assist either party.

5. When acting in Streets with these moveable columns great care should be taken before passing deep into a Street that none of the houses left in the rear are hostily occupied.

6. Having passed into a Street if it is desirable to secure the rear of a Column, and to prevent the Street being entered by the opposing parties; some houses may be occupied by a few men from the disposable Company. For this purpose, Houses at the corners of Streets and opposite to each other should be selected, it is always better to occupy two houses with twenty men in each than one with forty. The fire from two houses affording material support to the men in each.

7. Men occupying houses and intending to hold them should be instructed to barricade the doors and windows of the lower story, by placing against them furniture and all such articles as will serve as an impediment to the entry of any persons attacking them. The first or second floor is that from which a house may be best defended, as there is then no danger in firing from houses opposite each other on persons below.

8. When occupying a house with view to its defence, it is always desirable if possible to fix on one that affords means of a flank fire from within on its doors, and care should be taken also to secure the means of retreat if necessary, either by having an open rear, or if in Streets by breaking into the adjoining houses.

9. If subject to a fire from without, when defending a house, feather beds placed against the windows, and kept there by chairs and tables placed against them, form an excellent breast work, over which the men can fire with comparative security, especially if fired at from the ground.

10. Good shots should be selected to fire, and the other men should load for them, this would not only contribute much to the defence being successful, but it would expose fewer men to casualties.

17. Officers commanding Cavalry Regiments should take means to teach the horses of their Regiments to leap the fences in the vicinity of their quarters, whenever an opportunity of so doing offers, so that if called on to act with Infantry some few men at least may be able to accompany them into the fields—in acting against insurgent mobs the utmost advantage will be derived from this.

18. Care must be taken in so training the horses that no injury is done them; they will commence with very small ditches or fences, and on no account ever attempt very large ones. When horses are leaping it must be recollected that whilst the girths are properly tight, the breast plate and crupper should be loosed, or they will be broken in the exertion.

Care must be taken to protect Troops from the too near approach of the mob by placing sentries at 20 or 30 paces distance when halted, and by small flanking parties when on the march in all cases where Cavalry and Infantry are not combined.

Any detachment finding itself too weak to move through the Country will continue stationary until relieved, defending its Barrack to the utmost, and this 20 men are competent to do against 500.

Should any officer commanding a detachment find himself so situated, when a general disturbance prevails in the country, care must be generally taken by him to secure a store of provisions, &c., and in regard to meat this object can easily be attained by having a certain quantity of it salted.

MILITARY PRISONS.—Colonel Jebb reports the state of Military prisons during 1855 as follows:—The number of prisons was 17, whereof 9 were in the United Kingdom and the rest at foreign stations: the whole were capable of holding 1,250 prisoners. Colonel Jebb cannot advocate a more lenient system of prison discipline for the punishment of offence in the Army, because he considers it would fail in its object, and be the least merciful, in the end, that could be pursued. The sentences should be short, but severe. The Colonel reports that drunkenness is very prevalent; in England the committals for this offence last year were 0.35 per cent., in Scotland 0.38 per cent., and in Ireland 0.77 per cent. In Ireland the percentage has been as high as 2.57 per cent., and in Scotland as high as 2.05 per cent., within the last nine years. In 1855 there were 1,577 prisoners under 20 years of age; 3,185 under 30, 528 under 40, and 32 above 40 years of age; 2,983 were English, 557 Scotch, and 1,742 Irish; 3,263 were Protestants, 344 Presbyterians, and 1,715 Papists. 5,020 prisoners were of good character (in prison), 182 of indifferent, and 120 of bad character. The total number imprisoned last year was 5,322. There were 2,441 cases of desertion, 1,201 of absence with leave or licence, 593 of drunkenness, 275 of disgraceful conduct, and 812 miscellaneous. The total charge for pay and allowances for prison officers and for the subsistence and washing of the prisoners (in 1855) was 15,931., and the full pay and beer money of prisoners in confinement, not issued, amounted to 13,863. 2,217 corporal punishments were inflicted last year—an immense increase, attributable to transient causes. 1,117 of these sentences were inflicted in the Crimea. There were 209 cases of recommitment last year.

The health of the prisoners has improved, and it appears that the reduced scale of diet adopted in 1850 has not had any injurious effect on their general health. The diet in use at home has been (ordinary) 8oz. of oatmeal for breakfast, 9oz. of Indian meal for dinner, and 8oz of bread for supper, with a half-pint of milk to each meal. After 84 days' incarceration this diet increased to 10oz. of oatmeal and 12oz. of Indian meal. The effects of the discipline on the whole, are deemed highly satisfactory.

GRAND MILITARY FIELD DAY AND SHAM FIGHT.—REGULARS AND ACTIVE MILITIA.—At 2 p. m. the troops in Garrison, consisting of H. M.'s 29th Regiment under the command of Lieut-Colonel Munro, C.B., and the Volunteer Field Battery, and Foot Company of Artillery, with the Volunteer Militia Rifle Companies under the command of the Commandant of the Active Force, assembled in Dalhousie Square in contiguous columns at quarter distance. Shortly after, his Excellency Sir William Eyre, the Commander of the Forces, came on the ground and assumed the command. The troops moved off four deep right in front through Notre Dame and McGill Streets, and re-formed columns on the water side, near the Canal Basin. After loading with blank cartridge, they were moved off on to the ice, by double files from the centre in the direction of St. Helen's Island, where the enemy, consisting of a part of the 39th Regt., under Lieut-Col. Munro, were posted in force. Skirmishers were thrown out by the 39th who composed the attacking party, as the heavy boom of the 24 lb howitzers came rolling from the Island, which were shortly replied to by the Volunteer Field Battery, who were moved up to the right and unlimbered to reply to them, which they did so effectually as soon to silence them, when the whole line of skirmishers moved on gradually, supported by two Companies of the 39th and Volunteer Rifle Companies.

At this crisis of the action two Companies of the Rifles, under Major Fletcher, were moved off to the left, and extended to the flank of the position. This was gallantly performed, when the defenders, finding their position turned, abandoned it and fell back, still fighting, to the rear of the island, as a general advance of the attacking force took place, up the slopes of the banks and across the island. There the force was reformed, and returned to town right in front. On reaching this side, they were formed into sub divisions, and marched past the General, who with his staff placed himself near the Bonsecours Church, for this purpose. Before dismissing the volunteer militia, he expressed to the Commandant his satisfaction at their soldierly appearance, and the alacrity they had shown in turning out on the occasion, and stated that it was his intention to issue a general order on the subject. The day was fine and mild, and an immense concourse of people assembled and followed the troops throughout, so dense was the mass of spectators as seriously to impede and inconvenience the movements of the troops. Every one was out apparently for a holiday, the town seemed completely emptied, and had an enemy made a demonstration from the back of the island, Montreal would no doubt have fallen an easy prey, and been sacked during the absence of its citizens and their gallant defenders.—*Montreal Herald of the 17th.*

THE LATE FIELD DAY AND SHAM FIGHT.—We have much pleasure in publishing the following gratifying and general testimony of His Excellency, Sir William Eyre, to the creditable efficiency of our friends of the Active Militia Force of Montreal.—

HEAD QUARTERS.

MONTREAL, March 17, 1857.

GENERAL ORDER.

The Lieut-General commanding, having had an opportunity of seeing the Volunteer Field Battery and Foot Company of Artillery, and the Volunteer Militia Rifle Companies manoeuvre yesterday on the ice, in company with Her Majesty's 39th Regiment of foot, desires to express his satisfaction at the soldier-like steadiness and appearance of these Provincial Forces.

The manner in which the field battery took up its position on the ice and opened fire, was most creditable, and the general conduct of the whole was satisfactory.

The alacrity, also, with which the officers and men of these militia forces turned out at the request of their Commandant, Lieut-Col. Dyde, shows an *esprit* highly commendable and full of promise.

(Signed,) W. J. DURBAN,
Colonel, D.Q.M.G.

We understand that a General Court Martial will assemble in this city during the ensuing week, for the trial of an officer of the 29th Regiment, upon a charge preferred against him by his commanding officer. Col. Bell, of Artillery, has been nominated President of the Court, and the details are to be furnished by the garisons of Montreal and St. John.—*Pilot.*

FIELD BATTERY OF ARTILLERY.—We omitted to notice the turn-out of the above force, under the command of Lieut.-Col Jackson, on Thursday, the 12th inst. The Battery made a very creditable parade in full force of the several gun detachments, with six horses to guns and ammunition waggons, exclusive of a large number of supernumeraries and spare horses. The horses were very steady under fire, and the men not only fired regularly, but of themselves were of that size and make, as to be capable, if required either with or without guns, to do good service. We believe it is intended to turn out for shot and shell practice to-morrow.—*Kingston News.*

The gold medal presented by the British Government to the officers and men of the Arctic Expedition is about the size of a double eagle, and a beautiful specimen of coinage. On one side is a head of the Queen, with her title in Latin. On the reverse is the inscription: "The British Government to the Officers and men of the American Arctic Expedition," encircled by an elaborate oak wreath, surmounted by a crown, and the whole surrounded with the words: "As a token of gratitude for his generous services."

THE SOLDIERS' DOG.—There is a dog, of the Russian breed, who answers to the name of "Bluff," at present in the 82nd Reg. in the Camp at Aldershot, who attends all fatigue parties, guard mounting, and parades of that Corps, and is extremely fond of associating with the lovers of foot-ball playing. He attends Divine Service on a Sunday, but belongs to no one particularly, he is the soldiers' dog, and no one refuses him a crust, he is well provided for, but stops with no soldier long together; he came with a party in charge of horses on board the

ship "Clarendon," from the seat of war, and was wrecked on the coast of Spain, but still blithely found his way to the scenes of Military tactics in Hampshire, and is now to be seen doing duty daily with the aforesaid Corps.

The young soldier, Morey, who shot Mr Morey in the Paris prison, has been tried by Court Martel, acquitted, and has rejoined his regiment.—He was placed as a sentinel, and instructed to prevent prisoners from showing their faces at the windows, and if they refused, after three warnings, he was ordered to fire on them. Morey had warned Mr Morey to leave the window six times before he fired on him.

The 41st will proceed to Jamaica instead of Barbadoes as originally intended. The Reg. will arrive at Jamaica in February, 1857. This Corps was embodied, March 11, 1719, as a Hl. Reg. of Invalids. It was disbanded in 1787, and the present 41st Reg. was embodied on Christmas Day, 1787, at Windsor. The Coloneley was conferred on Colonel Archibald McNab, who had been Colonel of the (Invalid) 41st Reg. when that Corps was disbanded. When King George III was asked by the then Com-in-Chief what should be the colour of the facings of the new 41st Reg., His Majesty replied, "Facings, eh? Thirty-third here lately, excellent Corps, red facings; forty-six at the same." Thus the 41st Reg. obtained the red facings which it wore until March, 1822, when the Reg. was sent to the East Indies and the facing was changed to white, as a consideration for the service of twenty-one years which the Reg. was destined to undergo in India.

SNOW SHOW RACES.—This annual contest came off on Thursday last with great success, and afforded considerable amusement to a large number of spectators. A heavy Snow Storm at one o'clock indicated an unfavorable afternoon, but in a short time it cleared up, leaving the ground in a better state than had previously been. Below we give particulars of each race.

1st—An Indian race of four miles, contested for by five Indians, viz: Ignace, Thomas, Moise, Itachka and Saumasee. Won by Thomas.

2nd—Hurdle race—200 yards, over four hurdles, for a purse of 15. Competitors, Mr. Murray, Mr. Whitehead, and Mr. Reateau.—Won by Mr. Murray.

3rd—Boys ¼ mile race. Won by Master Murray.

4th—mile race for \$15 contested for by Indians Sacalia, Thomas Raceus, Itachka and Mr. Murray. Won by the latter with ease.

5th—Mile walk for \$12 or a cup. Mr. Hughes, H. H. Lamontagne, Mr. S. S. Macauley; and Indians Itachka and Moise. Mr. Hughes took the lead soon after starting and came in winner; but closely pressed by Macauley. One of the Indian competitors objected to the decision given. Mr. Hughes at once consented to again walk against the Indian, the result of which was that the red man was left nowhere.

6th—Race of 100 yards by Messrs. Whitehead, Murray, Francois, Pierre, and Itachka.—Mr. Murray again carrying off the prize.

7th—A well contested race of two miles by Messrs. Dowd, W. Brown, H. H. Rentoul, and J. J. Brown. Towards the close Mr. Dowd left his competitors far behind and came in winner.

The members of the Club closed their day's sport by a dinner at Dolly's.

WE OMITTED TO SAY that the "Instructions for encamping troops" published by us in the last number but one of the *Gazette*, were furnished to us by Captain McL. Moore, to whom we are again indebted for the "Instructions in Street fighting" published to day. We have a few words to say to our comrades of the Active force, and we shall say them shortly and simply, as a soldier ought to do.

The very best arms that money can buy, at this day, have been given to the Active force. It is quite obvious that the old sergeants of the line who have been employed to drill the Rifle Companies know no more of the use of the "Enfield Rifled Musquet," than they do of the "Differential Calculus." They never handled, or even saw, this splendid weapon, till it was put into the hands of the Volunteers. There is a book issued on "Musquetry Instructions" which has been supplied to all the Rifle Companies, at least we believe so. We have a copy, and have studied it carefully. We profess to have some acquaintance with the use of fire-arms—but we must certainly say that we have very little hope that the common run of non-commissioned officers, will of themselves, without further instruction, comprehend the mysteries of these "Instructions," issued "by authority." The thing is perfectly preposterous.

There is also the use of the sword, among the Cavalry and Artillery: this may be, and ought to be much simplified. Both in the Cavalry and Infantry sword exercise, there is much that in actual practice is worse than useless.

There ought to be attached to the Militia force an officer whose special duty it shall be to supervise the "Exercise of small arms;" it is of no use whatever to issue good arms, if men are not taught to use them properly. We do not attempt to show how this can be done; that would be presumptuous, although, we fancy that we could suggest a very effectual way. As to the person, we do not hesitate to say that Captain Moore, could he be spared from other duties, is the man of all others that we know of, in this Province, qualified to be an Instructor in small arm duty. Thoroughly acquainted with the nature and use of fire-arms, a first rate shot; understanding well the use of the sword, and we rather think that we ought to know something of that, having been at it for some thirty years, we know no man, as we said before, could be induced to take it, who would fill the office of Inspector in small arm drill, better than Captain Moore.

We hope that no one belonging to the Active Force will imagine that we say this because Captain Moore happens to be quartered in Ottawa, and that the writer is his personal friend. We are above any thing of the kind, and never allow personal inclination to interfere with our duty to the national service. Did we know any one better qualified we should speak of him.—As it is we speak of the best man that we do know. But it must occur to every man of common sense that such an officer is necessary. If this be granted, get the best man, and pay him liberally, though not extravagantly, and the result of the benefit of his instructions will be soon seen.

Our own opinion, of which more hereafter, is that we must have a regular musquetry school for our volunteers, in some central place—and that the Government must make up their minds to pay its expenses, if they really want the Volunteers to use their rifles properly.

THE REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA.

We published in our last all that portion of the Report of the Adjutant General, addressed to His Excellency the Governor General, which relates to the Active portion of the Canadian Militia, and we think that every one must candidly admit that considering the very short period during which the organization has lasted the result is most satisfactory, largely creditable to the Adjutant General himself, who has labored night and day, with equal zeal and ability to discharge the laborious trust committed to him; and equally creditable to the officers of the different corps—

"Much has been done but more remains to do;"

Troops cannot be put into a high state of discipline and efficiency without the expenditure of money, and it is the duty of the Legislature of the Country to aid and encourage the zeal of the gallant men who have volunteered to learn the use of arms, should we justly compel a resort to armed force in defence of the country.

It was anything but just or liberal to take men from their occupations at a rate of ten dollars a year. The law certainly requires ten days drill only in each year, but for all practical purposes the law might just as well have said ten hours. Had not the volunteers turned out for repeated drills, besides those of the legal ten days, the Report of the Baron DeRottenburg would have presented no such picture as it does. Many Companies have been drilled night after night for weeks; there are few that do not turn out two or three times a week.

The Volunteers have clothed themselves. Being mostly respectable men, we are very happy to say, they do not care to wear clothing as citizen soldiers, of a worse description than that worn by them as simple citizens. We believe we are under the mark in saying that in no Company has the clothing cost less than twenty dollars a man, and in some much more, as in the Cavalry and Artillery. A certain sum of money should have been voted for the clothing, or what would have answered better, the Government should have imported and issued cloth. In addition to the cost of clothing, the volunteers will be called on from the pay of this year to hand over to the Government, seven shillings and ninepence for great coats, and about the same sum for knapsacks, and mess tins. The Imperial Government gave the great coats to the Province at half price. Would it be too much to ask the Legislature for a grant to aid the Volunteers in this small matter? If the Active force is worth anything, it should be properly supported; if not, let it be disbanded. It is all very well to be patriotic, but it is not well that the most useful class of men in the country should lose both time and money by their patriotism.

Many other things are required in order to make the troops effective. The Enfield Rifled Musquet with which the Troops are armed, is a weapon, the use of which is not very easily acquired. Schools have been established in England on purpose to teach its use, and Instructors qualified at those Schools are sent to each Regiment. In the book of "Instructions in Musquetry" published by authority, we find a list of articles required for practice, filling a page;—Targets, rests, measuring lines &c.—amounting

in value to a considerable sum. We do not say that it will be necessary to furnish each company with this apparatus, but we do say that where there are several Companies, as at Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Hamilton, it should be so. Sticks and baskets, with wire masks, are necessary for the instruction of the Cavalry and Artillery in the sword exercise; the Cavalry ought also to have a few sham lances in each troop, as though all Cavalry do not use the lance, they all learn the exercise, as it is necessary that every swordsman shall know how to defend himself against a lancer, and the horses should be used to the fluttering of the little pennons which are attached to these formidable weapons.

Furthermore, if the Volunteer force are to learn anything beyond the simplest Company drill, they must be assembled in Battalions and Brigades. For this purpose Camp equipage is necessary.

We are well aware that everything cannot be done at once, but we should like to see a move in the right direction, indicating the inclination, on the part of the Legislature, to encourage those corps called into existence by themselves, were it only an allowance this year, to cover the cost of the great coats and knapsacks.

We are perfectly unaware of the intentions of the Government in the matter, and simply communicate our own opinions and those of other officers with whom we have conversed and corresponded.

THE ARMY LIST.—Our brother officers must not be annoyed if corrections in, and additions to, the List of the Active Force, are in some instances slightly delayed. The fact is that the Official Gazette does not reach us until after the *Military Gazette* is made up for the press.

We are obliged to COLONEL HORACE NELSON, commanding the New York State Militia, 32nd Regiment, for a copy of the Militia law of that State, and for the Report of two years proceedings of the "State of New York Military Association," which appears to be an Institution well calculated to encourage the Militia in acquiring a state of efficiency.

OURSTALS.—We must again call on our Brother Officers to forward their subscriptions, comparatively very few having yet done so. Only four of the papers sent out have been returned, therefore we conclude that the officers to whom the paper is addressed, intend to subscribe for it. Printers must eat, and paper must be paid for. Therefore we shall take it as a great obligation if our friends will think of us.

Payment can be made in Montreal to HULL and MARTIN—in Toronto, to Mr. CAMPBELL, King's Street—in Kingston to LIEUT. DUFF,—in Hamilton to MASON BOOKER.

DRESS OF THE ARMY.—Before the commencement of the military year, the authorities will issue a new code of regulations for the dress of the Army. Several alterations are contemplated, and, among these, a uniform resembling that of the Zouaves will, we understand, be assigned to the men, though not to the officers, of the West India Regiments. The Gold Coast Corps, in consequence of its new organization, will receive clothing and appointments somewhat similar to those of the Royal Artillery.

VICTORIA LIBRARIES.—It is with much satisfaction we announce the presentation to the Army by Her Majesty of 2,000 volumes of books, forming two libraries, packed in ten portable boxes, so as to be easily moved about. One of the libraries is to be established at Aldershot, and the other at the Curragh.

THE MILITARY TRAIN.—The Minister for War has now decided on the establishment of the Military Train, which will be organized as follows:—

A Director-General, with a Major of Brigade, in command of six battalions, each commanded by a Field-Officer, and severally consisting, in addition to the Field-Officer, of 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 2 Esquiers, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Paymaster, 1 Surgeon, 1 Veterinary Surgeon, 1 Serjeant-Major, 1 Quartermaster-Serjeant, 1 Paymaster-Serjeant, 1 Orderly-room Clerk, 1 Armorer-Serjeant, 1 Trumpeter-Major, 1 Serjeant Wheeler, 1 Serjeant Saddler, 1 Farrier-Major, 2 Smiths, 3 Wheelers, 3 Collar and Harness Makers, 4 Farriers, 4 Assistant-Farriers, 4 Troop Serjeant-Majors, 16 Serjeants, 20 Corporals, 4 Trumpeters, 200 Privates, and 200 horses. Two Riding-Masters will be allowed for the six battalions. Two of the Field-Officers of the Train will be Lieut.-Colonels, and the other four Majors. The depot will consist of 1 Captain, 6 Lieutenants, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Paymaster, 1 Surgeon, 1 Veterinary Surgeon, 1 Riding-Master, 1 Serjeant-Major, 1 Quartermaster-Serjeant, 1 Paymaster-Serjeant, 1 Orderly-room Clerk, 1 Armorer-Serjeant, 1 Trumpeter-Major, 1 Wheeler, 1 Smith, 2 Collar and Harness Makers, 2 Farriers, 2 Assistant-Farriers, 4 Trumpeters, about 224 privates, and 90 horses. The total number of all ranks will be about 1743, or 1424 rank and file.

OUR FORTIFICATIONS.—There are certain people who are in continual disquietude respecting our fortifications. Not content with having every Englishman's house a castle, they wish to make it a fortress, forgetting that England's best defence is her wooden walls. The note of alarm has been raised successively at Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Harwich, and Alderney. It may serve to quiet the alarmists when we announce, what is well known in the military world, that very complete plans have been prepared for the defence of the country, at every vulnerable point, and that these plans have been examined and approved by the Government. To carry them into immediate execution would entail an enormous expenditure, which Parliament would not tolerate at the present moment, nor would such an outlay be justifiable in the midst of an European peace. At the same time, it is desirable that the character of these projected defences should remain a secret, and it is not likely that the authorities will reveal it, merely to satisfy curiosity or allay groundless alarm. We would remind those who raise the question, that the department of fortifications is in charge of one of the ablest officers in the service, but not more distinguished for his ability than for his assiduous attention to his duty.—*United Service Magazine*

THE CAMP AT CALCUTTA.—Colonel Street, C.B., recently delivered the following short address to the men after a dogging parade:—"That so making away with necessaries had become such a common crime, particularly in the 80th

Regiment, he would visit most severely any instance that came before him, and would confirm the Court-Martial sentence in every respect, however rigorous. He was very sorry at such exhibitions, but still he would endeavor to stop such unsoldierlike conduct."—Lately a fly broke out in Captain Shepherd's hut, 4th Regiment, and was soon got under.—The library is now opened. The subscribers are numerous. The books are free, numbering only 571 volumes, of which 150 require binding. There are no newspapers. The school is pretty well attended, but a small of teachers of good ability are much needed. Shoemakers and tailors' shops are now established in the Camp.—General Gaseigne has visited the Camp, and expressed his approval of the arrangements and of the condition of the troops.

DRUNKENNESS IN THE 97TH, AT PORTSMOUTH.—A court-martial was recently held at the Main Guard Parade, to make inquiry touching a robbery that took place a few nights since at a tavern called the House of Wellington. It appears that on a certain night lately the cellar of Mr. Squance was broken into, and several bottles of brandy, gin, and beer extracted therefrom. No suspicion was excited, until it was ascertained that on that identical night the 97th were on duty. The sentry of the Platform Battery was found dead drunk, lying on the stones, and a musket (or rifle) placed in the sentry-box. Several of the main guard were perceived to be in a complete state of intoxication, and totally unfit for duty. The next morning the superintendent of police having instituted further inquiry, got the assistance of some nightmen, and having searched the closet, at the back of the guard-house, hooked up jars of gin, &c., one bottle of which—a two-gal. on jar of red gin—was identified by the barmaid as belonging to the Duke of Wellington Tavern. This is the second robbery committed in a very short period by the 97th, while on duty at the main guard.

The *Keesring Standard* chronicles the death of Mr. Joseph Cassey, at the Essex County Poor House, on the 20th ult., aged 114 years, as appears by the books of County House. He claimed to be much older, and according to his statements, which are pretty well authenticated, he was at the battle on the Plains of Abraham, and witnessed the fall of Montreal, having previously been in the action of Ticonderoga, where the British were victorious over the French, with the loss of their gallant commander, Lord Howe. Cassey was with a party of the French and Indians in Canada, and showed that he had fire-arms, too, to have been at the massacre at Fort William taken by the French and Indians. In the Revolution he fought for the Americans, and was at Quebec under Montcalm, and saw that fine officer when he fell at the very moment of a supposed victory. Subsequently, for many years, he was engaged as a carrier in the Hudson's Bay Fur Company. He was a Canadian by birth, half Indian, a devoted Catholic, and presented every indication of being deeply imbued with the spirit of Christianity, singing and praying for hours, at times, after he had become too feeble to walk about or even to sit up.

A BALL was given on Friday, 16th Jan., by Lieut.-Colonel Cameron and the Officers of the 42nd Highlanders, at the Lord Warden Hotel, Dover, to a large and fashionable assembly.

THE RIFLE EXERCISE.—An adaptation of "false bayonet to a musquet, for the purpose of exercise, according to Captain Moore's instructions, published by us, has been perfected this last week by Mr. Long, gunsmith, of this City, and admirably answers its purpose. We are now enabled to inform our brother officers, who may desire to instruct their Companies in this practical and most efficient style of personal attack and defence for foot soldiers, that old musquets sent by them to us to be prepared in this style, will be made ready at the shortest notice. The expense is trifling. Photographs of the position in bayonet and broadsword exercise, can also be obtained at this office, in a few days, by written application.

ARTILLERY EXPERIMENTS ON WHITLEY SANDS.—Colonel Wilnot, R.A., recently visited New-castle, for the purpose of inspecting experiments on Whitley Sands with Mr. W. G. Armstrong's rifled gun. Two targets, nine feet square, and a solid block of elm timber, three feet thick, were fired at with shells at the distance of 1,500 yds. The shells were projected horizontally, like the bullets, and exploded by impact. Only one shell failed to take effect upon the targets.

MILD G. SNOWDEN.—Many pleasant anecdotes are told of Mr. G.—who, a good many years ago, was a retail merchant in a populous town in Vermont. He was famous as "the very pink of politeness," and was indeed an expert salesman. If he had not got the article that might happen to be called for, he was sure to name something that was sufficiently like it to answer the purpose. Thus when a customer inquired for "winter strained oil," the merchant told him he hadn't got that kind exactly—but he had some that was "strained very late in the fall!" Disparage one article as you might, he was sure to find something to praise in it—if his tea was not strong it was well flavored, &c., &c. On one occasion a customer having called for a sample of gunpowder, rubbed it in his hand to ascertain the proportion of charcoal, and then observed that it lacked strength. "I know," answered the imperturbable tradesman—falling into his old tea-formula—"I know the powder is not so strong as some, but you'll find it very mild and agreeable!"—*Past.*

As George III. was walking the quarter deck of the "Animas" ship, with his hat on, one of the sailors observed him closely, and asked of his messmate, "Was that fellow who did not salute his peak to the Admiral?" "Why, it is the King," was the reply. "Well," said Jack, "king or no king, he's an ungrateful dog!" "Shiver my trowsers!" replied the messmate, "where should he learn manners?—he was never out-side of land in his life."

A dry old crust of a fellow, who was unhappy with his preacher, because the "dry vine," as Carlyle would call him, could not penetrate the thick incrustment that covered the crusty man's soul, signified to the minister his desire to have a pew nearer the pulpit. "Can't you hear?" asked the good man. "Yes," was the reply. "Can't you see?" "Yes." "Then why do you change?" "Because," said the obdurate one, "I am so far off, that when your words get to me, they are as flat as diab-water."

The Life and Opinions of General Sir Charles James Napier, G.C.B. By Lieut.-General Sir W. Napier, K.C.B., &c. &c. 4 vols 12 mo. With Portraits. London, 1857.

'Thus,' says Sir William Napier, 'shall be the story of a man who never tarnished his reputation by a shameful deed—of one who subdued distant nations by his valor, and then governed them so wisely that English rule was revered and loved where before it had been feared and execrated.' This, we may add, is the story of a man who united in his person qualities as fascinating as were ever combined in a hero—of a man who joined to the chivalry of a soldier the sensitiveness of a woman—whose soul seemed by turns to be flaming with fire and melting with tenderness—whose life presents a singular combination of romantic adventures with domestic virtues—of memorable deeds with the unflinching commentary of sagacious reflections and touching sentiments.

Romance meets us at the opening page of the biography. The maternal grandfather of Charles Napier was the second Duke of Richmond, who was summoned from college to wed the daughter of Lord Cadogan, a girl in the nursery. The principals had not been consulted on the match, which was arranged between their parents in settlement of a gambling debt; and when the young Lord March caught sight of his bride, he exclaimed with alarm, 'Surely you are not going to marry me to that dowdy?' Immediately after the ceremony he was hurried away to the continent in charge of a tutor, and remained abroad for three years. Dreading on his return to see the dowdy he had led to the altar, he went to the theatre instead of to his house, and had his attention attracted to a beautiful woman, the reigning toast of that day. He inquired her name, and found that this admired of all admirers was his own wife. He died in 1730, and such was the happiness which had resulted from the inauspicious alliance, that his widow pined away through grief at his loss, and only survived him a twelvemonth.

Her daughter, Lady Sarah, the future mother of Charles Napier, had not been without her share of romance, for if George III. had had his will she would have been queen of England.—'She was,' says Horace Walpole, 'a lady of the most blooming beauty, shining with all the graces of unaffected but animated nature.' Though she once refused the monarch, he persevered in his courtship till he gained her consent. Then his mother interposed, and such was her ascendancy at that period, that he mechanically accepted the bride she had selected for him, and resigned the choice of his heart.

On his mother's side Charles Napier was fourth in descent from Charles II. of England, and sixth in descent from Henry IV. of France. On his father's, says Sir William, 'he traced his lineage to the great Montrose, and the still greater Napier of Merchiston, the inventor of logarithms. Hence the blood of the white-plumed Bearnos commingled with that of the heroic Highlander in his veins, and his arm was not less strong than theirs in battle.' The lapse of years produces strange conjunctions. The grandson of the mathematician lost his lands fighting for Charles I., and, having asked them back in vain at the hands of Charles II., he died in destitution. 'Now,' continued Sir William, 'a descendant of the ungrateful dissolute monarch, whose merry life made others so sad, was united to a descendant of the despoiled lord, and they and their children were to struggle with poverty.—Had the confiscated lands been restored, the Napier inheritance would have been vast; for the lost estate is said to have comprised all the ground covered by the new town of Edinburgh, up to the tower of Merchiston.' The royal blood shows well in the Napier line. They have not been a race renowned for meekness, but the celebrated brothers with whom our generation is familiar have always displayed a kinglike grandeur of mind.

The Honorable George Napier, the father of our hero, was himself an extraordinary person. His son looked back to him throughout life as the model of all that was great and commanding, and, at a late period of his own career, when reviewing the distinguished deeds of himself and his brethren, he declared that they were

none of them equal to him. 'I have never,' he adds, 'seen his equal, but sons are possibly not good judges. However, we all resolved not to disgrace him, and were to brave he would be satisfied.' George Napier had been a pupil of Hume the historian, had served in the American war, had subsequently filled a variety of situations, in all of which he distinguished himself, though none of them afforded sufficient scope for his remarkable talents, and ended by becoming Comptroller of Military Accounts in Ireland, where he recovered several millions of money for the public. He was of large stature, and, as will be seen from the description in one of the journals of his son, was possessed of proportionate strength:—

'He was 6 feet 3 inches, and the handsomest man I ever had eyes on. I do not think there was a perceptible fault in his figure. Sir Joshua Reynolds said that only painting was too low neck, and too short. I have known him take a powder quart, and squeeze it out in his hand like a bit of paper. He took care to wash his face with cold water, and to rub it with a towel. My father once said that a good man, when extended straight from the shoulder, and his head scarcely touched the ground, and his feet two inches would have had a chance in coming along with Great.'

To this Sir William adds that his imposing appearance had such a striking resemblance to the mourning grenadier in Weiss's picture of the death of Wolfe, that he was erroneously supposed to have sat for the figure; but his form was grander, his eye more lustrous, his forehead less fleshy, showing more blood, and his jaw more square and determined. An instance is related in the biography of his prowess. During the period which preceded the Irish rebellion the soldiers were too perpetrators and sometimes the subjects of men's brutality. Two, who were passing along a deep road, asked a question of some hay-makers in a field above, and were answered by a brother of Charles Napier with boyish levity. The men, irritated, climbed the walled fence, and one of them declared he would bayonet the child. The father came in sight at the moment, and leaping like a panther rather than a man, hastened to the spot.—The soldiers, alarmed in their turn, jumped back into the road. Regardless of the bayonets they presented to the eminence above, Colonel Napier jumped after them, and with a six-foot quarter-staff, which he carried in his hand, laid both the ruffians in the dust. Then seizing the chief offender, he dragged him, striding like a giant as he was, towards the village, and delivered him, roaring for mercy, into the custody of a sergeant. Two remarkable examples of his sagacity will show that his mental qualities kept pace with his physical. Being in the same regiment with Erskine, he saw the direction in which his genius lay, and prevailed on him to quit the army for the bar; and when Ensign Wellesley was commonly considered in Ireland 'a shallow, saucy stippling,' Colonel Napier discerned in him the germs of Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington. 'Those,' he said, 'who think lightly of that had are unwise in their generation; he has in him the makings of a great general.' There is another point on which subsequent experience has abundantly proved the justness of his perceptions. Though a liberal in politics, his principles were immovably monarchical, and he held democracy to be an ever-seething caldron, in which the steam continually rose to the surface.

Charles Napier was born at Whitehall the 10th of August, 1782. His parents removed to Celbridge, ten miles from Dublin, when he was three years old, and he grew up amid the turbulent scenes which marked the coming period.—His early character was in keeping with his father. He was only six when a showman, with a wild aspect and a stentorian voice, commanded a terrified sweep to perch himself on the top of a ladder which the performer was about to balance on his chin. Colonel Napier asked his son if he would accept the post; from which the professional climber shrunk in dismay. 'Silent for a moment, he seemed to fear, but, suddenly looking up, said Yes, and was borne aloft amid the cheers of the spectators.'

He had his commission at twelve years of age, and accompanied his father to the camp at Netley. Juvenile as he was, he must have appeared still younger from his diminutive form, for tho'

his parents and his brothers were all of the stature, maltreatment by a nurse had stunted his growth. His constitution recovered, but his frame remained slight, and an incident which did not occur till four years after his admission into the army indicates that he must have appeared in the camp at Netley much like a delegate from Lilliput. His father, at the period of the Irish rebellion, secured the country with a company of the Derry militia. In a pitch-dark night they came face to face with some supposed insurgents. Before a light could commence Col. Napier called out a military order, to be sure that they were foes. An answering cry proclaimed their friends. 'At that moment the moon shone out, and Charles Napier was seen, with his small fusil, charging bayonets in opposition to Tom Sullivan, the biggest man of the Cork militia. Tom looked down in astonishment an instant, and then, catching his small foe up in his arms, kissed him.'

The resolution with which the little hero was about to charge early men in the dark, which always aggravates fear, was a picture of the courage he invariably displayed in situations of peril. The forward bravery, however, for which he was renowned was not the result of physical temperament, but of an indomitable mind. He had that force of will which enables the higher faculties of the understanding to control its weaker instincts—a power which he shared with his heroic ancestor, who quavered with apprehension before the battles in which he exclaimed to his soldiers, 'Follow my white plumes, they will ever be found in the path which leads to glory'—a power which he possessed in common with the great Turenne, who, observing his legs shake at the commencement of an action, said, apostrophizing them, 'You would tremble much more if you knew where I was about to carry you.' When the nervous impulses are marked, the mental strength which acts in defiance of them must be of that superior order which conquers circumstances and is a sure indication of a greatness born to command. The natural timidity of Charles Napier did not, perhaps, equal that of either the Monarch or the Marshal, but his daring, cool or fiery as the occasion required, and always sustained, was not inferior to theirs, nor his self-control less complete. His father's choice and the associations of childhood carried him into a profession which, much as he shone in it, was never to his taste. Though the sense of duty, the necessity for action, and his genius for war, might excite his enthusiasm, his sentiments were to the last the same which he has described when at twenty-one years of age he got his troop, and could not summon up one emotion of pleasure at this early attainment of the object of a young soldier's ambition. 'To me military life is like dancing up a long room with a mirror at the end, against which we cut our faces, and so the deception ends. It is thus gaily men follow their trade of blood, thinking it glitters, but to me it appears without brightness or reflection, a dirty red.'

In analysing his feelings before he had served against an enemy, Charles Napier recorded that he should be more affected in battle by the dislike of being maimed than by the fear of being killed. By a singular fate his lot was to be twice maimed to a degree which was hardly consistent with life, and in almost unparalleled dangers to escape being killed. His liability to bodily accidents seemed hardly less in peace than in war. At ten in leaping a bank he tore the flesh from his leg in a frightful manner, and at seventeen he broke it in jumping over a ditch. On looking down he saw his foot under his knee, and the bones protruding. Sick at the sight and in violent pain, he had yet the nerve to make a companion hold his leg below while he pulled it up above, and thus set it himself. The surgeons pronounced that it must come off, but deferred the ultimate verdict to the second day. Being young and vain of his legs, he resolved to commit suicide rather than live on mutilated, and he sent the maid to buy some laudanum, which he hid under his pillow. 'Luckily,' says he, 'the doctors found me better, and so saved me from a contemptible action. Perhaps, if it had come to the point, I might have had more sense and less courage than I gave myself credit for.' When he was sufficiently recovered to walk, he found that the bones had been set awry. 'This,'

he goes on, 'made a very unhappy man. All the doctors said if I could bear the pain they would break it again, or bend it straight. My answer was, I will bear any thing but a crooked leg.' Nevertheless he took a night to consider, and was decided by a visit from a pretty Irish girl, with whom he was in love, and who he thought would scorn him when she discovered his deformity. She and a female friend went to him in the dusk disguised in men's great-coats, and 'her pluck,' as he calls it, in making her way to him in his misfortune, quickened his enthusiasm. The morning brought the doctors. "Be quick," quoth I, as they entered; "make the most of my courage while it lasts." It took all that day and part of next to bend the leg with bandages, which were tied to a wooden bar and tightened every hour day and night, I fainted several times, and when the two tormentors arrived the next day, after breakfast, struck my flag, saying, "Take away your bandages, for I can bear no more." They were taken off, and I felt in heaven. Not the less so that the leg was straight, and it is now as straight a one, I flatter myself, as ever bore up the body of a gentleman or kicked a blackguard. A woman in Limerick, who was large in body and coarse in mind, hearing of the misfortune of the little soldier, which took place only a year after Tim Sullivan had caught him up in his arms and kissed him, said, 'Poor boy! I suppose a fly kicked his spindle shanks.' Just as he recovered, the big woman's big leg was broken also. The 'poor boy' had his revenge. 'Going to her house with an appearance of concern, I told the servant how sorry I was to hear that a brullock had kicked his mistress and hurt d'her leg very much, and that I had called to know if *her* leg was also hurt. She never forgave me.' His character comes out strongly in this accident. His sense of pain was acute, and there was a perpetual conflict going on between the exquisite sensibility of his flesh and the proud resistance of a defiant mind, the whole dashed with a certain irrepressible humor which showed him even his own sorrows on their ludicrous side.

He had a horse like himself, small, hardy, spirited, and which, to complete the resemblance, had once broken a leg. Shortly after his recovery he rode on this animal from Limerick to Dublin between sunrise and sunset—a distance of one hundred and ten miles. Neither horse nor horseman appeared fatigued. He was a daring rider, and the more fiery his steed the better he was pleased, provided it was not vicious. It would naturally be inferred that he was an enthusiastic sportsman, but, great as would otherwise have been the animation of the chase, his gentle feelings forbade the taste.

"We are all," he wrote in 1811 of himself and his brethren, "a hot violent crew—with the milk of human kindness through. We were all fond of boxing, fencing, and shooting, yet all gave room up to a young fellow who had no pleasure in killing little animals. Lately in the camp a hare got up, the greyhound pursued, and the men all shouted to and the dogs. My sorrow was great, and I rode away, yet all the day. I was a poor fellow. It is not principle, therefore, on which we act, it is useful in nothing. As to our hunting and dog-sporting, the dog and principle unite to condemn. A sportsman is a natural enemy to you, and not your enemy; a wild animal has some fair play, a domestic one none. A huntsman's and dog-hunters are therefore not only cruel but traitors; no polished gentleman does these things."

This passage is to be noted for the evidence it affords of Charles Napier's notion of the scrupulous honor which befits a gentleman; he must not even break faith with the animal creation. His sentiments and example bear equal testimony against a not uncommon delusion, that insensibility is manliness. His manliness was displayed in daring deeds and brave endurance of his own misfortune—not in indifference to the sufferings of others, whether fellow beings or brutes.

To be continued.

We copy the following account of the funeral of Mr. Harkness, one of the victims of the late disaster on the Great Western Railway, from the *Toronto Colonist*:—

Yesterday afternoon the remains of the late Mr. Joseph Harkness, Quarter-Master R. C. Rifles, one of the victims of the recent railroad disaster, were conveyed to their final resting place

the Toronto Necropolis. At about half-past 1 o'clock, P.M., the procession started from the residence of the gentleman in a quarter at the New Grass, accompanied by a large concourse of most respectable citizens on foot and in carriages, led off with the soldiers of the Royal Canadian Rifles. The cavalcade proceeded up the first street to King street, down King street to Parliament street, and thence to the Necropolis. The coffin, which was covered with the Union Jack, and on which were laid the military accoutrements of the deceased, was conveyed in an artillery gun-carriage drawn by four horses and accompanied by an escort of the volunteer artillery corps. A lining party of the Royal Canadian Rifles with arms reversed headed the cortege; these were followed by the efficient band of the same corps, who played the "Dead March in Saul" all the way. The greatest respect and sympathy was evinced by the citizens along the line of march. The places of business were almost entirely closed, and the upper windows of the various buildings were thronged with crowds of anxious and sympathising spectators. Arriving at the Necropolis the coffin was carried on the shoulders of six soldiers to the front of the vault, where the burial service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Barclay, after which three volleys were fired over the coffin, and the assemblage dispersed.

CARRYING FIRE ARMS—Here is another terrible warning against the carrying of fire arms habitually. A company had gathered in Lebanon, Ohio, for a wedding, when one of the guests took off his overcoat, from the pocket of which dropped a small pistol. A young lady present picked up the weapon, when Frederick Spahr asked her to hand it to him, in doing which it was discharged, and the ball entered the left corner of the right eye of Spahr, causing death instantly. The marriage was deferred, and with stricken hearts the guests left the scene. The deceased was an enterprising citizen, and has left a wife and three children.

**ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Toronto, 27th February 1857.**

Escort of the 1st Troop Volunteer Cavalry, County of York, under the Command of Lieut. DeLisson.

Volunteer Field Battery of Toronto, under the Command of Capt. DeLisson.

First Company of Artillery, under the Command of Capt. DeLisson.

Detachments from Nos 1, 2, 3 and the Highland Volunteer Rifle Companies of Toronto, under the Command of the several Captains.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor General, and Commander-in-Chief.

DE ROTTENBURG Colonel.

Adj. Genl. Militia.

**HEAD QUARTERS,
Toronto, 12th March, 1857.**

**MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.
SEDDENTARY FORCE.
No 2.**

**MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER TWO, LOWER CANADA.
First Battalion, L'Islet.**

To be Ensigns:
Tresphore Gagnon, Gentleman,
Achille Benjamin Chiniquy, "

**MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER THREE, LOWER CANADA.
Third Battalion, Dorchester.**

Erratum—In General Order of 13th November last, instead of Michael Quigley, Junior, read Michael Quigley, Senior.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN, LOWER CANADA.

First Battalion Montmorency.

To be Lieut-nant-Colonel
Majors L. J. B. Lemoine, vice Lemoine, retired.
Major Louis Ranvoysse is permitted to retire with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT, LOWER CANADA.

First Battalion, St. Maurice.

To be Major Captain A. E. Hart
To be Captains:
Lieutenant John McDougall,
" J. U. Ritter.
To be Lieutenants:
Lieutenant J. Caron, from 3rd Battalion,
Ensign Eusebe Lafontaine,
" O. Cheuvert,
" A. Desfosses,
" G. B. Houlston.

To be Ensigns:
Odillon Doucette, Gentleman,
D. E. Frigon, "
Dominique Dufresne, "
To be Adjutant: Lieutenant F. X. Tapin.

Second Battalion, Berthier.

To be Captain: Lieut. Antoine Jette.
To be Lieutenant: Ensign Basile Peltier.
To be Ensign: Stanislas Gauthier, Gentleman.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA.

Third Battalion, Montreal.

To be Ensigns:
John Kerr Spiers, Gentleman,
Alfred Augustus Barber, "
Sixth Battalion, Montreal.

To be Ensigns:
John Pimmsoll, Gentleman,
Thomas R. Browne, "
G. H. Macaulay, "
Eighth Battalion, Montreal.

Captain P. C. Racine, is permitted to retire with the rank of Major.

Eleventh Battalion, Montreal.

So be Captain: Lieutenant Eustache Prud'homme, Jr.
To be Lieutenant: Ensign William Evans.
To be Ensign: Leon Prud'homme Gentleman.

UNATTACHED LIST.

To be Lieutenant: Lieutenant E. T. Fletcher from the Crown Lands Department.
By Command of His Excellency the Governor General and Commander-in-Chief.
DE ROTTENBURG, Colonel,
Adj. Genl. Militia.

EXTRAORDINARY FISH.—The good people of Baton Rouge are all agog about a most curious specimen of ichthyology—a cross between a sturgeon and an alligator—described below.—*The Advocate*, by rather a "free translation," calls it a *rara avis*.

It was between four and five feet in length, a foot or more around the thick part of the body, and of a species never before seen here. The head was built after the pattern of that of a greyhound, the gills, when viewed from behind, forming a very passable ear to the eye of the casual observer. The mouth looked (so to speak) like the end of a very round well sticking out of the ground; it was some three inches across. The skin of the monster was like that of a shark, as was its shape from the middle of the back to the end of the tail. The lower portion of the body was without any bone whatever, and the flesh hard and solid. It was caught at Prophet's Island, in the Mississippi river above this city, and survived its change of element all through the day. Some are of opinion that the distinguished funny subject was born to a sturgeon, but becoming ambitious in his youth, he attempted first to become a shark, then a whale, whose home ought to be in salt water, if it wasn't.

ARRIVAL OF THE ALPS.

DEFEAT OF THE BRITISH MINISTRY.

Boston, March 20

The steam-propeller "Alps" arrived with Liverpool dates to the 4th. Her news is important.

In the House of Commons, after a prolonged debate, the Motion, on Tuesday night, the 2d, were defeated on a motion of Mr. Cobden disapproving the bombardment of Canton, having been carried by a majority. The vote stood 263 against 217.

Treaty of peace has been signed at Paris between England and Persia.

The latest report from Canton asserts that the fire kindled by the bombardment had spread to the city, which was one sheet of flame when the overland mail left.

Breadstuffs quiet and lower.

Provisions more active.

Teas considerably advanced.

The "Africa" arrived out on the 2nd instant, and the "City of Baltimore" on the 3rd.

In the House of Commons, Tuesday 3rd, the Government was defeated on Mr. Cobden's motion regarding the operations at Canton. It is thought at present, Palmerston will resign or dissolve Parliament. Sir H. Crompton, late Minister to the United States, has been appointed Minister to the King of Hanover. The Paris Journal says, "We learn by the latest news from China, under date of Dec. 15, that the Comte de Pe-kin published a decree prohibiting all subjects of the Celestial Empire from trading with the English. Disobedience is to be punished with death." The Paris correspondent of the Morning Post writes on Monday evening—"The bases of treaty between England and Persia are not yet signed.—Hostilities are suspended; but there is no regular armistice. No representations have been, or will be made at Teheran by friendly powers until the bases of the treaty are signed. Hong Kong dates by the Oriental mail are to Jan. 10. There appear to have been no further operations against Canton.

Despatches from Sir John Bowring and Admiral Seymour give accounts of the attempt made to retake Keatoum Fort, and of an attack on the British shipping by a vast number of Chinese junks. The attack was well concerted, and made at low water, when the large men of war could not safely manoeuvre, but it was brilliantly repelled. Sir Michael Seymour thought to abandon his post at the Dutch Folly and the Factory Gardens, and had strengthened his position at the forts lower down the river.

Five hundred men were expected at Singapore.

The details of the massacre of Europeans on board the Mistole are also communicated in these despatches.

On January 12th the whole of the suburbs west of Canton were burned by British forces. A large fire had also taken place inside the city. The mandarins have issued proclamations in various districts against the English, and have offered large rewards to those who may succeed in assassination or incendiarism in Hong Kong.—The Chinese have been ordered to quit the service of foreigners and return to their own homes, and so powerful is the Mandarin system, disobedience entails much trouble, if not positive destruction on the relatives of the offender. The consequence is that nearly all the Chinese servants have left, or are leaving.

Paris, 3rd.

The treaty with Persia was signed here to-day. The Spanish minister has addres-

sed a note to the representatives of Spain in the European court explaining the quarrel with Mexico. The expedition to concentrate at Havana, which altogether consist of 30 vessels of war, with a numerous army on board. The Spanish Government declare the necessity of resorting to such a measure towards a nation united to Spain in race, language and religion, and hopes everybody will understand the obligation it is under to preserve the national dignity.

A Hamburg letter of Saturday, Feb. 28th says, merchants have received private news from Hong Kong and Singapore, by the overland mail, of a most alarming description. The bombardment and conflagration of Canton, had excited the Chinese to a general movement against all Europeans, and the Chinese populace were beginning to show a courage quite unwonted, and from which danger is to be apprehended; the movement had become visible at Singapore. The English and German residents of Singapore have been obliged to arm themselves against attacks in the streets from the infuriated Chinese, who were joined by the Malays.

The *Hamburger Borsen Halle* states positively it has received advices from Hong Kong to 2 o'clock, p. m., January 15th, per steamer Madras,—the fire produced in the outskirts of Canton by the British bombardment, had extended itself to the city, and the latter had become one sheet of flame.

London, 3rd March.

The Tea market has again advanced to-day, and one penny to one and a half pence higher has been paid for 5000 chests common Congou.

A letter from Paris states that the Neuchâtel affair is not improving, and from what we can learn all the parties concerned are in very bad humor with each other.

LIVERPOOL MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, March 4.

Breadstuffs—James McHenry & Co's circular of March 2nd, says, at this day's market there was a fair attendance, but without any important transactions.

Flour has a strong tendency downwards; 31s 6d has been accepted for favourable brands of Ohio round hoop, and 2s. less for Western Canal.

Indian Corn is easier

Wheat—White Canada 9s a 9s 3d; Red Western 8s a 8s 3d. Flour—Western Canal 29s a 30s; Ohio 31s and 32s. Indian Corn—Yellow 33s 6d a 34s; Mixed 33s 3d a 33s 9d; White 35s a 36s.

Provisions—American advices have given firmness to holders of Bacon, but buyers are shy, and but little business transpires. In other articles there is nothing new. Considerable business has been done in Lard at 71s 6d, and to-day 72; market very firm.

LONDON MARKET.

LONDON, March 3.

Consols 93½ a 93¾ for money; 94½ a 93¾ for account. On Tuesday, in the Stock Exchange there was a diminution in the demand for money.

The Threatened Invasion of Cuba—Her Means of Repelling Assault.

[From the Paris Patrie, of February 29th.]

The Spanish journals are discussing at great length the preparations making in Spain and Cuba, in order to send to the Mexican coast a sufficient naval force for the purpose of forcing from the Mexican Government compensations claimed, for a

long time in vain, for outrages which it is alleged subjects of the Spanish Crown have been the victims of in that ever agitated Republic. On learning that the Spanish navy was going to adopt the offensive, when it was scarcely thought strong enough to repulse an unfair aggression, the question has been agitated in the United States if that Spanish movement was anything else than a vain show, or, if Spain was really in a position to have her rights respected everywhere they should be attacked or overlooked. This question is certainly of the highest importance in presence of the unceasing threats to which Cuba is subjected in the United States, and of the filibuster schemes which have never been entirely abandoned either in New Orleans or New York. England and France would certainly never consent to the annexation of Cuba to the great North American federation.—Cuba is, in fact, the key of the Gulf of Mexico, as Constantinople is the key of the Black Sea, and Europe can no more admit that the Gulf of Mexico should become a Yankee lake than allow the Black Sea to become a Russian lake. But it will be understood that it is better that Spain should be in a position to enable her to protect her colonies in the West Indies than to be at the necessity of imploring help from the great maritime Powers in order to have her properly respected. Now, about this point we have no fear at all; Spain is not only capable of defending Cuba against the most direct aggressions from the United States, but this colony can protect itself, alone, without needing an appeal to the arms of the mother country. In support of this assertion, we can enumerate the following particulars, taken from a good source:

Cuba has at present an army of 20,000 foot soldiers, and 1,500 horsemen, besides a reserve of 18,000 infantry, and 6,000 horses. Cuba has also in her stores and arsenals the necessaries to arm and equip 60,000 men in the space of a month. The fortifications of the island are in a perfect state of defence, and are daily improving. To the naval forces—already very respectable—possessed by the colony, a reinforcement of a ship of the line, a frigate, a brig and two magnificent steamers, manned by 2,500 men, will be ready for sailing in a few days. Three generals and several superior officers belonging to different branches of the service, will be added to the staff of General Concha. It can be seen from the above particulars that Cuba is able to repulse not only the invasion of the filibusters, who will not be discouraged by the fate of Lopez, but even a regular attack of the naval forces of the United States, if ever—which God forbid—the Government of that country should attempt to realize the conquest of Cuba by force.

SWITZERLAND—ANOTHER ROYALIST PLOT

—It is announced that at Neuchâtel—four short weeks after the release of the rebels?—another Prussian plot has been discovered, and that new arrests have taken place accordingly among the Royalist faction.—Some correspondents even talk of a midnight attempt at raising barricades—an attempt, however, easily suppressed by the interference of the Republican volunteers. Further details of the affray are as yet wanting. Nothing is known beyond the fact of a conspiracy having been nipped in the bud by the vigilance of the popular Government.

GREECE.—The Senate has rejected the financial arrangements proposed by England and France.

Fixed Facts in Agriculture.

Somebody has got up the following of "fixed facts" in agriculture, and for once, in condensation of the sort, has hit the right nail on the head, in most of them:—

1. All lands on which clover or the grasses are grown must either have lime in them naturally, or that mineral must be artificially supplied. It matters but little whether it be supplied in the form of stone-lime, oyster-lime, or marl.
2. All permanent improvement of lands must look to lime as its basis.
3. Lands which have been long in culture will be benefited by the application of phosphate of lime, and it is unimportant whether the deficiency be supplied in the form of bone-dust, guano, or phosphate of lime, composts of fresh ashes, or that of oyster-shell lime, or marl, if the land need lime also.
4. No lands can be preserved in a high state of fertility unless clover and the grasses are cultivated in the course of rotation.
5. Mold is indispensable in every soil, and a healthy supply can alone be preserved through the cultivation of clover and the grasses, the turning in of green crops, or by the application of composts rich in the elements of mold.
6. All highly concentrated animal manures are increased in value, and their benefits prolonged, by admixture with plaster, salt, or with pulverized charcoal.
7. Deep ploughing greatly improves the productive powers of every variety of soil that is not wet.
8. Subsoiling sound land—that is, land that is not wet—is also eminently conducive to increase production.
9. All wet land should be drained.
10. All grain crops should be harvested before the grain is fully ripe.
11. Clover, as well as grasses, intended for hay, should be mowed when in bloom.
12. Sandy lands can be most effectually improved by clay. When such lands require liming or marling, the lime or marl is most beneficially applied when made into composts with clay. In slacking lime, salt brine is better than water.
13. The chopping or grinding of grain to be fed to stock operates as a saving of at least 25 per cent.
14. Draining of wet lands and marshes adds to their value, by making them to produce more, and by improving the health of neighborhoods.
15. To manure or lime wet lands, is to throw manure, lime, and labor away.
16. Shallow ploughing operates to impoverish the soil, while it decreases production.
17. By stabling and shedding stock through the winter, a saving of one fourth the food may be effected, that is one fourth less food will answer than when the stock may be exposed to the inclemencies of the weather.
18. A bushel of plaster per acre, sown broadcast for clover, will add one hundred per cent to its product.
19. Periodical applications of ashes tend to keep up the integrity of soils, by supplying most, if not all, of the organic substances.
20. Thorough preparation of land is absolutely necessary to the successful and luxuriant growth of crops.
21. Abundant crops cannot be grown for a succession of years, unless care be taken to provide an equivalent for the substances carried off the land in the products grown thereon.
22. To preserve meadows in their productiveness, it is necessary to harrow them every second autumn, apply top dressing and roll them up.
23. All stiff clays are benefited by fall and winter ploughings, but should never be ploughed when wet. If, at such ploughing, the furrow be materially deepened, lime, marl, or ashes, should be supplied.

A STRANGE STORY.—The *Courier* of Lyons has the following:—"A young married woman of Colloire, near this city, after being ill for some time, fell one day last week into a com-

plete state of insensibility, and was supposed to be dead. A medical man who was called in gave a certificate of the death, and the young woman was laid out and in due time fastened up in a coffin. In the night some women who were sitting up to watch the deceased, heard subdued groans and sighs in the coffin. They fled in dismay, and the neighbours on hearing their account of the matter, proposed to have the coffin opened, but the husband of the woman would not hear of such a thing, as it would be, he said, a profanation of the dead. The mother of the young woman, however, broke open the coffin with a hatchet, and it then turned out that the young woman was not dead, but had only been in a lethargy. Medical assistance was procured for her, and in a short time she recovered perfect consciousness. She is now going on well.

AN ARTFUL MISER.—Some time ago, a gentleman called upon a certain nobleman, a very wealthy and inordinately mean character, and found him at breakfast quite alone, and doing his utmost to catch a fly which was buzzing about the room. "What the deuce art thou about?" demanded the astonished visitor, to whom the spectacle of an old man amusing himself by catching flies seemed very singular to say the least. "Hush!" exclaimed the other, "I'll tell you presently." After many efforts, the old fellow at last succeeded in entrapping the fly. Taking the insect carefully between his thumb and forefinger, he put it into the sugar bowl, and quickly dropped the lid over his prisoner. His visitor made no remark, but ever knowing as he did the avicious character of the man, before repeating the question. "I'll tell you," replied the miser, a triumphant grin overspreading his countenance as he spoke. "I want to ascertain if the servants steal the sugar."

Climate of the Northwest.

In a letter to the *National Intelligencer*, Lorin Blodget gives some curious and interesting comparisons of the climate of the northwestern region of our continent with that of the Atlantic coast. He says:

"Not only the extreme limit at the 49th parallel is warmer than Washington for the winter, but a distance like that from Paris to Aberdeen must be passed over beyond the extreme limit at the north of Puget's Sound to find a winter as cold as that of this city, Washington. The winter at Puget's Sound is warmer than that at Paris, the mean being 39½° at the first, and 38 at Paris, and the winter at Sitka is warmer than that of Washington 36½° and 36° respectively, notwithstanding they differ 18° of latitude, or 1,250 miles in position on the meridians. Aberdeen, in Scotland, is somewhat warmer, having a winter temperature of 39°, though at the 57th parallel."

Again:

"At Washington we were taught by the experience of last winter—and the opening of the present winter repeats the lesson—that the rivers and navigable waters here may be closed by ice for months in succession. Vegetation is dormant for several months, and in this respect the condition is perfectly similar from New York to the north of Georgia. This city is near the 39th parallel, and San Francisco is nearly at the 38th, yet at this last named city it was remarked as singular that roses and flowers were cut off temporarily, as they were in the early part of the last winter, though they subsequently recovered their freshness, and through February and March the temperature was as soft as that of the south shores of the Mediterranean. At Puget's Sound, in Washington territory, ten degrees of latitude further north, the winter was still mild and open, and the grass in constant growth. Continuing along this coast to Sitka, ten degrees of latitude further north, it was yet doubtless much warmer than at Washington, since the average for the winter is warmer, and the changes in extreme years are there very far less."

Of the climate in the interior of the North American continent, Mr. Blodget says:—

"In the interior, the public appreciation of the climate has been greatly at fault. By a peculiarity of configuration, which exists in no other part of the temperate latitudes, it grows warmer in going northward in the interior. I required ages to convince the non-migrator ancients that the heat decreased towards the north, or to discover this apparently self-evident law. Here, however, it is again in fault, as the pyramid building Egyptian would find confirmation of this original philosophy. From Fort Massachusetts, at the limit of the cultivable portion of New Mexico, at 37½° north latitude, to the plains of the Saskatchewan, at the 52nd parallel, the mean temperature and the cultivable capacity steadily increases. On the Platte it is warmer and more cultivable than on the Upper Rio Grande; on the Missouri, at Fort Benton, it is superior to the Platte; and on the Saskatchewan the country is better on the whole than on the Missouri. Most of this difference is due to difference of altitude, yet nearly half can be assigned to exterior climatological causes, those which reduce the temperature on the eastern side of the continent, and increase the mean temperature of the western sides. In regard to altitude, Fort Massachusetts is 8,400 feet above the sea; Fort Laramie, on the Platte, 4,500; Fort Benton, on the Missouri, 2,600 feet and the country of the Saskatchewan scarcely 1,800 feet above the sea.

All these points lie in prairie districts; yet the prairies of the Saskatchewan and Assiniboine are equal, if not superior, to others in fertility. Here is a line curving fifteen degrees of latitude or almost the equivalent of the coast of the Atlantic states, or the distance from New Orleans to Lake Superior, which represents a new and habitable country nearly identical in climate. As a climatological fact simply, this is a most interesting condition; but its significance is much more than a point in science; it is the definition of a region of equal value for settlement over this immense extent; where it had been supposed that the north must necessarily be uninhabitable.

"In December, 1853, the thermometer did not fall lower at Fort Benton, on the Upper Missouri than it has done in the present month at Washington. In January, 1854, there were much lower readings, but the clearer atmosphere modified the effect of low temperatures, as it is well known to do at St. Paul, Minnesota, that is, they are not so sensibly severe, and do not affect business and comfort so decidedly. This is due to the drier atmosphere. In February, the measure of heat was much above that of February last here, the successive months rapidly grew warmer, and the heat of July and August equalled that common at Philadelphia. So far as known on the Upper Missouri and the south branch of the Saskatchewan, this is the fair expression of the climate, and, to understand the improvement of climate in going westward, let it be remembered that there are plains 1,200 to 2,800 feet above the sea, and between latitude 47° and 51° north. For corresponding latitudes on the Atlantic coast we must take Newfoundland and the uncultivated districts north of Quebec."

THE GRAVE OF RICHARD III.—A memorial has just been erected at Bow-bridge, Leicester, whereon it is recorded that near that spot lie the remains of King Richard. It is a handsome stone, set in the gable of a new building there. The monument is in Kelton stone, the design being good, and the execution of a first-rate character.

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