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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. X OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1876. No. 11.

The Volunteer Review
 Published EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, at
 OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON
 ERB, Proprietor, to whom all Business Corres-
 pondences should be addressed.
 TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly
 in advance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
 All Communications regarding the Milita-
 rian movement, or for the Editor's De-
 partment, should be addressed to the Editor of
 THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, OTTAWA.
 Communications intended for insertion, should
 be written on one side of the paper only.
 We cannot undertake to return rejected com-
 munications. Correspondents must invariably
 use confidentially, their name and address.
 All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not
 be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the
 Dominion are particularly requested to favor us
 regularly with weekly information concerning
 movements and doings of their respective
 Corps, including the fixtures for drill, marching
 &c., rifle practice, &c.
 We shall be obliged to such writers and situ-
 ations of this kind as early as possible, so that
 they may reach us in time for publication.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.
 First Insertion, measured by } 10cts. per line
 solid nonpareil type. }
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 Professional Card six lines or under, \$3 per
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 Special arrangements of an advantageous char-
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 or a Quarter.

**PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE
 "WITNESS."**

THE friends of healthy literature have, by per-
 severing diligence, placed the *Montreal Wit-
 ness* in the very first rank of newspapers. The
 old growth of trashy reading, and of what is
 still more vile, stimulating and people to more
 earnest efforts than ever to fill every household
 with sound mental food. A clergyman has lately
 declared his intention to make this one of his
 first duties in his present and every future
 field of labor, as he holds that by no other means
 can he do so much for the future of a neigh-
 borhood as by placing good reading in every
 family.
 Successive attacks upon the *Witness* during
 the past three years, culminating in an
 attempt to suppress it, have been cal-
 led "The Ban" of the Roman-
 Catholicish priest, although not other-
 wise desirable circumstances, have done a great
 deal to concentrate and intensify the zeal of the
 friends of Temperance and religious liberty in

favor of the *Witness*. Indeed, the fact that the
 test assault has been followed up for six months
 with the most untiring efforts to break down
 the paper on the part of the most powerful
 opposition that could be organized on earth, and
 has resulted in cutting us off from some, at least,
 of these Roman Catholic readers whose good
 will we formerly enjoyed and highly prized, give
 us perhaps, some claim on the kind offices of
 those who value free speech and freedom of reli-
 gious belief. The actual diminution of the circula-
 tion of the *Daily Witness* is, of course, com-
 paratively small, amounting to about 50 out of 13,000,
 or less than four per cent., and does not affect us
 peculiarly, as we can still claim a circulation
 equal in volume to that of all the rest of the daily
 city press, probably the majority of our old Roman
 Catholic reading being such still.

The progress of the paper may be gathered
 approximately from the following figures:

	Cir. Semi-Weekly		
	Cir. Daily, 1st Sept.	1st Sept.	1st Sept.
1871,	10,700	3,000	8,600
1872,	10,600	3,000	8,600
1873,	11,000	3,000	10,700
1874,	12,000	3,800	17,000
1875,	12,400	3,200	10,700

We have good reasons to be specially desirous
 to reach the whole country this winter, and have
 the *Witness* presented earnestly to the notice of
 every family. To this end we have determined
 to depart from the usual course of allowing our
 publications to command themselves on their
 merits alone, and to inaugurate on a large scale a
 competitive effort on the part of all our subscrib-
 ers to increase the subscription list. This competi-
 tion will last during the month of October, and
 will be open to all. The list of prizes will be found
 below.

If this comes to any who are not familiar with
 the *Witness*, we may say that for twenty-five
 years it has labored for the promotion of temper-
 mental truth, and for the suppression of the liquor
 traffic. Our effort is to produce a *Christian Tem-
 perance Newspaper*, unattached to any political
 party or religious denomination, seeking only to
 witness fearlessly for the truth and against evil
 doing under all circumstances, and to keep its
 readers abreast with the news and the knowl-
 edge of the day. It devotes much space to Social,
 Agricultural and sanitary matters, and is espe-
 cially the paper for the home circle. It is freely
 embellished with engravings.

The *Weekly Witness* has been enlarged twice,
 and nearly doubled within four years, and is the
 very most that can be given for the price—\$1.00
 per annum.

The *Montreal Witness* (Tri-Weekly), gives the
 news three times a week, and all the reading of
 the *Daily Witness* for \$2.00 per annum.

The *Family Witness* is in every respect a first
 class daily containing more interesting mat-
 ter than the paper which cost twice as much,
 for \$3.00 per an.

All of course, are *post-paid* by Publishers.
 Subscribers remitting new subscriptions beside
 their own are entitled to the following discounts
 on such subscriptions:
 Daily Witness 50c
 Tri-Weekly 75c
 Weekly 25c.

**PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "CA-
 NADIAN MESSENGER."**

THE *Messenger* is designed to supply the homes
 of the Sunday School scholars of America with
 family reading of the most useful and interest-
 ing sort at their very lowest cost. It consists of a
 gilt pages of four columns each, and contains a
 Temperance department, a Scientific department,
 a Sanitary department, and an Agricultural de-
 partment. Two pages are given to family read-
 ing, two to large type for children, and

one to the Sunday School lessons of the Inter-
 national Series, and a children's column. The
 paper is magnificently illustrated. There has
 been a very rapid increase in its circulation dur-
 ing the past year, namely, from 15,000 to 25,000,
 and the rate of increase rises so rapidly that the
 proprietors have sanguine hopes of doubling the
 latter figure before the end of next year. There
 has been, as a result of this prosperity, some im-
 provement in the style of the paper, and it will,
 of course, be possible to introduce more and more
 improvements as the year grows. Nos. of the
 growth of the *Messenger* has been by the volun-
 tary recommendation of it by friends who have
 formed their own opinion of its worth, and by
 the introduction of it to Sunday Schools. Your
 correspondents say that their Sunday Schools are
 more interesting and better attended since it has
 been introduced.

The following are the prices of the *Messenger*

1 copy	\$ 0 30
10 copies	2 50
25 copies	6 00
50 copies	11 50
100 copies	22 00
1,000 copies	200 00

Surplus copies for distribution as tracts, twelve
 dozen for \$1.

**PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "NEW
 DOMINION MONTHLY."**

In general style and appearance the *Dominion*
 has, during the last few months, very consider-
 ably improved, and it is intended to improve on
 the present as much as the present is an im-
 provement on the past, and the Magazine of
 next year will be read with an ease and pleasure
 greater than hitherto. When we say that these
 improvements are not to be marked by any
 change of price, we refer to the full price of \$1.50
 per annum. Hitherto the *Dominion* has been
 published with the "Weekly Witness" at \$1.00,
 which it will be simply impossible to continue
 now that one fifth has been added to its bulk,
 and with better paper and printing. The *Dominion*
 will be forthwith be clothed with the "Wit-
 ness" at \$1.25, and is better worth its cost than
 ever before. Twenty-five cents, instead of fifty
 will be the discount allowed to friends obtaining
 for us new subscribers at full rates. The induc-
 ments to subscribers being now put into the
 magazine itself. The object of the publishers is
 the *Dominion* is to develop a native Canadian
 literature, and very much has been accomplished
 to this way during its history of nine years, the
 age of the magazine being that of the *Dominion*
 of Canada. Those interested in the same object
 will not, we think, waste their efforts if they do
 what they can to make the magazine a pecuniary
 success, what we presume no magazine in Can-
 ada has ever yet been for any length of time.

LIST OF PRIZES.

- To the person sending the largest amount of money on or before 1st Nov., a payment in advance for our publications. \$50.00
- To the person sending 2nd largest amount 40.00
- " " " 3rd " " 30.00
- " " " 4th " " 20.00
- " " " 5th " " 15.00
- " " " 6th " " 10.00
- " " " 7th " " 10.00

Five prizes of \$5 each for the next largest amounts 25.00

JOHN DOU ALL & SON,
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THE BEST INVESTMENT!

AN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION BOND.

WHOLE BONDS, \$20 EACH.
 HALF " \$10 "
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All Bonds participate in each Series drawing until redeemed.
 Each Bond will receive more than its cost.
 All the risk a purchaser runs is the loss of a portion of the interest.
 A whole Bond must receive one of the following Premiums:

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Portions of Bonds receive their proper proportion.

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and in April, June, July, September, October, December, 1876.

BUY A BOND NOW AND IT PARTICIPATES IN EVERY DRAWING TILL IT IS REDEEMED.

Fractions of Drawing Bonds, in March 6th Premium allotment, \$5 each.

SEND FOR INDUCEMENTS TO CLUBS, HOW TO PURCHASE!

Remit by Express, Postal Order, Bank Draft, Certified Check, Registered Letter, or Order through any Bank or Banking House, payable to the order of the Secretary of The Industrial Exhibition Company, 13 East 17th Street, New York. Specially chartered by the State of New York, for the purpose of building in New York.

A Palace of Industry.

It is offered and controlled by the ablest and most distinguished business men of New York.

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have now (it is estimated) an audience of One Hundred and Ninety-five Thousand Readers, which makes them the most widely circulated and influential newspapers published in Canada.

BOYNTON'S PATENT LIGHTNING SAW.

\$500 CHALLENGE.

That it is the FASTEST-CUTTING SAW in the world.

In order to introduce my unrivalled Cross-Cut Saws to the Canadian market, I will send my best saws to any address at 50 cts. per foot for cash in advance for one month. This is one-half my list price. Perfect quality guaranteed. Agents wanted.

E. M. BOYNTON, 80 Beekman St., N. Y.

DR. WARNER'S SANITARY CORSET,

With Skirt-Supporter and Self-Adjusting Pads.



Patented Sept 28th, 1875.

Secures health and comfort of body, with grace and beauty of form.

We would particularly call attention to the following advantages:

- 1st. It affords a convenient and efficient support for the underclothing.
- 2d. The Self Adjusting Pads are the delight of every lady. They give elegance to the form, and are not in any way injurious or objectionable.
- 3d. It combines three garments in one—a corset, a skirt supporter, and self-adjusting pads—and yet costs no more than an ordinary corset.
- In ordering, give size of waist instead of number of corset usually worn.
- Price in London Corset, \$2.00, Satteen, \$1.75, Misses' Corsets, \$1.25, Children's Corset-waist with stocking supporter, \$1.50. Samples sent by mail, on receipt of price.
- 25 cts. will be allowed for this advertisement, if it is cut out and sent with the order.
- Great inducements to good Agents.

Address, WARNER BROS., 783 Broadway, N. Y.

THE WEEKLY SUN.
 1876. New York. 1876.

Eighteen hundred and seventy-six is the Centennial year. It is also the year in which an Opposition House of Representatives, the first since the war, will be in power at Washington; and the year of the twenty-third election of a President of the United States. All of these events are sure to be of great interest and importance, especially the two latter; and all of them and everything connected with them will be fully and freshly reported and expounded in THE SUN.

The Opposition House of Representatives, taking up the line of inquiry opened years ago by THE SUN, will sternly and diligently investigate the corruptions and misdeeds of GRANT'S administration; and will, it is to be hoped, lay the foundation for a new and better period in our national history. Of all this THE SUN will contain complete and accurate accounts, furnishing its readers with early and trustworthy information upon these absorbing topics.

The twenty-third Presidential election, with the preparations for it, will be memorable as deciding upon GRANT'S aspirations for a third term of power and plunder, and still more as deciding who shall be the candidate of the party of Reform and as electing that candidate. Concerning all these subjects, those who read THE SUN will have the constant means of being thoroughly well informed.

THE WEEKLY SUN, which has attained a circulation of over eighty thousand copies, already

has its readers in every State and Territory, and we trust that the year 1876 will see their numbers doubled. It will continue to be a thorough newspaper. All the general news of the day will be found in it, condensed when unimportant, at full length when of moment; and always, we trust, treated in a clear, interesting and instructive manner.

It is our aim to make the WEEKLY SUN the best family newspaper in the world, and we shall continue to give in its columns a large amount of miscellaneous reading, such as stories, tales, poems, scientific intelligence and agricultural information, for which we are not able to make room in our daily edition. The agricultural department especially is one of its prominent features. The fashions are also regularly reported in its columns; and so are the markets of every kind.

The WEEKLY SUN, eight pages with fifty-six broad columns is only \$1.50 a year postage prepaid. As this price barely repays the cost of the paper, no discount can be made from this rate to clubs, agents, Postmasters, or anyone.

The DAILY SUN, a large four page newspaper of twenty-eight columns, gives all the news for two cents a copy. Subscriptions, postage prepaid, 50c. a month or \$6.00 a year. SUNDAY edition extra, \$1.10 per year. We have no travelling agents. Address, THE SUN, New York City.

TASTELESS MEDICINES.

A prominent New York physician lately complained to DUNDAS DICK & CO. about their SANDALWOOD OIL CAPSULES, stating that sometimes they cured miraculously, but that at other times they had taken their effect. On being informed that several imitations were sold, he inquired and found his agent had not been taking DUNDAS DICK & CO'S.

It happened to this physician may have happened to others, and DUNDAS DICK & CO. take this method of protecting physicians, druggists and themselves, and preventing OIL OF SANDALWOOD from coming into disrepute.

PHYSICIANS who once prescribe the Capsules will continue to do so, for they contain the pure Oil in the best and cheapest form.

DUNDAS DICK & CO. so more Oil of Sandalwood than all the Wholesale and Retail Druggists and Perfumers in the United States combined, and this is the sole reason why the pure Oil is sold cheaper in their Capsules than in any other form.

OIL OF SANDALWOOD is fast superseding every other remedy, sixty Capsules only being required to insure a safe and certain cure in six or eight days. From no other medicine can this result be had.

DUNDAS DICK & CO'S. SOFT CAPSULES solve the problem, long considered by eminent physicians, of how to avoid the nausea and disgust experienced in swallowing; which are well known to detract from, if not destroy, the good effects of many valuable remedies.

Soft Capsules are put up in tin-foil and neat boxes, thirty in each, and are the only Capsules prescribed by physicians.

TASTELESS MEDICINES.—Castor Oil and many other nauseous medicines can be taken easily and safely in Dundas Dick & Co's Soft Capsules. No Taste. No Smell.

These were the only Capsules admitted to the last Paris Exposition. Sent for Circular to 35 Wooster street, N. Y. Sold at all Drug Stores Here.

Price, Twenty five Cents.
NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.

NINETY EIGHTH EDITION.

Containing a complete list of all the towns in the United States, the Territories and the Dominion of Canada, having a population greater than 5,000 according to the last census, together with the names of the newspapers having the largest local circulation in each of the places named. Also, a catalogue of newspapers which are recommended to advertisers as giving greatest value in proportion to prices charged. Also, all newspapers in the United States and Canada printing over 5,000 copies each issue. Also, all the Religious, Agricultural, Scientific and Mechanical, Medical, Masonic, Juvenile, Educational, Commercial, Insurance, Real Estate, Law, Sporting, Musical, Fashion, and other special class journals, very complete lists. Together with a complete list of over 300 German papers printed in the United States. Also, an essay upon advertising; many tables of rates, showing the cost of advertising in various newspapers, and everything which a beginner in advertising would like to know.

Address GEO. P. ROWELL, & CO., 33 41 Park Row, New York.



The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. X

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1876.

No. 11.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On Wednesday last a deputation, consisting of Major Macdonald, Mr. Fraser, M. P., and the Mayor of London, waited on the Minister of Militia to present a petition on behalf of the Corporation of London for the grant to the city of the military lands occupied by the old military barracks. The deputation was courteously received by the Minister of Militia, who promised that the matter should have the careful consideration of the Government, and that an answer would be transmitted by letter.

On Wednesday night last some party or parties at present unknown effected an entrance into the room occupied by Hon. Mr. Smith at the Russel House, and removed therefrom \$70 in cash and a silver watch. Mr. Smith was attending the session of the House at the time.

On Sunday Morning the 12th inst., the Caledonia Grist and Flouring Mills belonging to Messrs. McQuarrie, Woodburn & Munroe, were destroyed by fire, as well as 30,000 bushels of wheat that was stored in the buildings at the time of the fire. Loss about \$50,000. Insurance on grain \$19,000 on buildings \$10,000.

A meeting was held at Montreal on the 15th for the purpose petitioning the Legislature for a charter to construct a new bridge over the St. Lawrence at Montreal to be called the Royal Albert Bridge. There were 500 persons at the meeting, and the resolution which was moved by the Hon. John Young, and seconded by Alderman David was unanimously carried. The Mayor occupied the chair.

In the British House of Commons on Thursday last the Postmaster General announced that in future no contracts would be made for conveyance of mails to America, arrangements similar to those adopted by the United States having been made.

At the annual meeting of the Ontario Rifle Association held at Toronto on Thursday last, it was decided that although Col. Brunel's canvas target would be an improvement on the old iron ones, yet the state of the Association finances would not permit of the substitution. For the same reason they were not to grant the usual bonuses to affiliated Associations during the coming year, but to give the Association badge only. It was announced that the Governor General had signified his intention of giving a silver and bronze medal for competition annually. The annual meeting of the Association was fixed for the 4th of August, when a large prize list will be offered, including one hundred dollars offered by Mr. E. O. Bickford.

Rubies have been found in the Saskatchewan; also pipe clay and soap in the banks.

The London Times says:—"In our eastern Empire we have accomplished a greater military feat than any of which ancient Rome could boast. The latter employed legions raised among one conquered nation to hold another in subjection. We have done more, for we have conquered and maintained our position in India to a great extent by means of natives of that very country. We have dared to organize an army out of the vanquished to keep the vanquished themselves submissive to the victor's yoke. In many cases, indeed, we have enrolled in our ranks beaten foemen on the very morrow of their defeat.

The Copenhagen Dagbladet publishes a report from the Captain of the Danish schooner "Lucinde," in which he states that on the 2nd of last month (January), about noon, and within 4 English miles of the fortress of Gibraltar, his ship was hailed by a boat, which, when it came alongside and had got a line on board, turned out to contain an armed crew of nine men, looking like thorough pirates. Some of the crew tried to get on board the schooner, but the Captain let go the line, when the crew of the boat began firing at the schooner, and it was later found that five balls had pierced the mainsail, one through the mainstay sail, and two more entered other parts of the ship. The Captain adds that the day was clear, and that it was impossible that the occurrence should not be witnessed from Gibraltar. This, it appears, is only one of the several attempts at piracy occurring lately in the Straits of Gibraltar within British jurisdiction complained of in the Scandinavian papers.

The Lord Mayor of London, on 23rd Feb., received telegrams from the Mayors of Wellington and Dunedin, New Zealand, congratulatory upon the completion of telegraphic communication between the colony and the mother country. In reply, the Lord Mayor telegraphed to the effect that he rejoiced at the successful laying of the cable, and trusted that the new communication thus afforded would tend to cement friendship and extend commerce between England and New Zealand.

The Great Eastern is reported to have encountered terrible weather and became waterlogged on the 3rd of March. The captain and his two sons died of privation. The captain and 13 men took to the boats, and soon suffered terribly from hunger. Three men died, and the survivors were forced to eat a portion of the remains of their comrades to prevent them from starving. On the 11th March they were picked up in the last stage of emaciation.

A severe storm prevailed in London, and almost generally around the coast, during Monday and Tuesday of last week. It was particularly violent on the coast about the west part of Lancashire. Many ships thereabouts have sought haven, after losing all their anchors. Much damage has been done to the farm buildings, produce, &c.

About Paris advices say Bercy, Neuilly, Canrebevier, Asnieres, Bellecourt, Point au Jour, Auteuil, Severas, St. Cloud, Suersnes and other suburbs of the city, were all more or less inundated. The suffering caused by the floods is very great. Marshal and Madame McMahon have each visited the separate districts and distributed relief personally. Madame McMahon has sent the Prefect of the Seine 5,000 francs for the relief of the sufferers. Public contributions are being made for the same object. All the large streams between Paris and the eastern frontier of France are over their banks, and the country for miles around is flooded. In Normandy the gale uprooted trees, overturned vehicles, and damaged houses. In Calvados considerable masses of rock were blown off the cliffs.

A London despatch says a private villa has been engaged for Queen Victoria at Baden during her sojourn there. She will travel *incognito*. It is stated she will assume the title of Countess Rosenan, after the late Prince Consort's favourite residence in Thuringia. It is not expected she will stay at Baden longer than a week, after which it is understood she will proceed to Cobourg and spend an equal time at the court of her brother-in-law, reigning the Duke. The Empress Augusta wishes to meet Queen Victoria at Cobourg. The Crown Prince and Princess Germany will also meet her there. The Emperor William proposes to visit her. Queen Victoria has particularly requested that no official reception be extended her anywhere on her journey. The 25th of March has been finally fixed as the day of departure from London.

The weather is hardly settled yet though it has greatly moderated. From all parts of the country came details of destruction by the gale. In London roofs and skylights and chimneys were blown about, and telegraph poles prostrated. At Twickenham a short distance up the Thames, a house was crushed by trees; near Staithness a steamer was wrecked, and at Chatham the Military School was partly destroyed. The rivers Chwell, Tone and others overflowed the country.

The Seine has risen 60 centimes higher than in 1872. It is thought however, that the maximum is now reached. The river Loire has risen 5½ metres. Several manufacturing factories on its banks are closed.

Annual Report on the State of the Militia
for 1875.

(Continued from page 11.)

OTTAWA, Nov 19, 1875.

To the Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Ottawa.

Sir,—In obedience to the instructions conveyed in your letter of 24th June last, I have now the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor General and the Dominion Government that in the progress of my Official tour of inspection through the North West Territory and British Columbia, I visited the Headquarters of the United States General Officers Commanding in Montana and also in the Territories of Washington and Oregon, with the object of conferring with them according to your desire regarding the repression of crime and capture of criminals, as well as the questions relating to the peace of the frontier of the Canadian and American possessions.

I proceeded from Fort McLeod at the base of the Rocky Mountains to Fort Shaw in Montana, a distance of 250 miles, accompanied by Assistant Commissioner McLeod commanding the detachments of the Mounted Police in the western division of the North West Territory, and from him I learnt the nature of the measures most likely to conduce to a more settled state of affairs along the frontiers.

Brigadier General Gibbon commanding in Montana had not then received instructions respecting my visit from the U. S. War Department, he nevertheless received me cordially and confided with me frankly.

The following is the result of our conference:

1. It is desirable that stealing of horses or other cattle or stock of any description should be included in the Extradition treaty.

2. To simplify the mode of procedure in the apprehension and custody of fugitives from either country.

The complicated and dilatory practice now in use is as follows—for instance in the case of an offender against Canadian laws who may have taken refuge in the United States:

On representation to the Canadian Government by one of their magistrates, an application has to be made to Washington Government to obtain an order to have the fugitive extradited and apprehended, then the Canadian Government appoints an agent to have the extradition carried out, this agent then applies through the American Civil authorities for a warrant to arrest the fugitive. On this being effected an examination takes place before a Judge or Commissioner who makes a preliminary examination as to whether there is sufficient evidence to commit the prisoner for trial. If he considers there is sufficient evidence then he commits the fugitive to go to where he can be held for two months pending the order of the Washington Government for extradition or release, the evidence taken having been sent to the Washington Government or their Law Officers for consideration as to the amount of evidence and whether the alleged crime comes within the terms of the treaty; the prisoner is then, as the case may be, released or handed over to the Canadian authorities on demand and tried in the country where the crime is alleged to have been committed.

But an American Commissioner has lately held that in such cases it required the same amount of evidence for the first committal of a prisoner under extradition as it would in ordinary cases for conviction. In a country so vast, with communication so slow and interrupted it would be nearly impossible to effect this and the ends of justice would therefore as a consequence be frequently defeated; moreover it would, appear by United States Revised Statutes, Sec. 5271, that copies of depositions may be received in evidence of the criminality of persons so apprehended, which of course could not be received in a final trial, and therefore it is very necessary that clear and definite instructions should be issued upon such questions.

To simplify the foregoing complicated and very dilatory method of procedure which at the shortest occupies 3 months before any steps can be taken even to apprehend the fugitive, who may in the meantime escape to some remote or inaccessible region and so elude pursuit, it is proposed that an Officer of the Country in which the crime is alleged to have been committed shall have full authority to apply at once and direct to the nearest available Civil or Military Officer or Indian Agent of the country to which the fugitive escapes for his arrest; and that the preliminary examination shall take place immediately hereafter, the amount of evidence required, by a Justice of the peace in ordinary cases to commit a prisoner for trial, and should be so defined as to admit of no doubt.

The same change in the law is very desirable to apply to the countries lying along the whole frontier from Ocean to Ocean.

Assistant Commissioner McLeod, who has had much experience already as to the repression of crime and the great difficulty attending the capture of fugitives from Canada, assures me that if these suggestions were adopted by the two governments, the difficulties now attending the capture of criminals would be removed as far as it is practicable in such a spacious country, prompt action against marauders and certain capture and punishment being so conducive to the prevention of illegalities of every kind and the establishment of law and order.

In the foregoing opinions and suggestions Brigadier General Gibbon coincided with me.

A few weeks later in the month of October, on my passing through the Washington and Oregon Territories, I had the pleasure of meeting with Major General Howard who commands that department, and with him I had intimate relations and frank interchange of views during several days travel together. He is of opinion that in addition to the foregoing propositions, in which he also concurred, desertion from the Military and Naval service of both Countries should be included in the extradition treaty, and that the suggestions for simplifying the capture of fugitives should be extended to that crime.

In Alaska for instance, it frequently occurs that American criminals escape into British territory, and the impossibility of recapture actually induces and fosters crime in that Country. The military officer is ex officio Indian Agent and if he could apply directly to the nearest British official for the capture and preliminary examination of the fugitives, the course of justice would be immensely facilitated and crime through fear of certain capture and punishment would be correspondingly diminished. Precisely the same circumstances apply to the whole frontier of British Columbia.

It would be very desirable if an arrangement could be mutually agreed upon by the two Governments by which the civil authorities of either Country actually in pursuit of a suspected criminal should have authority upon reaching the boundary line to cross it and on making the capture to hand the prisoner over to the nearest known authority of the Country in which the capture is made. This should of course only apply to the as yet thinly peopled and only partially settled portions of the Country along the western frontiers, perhaps defined from Lake Superior along the whole line west to the Pacific and thence North to Alaska. By these means many a well known offender of either Country who now runs across the frontier and sets his pursuers at open defiance would be brought to justice and the knowledge that such power was possessed by the Authorities of the Law would of itself diminish if not entirely extinguish illegal practice, on both sides of the international boundary.

With reference to our relations with the outlying American territory of Alaska, I may here adduce a case which occurred a few days before my arrival at Portland (Oregon) and which was brought to my notice by Major General Howard, U.S.A., at Portland, in support of his suggestion.

The Officer of the U.S. Army in command at Fort Wrangel, Alaska, reported in September last the arrest of Henry Landerson, Edward Flannery and Col Mandeville for violation of Acts of Congress regulating trade and intercourse with Indian tribes and prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian settlements in Alaska.

The prisoners were forwarded under a military escort by steamship *California* to Portland (Oregon) with certain documentary evidence to be delivered to the United States Civil Authorities, in proof of their crime, and to be used at their trial.

On the arrival of the ship at Nansimo, Vancouver's Island, under the apprehension the prisoners might escape to British soil, they were ordered below between decks. All complied except Mandeville, who then and there for the first time claimed to be a British subject and demanded to be released, at the same time refusing to obey the order to go below. The prisoner appealed to the Collector of the port of Nanaimo and to Captain Hayes, of the *California*, demanding his release and threatening prosecution in case his demand was not complied with. He endeavoured to create sympathy among the inhabitants of Nansimo and the miners and passengers on board to induce them to assist him. He was then handcuffed and placed in the steel cage. There were many passengers including 80 miners on board the ship, and to them Mandeville stated he was a British subject and had been arrested by the Military Authorities of the United States.

Upon arrival at Portland these men were all discharged by Civil Authority. The United States District Attorney stated they had violated the law, still the offence was so purely technical they were not held. Mandeville has consequently brought an action against Lieutenant Boyle and the guard for false imprisonment, damages at 25,000 dollars.

The whole question of the legality of arrest of residents in Alaska, whatever Country they may belong to and of their delivery to the United States Civil Authorities in Portland, under the statutes of Congress relating to trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, especially under the sections relating to the introduction of spirituous

liquors, is very likely to come up in the trial of this case. Major General Howard was therefore anxious this case should be referred to in my report in order that precise and definite rules should be adopted by the two governments, not only respecting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian Territory of Alaska, through British soil, but also as regards the capture and detention of British subjects found violating the laws in Alaska, in the hope that military officers who in pursuance of their duty capture offenders other than American subjects, may not be liable to prosecution at law merely in retaliation. And this applies equally on both sides, for I believe at this moment Lt. Colonel McLeod is subject to a similar prosecution by a citizen of the United States for making him a prisoner upon a charge of which he was acquitted in a United States Court at Helena, through same legal technicality, though little doubt existed at the time as to his guilt.

More simple laws are required for the capture and punishment of criminals, and offenders against the laws, upon the vast and spacious prairies of the North West and in the mountainous and densely wooded countries of British Columbia and Alaska, where the population is very sparse and cosmopolitan, than in more settled and populous regions where the arrest of offenders is more easily effected, the attendance of evidence more easily procured.

Lt. Col. McLeod will in the case in point be obliged to attend personally at Helena, a distance from his post of full 400 miles across the bleak prairies, long the spurs of the Rocky Mountains in the depth of winter, to defend himself against a prosecution for an act which occurred in the execution of his duty, and so his useful services with his force will be lost for several months.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
E. SELBY SMYTH,
Major General.

[B.]
OTTAWA,
November 27, 1875.

Sir,

1. In compliance with the instructions contained in your confidential letter to me dated 24th June last, wherein I am directed in the progress of my tour through the North West Territories to visit as many as possible of the Mounted Police Posts and to make special inquiry into certain points therein detailed, bearing upon the organization, equipment, distribution, and general efficiency of the Force, I have now the honor to report to you that after my return in June from reorganizing the Militia in Prince Edward Island, and having proceeded Westward, to inspect the various Brigades of Militia encamped in Ontario, I embarked at Sarnia on the 2nd July and, passing up Lakes Huron and Superior I reached Fort Garry by way of Duluth, Moorehead and the Red River on the 15th, and after making the necessary inspections there, I finally departed for the Prairies on the 19th of that month, travelling the first 200 miles in vehicles which had been provided for myself and staff as far as Shoal Lake, where I met with the first outpost of the Mounted Police.

2. From this point I travelled throughout the North West Territories and across the Rocky Mountains full 1500 miles, escorted by a party of the Mounted Police until they were relieved at Joseph's Prairie in the

Kootenay district under arrangements made by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia for my further progress to Van, couver's Island.

3. As I have referred in the outset to my general summer's tour of inspection I may say shortly, it embraced a distance, by the routes travelled in going and returning, of full 11,000 miles, of which upwards of 2000 were performed on horseback.

4. The general opinions I have been able to form of the North West Mounted Police, have been greatly influenced by the experience I acquired of them on my line of march through the country, I shall now therefore shortly allude to it.

5. From Shoal Lake post I proceeded direct to Swan River, about 140 miles, and on the morning of my arrival there I was overtaken by Lieutenant Cotton, an officer of the Manitoba Artillery bearing despatches to me from the Lieutenant Governor of that province.

6. The nature of these despatches was such that after a conference with the commandant, Lieutenant Colonel French, I determined to take a force of 50 Mounted Police from Swan River to Carleton, as a party of observation.

7. My reason for coming to this decision arose from the important nature of the information conveyed in the despatches, and though my impression was that the report was somewhat overdrawn, I had no possible means, so far removed from telegraphic or postal communication, to test the facts of the case except by going to see for myself.

8. I accordingly marched the following afternoon accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel French and 50 of his men. We crossed the south branch of the Saskatchewan and I reached Carleton House on the 8th day, a distance of 270 miles from Swan River, being the first armed force which had ever appeared there, or crossed the Saskatchewan.

9. The result of my investigation, I had the honor to report to you at the time. I shall therefore only say that I consider the sudden and unannounced arrival of this force had the best possible moral effect, proving so convincingly that power lay within easy reach to enforce the laws upon the slightest infraction, a fact of which the inhabitants of St. Laurent and other settlements around Carlton were up to that time in ignorance.

10. Leaving the troop of Mounted Police at Carlton, I crossed the north branch of the Saskatchewan the following day, and proceeded by way of Forts Pitt and Victoria towards Edmonton, 400 miles; but being delayed a day at Sturgeon Creek, a deep and rapid stream, in order to construct rafts for its passage, I recrossed the Saskatchewan the same afternoon at the new post established by Inspector Jarvis.

11. From thence Edmonton lies about 20 miles south; the reasons why the Police Post was fixed at this point I shall refer to further on.

12. Proceeding south, 120 miles, I crossed the Battle and Red Deer River, and at the latter found another troop of Police which had been with judgment moved to that point on learning the rumours afloat about the Carlton affair.

13. I inspected this troop the same afternoon, and next morning, marching south, Lieutenant Colonel McLeod, the Assistant Commissioner who had been waiting for me, detached the troop to a position on the Bow River, where a new police post is now established.

14. Approaching Bow River I crossed the line of route of a band of about 200 Black-foot Indians, amongst whom were Crowfoot, the paramount, and four other chiefs of more or less note. They at once, on perceiving me riding with the guide some miles in advance of my party, galloped towards me, and, on ascertaining who, I was, welcomed me with every expression of sincerity and good will.

15. Crowfoot begged me to encamp there with his people to have a talk, but I declined, urging my desire to reach Bow River that night, on which the Chiefs determined to accompany me, and they did so, after dressing themselves in their best apparel.

16. Round a large council fire on the high cliffs, at whose base runs the broad and rapid Bow River, these Chiefs received myself and staff after night fall, and with the solemn dignity of their race they each in turn delivered a speech, the sum of which was in effect the great satisfaction they derived from the presence of the Mounted Police in their country, the security and peace that had succeeded to anarchy, disorder, and drunkenness, the prosperity which had replaced poverty and want;—that whereas in former times their young men were the victims of unscrupulous traders who bartered ardent spirits for their horses and buffalo robes, by which they were reduced to squalor, misery and crime—now that the infamous liquor trade had been completely put an end to by the presence and activity of the police, all this was changed for prosperity and contentment as well as security for life and property, horse-stealing had become rare, because now the young men could procure what horses they required in exchange for buffalo robes, they could lie down in their lodges at night feeling security from depredation.

17. All this and much more did these calm and thoughtful old chiefs express to me, indicative of the respect and high estimation in which they held the new force the Government had been pleased to send among them.

18. They asked me in turn to speak for them to the Government in order that the land question might be settled and treaties arranged, such, as they understood, had been granted to the Eastern Prairie Indians, and this I promised them to do, giving them distinctly to understand that "Mahagauensuma," the "Great Soldier Master," as they termed me, was not charged with questions of that nature, but that I should be most happy to be the medium of expressing their wishes to the Government, whose great aim and object was to extend uniform justice and deal fairly by all the Indian tribes in whom Her Majesty the Queen took a great interest.

19. They were pleased and contented, and after expressing their gratification at seeing myself, the first General Officer who had ever passed through their land, and offering to make a new road for me if I should return next year, I bid them goodnight, they had their supper and tobacco close to my tent, upon which the British flag was flying, and before day light in the morning they had all departed.

20. But a short time ago the Blackfoot Indians would have been very unwelcome guests in a small camp during the dark hours of the night.

21. The passage of the Bow River occupied the whole of the following day, it is broad and rapid and crossing camp equipment and men by means of temporary rafts is attended with much delay and considerable risk, in fact on this occasion two men narrowly escaped drowning owing to the sinking

of one of the rapids, in the middle of this violent torrent.

22. Proceeding south I passed over a bleak and rather barren prairie land entirely devoid of timber or even shrubs, our camp kettles being boiled on fires constituted of buffalo chips only.

23. After 200 miles travel over this pathless waste and crossing several minor streams by the way, we reached Fort McLeod, the most remote of all the Police posts situated on the old Man's River a few miles south east from the Porcupine Hills, and 50 miles due east from the entrance of the so-called Kootenay Pass, through the Rocky Mountains.

24. I shall refer specially to this and the other Police posts further on.

25. Leaving my staff to proceed towards the Kootenay Pass to await my return, I proceeded after one day's halt, in company with assistant commissioner McLeod, to pay a visit to the United States General Officer commanding in Montana, in obedience to instructions from the Secretary of State, to whom I have had the honor to furnish a special report on the result of my conference with Brigadier General Gibbon at Fort Shaw, 250 miles from Fort McLeod, as well as my further conference with Major General Howard some weeks later, on passing through his department in the territories of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

26. I refer to this subject here, as the questions on which I had to treat related to the suppression of crime on the frontier, and the capture of criminals and plunderers on both sides of the International boundary, a duty in which the Mounted Police are largely interested.

27. I am in great hopes the result of my conferences may tend to facilitate and simplify the duties of this force which has already proved so efficient by the moral effect of its presence as well as by the keen activity and prudence of some of the officers in command.

28. Returning with Lt. Col. MacLeod towards the passes of the Rocky Mountains, along their eastern slopes, and past the base of Chief Mountain we saw some of the monuments erected recently by the Boundary Commissioners; these, constructed of loose stones, have been nearly demolished by the buffaloes. We threw as many of the stones on their piles as time permitted, but I venture to mention that unless more durable monuments are quickly erected, the buffalo will soon leave few to mark the spots.

29. In crossing Birch Creek in the vicinity of the Mars we found 170 lodges of South Peigan Indians, numbering about 700 people. With these I passed an evening similar to that with the Blackfeet and heard nearly the same sentiments towards the Police and myself. They were going north to hunt the buffalo, and spoke in loud praise of the now settled and peaceful state of the Country north of the boundary line. A treaty of peace has recently been formed between these people, the Assiniboines and the Blackfeet, through the instrumentality of Inspector Walsh at Cypress Hills, which these Indians assured me they intended to observe inviolate and which will produce a prospect of peace probably unknown in that country through all past time.

30. At the eastern entrance of the Kootenay, or, as it is generally termed there, the Elk River Pass, we reached our standing camp, where our transport wagons were exchanged for pack horses of the Mounted Police, by means of which we penetrated the mountains, and after a rough journey of 200 miles through dense forest, over two precipitous

mountain ranges, amidst a network of fallen timber, intersected by dangerous morasses, we eventually crossed the Elk and Kootenay Rivers, and reached Joseph's Prairie, 12 miles from Wild Horse Creek, where the duties of the Mounted Police, as regarded our further progress, ceased. We crossed from thence to Vancouver Island by arrangement of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, but finding from all sources information at Kootenay, that it would be dangerous, if not impracticable to attempt to cross many miles of quagmire and muskeg, and to climb the rugged and broken passes of Shepherds Mountain, which lies between the bends of the Kootenay and Columbia Rivers, moreover without any means for crossing those turbulent rivers on that route, it was therefore necessary to proceed 200 miles south to Spokane, in United States Territory, in order to turn this mountain and morass. I consequently determined with the view of saving expense to the Government for transport and hired packmen to strike south 200 miles, further to Walla Walla, rather than to return 200 miles north from Spokane for the sake of passing through the only 140 miles remaining of British Territory, between the point where the boundary line would be intersected and Hope on the Fraser River.

31. Captain Ward, one of my Staff for the expedition, kindly undertook to proceed by that route at his own expense from Spokane and to make me acquainted with any items of consequence, but I found on his rejoining me at Victoria, that there was nothing of any importance to relate.

32. By taking the Walla Walla route by the line of the Lower Columbia, I was fortunate enough to have much interchange of opinion with Major General Howard on the subject of mutual action against criminals of both countries.

33. Before quitting this little narrative of my journey with the Mounted Police may I be permitted to record how very completely the considerate, and well matured arrangements of the Department of Justice for the progress of myself and Staff, were executed by the Officers of the Mounted Police and by the men and horses of the escort which accompanied me for about 1500 miles over a rough country interrupted frequently by deep rivers, by rugged hills and precipitous ravines, by swamps and morasses, trying to horses as well as men.

34. Through all that long and toilsome march, day by day, this escort never flagged, always ready, willing, and obedient, untiring in their exertions, which sometimes called for much endurance. If I were to judge of the Mounted Police force as a body, by that little escort, which was not composed of selected men, they deserve a very high character from me.

My staff on the expedition was composed of Captain the Honorable M. Stapleton Coldstream Guards, A.D.C.; Captain Ward, A.D.C. to his Excellency the Governor General, and Lieutenant the Honorable J. Fitzwilliam, A.D.C., Royal Horse Guards, and afterwards joined by the Honorable Evelyn Ellis, late Royal Navy.

The sufficiency of the Force in respect of numbers, discipline, and equipment, including horses, arms, saddlery, means of transport, &c.

35. The Force consists of 29 officers and 300 men and horses; the Commander is termed Commissioner, and his second in command, Assistant Commissioner, the remaining officers are respectively inspectors and sub inspectors, and the men designated constables and sub constables, the former

answering to the status of non commissioned officers.

36. The Force is divided into 6 Divisions of 50 men each; it may be considered fairly sufficient for the duties it is at present called upon to perform.

37. The moral effect of its presence has already produced a wholesome improvement in the condition of the wandering tribes of the prairies, and the nomadic inhabitants of the North West generally, and caused a feeling of security throughout the settlements of the Territory.

38. For a newly raised force, hastily enrolled and equipped, it is in very fair order—its organization is based upon sound principles, but there is room for improvement in several respects on which I represent herewith a confidential report.

39. It will be readily understood that in the detached state of the Force so much time have been occupied in providing shelter for men and horses it is hitherto been next to impossible to bestow proper attention on discipline, interior economy, equitation, the care of horses, saddlery, equipment and the duties of constables—all of which are quite indispensable.

40. I consider that men should be recruited from the rural districts, a few only for clerks &c., to be taken from Towns. The decayed gentleman is a failure. They should be active young men, sons of farmers accustomed to face all kind of weather and rough work as well as the use of horses, this element is badly wanted in the Force.

41. I might also observe that many of the men at present are of too heavy a build for the strength of their horses.

42. The horses are however a very fair average lot. They have been generally purchased in Ontario.

43. I should much prefer selecting them from rural districts than from horse dealers and sale stables. A better, sounder, and cheaper description of horse could thus be obtained.

44. There are some native ponies, and though these animals cannot be expected to carry men with arms and accoutrements for any great distance, yet they are useful for various purposes, particularly late in the fall or in the winter.

45. I think a useful and cheap sort of horse can be procured in Montana and also in Washington and Idaho territories.

46. I used some excellent sure footed and good constitutioned Mountain Galloways in British Columbia this year which cost only 50 dollars a piece at Walla Walla.

47. The necessity of carrying oats for horses is one of the weakest points of the force. Without oats, horses soon fall out of condition, become weak, and knock up; grass alone is not sufficiently nourishing for horses accustomed to oats, when hard worked; some of the prairie grass is dry and without nutriment, in other parts it is rich and mingled with wild vetches.

48. It is absolutely necessary to grow oat crops as largely as possible in the North West. Every post should have some hundred acres under tillage for producing cereals and vegetables.

TRANSPORT.

49. The question of transport is one of considerable importance not only as regards the efficiency of the force, and its readiness to take the field at any moment, but also in respect of supplies of every kind, which at present, including oats, have to be carried many hundred miles, through a country which is only open for wheel transport for 6 or 7 months of the year. My suggestions on

this subject are also contained in the confidential report.

50. I am persuaded it will be found necessary very soon to establish a large supply granary and depot in some central position in the North West, from which not only the police, but all the Government surveying, and exploring parties, as well as those engaged in geological research, running telegraph lines or building railways, could obtain supplies.

51. The time lost in drawing supplies in small quantities over the many hundred miles from Winnipeg would be saved if one or two years supply was always in the Central depot, its position being the only question to decide.

DISCIPLINE,

52. Till the recent changes in the law, the proper maintenance of discipline was attended with difficulty, flogging being the only means of punishment. There are now full powers to fine or imprison ill conducted men, consequently the general conduct of the men is very satisfactory, and punishment need rarely be resorted to.

COMPLAINTS.

53. I took occasion whilst among the police to enquire whether there were any complaints. I publicly on parade, after inspections, asked the question, not a man ever came forward, but on going round the men's dinners at Fort McLeod, when asking the usual question, I was told there was a claim to which the men thought themselves entitled. It was this, last winter, when 3 troops were left on Old Man's River to house themselves and their horses, they were obliged to purchase extra clothing, the blankets and clothing supplied by the Government were not sufficient protection against the rigorous weather to which they were exposed before getting lodged in the huts which they built, the labor and hewing wood was severe on the clothing also, which had been bought in Montana.

54. In other respects I think the men generally are contented, all that I saw appeared merry and light hearted, and the eagerness they showed to accompany the party with me to Carleton, and afterwards through the passes of the Rocky Mountains, in itself indicates their love for an adventurous prairie life.

55. I have conversed with several of them each expressed themselves content with their lot, and some said they would certainly re-enrol. There is a charm, about the wild, nomadic freedom of the prairie, which appears perfectly fascinating.

56. Some said they had cause for complaint last year, and I believe they had, that is passed a remedied, it was quite inseparable from the condition of things at the time a raw force, hastily recruited without time for selection, and thrust forth with but partial discipline, or sufficient time for preparation upon a long and harassing march with unavoidable privations, which would have tried the metal of veteran troops.

57. The force had then in its ranks men who only would have been weeded out of it had there been time, discontented adventurers who only engaged for pastime, but who grumbled and deserted when they found real service and some risk of life instead of the idleness they expected.

58. In all bodies of men some will be found who are ready to complain on the smallest excuse. The North West police are still no doubt subject to what gently nurtured citizens of every day routine, with a comfortable roof over their heads every night, would stamp as utter discomfort; new

outposts have to be formed and built, involving exposure and labour, wood to be cut, water to be drawn, cooking performed on camp fires, their canvas tents dripping with the heavy dews of night, horses to be herded and tended with all the usual roughing of a camp life, but they breathe the clear pure air of the mountain or the prairie, their necessary wants of food and covering are carefully supplied, their pay and prospects ample and liberal, sickness is unknown, or very exceptional, their daily lives are never irksome, and above all they have the conscious knowledge that they are the pioneers in a rich and fertile territory, magnificently spacious, though still strangely solitary and silent, which at no distant time will resound with the busy life of a numerous and a prosperous population, their lives are tinged in the flower perfumed prairies over which their duty leads them with an adventurous romance which was frequently demonstrated, in the long and sometimes very toilsome marches we made together.

59. The police have now no real cause of complaint which their officers are not ready and willing to redress on fair representation. They know it and admit it, but unfortunately there are in all communities, men of sour and discontented spirits who complain for the sake of notoriety, and who prefer either to appear in print or to write frivolous and vexatious appeals to their too credulous correspondents.

60. Such persons (happily, very exceptional) had better quit a useful and a valuable body of patriotic men, they deserve no attention.

ARMS.

61. These consist of the Snider Carbine, and the Deane and Adams revolver. The carbine is an excellent serviceable weapon, but the pistols which were obtained from the war department are of very inferior quality and almost untrustworthy. I hear they have been already condemned and reported upon. The recruits are provided with the improved Smith and Wesson, but this pistol is very liable to get out of order and the severe cold is apt to snap the extractor spring. I believe there is no better horse pistol than the improved Adams, a supply of which has just been received and is ready for issue, it is simple, strong, and in all respects serviceable, the force should have a reliable pistol.

62. Many of the carbines require repair; naturally, in the rough work to which they are exposed on the prairies they must get out of order, it is very necessary that two or three armourers should be supplied, as well as tools and materials for repair; one experienced artificer would be sufficient were the force concentrated, but widely detached as it is in the nature of its duties always must be, one or two more are necessary.

With regard to equipment and uniform, I beg to refer you to the confidential report.

(To be Continued.)

An Elephant in Heaven.

The Royal visit to India seems likely to produce some other results than those generally expected. It is true that the British Sovereign will no longer be regarded as a semi-mythical personage, a sort of Prester John endowed with endless years and infinite powers for good or evil. There are, however, signs of another phase of the matter to which we direct the attention of those who perceive danger to England in the Prince's

occasional attendances at nautches and immorality in his participation in the "barbarous" sport of pig sticking. Unless indications are very deceptive, there is every chance that England's future ruler will be given a high place in the Hindoo Pantheon, by the side of Siva, Brahma and Vishnu. In fact it may be questioned whether he will not take rank in popular estimation above this many armed and many headed trinity. After the recent elephant hunting in Ceylon, very extraordinary rumours went about among the natives, accrediting the Prince with almost supernatural powers. Some said he had shot game with a mere glance of his eye; others, that the largest and fiercest beasts of the forest became tame the moment they came into the royal presence. The most circumstantial rumour, however, ran to the effect that after the Prince killed a monster elephant, no trace of its body could be found. What had become of it? Vainly the beaters searched through the forest for the carcass: On the spot where the huge brute fell, the crushed down jungle still bore marks of the death struggle, but not a single footprint was found leading away from the place. Puzzled to account for this phenomenon, the natives had recourse to their priests, and then the truth was revealed. Siva, the omnipotent, could not endure the idea that an animal which had met its death at such august hands, should be submitted to the profanation of skinning. After taking counsel with his brother deities, he therefore caused the body to be carried off to heaven, where it now figures among the other wonders of the celestial museum. Such was the explanation afforded by the priests, and we are informed that the Tamil peasantry accepted it without a question, in the belief that Siva could scarcely have done less under the peculiar circumstances of the case. If, then, an elephant was so honoured merely because he enjoyed the good fortune to be shot by the Prince the latter must indeed be held in the highest consideration by the whole multitude of Hindoo gods.—*English paper.*

The new arm of the Navy.

It is evident that the Admiralty intend the new class of armed despatch vessels to be really what they seem, as the indicated horse power of their engines will be higher than that of any ship of war of equal tonnage afloat. With an actual displacement of barely 3,700 tons, the Iris and Mercury, both building at Pembroke yard, will be provided with engines working up to the power of 7,000 horses.—Taking, as an example, the Boadicea, also an unarmoured vessel, now preparing for sea, we find with that with an actual displacement of 4,027 tons, her engines are capable of developing only the power of 5,250 horses. The engines of the Temeraire, iron armour plated ship, are of the same working power as those of the new class of armed despatch vessel, but her displacement is more than double that of the Iris or Mercury. As may be supposed, this power means money, and it is not surprising to find that the engines of these vessels will be more costly than any at present afloat in an unarmoured vessel. This new class is designed with the view of keeping the sea, being handy under sail and swift under steam, and will be truly effective for the protection of commerce.

It is officially announced that the German squadron in Chinese waters will be considerably reinforced for the suppression of piracy.

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BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
 AND
 MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

“I ordered, amongst, our swords we draw,
 To guard the Monarch, fence the Law.”

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1876.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be pre-paid. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the word—“Printer's Copy” written and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed hereon will pay the postage. No communication, however, will be inserted unless the writer's name is given, not necessarily for publication, but that we may know from whom it is sent.

We have for the past nine years endeavored to furnish the Volunteer Force of Canada with a paper worthy of their support, but we regret to say, have not met with that encouragement which we confidently expected when we undertook the publication of a paper wholly devoted to their interests. We now appeal to their charity and ask each of our subscribers to procure another, or to a person sending us the names of four or five new subscribers and the money—a list be entitled to receive one copy for the year free. A little exertion on the part of our friends would manfully assist us, besides extending the usefulness of the paper among the Force—keeping them thoroughly advised in all the changes and improvements in the art of war so essential for a military man to know. Our ambition is to improve the *Volunteer Review* in every respect, so as to make it second to none. Will our friends help us to do it? Premiums will be given to those getting up the largest lists. The *Review* being the only military paper published in Canada, it ought to be liberally supported by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of each Battalion.

Our previous article reviewing the proposition for establishing the “Institution of Adjutants,” as put forth in the “Militia Report” for the past year intimated that a case illustrative of the position taken on this subject would be dealt with.

The Major General Commanding the Canadian Militia writing of the cavalry in page XVII of his report says.—“I have not yet specially referred to this useful arm the “District reports enter into the condition of those Regiments during the training. I include them when speaking of Militia generally. They turned out well this year,

well mounted, horses without the advantage of a mangle wonderfully steady; in the various field days the corps were well handled and some of them understood fairly the duties of outpost and feeling for an enemy.”

This from the pen of so distinguished an officer is what we call high praise, and speaks volumes for the efficiency of the system which could produce such results. In page XVI of same Report we find the following reference to a letter—which we publish out of its usual place for the purpose of calling attention to the very serious allegations it contains which would, we believe, demand at least a Military Court of Enquiry as to the alleged negation of duty asserted as well as insinuated;

“May I request special attention to a very practical letter and scheme for the improvement of Cavalry which has been addressed to me by Captain and Adjutant S W Spillette, late Troop Sergeant Major 9th Royal Lancers. As to the experience of this officer in Regimental detail, the position he held in the 9th is a guarantee. His remarks are worthy of consideration, especially the reasons which he gives for the necessity of a permanent staff officer in each Regiment, an opinion from which no practical soldier can dissent, although, as I have before stated, I believe the idea is not supposed to be generally acceptable here—and so I have refrained from again urging it. The letter will be found in the appendix No. 7.”

The following are the documents referred to; they, however, appear in Appendix No. 8, and we think that so far from rendering the appointment of a permanent staff officer necessary, it would prove that such an office, if it existed, ought at once to be abolished.

Because the knowledge such an officer acquired would be at the expense of the Captains and Subalterns who would be inefficient in duty, *ratio* to his efficiency, and because from his arbitrary dealings with the rank and file of troops he had no hand in raising, he would make recruitment impossible and be the direct means of disbanding what would under proper management be a highly effective force, as the Canadian Militia without the interference of such officers undoubtedly is;

ON CAVALRY ORGANIZATION.

GLESTON, ONTARIO.

29th June, 1875.

Sir.—I beg to enclose you a copy of letter (A) and system (B) of organization of the Cavalry of which I made mention at Camp Niagara. You are doubtless somewhat familiar with the system of that date, and will therefore readily perceive the changes which from time to time have been made for the improvement of the force, and as it seems to me there is much room for further improvements, and that with but little or no greater expenditure than caused by the present system. I beg leave to offer a few remarks in connection with the enclosed paper and our present system, endeavoring to confine myself to the branch of the service to which I belong, and in which I have ever taken a great interest although engaged through the Military School under

C. J. Lowrie, 17th Regiment and obtained a first class certificate, and was afterwards for five years Adjutant of the 19th Lincoln Battalion.

In regard to the Troop organization I have but little to offer, as the officers and non-commissioned officers are as in my system; but in the place of the number of men being reduced, as has been the case, I still adhere to the fifty, with full equipments for each man, for it is better for all purposes to have one strong troop than two weak ones, and the officers draw equally as much pay for the one as the other, and I have not the same amount of responsibility or work, so in my opinion it would be better to have stronger troops if we had fewer of them.

The Troops, with but few exceptions, having been formed into regiments, the Staff advocated have been appointed, but were the Adjutants (if duly qualified) permanent Staff Officers under pay it would add greatly to the efficiency of a regiment, as I will endeavor to show.

In the first place, as you are aware, Sir, an Adjutant has to know everything in connection with his regiment, and be able at all times to answer any questions pertaining thereto. Such is not the case now. He never sees any portion of his regiment, or hears anything in connection with it, but when in camp, consequently he has to feel his way, as it were, in the dark for the first two or three days, in the place of being able to go to his work at once.

Again, Commanding Officers never see any portion of the regiment from one camp to another. Captains of Troops never see their Troops from one annual drill to another, and know but little or anything about them until they want them for drill, and yet these officers are paid—the former twenty five dollars, and the latter forty dollars per annum for drill purposes, and in most cases are unable to drill their men. Consequently, when they come together in camp the Adjutant has to drill them separately before he can go on with his regimental drill. And then again, each Captain receives sixty dollars per annum for the care of arms, and I find it is as I stated in 1862, they are but little cared for. On inspecting their accoutrements when in camp, I found the saddlery in many cases in an unserviceable condition, many of the straps lost or broken, curb chains tied together with bits of string and wire, collar chains the same, and many of them lost, the numnahs torn and eaten by mice, the leathers rotten, and have not been oiled since they were issued, although I gave orders last year they were to do so. But it is well known that as soon as they are dismissed, no one has any authority over them, the Captains being afraid to use the authority they possess, and endeavor to gain popularity and make as much as they can out of their position, with ut any regard to the service or country; and in many cases, although, contrary to the law, the men are not sworn in—they come in for the annual drill, and after that is over, they are seen in the ranks no more. All this could be obviated by a paid Staff Officer, as none would dare ignore his authority, and he would have a general supervision over officers and men; and I cannot perhaps do better than here bring to your notice a case which occurred in one of the troops some eight years ago, shortly after it had received its equipments. At that time, although Adjutant of the 19th Battalion, I was the appointed and paid Instructor of three troops of Cavalry, and on going to drill one day, a man came on parade with accoutrements very dirty. After giving a severe reprimand, I ordered him to appear on parade the next

morning with his things thoroughly clean, did he not, I would hire a man to clean them, and stop the amount out of his pay. The next day, on repairing to the place of drill, I was informed by an inn keeper that the man had brought his things to his house, thrown them down in the bar room, telling him to tell me I might take them and clean them myself, for he would not. I immediately went to a Magistrate and got a warrant for his arrest, which was duly executed, and the following day he was brought before a Bench of Magistrates, and fined seven dollars and costs, amounting in all to ten dollars. I had no trouble with him or any man of troop after; but his Captain dare not have resorted to such a measure. Were there Regimental paid Staff Officers they could enforce the laws and orders of the force, compel the arms and accoutrements to be kept in good order, get the men out for occasional drills, teach them the sword and carbine drill, and vero the drill sheds, where there are troops, converted into riding schools, teach them riding, so that when they went into camp they would soon be fit for field drill. He could also instruct the officers and non-commissioned officers in their duty, and give them lectures in that most important of duties, outpost duty, of which they know but little or anything about now, and by having a general supervision over the regiment prevent many irregularities which entail expense on the country, as every thing should pass through his hands, and be examined by him. Under our present system, should any disturbance take place by which the force is called out, the expense on the country by fraud would be similar to that of our neighbors during their civil war.

There is much more I would like to lay before you, but my duties as an Assistant Engineer, with a section of sixteen miles under construction to look after, occupies nigh the whole of my time. But I may here mention that several of the men at work on the line, citizens of the United States, left their work to fill up a Company now at Guelph. They told their foreman they were going to camp to have a spree. Such is the state of the Force, that in three months from now, if ordered out at an hour's notice, one third of the men that have been in these camps would not be in the companies and yet they are shown on paper as full companies. I feel, Sir, I have trespassed too much on your valuable time.

I have, therefore, the honor to be, Sir,
Your most humble obedient servant,
S. W. SPILLETT, Captain,
Adjut., 2nd Reg't Cav'y.

Major General SHELBY SMYTH,
Commanding the Militia of Canada.

[A.]
St. CATHARINES,
25th Sept., 1862.

Sir,—Having noticed in the debate on the Militia Bill, prior to the prorogation of Parliament, a paragraph relating to the Volunteer Cavalry, stating they were a useless expense, and I, as one perfectly conversant with that branch and its usefulness, must admit that in their present state they are of but little use, but can be made very useful were a better system than that of the present adopted. Knowing they have not the facilities for attending drill as often as the other branches of the service, who are composed of men living in close proximity with the place appointed for their meeting for drill, whereas, they being for the most part composed of men living entirely in the rural

districts, many of them at a distance of ten and twelve miles from the place of meeting for drill, with roads that are almost impassable in spring and fall, it is therefore more difficult to get them together as often as the other branches of the service. I therefore beg to lay before you a system whereby I am led to believe the cavalry can be organized and brought to as good a state of proficiency as any branch of the service, and be of eminent service to the country in time of war.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
S. W. SPILLETT,
Troop Ser'g't Major, 9th Royal Lancers,
Instructor of Cavalry.

J. C. RYKERT, Esq., M.P.
For the County of Lincoln.

[B.]

MODE OF ORGANIZING THE CAVALRY.

1. That each Troop should consist of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Cornet, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Trumpeter, one Farrier, and forty privates. Total, exclusive of officers, fifty. Then each Troop, when called out for drill, could be divided into two (one Squadron) and drilled as such.

2. That three Troops compose one Regiment, with the necessary Staff consisting of one Lieutenant Colonel, one Major, one Adjutant, one Quarter Master, one Paymaster, one Surgeon, one Assistant Surgeon, one Veterinary Surgeon, one Drill Instructor, who will also act in the capacity of Adjutant, as having a thorough knowledge of every officer and man, he would be of material service to the working of a Regiment in that capacity; and each Instructor should be granted an allowance for forage for one horse, thus doing away with the present expense of travelling.

3. Each Troop to be drilled not less than eighteen days in one year six of which, at least, to be consecutive, the remainder to be left to the discretion of the officers in command of Troops, they taking advantage of the most seasonable periods of the year, and so far studying the convenience of the troopers, as to enable as many as possible to attend at the same time. Four hours' actual drill to constitute one day, which to be duly performed, and returns to be made out by the Adjutant, signed by Officers in command of Troops and forwarded to Brigade Majors.

4. For each day's actual drill each man to be paid the sum of one dollar, and when called out for actual service such man providing his horse with forage and rations for himself, the sum of two dollars per day. If forage and rations be supplied by commissariat, the contract price to be deducted from his pay.

5. To be clothed and equipped at the expense of the Province. Clothing to be of the uniform pattern of the Imperial Hussars. Each suit to last five years, and each man retain it in his own possession and be held responsible for the same, and all repairs or damages to be made good at his own expense.

6. Regular military saddles and bridles, swords, belts, pouches and belts, and rifled carbine. The saddlery and arms to be kept in an armory or place appointed for that purpose, which place to be as central as possible, and always be the place of assembly. An experienced person appointed to look after the arms and saddlery, issuing and receiving the same, and be held responsible for their correct keeping, and make good any deficiencies he may be unable to account

for, for if left to the Troopers' own keeping, they would become unserviceable in two or three years, whereas, otherwise they would last thirty or forty years. If armed with a rifled carbine, and taught the use of dismounted as well as mounted, it would prove a very effective weapon in time of war in a country like this, which is so much interspersed with woodlands.

7. Officers in command of Troops to be responsible for and duly impress it upon the minds of their men that they always bring the same horse to drill, unless sick, which must be duly touched for, and which, on no account, to be parted with without permission of the Officer in command of the Troop, under a penalty of not less than five dollars, which fine to be duly imposed.

8. Each man to serve a term of not less than five years, and be sworn in. No man to be allowed to leave without giving a written notice to the Officer commanding his Troop, which notice, when signed by him, to be forwarded to the Officer in command of the Regiment, from thence through the usual channel to the Commander in Chief for his approval, after which to be given to the man, who will then consider himself discharged, and not before. And no man to be discharged by Officers in command of Troops or Regiments unless authorized by the Commander-in-Chief.

9. Every Officer to undergo an examination as to his qualification for holding his present or obtaining a higher commission.

10. Each Regiment to be brought together and drilled as such by the Colonel, or in his absence, the next senior Officer present, at least one day in every year.

11. For the better order of discipline, a code of by-laws may be established in each Troop, to be drawn up by the Officer in command, submitted to and signed by each man, and then forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief for his approval, after which to become law.

S. W. SPILLETT,
Troop Ser'g't Major, 9th Royal Lancers,
Instructor of Cavalry.
St. Catharines, 25th Sept., 1862.

In the foregoing letter the writer makes a distinct charge against, not only Commanding Officers, but against the District Staff. Now we humbly submit that while such positive charges are fit subjects for military enquiry it by no means follows that they should be given to the world without being substantiated, and with the imprimatur of our highest military authority. It is, however, for the Commanding Officer of the cavalry corps to which the writer belongs and to the Officers of the District Staff to clear up this matter, and with them we are content to let it rest. The writer appears to have been a very zealous and useful non-commissioned officer of a crack cavalry corps in the regular service. At the period of which he writes (1862) the Canadian Militia were obliged to find their own uniforms, and in many cases cavalry regiments had to find their own saddlery and equipments at their individual expense—the only article found by Government being a store of an obsolete pattern, the corps were wholly raised by the Captains of troops and companies who had in most cases to bear the whole expense of outfit in the first instance.

Now would it not have been wise in this

very efficient Drill Instructor if he thoroughly appreciated the difficulties the officers he libels laboured under in their patriotic efforts to give this country an efficient military force, to have quietly remonstrated with the individual whom he made such an example of, and tried to persuade him to comply with his duty, a course generally available with the people of those Colonies—failing that, was it not his duty to lay the matter before the Captain of the troop he belonged to and see what his action in the case would be? But he had been used to deal with men who enlisted for a living, and therefore there was no motive on his part to study the question as to whether his action would be injurious to the individual and to the country by which he (the Drill Instructor) was paid and the man *fined*, as well as drilled, got nothing. We do not think that unlucky individual who probably left his plough in the furrow to discharge, as far as he could, his duty to his country, was very anxious to put himself under command of the Drill Instructor again, and that officer may rest satisfied that the trooper's experience deterred others from entering it.

Such practices as that detailed would operate against the introduction of Adjutant or non Commissioned Officers from the regular service as proposed, they would not understand the organization with which they had to deal and their action on its morale would be destructive. We have no hesitation in saying a good deal of whatever disorganization has been going on in the force is due to the importation of this very kind of what may be called *foreign material* into it.

The organization is in a tentative state; it needs development according to the principles on which it was originally founded, and the practical objects intended to be realized. They were the organization of an armed nationality for defensive purposes—Canada does not want, and could not support a national army—even this year nearly 25 per cent. have been struck off the estimates for military purposes, and in such cases how far would the balance go to support organizations more or less savouring of a standing army which British officers of the regular service are so fond of advocating.

The country has placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Militia a most comprehensive system, and what is well known to be a most efficient organization, and we can see no higher service could be rendered to the Empire, and especially to this country, than a thorough comprehension of the former and the development of the latter.

The valuable "Report on the State of the Militia" for the past year directs public attention to a subject of vital importance to Canada. At page XV the following paragraphs are to be found:

"I do not recommend that any further

addition should be made to the Field Artillery at present, but I propose the usual vote for ordnance should be applied to the purchase of converted Palliser 64-32 pr. rifled guns for the batteries of Quebec and Kingston. Proper armament is of much greater importance than fortifications, the latter can speedily be supplied for temporary purposes, the former cannot. I request attention to the condition of the armaments of these two citadels; except a few breechloaders, there is not a rifled gun of any description. The breechloader will I believe be found useless in winter in Canada, as the screws freeze, and it has been found necessary to light a fire for an hour inside the gun before bringing it into action. The 64 2½ pr. is not intended as a battering gun, nor would it go through the side of an ironclad *à fleur d'eau* by direct fire, but if a shell goes through the deck of an ironclad at an angle of 8° or 9° as it must do fired from the citadel of Quebec, it would also go through her bottom, which is unarmoured, or burst between decks.

"In the present armed condition of the continent of Europe it is not possible to foresee when peace may be broken, nor what nations may become involved in war. Should such an event unhappily occur and Great Britain be a party concerned, enemies' cruisers would no doubt cover the seas as in former wars, and should a ship of war escape the British cruisers on the coast, it is quite within reasonable calculation that she might run up the St. Lawrence, place Quebec under contribution and proceed further to Montreal for the same purpose. We have not at this moment a gun at Quebec to forbid the passage of the River to any ironclad, and therefore I propose, if approved, to apply the Ordnance Vote this year for the purchase of converted 64 32 prs. guns of 56 cwt. which would fit our old 32 pr. cast iron carriages, without alteration. The cost per gun will be £136 12s. 5d. and each gun should in the first instance be supplied with 80 common shell and 20 shrapnel, costing approximately about £55 each gun. The 32 pr. case shot already in store would suit on emergency, if case shot were required.

"There are now 50 9 pounder rifled field guns in the country 30 only of which are as yet issued to batteries; 10 more are in course of manufacture and will be distributed at an early date."

It is sufficient to state this question as the writer puts it to awaken the serious attention of those most affected by the great interests involved. There can be no question whatever that Quebec and Montreal are *totally defenceless* from attack by sea, and while Parliament is now sitting it would be as well to take such steps as will in future insure the safety of those great emporiums of trade.

There can be very little necessity to awaken ordinary intelligence to the fact that a very insignificant force in an ordinary ironclad steamer could lay both cities in ashes or exact such contributions as would paralyze their industries for the next decade. Amidst the seething politics of Europe a resort to arms is at any moment possible, and neither ourselves nor our neighbors can hope to escape the *maelstrom* of war which will be likely to ensue—even, as is to be hoped if we shall be engaged on the same side the necessity for taking immediate steps to close the only line (that of the River St. Lawrence) by which we can be assailed from the sea-

board, would be as imperative as if we were to have them as opponents.

The British fleet is no doubt very powerful, but a strong cruiser under an energetic and enterprising Captain might work all the mischief, by simply under a series of circumstances always occurring in naval warfare by which the vigilance of our protectors might be eluded or baffled.

We need not point to the fact that two insignificant gun boats ran past the batteries defending New Orleans—compelled its evacuation by a force of 30,000 trained soldiers—and inflicted a blow on the Confederate cause it never recovered; this is a fact of history not more than a dozen years old. Since then mechanical skill and science have more than quadrupled the power of *floating batteries*, and what involved some risk in 1864 could be effected in 1876 with impunity.

The question naturally follows as to what means should be devised to meet a contingency of the description foreshadowed in the "Military Report?" The answer is simply to place one or two floating batteries similar to those already provided by the Local Governments of Melbourne and Bombay, in the St. Lawrence below Quebec. The cost would be probably \$3,000,000, but still that is better than to run the risk of having a contribution levied, and it is quite evident that mere fortifications would not prevent that.

We are very loath to differ in opinion from the high authority to whose able Report the people of Canada are indebted for bringing this matter so prominently before them, but we submit that while the 64-32 prs. rifled gun may be a very formidable gun for *rebels* or *floating batteries* against shore defences, it is comparatively useless in the latter against floating batteries or ships—it will not pierce *four inch* armor at 3,000 yards, and no floating battery or ship will take the trouble to batter the citadel of Quebec, which is at best, but a *shell trap*, while she can find space to manoeuvre and shelter behind which she could pound the city to pieces. The same remark applies to Kingston—vessels or floating batteries will not anchor now and engage shore batteries at 600 yards as in the good old times. They will keep constantly in motion and cannot be hit except by a *snipe shot*, and they will moreover interpose an island or point of land between themselves and their high and dry antagonists.

With all due deference to the high authority before us there would not be the least necessity in either case to bring an ironclad within such a range as to make the angle of incidence either 8 or 9 degrees; and as to the breechloaders, they ought not to be exposed in winter—it is quite easy to put them under cover if mounted a *barbette*, as they are at Quebec, by simply having temporary wooden covers which could be taken to pieces in sections and need cost very little—

besides there is no likelihood that such guns would be ever used in winter—Canada has a far better defence in the ice which closes her assailable inlet for at least five months of the year.

Costly and valuable guns such as rifled breechloaders should be mounted only in casemates, and although that might be a costly operation, it is an expense which should be boldly faced.

The land defences of the River St. Lawrence below Quebec should be by batteries *a l'eau*, and this defence should begin at the *Ple aux Coedru*.

In connection with this very interesting and exciting question it may be as well to notice the fact that Canada has a marine service manned by 25,000 seamen, and that up to the present, nothing has been done to organize this force for defensive purposes. With a coast line of over 3,000 miles on the Atlantic and Lakes, and well on to 1,000 miles on the Pacific, Canada does not possess a single gun boat to protect her local interests, or a corps of marine artillery to man the guns of one if she was obliged to defend her coast on sudden emergency.

That the security and protection of our coasts is the first duty of the Government and quite as necessary as the adjustment of the customs tariff admits of no doubt—hitherto our authorities have been content to follow a *laissez faire* policy in this respect, but that is no longer possible if the interests of Canada are to be conserved, and a new system by which the resources of the country in Naval, as well as Military matters, will be properly developed must be inaugurated.

What is wanted is a statesman with sufficient grasp of intellect to understand that the interests of Canada needs the full development of her military system as organized by the "Military Bill" of 1868, that an efficient Naval Organization must be provided, and that both must be effected, not by the importation of foreign systems or men trained under them, but by the people themselves experienced in the demands of the climate and the topography of the land they must ultimately defend.

This question of naval defence involves the other of the nature of artillery for *shore batteries* by which it must be supplemented. The vexed question between breech and muzzle loaders we are content to leave in abeyance, although we have strong opinions in favor of the former as taking less men to man each gun, and other advantages which we shall not now go into. But there can be no question that we must have guns in *battery* capable of piercing six inches of iron armor, a *fleur d'eau* at 1,000 yards, if not at double that distance—as well as a succession of supporting batteries that would make it utterly impossible for a hostile ironclad to reach within bombarding distance of Quebec.

We have as yet no intelligible or practical scheme for the defence Naval and Military

of Canada; we have two or three crude essays by officers only partially acquainted with the topographical features of the country, and almost totally without knowledge as to its resources, whose whole ideas were circumscribed by the line of the St. Lawrence, and the ten or twenty thousand men Great Britain was supposed to be able to spare to man the two or three ports which must be maintained.

We have repeatedly called attention in the VOLUNTEER REVIEW to this state of affairs, and urged over and over again the organization of a local staff corps, engineers, and intelligence department—for the very reason that no officer of the Regular Service however well educated and intelligent can by possibility have the practical knowledge necessary to solve the problem of the defence of Canada. For the present state of affairs the merchants and trading classes are mainly responsible, and if such an event as Major General STURTELL shadows forth should occur, they would be the first and immediate sufferers. That would, however, be small consolation to the great mass of the people on whom the burthen would eventually fall.

WE regret to have to announce the death of G. B. L. FELLOWS, Esq., Barrister at Law and Mayor of Ottawa, of apoplexy, on the morning of Wednesday last. The deceased gentleman was elected Mayor of Ottawa in January, and has consequently only filled the civic chair a little over two months. He was an able lawyer and was the County Solicitor at the time of his death. He was the oldest son of the late Capt. GEORGE LYON, of the old 100th Regiment, one of the earliest settlers in the military district of Richmond. He formerly represented Russell in the old Canadian Parliament. The Corporation decided to give him a public funeral, which took place on Saturday last, the Earl of Ottawa attending it in his robes. As the deceased was highly respected his funeral was very numerously attended—the places of business along the line of the funeral cortage being closed out of respect to the deceased.

Fanaticism at Hyderabad.

Great fears are entertained at Hyderabad that the late quarrel between the rival sects of Mussulmans—the Sunnies and the Mahidies—will burst out with fresh violence at the commencement of the Mohurrum. The Nizam's Government, says the Hyderabad correspondent of the *Times* of India, is engaged in taking extraordinary precautions to prevent any such deplorable contingency. The Pathan or Mahidie quarter of the city continues to be patrolled day and night by strong bodies of armed police, and the reformed troops are confined to their lines with orders to hold themselves in readiness for any emergency. The action of his Excellency Sir Salar Jung in the cause of order has drawn upon him the animosity of the Mahidie faction, the sect with which the disturbances originated. Up to the time of the late outbreak his Excellency was a favourite with all the religious sects composing the mixed community of Hyderabad,

but lately he has been subject to a series of anonymous letters threatening him with the fate of the murdered Moulvie. The young Pathan who committed that base and cowardly murder was induced to undertake the deed under the promise of receiving a splendid palace of pearls when he should be transported as a martyr to Paradise. Perhaps some other fanatic under the still more attractive promise of being lodged in a palace of diamonds, each as big as the Koh-i-Noor, might be bribed to attempt the life of the Minister. We have no doubt, however, that Sir Salar Jung's guards will efficiently protect the person of their master. The late disturbances point to the imperative necessity for some action being taken by the Nizam's Government for disarming the population of Hyderabad. Under the influence of "rum and true religion"—the Arab and African Companies especially are addicted to intoxicating liquors—lawless men, carrying on their persons an armory of lethal weapons, may commit excesses which would bring discredit on the State.

62nd Battalion Mess.

The 22nd battalion mess supped together last evening for the first time. Surgeon Earle presided, with Lt. H. M. McLean in the vice Chair. The Company numbered nearly twenty. The officers wore their uniforms, and the full band of the regiment was present, and performed during the evening a number of pieces, the following being the programme:—

Roast Beef.
Serenade Radical.
Valse—"Morning Star,"
Pasredouble—"Everlasting."
Selections from Norma.
Warren's Serenade.
Quadrille—Rossini.
Duettes—from Linde.
March—from Lucia de Lammermoor.
Selections on P-pular Airs.
God Save the Queen.

In addition a number of volunteer pieces were played. The mess was held in Mr. C. Sparrow's long dining hall, and as far as the catering was concerned there was nothing to complain of. The mess adjourned about 12 o'clock, having spent a very pleasant evening. One of the rules of the mess is that no intoxicating liquors are to be allowed for. The meeting takes place on the second Thursday in each month. Such meetings of the officers cannot but have a good effect in establishing that *esprit du corps* which is so necessary to efficiency and discipline either in the regular or volunteer service.—*St. John Globe, 10th March.*

The Prince of Wales received gifts and honors in abundant measure at the castle of a Hindoo chief in Ramnagar. The Maharajah, a benevolent old magician in spectacles and white moustache, sat smiling in his hall, with his hands joined in a deprecating way, as a long file of servitors deposited trays laden with costly shawls and mouslins at the Prince's feet. When the Prince was leaving the Maharajah tendered the last best proof of regard—his own walking stick, a curious stout shillelah, with gold studs whose knots had been, and a gold handle, which he entertained him to accept.

The *Scrapis* with the Prince of Wales and suite on board has sailed for England. After calling at Malta, where a series of grand receptions is awaiting his Royal highness, and also at Lisbon, the Prince of Wales is expected to reach Portsmouth about the 20th of April.

PASSING UNDER THE ROD.

[The following lines, from Mrs. M. S. D. Daux, are founded on the following passage of Jewish history:—"It was the custom of the Jews to select the tenth of their sheep in this manner—The lambs were separated from their dams and enclosed in a sheep cot, with only one narrow way out; the lambs hastened to join their dams, and a man placed at the entrance with a rod dipped in ochre, touched every tenth lamb, and so marked it with his rod, saying, 'let this be holy.' Hence says God, by his prophet, 'I will cause you to pass under the rod.'"]

I saw the young bride, in her beauty and pride,
Bedecked in her snowy array,
And the bright flush of joy mantled high on her cheek.

And the future looked brilliant and gay,
And, with woman's devotion, she laid her fond heart

At the shrine of idolatrous love;
And she anchored her hopes to the perishing earth.

By the chain which her tenderness wove,
But I saw when those heart strings were bleeding and torn,

And the chain had been severed in two;
She had changed her white robes for the sables of grief.

And her bloom for the paleness of woe,
But the Healer was there pouring balm on the heart.

And wiping the tears from her eyes;
And He strengthened the chain He had broken in twain.

And fastened it firm to the skies,
There had whispered a voice—'twas the voice of her God—

"I love thee, I love thee, pass under the rod."

I saw the young mother in tenderness bend
O'er the couch of her slumbering boy,
And she kissed the soft lips as they murmured her name.

While the dreamer lay smiling in joy,
Oh! sweet as the rosebud, encircled with dew,
When its fragrance is hung on the air,
So fresh and so bright to the mother he seemed,
As he lay in his innocence there?

But I saw when she gazed on the same lovely form,
Pale as marble, and silent, and cold;
But paler and colder her beautiful boy,—
And the tale of her sorrow was told.

But the Healer was there who had smitten her heart,
And taken her treasure away,
To allure her to heaven, He has placed it on high.

And the mourner will sweetly obey,
There had whispered a voice—'twas the voice of her God—

"I love thee, I love thee, pass under the rod."

I saw when a father and mother had lapsed
On the arms of a dear cherished son,
And the star in the future grew bright in their gaze.

As they saw the proud place he had won,
And the fast coming evening of life promised fair,
And its pathway grew smooth to their feet,
And the twilight of love glisten'd bright at the end.

And the whispers of fancy were sweet,
But I saw when they stood bending low o'er the grave,
Where their heart's dearest hope had been laid,

And the star had gone down in the darkness of night,
And joy from their bosoms had fled,
But the Healer was there, and His arms were around.

And he led them with tenderest care;
And he showed them a star in the bright upper world,

'Twas their star shining brilliantly there!
They had each heard a voice—'twas the voice of their God—

"I love thee, I love thee, pass under the rod."

History of the Suez Canal.

THE STORY AS TOLD BY THE PROJECTOR, M DE LESSEPS.

(From the Pall Mall Gazette.)

The story of the Suez Canal, as told by its projector, is touched with a French sentimentalism which sometimes provokes a smile, though not, we hope, an unkindly one. The narrative, M. de Lesseps says, "will perhaps be useful to those who wish to study the connection of facts and who study the human heart." It is, at any rate, an interesting chapter of modern history. In 1849 M. de Lesseps, who had served for

twenty years in the consular and diplomatic services of France, was sent by the Constituent Assembly on a special mission to Rome, but differing from the policy adopted by the Legislative Assembly that succeeded to power, he resigned his official career and retired to his farm in Berry, where he turned his mind and the stores of his experience to the study of Oriental politics. He fastened at once upon the problem of the Suez transit; "from 1849 to 1854 (he says) I studied everything connected with the trade between the West and the east; I discovered that the traffic doubled every ten years"; and he leaped to the conclusion that the time had come for the formation of a company to cut through the Isthmus. In 1852 he laid his schemes before the Sultan's Government, but was told that "the solution of the question in no wise concerned the Porte." Nothing was to be hoped from "A Viceroy of Egypt absorbed in pleasure" (Abbas Pasha); but in 1854 Saïd Pasha succeeded to the inheritance, and M. de Lesseps bathought him of the former relations of his family with the House of Mehemet Ali. It appears that the father of M. de Lesseps, agent of France in Egypt after the peace of Amiens, had influenced the promotion of Mehemet Ali to the Pashalik of Cairo, with the object of furthering the policy of Bonaparte and Talleyrand which aimed at the repression of the Mymelukes. In this way Saïd Pasha and M. de Lesseps came to be early friends, and when the former was tortured with excessive exercise and half starved under the rigid discipline of the old Pasha, he found a sympathizer in the young French *attache*. Afterwards Saïd, accused of conspiracy, took refuge in France, when he renewed his friendship with M. de Lesseps. On his accession, in 1854, he invited his friend to Egypt and took him as his companion on an expedition into the Libyan desert, where the Frenchman at once conquered the good will of the Ministers by some feats of horsemanship and opened his scheme of the canal. The project met with little criticism, Saïd granted the concession on the 30th November, 1854, and took up the idea warmly even boasting to the American Consul General, "The Isthmus of Suez will be pierced before yours." An exploration followed, in which was demonstrated the futility for modern commerce of a "fluvial" canal, supplied from the waters of the Nile and furnished with locks, canals, and sluices of the ordinary sort. On this journey M. de Lesseps was led, as it were by accident, to the ground on which his final triumph was to be achieved—to the basin of the Butter Lakes, which now contains 440,000,000 gallons of water, but was then a hiteous desert "without so much as a fly in it." The exploration of the region was thoroughly accomplished in January, 1855. Then came the more difficult task of converting scientific men. He procured the nomination of representative engineers by the principal continental governments, selected four Englishmen of eminence to cooperate, and convoked a conference in Paris. His plans were approved by a sub committee appointed to study the problem on the spot, and on the first of January, 1856, the members returned to Alexandria fully satisfied that a canal might be made by channelling the Isthmus from sea to sea. "On hearing this," says M. de Lesseps, the Viceroy threw himself into my arms." The conquest of English prejudice was the next and most arduous part of the work; here M. de Lesseps "found sympathy in the commercial and lettered classes, but heads of wood among the politi-

cians." His first efforts made little impression; but he was rewarded with the enthusiasm bestowed in Paris upon the engineers' report. Returning to Egypt to make "soundings" along the proposed line of channel at intervals of 150 or 200 metres, he found the Viceroy anxious and irritable, worried, as he alleged, by English suspicions and threats. At Kartoum, where M. de Lesseps went to meet him, he burst into furious fits of rage, "his Ministers thought him mad;" but he was easily calmed by the counsels of his visitor. The organization of the company was carried forward steadily while the Viceroy was marching through his inland territory. But there was no rest for M. de Lesseps, who was back again in England in 1857 to convert the English people and to combat the English diplomats. In the first enterprise he had only partial success, though he warmly praises our freedom of discussion and the incorruptibility of our journalism which latter fact he mentions with a frank amazement not quite complimentary to French newspapers. It is probable that M. de Lesseps exaggerates the adverse activity of English diplomacy during those years, but no doubt it was coolly hostile to him. Still the scheme gained ground in all the Continental countries, and in 1858 it finally triumphed. In the four years that had elapsed from M. de Lesseps's first visit to Saïd Pasha at Alexandria he had travelled 40,000 leagues—120,000 miles! The company was launched, and French investors subscribed for shares equivalent to eleventwentieths of the whole capital. Hatred of England, as M. de Lesseps candidly admits was the inspiring motive. "I wish to subscribe," said one applicant, "for the Chemin de Fer de l'île de Suède." "But," he was told, "it is not a railway, but a canal; not an island, but an isthmus; not in Sweden, but at Suez." "Never mind," he said, "provided it be against the English, I subscribe."

Some of M. de Lesseps's difficulties were curious Saïd Pasha continued moody, irritable, and suspicious; he pretended sometimes to throw all kinds of obstacles in the way of the work, and then let it be known that he was not in earnest. He shrank from giving M. de Lesseps the protection he had promised, and a military guard had to be dispensed with. In 1863 Ismail Pasha, the present Viceroy, "acceded to power with the same difficulties as his predecessor, arising from English opposition; but (says M. de Lesseps) he succeeded in overcoming them, assisted by the arbitration of the Emperor, which he himself invoked." The Sultan's firmness was at length obtained, and the possibility of a political interruption of the work disappeared. The work itself was "pressed on with an activity which it may be said has no precedent in the history of industry." The dredging machinery extracted every month as much matter "as would cover the whole Boulevard from the Madeleine to the Bastille up to the first floor of the houses." The progress was almost unchecked; but almost at the moment of triumph, when the day of opening (November 17, 1869) had been fixed, two serious dangers threatened a collapse. An immense mass of rock was discovered in the bed of the canal fifteen days before the inauguration, and on the night before M. de Lesseps got news that an Egyptian frigate had run aground, completely barring the channel. Both these obstacles were got rid of in time (giving M. de Lesseps however, an opportunity for two heroic epigrams), and the inauguration was a brilliant success. "Since that day there has been no interruption of the traffic," so M. de

Lesseps was able to say in 1870, and the same statement would almost be literally true now. Yet, as Sir H. D. Wolff points out, the growth of the traffic has been marvelous. In 1870, 486 vessels passed through and paid in tolls £206,000; in 1874 1,284 vessels passed and paid £994,000. The increase shows in the first six months of 1875 is still greater, though the reduction of tolls has operated on the revenue; there is an augmentation of 28 per cent in the number of vessels, of 31 per cent in the tonnage and of 21 per cent in the receipts. In five years the tonnage, "the real gauge of material requirement," has quadrupled. Yet the cardinal fact on which M. de Lesseps founded his scheme was that the traffic from East to West doubled in every decade. The facts, however, have outrun his anticipations.

The Central Asian Question.

There is in the current number of the *World* a very interesting letter from Colonel Trevelyan, formerly of the 7th Hussars, elicited by a very valuable contribution to the same question, which appeared in the *World* of last week. Colonel Trevelyan writes as follows:

"Your valuable and interesting article in last week's *World* on the strategical aspect of the Central Asian question was, as I venture to think, somewhat needlessly alarmist in its tone. Perhaps you will permit me to state one or two facts which may exercise a reassuring influence upon some of your readers, and which, having reference to the grounds of English strength in the East, are at least as important at the present time as those which relate exclusively to English weakness.

"As regards the line of demarcation between the dominions of Russia and India, there exists already the understanding that the territory south of the neutral zone, recognized by both Powers, should belong exclusively to our ally the Ameer of Afghanistan, all Russian trespass being expressly prohibited. It is immaterial to us what khanate Russia may annex, and we should be in a false position were we to protest against the occupation of Khiva. But we can render all conquests made by Russia innocuous to ourselves by prompt and resolute action on our part. We have, in fact, but to complete the broad and statesman-like policy which Lord Mayo initiated. Lord Mayo received and befriended Sher Ali at Umbal'a, converted Afghanistan into a strong and powerful ally, and by carrying out friendly negotiations not only with Afghanistan—which includes Badakshan—but with Beloochistan, Yarkand, and all other States surrounding India, he opposed a real barrier to any Russian attempt upon Hindostan. It is true that Russia has the valley of the Attrek, which is supplied with good roads leading to the Merv, Meshed, and Herat. But the friendly States which I have just named know that they can trust the English to furnish them with moral and material aid. In the event of Russia attempting to establish herself, or to annex any ground south of the neutral zone now recognized, we must occupy not only Quetah, but Didur—the vital importance of which two places arises from the fact that they command the Bolan Pass, the only practicable route into or out of Western India, and by which an army could advance to Afghanistan *via* Persia. Thus, before Russia can place foot on English territory, she would have to conquer Persia, Afghanistan and Khokand; and before she can debouch

upon the plains of India, she would be taken in detail by our allies, as her soldiers were emerging from Kashmir or from the Bolan and Khyber Passes. Or suppose for a moment that Russia is at Cabul, having become the mistress of Afghanistan, Persia, and Khokand, what would be the condition of her soldiers after a long and difficult march, harassed by attacks and disease? A simple advance upon British India, with only a single line of communications for her base, would be impracticable as well as desperate. Russia, too, is vulnerable in many points, and we could create a diversion.

"Moreover, it is too often lost sight of that Turkey is an important factor in the Central Asian question. The alliance of Turkey is, for our hold upon India, invaluable. In every Indian mosque the Mohammedans pray for the Sultan—they look to him as their chief; a regiment of Turks landed in India as our allies would raise the whole Mohammedan population. If the Euphrates Valley Railway is ever completed, we should be within sixteen days' communication with India, and in view of that contingency, it would be incumbent upon England to acquire a kind of Eastern Gibraltar, as she could by regaining Crete. This, however, opens up a wide subject, and though the Central Asian question and the Eastern question cannot exhaustively be considered apart, it is only on the former subject that I have ventured to submit to you the convictions at which a residence of ten years in Northern India have induced me to arrive."

We are glad to find our contemporary turning its attention to this highly important question, for good cannot fail to result from fresh light being thrown upon it by the vigorous and original staff of writers, who have secured for the *World* the reputation it has so rapidly attained.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW. The real name of the writer must invariably accompany each communication to insure insertion, but not necessarily for publication.

A few Remarks upon the Present Organization of the Dominion Militia.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir,—If you can find room in your columns, I would be glad for the following to be inserted.

Several suggestions from time to time have been made by individuals concerning the organization of the Militia, tending to the better discipline of officers and men and the more efficient working of the Service compatible with the general expenditure annually set apart by the government.

General Smyth in his annual reports of 1874 suggested a great many things for the better; and likewise in the report of 1875 the same was reiterated with some modifications, as also a valuable letter from Captain Spillette, Adjutant and Reg't Cavalry formerly Troop Sergeant Major 9th Lancers, (it is a pity there are not more officers and non-commissioned officers of the same stamp in the Dominion forces); however, I do not

wish to trespass too much on your paper as I am sure there are pens abler than mine to advocate measures for the bettering of the system.

I may here add I only want at present to write about the state of armouries of Royal Battalions and the strength of Battalions and Corps now existing.

1st With reference to the system of Permanent Regimental Staffs General Smyth fully concurs: "With regard to permanent Adjutants and Sergeant Majors forming the nucleus of an almost perfect military system (without which the present way of working is nearly a failure) the means at the disposal of the Government are not sufficient seemingly for the same; but as it seems stated in the report of 1875 a permanent Sergeant Major who could take care of the arms, accoutrements, clothing of a Battalion, the pay of which would be sufficient provided he got the sum of \$300. per annum or the amount of money now allowed for the armouries of companies separately; of course the sergeant major should be competent to do the duties of any sergeant major and adjutant in Her Majesty's Line, and further instruct the officers, non-commissioned officers of the Battalion in all the duties appertaining to their position, as well as all the minor details of a Regimental system. In this case . . . government would be the gainer as regards the case of Battalion property generally; also when the Annual drill should take place at the Head Quarters of Corps, an amount of saving would be effected considering the wear and tear consequent upon moving arms, accoutrements &c., as at present from Company Head Quarters, Battalion Head Quarters for the annual muster. I may state also Captains of Companies 4 out of 5 would not be pecuniarily affected as they have to give the \$40. to some other person for the keep of the same.

The English Militia system is on the whole pretty efficient. All clothing, arms, accoutrements are kept in store at the Permanent Head Quarters. When the annual training is ordered, the Adjutant notifies all concerned. On the day of muster the men appear in mufti; the rolls are called, after which the men are uniformed and the training proceeds; the same when the training is over the uniform is returned into store and ticketed; the men are paid, and all deficiencies, otherwise for fair wear and tear deducted out of their pay. Cannot that system be established in this country with certain modifications to suit the times.

Last year the government reduced the companies composing Battalions from 58 to 42; I imagine one reason for so doing was that in past drills although the nominal strength of companies was 58, virtually only about 40 or 42, sometimes fewer, attended the Annual Muster.

No doubt it was a good move in the right direction. In my opinion there is a defect in that also.

In looking over the Militia Report of 1875 some companies did not muster even the 42, showing that, whatever muster the government should authorize as the required strength, probably the quota would not be forthcoming, even if reduced to less than at present, viz., 42. No doubt popular Captains can keep up these companies to their strength; but it does not follow that popular captains are the most efficient; in some instances the unpopular captain is the best officer and causes his unpopularity by a too great zeal for the service.

All Battalions and corps should be removed from the Militia List which do not keep up their strength as required by Law.

Many Battalions are mere skeletons and do not deserve the name. It is very hard for Colonels commanding and Captains of Companies to do what is required when they have not men sufficient, especially undergoing Battalion movements and company drill.

A battalion in Camp say consisting of 200 men with all the details left out for duties in Camp, leaves a small number for a Commanding officer to manoeuvre in field movements, skin mashing &c.; a company is even worse off so as to be divided into half companies and sections.

Fines.—To have a proper Militia System, the ballot and compulsory service will have to be substituted.

ONE WHO HAS SERVED IN THE LINE.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—The appearance of the Dress Regulations has given great satisfaction to those officers who have hitherto been in doubt as to the correctness of their uniform, but as certain information is still required, will you kindly furnish answers to the following questions.

1. Are Rifles in full dress to wear bushy, chaco, or forage cap?
2. With the exception of Artillery does any other branch of the service wear great coats and of what description?
3. Are those officers who have retired from Cavalry, Artillery, &c., denominated *unattached officers*, and why are they obliged to provide themselves with Infantry outfit?
4. When are the Regulations relating to the dress of the men to be issued?
5. When are these Regulations to be enforced, and at whose expense are the changes to be made?

ROYAL BLUE.

Our correspondent forgot to enclose his name along with his communication—and to insert without is contrary to our published rule—but as it refers only to asking questions, in regard to the recent published dress regulations, we have departed from this rule, and give it publicity as well as answer the questions put. But in the future no communication will be inserted in

the columns of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW no matter what's its nature, unless the name of the writer is given along with the fictitious one, the latter *only* for publication.

Answer to 1st question—Those who desire to procure bushies may do so—or a chaco may be worn.

2nd. Regulations relating to great coats will be published soon.

3rd. An officer who retires retaining his rank is not considered unattached. Officers retiring from any corps retaining rank are permitted to wear the uniform of their corps on all occasions where they are permitted to appear in uniform.

The replies to the 4th and 5th questions would no doubt be supplied by the Militia Department if application is made to the Deputy Adjutant General of the District.—Ed. Vol. Rev.

The Rifle.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Ottawa Rifle Club took place at the Club Rooms on Tuesday evening at eight o'clock, the President, Mr. Langton, in the chair. The Secretary laid on the table the score book for last season, showing each day's practice carefully recorded, and the whole summarized, so that each member could see at a glance his merit rank. The riflemen turned out in full force, every corps in the city being represented, as well as a number of private citizens. The secretary's report shewed a very satisfactory state of affairs. It referred with approval to the importation of steel barrels, and hoped to see the number in the possession of the Club largely increased during the next season, but warned those ordering them, that the Dominion Rifle Association did not recognize the rule of the National Rifle Association as to "checkered" stocks, and that until they did so, it was better to keep this in mind if they proposed competing in the matches of that Association. During the season there were thirty-two regular Club days, the average attendance being thirteen, and the total number of rounds expended about seven thousand. This refers to Snider practice only, the returns for the small bore practices, which took place once a week, not having been sent in. The report spoke very highly indeed of the working of the Brunel target, the inventor of which is the Vice President of the Club. The Associations affiliated with were the Quebec, Ontario and the Dominion, the fee for the latter being paid by subscription, and not taken from the funds. At the Quebec matches, the team won fourth prize, and the members of it many individual prizes. At Toronto, every man composing the district team that won the Gzowski cup, with one exception, were members of the club, and the result must be largely attributed to the regular and careful practice that took place during the season. The committee expressed their thanks to Mr. Deslauriers for taking charge of the ammunition, which was a source of great convenience to the competitors. The report concluded by calling the attention of the members to one result attained by the formation of the club, namely the bringing together of the members of the different corps of the city

on a friendly footing, and thus fostering an amicable intercourse that would go far toward destroying any petty jealousies that might exist. The statement of receipts and expenditure was then read, which showed that after paying all expenses in connection with the formation of the club, a marker during the summer, part of the expenses of the teams sent to Montreal and Toronto, score books, etc., a balance of \$58 remained on hand with which to commence the new season.

Votes of thanks for their services were passed to the retiring officers, after which the election for the present year took place, resulting as follows: President, Mr. John Langton; Vice Presidents, Lt. Col. Brunel and Major Anderson; Secretary Treasurer, Capt. Todd; Committee of Management, Messrs. Pattee, Harris and Dr. Malloch.

The Ottawa Rifle Club, having for its object "the encouragement of rifle shooting, and the introduction into the Dominion of rifles of the most improved patterns," and being open to civilians as well as volunteers, deserves and we hope will succeed in obtaining a large share of public favor. Last year the number of members was fifty, but when the advantages of such a club are thoroughly understood, the number will undoubtedly be greatly increased. The entrance fee is only \$2, and annual subscription \$2, and for this amount any person can practice with the Snider, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and the small bore on Mondays, the club providing markers, targets, registers, &c. Many men who had given up shooting for years took up their rifles again last summer and many more will doubtless follow their example during the ensuing season. After the regular business of the meeting was over, reference was made to the speech recently delivered by Captain Macpherson, at the annual general meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association, and in which serious charges of extravagance and incapacity were made. Entire harmony was expressed with the course pursued, and thanks expressed to Captain Macpherson for the bold stand he had taken, and it being the evident and unanimous wish of the meeting, that further steps should be taken to cure a great and growing evil, a committee, composed of the President, Major Anderson, Captain Todd, Mr. Malloch, and Mr. Sutherland, was appointed to look further into the matter, and report at the next monthly meeting.—Free Press.

PARLIAMENTARY.—The following items in the estimates were passed in committee of the whole on Thursday evening:—Militia Pensions, \$1 352; New Militia Pensions, \$5,629.25; Pensions to Veterans of 1812, \$50,000; Pay, maintenance and equipment of A and B Batteries Garrison Artillery and School of Gunnery, Kingston and Quebec, \$110,000; Military Schools, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, \$10,000.

A postscript edition of the *Daily News* just issued, contains the following:—"Alexandria, Egypt, Sunday, March 12th, 9:45 p.m.—On Wednesday night last the Abyssinian army crossed the River Decasa and attacked the entrenched camp of the Egyptian army, when severe fighting took place. On Thursday the Abyssinians were repulsed and retreated to Ledowa. King Cassa, Grand Vizier, six chiefs and 5,000 Abyssinians, are reported to have been killed in the trenches. Prince Hassam and General Loring escaped unhurt. Rhabib Pasha was wounded. The Egyptian losses were heavy, but the victory was complete."

Discipline of the British Army.

The Duke of Cambridge has recently issued a circular letter to the commanding officers throughout the army, in which he says his attention has been called to the prevalence of acts of insubordination, committed chiefly by very young soldiers, and requests that the subject may be seriously considered by all officers commanding corps. He says:—"In dealing with cases of insubordination, it is essential to take into careful consideration the circumstances under which they were committed, and to discriminate between those committed under aggravation and those done deliberately. The former are frequently the result of a hot and hasty temper, the latter spring from confirmed willfulness and bad spirit. A soldier in the first year or two of his service has not always been able to shake himself free from the effect of his early training in civil life, and frequently does not realize the consequences attendant upon acts of insubordination in the Army. His Royal Highness is of opinion that in many instances the want of tact and proper manner on the part of non-commissioned officers gives rise to these acts of violence on the part of young soldiers, who are frequently very sorry for their conduct when they have time to reflect. In cases where a commanding officer is of opinion that an act of insubordination is attributable to this cause, his Royal Highness considers that a serious admonition, (joined, perhaps, to a slight punishment,) and an ample apology to the non-commissioned officer concerned, together with an expression of regret for his improper conduct by the prisoner, might meet the case. Commanding officers in their daily intercourse with their non-commissioned officers are urged to impress upon them the necessity for especial discretion in their dealings with young soldiers, warning them against all harshness of tone and manner in the delivery of orders or instructions. Inexperienced non-commissioned officers are sometimes too prone to confine men for trifling faults of temper that non-commissioned officers of standing would have dealt with by bringing the offender before the officer commanding his company."

Arrangements have been made at a meeting of commanding officers of volunteer corps representing England, Scotland, and Wales for a great rifle match amongst the best shooting battalions. Supposing that fifty battalions will compete, it was decided that the prizes should consist of one of £100, one of £60, one of £40, one of £30, one of £20; and that there should be an additional prize for every ten or fraction of ten battalions competing, in which case there would be a proportionate increase in the amount of each prize. The contest will take place between the 1st and 15th of May.

A special from Berlin states that a letter from Pelke Paulowite, who commanded the insurgents at the battle of Muratavizza, asserts that a force of 1,550 insurgents attacked 32,000 Turks. Only 7,000 of the latter returned to Gatzchka. About 800 were killed and the others were drowned or dispersed. The insurgents captured 675 rifles and four rifled cannons.

The great clock at Westminster is said by Sir E. Beckett to be the best clock in the kingdom. Each dial has 400 square feet of surface; the minute hands are 11 feet long; the winding up, which takes five hours, is done by hand.

The following particulars of an invention for securing the safe transport and storage of gunpowder, patented by Deputy Commissary Chambers, Control (late Military Store) Department, are furnished by a Scotch contemporary.—The powdercase or magazine is drum-shaped in form, and can be made of any required size, so as to conform to the exigencies of transport, and at the same time to be useful in storage. It consists of an outer case of galvanized sheet iron, pierced with several small holes, through which any moisture as steam may escape from the body of the magazine, when subjected to great heat, the holes being plugged with red lead. Next comes a lining of plaster of Paris, in a concrete state, one inch thick and coated on its interior surface with a thin layer of Portland cement. Inside this again is 1 1/2 inch thickness of plaster of Paris in powder, well pressed down. An intermediate casing of thin sheet iron galvanized comes next, within which is one inch thickness of ground cork; and, finally, an inner lining of sheet zinc. This forms the sides and bottom of the magazine, the lid being similarly constructed, and either screwed bodily into the mouth of the drum, so as to be easily removable, or hinged to it. In either case, the lid is provided with proper fastenings, and the meeting edges of the lid and body are hermetically sealed. The portable magazines measure about 32 inches in height, with a diameter of 28 inches, outside measurement—being but little larger than the portable magazines now in use. The effect of this method of construction is to obtain a very low conducting power, so low that on exposing a magazine to the heat of a fire sufficiently fierce to bring the outer casing to a welding heat, the temperature in the interior is raised to 214° to 219° Fahrenheit only. Another result is that, whilst practically fire-proof, the magazine is also damp-proof. On exposing the magazine to heat, the contained powder remains uninjured, instead of being spoilt, as in some cases it is, by the vaporisation of chemicals, with the object of rendering the powder incombustible. Before patenting his invention, Mr. Chambers—who was then stationed at Edinburgh—had his system thoroughly tested by Messrs Miller and Herbert, engineers, of the Heriotfield Works. The experiments showed conclusively that, however in case and continued the heat applied to the exterior of the case, the temperature within never exceeded 219° Fahrenheit.

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That this progress has been achieved in a period of general financial depression, shows how deep an interest is felt in the enterprise; and now that the support of the American people has brought it triumphantly to the threshold of their centennial jubilee, the conductors of *The Art Journal of America* are fully impressed with the responsibility of the situation, and are determined to spare no exertion to co-operate with the national idea of demonstrated progress.

Undaunted by the misfortune which in a few moments made ashes and waste of the beautiful work of years, the lapse of a single day found THE ALDINE people housed in larger and finer quarters, and bending every energy to restore and replace their lost facilities. Condolence and sympathy, with generous offers of substantial aid, poured from every quarter, and while relying wholly upon their own resources, the conductors of THE ALDINE were deeply moved and strengthened for the work by those evidences of the general anxiety for the welfare of their charge.

The idea of THE ALDINE has always been to win its way as a teacher through the interest and affections of the people—to avoid technical exclusiveness, and to show rather than to talk of art matters. Without abandoning the popular feature, the publishers feel that the time has come for a more particular discussion of topics connected with the artistic and aesthetic culture of our people, and to this end they propose to introduce many new features.

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It will not be imported from England, and "published" here by the addition of an American imprint.

It will not be foreign to the ideas and interests of Americans.

It will not depend for its American character mainly on added pages from the illustrated catalogues of large manufacturers.

It will not hinder art cultivation by using superseded processes of illustration because the plates are to be had second-hand because there was a popular prejudice, preceding education, that valued "steel-plates" by comparative expense rather than by excellence.

It will be thoroughly American and national, without being narrow or constricted.

It will teach Americans the beauties of their country and the progress of their art workers; but it will also bring home to their freshest examples of foreign masterpieces that shall show the heights to be conquered, and stir the emulation and ambition of our younger civilization.

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