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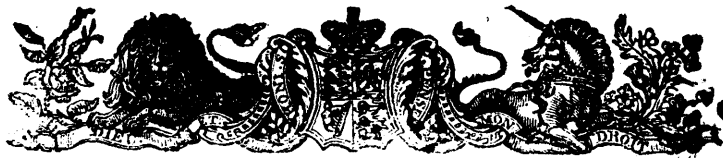
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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1875.

No. 22.

The Volunteer Review

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

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WEEKLY, AND DAILY FOR 1875.

The approach of the Presidential election gives unusual importance to the events and developments of 1875. We shall endeavour to describe them fully, faithfully and fearlessly.

THE WEEKLY SUN has now attained a circulation of over seventy thousand copies. Its readers are found in every State and Territory, and its quality is well known to the public. We shall not only endeavour to keep it fully up to the old standard, but to improve and add to its variety and power.

THE WEEKLY SUN will continue to be a thorough newspaper. All the news of the day will be found in it, condensed when unimportant, at full length when of moment, and always with 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. It will be full of entertaining and appropriate reading of every sort, but will print nothing to offend the most scrupulous and delicate taste. It will always contain the most interesting stories and romances of the day, carefully selected and legibly printed.

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The number of men independent in politics is increasing, and the WEEKLY SUN is their paper especially. It belongs to no party, and obeys no dictation, contending for principle, and for the election of the best men. It exposes the corruption that disgraces the country and threatens the overthrow of republican institutions. It has no fear of knaves, and seeks no favors from their supporters.

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The price of the WEEKLY SUN is one dollar a year for a sheet of eight pages, and fifty-six columns. As this barely pays the expenses of the paper and printing, we are not able to make any discount or allow any premium to friends who may make special efforts to extend its circulation. Under the new law, which requires payment of postage in advance, one dollar a year, with twenty cents the cost of prepaid postage added, is the rate of subscription. It is not necessary to get up a club in order to have the WEEKLY SUN at this rate. Anyone who sends one dollar and twenty cents will get the paper, post-paid, for a year.

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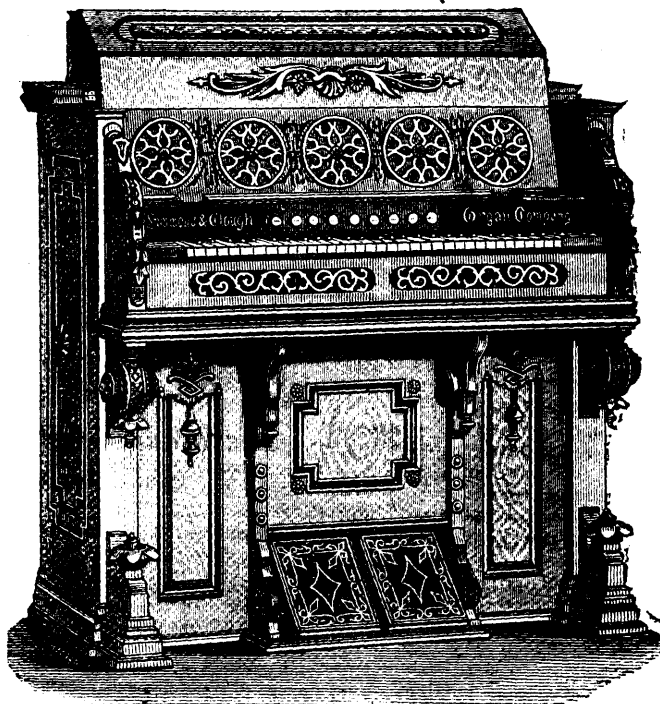
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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1875.

No. 22.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

The birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, was celebrated in Ottawa in a right loyal manner. Shortly after midnight the citizens were awakened out of their slumbers, by the continual rattle of fire-crackers, pistols and guns, giving evidence that our young people are as fully imbued with the spirit of loyalty as that of their forefathers, and as ready to shed their blood, if required, in defence of their beloved Queen and Country.

The morning of the 24th dawned auspiciously, and everything betokened the passing of a glorious, happy day. The national ensign was floating from all the public as well as from many of the private residences of the citizens, giving to the City a picturesque and holiday appearance.

At ten o'clock the Fire Brigade, consisting of five Steam Fire Engines, with a band of music accompanying each company paraded through the principal streets of the City. The procession was a most imposing one, and universally admitted to have been the best ever held by the firemen of Ottawa, both as to numbers and appearance of the men and their engines. Before separating the brigade marched to the residence of Mr. John Langford, ex-Chief Ottawa Fire Brigade, and presented him with an oil painting of himself, accompanied with an address to which Mr. Langford made a suitable reply.

But the chief attraction of the day was the parade of the Governor General's Foot Guards, on Jacques Cartier Square, who presented a very handsome appearance in their parade dress uniforms, and their soldierly bearing did not fail to elicit the praise and admiration of all who witnessed them. Their commander, Lieut. Col. Thomas Ross, put them through a number of evolutions, which were executed in a very creditable manner.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock Major General Smyth, accompanied by his Aid-de-camp, Capt. the Hon. Miles Stapleton, made his appearance on the ground, and was appropriately received.

After saluting the officers present, Major General Smyth made an inspection of the troops, addressing a word to the men here and there, after which the *feu de joie* was fired, the band playing "God Save the Queen" between the volleys.

The men were again put through various movements, under the direction of Major General Smyth, who expressed himself highly gratified with the manner in which they were executed.

The men being drawn up in square, Sergeant Stroulger was summoned from the ranks in order to receive a medal for long service and good conduct, according to directions received from Her Majesty's representative. The order was read by Captain Hescott, after which Major General Smyth made the presentation, accompanying it with a few short but appropriate remarks. He said it afforded him great pleasure to present a medal for long service and good conduct. He had in his military career been frequently brought into contact with the 65th Rifles, of which Sergt. Stroulger was formerly a member. He had been on terms of great friendship with the commander of that regiment, and also with the captain of Sergt. Stroulger's company, who had been killed at the battle of Inkermann. The presentation of such a medal was one of the highest distinctions which could be bestowed upon a soldier by Her Majesty, and he trusted that if ever the wearer were tempted to do wrong the sight of it would at once deter him from committing any act by which it would be dishonored.

Addressing Col. Ross, Major General Smyth remarked that he did not consider it necessary that he should make any address to the men under his command at that time, as he had so frequently met with them of late. He was about to depart in a few days, and before his return would probably have journeyed across the American continent. He might reiterate his former statements, however, as to the appearance and general behaviour of the men, with which he was greatly pleased. He had no fault to find with them, but he would like to give them a word of advice in regard to one or two matters concerning their duty as a Guard of honor. This, however, he would reserve for a less public occasion, and concluded by again expressing his high opinion of the men of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

After Major General Smyth and Staff had left the ground, Colonel Ross drilled the men for a short time longer, the band of the regiment meanwhile enlivening the proceedings by playing the British Grenadier's and other appropriate military airs. At the termination of the drill the regiment was formed in marching order, and headed by their excellent band, paraded through the principal streets, and then back to their armoury where they were dismissed.

Matches of cricket and base ball, as well as other sports were indulged in but want of space prevents our particularising. Suffice it to say, the day was spent in a most hilarious manner by all, and terminated without any casualties to mar its enjoyments.

The *Polynesian*, having on board His Excellency the Governor General, the Countess of Dufferin, and suite, arrived at Liverpool on the 29th.

We understand that Major D. A. Macdonald of the Adjutant General's Staff has been offered and declined the position of Aid de Camp to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario. The selection of Major Macdonald would have been a good one, had it been to his advantage to have accepted the position.

The Hon. A. B. Foster has succeeded in negotiating the loan for the Georgian Bay Branch and Canada Central extensions railways on very favourable terms.

It is stated that Sir Hugh Allan has also succeeded in floating the greater portion of his Northern Colonization Buloat bonds in Germany.

Mr. R. Kimber has succeeded Mr. R. E. Kimber, his father, as Usher of the Black Rod. The appointment will be generally approved of.

The annual inspection of the 8th Battalion took place on the evening of the 15th. The regiment was highly complimented on its appearance and efficiency. There were a large number of spectators.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie left Ottawa on Thursday last for Quebec, from whence they sail on Saturday by the Steamer *Moravian* for England.

Mr. Sheeby, passenger agent of the Michigan Central R. R., who has been in Ottawa for the last couple of days, has forwarded a detachment of 10,000 Mennonites as far as Moorhead, on their way to Manitoba. The contract entered into with the Government was carried out strictly, and those placed under his charge express themselves as well satisfied. Arrangements have been made for the transport of the remainder of the Mennonites over the same route.

Major General Selby Smyth and Captain Hon. Miles Stapleton, A. D. C., left Ottawa on Monday Evening for Prince Edward Island, on his annual inspection. The General will not likely return to Ottawa till after his overland trip from Manitoba to British Columbia.

The *St. John Telegraph* says that the state of the Intercolonial Railroad is now such that but for the delay in completing a bridge over the northwest branch of the Miramichi, we might get a trip not to Chatham only, but to Quebec, over British territory, by means of the Intercolonial Railroad and other lines by about the first of August next.

Prince Amades of Italy is engaged in writing a history of his reign in Spain, and is assisted by his wife, the Princess Marie. The work will be entitled "Souvenirs of a King."

Annual Report on the State of the Militia for 1874.

(Continued from Page 244.)

APPENDIX NO. 1,

MILITARY DISTRICT, NO. 11.

REPORT OF THE ARTILLERY OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

CITADEL, QUEBEC,
31st December, 1-74.

SIR,—I have the honor, in submitting my annual report, respectfully to inform you that I have little to add to the remarks and recommendations made in my reports for the last two years, except that the casemates of the Citadel of Quebec are, as you are no doubt aware, being placed in a state of thorough repair as well as those at Point Levis.

I beg to submit a copy of my last year's report on armament (A) which was not published; only adding to it the recommendation that the 9 pounder muzzle loading rifle gun of 6 cwt. might, advantageously, be substituted for the 9 pounder gun of 8 cwt. for Field Artillery.

I wish especially to draw your attention to the difficulties that beset a very excellent battery of respectable, intelligent and physically fine men, under command of Major Slous (1st class certificate "B" Battery Gunnery School), at Gaspé. The commanding officer and 12 non commissioned officers obtained permission to join the Quebec Gunnery School last winter. After making arrangements for that object, the commanding officer and three non commissioned officers only were permitted to join. The others having given up their winter employment, complained to me, through their commanding officer, that they had suffered seriously in consequence.

The battery is, further, much discouraged in consequence of not being supplied with guns with which, to my knowledge, they were informed they would be supplied two years ago. The expense I represented would be very little, if any, as there are plenty of 24 pounder smooth bore guns and carriages to spare at Quebec, which with a few rounds of ammunition for practice, the Superintendent of the Marine and Fishery Department offered to send down, without cost, if authorized.

A large proportion of the uniforms served out to this corps are too small for the men, who are very much above the average in physique.

I need not remark upon the advantage of having an armament, of even smooth bore guns at Gaspé Harbor, that would cost nothing and not deteriorate, the drills and exercises being the same as for the 64 32 pounder converted Palliser rifled guns, for which these smooth bore guns could be subsequently exchanged if thought advisable, the iron carriages being suitable for either nature and not deteriorating from exposure to weather &c, as before stated.

The same remarks as to armament apply to the excellently trained artillery detachment at Grosse Isle Quarantine Station, under the command of Captain F. Montzumbert. (1st class certificate "B" Battery Gunnery School.) They have only two 12 pounder smooth bore guns and one unserviceable 18 pounder, while the battery under Major Drummond, at St. Johns, Province of Quebec—a point of importance, commanding the Richelieu River, at the junction of three

railroads—has only one gun. None of the above guns are sighted. All these corps offered to throw up batteries and mount guns if supplied from those in store at Quebec and Montreal.

Herewith enclosed:

(A) Tabular return of inspection on the form supplied (No. 105) which is not, you will observe, suitable for Artillery or Engineer corps.

(B) Report submitted by officers commanding Sheffield Field Battery.

(C) Report of officer commanding No. 1, Engineer Company, Montreal.

T. B. STRANGE Lt. Col.
Inspector of Artillery,
Province of Quebec.

(A)

Armament.

In view of the repeal of the Canadian Defence Act by the Imperial Government, at the request of the Dominion, it is, I presume, futile to consider the nature of the old armament for Quebec proposed as a gift from the Imperial Government, or to speculate on the possibility of the Act being repealed. It only remains to consider the lowest cost of an efficient armament, *viz* last year's (1872) Militia Report, page xxix.

"The heaviest guns mounted on the Citadel at Quebec are four 7 inch breech loading rifle guns on the salients, there are five more with carriages and platforms, and 200 rounds per gun in charge of the storekeeper at Quebec; and one dismantled where the platform was left incomplete by the Royal Engineers, by whom the racers were laid in the salient of barrack bastion, which commands Dorchester Bridge head and a wide sweep of country. The trifling expense of filling in concrete alone remains to be authorized.

Two of these guns having been sent to Kingston, I would recommend that the remaining three should be mounted, one on the salient of each front at Point Levis, where no guns as heavy could be brought against them over land.

The important fortress of Quebec could be re-armed at a comparatively trifling cost, by selling the greater proportion of obsolete smooth bore guns for old iron, and substituting the Palliser converted 64 34 pounder muzzle loading rifle guns. The old cast iron carriages, platforms, side arms, stores, shot, shell and ammunition could still be used with these guns, which retain their 32 pounder calibre and exterior form. Such an armament, simple, serviceable, incapable of injury by rough handling or climate, requiring no complicated drill, would fulfil all requirements, and if well posted, prevent or render it entirely hazardous for any enemy to attempt establishing batteries on the land and St. Charles River front.

The building of a graving dock at Quebec which would, I presume, be available for the Royal Navy, point more closely than I can do to the necessity of protecting such an establishment from the fortress that commands it. The rise and fall of tide in St. Charles River would be an advantage, giving a wet and dry dock at will, while the exchange of the 24 pounder smooth bore on the lower lines for 64-32 Palliser, as proposed, would give complete defensive command.

The latter river could not be entered by iron clads except at a few hours at high tides, when they would run the risk of being left in the mud.

To cope with heavy iron clads on the St. Lawrence, such as are not, however, at pre-

sent to be found in any Cis-Atlantic Navy, a few 12 ton muzzle loading rifle guns would be required, one on the King's Cavalier would give an all round fire with a perfect command over the deck of any vessel. Indeed a 64 32 pounder shell striking the deck would, from the Citadel, be quite capable of knocking the bottom out of any ironclad, as they are of course, unarmed below water, to say nothing of the effects of a bursting shell between decks.

A few rifled guns on the lower lines would be, however, necessary to keep vessels from getting inside the distance at which the Citadel guns could not be depressed. A few torpedoes commanded by guns would, it is hoped, prevent any ordinary floating enemy from bombarding the town.

The Volunteer and Militia Coast Artillery of Great Britain are almost entirely armed with 64 32 Pounder Pallisers, and the Government of India has also decided on a Palliser's armament.

The Colony of Victoria, New South Wales, has purchased 20 of the 64-32 Pounder converted Palliser, as proposed for Quebec; but they probably were compelled to pay for carriages and travelling platforms, &c., an expense which we can avoid by adopting the armament proposed.

Any other description of rifled guns would necessitate the purchase of new carriages and platforms, at a cost ten times greater than that of the proposed armament.

Take for example the 7 inch muzzle loading rifles as the least expensive Garrison Gun—

Gun.....	£503 5 1
Sights.....	7 5 9
Carriages.....	140 8 0
Traversing Platform.....	230 5 0

Total..... £881 3 10
or \$4,288 33, exclusive of racers and the cost of laying them.

30 Guns at £881 3 10 each, £26,435 15 0
—\$128,656 97. Compare this to £4,098 12 5
—\$19,945.97, the cost of the proposed armament of, say 30 64 32 Pounder M.L.R. Guns, at £136 12 5 each, including sights, and from which may be deducted the probable amount to be realized by the sale of old guns.

It will be necessary to examine the old guns to find the exact number unserviceable, but it may be roughly estimated as follows, viz:

At Quebec alone 173 tons 16 cwt., at £4 2 6 per ton—£716 18 6.

The above prices are taken from No. 2 balance sheet of the Woolwich price lists, which is 15 per cent. above cost price, but the old guns will probably realize more than the price laid down in consequence of the rise in iron.

The same remarks apply to Kingston, St. Helen's Island, and other places in the Dominion where there are a considerable number of old guns, the sale of which would go towards paying for an efficient armament.

The existing supply of carriages, on which time and climate produce no effect, would serve to mount the new rifle guns.

At Quebec alone the number is as follows:—

Carriages 64, platforms 33, all suitable for 64 32 Pounder muzzle loading guns.

I beg to refer you to my letter dated 5th April 1873, informing you that the pillar percussion fuzes supplied for the 7th B.L.R. Guns are obsolete, and the number of tin cups below regulation; also the percussion

* Since this report was submitted, I am informed that the Volunteer Garrison Artillery at Halifax, N.S., have also been supplied with them by the liberality of the Imperial Government.

fuzes with the 7 pounder Mountain Guns are not suitable. The Laboratory percussion fuze marked II is now supplied for the 7 pounder. M.L.R., and the General Service Percussion in lieu of Pillars fuzes.

The small quantity of ammunition in charge of the Militia Batteries that I inspected was in good order, except a few rounds of blank 24 pounder in the old and runcous magazine at St. Johns, P.Q., which were un-serviceable.

The temporary magazine in that barracks contains both heavy gun ammunition and small arm.

It is dangerous and contrary to regulation to place the latter, which contains detonating composition, with the former.

The guns in charge of the St. John's Battery and Grossa Isle are not sighted: it would be impossible to make correct practice with them. If authority was given, the Ordnance Armourer from "B" Battery could easily perform this service. There are two small armourers paid on "B" Battery muster rolls, and render no service to the Battery, and are not under my control. I suggest that their pay, \$1.50 each, should be drawn from some other source.

The guns and carriages at St. Helen's Island were lacquered and painted by the detachment "B" Battery (in 1873), but there are not sufficient men at my disposal to perform this service at Quebec except to a very limited extent.

Wooden carriages are preserved by painting and filling up cracks, and the bores of the guns are prevented from corrosion by lacquering in accordance with regulations.

With regard to the ventilation of magazines at Quebec, which are not, however, in my charge, I beg to refer to recommendations in letter dated 11th July, 1872.

I fully concur in the remarks of Lieut. Colonel French, late Dominion Inspector of Artillery, pages xxxviii and xxxix, Militia Report for last year (1872), in which he points out "the advisability of commencing even on the smallest possible scale the manufacture and repair of those warlike stores most needed for the defence of the country." I recommended the same 17th May, 1872, and 21st June, 1872.

There are two rates of payments for warlike stores purchased from the Home Government. No. 1 balance sheet shows cost price. No. 2 balance sheet seems to be the rate charged to foreign nations for the purchase of warlike stores, and Colonies seem to be placed on the same footing, with an addition of 15 per cent. to the rate laid down in No. 2 balance sheet, which in the case of R.L.G. Gunpowder, is nearly double the cost price, viz:

No. 1 balance sheet gunpowder per 100 lbs., at £2 10 11½, No. 2 balance sheet, £4 7 4½.

In addition to this 100 per cent., there is the fact, that for making up cannon* and small arm cartridges, repairing small arms, gun carriages, &c., there are numbers of public buildings lying idle, the use of these rent free would be a sufficient set off to the increased price of labor in this country, particularly if it be borne in mind that the labor of children is employed to a large degree in certain of the minor operations. In the long winter season when labor is abundant, work could be carried on, and discontinued in summer.

I would, in conclusion, submit that the establishment of an arsenal on a small scale

* 1,000 lbs. powder have been made into cannon cartridges at the Quebec Laboratory by the non commissioned officers "B" Battery, without cost to Government. These cartridges have been distributed for use in the Dominion, including Ontario and New Brunswick.

may be pressed on the attention of the Government, especially since a higher percentage than that heretofore charged is likely to be put on warlike stores, in consequence of the rise in the price of coal and iron in England.

T. B. STRANGE Lt. Colonel,
Inspector of Artillery,
Province of Quebec.

(B.)

[Forwarded to the Deputy Adjutant General at Headquarters, for submission to the Major General Commanding. Major Amyrauld is an excellent officer and obtained a 1st class certificate at "B" Battery Gunnery School Quebec.

T. B. Strange, Lt. Colonel,
Inspector of Artillery.]

MONTREAL, 10th Nov., 1874.

SIR.—I have the honor to report that in compliance with district orders, the Sheffield Field Battery, under my command, mustered at Granby in full marching order at noon on the 14th September last, to proceed to camp at Laprairie.

I had obtained previously the tents and blankets required, and as the battery has not been supplied with ammunition waggons which I provided, along with the provisions necessary for the subsistence of the battery during the march.

I kept a party of four men and an intelligent non commissioned officer ahead to procure forage and wood at the halting places previously selected, with also instructions to examine and enquire about the bridges that were thought unsafe, until the battery came up.

The battery moved out of Granby at noon on the 14th September and we reached Abbotstford at 2.30 p.m. where we halted to feed the horses and the men had their dinner.

We left Abbotstford at 4.30 p.m. and moved towards St. Césaire. About two miles east of that village I found at a bridge over a rivulet, one man of my advance guard who reported the bridge unsafe. I examined the bridge with my officers and decided to cross over it. As, however, for greater safety unhooked the four leaders of each gun before crossing.

There is a fold on the right of the road and in one hour's work roads could have been cut down the banks.

The road from Granby to Chambly is an old Government macadamized road, the main artery of traffic from Montreal to the eastern townships previous to the building of railways, and is kept in good repairs by the municipalities who have now charge of it. But the bridge above mentioned, to the village of St. Césaire, the road was originally planked as it was thought the bottom too soft for macadamizing. The planks are now all gone and in spring and fall that part of the road is impassable. In an emergency, however, the road could be made practicable by covering it crossways with rails, plenty of which could be found along the road. At St. Césaire I sent the tents and baggage ahead, and we arrived at Rougemont, our camping place for the night at 7.30 p.m. and found the tents pitched in an orchard north of road, on dry ground, and all provision made by my advance party.

We left Rougemont with all our camp equipage properly picketed, at 7.30 a.m., immediately after breakfast, and passing through St. Marie, Richelieu, and crossing Richelieu River at Chambly Centre on a very good toll bridge, and reaching the old Fort on at 10.30 a.m. There the horses were

picketed and it being quite warm I gave leave to the men to bathe in the Basin before dinner.

After dinner, the horses being fed, we left the old Fort at 1.30 p.m., and leaving Chambly village and the Montreuil road to the right, followed the road up the Montreal River which we crossed over a very good wooden bridge at an old grist mill, then passing through Brosseau's mill, Laprairie village we marched into camp at 5.30 p.m.

Just before reaching Laprairie we had to cross a temporary bridge over the rivulet on the route to St. Lambert, which caused me considerable anxiety. The leaders were unhooked, gunners and drivers dismounted, and were got over safely.

Thirty minutes after marching into camp the tents were pitched, the horses feeding and the men at their supper.

I issued on the next morning, the following standing orders for drill, &c., &c.:

- 6 a.m.—Reveille.
- 6½ to 7½ a.m.—Parade—Gunners for drill. Drivers stable duties.
- 8 a.m.—Breakfast.
- 9½ to 11½ a.m.—Parade—Gunners gun drill, &c., &c. Drivers driving drill with limbers.
- 12 to 12½ p.m.—Parade, drivers stable.
- 12½ p.m.—Dinner.
- 2 to 4 p.m.—Parade, under commanding officer.

5 to 5½ p.m.—Parade, drivers stable.

5½ p.m.—Tea.

7 to 8 p.m.—Lecture on Gunnery, ammunition, &c., &c., by commanding officer to non commissioned officers and gunners.

Instructions in harness fitting, &c., &c., to drivers.

As to the proficiency attained is not for me to say, but I hope that when you inspected the battery you there found that my efforts in bringing my men into a state of efficiency have not been altogether lost.

The shot practice of the battery was carried on in your presence, and we have been highly pleased in hearing of your satisfaction at the result. The shells and fuzes not having been issued yet, I intend to call on the battery for shell practice as soon as I receive them. We have a good range at Granby. The behavior of the men; their attention to their duties and disposition to learn, were all I could desire. The number of Gunnery School cadets I have in my battery was a great help to me. It gave tone to the whole corps and enabled me to enforce proper discipline without any difficulty. My non commissioned officers being all Gunnery School cadets, acted as instructors during the camp.

The battery marched home from camp, under command of Lieutenant Neil, and all the guns, stores, arms and equipments, harness &c., &c., were returned into the armory, properly cleaned and in good order, on the 25th September, and the men were dismissed.

When in camp I lost two horses, one died of inflammation of the bowels caused by exposure, and the other was killed on the Grand Trunk R.R. Reports have been made and claims for compensation sent up, and I hope it will be granted as it will make it difficult to obtain horses if the Government do not assume the responsibility of such accidents.

According to your desire I also send you with this report an itinerary (not printed) of the march of the battery from Granby to camp, with such reports on the road as the time I had allowed me to make. The map shows quite a section of country. It was enlarged from a pretty good map in my

possession.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
T. B. Strange.

possession on the scale of five miles to the inch. The map of Granby, and features of the ground are taken from a rough survey I made previously; the woods were indicated and the map corrected along the road from personal observation. The details on each place are rather incomplete, but I could not gather any more in the time allowed me when marching with my battery.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
T. AMYRAULD, Major.
Com. Shefford Field Battery.
Lieut. Colonel Strange,
Inspector of Artillery,
Quebec.

(C.)

[Forwarded to the Deputy Adjutant General
Headquarters' 9th, January, 1875.
T. B. Strange, Lieut. Colonel, I. of A.]

ST. HELEN'S ISLAND,
December 7th, 1874.

Sir,—I have the honor to enclose diary of the training of the Engineer Company under my command.

The twelve drills for which they draw pay have been performed, and they are now drilling voluntary twice a week until a course of twelve more shall be completed.

The company musters forty one of all ranks, and the conduct of the men while going through their training has been steady and attentive.

The want of a more suitable room for both drill and lecture purposes is greatly felt, as the one room in use answers the purpose very poorly in every respect.

This matter was represented at the completion of last year's training, and permission requested to return to the drillshed Craig Street, where the room formerly occupied is better and more central.

The target practice for this year will be carried out as soon as practicable.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
JAS. A. DEVINE, Lieutenant,
Com. 1st Company M. V. E.

To Lieut. Col. T. B. Strange,
Inspector of Art'y and Engineers,
Citadel, Quebec.

(To be Continued.)

The *Cologne Gazette*, in its military intelligence, states that the equipment of the German Field Artillery with the new guns will be fully completed by April 1. The force designated "Field Artillery" corresponds to what was formerly called "Foot Artillery." What was formerly Garrison Artillery is now to be termed "Foot Artillery." The new guns are of two different calibres, one an eight centimetre, and the other a nine centimetre barrel. The former are intended only for the Horse Artillery, the latter for the Field Artillery. "The new weapon," says the *Cologne Gazette*, "has been practically proved the most perfect gun in existence, the possession of which places the superiority of the German Artillery above the forces of other Powers beyond question. The German War Office has, moreover, reason to be proud of the promptness and expedition with which the new guns have been manufactured and served out. The new infantry weapon, commonly called the Mauser rifle, is thoroughly worthy of ranking beside the new cannon. Both represent the most perfect mechanism of their respective kinds."

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

OTTAWA, 21st May, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS (12).

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

4th Provisional Regiment of Cavalry.

To be Paymaster:

Maxwell William Strange, Esquire.

To be Veterinary Surgeon:

Veterinary Surgeon Daniel MacIntosh,
from Frontenac Squadron.

To be Riding Master:

Troop Sergeant Major Thomas Todd, C.S.,
from No. 1 Troop.

1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards.

To be Captains:

Lieutenant George Morrison Patrick, M. S., vice Walsh, appointed Adjutant.
Lieutenant Alfred Hamlyn Todd, M. S., vice R. J. Wickstead, retired.

15th Battalion or "Argyle Light Infantry."

To be Paymaster:

Morgan Jellett, Esquire, vice James Clement Holden, having the relative rank of Captain, is hereby permitted to retire with Honorary Rank of Captain.

No. 1 Company, Belleville.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Samuel Shelly Wallbridge, M.S., vice George Edward James Hanwell, who his hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

No. 2 Company, Belleville.

To be Captain:

Ensign James D. Clarke, V.B., vice Frederic L. Bogart, deceased.

No. 5 Company, Belleville.

Captain and Brevet Major L.N. Fitzroy Crozier, is hereby permitted to retire retaining the ranks of Captain.

19th "Lincoln" Battalion of Infantry."

No. 2 Company, St. Catherines.

To be Captain, provisionally:

James Ferguson, Esquire, vice R. S. Ness.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Sergeant William H. Day, vice Archie Storrs, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 5 Company, St. Catherines.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant Michael Brennan, V. B., vice Jacob Upper, deceased.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Bugler Andrew Jukes, vice Brennan promoted.

25th "Elgin" Battalion of Infantry.

The formation of a Company of Infantry, to be No. 6 Company, 25th Battalion, is hereby authorized at Fingal, in place of the Troop of Cavalry formerly at Stratford, removed from the List of Active Militia Corps as non effective.

To be Lieutenant Colonel:

Captain and Adjutant Charles Anthony O'Malley M. S., from 26th Battalion.
Major John B. Tweedale, V. B. is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

No. 6 Company, Fingal.

To be Captain provisionally:

George Elliot Casey, Esquire.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Thomas A. Parish, Gentleman.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

A. McKay, Gentleman.

29th "Waterloo" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 6 Company, Berlin.

The re enrolment of the former Infantry Company at Berlin, as No. 6 Company of the 29th Battalion is hereby authorized.

39th "Norfolk" Battalion of Rifles.

To be Quarter Master:

Quarter Master Sergeant William Ryeson Griffin, vice John Killmaster whose resignation is hereby accepted.

No. 1 Company, Simcoe.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

William Frederick Scarth, Gentleman, vice Archibald F. Campbell left limits.
Ensign James Brian having left limits his name is hereby removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia.

No. 4 Company, Walsingham.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Duncan John D'Urbain Campbell, Gentleman, vice George Wittat left limits.

No. 5 Company, Waterford.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Private George Henry McMichael vice John Deal left limits.

41st "Brockville" Battalion of Rifles.

To be Adjutant:

Captain William Robert Bell, V. B. from

Retired List, vice Captain and Brevet Major Robert Dowie, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining the rank of Captain.

47th "Frontenac" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Major:

Captain Henry R. Smith, M. S., from No. 4 Company vice John Kirby Macaulay, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be Assistant Surgeon;

James McCammon, Esquire, M. D. vice J. R. Smith, promoted.

No. 4 Company, Portsmouth.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant Thomas Kelly, M. S., vice H. R. Smith, promoted.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Edwin Abrams, M. S. vice Kelly, promoted.

57th "Peterborough" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Major:

Brevet Major and Adjutant James Zachous Rogers, V. B., vice Major and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel John Kennedy, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining his Brevet rank.

To be Quarter Master:

Samuel Roberts Price, Gentleman, vice F. H. Knapp, deceased.

To be Assistant Surgeon:

Robert Penniel Boucher, Esquire, vice Alexander Bell, left limits.

BREVET.

To be Major:

Captain and Adjutant William Robert Bell, V. B., 41st Battalion, he having served the qualifying period of five years as Captain in 2nd Battalion, G. T. R. B.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Joliette Provisional Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company.

No. 1 Infantry Company, Rawdon, is hereby attached to the Joliette Provisional Battalion of Infantry as No. 5 Company thereof.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

72nd or "2nd Annapolis" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company, Farmington.

To be Lieutenant:

Sergeant James Locort Phinny, M.S., vice Shatnet, appointed Adjutant.

The resignation of Ensign Reubin Roberts, is hereby accepted.

By Command,

WALKER POWELL, Colonel,
Adjutant General of Militia,
Canada.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 28th May, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS (13).

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL DRILL OF 1875-76.

Field Batteries of Artillery.

Adverting to General Order (7) of 23rd April last, the 80 rounds of Service Ammunition therein allowed to each Field Battery for exercise and practice is to be expended as follows:

Field Batteries with M. L. R. guns, 16 competitors as marksmen—to be selected by the Officer Commanding the Battery from the best instructed officers Non-Commissioned Officers and men—to fire four rounds each, viz:

Each to fire 2 common shell with percussion fuze.....	32
Each to fire 2 Shrapnel shell, with time fuze.....	32
For trial shots and instruction, common shell with percussion fuze .	16
Total.....	80

Field Batteries with S. B. 9 Pr. and 24 Pr. Howitzers:

16 competitors as above, four rounds each, viz:	
Each to fire 2 solid shot—9 Pr.....	32
Each to fire 2 Shrapnel with time fuze —9 Pr.....	32
For trial shots and instruction, common shell 24 Pr., with time fuze.	16
Total.....	80

Garrison Artillery.

Adverting to the above mentioned General Order (7) of 23rd April last, the following may be substituted for the distribution therein laid down for the 40 rounds of practice ammunition for Garrison Artillery:

8 marksmen, selected as for Field Batteries, to fire 4 rounds each, viz:	
Each to fire 3 solid shot.....	24
Each to fire 1 common shell, with time fuze.....	8
For trial shots and instruction, Shrapnel Shell with time fuze.....	8
Total.....	40

No. 2.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

4th Provisional Regiment of Cavalry.

To be Quarter Master from 21st May, 1875 Alexander Joseph Moore, formerly Quarter Master 2nd Troop Frontenac Squadron,

To be Surgeon, from 21st May, 1875: Surgeon Amos S. Bristol, M. D., from No. 2 Troop (Napanee.)

To be Assistant Surgeon (specially allowed) from 21st May, 1875: Surgeon Marshall Bidwell Brown, M. D., from Frontenac Squadron.

No. 2 Troop, Napanee.

Cornet John C. Green Adjutant of the Troop is hereby permitted to retire retaining the rank of cornet.

No. 3 Troop, Loughborough.

Cornet William Coldwell, Adjutant of the Troop, is hereby placed on the retired list retaining the rank of Cornet.

Toronto Field Battery of Artillery.

1st Lieutenant John George Denison is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

Durham Field Battery of Artillery.

To be 1st Lieutenant, provisionally: Charles Herbert Brereton, Gentleman, vice Graham, promoted.

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

To be Lieutenant Colonel: Major and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel William Dillon Otter, M.S., vice Charles Todd Gilmore, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be Major:

Captain and Brevet Major, Adjutant Salter M. Jarvis, V. B., vice Otter, promoted

To be Lieutenants:

Ensign William Roaf, M. S., vice Wood, resigned.
Ensign Thomas Langton, V.B., vice Kane, resigned.
Ensign Robert Heber Bowes, V. B., vice Samuel E. Pettigrew, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

12th Battalion of Infantry or "York Rangers."

To be Major:

Captain and Brevet Major Alfred Wyndham, M. S., from No. 5 Company, vice Ernest M. Peel, left limits.

To be Paymaster:

Captain and Brevet Major John Selby, from No. 7 Company, vice Stevenson, transferred to command of No. 5 Company.

Lieutenant and Adjutant Edward George Garden is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank of Lieutenant.

No. 1 Company Scarborough,

To be Lieutenant:

John Knox Leslie Gentleman, vice Lea promoted.

(For continuation see page 261.)

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1875.

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

LIEUT. J. B. VINTER, of Victoria, and Captain H. V. EDMONDS of New Westminster, are our authorized Agents for British Columbia.

The real value of a military force does not consist in its tactical efficiency, but in its adaptation to the operations in which it is likely it may be engaged.

This question of adaptability has been forcing itself on the attention of military authorities since the revolution which applied mechanical science caused in military organisation by compelling the substitution of an armed nationality for a national army, and on the attention of the Statesman, whose duty it is to investigate and utilise its results in a social, political, and economical point of view. Europe has furnished the rest of the world with a variety of systems differing in principle and details, but all with an exception founded on one common error—compulsion—by which no matter how general the service may be made its chief burden is borne by the working men.

The single exception to this is that afforded by Great Britain, and even there the cry for conscription has been raised by people who look only to immediate effect and its problematical issues, but who totally ignore consequences as immediate and inevitable as either. Compulsory service means a general loss of time and money to the whole State, and a grievous loss as well as wrong to the labouring classes who are its main sup-

porters—a very slight acquaintance with the "dismal science" of political economy will enable any honest man to arrive at this conclusion, and the advocates of the measure by proposing a period of *extremely* short service indeed, admit its truth. The problem then before the British people abroad and at home is how to discharge the duty every man capable of bearing arms owes to the State without individual or national loss, and the solution is in reality effected by making all military organisation local and *adapting* it to the service it would be called upon to perform.

The leading idea with military men is to assemble large bodies of men together for long periods in order to render their tactical instruction perfect, and to inure them to habits of discipline—the hardship consisting in their total withdrawal from all industrial pursuits and being incapacitated for the resumption of civil duties.

In the days of *regular* armies this was possible, and it is maintained by force in the States of Continental Europe to the impoverishment of the people—but in free countries such a course is now impossible, because in the very wealthiest a collapse for want of means would be a mere question of time that could be accurately measured.

What then is the alternative? It is in addition to the localising of military organisation—a simplification of the whole system of tactics in order that the ordinary working man may be able to take his place in line of battle with the minimum of instruction. The Canadian militia law and the system organised under it is the only approach to the conditions under which this great problem of modern days can be solved which has yet been made, and it needs only the simplification of tactical instruction, in other words adaptability, for its peculiar duties to make it the true solution of this problem.

The service which a Canadian military force should render would be primarily to defend the country from invasion. It is well known that a system of defensive warfare needs less elaborate *material* in men and means than merely aggressive warfare—because the first has all its conditions prepared before hand—while the other must provide against unknown and unforeseen contingencies; moreover the preponderance of *force* must, or ought always be, on the side of the defence; while the offensive has to call in the aid of elaborate strategy to make up for paucity of numbers.

This, then, is simply the secret whereby the whole strength of a nation may be brought against its assailants without bearing unequally on different classes—while the adventurous military spirits of the population could find employment in a regular army when the necessities of the State require such a force, or in a volunteer service like our own which would surely and steadily leaven the mass into trained soldiers.

As to the method of obtaining the simple tactical instruction necessary, *school drill*

would be one of the most effectual means, and local training on all general "holy days." Our volunteer force, with its periodical musters, will supply all the higher tactical knowledge requisite, and the time now applied to mere drill would be better disposed in teaching the soldier how to seek cover, advance under fire, and all the duties of skirmishing, field services of attack, defence and retreat.

The local staff officers of our service are inferior to none in their knowledge of the duties of their profession, and the advisability of leaving to each District Commander the responsibility of devising the necessary manœuvres for his own command is apparent—their reports on the various operations undertaken would be most valuable—because it would draw attention to the peculiar mode of defence adapted to each locality, would test the capability of the officers, and be a valuable record for the future. With a stereotyped system of manœuvres no proper progress can be recorded and the interest in the matter dies out in the mind of the ordinary volunteer.

The latest authority on the subject of military organisation in the British Army is Captain HIME, of the Royal Artillery, and he only proposes *one year's* service in the line to make a finished soldier. Would it be too much to say that a much less period will suffice to make a thorough colonial soldier if the principle of adaptability is adhered to.

The first volume of "The papers and proceedings of the United States Naval Institute," contains the following valuable articles—List of Officers (*ex-Officio*), Officers (elective), Honorary Members, Members of the Institute, Constitution and By Laws:

"The Manning of our Navy and Mercantile Marine, by Captain S. B. LORR, U.S.N.; The Cruise of the *Tigress*, by Lieut. Commander H. C. WARR, U.S.N.,—discussion of Lt. Commander WHITE's paper; Compound Engines, by Chief Engineer C. H. BAKER, U.S.N.—discussion of Chief Engineer BAKER's paper; Considerations relative to certain fundamental requirements of the marine compass with special reference to the construction of the navy compass, by Professor B. F. GREENE, U.S.N., &c. The Armament of our ships of War, by Captain W. N. JEFFERS U.S.N.; The Isthmus of Darien and the Valley of the Atrato, considered with reference to the practicability of an inter-oceanic canal, by Lieut. FRED. COLLINS, U.S.N.,—discussion on Lieut. COLLINS' paper; Experimental Determination of the centre of gravity of the United States steamer *Shawmut*, by T. D. WILSON, Naval Constructor, U.S.N.; *The Monitor and the Merrimack*, by Commodore FOXHALL A. PARKER, U.S.N.; Our Fleet Manœuvres in the Bay of Florida and the Navy of the future, by Commodore FOXHALL A. PARKER—discussion of Commodore PARKER's paper."

valuable space to what must be a very popular literature not only here, but in Europe.

For ourselves we have in the second, third and fourth volumes of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW given a military and historical review of "the War of 1756-60, and of the Revolt of the British American Colonies," in which latter will be found ideas not dissimilar to our contemporaries respecting the value of the opening military operations, the imbecility of the British General, and the utter absence of evidence that the simplest ideas of strategy was understood by himself or his successors; of one, of whom it is reported, that when a plan was laid for seizing his person it was opposed by a prominent member of the Congress, on the grounds that he served them better where he was.

Throughout the whole of this miserable business GAGE, the HOWES, CLINTON and every officer exercising commands in the British service on this Continent, with the exception of CARLETON, CORNWALLAIS, Lord RAWDON and General GREY, were men whose talents as soldiers, were below contempt—while their habits made them personally offensive to the people whom it was their business to conciliate if possible, fighting being the last alternative, and they knew how to do neither. It may truly be said the imbecility of British Officers lost the North American Colonies to the Empire.

The following letters are referred to in the article quoted—they are from two leading Englishmen, and although they belong to one political party yet the sentiments enunciated are those of nearly every loyal subject of Her Britannic Majesty:

"LONDON, March 5, 1875.

"GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to receive the letter in which you convey to me a very warm and courteous invitation to attend the banquet which it is proposed to hold at Lexington in commemoration of the attainment of the independence of the United States of America. The circumstances of the war which yielded that result, the principles it illustrates, and the remarkable powers and characters of the principal men who took part, whether as soldiers or civilians, in the struggle, have always invested it with a peculiar interest in my eyes, quite independent of the concern of this country in the events themselves. On account of these features, that war and its accompaniments seemed to me to constitute one of the most instructive chapters of modern history, and I have repeatedly recommended them to younger men as subjects of especial study. With these views, I need not say how far I am from regarding the approaching celebration with indifference. It is entirely beyond my power to cross the sea, even with the present admirable communications, for the purpose of attendance. The present time happens to be for me, even independently of my attendance in parliament, one of very urgent occupations, which I am not at liberty to put aside; but I earnestly hope, and I cannot doubt, that the celebration will be worthy of the occasion. In a retrospective view of the eventful period, my countrymen can now contemplate its accidents with impartiality. I do not think

they should severely blame their ancestors, whose struggle to maintain the unity of the British empire is one that must, I think, after the late great war of the north and south, be viewed in America with some sympathy and indulgence. We can hardly be expected to rate very highly the motives of those other powers who threw their weight into the other scale, and who so sensibly contributed toward accelerating, if not, indeed, towards determining the issue of the war. Yet for one I can most truly say that, whatever the motives and however painful the process, they, while seeking to do an injury, conferred upon us a great benefit, by releasing us from efforts the continuation of which would have been an unmixed evil.

"As regards the fathers of the American Constitution themselves, I believe we can and do now contemplate their great qualities and achievements with an admiration as pure as that of American citizens themselves, and can rejoice no less heartily that, in the hands of Providence, they were made the instruments of a purpose most beneficial to the world.

"The circumstances under which the United States began their national existence, and their unexampled rapidity of advance in wealth and population, enterprise and power, have imposed on their people an enormous responsibility. They will be tried as we shall, at the bar of history, but on a greater scale. They will be compared with the men, not only of other countries, but of other times. They cannot escape from the liabilities and burdens which their greatness imposes on them. No one desires more fervently than I do that they may be enabled to realise the highest hopes and anticipations that belong to their great position in the family of men.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient and faithful servant,

"W. E. GLADSTONE."

ROCHDALE, April 2, 1875.

DEAR SIRS,—I have to thank you for the kind invitation you have forwarded to me to join in the ceremonies and rejoicings in which you expect to be engaged on the 19th of this month.

"I cannot cross the ocean to join your great company, and I know not how to write you a letter fitting the occasion. I would rather not think of an occasion when Englishmen shed blood, and English blood, on your continent, and I would prefer to celebrate the freedom and grandeur of your country on some other day. But I can rejoice with you in that freedom and grandeur, and wish with you that they may be perpetual.

"With many thanks for your kind remembrance of me, I am sincerely yours.

"JOHN BUCHER.

"To Charles Hudson, Esq., H. H. Merriam, Esq., Wm. H. Monroe, Esq., Lexington, Mass., U.S.A."

The United States Army and Navy Journal of 5th May has a capital article on the celebrated "Company Column," which will be found in another page. It gives a lucid description of the Prussian company column, its strength and its weakness—the latter of which predominates fearfully.

Our contemporary points out quite clearly that it never could stand before a line of disciplined soldiers—and instances the battle of Inkerman as the last proof of how a handful of soldiers in line repulsed in every

case similar columns of four times their own numerical strength with fearful slaughter—inflicting not only a loss greater in numbers than the whole body of troops engaged in line, but of prestige that has never been recovered.

As our contemporary puts it, "the line system of fighting is not adapted for all troops"—but it is the traditional order of battle of the British race, and they have only suffered reverses when it was abandoned for some of the European continental systems. From 1715 to the close of the last century the column formation was more or less employed by British Officers, especially in those contests about the middle of the century, in which the genius of FREDERICK THE GREAT found opportunity for development—and it is not at all likely that, as a part of the "Prussian System" of the day, it was affected by superficial practitioners of the art of war—although STANHOPE lost the battle of Almanza early in the century, through its use, while his great Chief MARLBOROUGH adhered steadily to the line formation. It would appear that the order of battle in Continental Europe is purely traditional—the Celts, (Gauls) and Germans when brought first in contact with the Romans fought in line as they did not possess any *artillerie*, projectiles, or weapons analogous to the *Cloth Yard Shaft* of the English bowman or archer, it can easily be understood how the very momentum of the Roman Column bore them down; and as they afterwards became incorporated in the levies of the Empire (whose Praetorian guard were almost wholly drawn from them) it is easy to conceive how the column was transmitted to their descendants. On the other hand the Briton, a follower of the chase, with bow and arrow preferring at close quarters the *English bill* as a weapon would require more room than soldiers armed with the *pilum*, and who depended more on *push of pike* than on the skill that could make the *hand keep the head*, would naturally adopt a less dense formation, and one above all others that would bring every weapon into use; hence from time immemorial we have the English line, and the Normans by developing the power of archery made that the traditional mode of fighting amongst our people, each man or knot of man in a fight depending on themselves for their individual safety.

This subject of "tactics" has not yet received the attention it deserves, and those who treat it in the spirit of our contemporary as an adaptation to national and physical characteristics have mastered the subject thoroughly—because after all, though men may be drilled into elaborate walking machines—they will never be as useful soldiers as the men whose natural aptitudes are cultivated and intelligence developed.

REVIEWS.

We have received from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company of New York the missing numbers of the *British Quarterly Review* for January and April. The contents of the January number are as follows: Paparchy and Nationality; Cox's History of Greece; The Adornment of St. Paul's; The Bible's Place in a Science of Religion; Early Christian Inscriptions of France; The Gre-

ville Memoirs; Europe and Peace; Erasmus—his Character; Contemporary Literature. And the contents of the April number are:—Gaspard de Coligny; The Higher Pantheism; Björnstjerno Björnson as a Novelist; Livingstone's Lust Journals; Kinglake's History of the Crimean War; Ultramontaniam and Civil Allegiance; Mr. Gladstone's Retirement from the Liberal Leadership; Internal Evidence in a Case of Disputed Authorship.

We have also received from the same firm *Blackwood's Magazine* for May. The contents are as follows:—The Dilemma.—Part I.; Lord Lytton's Speeches.—Conclusion; The Abode of Snow, Scenes in Kashmir; New Books,—Isaac Casaubon, Macready's Reminiscences, Untrodden Spain, Malcolm; The China War of 1860, Sir Hope Grant; The Budget and the National Debt.

We have received the *Aldine* for May, which is rather late in reaching us, but is nevertheless a welcome guest, as we prize it very highly. The contents of the number are rich as usual—the Engravings superb—and the literary matter of the first quality. We have only room to advert to the article headed our "Tin Wedding," by the Editor who reviews the progress the United States has made during the past century in a calm and dignified manner, alike honorable to his head and heart. He adverts to the growth of population, by which the States have become a power in the political world—reverts to the two international conflicts, and to the late internecine struggle the nation has passed through, in the following language:—"The first of the two struggles with Great Britain does not properly come into the calculation, it was part of the throes of our birth: The second was of very limited reach, bringing out few resources on either side, and with our then enemy hampered and crippled by the wars of the Continent, almost to the degree of helplessness. It is too early, as yet, to speak calmly of the internecine struggle; but it is not too early to say that the less spoken of it in the way of self-glorification, the better and the wiser. At the best, it was the somewhat slow and difficult defeating of a much weaker antagonist; and how far it has proved our determination and power to remain one united country, can better be answered twenty years hence than at present—answered when we shall have ascertained, through the course of later legislation, whether we really desire to resume the old status of friendly members of one compact, or whether personal or sectional profit is to be made the dominant object, no matter what other persons or sections suffer or become destroyed."

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

HALIFAX, N.S., May 17th, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me through your valuable columns to contradict the statement of "Lanco" in your issue of the 4th inst., regarding the popularity of Major Macdonald, our District Paymaster. This officer's position was *never* in the slightest degree unsatisfactory to his brother officers. On the contrary, he has always had the greatest respect of the officers of the 66th, and as a volunteer officer, has always been very popular.

Yours, &c., &c;
SCARBOROUGH.

(Continued from page 257.)

No. 2 Company, Aurora.

To be Captain, provisionally :

Frederick William Strange, Esquire, vice Nathaniel Pearson, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Henry Paker, Gentleman, vice Benjamin F. Hartman, left limits.

To be Ensign :

Frank Macdonald, Gentleman, vice Andrews resigned.

No. 4 Company, Newmarket.

To be Ensign :

Sergeant James Addison, M.S., vice Botsford, resigned.

No. 5 Company Sutton.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant and Paymaster James Richard Stevenson, M.S., vice Wyndham, promoted.

No. 7 Company, Sharon.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant James Wayling, V.B., vice Selby, appointed Paymaster.

No. 8 Company, Unionville.

Captain William Braithwaite is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

13th Battalion of Infantry.

To be Lieutenant :

Sergeant Alfred McKeand, V. B., vice Crockett, promoted.

19th "Lincoln" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 3 Company, St. Catherines.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Color Sergeant Charles James Moores, vice Eccles resigned.

The resignation of Ensign Frederick St. John is hereby accepted.

35th Battalion of Infantry or "Simcoe Foresters."

The resignation of Assistant Surgeon Samuel A. Wells is hereby accepted.

No. 5 Company, Barrie.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Pay-Sergeant Robert A. Ross, vice Ward.

No. 6 Company, Oro.

The resignation of Lieutenant William Humphrey Rathborne is hereby accepted.

35th "Brant" Battalion or "Dufferin Rifles."

No. 1 Company, Paris.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Jonathan Dennis Pettit, Gentleman, vice Cox, promoted.

No. 5 Company, Burford.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant Stephen Wetmore, V. B., vice Charlesus Byrne, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

To be Lieutenant :

Ensign Gilbert French, M.S., vice Wetmore, promoted.

39th "Norfolk" Battalion of Rifles.

To be Major :

Captain and Brevet Major James Ryan V.B., from No. 3 Company, vice Mabee, promoted.

No. 3 Company, Port Rowan.

To be Captain, provisionally :

Sergeant George Price, vice Ryan, promoted.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally :

Sergeant George W. Price, vice Christopher Wood left limits.

The resignation of Ensign John James McDonald is hereby accepted.

44th "Welland" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 7 Company, Stevensville.

To be Lieutenant :

Ensign Joseph Clark, V. B., vice Beam, promoted.

45th "West Durham" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 7 Company, Kendall.

Captain Robert Smyth, M. S., is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

The resignation of Lieutenant James R. Anderson is hereby accepted.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

No. 1 Troop, Montreal Cavalry.

To be Cornet :

Sergeant Thomas Porter, V. B., vice Mitchell, resigned.

3rd Battalion "Victoria Rifles," Montreal.

To be Adjutant, with rank of Captain :

Henry Bennet Moore, Esquire, formerly Lieutenant in H. M's. 18th Regt., vice Hatton, retired.

Quebec Provisional Battalion of Infantry.

To be Paymaster :

Francois Xavier Belanger, Esquire, vice Jacques Robitaille, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA:

No. 1 Company of Rifles, New Westminster.

To be Assistant Surgeon (specially allowed): Charles Newland Trew, Esquire, M. D.

By Command,

WALKER POWELL, Colonel,
Adjutant General of Militia,
Canada.

THE SONG OF THE CHURCH BELL;

OR,

AN APOLOGY FOR THE PEW SYSTEM.

Dedicated to the Faithful of the Church in Canada.

Hark! the Church Bell loud is ringing,
It calleth us to pray,
And in lofty turret swinging
It seemeth thus to say:—

"Come hasten one and all to prayer,
And give to God his due,
Provided you have taken care
To rent yourselves a pew.

"Good seats for folks I don't prepare,
Because they're good or wicked,
Rather because they pay their fare
And have a first-class ticket.

"Tis not that I'd the poor neglect—
Oh, that be far from me—
'Tis not mens' person I respect,
But the men's property.

"Let servants, clerks, apprentices,
Who have ye goods and chattels,
Be satisfied with services
In the dissenting chapels.

"To rich folks a monopoly
Of good things here is given,
And is it at the height of folly
To doubt the same in heaven?

"We read of 'many mansions,'—who
Are such in heaven's borders,
Unless it be to classify
The high and lower orders?

"What! 'Shall I take the children's meat,
As I cast it to the dogs'
Who won't or can't secure a seat
In christian synagogues?

"To 'put the mighty from their seats,'
Indeed' were very funny,
Unless it be they beat retreats,
Whene're they lose their money.

"To each 'gold ring' and 'clothing gown,'
I give good sittings, while
To men of 'rain ut oile,' I say
'Stand' in the middle aisle.

"Small incomes too I try to please;
E-it-ig-ht-ly,—
This regulates my scale of Fees
In Pit and Gallery.

"Oh! what a pleasure too they win
In pews, without a doubt,—
'Tis not so much the being in,
As keeping others out.

"Pleasant besides it is to find,
That bored one cannot be
By smells unsavoury 'twixt the wind,
And one's nobility."

"It likewise must a pleasure be,
A most serene expression,
You can with full impunity,
Be late for the 'confession.'

"And should you wish at home to stay,
You run not the least danger
Of forfeiting your right to play
The dog-gone in the manger.

"The clergy ought to take this view,
For, when all pews are rented,
There's nothing else that they can do,
But to feel quite contented!

"Rob poor?—That's neither here nor there—
For no one now believes,
That you can turn a House of Prayer
Into a den of thieves.

"Or to a House of Merchandise
By wholesale or retail,
Or make it wrong in Christian eyes
To put it up for sale.

"Still better could we keep aloof
From all contamination,
By taking care to have a roof
In each man's pew's formation.

"Such notion well the Scripture fits,
Which does most patently say,—
Thou shalt not be like hyacinths
When 'seen of men' to pray.

"Render therefore to all their dues—
Here's a plain quotation,
For placing people in the pews
According to their station.

"What if some stupid Christians laugh,
When I am thus so taunted,
That 'ho' the pews ain' full by half,
More room in church is wanted.'

"I answer, that 'When two or three'—
(That's just the Gospel quorum—)
Men of respectability,
Pray we should never bore 'em.

"Allowing all to take a seat,
No matter 'hat they've given;—
People one wouldn't like to meet
Within the courts of Heaven.

"The question is irrelevant—
'The sheepfold is it full?'—
But 'does it yield a paying rent'
And 'have we got the wool'?"

"Don't mind the sheep that err and stray,
But build another pen;
And if you but secure the pay,
I say Amen, Amen!"

The Intelligence Duties of the Staff
Abroad and at Home.By Major C. B. BRACKENBURY, R.A.,
D.A.Q.M.G.

(Continued from page 252)

This kind of preparation for war is considered quite as necessary as the provision of arms or the drilling of men. It ensures the absence of delay and confusion—those sure fore-runners or defeat—at the beginning of a war, and enables the nation to make the best of its resources whether they are large or small. A Military power neglecting these Staff duties in peace may as well put its neck under the feet of its enemies. A portion of the Staff must be set apart for intelligence duties during peace by any nation which does not desire to be utterly confounded when overtaken by war. But it now becomes necessary to anticipate an objection sure to be made by those persons whose minds are under the dominion of fashion. They will recognize the value of such studies for foreign nations, but deny that England has any need of them. Or they will say, as has been said to me more than once, that an Intelligence Branch of the Staff is only needful on the supposition that England is likely to enter into a Continental struggle.

Let us for a moment, and for the sake of argument, grant that we are no longer a Great European Power, that we have no duties which may force us to draw the sword for a principle involving our own general interest, and that our name as a nation may be effaced from the books wherein are reckoned up by the remaining Great Powers, the forces they may may have to deal with if they declare war. At least there remain upon our hands certain territories, not so very limited in extent, called the British colonies.

The colonies spend upward of half a million annually on their militia or volunteer forces; and have, not counting India, about 70,000 men ready for fighting, to say nothing of the legal powers possessed by the Canadian Government of calling out all the able-bodied men in the country, about 740,000.

To this the objectors will reply—"Oh! but we don't want to keep the colonies. We should be stronger if they were cut loose from us, and we should trade with them all the same." Now Gentlemen, we soldiers have no business with politics. If an English Government should ever, in the name of Her Gracious Majesty, cast the colonies adrift, our business will be loyally and humbly to carry out the orders we may receive. But we have every right to state plainly the military arguments for retaining a footing where we have it, that is wherever the sun shines. Let me state the argument in its skeleton form.

Such a trade as that of Great Britain is based upon the safety of our merchant ships.

War ships depend upon coal, ammunition, and provisions, which are none of them found among the waves, but in depôts on shore.

Therefore the security of our world wide

trade obliges us to keep territory all over the world, for the supply of our Navy.

If this argument be of any value at all, it proves that no nation can, in modern times, keep the command of the sea without colonies, and, that command failing, England's fair palace of commerce would vanish like a dream before the first rude shock of war.

Whatever may be the ultimate fate of the colonies, there are no present signs of their leaving us; and, meanwhile, we surely ought to know something about them from a military point of view. We ought to study them at least generally, if not "exhaustively," as the Germans say. We are trying to do now, and the attempt shows more plainly, day by day, how much we do not know and need to know. Then our own home Islands, Great Britain and Ireland, are by no means completely studied as yet, and all men will grant that we ought to be thoroughly informed as to the measures necessary for home defence.

The attitude of certain Englishmen, ultra peaceable in talk reminds me of that immortal member of the Society of Friends who once found himself on board a ship about to be attacked by an enemy. The Captain needing every stout arm he could find, appealed to him to lend a hand in the defence. But no! "his principles would not allow him to fight." The enemy closed and began to board. The Quaker shook his head, and, advancing to the bulwarks, pitched one of the assailments into the sea, exclaiming "Friend, thou hast no business here." I fancy that any nation which should aim at stripping England of her colonial possessions, invading our soil, or taking from us the command of the sea would soon hear from our most peaceable mouths "Friend, thou hast no business here."

But may we not go a step farther, and ask whether it is so absolutely certain that our swords will never again flash in the brighter rays of a continental sun? Never for the sake of conquest or from lust of territory. Such items are altogether dead in our minds. It is, however conceivable (to say the least of it), that we may be called upon to interfere in defence of a principle necessary to our national life. For after all, "Man doth not live by bread alone." A foreign writer has lately said, "scratch the British morality and you find a savage underneath." Let us rather say, "scratch the crust of British conventional talk and you find as bold and adventurous a spirit as ever moved our forefathers to the great deeds on the memory of which we feed our children."

Do you remember that the cry for perpetual peace was far stronger before the Crimean War than it is now? At that time public consent had gone so far that an ill-advised person could write a pamphlet proposing that, if England were invaded, we should receive our guests with open arms and win them by tenderness to offer us an indemnity instead of exacting one. Since then, we do not seem to have come much nearer the Millennium, and may fairly say—"scratch civilization and you find men and women with all their hopes and fears, pride and passion." But there is no need for argument. Mr. Disraeli in his place in the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone in his late writings, and that great exponent of public educated opinion, the *Times*, have lately told us that England can no longer count on exemption from the common lot of mankind and of nations, a struggle for life, and, let me add, gentlemen—the survival of the fittest. Should such a struggle

be forced upon us the country will turn to its soldiers and ask—"Are you ready?"

That time will not find us vying with other nations in the ostentation of our armaments, but it ought to find us knowing at least exactly what we can or cannot do. An army of 100,000 British troops kept up as it might be from home, is a force by no means to be despised. In 1871 it would have raised the siege of Paris, or crushed Faidherbe or Chanzy according as we had taken one side or the other. Such an army must, however, be ready to act at any moment or half its value is gone. When the time for action comes it will be too late to commence our studies of the means of moving our force or keeping it in the field. All that should be done now, when such studies would be a menace to nobody, not hereafter when the undertaking would be one of the signs of "drifting into war."

There is another important reason for the formation of such a department of the staff. Gen. Todleben remarks, in his book on the defence of Sebastopol, that England has in peace no proper service of the Quartermaster General" and he adds "All this so important part of the military administration is only constituted at the very moment when the troops take the field; thus, much time passes before the staff of the army can be completely organized." The criticism is just, and still applicable to us. We have our classes and examinations for the staff at the Staff College, and, having got our officers, we scarcely ever again set them to do real staff work till war comes. Were it only for this reason the staff organization which I have just described as existing in foreign countries, would be of equal value in our own.

Theoretically, such work has always formed a part of the duties of the Quartermaster-General's Department, but practically, the few officers he has, are absorbed in office duties, so that he has had none to spare for geographical, statistical, and historical studies, or for calculation of strategical and tactical probabilities, based upon a known system of moving troops in war.

It is a significant fact that the proportion of Staff Officers to regimental Officers in the English army is less than that existing in Prussia, Austria and France.

In Prussia the proportion is.....	2.06
Austria	2.06
France.....	2.36
England.....	1.85

This state of things exists because the public mind does not understand what is the proper employment of staff officers in war, and, therefore cuts the staff down as closely as possible. The popular idea is that the staff have to carry messages in the field, and be agreeable to their partners at ball, instead of being as they should be, an Argus eyed and Hydra headed giant, ever providing the information on which a General must needs base his plans, and working out the details necessary to give effect to his orders.

Then there is that terrible word of power before which we all tremble,—the Estimates. Let us make a little estimate of our own. At this moment, it is estimated that Europe could put something like ten millions of men under arms. Everywhere arsenals and dockyards resound with the clang of hammers. We ourselves are driving a roaring trade in war ships and arms. It is impossible to believe that an English Parliament will grudge the trifling sum necessary to keep us informed of the position in which we stand, and of the means neces-

sary to keep us secure. It would be as if a rich man of indifferent eyesight, knowing that he would shortly be placed in the presence of savage animals, should grudge the money to buy a pair of spectacles. Nor should we forget that the work to be done is not in proportion to the strength of any army, but to the extent of territory, the number of souls to be defended and the wealth to be secured.

Turn your eyes towards this table and say whether we have much or little to do in comparison with other European nations.

In round numbers:—

Germany has 212,000 square miles of territory and 41,000,000 of people. Austria-Hungary has 240,000 square miles of territory and 36,000,000 of people. France with Colonies has 926,000 square miles of territory and 43,000,000 of people. (a) Great Britain and Colonies has 5,400,000 square miles of territory, and 29,000,000 of people.

To achieve the work necessary for the study of all this country, and the military statistics of this huge population, we have now, including the Topographical Branch,
7 Permanent Staff Officers,
4 Officers attached after course at Staff College.

Comparing like with like, permanent with permanent Officers, attached with attached, and remembering the world wide interests of our country, it may be said that the English Intelligence Branch undertakes much more than the work of any General Staff, with a tenth of the number of officers. If, then, there should happen a Colonial or European war, and complete information should not be forthcoming, let not the country be too severe on the seven Officers on whom this more than Herculean labour has been laid. I am not at liberty to say exactly what is being done. We are doing our best, and have no opponents that we know of.

Indeed, it is difficult to see whence opposition should spring. The essence of an Intelligence Department is, that it is in no sense executive. It robs no one of freedom or power; it must be the servant of all, ask for information from all, and be ready to supply information in return. It is a worker for Queen, Lords, Commons, civil and military departments of the State. It neither adds nor takes away from the number of the standing army, though it may be said now-a-days, that if there are any individuals so far in rear of public opinion as to fear the small standing army of England, their voices are but the last faint echo of a far off cry. The pursuit of information has not, like swollen armaments, any tendency to bring about war. An Intelligence Branch of the Staff has nothing to do with classes or politics, no business except to be ever on the watch to gain, to arrange and to distribute knowledge. To perform its work honestly, in other words, to be a real serviceable institution free from all suspicion of pretence, it must have more workers and considerable freedom in the use of the printing press. While no confidence should ever be betrayed, there can be no possible objection to publishing in English what is published in all other languages. To lock up from English Officers information which is freely distributed to foreign armies would be to put our own service at a dangerous disadvantage. And it seems to me that no harm could and much good must, arise from direct personal and official communication between the Intelligence Branch and those great State Departments which have

(a) Not including the Hudson's Bay Territory.

all to be consulted upon warlike measures, the Admiralty, the Colonial, Foreign and India Offices.

Up to this time there has never been a department of the kind definitely established in England; but alas! there has never been in the history of the world any such terrible activity and earnestness in military preparations as exists at present. A very small band of officers, called the Topographical Department were hidden in a street not far from here working, as Englishmen will work, for duty, without hope of praise or renown. All honour to them, they did what was possible, and kept up the pursuit of information during the time when the nation was most careless about military affairs. They now form a part of the seven permanent Officers shown upon that table as the existing means of work of the Intelligence Branch.

But, now, everybody who has any information to give should help us through the first difficulties as we shall be ready to help them in theirs. Let not the novelty of the idea turn the minds of the most conservative against us. The French ought to know something about the necessities of modern war by this time, and the verdict of their Committee on Army Reorganization is contained in these words of their report. "We were beaten by want of preparation, organization, and direction, and by the weakness of our offensive, rather than by the arms of our enemies." That is to say, they had just done as some few people would persuade us to do now. They had lived in a blind confidence, and refused to reorganize the altered conditions of modern war. France is indeed a great and glorious nation. She is rising like the Phoenix from her ashes, but we Englishmen are a sober people, and do not love catastrophes. Ours is the natural life of reality, not the immortality of fables and dreams. As all natural life exists by perpetual death and renewal of worn-out parts, so let us live as a nation; not trembling to move because every step consumes and kills some atom or other, but by vigorous exercise and cleanly habits, pass through the natural process of renewal and improvement while retaining the grand old individuality. Or, if there must be dreamers amongst us, let their visions be of a future when, united by common sympathies and common interests, as well as by blood, Great Britain and all her colonies shall join in a bond for self protection; when free-born men, carrying arms as an honour, shall pass the shores of the islands and continents which own the gentle sway of our Gracious Queen, and at every moment of the twenty four hours the sun shall somewhere look down on a sentinel who cries in the English tongue—"All is well in the Empire of Peace."

The *Revue Coloniale* for February has an interesting account, drawn from German sources, of the rates of pay and allowances in the new German Imperial Navy. Amongst the pay-charges we notice the following:—Engineers' Department—two chief engineers at 7400 francs (£300) per annum; four engineers at 5550 francs (£230); six assistant-engineers at 4440 francs (£180) per annum. Ecclesiastical Department—Six evangelical pastors at 2960 to 4070 francs (£120 to £170) per annum; one Roman Catholic almoner at 3315 francs (£140); and three directors of singing. The name of the Army Lieutenant-General, Von Stosch, as head of the Admiralty, figures for a sum of 44,400 francs (£1830) per annum.

The Company Column.

Ever since the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, there has been two parties among tacticians and military critics as to the proper employment of Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery. The same principles have pervaded these contests, that permeate political and social questions in all ages. There is a radical progressive party, and a radical conservative party. One party scorns the notion that the experience of thirty centuries is to be weighed in the balance with that of the last decade. With them the present is the only guide for the future, and the present age the most wonderful ever known. The other party decries the present, and finds nothing worth copying in it, pointing back to Napoleon, Wellington, Frederick, Cesar and Hannibal, to show that there is nothing new under the sun.

These are the extreme wings of opinion. Between them lies a third party, that admits good in both, and is willing to compare the present and the past, to learn lessons for the future. It is seldom that this party gets the opportunity of being fairly heard, and it is apt to receive kicks from both sides. The extremists in general have no argument to appeal to but that old and well known fallacy, the *argumentum ad verendum* or appeal to authority. They quote the opinions of Napoleon and Von Moltke, on one side and the other, forgetting that they are only opinion, after all, and as such, inconclusive. The middle party appeals to nothing but facts; and its reasoning, being of the inductive character balancing the weight of various evidence, is seldom dogmatic and never popular.

In the tactical fight of the present day, the fierce battle of the books, all three parties are represented, and we are glad to say that our own military writers are generally pretty safe in their conclusions, inclining to conservatism, but readily yielding to any new facts which invalidate their theories. The question as to the proper employment of Infantry is first in order of the three. One side maintains that the German system of company columns is the only system of battle tactics possible for the future, that it is perfect, and that every army that does not conform to it fails in perfection. This class holds up the German army as perfect in every detail, of tactics and administration. The most cultivated representative of this shade of opinion is general McClellan, whose papers on the subject were widely read a few months since.

The best representative of the moderate party on our side of the water is General Upton, the author of our present tactics, who has lately contributed a very able article to the *International Review* on the subject of the Prussian Company Column, in which he compares its advantages as claimed, and its disadvantage as admitted, in a manner full of interest to a military reader.

The ultra conservative wing, we are glad to say, has no distinguished representative on our side of the water, outside of the militia.

The Prussian Company Column may be familiarly described as follows: The company in line being in three ranks, and divided in two platoons, the third rank of each platoon falls back, and the left rank goes behind the right. The first and second ranks of the left platoon go behind the same ranks of the right, and we have the renowned company column, of three platoons of two ranks each. The rear platoon,

made of third rank men, furnishes the skirmishers, the first and second the supports. Each battalion has four companies, and goes into action in line of company columns. The skirmishers fight in groups, and are encouraged to get into knots, to seek cover, and to make short rushes forwards. No matter how many lines there are, each is commonly made up of these company columns of 240 men, at eighty or a hundred yards apart.

The partisans of the German school claim that this system is the best that has been applied to Infantry fighting since the invention of breech-loading fire arms. In support of this claim they bring forward the Franco-Prussian war and the victories achieved under the system. General Upton, in examining the claims of the German party, brings to light some ugly facts, which seem to show that the system might fail disastrously against English or American troops, accustomed to fight in line. The objections to the Prussian Company Column are many and weighty. First, it is based on the absolute and inflexible three rank formation, with inversions and countermarches, so happily abolished in our own Service. Secondly, it is deficient in officers and gives the latter more work than any man can do well in battle. Thirdly, by taking the best men for skirmishers and making them such permanently, it tends to depreciate the value of the whole company. The worst trouble, however, is in the unwieldy size of the unit, which takes the place of one of our small regiments, and yet is only part of a regiment. It was found by experience in the battle of Woerth, that companies from every regiment in a division, sometimes even from different corps, because entangled together at the close of a hotly contested action, confusing the command even in the advance after a success. What the result would had been had the success been a defeat it is not difficult to predict.

Moreover, from the unwieldy size of the companies results a great paucity of officers. The company is just as strong as one of our fighting battalions after a short campaign, and whereas that seldom numbers less than twenty officers after all casualties, the German start with only five and not seldom find every officer killed after a battle. True they have twenty non-commissioned officers who exercise a much larger control than our sergeants and corporals, but these are not officers. A great gap divides them from the commissioned gentlemen who come of noble blood, and that gap is seldom or never leaped over. The captain of a company is expected to oversee and direct a front equal to that of our regiments, and for that purpose is mounted; but a little consideration will show that this horse is seldom likely to be useful. A mounted officer controlling skirmishers, fighting other skirmishers, cannot remain mounted for many minutes without losing his horse. On foot he has more than he can attend to. While the large company with few officers may be well adapted to the enormous armies of Germany, where every officer saved implies a reduction of crushing expenses, it can hardly be said to be a model to follow in small armies such as those of England and America, where the strength depends on courage, firmness and high training. A instance of the value of our system as compared with that of large companies, and of the great superiority of deployed regiments over lines of company columns is afforded in the recently issued volume of Kinglake's "Crimean War."

This volume is devoted to an exhaustive analysis of a single battle—that of Ink-

man. It is a perfect storehouse of facts, from English, French, and Russian sources and especially valuable as bearing on the question of company columns. As it happens, the Russian regiments on that day possessed exactly the same organization as the present German regiments. They had three battalions, each of four huge companies, and they advanced in exactly the same manner, in line of company columns covered by clouds of skirmishers. Strange to relate, in every instance these company columns were repulsed by single lines of English troops, and the whole story of the day is one of repeated repulse by single lines, of both company and battalion columns covered by a powerful fire of artillery.

It is true that the line system of fighting is not adapted for all troops. In this same battle the line proved fallacious with a French regiment, which faltered and broke when it was in line, and stood well enough when formed in column of attack—our double column. It requires firm, stubborn troops, with the old Berserker spirit, men ready to stand and fight to the last gasp, if it is their duty, no matter what the odds may be. With such men the line develops its real superiority over the column, be it large or small, covered with skirmishers or not. But the story of Inkerman show that, fighting in line against masses in column, one against six or seven, the more officers present the better. It is rare for the men to run if they see their officers encouraging them to stand. Before we resolve to adopt the Prussian company and the company column with its few officers for our model, it may be well to wait and see if that organization would stand the test of an overwhelming assault, as at Inkerman, any better than our own old style which conquered the company column on that day of slaughter.—*Army and Navy Journal*.

The new Austrian field gun is described by the *Cologne Gazette*. As soon as the old-fashioned system of muzzle loading field artillery is given up by that country, there will be little difference between the guns of Austria and Germany; although, of course, the former is not in a position to compete with the latter in the production of large numbers of field pieces. The new gun has its tube or barrel of cast steel, and the system of manufacture adopted is that known as the ring-construction. Several steel rings are placed whilst hot upon the after part of the gun, which is, as we have said, itself formed of the same material; these rings contract in cooling, and, like the tire of a carriage wheel, closely embrace the ground work, and thus add great strength to that part of the weapon which most needs it. The breach of the gun is formed by a "cylindro-prismatic" or circular end, which is of great simplicity and is an invention of Krupp's. The contrivance is marked not only by an extreme power of resistance, but by the facility with which it is worked. The orifice of ignition differs from the old "touch-hole" which has been in vogue during so many centuries, in passing transversely through the after part of the gun and the breach into the chamber which contains the charge. The form of the projectile is not yet settled, but the powder adopted is coarse, the grains being from six to ten millimetres in size. This powder burns slowly, but as the strain upon the gun is much less, the charges are able to be made much larger, and a velocity half as large again as the usual one is expected to be gained. This principle is, of course, well known to the English artillerymen.

Heartrending Calamity.

One of the most terrible disasters in the history of Massachusetts occurred to night, 27th May, by the burning of the French Catholic Church at South Holyoke, during evening service, involving the death of sixty-six men, women and children. The exercises had nearly closed and a vesper service was being sung when the draperies on the altar caught fire from a candle, and the walls being low and the flames streaming up the building was set on fire. The audience numbered about 700 people. Those in the body of the church escaped, but in the stairway leading from the gallery human beings were packed in a dense mass struggling to escape as the flames rushed toward them. Many leaped to the floor beneath and were trampled to death. The gallery skirted both sides of the building, with only one entrance from the front. The scene was fearful in the extreme during the little while it lasted, for the whole was over in twenty minutes. Besides the sixty six dead the fatally wounded will carry the total loss of life up to seventy fire. The priest's house which joined the church in the rear was also burned. The bodies were taken to Peter Munatt's Main street store and Park street school house for temporary deposit. An inquest will be held to-morrow at 9 o'clock a.m. The loss on the church is total, but it is small. The priest's exertions to keep order were fruitless. The screams of the living and means of the dying made a deafening tumult above the orders of the pastor who worked most heroically, and was personally instrumental in saving many lives. One family of four were in the church and all were killed. Many were pulled out by arms and feet so badly burned that they lived but a few hours, the flesh peeling on being touched. Some were taken out with hardly any flesh remaining on their bones. The Sisters of Mercy from the convent were promptly present caring for the wounded and holding services over the dying, while Father Dufrense also held many services over the dying. His mother was among those terribly burned. Father Dufrense lost almost everything in his residence, so rapidly was the building consumed. A large wooden tenement block of Joseph Preue, near the burned church, was thrown open for the reception of the dead and wounded, and several deaths occurred in this building during the night. Several were also taken to New York Mills' boarding house, and the physicians gave the wounded the best of medical care. Those who were too badly burned to recover were put under the effects of morphine, and passed away without a struggle.

FREAR BEND, Pa., 29th.—The business part of the town was burned last night. The Masonic Hall, Post Office, Printing Office, Wagon Shop, two Dwellings, two Banks, and ten Stores were burned. The loss is about \$1,000,000; insurance \$600,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

A second successful voyage by an iron turret ship is now reported. The Devastation crossed the Bay of Biscay successfully in very heavy weather and proved a good sea boat. She excited great interest at Lisbon, where the King of Portugal visited her, and thence made a good voyage to Gibraltar.

"Before the war," says a French publisher, "we never sold more than 4,000 copies of a manual of geography. Now we sell 14,000 almost before we know it."

The number of shipwrecks recorded for the month of February this year is 128, of

which seventeen were steamers. Fifty six were English and eleven American.

The Count Passovini only a few days ago lighted upon a document in the National Library, London, of interest to Englishmen and students of English history. Its date is March 8, 1554, and it is an application to Pope Julius III. for the deprivation of Thos. Cranmer from the See of Canterbury, on account of his evil life. It is signed Roger Ascham, and is apparently written by him, and is countersigned by Mary and her husband Philip. It is in perfect order and beautifully written. Mary signs "Maria" in a small, round, and clear hand. Philip's name is written with a lighter ink, and manifests a royal indifference to good calligraphy.

Some interesting relics have been brought to light at Chatham Dockyard, in England, where the discovery has been made of a portion of the sails of Lord Nelson's flagship, the Victory. They were taken from that vessel immediately after the battle of Trafalgar, and have since lain unthought of in the sail loft of Chatham Dockyard. The most interesting of the relics discovered in the foretop-sail, which is in a good state of preservation. The sail is riddled with shot holes, there being as many as ninety holes made by the shot. Another of the sails—the maintop-sail—which is hardly complete, has still the label attached to it when the sail was stowed away; and this states that, when the maintop-sail was removed from the Victory, there was as many as sixty holes made by the shot to be counted in it. On the sails may still be seen painted the maker's name—"Miller, contractor, Portsmouth, 1805."



NOTICE.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

OTTAWA, 10th May, 1875.

NOTICE is hereby given that His Excellency, the Governor-General, by an Order in Council bearing date the 7th inst., and under the authority vested in him by the 3rd section of the 31st Victoria, Cap. 10, has been pleased to order and direct that the following articles be transferred to the list of goods, which may be imported into Canada free of duty, viz:—

- "Sheet German silver."
- "Box wood."

By command, J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

May 29, 1875. 21-3



Department of Militia and Defence.

TENDERS will be received until noon on the 15th day of June, 1875, for the supply of such Cloth of Canadian Manufacture as may be required for Uniform Clothing for the Militia, during the current year, the cloth to be regulation colours, viz: Oxford Mixture, Scarlet, Green and Blue; and to be furnished in such proportions as may be required.

Patterns may be seen, and further information will be given on application.

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W. POWELL, Colonel,
Adjutant-General.

Ottawa, April 30th, 1875. 18

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