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## The Utilization of Colonial Forces in Imperial Defence.

*Continued.*

If a colonial army reserve might with advantage be raised, how much more a colonial navy reserve? The chief factor in imperial defence must necessarily be the Navy. Apart from being the traditional bulwark of the British nation, is the fact that the supremacy of the seas is vitally necessary to Great Britain. Without that element the colonies would be impotent against us, as their supplies of munitions in war would be cut off, and the people of Great Britain would starve, as they require to import annually fifteen-thirty-thirds of the food they require for their 33,000,000 of inhabitants. Therefore, the supply lines must be kept open, and the Navy must do it. The comparative fighting power of the British Navy, is given by a French authority as two-thirds greater than Germany, one-third greater than France, and six-sevenths greater than Russia. How far is this total fighting strength available?

We are told, upon reliable naval authority, that it would take upwards of two years to put the steamers now out of commission into fighting trim. Of the total British steamers there are:—

Armoured. Unarmoured. Gunboats.

In commission.....	31	..... 125	..... 29
In reserve, repair, or building.....	31	..... 77	..... 37.

That is to say nearly one-half of the fleet of steam vessels are immediately unavailable. We are also told that the number of seamen requisite to man the fleet is about 87,000, while there are only 57,000 available (taking all reserves into the calculation), leaving 30,000 men to be provided.

Now if a royal naval reserve were to be established in the colonies, and these men were to be trained on reserve vessels provided for the purpose, there would be found in war time at the head-quarters of each colonial station a sufficient number of trained seamen to man the vessels upon that station, thus releasing the Navy men for other duty.

In Canada there are registered 37,235 sailors. On the North American and West Indian station there are 20 war vessels, manned by 3,173 officers and men. There could be no difficulty in procuring the crews for these vessels from amongst our hardy, seafaring population; but, in addition, Canada owns 1,195 sea going steam-vessels to act as transports and supply vessels. A sufficient number of these vessels should be carefully surveyed and enrolled as "naval reserve vessels," the Commander having instructions to proceed immediately upon the declaration of war to a harbour or rendezvous. There should be stored fittings and armaments designed for each vessel, and immediately available, so that no time should be lost in fitting for sea, having in view the special suitability of each vessel for cruising, transport, or supply purposes.

Having inaugurated these systems of army and navy reserves, let us suppose the immediate effect of a declaration of war so far as Canada is concerned.

*First.*—The Canadian Government calls for 5,000 active militia for garrison duty at Halifax, Bermuda, and Quebec. Simultaneously the Lieutenant-General Commanding in British North America orders the Royal Militia Reserve to report at Halifax.

The Admiral Commanding orders the Royal Naval Reserve to report at Halifax, assembling a portion of the North American squadron at that station, and a sufficient fleet of transports and fast cruisers to fit out and coal at the same place.

Let us say, then, that within twenty days we have assembled at Halifax:

Regulars (relieved garrisons).....	5,000
Colonial Army Reserve.....	10,000
Colonial Navy Reserve.....	3,000
	18,000

who are ready for embarkation in the transports, and to sail for any destination.

We have the vessels, the crews, and the men necessary to carry out this scheme; what, then, is necessary in order to secure this state of preparation?

1st. A well digested scheme and a thorough understanding between the Colonial and Central Governments.

2nd. The establishment at each colonial station of a sufficient supply of arms and munitions of war to meet the requirements of the defined plan of operations.

3rd. The establishment of graving docks upon colonial stations, in order to secure the immediate repair of injured vessels.

4th. The establishment of properly garrisoned coaling stations upon each supply route for the use of cruising squadrons. Coal might be supplied equally as well from the colonies as from England, although this does not seem to be the opinion of the Admiralty Board. It is a mystery to the uninitiated, however, why Nova Scotia cannot supply the North Atlantic squadrons—British Columbia the North Pacific—Natal the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans—New Zealand the South Pacific—and Labuan the China Sea. All that most of these places require are the means for the development of their mines.

5th. The selection in peace time of suitable fast steamers, owned by private ship-owners, for cruising and transport services. If the Captains of these vessels were commissioned as Navigating Commanders in the Naval Reserve they would have an interest in their work, their status would be defined, and they, with their crews would be responsible for navigating the vessel. A combatant Navy Officer, with a fighting crew, would have to be placed upon each vessel, but the duties would not clash, as the latter would be engaged in the special duty of preparing his vessel for fighting or in fighting it. The proper armament for such vessels seems to be the 12 pr. rifled gun, which is light enough to be worked on any ocean steamer without its needing to be strengthened, and at the same time has sufficient penetration to pierce the side of any unarmoured vessel. Every steam supply vessel of the merchant navy, should, in war time, carry from four to six of these guns, and their possession would enable them to bid defiance to any ordinary privateer or unarmoured vessel.

The above conditions being secured, I can conceive of no reason why the various colonies should not play an important part in Imperial defence. In the case of Canada, it must be borne in mind that the Straits of Gibraltar are no further from Halifax than Liverpool—and that Malta could be reached from Halifax as soon as from London. Conceive the advantage to Great Britain if an expedition of 15,000 men were known to be fully equipped and supplied with all the material of war, having its base of supplies and reinforcements in Canada, its transports, cruisers, and supply vessels, and the North Amer-

ican Squadron at hand to keep up communication with base! Conceive that this expedition, complete within its own theatre of war is to be in Asiatic Turkey or Egypt; her army could furnish the advance guard, from its proximity. The native army of India consists of 126,877. It is the opinion of General Upton, that the whole of this force could be removed without danger. He says (p. 83, "Report upon the Army of Asia and Europe"), "but without aid from England, "railway system by itself is sufficient to enable 60,000 British troops to hold India almost indefinitely." Supposing that Bombay and Madras were each to furnish an army corps mixed troops, leaving the Bengal establishment intact, there would still remain in the Bombay Presidency 9,000 men, and in Madras 18,000 men. Quite enough for garrisoning important points in those secure parts of the country.

These two army corps should be self-contained, and have their base in India, operating as an Indian contingent, under officers who would understand the peculiar constitution and prejudices of the force.

But in addition to the native army of India there is a large military element to draw from in the armies of the native Princes, many of whom offered their services in anticipation of a war between England and Russia two years since. The total number of troops employed by native Princes is stated to be 300,000. Of these the

Nizam of Hyderabad employs.....	45,000	725 guns
Maharaja Scindia.....	20,000	500 "
Gaekwa of Baroda.....	14,000	30 "
Maharaja of Jaipur.....	14,000	312 "
" Odaipur.....	22,000	538 "
" Kathiawar.....	19,000	508 "

Collectively, the native Chiefs command 5,252 guns, 9,300 trained artillerymen, 64,172 cavalry, and 241,063 infantry. Of course many of these are very irregular soldiers, but if Persia or Afghanistan were to join with Russia in an invasion of India, these irregulars would fitly cope with the fierce Afghans, the cruel Persians, or the savage Tartars. It must not be forgotten that, but for the noble conduct of some of these Chiefs, India would probably have been lost to us, temporarily at any rate, in 1858.

*To be continued.*

## The Military Display on the Queen's Birthday.

THE NAMES AND NUMBER OF THE VISITING CORPS.

### THE SHAM FIGHT.

We are indebted to Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., for a copy of the following plan of the General commanding His Majesty's forces in Canada, for the military celebration of the Queen's Birthday in this city:—

### THE REVIEW ON THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

It is expected that the following troops will assemble at Quebec to celebrate the Queen's Birthday on the 24th next:—

"A" and "B" Batteries, 4 guns.....	300
Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, two troops.....	80
Quebec Field Battery .....	70
Garrison Batteries .....	200
New Garrison Batteries.... }	
Royal Rifles .....	250
Voligeurs de Québec.....	300
<hr/>	
Prince of Wales Rifles.....	1,200
Victoria Rifles.....	250
Fusiliers Royal Scots .....	325
" .....	275
" .....	275
6th Battalion.....	300
7th Battalion (St. John).....	275
<hr/>	
	2,900

In all, 2 troops cavalry, 2 field batteries, 5 garrison batteries, 8 infantry battalions.

The corps from a distance will arrive early on Monday morning under arrangements made for their transport. The troops will be drawn up in line upon the Plains of Abraham at half past eleven o'clock, for which purpose no troops should arrive on the ground later than eleven o'clock. The line will face the St. Louis Road, and be drawn up as far back from it as the ground will permit. If there is not room for the line the cavalry and artillery will be thrown forward *en potence*.

His Excellency the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise will upon arrival be received with a Royal Salute from the line with colors drooped and band playing the National Anthem. His Excellency and Her Royal Highness will probably then ride down the line and inspect the troops, preceded by the staff in the regulated order of formation. A band of each regiment will strike up as the procession approaches the right flank of the corps.

The order will then be given for the troops to load with their cartridge. At noon a royal salute and *feu de joie* will be fired in honor of Her Majesty's Birthday. After each firing the infantry will fire one round of running fire three times successively. When arms are ordered, the order will be given "off hats and three cheers for Her Majesty." The troops will then march past in column and quarter column preparatory to which the infantry will form quarter column on the right companies of battalions, the cavalry and artillery conforming.

Immediately after marching past the troops will be formed in the following evolutions of a field day.

The attacking force will consist of about 900 men, and will be formed on the low ground at the extreme edge of the ditches, close to the Marchmont fence. It will be composed of the following corps under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, R.A.:—Half troop of cavalry, Quebec Field Battery, and "B" Batteries (without guns), the 9th Battalion of the 62nd Battalion. The remainder, with the four guns of "A" and "B" Batteries, will compose the defending force, and will at once proceed to take position under the walls of the Citadel, either in the ditches or the low ground in front of the towers.

They will throw parties of riflemen into the two Martello towers, and will leave one corps of riflemen under cover on broken ground near those towers, and another behind the Monument.

Lieut.-Colonel Duchesnay will command this force. The walls of the Citadel will be manned by the five garrison batteries of artillery, and the guns on the bastions commanding the approach from the Plains will have gun detachments held off to each.

If an attack from the river take place, the guns on the Bastion and eastern face of the Citadel must also be

The troops in the Citadel will be under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, R.A.

On a signal being given the attacking force will advance in order of attack across the Plains of Abraham, they will be first assailed by the outposts near Wolfe's Monument, upon which they will open fire and drive them in.

The Martello towers and supporting corps of riflemen will open fire upon the assailants when within range.

The towers will be captured and the troops driven in, retiring in skirmishing order upon the main body in the Citadel ditches.

The assailants advancing and steadily firing upon the retiring outposts will suddenly be arrested by a fire from the Citadel walls, and simultaneously by a sortie of the infantry concealed in the ditches.

This main body now reinforced by the outposts will advance in order of attack over the cove common and rough ground covered by the fire from the fortress.

They will recover the Martello towers and detach a battalion of infantry, supported by cavalry, to the right, in order to turn the left flank of the retiring force by the St. Louis Road, and reach the Plains by the gate way near the toll bar.

The retiring force will dispute the ground at every obstacle, especially where there are enclosures and pailings to cover riflemen, but the opposing forces must never approach nearer than 200 yards from each other.

When the retreating force again reaches the open Plains of Abraham, assailed on the left flank by the turning movement, and in rear by the continually advancing forces, before which they are retiring, they will fight a retreating action till they again reach the point of low ground from which they originally advanced, and where they will be lost to sight.

A charge of cavalry might then be made across the Plains in loose order, performing the pursuing practice, with the supposed object of completely dispersing the enemy.

The operations of the troops of all arms when passing and repassing through the enclosed ground, between the new jail and the Martello towers will require the exercise of the utmost military intelligence and circumspection on the part of the commanders and all the regimental officers and men employed.

Should a demonstration be made by one or more of Her Majesty's ships from the river, I suggest the ships get under weigh in the morning and drop down towards the Island of Orleans. On approaching the city of Quebec about one o'clock, when the land attack on the Citadel would be commencing, they might on hearing the firing from the heights open a broad-side fire for half an hour on the works of the Citadel. This would be hotly returned and at the end of that time they would sheer off with yards canted, supposing the lifts and braces to be shot away, and with boats hanging disordered in the davits.

The troops after the field day will form a line of quarter columns at close interval on the original ground, advance in review order, give a Royal salute, and upon the departure of His Excellency the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess, the Field Artillery will fire a Royal salute of twenty-one guns.

The whole force will be under the command of Lieut.-General Sir Edward Selby Smyth, K.C.M.G., who will generally direct the evolutions of the troops engaged.

The Scarlet and Rifle Brigades will be commanded by their respective senior officers. The Infantry will be supplied with thirty (30) rounds of blank cartridge per man.

The pouches to be carefully examined to ascertain that no ball cartridge remains previous to the issue of the blank.

The corps proceeding to Quebec should be provided with the full complement of ammunition before leaving their stations.

(Signed,)

E. SELBY SMYTH,  
Lieut.-General.

Ottawa, 17th April, 1880.

(Certified copy,)

T. J. DUCHESNAY,  
D.A.G., 7th M.D.

### Militia Report.

I am glad to report that you have very considerably made a special appropriation of the funds at your disposal for the purchase of materials, engineering implements and equipment in some measure, as field companies of the several corps of engineers. This will be very acceptable to the officers who have gone to considerable expense and devoted time and talent in the instruction of the men and providing stores for their service. In August last the Toronto Engineer Company encamped at Niagara for annual training, and was inspected by Major Walker, Royal Engineers, Professor of Fortification in the Royal Military College. His report contains matter of so much importance to the future progress of the Dominion Engineers that I recommend its being studied in the appendix. The first recommendation is for sergeant instructors from the Royal Engineers, qualified to give the necessary practical teaching on technical subjects. Also for suitable field equipment, suggesting, moreover, an organization for the whole of the Engineer force of the Dominion, which, while preserving the existing companies, will ensure their efficiency and provide a nucleus for the necessary pontoon and telegraph trains which would be capable of gradual extension. The report further sketches out in much detail a practicable scheme which if carried out, would lead to the formation in the future, of a force of thorough, efficient engineers, but in the meantime the existing companies should devote themselves particularly to the simple field works required for placing in a state of defence a position, a village, or isolated locality, works of the greatest importance in the present condition of war. Instruction in signalling is also of consequence, and should be included in their course, and generally studied as far as possible throughout the service. It is considered better to know thoroughly the application of the simple works required on the field of battle so as to be able to instruct the infantry, than to have a mere smattering of the more technical advanced duties of engineers, to a thorough knowledge of which they cannot attain without an organized system of instruction.

This is as it should be, provided the time for training was extended. The Lieut.-General commanding refers to the time as being insufficient to produce efficiency in the infantry battalions—this is doubly the case with engineers and artillery. Encouragement should be given these branches of the service to carry out voluntary drills; unfortunately the efforts of commanding officers in this respect are not seconded by those who should take as much interest in it as they do themselves. We have heard of a captain being informed that he had no authority to assemble the men for voluntary drill, and that if the clothing of this men did not last the full term laid down by regulation, he would have to pay for it.

The necessity of troops being well grounded in discipline is strongly dwelt upon in the report.

Military drill is instituted to teach men how to stand, how to walk, how to comport themselves with accurate movement of body and limb how to sit on horseback with the best advantage to the animal and the rider; so is discipline inculcated in order that at first small, and by degrees larger bodies of men should conform to recognized laws enacted and issued for their guidance. It grounds and instructs the mind in that obedience to authority which distinguishes a body of soldiers armed and drilled for mutual defence of their country, from an unorganized crowd. The Articles of War, Mutiny Act, Queen's and Militia Regulations, and later the new Army Discipline Bill, are each and all compiled and circulated with that just object.

Discipline is the mainspring of every organization—without it an armed force, however well drilled, is liable to become a mob. Drill enables troops to carry out the various evolutions with unanimity and precision, but no amount of drill can compensate for want of discipline. There are many instances on record when the discipline of the British army has saved it from apparent annihilation. This discipline cannot be attained by drilling a few evenings per annum in a drill shed. Neither is discipline under fire brought about by fear of the law. The abilities of the leaders must be above suspicion. The faith of an army in its officers is the same as the faith of a nation in its rulers. "Faith supports an individual in his troubles; without faith in its rulers a nation faces danger with a consciousness of weakness which has already sounded the key note of surrender." The key note of discipline is in the following paragraph:—

If, as I ventured before, political considerations could be extinguished entirely from the volunteer force, the body itself more solidified by the reduction of certain of the less efficient companies and garrison batteries of artillerymen without guns, previously alluded to, the number of days' drill increased, the availability of camps of exercise, some rectification of the pay, just claims for contingencies quickly liquidated, and primary schools provided for officers and non-commissioned officers, the active force would be sufficiently effective to all practical intents and purposes. Even corps in rural districts would be comparatively no exception, and would be always as available for duty as the others whose conditions are now favorable.

This carried out, and our militia force would be a reality. Political or national qualifications do not fit a man for the mil-

itary profession. It has been truly said that "the vice which recognizes political over professional claims is the rust which grows on a form of government during the piping time of peace. In the friction of a nation's agony the rust disappears."

The formation of two regiments on the plan sketched in our last issue, under the heading "La defense du pays et la colonisation," supplemented by an Imperial reserve in Canada would do more than anything else to produce the required efficiency in our militia force.

In a few years the Royal Military College will send more than sufficient gentlemen specially fitted through training to officer such a force.

We would direct the attention of those interested—residing in our Maritime Provinces—to the valuable suggestions thrown out with reference to a naval reserve. We should have ships of our own whose special duty it would be to guard our coasts. The Imperial fleet might be called away for some important measure, perhaps lured away in order to admit the passage of a hostile cruiser up our rivers or bays; what would be the fate of St. John, N B, and the towns on our west coast, or the cities along the coast of British Columbia in such circumstances? Canada should certainly have a reserve of her own to assist in the protection of her coasts. These points (east and west coasts) require special attention being almost entirely open as far as the Dominion is concerned, to the possibility of attack from the sea. The following paragraphs deserve earnest consideration.

Since my long journey across the Prairie Territory and the Mountains to British Columbia in 1875, I have frequently urged the necessity for more completely protecting the only naval anchorage and dockyard on the shores of the Pacific Ocean. In the report of last year it was stated that the defence of Esquimalt might be considered as much an Imperial as a Dominion question, but that it intimately concerned the honor of both and the efficacy of British naval power in that region. Our security on the Pacific requires it to be well guarded; our fleets must keep the coast if necessary in all weathers, and they cannot do so without the important element in ample stock and prime quality of coal. The British navy is scattered over the Pacific, and there are no works of defence at Vancouver till last year; for the protection of our coal; nothing but British prestige, and companies of militia at Victoria and up the Fraser River works thrown up hastily last year when a Russian squadron appeared on the coast, rendered it necessary to despatch a squadron there during the past summer. Col. Lovell, Royal Engineer from Halifax, and Lieut.-Col. Strange, Royal Artillery, Quebec, have thoroughly examined and reported on the defences for defence of Vancouver and the seaboard of the mainland of British Columbia. This joint report I have not seen, but a separate report of Lieut.-Col. Strange, will be found in the appendix. A few remarks of a general military character may therefore be out of place on this subject, which can hardly be considered too carefully at this juncture. It would of course be necessary to hold the peninsula which is bounded on the one side by Esquimalt Basin, and on the other by the narrow inlet "The Gorge." There is a small neck of land at Portage separating these two sheets of water, and there the position is well entrenched. Signal Hill close to the Dockyard, dominates the harbour and the Royal Roads outside its entrance. This certainly be fortified. Rear Admiral de Horsey said to the effect: on examining the chart, the eye will be immediately struck with the capabilities of defence of this peninsula. The Defences of this peninsula, Signal Hill, is capable of being held by a few men, whilst at any time it be decided an opinion it is most desirable to fortify the peninsula, a made practically impregnable by placing redoubts on and overlooking the heights with a sufficient garrison. As regards Signal Hill he did not overlook the rule that guns should not be placed to draw the enemy's fire on the position they protect. This rule hardly applies to the present case, because from Signal Hill could scarcely be so bad as to strike the Dockyard seven hundred yards at right angles to its line.

I had previously urged the arming of Signal Hill, a command point whence to engage an enemy's ships approaching the harbour and to render Esquimalt Basin a shell trap for any vessels that might enter it.

Lieut.-Colonel Irwin considers the present sea defences of Victoria and Esquimalt, while efficient enough against small vessels, would hardly serve to prevent an iron-clad from either of them; the eight-inch nine ton gun on Brother's Point being the only armour-piercing gun to defend the latter. Naval stores are at present in an exposed position to naval attack, the site of the naval hospital and Hudson Bay store would be protected. Lieut.-Colonel Irwin does not consider the dock in an unsafe position, nor likely to be destroyed by enemy's fire. It would hardly be possible to muster militia enough in British Columbia to defend Victoria and Esquimalt from a combined land and sea attack. The Victoria peninsula presents many facilities for landing troops, but the city itself might be difficult to defend, it would be hazardous for an enemy to cross the Gorge, which is deep with a strong current and commanded by a ridge along its southern bank. Esquimalt would be tolerably secure, provided Signal Hill and Red Point had heavy guns, and the neck at Portage Inlet well entrenched. The guns should be manned by trained artillery and regular troops enough to keep the volunteers up to the mark and act as a reserve.

The question of the general utility of Esquimalt as a naval station, a coal depot would naturally depend upon its advantages as a pure and convenient harbour, a suitable base for supplies and facilities for repairing ships of war damaged at sea. The first of these better fulfilled there than would be probable at any of the other Sea Islands, while the completion of the graving dock would fill the latter. As a coal depot, however, the safety of Nanaimo, where the mines are situated must always be a most important consideration. Lieut.-Colonel Strange, alludes pointedly to this, did Lieut.-Colonel Irwin, and from my own knowledge I have no doubt the place presents facilities for easy defence against a naval attack. The above considerations however seem almost of secondary importance in view of the proposed railway terminus at Burrard Inlet. To any one who has seen the shipping at San Francisco, and noticed the business done by the Union and Central Pacific Railway, it must seem to be a matter of the very highest political and military importance to possess a naval station at what will be eventually the terminus of the great British American highway of commerce from beyond the Pacific.

The position of Esquimalt with reference to the Straits of San Pedro de Fuca, the Channels of Haro and Rosario, the entrance of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the general configuration of the locality, seems admirably adapted for protection and command. Once the railway is working order, the question of supplies, reliefs, &c., will receive the most satisfactory solution, and its otherwise unprotected position at Burrard Inlet seems to furnish the strongest arguments in favor of retaining Esquimalt, and rendering it thoroughly secure as a naval station and marine arsenal.

I almost doubt whether the value of the coal supply of Nanaimo is yet thoroughly understood or appreciated, either on this or the other side of the Atlantic. In 1875 for instance, the output was valued to be 110,000 tons; three companies at work with plant, including eighteen engines, six steam pumps, and tramway to the mines, which are 500 feet long, and sufficient depth of water for large ocean steamers.

The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway will eventually render the conveyance of reinforcements easy in time of war, and may be expected the ocean terminus will in time be located at Esquimalt or Barclay Sound; thus the present inadequate force of one battery of artillery and two infantry companies at Victoria should be soon relieved, but we must always rely also upon the Royal Navy, for Great Britain cannot possibly neglect the advantages Esquimalt affords as a strategic naval base in the North Pacific.

We should not overlook the progress in naval strength and resources which the Russians are rapidly developing at Petropavlovsk and Amour River; the former only 4,500 miles from Vancouver, the latter only 500 miles further. In the event of war, Russia might be in a position to harass not only Hong Kong and the China and Japan trade, but to send a squadron across the ocean in thirty days to attack the western sea board of the Dominion. This, unless properly fortified, would in the absence of the British squadron, be in some measure at the enemy's mercy. What the result would be of such a hostile descent upon these shores, where so many monuments of British industry and enterprise exist, must awaken grave thought. Great Britain cannot therefore withdraw her protection from her North Pacific possessions, which the Dominion has conjointly already spent a large sum in partially fortifying.

Naval history proves anything, it proves that the commander of a sea-going squadron must have full discretion, and that his success will be proportionate to his self-reliant genius, to restrict his quality may not be advantageous. Telegraphic communication on the other hand, is a very important element which cannot be overlooked; although it might not be prudent to send a continuous stream of instructions to the commander of a squadron, yet a telegraph must play an important part in future naval warfare. The telegraph wires running across the continent on British territory render it all the more important, that Vancouver should ever continue the naval base in the North Pacific.

On the opposite side of the continent Halifax is the imperial fortress, designed, heavily fortified and maintained as an important base in the North Atlantic. Our North Pacific fleet, struggling about a telegraphic base, without a secure and well fortified depot, dependant perhaps on an island in mid ocean for its land supplies, might sometimes be in a precarious condition. It must be foreseen that in a long naval war it might not be always possible to protect it. Were Esquimalt navy yard given up to an island in mid ocean substituted, the Pacific squadron could rely for coal upon New South Wales, England, but notably not upon Vancouver, perhaps all three. Wherever it comes from must be carried by colliers to its island point, and how many of the colliers might fall into the enemy's hands en route, supply them at sea with the dry material most needed. Now, where a dockyard and arsenal already exist, a graving dock for disabled ships in progress, unlimited coal deposits abundant forces at hand, and bye-and-bye by railway to be reinforced twelve days from Ontario, land batteries built and easily supplemented, a telegraph terminus, and perhaps not the least noteworthy feature, where a loyal and a brave people can be thoroughly drilled on to rally round, appears to stamp Esquimalt before other places in the Pacific as the proper naval base and coaling station.

If we withdraw from it might run the risk, in time of war, of being shut out of the Pacific, and supposing such a thing possible, and the enemy in possession of our stores and coals at the important base, Vancouver: he has shut us out entirely until a powerful squadron got round Cape Horn to recover our supremacy; and on that would that squadron have to depend, without any coaling base and at great disadvantage, in trying to recover that which we would never run the risk of jeopardizing. It would be wrong to decrease forces at a number of points of little use in a great war, an important position on which the supply of and communication with the North Pacific depends, must never be left to an enemy, nor yielded in any way.

The importance of Vancouver as a naval base and the consequences of losing it, renders the railway across the Dominion one of the most desirable and important concerns of the whole Empire; and for these reasons it is a desirable one. Vancouver Island should never be abandoned in our ships of war. Esquimalt is available for ships of any tonnage or draft of water to run into in a gale of wind by day or night, where they can anchor in from seven to nine fathoms in a landlocked basin.

It will be kept in view that Russia is the power against which we might have to take precautions, for with respect to our friendly neighbors over the border, we need hardly have any anxiety. It is true the United States frontier has been advanced, so that the channel entrance to Nanaimo from the southward can be commanded by American guns from the Island of San Juan, which we have allowed to become American ground. There is a military post, formerly the barrack of our Royal Marines, on the Island within sight of the City of Victoria, another at Port Townsend, about forty miles up Puget Sound, and another at Fort Vancouver, on the Lower Columbia River, the entrance to which is defended by heavy batteries near Astoria.

The United States are keenly sensible that fleets without well defended coaling stations and fortified bases accessible to the telegraph, and in military occupation, are dangerous to trust to in modern warfare, and hardly reliable alone to protect fixed points. But America is peopled to a large extent by descendants of our own race; she has the same language, the same traditions and aims as ourselves, developing amazingly side by side of our own family. Proud of our history as reflecting upon herself, she imitates and rivals our institutions, and she will, like ourselves, never encourage the art of war with a view of promoting that which she knows full well never can follow in the wake of a purely warlike policy, namely, wealth, social progress and material development for her people and her industries.

It was stated that during the recent Russo-Turkish campaign, there were eleven ships of war flying the Russian flag in San Francisco Harbor, all in first-rate order, carrying about 2,000 men, and more guns than in all our squadron from Chill to Vancouver. Their object may be taken to attack British possessions and commerce if we had been drawn into war. Might such an event not be possible in the future, and should not Esquimalt be thoroughly armed as a great naval base, telegraph and railway terminus in the North Pacific, and as a standard of efficiency and support should not at least one hundred marine artillerymen under the Admiral, and on the ship's books of the squadron, be stationed there?

**Dominion Artillery Association.**

**CIRCULAR No. 39.**

In accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting of the Council of the Dominion Artillery Association, on the 4th March, 1880, by which it was resolved that the prize presented by His Excellency the Governor General, be held this year by the officer commanding the most efficient Field Battery. The following scale of marks by which the efficiency of each Field Battery will be tested is published for general information.

Marks will be given by the Inspectors of Artillery at their annual inspection, as follows:—

Clothing and accoutrements .....	8
Guns, carriages and equipment .....	8
Horses.....	8
Harness and harnessing.....	12
Marching past—walk, trot, gallop.....	12
Standing gun drill and answers to questions on artillery, by N. C. Officers.....	24
Field manoeuvres .....	15
Selection of fighting positions and answers to questions from Field Artillery Manual on fighting tactics, (by officers)...	24
Each officer or man with S. G. certificate, 1st. to 4th.....	4 to 1
Each man with an efficiency badge, (1/4)....	25
Sword drill with mounted officers and N. C. officers.....	5
Dismounting and disabled ordnance .....	8
Discipline (including camping details).....	10

One tenth (1-10th) total score at competitive practice.

T. B. STRANGE, Lt.-Col., I. of A.,  
President of Council, D.A.A.

Quebec, 21st April, 1880.

The twenty-first annual prize meeting at Wimbledon of the National Rifle Association will begin on Monday, the 12th July. The camp will be ready for occupation on Saturday, 10th July. It is the intention of the council to revert to the custom of opening their gates to the public free of charge after evening gunfire during the meeting. The council will be glad to receive contributions in kind to be added to the list of "extra" prizes.



## The Gun Experiments at Erith.

To the Editor of the *Times*.

SIR.—It may be interesting to some of your readers to hear from an eye-witness to these experiments the impression they produced upon his mind, coming after the Ordnance experiments upon the 38-ton gun of Her Majesty's ship *Thunderer*.

Full accounts of both sets of experiments have appeared in your columns, and I need not repeat the details. It is necessary to remark, however, that an important inference which has gone the round of almost all the papers requires correction. That inference is that the explosion of the second gun of the *Thunderer*, experimentally fired, was exactly similar to that of the first. This, as I think, is altogether false. The second explosion was much more violent than that of the first gun. It split up the gun much more completely and in an essentially different manner. The mechanical indications, to my mind, are that the first gun split in consequence of a jamb caused by previous injury: while the second gun, which assuredly was double loaded, shows evidence of bursting from excessive pressure of the powder gases. Both the oral evidence of the witnesses at the inquiry and the condition of the fragments of the gun lead me to an entire disbelief in the theory of the committee's report, that the first gun which burst so disastrously was double loaded.

However that may be, the gun was confessedly not strong enough to bear double loading without disaster. Sir William Palliser's experiment was directed to show that there was no real difficulty in constructing a gun which would stand this test, without any increase of weight or expense, but simply by a proper distribution of material. He took an old cast-iron gun which had done duty in the Crimea, and had since been much knocked about by accidents (including injury from being struck by Russian shot), by exposure, and by experiments—private persons cannot afford 38-ton guns to break up; he lined it with a coiled barrel of soft iron, like that of a fowling piece or musket, only on a larger scale. It then weighed 560wt., or exactly one-eighth of the 38-ton gun. He began by firing it with a double charge of powder and shot, in exact proportion (namely, one to eight) to that which burst the *Thunderer*'s second gun, and he then proceeded to increase both charges, of powder as well as of shot, until, at the fifth round, the powder charges were one-fifth of those which burst the *Thunderer* gun, of eight times its weight, and the shot one-seventh. The result is that the gun has sustained but slight injury, a very small enlargement of the inner lining being all the damage done. There was no destructive or dangerous effect, unless the violent recoil, inevitable with double loading, can be so called. The increase of the charge, so far beyond the proportion between the weights, meets any question which can arise as to the fairness of a proportionate comparison between great and small.

The success of Sir William Palliser's experiment is probably due to a proper distribution of the different materials used in the gun. He puts the soft tube, having great extrusion, on the inside, where great extrusion has to be provided for, and the highly elastic, but unyielding material on the outside, where from the nature of things but little extrusion can take place. Sir William Palliser has no monopoly of a gun which will stand heavy charging; his only claim is that his soft iron gives notice before bursting. Sir Joseph Whitworth has shown that he also can meet the pressure test. It is the Woolwich gun (a gun turned inside out from what would be the proper mechanical arrangement, and built up in an insecure and incoherent fashion, to suit this inversion) which "was never designed to bear a double charge."

Some disappointment has been expressed that pressure gauges were not used by Sir W. Palliser. I share the disappointment. The reason for it is apparent—namely, the difficulty of procuring them in a reliable form at short notice without unduly delaying the experiments. But I am much more disappointed at the failure of the gauges in the Woolwich experiment with the 38-ton gun. This failure was rendered certain by the precaution previously taken that they should record no pressure under 38 tons to the square inch. It is, in my opinion, matter for serious investigation why the pressure gauges were so treated. An inquiry into this point is the more needed, inasmuch as the effect of this failure had the convenience of concealing from the public how little pressure was really required to burst the Woolwich gun; and, without imputing this as the result of design, it remains equally necessary on the supposition that it arose from ignorance of what was to be expected from it. Anyhow, the facts are against the treatment.

How does it happen that this condition of things has come about—that we have a bad system of artillery construction, obstinately adhered to and defended with the most persistent misrepresentation of fact and theory in the public press and at meetings of which an example is to be found in the statement generally circulated as to the identical character of the bursting of the two *Thunderer* guns, when there are among us those who know better and who can do and have done better? One proposed solution of this enigma is that our artillery manufacture has got into the hands of a small circle of officers whose education was completed 20 years ago or more, and who have educated all their juniors into a thorough belief in the system. Another solution, less satisfactory, has been sought in the large mercantile interests lying wholly outside this circle of artillery and ordnance authorities which are known to be involved in maintaining the reputation of the "Woolwich gun."

It is essential to us as Englishmen to secure the very best weapon we can procure. Instead of our now securing the best, we actually see the better guns made here for sale to those who may use them against us. This, in my humble opinion, is an urgent reason for an inquiry into the whole matter by a Royal Commission, on which independent scientific knowledge should be strongly represented.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

C W MERRIFIELD

## The Thunderer's Guns.

A *Times* correspondent writes:—

The remains of the second 38-ton gun have now been all collected, and a comparison can be made between them and

those of the gun which burst on board the *Thunderer*. It will be at once seen that the conclusion jumped at on the occasion of the second explosion is, at all events, premature, for the explosions are of completely different characters. In the first gun the bore is not expanded much beyond the broken edge of the steel tube which remains in the stump of the gun. In the second the bore is expanded and the steel tube is expanded over the whole of the space which had been occupied by the front charge of powder. In the first gun the huge band or jacket, which encircles the main body of the gun, and which weighs many tons, is quite intact, in the second it is burst from end to end, and a portion of it is blown clean away. When the first gun was fired the water compressor which checked the recoil was uninjured, but when the second gun was fired with two charges, the violence of the recoil was so great that it burst the compressor. In one word, the nature of the second explosion is much more violent than that of the first; the recoil was much greater, and the seat of the explosion was much further back towards the breech of the gun. Do not these facts prove that the first gun could not have been double loaded?"

## The Services and the Civil Engineers.

The following remarks of H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, Field Marshal Comdg. in chief are worth reading in connection with those of Lieut.-General Sir Edward Selby Smyth, on the subject of efficiency and politics. There are many points in the remarks of His Royal Highness especially applicable to us as Canadians.

The annual banquet of the Institute of Civil Engineers took place on Saturday last. Responding for the Army and Auxiliary Forces, the Duke of Cambridge said that of late years the Service had been subject to a great deal of criticism; but he thought of the whole that the devotion of both officers and men had been recognized in the recent contests in which the country had been engaged. Referring to the controversy on the length of service in the army he said that he wished to remain neutral; but he said it was necessary to hit upon a period of service. He noticed with pleasure the presence of his friend Lord Chelmsford, who, from his recent experience, could speak with authority on the subject but it might be put to them whether they would prefer workmen of skill or boys in anything that had to be undertaken. The point in dispute had not yet been settled, but he hoped it soon would be. Science, he hoped, would materially aid us to hold our own with the small force we possessed against other great countries of the world, but he was only speaking the sentiments of a soldier when he said that he wished to remain at peace with all. They might depend upon it, however, that a powerful man was much better off than a weak one. A weak man might have to submit to any insult, but a man on an equality with another neither insulted his neighbor nor was insulted himself. As with individuals, so it was with nations, and he therefore gladly found himself supported in the opinion that the efficiency of the Army, Navy, and Volunteer forces should be maintained. The army at the present moment was the most plucky element in the country, for the army knew no politics. Rather than see an army become political he would have no army at all. These, he believed, were not only his own sentiments, but the sentiments of the profession. There was a time when the Volunteers had not attained the proficiency which he was glad to say both the Militia and Volunteers had now attained. Those bodies were now powerful elements in the organized forces of the Empire. With regard to the Royal Regiment of Artillery and the Corps of Royal Engineers, he was proud to be the Colonel of those regiments, and speaking for them as well as himself, he would say that they entered cordially and heartily into all the great undertakings of the Civil Engineers.

A WRITER in *Notes and Queries* suggests that Mrs. Butler has committed an anachronism in her famous picture of the 23rd at Quatre Bras: representing the men wearing pantaloons instead of the old-fashioned breeches and long gaiters. It happens, however, that the artist is right and the querist wrong. In Colonel Cadell's *Narrative of the Campaigns of the 23rd Regiment*, published some forty years ago, the story of this article of clothing is told. When the troops were preparing for the Waterloo Expedition in 1815, three regimental commanding officers in Colchester Camp agreed to make trials of different patterns—the use of grey cloth trousers on field service having already become recognized. One regiment had their made like breeches, to wear with long black gaiters, another had theirs buttoning down the outer seams like splatterdashes, and the 23rd had theirs of modern shape. On the return of the troops, or rather the survivors, twelve months afterwards, notes were compared. The 23rd were still serviceably clad, the others were in tatters. And so the modern pattern came into general use on service. The Horse Guards Order directing the supply of "grey cloth pantaloons and short grey cloth gaiters instead of white breeches and long gaiters" to the depots of all regiments in the field was not issued, we believe, until 1814; and the old-fashioned costume was worn for parade purposes by the Foot Guards until many years later.—*Broad Arrow*.

## Distinguished Canadians.

In our last issue we published a copy of the Gazette conferring the Victoria Cross on Lieut. Dunn, 11th Hussars, for his bravery in front of the enemy. Many of our countrymen have served and are still serving in the Imperial Service with credit to themselves and honor to Canada. In continuation we give a short record of the services of General Sir W. F. Williams, Bart.

General William Fenwick Williams, K.C.B., D.C.L., 1st Baronet, second son of Thomas Williams, Esq. who was Commissary General Barrack-Master at Halifax, Nova-Scotia. Born 1801; was educated at Woolwich; entered the Royal Artillery as 2nd Lieut. 1823, became Captain 1840, was British Commissioner for the settlement of the Turco-Persian Boundary 1848, became Col. in the Army the next year, received the local rank of Brigadier-General while British Commissioner to the Turkish Forces 1855, gallantly defended Kars during the Crimean war, and received a pension of £1,000 for this service and his baronetcy, and was made a Major-Gen. in the Army; was General-Commandant at Woolwich 1856-9, appointed to the command of the British Forces in Canada the latter year, Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia 1855; was appointed a Lieut.-Gen. in the Army 1863, a General 1868; and is Col.-Commandant of the Royal Artillery; was M.P. for Calne 1856-9; was created a D.C.L. of Oxford 1856; has received the freedom of the city of London, the K.C.B., and the order of the Medjidie.—*Debris Magazine.*

The following extracts with reference to the Defence of Kars, are taken from "British Battles by Land and Sea."

On the 10th there was a great rising of the inhabitants of the town, who were desirous to aid in its defence, and applied to General Williams for arms. A large amount of muskets and ammunition was accordingly distributed amongst them. A fine old man named, "Inshallah I (please God) we bring scores of Ghiaours' arms and lay them at your feet, Veellama Pasha." The general told him that dead or wounded enemies were to be respected; and if any such savage conduct was practised, he would leave the town in disgust. Still he applauded the patriotic spirit shown by the inhabitants, and told the old man to assemble all the fighting men before the front of the musketry, and that he would see that they were organized and paid. "Wallah!" exclaimed the spirited old man, "we want no pay; give the money to the nizams, we are fighting for our religion and our harems, not for pay; we want ammunition and chiefs, and show us what to do, and Inshallah, you shall not find a coward amongst us. Everything was ready to receive the anticipated attack, and each English soldier was assigned his post. It is astonishing, observed a spectator, how the Turks confide in the energy of Englishmen in the hour of danger. As to General Williams, he had become an immense favorite with the Turkish soldiers. "They see him everywhere," said Dr. Sandwith; "he is with the sentries at the menaced point the morning has dawned, anon he is tasting the soldier's soup, examining the bread; and if anything is wrong here his wrath is terrible. His eyes are everywhere, and he himself ubiquitous. A soldier feels that he is something more than a neglected part of a rusty machine, he knows he is cared for and encouraged, and a confident of being well led.

A period of dreary inaction followed, broken only by trivial mishaps at the outposts. The Lazistan Irregulars became disaffected, and said that they came to fight, not to be starved. The Turks, however, suffered patiently, and no sort of despondency tinged the face of General Williams. "He was thin, certainly, but could not well be thinner; but no wonder for he never seemed to sleep. Long ere daylight broke, he was with the sentries of the camp, the point nearest to the Russian camp, and his glass scanned every movement; then he was by the side of the musketry, and the greater part of the day, anon he was encouraging the Lazouks, and settling their differences, or anxiously arranging some plan for feeding the townspeople; and, in our little confidential gossip on the state of affairs, he would impress upon the duty of maintaining a bright and hopeful bearing, since all the garrison looked up to us for encouragement."

Details of the horrors suffered by the wretched soldiers and inhabitants of Kars from this period, until, when exhausted by famine, they surrendered to a foe whom they had once so gloriously defeated, is appalling and hideous. The tortures of disease were added to the pangs of hunger. During the excitement of the cholera, from which the troops had been suffering, appeared, but in the time of listless apathy which followed, returned with greater violence. The wounded especially fell victims, for their feeble conditions invited disease. The hospitals were crowded with sick and wounded troops, but that which they most wanted—nourishment—could not be given them. Animal food, not even horseflesh, was now served out to the soldiers, the rations of the soldiers consisted of nothing but coarse bread, and a soupy thing called soup, but made of water and yeast only. Some unhappy soldiers, overcome by disease and starvation, and abandoned by hope, crept into dead houses, and died there in hideous solitude. A terrible plague was coming over the men, they were visibly emaciated; tottered in their walk; their faces were gloomy and haggard; their eyes were bloodshot and wildish. Some poor wretches tempted by the high price of bread in the city to sell their miserable rations; but those who did this sank and died at their posts. Grass was torn up in every open space where it could be had, and the roots greedily devoured. Outside the city swarms of vultures were to be seen preying on the mangled corpses which hungry dogs had scratched out of their shallow graves. All was borne with the hope that the Russians would be compelled to retire, or that the garrison of Kars might be relieved by Solomani Pasha, who had landed at Trebizond with a considerable army, by Omar Pasha, whom they supposed to be advancing to their defence.

These hopes were not to be fulfilled. The desperate wretchedness of the soldiers and townspeople was getting still more hideous. Cats were sold for a hundred piastres each, for the sake of food. A daring peasant, who contrived to bring a load of onions into the town, found an instant sale for them at sixty piastres the oke, or twelve shillings for two pounds and a-half. The few horses that were left had their throats cut to prevent them from dying of starvation, and the flesh of these emaciated brutes was regarded as a luxury. On a few occasions small stores of corn, sugar, and coffee were found buried by the jealous owners beneath their houses. The precious luxuries were distributed to the troops and people; but the relief was but trifling. One day twenty men were brought into the hospital in consequence of their having, to satisfy their desperate cravings, eaten some poisonous root, but none of the cases proved fatal. To these horrors others were added, by the occasional execution of deserters or spies. One of the latter, an Armenian, who was hanged in the market-place, was detected by a paper about him, on which was written, "Wait a little longer; the troops are starving, the pashas are fighting among themselves; they will soon capitulate."

Soldiers were sent to the hospitals in large numbers, in a state of exhaustion from starvation. Their voices were very feeble, and claimy cold pervaded their bodies, and many of them expired without a struggle. Some of the stronger among them were recovered by the administration of horse-flesh broth. Many poor wretches, livid and emaciated, died within an hour or so after their admission. Frequently a hundred men perished in the hospitals during the day and night, while others went mad or became idiotic from the sufferings they had undergone. Yet the endurance of those unhappy men was wonderful, and almost sublime in its appalling heroism. Dr. Sandwith observed—"With hollow cheeks, tottering gait, and that peculiar feebleness of voice so characteristic of famine, yet they clung to their duties. I have again and again seen them watching the batteries at midnight, some standing and leaning on their arms, but most crouched up under the breastwork during cold as intense as an Arctic winter, scarcely able to respond to or challenge the visiting officer; and in answer to a word of encouragement or consolation, the loyal words were ever on their lips, 'Padiisah sagh ossoon' (long live the Sultan!). It would seem that the extremity of human feeling called forth latent sparks of a loyalty and devotion not observed in seasons of prosperity."

Still the garrison held out, and the work of starvation went on with increasing grimness and horror. Children dropt and died in the streets, and every morning skeleton-like corpses were found in various parts of the camp. One day a peasant managed to elude the vigilance of the Russians, and to drive a lame buffalo, laden with a bag of flour, into the city. He made his fortune by the extravagant sum he obtained for it. The relief was but momentary. The soldiers deserted in large numbers, and discipline was almost at an end. At one time the poor fellows had almost worshipped General Williams; and when he appeared they gathered round him, only too happy, if, after the Eastern fashion, they could but touch the hem of his garment, in token of their submission and respect. Now these very men refused to salute him, and turned their eyes away when they saw him approach. Some of the townspeople crowded round him as he rode out from his quarters, and entreated him, with all the eloquence of despair, to seek some means of putting an end to their misery. Wretched women forced themselves into his very room, and laying their pallid, famine-stricken children at his feet, implored him rather to kill them than to let them perish from want.

On the 16th of June—two days after the meeting to which we have just alluded—General Williams returned from captivity (if the treatment he received makes it correct to use that term, in Russia, and set his feet again on English land at Dover. He was expected, and received with enthusiasm, both by the authorities and the inhabitants of the town. The former having escorted him to the "Royal Ship" hotel, an address of congratulation was then presented to him. The general returned thanks in an earnest and effective speech, a passage or so of which we will quote as worthy of remembrance. Having paid a tribute to the memory of his brave companion-in-arms, Captain Thompson (who, exhausted and worn out in consequence of the trying duties he had performed, had just expired at Paris), he exclaimed—"Woe to that nation that forgets the military art! Woe to that nation which heapes up riches but does not take the caution to defend them. I have passed through *armed Europe*, and I take this earliest opportunity of uttering a warning to those who forget the military art!" With reference to himself, he said—"I must tell you that in passing through Russia, from one end of the empire to the other, I have experienced in no small degree the friendship and charm of Russian society. When I arrived at St. Petersburg, the emperor received me in so kind a manner that nothing could have exceeded it. That kindness was repeated at Berlin, where no man could have been received with greater honour. The King of Prussia and the young prince, who is at present in England, and is soon to be allied to England by ties more close and binding than at present, met me at the head of the troops, and treated me with the greatest possible consideration. I return them my most sincere thanks, from this British ground. The kindness and consideration which were vouchsafed to me in Russia and Germany were repeated in France, when I arrived among our glorious and brave allies. God grant that that alliance may hold good for many years to come! The day before yesterday I was presented to the Emperor, from whom, some time since, I had the distinguished honor of receiving the cross of commandeur of the Legion of Honour. I was sorry that, having sent it to England, I was unable to wear it on the occasion. I expressed that regret to the Emperor, and explained the reason. His majesty immediately rose from his seat and said, 'I will get you another. In a moment he brought me out the star of grand commander of the order. I felt that the act was towards the English nation, not towards me.' After partaking of *godfever* with the authorities of Dover, General Williams took train to London, where other honours awaited him. Amongst these was his appointment to the command at Woolwich. As an artillery officer, General Williams had been able to aspire to but few high commands. Woolwich, however, educates the scientific part of the army; and, whether the artillery are competent to command troops or not, it cannot be doubted but that they may be well selected to preside over the central and chief school of the British army."

Upon General Williams, honours fell almost in showers. He was elected by the electors of Calne to represent them in Parliament. On the 29th of June he was invited to a banquet, given for the purpose of doing him honour at the Army and Navy Club. In responding to the enthusiasm with which his name was received, the general thus generously included his companions-in-arms in the ovation:—"My career—



whatever it may have been—which has been received with so much honour,—my history, is associated with that of both my brothers who are present here this evening. But I must tell you there sits Colonel Lake—there sits the man who was continually by my side, working by day at the fortifications, and watching unceasingly by them at night. There too sits Teesdale. Alas! Thompson is no more. I cannot present him to you; but I can assure you that they never would have lived until the eventful day of the 25th of September, if I had not laid upon them the iron hand of discipline. For, day by day, they were engaged with the enemy, and it was only my stern word of command which preserved them up to the last day of the struggle. Let me also point out to you my young secretary—a youth, whom I took with me from his mother, and who proceeded step by step in his career, until the eventful day, when, taking command of a battery, he did most essential service to our cause. I wish to associate myself with these my gallant companions-in-arms, and to share with them the honour which you have bestowed upon me." After speaking in high terms of the Turkish soldiers under his command, General Williams said a sounding compliment to those of the late enemy. "I wish," he observed, "to say also a word respecting the army of General Mouravieff—that splendid army, that army of polished steel. I assure you it was magnificent. It was with the greatest devotion to their sovereign that they came down upon us from day-dawn to sun-set, for seven mortal hours; and although they sustained the most severe losses, there was not a single moment of hesitation in the efforts and movements of that fine army. They came forward, attack after attack, in a manner which would have gladdened the heart of every soldier to have seen. When they were assailed by a fire as well directed as ever came from a position, they never recoiled until the moment they were ordered to do so; and when the game was up, they treated us like friends and brothers. They sacrificed themselves in the most splendid, most beautiful manner; they detached themselves from the flanks of the columns, they came forward and made walls of themselves in front of their batteries. When we came to mix among them, only two months after this terrible infliction, as the Turks would say, 'there was not an evil eye among them;' there was the eye of friendship, and the hand of a comrade, from one end of Russia to the other."

The freedom of the City of London, together with a sword of the value of a hundred guineas, was presented to General Williams; and, on the 6th of July, a grand banquet was given in his honour at the Mansion-house, at which a long list of noble, military, and political celebrities attended.

Yet another sumptuous and magnificent dinner, with the same object, was given by the members of the Reform Club on the 12th of July. Every preparation was made to give due *clat* to the occasion. The exterior of the club was brilliantly illuminated; the word "Kars" being conspicuously exhibited in gas letters over the principal entrance, and the dining-hall was profusely decorated with arms, flags, banners, and laurel-wreaths, tastefully grouped into appropriate devices. On this occasion, General Williams, in alluding to his recent election to occupy a seat in Parliament, observed:—"I enter the House of Commons solely that I may, on fitting occasions, offer to the country my opinions on military matters, with which I have, perhaps, some acquaintance, and also on the affairs of the East. On these two questions, and no others do I take my seat. It is quite impossible that a man who has served his sovereign for thirty-two years, twenty-seven of which have been passed abroad, can have anything to do with the party politics of this country; and, moreover, as I stated to my constituents, I am wholly untinged by interested views or personal ambition. I trust that my future conduct will bear out these professions. I hope I do not flatter myself when I say, I believe that I am looked upon by the people of England with a certain degree of respect, and, perhaps I may presume to add, affection, and the expression of my convictions, at suitable opportunities, may be of some little service. At the same time I feel equally confident that if I venture to dabble in things which I don't understand—if I once attempt to go beyond my depth, I shall forfeit all the influence I have acquired."

### Major-General Luard.

Major-General R. G. A. Luard, the successor to Sir Selby Smyth in the command of the Auxiliary Forces in the Dominion of Canada, was educated at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and obtained his first commission without purchase, in 1845. He served as adjutant of the Buffs from 1848 to 1850, and was employed during the disturbances in Ireland in 1848 under the present Sir Charles Van Straubenzee, at Piltown. On obtaining his company in 1853, he exchanged from the Buffs into the 62nd Light Infantry, with a view to seeing active service in India. The war with Russia occurring not long after his arrival in India, Captain Luard arranged an exchange to see service in the Crimea, and joined the 7th Regiment before Sebastopol, on the 1st March, 1855. He was in the trenches at the taking of the Quarries with the 7th, and as brigade-major to Colonel Van Straubenzee's brigade, took part in the attack on Sebastopol on the 18th June. Soon after this he joined the headquarter staff as deputy assistant adjutant-general under the present Lord Longford, and was present at the assault on the Redan, 8th September, 1855 (brevet of major, medal with clasp, Sardinian and Turkish medals, and 6th class of the Medjidie). On his return to England in 1855, he was appointed brigade-major to the 1st Brigade in Dublin, and in 1857 accompanied his brigadier, Major-General Straubenzee, to China. On his way out he went to Calcutta to offer his services for the suppression of the Indian Mutiny, but was ordered on to China. As brigade-major to Colonel Graham's Brigade, he was at the assault and capture of Canton, 23rd December, 1858 (mentioned in despatches). In 1859 he was taken so seriously ill that he was sent home to England and did not thoroughly recover from the effects of the illness for many years. While serving in 1859 as aide-de-camp to Sir James Scarlett, commanding at Portsmouth, he was obliged through ill health to decline a majority in the 7th Regiment in India. In 1860 he was appointed one of the first assistant inspectors of Volunteers, which appointment he held until 1865. Colonel Luard was also offered in 1861 an appointment to drill the Canadian Militia, but was obliged again to decline by his doctor's advice. In 1855, being anxious to return to regimental work, he exchanged from half-pay into the 62nd Regiment, which he joined as Major at Aldershot, and accompanied to Plymouth in command of a wing. Here his health again told against him, so he retired to temporary half-pay. In 1863 he was for a short time acting aide-de-camp to Sir James Scarlett, at Aldershot, and then thinking country life in England would benefit his health, he accepted the adjutancy of the 1st Ad-

ministrative Battalion Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers. In 1873 he went as assistant military secretary to Sir William O'Grady Haly, commanding the forces in Canada, and remained at Halifax two and a half years. He returned home in 1876, and was appointed to the staff as assistant adjutant a quartermaster-general to the northern district, serving at Manchester until promoted major-general, 1st October, 1877. Major-General Luard is the son of the late Lieut.-Colonel John Luard who served as a midshipman in the Royal Navy for some years and then with the 4th Light Dragoons in the Peninsula, and with the 10th Light Dragoons at Waterloo and at Bhurtpore in 1826, when he commanded a squadron of the 10th Light Dragoons on the first occasion when the lance was used by British cavalry against an enemy. Colonel Luard was author of "The History of the Dress of the British Army."

The Map of the Plains accompanying this issue has been kindly supplied by the proprietor of the "Morning Chronicle," Quebec. It will be re-issued with that paper on the 24th instant.

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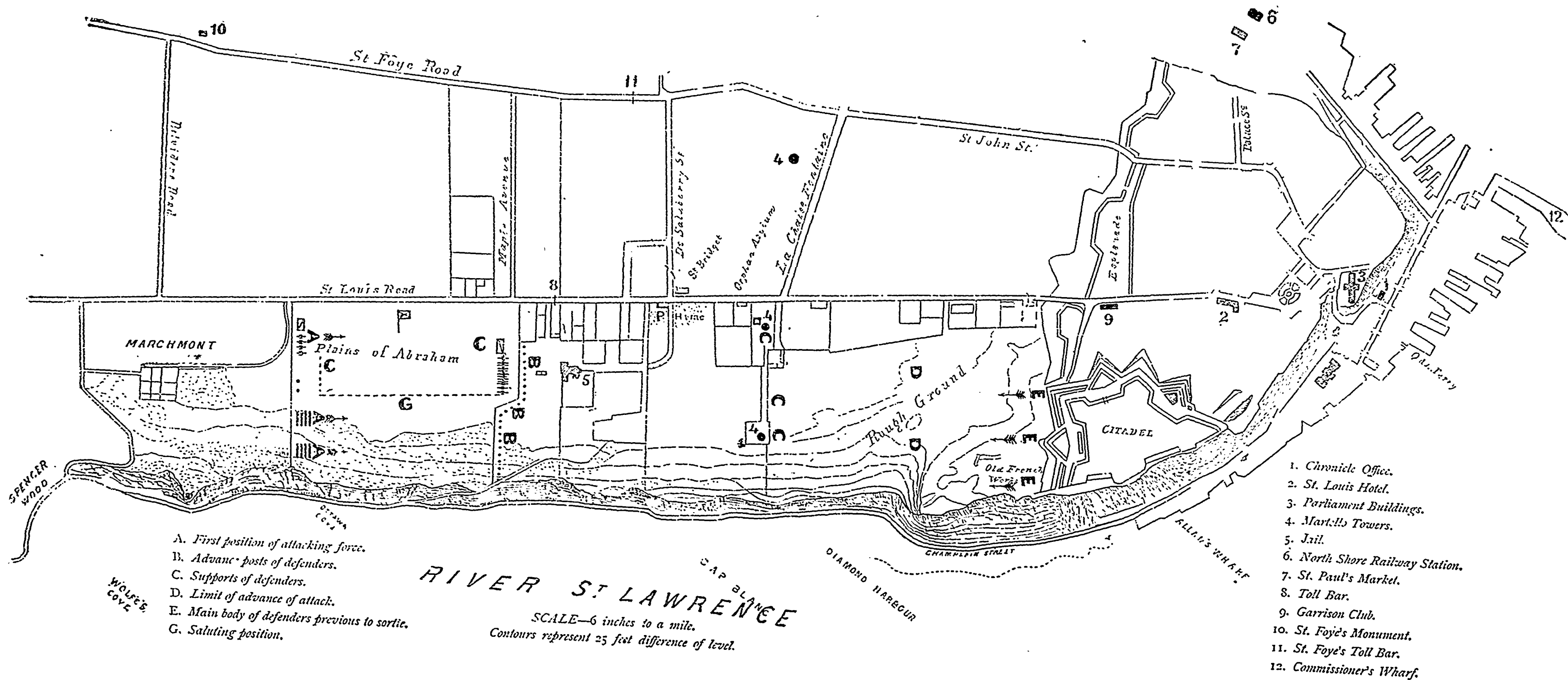
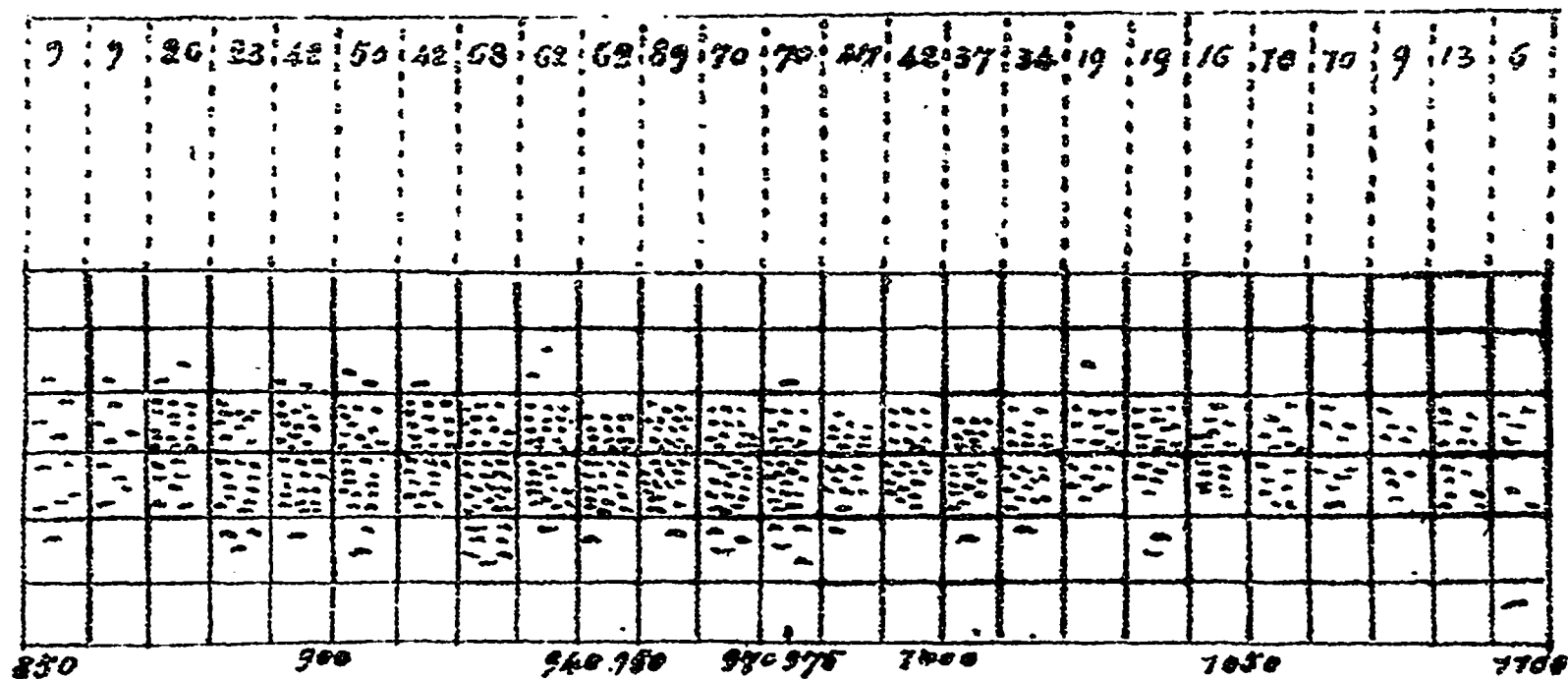


Fig. 2.



Fernand Morin - Canonier.

Tir de l'Infanterie aux grandes distances.

