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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. X.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, JUNE 13th, 1876.

No. 23

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer Movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

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

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

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

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

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

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First insertion, measured by } 10cts. per line.
solid nonpareil type. }
Subsequent insertions..... 5cts. " "
Professional Card six lines or under, \$6 per year; over six lines and under fifteen, \$10 per year.
A. Announcements or Notices of a personal or business nature. In the Editorial, Local or Correspondence columns, Twenty-Five Cents a line for the first insertion and 12 1/2 Cents for each subsequent insertion.
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Special arrangements of an advantageous character made with Merchants for the Year, Half Year or Quarter.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "WITNESS."

THE friends of healthy literature have, by persevering diligence, placed the *Montreal Witness* in the very first rank of newspapers. The rapid growth of trashy reading, and of what is positively vile, stimulating good people to more earnest efforts than ever to fill every household with sound mental food. A clergyman has lately secured for the *Witness* hundreds of subscribers, and declares his intention to make this one of his first duties in his present and every future field of labor, as he holds that by no other means could he do so much for the future of a neighborhood as by placing good reading in every family.

Successive attacks upon the *Witness* during each of the past three years, originating in what has been called "The Ban" of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Montreal; although not otherwise desirable circumstances, have done a great deal to concentrate and intensify the zeal of the friends of Temperance and religious liberty in

favor of the *Witness*. Indeed, the fact that the last assault has been followed up for six months with the most untiring efforts to break down the paper on the part of the most powerful moral opposition that could be organized on earth, and has resulted in cutting us off from some, at least, of those Roman Catholic readers whose good will we formerly enjoyed and highly prized, gives us perhaps, some claim on the kind offices of those who value free speech and freedom of religious belief. The actual diminution of the circulation of the *Daily Witness* is of course, comparatively small, amounting to about 500 out of 15,000, or less than four per cent., and does not affect us peculiarly, as we can still claim a circulation equal in volume to that of all the rest of the daily city press, probably the majority of our old Roman Catholic reading being such still.

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

Year	Cir. Dally.		Cir. Semi-Weekly	
	1st Sept.	1st Sept.	1st Sept.	1st Sept.
1871	10,700	3,000	8,000	3,000
1872	10,000	3,000	9,000	3,000
1873	11,000	3,000	10,750	3,000
1874	12,900	3,800	17,000	3,800
1875	12,400	3,200	10,700	3,200

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

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

The *Weekly Witness* has been enlarged twice, and nearly doubled within four years, and is the very most that can be given for the price—\$1.10 per annum.

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

The *Daily Witness* is in every respect a first class daily containing much more reading matter than the papers which cost twice as much, for \$3.00 per an.

All of course, are post-paid by Publishers. Subscribers remitting new subscriptions beside their own are entitled to the following discounts on such subscriptions:

Daily Witness	10%
Tri-Weekly	15%
Weekly	25%

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "CANADIAN MESSENGER."

THE PIONEER PAPER.

The *Messenger* is designed to supply the homes of the Sunday School scholars of America with family reading of the most useful and interesting sort at the lowest possible cost. It consists of eight pages of four columns each, and contains a Temperance department, a Scientific department, a Sanitary department, and an Agricultural department. Two pages are given to family reading, two to a large type for children, and

one to the Sunday School lessons of their ternational Series, and a children's column. The paper is magnificent illustrated. There has been a very rapid increase in its circulation during the past year, namely, from 15,000 to 25,000, and the rate of increase rises so rapidly that the proprietors have sanguine hopes of doubling the latter figure before the end of next year. There has been, as a result of this prosperity, some improvement in the style of the paper, and it will, of course, be possible to introduce more and more improvements as circulation grows. Most of the great circulation of the *Messenger* has been by the voluntary recommendation of it by friends who have formed their own opinion of its worth, and by the introduction of it into Sunday Schools. Young people say that their Sunday Schools are more interesting and better attended since it has been introduced.

The following are the prices of the *Messenger*

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

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

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876 OF THE "NEW DOMINION MONTHLY."

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

LIST OF PRIZES.

- To the person sending the largest amount of money on or before 1st Nov., as payment in advance for our publications..... \$50 00
- To the person sending 2nd largest amt 40 00
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- " " 4th " 20 00
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have now (it is estimated) an audience of One Hundred and Ninety-five Thousand Readers, which makes them the most widely circulated and influential newspapers published in Canada.

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That it is the **FAS"EST-CUTTING SAW** in the world.

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

E. M. BOYNTON,

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\$5 TO \$20 per day at home. Samples worth \$1 free. BRINSON & Co., Portland, Maine, 1y-10

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Drs. PARK & McLEISH,

No. 21 East 16th Street, New York.

\$12 a day at home. Agents wanted. Outfit and terms free. TRUB & CO., Augusta, Maine. 1y-10

THE WEEKLY SUN.

1776. New York. 1876.

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

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

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

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

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

The WEEKLY SUN, eight pages with fifty-six broad columns is only \$1.20 a year postage prepaid. As this price barely repays the cost of the paper, no discount can be made from this rate to clubs, agents, Postmasters, or anyone.

The DAILY SUN, a large four page newspaper of twenty-eight columns, gives all the news for two cents a copy. Subscriptions, postage prepaid, \$3 a month or \$3.60 a year. SUNDAY edition extra, \$1.10 per year. We have no travelling agents.

Address, THE SUN, New York City.

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A prominent New York physician lately complained to DUNDAS DICK & CO. about their SANDALWOOD OIL CAPSULES, stating that sometimes they cured miraculously, but that a patient of his had taken them without effect. On being informed that several imitations were sold, he inquired and found his patient had not been taking DUNDAS DICK & CO'S.

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

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

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

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

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

Soft Capsules are put up in tin-foil and neat boxes, thirty in each, and are the only capsules prepared by chemists.

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

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Send for Circular to 35 Wooster street, N. Y.

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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. X.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1876.

No. 22.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

H. M. S. *Bellerophon*, Vice Admiral Sir Ashley Cooper, K.G., arrived at Halifax on the 6th inst.

Advices received from the Magdalen Islands, to the 5th inst., say the number of vessels engaged in the herring fishery, which has just terminated, is greater than for many years. Over ninety sails obtained full cargoes, and cleared for ports in the United States and the Dominion. Mackerel have not yet struck in; codfish struck in first of June, but are not abundant.

The *Star* says—"The Montreal Rifle Club have decided to compete for the N. R. A. medal and other prizes on Saturday, the 17th inst. The conditions appear to be very similar to those in the Queen's prize at Wimbledon. Two of the members are going to Wimbledon this summer, and will likely do their best to win this medal, as winners of these medals have the privilege of competing in the Prince of Wales' match the first time they attend the Wimbledon meeting."

A cable despatch from Melbourne states that all the Fenian prisoners confined in Western Australia have escaped from there on the American whale-ship *Catalana*.

The Montreal *Star* says—"A private of No. 5 Company Victoria Rifles was summoned before the Police Magistrate to answer to a charge of failing to return his uniform to the store when ordered to do so by the officer commanding his company. Having handed in his uniform, and expressing regret, the charge was withdrawn upon payment of costs, amounting to \$4.80. The service suffers considerably by the delay in returning the uniform, which arises from no disposition on the part of the delinquents to retain it, but simply from neglect. The decision of the Magistrate should be a warning to Volunteers to promptly forward the uniform to headquarters."

The vote for the Duke of Connaught's establishment on his marriage with the Princess Frederica, daughter of the ex King of Hanover, will be submitted to Parliament at this session.

During the debate in the Senate, on the 9th on the new Constitution, the Bishop of Salamanca said the Spanish prelates would always oppose religious toleration as incompatible with Catholicism.

It is stated that the Duke of Edinburgh will in a few weeks be promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral. His Royal Highness attained his rank as Captain on the 6th Feb., 1866, without having held the rank of Commander, and has thus over ten years standing as a Post-Captain. There is a precedent for this step, as his late Majesty King William IV. was promoted in the same manner. It

is further stated that on the promotion of Vice Admiral the Hon. Sir Jas. Drummond, K.C.B., the present Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, his Royal Highness will succeed to the command.

The Dublin University Boat Club has organized an under-graduates crew for Saratoga, consisting of Ambrose, an experienced oar, Peola, whose first public performance was in the crew which won the Liffey cup at the last Metropolis regatta, Towers, the well known athlete, and Cowen, stroke, well known at Henly, where, last year, he was stroke of the crew which won the Ladies Plate. Professor Leslie, Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, and member of the Boat Club, has promised to contribute largely toward the expenses of the crews. A team of Irish Cricketers, selected from the best men of Dublin and provincial clubs, will also go to America in August.

It is officially announced that a report has been drawn up and signed by nineteen physicians of different nationalities, which certifies that the death of Abdul Aziz resulted from the opening of veins and arteries below the bend of the left arm and veins of the right arm. All the Ministers attended the funeral of the late Sultan.

The Porte officially notified the foreign ambassadors of Mourad's accession, and demanded recognition.

The recognition of Mourad by all the Powers is now considered certain.

Very contradictory are the despatches about the prospects of agreement between the Great Powers, but the disturbing telegrams come from Vienna, which place furnishes much unreliable news. The best authenticated statement seems to be that the memorandum of the Berlin Conference will not be presented to the Porte, as satisfaction has been given for the Salonica outrage, an armistice granted, and the guarantees for the reforms are expected to be accorded spontaneously. If Serbia makes war on Turkey, present appearances are in favor of the powers letting them fight it out themselves as the Turkish policy under the new Sultan is favorably regarded.

The Servian Government on renewed recommendations of the Russian representative has decided not to enter into hostilities against Turkey. The Prince of Montenegro has openly assumed command of the insurgents, and is concentrating his entire force at Padgaritz. He had refused the proposed offer of amnesty. The Servians continue to despatch troops to the frontier and insurgents to Bosnia and Bulgaria.

In the House of Commons, June 9th, Mr. Disraeli said the memorandum was withdrawn because the Porte had anticipated some important points, and granted an armistice to the insurgents.

England's refusal to accept the memorandum had not been received by the Powers in an unfriendly spirit, but with great regret. The Great Powers agreed to recognize Murad without the usual delay. The necessary credentials were sent to the English Ambassador at Constantinople. Mr. Disraeli related further that the letter purporting to bear his signature which was recently published in Vienna stating that England will know how to resist the Muscovite aggression is a forgery.

The Porte has courteously asked Serbia to explain the meaning of her armaments. This request is not made in a threatening manner or as an ultimatum.

A Berlin despatch says the Czar has prevailed upon Serbia to adopt a peaceful policy.

It is semi-officially stated that the representatives of Russia in Servia and Montenegro have again been ordered to use their influence to prevent any warlike demonstration. The assurance was given at the same time that Russia would take care that the Porte gave effect to the guarantees for the execution of reforms.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—"To judge from the spoken and printed sentiments of the adherents of the Austrian Government, it might be assumed that Count Andrassy contemplates the possibility of abandoning Russia, and adopting the English view of Eastern affairs. The *Ruski Mir*, organ of the St. Petersburg Slavonic party already regards the war as imminent and begins to discuss in what localities the Austrians will probably be concentrated to resist the Russian attack. The fear of such an article being published with impunity is a serious matter for reflection."

A special despatch from Berlin to the *Standard* and *Telegraph* says, considerable uneasiness has been created here by the sudden return of Prince Bismark from Lauenburg for protracted conferences with the Emperor. The uneasiness is increased, by the announcement that the Emperor's departure for Ems is postponed.

The *Standard's* special says, rumor connects these events with certain exaggerated claims made on Germany for support by Russia in her eastern policy, which, Prince Bismark, it is reported, is not inclined to sanction.

The Chevalier Nigra, the newly appointed Ambassador of Italy to St. Petersburg, has arrived at Ems. He had a long conference with Prince Gortschakoff. It is believed that he has a mission in harmony with the policy of England, and that Gortschakoff will accept the basis thereby proposed.

A six weeks' armistice has been agreed upon between the Turks and the insurgents.

We present our readers with the substance of a lecture, delivered by Lieutenant Colonel C. B. BRACKENBURY, R. A., before the Royal United Service Institution on 28th April, on the "Tactical form of Modern Artillery."

We have to thank T. D. SULLIVAN, Esq., Librarian of the Institution, for a proof copy of this interesting lecture.

After a few prefatory remarks Lieutenant Colonel Brackenbury said—I do not propose to inflict on you even a sketch of the history of field artillery, but it is necessary for the understanding of our subject that we should bear in mind how modern anything like a manœuvring field battery is. As late as 1779 the artillery train dispatched with the expedition to the Low Countries had to be improvised for the occasion. The guns, attached in pairs to battalions, were drawn by heavy horses driven by Dutch wagoners who walked beside their teams with long whips. Though Napoleon the First improved his artillery so that he and his generals won great battles by its daring employment in masses, the English entered on the Peninsular war with our field artillery in a very poor condition. Shortly after the commencement of the Peninsular war, Wellington wrote: "I shall be obliged to leave Spenser's guns behind for want of means of moving them, and I should have been obliged to leave my own if it were not for the horses of the Irish commissariat." A little later, before the battle of Vimiera (1808) he said: "Our artillery horses are not what we ought to have; they have great merit in their way as cart horses of dragoons and Irish cart horses, bought for £12 each! but are not fit for an army that, to be successful and carry things with a high hand, ought to be able to move." The carriages were in no better condition. Napier says that the pursuit of the enemy after Vimiera had to be stopped because "the artillery carriages were so shaken as to be scarcely fit for service." Even so late as the battle of the Alma the guns sent over the river at a critical period had to be worked partly by officers because the gunners toiling on foot could not keep pace with them. In the present day even field batteries can move for short distances at a gallop, carrying the gunners requisite for the service of the pieces, while the fire of the guns has increased to an extent which would then have been considered impossible. Therefore, in trying to estimate the modern place of field battery, we need not study old wars, but may confine ourselves to examples taken from the last war with France and Germany. The battles round Metz are especially interesting both because the Germans there met the flower of the French army, and because a German artillery officer, Captain Hoffbauer, has given us a most careful and instructive account of the work of his own arm in those engagements.

The lecturer then proceeded to describe, in detail, so far as the action of artillery was concerned, the battles of Borny, Mars la Tour (Vionville), Gravelotte, and Sedan, and then gathering together the main lessons to be learned from these battles, observed:—

The artillery was, as a rule, pushed forward in advance of the infantry, with the object of gaining time and establishing a superiority of fire early in the battle, so that the infantry should suffer as few losses as possible, and not be delayed longer than necessary before attacking. This was done in every case, whether the enemy were superior or inferior in strength. We find the artillery always able to hold its ground when attacked by infantry in front in any formation, even as skirmishers, but suffering terribly, and

sometimes obliged to retreat from infantry lying down behind cover, or in folds of the ground. In such cases there was always felt the want of some troops fitted to dislodge the annoying skirmishers. Good work was done at both very long and very short ranges from 4,000 paces (about 3,200 yards), down to 300 or 400 paces. Whenever it was possible, the batteries closed to 1,000 or 1,500 yards, but frequently the nature of the ground, or their position on the flanks of long lines, prevented anything like near approach to the enemy. The shortest ranges for offensive purposes varied between 1,200 and 800 paces. The artillery on several occasions broke off from the fight in which it was immediately engaged and made flank marches in presence of the enemy. But here we must remember that the French artillery was decidedly inferior. Whenever it could be done, the batteries were massed in long lines, under the fire of which nothing could continue to exist in formation, and this habit became more fixed as the Germans gained experience. The losses were almost entirely in men and horses; the batteries continued in action at the same place after extremely heavy losses, and if too hard pressed, succeeded in carrying off their guns. Guns sometimes held their ground when infantry had to retire. We shall come to the reason of this hereafter. There are no means of ascertaining the actual losses of the enemy by artillery fire. If we could know them, they would be found trifling compared with what they will be in the next war, for the Prussians had no shrapnel, only common shells, and no range finders. Their guns were not so powerful as ours, or as theirs are now. Since the war of 1870, artillery has made certain definite advances. We shall see the effect of them the next two great nations take up arms. Meanwhile, for want of actual war, we must get what light we can from the experimental practice carried out from time to time. We have gained some valuable facts from the practice at Okehampton. We need not spend much time over these experiments, but we shall never understand each other unless we agree, or nearly so, as to the amount of practical decisions we have the right to deduce from such trials. And first we must clearly separate the work on Dartmoor from that usually carried out at the Shoeburyness experiments, about which we sometimes read in the papers. The experiments I am speaking of at Shoeburyness are undertaken to try the actual power of a gun or a projectile under certain definite conditions. They are purely scientific, and as the astronomer must have his instruments marked and moved with the extreme accuracy, as the chemist must weigh his simple or compound materials to the thousandth part of a grain, so must the scientific gunner spend much time and trouble in obtaining accurate results on which to base his calculations. At Okehampton, on the contrary, every endeavour was made to bring the conditions as nearly as possible like those of war, always remembering that the fire of the enemy cannot be imitated. The ranges were not measured by any other means than those which will, I am glad to say, soon be in the possession of every battery. The fire was sometimes rapid, sometimes slow and deliberate, as it would be in war. The ground was very rough, the batteries came into position at all sorts of paces, and sometimes the targets were so placed as to be all but invisible; or, what is worse, they stood out against the sky line in such positions that shells passing over them burst at unknown distances. The batteries were not selected nor especially trained for the purpose. Do not imagine that there was any desire to

make the best of the occasion for magnifying the power of artillery. Such an attempt would have been as unworthy as it would have been futile under the experienced eyes of many critics. And in the details I am about to bring before you trifling hits are not counted as disabling men. We will only take a few examples to illustrate the power of guns at different ranges. To compare them mentally with the ranges of the German guns in actual battle, we need hardly remember that the length of paces to yards is about as 4 to 5, so that 4,000 yards and 5,000 paces are nearly equal. I take the 16 pounders in all cases, because the 9 pounders of the Horse Artillery were new guns which had not yet received their proper tangent scales. At 4000 yards against a small cavalry column (represented by targets) 53 yards deep, using percussion shells in all cases: 6 water shells fired as a salvo gave 48 hits; 6 shrapnel, 14; 12 water shells fired independently, 165; 12 shrapnel, 189. total 36 rounds and 542 hits. At 3000 yards, against a body of infantry, about 400 men, supposed to be in reserve, and represented by the famous dummies, 18 shrapnel with time fuzes disabled 109 men. So far the dummies were standing, now for crucial test. At about 2000 yards (1950), the dummies being so placed as to represent a half battalion of infantry in two lines, the first line kneeling and making every use of cover, some of the men hidden by rocks, the second line lying down 50 yards behind the first. 36 shrapnel with time fuzes disabled 44 out of 103 in the first line, and 6 of the second line lying down. At 2000 yards, against targets representing 288 mounted cavalry soldiers in column of squadrons, the frontage being 36 yards and the depth 53—in nine minutes 36 water shells gave 3802 hits, and in five minutes 36 shrapnel gave 1574 hits, disabling in the first case 186, and in the second 131 men. Many of the hits were not deadly; but, on the other hand, many of the men were killed over and over again by different shells. Each of the squadrons were severely hit, and at all heights from the ground, so that a column of infantry would have suffered equally. I need not trouble you with the effect of the ranges generally supposed to be the best for artillery—namely, between 2000 and 1000 yards—but come at once to short distances. A battery under some cover was supposed to be attacked by infantry advancing from 1000 yards to 100. A 1000 yards only the first line of 100 men in open order and supports about the same number, came under the fire of the battery, and were allowed four minutes to advance 400 yards. They could not have moved faster, for, in the four minutes, the range being always 1000 yards, the projectiles shrapnel with time fuzes:—71 men out of a 1000 were disabled in first line, 24 men out of a hundred were disabled in second line. It may be said that men moving would have been more difficult to hit. But this is not the case, because shrapnel at short ranges covers with its shower of bullets a large depth—400 or 500 yards, so that to have the true range is of very minor importance so long as it is not taken too long. The infantry were then supposed to be at 500 yards, and in two lines, about 150 to 100 in each line, always with open files, rank entire, and the artillery detachments were reduced by three men each to represent losses—a liberal reduction. Shrapnel was again fired:—In two minutes 98 were disabled in 1st line, and 36 were disabled in second line. Again the range was shortened to 400 yards, and there was a further reduction of two gunners per detachment. Shrapnel was fired:—In two minutes 117 men were disabled in first

line, and 39 in the second line. The infantry had now lost 385 men out of 400 in eight minutes. At 200 yards only one line was supposed to exist, additional men having come up from some other force. The battery fired case—another gunner having been removed from each detachment. In one minute 51 men were disabled out of 156. The range was then reduced to 100 yards. Shrapnel were used, but put into the gun reversed, so that their percussion fuzes were next the cartridge. In one minute 113 men were disabled out of 156. Thus, at short ranges from 1000 yards to 100, the infantry never showing more than from 200 to 300 men in open order, and latterly much less. In ten minutes firing 579 men were killed or severely wounded, many of them struck over and over again at the same range. Taking into consideration the whole of the experiments I have put before you, is it too much to say that the fire of an English battery of the present (and we hope soon to outdo all this) begins to be effective at about 4000 yards, is very powerful at 2000 yards, and may be said to be annihilating to troops in any formation at 1000 yards and under. The ground must of course be supposed to be moderately open. The question then arises, what would the infantry have done against the guns? Well, gentlemen, we are not left entirely without knowledge on this point also. Last year (1875) certain experiments were conducted in India, among which not the least interesting were the attack of infantry against guns in shelter pits, and I will give you the results. But let us bear in mind that the infantry also had no enemy firing at them. On the 25th of February, forty men of the 48th Regt. were placed at 800 yards from two gun pits, containing imitation of guns and dummy gunners, all posted as serving their guns, whereas in reality the men would have been more than half the time under cover, to say nothing of the cover afforded by smoke. The infantry fired for five minutes. Result—three men hit in each gun pit. On the 13th March forty picked marksmen from the 76th and 107th Regiments fired for five minutes at two guns in pits. The men selected their own positions, about 750 yards from the guns. Result—five men hit in one pit, none in the other. On the 25th of June, forty men of the 45th Regiment fired at two guns in pits for five minutes. Range unknown, afterwards ascertained to be 770 yards. Result—one man hit in one pit, and none in the other. On the same day the experiment was repeated, the forty men being in skirmishing order. The range is not given in the official report, but I suppose it was the same as before—770 yards. Result—three men hit in one pit, two in the other. These results give us an average loss of two men per gun in five minutes, and show that the reduction of three men per gun made in the Okehampton experiments to represent the effect of fire from infantry advancing from 1000 yards to 600 in four minutes, was rather over than under estimated, especially as the first line would have lost three fourths of its strength. Remember that not more than a few men at a time can see the gunners if they have any cover. Here we have to face the great question of the comparative physical and moral power of infantry and artillery, and the moral effect produced upon one or the other arm by equal losses. Before attacking this subject, permit me to say that, in my humble opinion, the principal arm, the mainstay of an army, is, as it has been and must be long after our time, the infantry. It is the easiest trained, the cheapest to place in the field and keep there, the only arm which is equally powerful at

rest or in motion, the most easily concealed, the simplest in its armament and use. Only infantry can decide battles and secure the ground won. Whatever may be the increasing value of artillery, it can never supply the place of a single infantry soldier. But, on the other hand, the value of artillery has grown greatly of late years. If the guns are of no use when in motion, their long range renders the necessity of their moving much less, and their mobility shortens the period of weakness. To get the full benefit of that range we need two additions. The first is the range finder, which is at last adopted in the Service; the second is the telescopic sight, a specimen of which has been brought forward by Lieutenant Scott, of the Engineers, to whom we should all wish good speed in his endeavours to introduce it. The regularity of range noticed at Okehampton was secured by a very simple arrangement, which there is no need to publish to all the world, and we have reason to believe that the flatness of trajectory, and therefore the effect at all ranges, is in a fair way towards making another considerable step in advance. We may, therefore, take 4000 yards as a practicable range for field artillery. This means that a gun in action under favourable circumstances covers with its fire about seven square miles of country, and can change its object from one point to another more than four miles distant from the first by a simple movement of its trail. In other words, a column of the enemy on the right flank may be hit, and within a minute another column on the left flank, more than four miles distant from that at which it originally fired. Such opportunities are, of course, exceptional. No other kind of mobility can approach this. If the gun cannot fight in motion, there seems little need for them to do so. Since 300 or 400 yards' difference in range now matters little to artillery, the guns have a larger choice of positions than infantry in ordinary cases, so that they can generally find fair cover. Moreover, because they need not move much, they can make more use of artificial shelter. From such shelter they can act either offensively or defensively; whereas infantry must move out of its cover to attack, and cavalry can only attack by exposing itself completely. This quietude of artillery enables it to find the range of its mark accurately and fire steadily. The place where its shells burst can be seen, and the range corrected accordingly if necessary. No infantry soldier can tell whether his bullet has gone over or under the enemy, or struck the mark. The fire of infantry is the collective fire of individual men, and depends for its steadiness on the nerve of individuals. Hands will tremble and bullets go astray after a rapid movement even if the soldiers are not under fire. When to this is added the nervous excitement caused by the bursting of shells in front or in the ranks, and the sight of huge gaps made in the line or column, there cannot be much doubt that the average steadiness of nerve, and, therefore, the average firing must be very small compared with the steadiness of the same men on the practice ground during peace. The fire of artillery is not governed by the average steadiness, but by that of officers and sergeants, and less steadiness is required to lay a gun than to hold a rifle straight with its sight properly raised. How often, think you, would a man look to his sight when advancing under such fire as guns can now produce? Guns have no nerves to be shaken, and, the proper orders being given, aiming and firing is as much a matter of routine as marching. Forty shells bursting in a battery will not shake the accuracy of a single gun, if once

properly laid. I hope you noticed how in the battles before Metz the artillery held its ground sometimes when the infantry had to retire. You know the rule that the loss of one third is supposed to be about as much as infantry can bear without retiring. Some of the German batteries lost three fourths of their men, and yet held on and fought their guns. There was no difference in the men themselves. What was the reason? Simply this, that the guns did, as they always will if we let them, act as anchors to the gunners. Think how much trouble is necessary before a battery can retire. Somebody must take the initiative of giving the order, which must be repeated from mouth to mouth. Then the drivers have to perform a complicated movement, if indeed they are not under stress of difficulties because they have horses falling wounded in the midst of the teams. Next, the gunners must attach the gun to the limber—limber up, as we call it. Only then is the battery as well able to retire as infantry always is. Each gun is the rival of its companions in the battery. In peace its gunners have cherished it. They have, in good natured rivalry, struggled to make it first in beauty of polish and paint for itself and its carriage. They have striven to hide its defects and glorify its virtues. Gentlemen, they have called it *she*—need I say more? Well, then, this '*she*' is not easily deserted, and as a gunner has no other arms, he fights his gun to the last moment. Without her, he is disarmed and helpless; with her, no matter how many of his comrades are disabled, the power of fire is almost as great as ever. And *she* remains there as steady as a rock, always throwing defiance in the enemy's face. Surely it is not difficult to see why a battery should hold its ground, if we will only let it, if we don't teach the gunners to count the preservation of their guns as an end instead of a means. But the guns possess a quality which Nature has mercifully denied to female creatures generally—that of increasing their individual strength by combination. The effect of the guns is greatly increased by their employment in masses. Take, for instance, the cavalry experiment at Okehampton, the model of which is before you. The effect was produced by thirty six rounds of water shell in nine minutes. Meanwhile, after the first six shells the troops might have dispersed or galloped under cover. Had six batteries been there, the same or greater physical effect would have been produced in an instant of time, and the moral effect would have been overwhelming. A battery of 100 guns would, roughly speaking, occupy about a mile, and in former days a mile was a long range for guns. But now a line of two miles long might fire easily at some object, and the guns at one end could protect those at the other by flanking fire. Therefore every increase of range lends a new argument to the advocates of massing tactics. But I cannot find, either in reason or experience, any proof of a proposition which has lately been brought forward by an able writer on defensive tactics—namely, that the guns should be placed some 400 yards behind the infantry. If all the experience of the last war will not suffice to dispel the idea, neither will Napoleon's maxims, which, however, may come to our aid. He lays down the rule that artillery can defend its own front in these words:—"No infantry, however brave, can with impunity march 1000 or 1200 yards against a strong battery of artillery well placed and well served; before they could accomplish two thirds the distance, those men would be killed, wounded, or dispersed." And again:—"Artillery should always be placed in the most advantageous positions

and as far in front of the line of cavalry and infantry as is possible without compromising the safety of the guns." All my pains will have been in vain if the impression remains in your mind that artillery is to be protected and kept out of reach of harm. If you treat it so, it will be nothing but an incumbrance to you. Like the queen at chess, it is either a source of great strength or weakness, according to the way we use it. Let us now try to gather our floating ideas into a few definite principles. As for details, they must vary according to circumstances.

1st Principle.—Since field artillery can move at a trot, and its fire is of great value at all stages of a battle, and at all ranges, a general should endeavour to obtain a superiority of artillery as early as possible. To gain this his whole, or nearly his whole, force of guns should be pushed well forward and massed at the beginning of a combat, so that it may crush the enemy's artillery in detail as the latter comes into position.

2nd Principle.—Whether acting offensively or defensively, artillery can protect its own front in ordinary open country, and should not retire before infantry unless the whole force is retreating.

3rd Principle.—But artillery can be sorely annoyed, or even caused to retire, by the fire of infantry, skirmishers, well concealed in folds of ground or behind walls and trees. Therefore infantry should not attack in any formation, but, so to say, stalk the guns, and this being granted infantry always attack guns; who knows but that they may be unsupported?

4th Principle.—The only reply to such hidden attacks, early in battle before the friendly infantry has come up, is by the use of dismounted cavalry; or, better still, by mounted men trained to work on foot either as riflemen or gunners, and permanently attached to the batteries.

5th Principle.—Since artillery can take care of itself, provided his flanks are protected, a line of guns may be deployed, and behind it the infantry may effect turning movements to act on the enemy's flank. When such a flank attack is ready to be delivered, the mass of guns should concentrate their fire on that part on the enemy's line about to be assailed till it is shaken.

6th Principle.—A system of signals should be devised and used so as to enable a large number of guns to act simultaneously against the same point.

7th Principle.—When the infantry combat has commenced, as many guns as possible should be pushed close up to the enemy—say, within 1000 yards—or to that distance where they will find the best and nearest positions to the enemy.

8th Principle.—When artillery advances to close combat, a considerable number of men and horses should follow the batteries as near as they can consistently with keeping under cover. If this be done, there is no fear of leaving the guns in the hands of the enemy. At such moments cover becomes a secondary consideration. Artillery, like infantry or cavalry, in close combat must count on heavy losses in men and horses, but they must determine to crush the enemy in that part of the field, remembering that "omelettes are not made without breaking of eggs."

9th Principle.—Since a frontal attack can be beaten off at any range, artillery, if it has a clear space of 1000 yards in front of it, and scouts on flanks, should not allow itself to be turned from its immediate purpose by the reported approach of large bodies of infantry. Such attacks may be neglected till the enemy comes within 1000 yards.

10th Principle.—Range finders, telescopes, and scouts are indispensable to the development of the full power of artillery, the same may be said of spare men, horses and ammunition. The front line of the battery should

have as few men and horses as possible, and should be led from the rear, two or three times over if necessary. But the great principle of all, and that which must underlie all minor ones, is that artillery has issued from its childhood, and is as well able to shift for itself as any other arm. This does not mean that it is independent of the others but that it is only dependent on them in the same sense that they are dependent on it. Cavalry should feel the way, and be ready afterwards to support the guns with the dashing self devotion characteristic of its nature and history. The infantry should never forget that the guns in front may be sorely in need of the arm which can do everything but move quickly. Artillery is, after all, only preparing the way for the glorious strife of the foot soldiers. The gunners are dying that the infantry may live and win the day. On the field of battle we are all brothers, and our only rivalry should be to try which can, at any sacrifice, do most for the common good.

The usual vote of thanks terminated the proceedings.

Better Pay and Better Pension.

A pleasant life was the old military one. It is the fashion, now-a-days, to decry the capacity of those who thought, that to be able to ride and shoot straight, acquire a quick eye for country, and excel in such exercises as brought a healthy circulation to the blood, strength to the frame, and steadiness to the nerves, counted for something in the list of qualities that fitted an officer to become a leader of men, and enabled him to win the confidence and ready obedience of the soldiers committed to his charge.

Well, there must be something to be gained in the persistent pursuit of it instead upon by the authorities at the present time; and that the knowledge of mechanics, pneumatics, dynamics, and whatever other *ies* may be comprised in the curriculum just now in vogue at Sandhurst, must, we presume, be essential to the command of a company, and the handling of a battalion. In time, we shall arrive at electricity; and bodies of men will be hurled at other bodies, the thunder of their collision exceeding that of the simultaneous discharge of a score of Woolwich Infants or animal magnetism will be called into play to direct the movements of troops, and electro-biology—whatever that may mean—supersede the use of gunpowder and gun cotton; so perhaps it is as well that we should look forward to an army of professors. But the old pleasant life will have vanished, and the Army have become a infinitely more costly institution than we ever dreamt of in our philosophy.

The old officers were not expensive servants, and considering that they carried their lives in their hands and never hesitated to go anywhere they were wanted the country had a good deal the best of the bargain. This will come home as a great truth to the nation before many years are over, especially when large sums have to be voted for retirements or commutation, and the future of every officer has to be provided for, whereas in the old days two thirds of them took that matter into their own hands, and never bothered the country about it. Besides, now that so much work and study are demanded—official spelling-books may be looked for—the moneyed men who used to join the Army and devote the very prime of their manhood to the Service, aware that they could afford to leave it and become sober citizens whenever they chose, will no longer be forthcoming in the same numbers as formerly; and

that these men—fashioned as no other occupation fashioneth, and forming companionships such as cannot be formed outside the circle of regimental brotherhood—were well worth their salt, may be proved by evidence to be met with in every page of our military history. It may then be safely affirmed that the nation need never expect to better, certainly not more economically, served than in the old times referred to.

The profession of arms will henceforth be a life long one. The pay affords but a scant provision. The prizes are few. An officer is forbidden to engage in any other pursuit—literature excepted—by which he may hope to add to his means; and if he is to maintain the social position he has hitherto held, he must be more liberally dealt with. There can be no doubt that, taking into consideration the work demanded of him, the risks he runs, and the responsibility he incurs, he is the worst paid servant of the Crown. Wages and salaries have increased. Labourers, soldiers, operatives, artisans, and clerks, are all better paid than they were twenty years ago, when men could live cheaper than they can now. The value of the officer has certainly not decreased, but there has been no alteration in his salary, and, as much more is required of him—rightly or wrongly—now than in those halcyon days, why should his claims be ignored? Is it that the authorities are afraid of improving him, as an individual, off the face of the earth? Honour is supposed to be his guiding star. Aye; but honour should point to something better than poverty. There is no law that binds an officer to celibacy. There may be others depending on him—a wife and child, and provision has to be made for the future. Honour may prick him on, but what if, as Falstaff reasons, "Honour may prick him off," and he has been unable, on account of the smallness of his income, to insure his life or to put by money? Again the same authority declares that, "Honour hath no skill in surgery," and a wound or some disease contracted on service may unfit him for the active duties of his profession, and, then, what a struggle lies before him! How eke out his existence as a family man on the half pay or pension at present provided by the State, when the chances are, that a large portion of it will have to be set aside to meet the ever recurring doctor's bill? We do not for one moment mean to say that officers will not be to the full as loyal, well born and bred, and as thorough gentlemen as has hitherto been the case—although competitive examinations have thrown open the door very wide—but they will, as a rule, be a far poorer set, and that this element will have to be considered at a very distant period.

If it be impossible, or unadvisable, to increase pay and pensions, why should not Government organise and establish a life insurance office open to officers only? No advance to be made in the price of premiums, no matter to what quarter of the globe, or on what service, an officer may be ordered. Objections might be raised on account of such a measure being contrary to the accepted rules of business or of its acting adversely to the interest of existing offices. But when savings banks and regimental canteens were established, no such considerations were allowed to carry weight; and when so much has been done, and is being done, for the private soldier, a friendly hand might surely be stretched out in the direction of the officer, who, though likely to find it a more difficult matter than of yore to make both ends meet, would still wish to put by something for those he may at any moment have to leave to the tender mercies of the world, his own life having been demanded

of him in the defence of his country's honor.—Broad Arrow.

The Extradition Correspondence.

The British Foreign Office has published the correspondence relative to the extradition treaty between Great Britain and the United States. From this it appears that Hoffman, American Chargé d'Affaires, in conversation with Lord Derby, on May 25th, suggested a settlement of the difficulty by the negotiation of an article additional to the treaty of 1842. Lord Derby wrote to Hoffman, saying that the Government were ready to meet his suggestion immediately, and enclosed the draft of an article providing that persons extradited shall only be tried for the offence for which they are surrendered. This article is similar to one formerly agreed to by Mr. Fish during the negotiations in 1871. Concerning the revised treaty, Lord Derby telegraphed Mr. Thornton, British Minister at Washington, authorizing him to sign the additional article as above. Mr. Fish declined to accept the proposal, and expressed to Minister Thornton his extreme regret that Hoffman's suggestion should have led Lord Derby into a misapprehension. Though the United States are willing to make a new and enlarged treaty, they could not agree to the proposed article. Lord Derby wrote to Minister Thornton on the 29th of May, expressing regret that Secretary Fish declined to agree to the additional article, as every obstacle to the surrender of the prisoners would have been thereby removed. On the questions as to what authority should decide whether the offence for which the prisoner's extradition is demanded is political or criminal, England agreed to meet Fish's views by omitting from the clause the words "empowering police magistrates to determine the nature of the crime," but the Government could not hold out a hope that it would be possible to ask Parliament to sanction a treaty opposed to the act of 1870, or which would permit the trial of extradited persons for an extraditable crime other than that for which they were surrendered. He concludes:—"The Government earnestly hope that Secretary Fish will withdraw his objection to the additional article, and thus enable the treaty to be signed immediately."

RIFLE COMPETITION.

The return match between those members of the Governor General's Foot Guards, lying respectively East and West of the Sappers' Bridge, resulted in a victory for the Eastenders. The following is the score:

EAST OF SAPPERS' BRIDGE.

	200	500	600	Total.
Major Macpherson.	27	23	23	73
Private Cotton.	27	25	19	71
Corporal Throop.	23	23	16	67
Private Morrison.	23	23	9	60
Lance Corporal Gray.	26	14	19	59
Corporal Reardon.	26	24	7	57
Lieutenant Graburn.	27	21	7	55
	189	153	100	442

WEST OF SAPPERS' BRIDGE.

Sergeant Sutherland.	26	29	24	79
Private Newby.	30	23	17	70
Private Symes.	29	25	13	67
Sergeant Clayton.	30	27	8	65
Private Waldo.	23	18	13	59
Sergeant Malloch.	23	23	7	53
Captain Todd.	23	16	2	46
	194	160	84	438

On Saturday, 3rd June, the first competition of the Ottawa Rifle Association for the silver badge, took place at Rideau rifle range. There was a pretty good attendance of competitors as well as spectators. Two matches more have to take place, one on the 10th and the other on the 17th, before the ownership of the trophy is decided. The ranges were 200, 500, and 600 yards; seven rounds at each range, and no sighting shots allowed. The following is the score:

	200	500	600	Total.
Sergeant Sutherland.	26	26	27	79
Major Macpherson.	27	23	23	73
Private Cotton.	27	25	19	71
Private Newby.	20	23	27	70
Corporal Throop.	28	23	16	67
Private Symes.	29	25	13	67
Sergeant Clayton.	30	27	8	65
Private Webb.	26	18	20	64
Corporal Deslauriers.	29	23	12	64
Vat. Surgeon Harris.	27	23	12	62
Gunner Johnson.	28	17	16	61
Private Morrison.	28	23	9	60
Lance Corporal Gray.	26	14	19	59
Private Waldo.	23	18	13	59
Corporal Reardon.	26	24	9	57
Ensign Graburn.	30	14	11	55
Lieutenant Graburn.	27	21	7	55
Mr. Wallis.	26	23	6	55
Sergeant Malloch.	23	22	7	52
Lance Corporal Ross.	24	13	10	47
Mr. Blackmore.	19	19	9	46
Captain Todd.	23	16	2	46

REVIEWS.

From the Leonard Scott Publishing Co., 41 Barclay Street, New-York, we have the reprint of the *London Quarterly Review* for April.

The first article canvasses pretty thoroughly Green's "Short History of the English People,"—a work intended for schools, and which has recently gained extraordinary popularity in England. The author's democratic tendencies find no favour with the reviewer, who accuses him of perverting facts, and misrepresenting the conduct and motives of public men.

"Sir William and Caroline Herschel" mainly consists of a biographical sketch of the latter, compiled from a recently published memoir. The life-work of both is briefly but well told, and the efficient service rendered by the sister to the brother, both in the manufacture of telescopes and in astronomical observations, is recorded with much interesting detail.

"Plate and Plate Buyers," After explaining the excessive rarity of genuine old English plate, the writer gives many curious particulars explanatory of the origin and history of platemarks, concluding with words of caution to intending plate buyers to be wary of frequent forgeries.

The next article, "Taine on the Old Régime in France," presents a vivid picture of the structure of society, and of the ruling French philosophy, in the times preceding the first revolution.

"Kashgar, Pamir, and Tibet" carries us among the Mohammedan States of Central Asia—a portion of the globe almost as unknown as Central Africa, but concerning which much information may be acquired from the various articles which have appeared in the British Reviews and *Blackwood's Magazine*.

"Fifty years of My Life" is full of anecdotes and reminiscences of leading celebrities, and glimpses of social scenes, taken from Lord Albemarle's recently published work bearing the above title.

Sidgwick's "Method of Ethics" affords a

text for remarks upon Utilitarianism, in which the writer attempts to discriminate its sound and its erroneous parts.

Article VIII. treats Charles Algernon Swinburne's "Essay and Studies" with undiluted severity; and Art. IX., on "Church Innovations," apparently suggested by a recent work of the Dean of Chester, gives a summary of facts and reasonings on the subject of the position of the officiating minister at the celebration of the Eucharist.

The periodicals reprinted by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company (41 Barclay Street, N. Y.) are as follows: *The London Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, *Westminster*, and *British Quarterly Reviews*, and *Blackwood's Magazine*. Price, \$4 a year for any one, or only \$15 for all, and the Postage is prepaid by the Publishers.

Eastern Question.

The *Standard's* Vienna correspondent says a letter from Constantinople asserts that Vice Admiral Drummond, commanding the British fleet in the Mediterranean, has undertaken an inspection of the fortifications of the Dardanelles at the request of the Porte.

The Prince and the Princess of Roumania and Prince Milan of Serbia, which latter State refused to pay the last two instalments of tribute claimed by the Porte, propose to issue a joint declaration of independence, owing to irregular accession of the Sultan to the throne. The Prince of Montenegro is only awaiting the action of the other Slavonic Provinces. In Serbia the schools and colleges are being closed. A Russian officer has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Servian armies.

England has sent Admiral Drummond to the East, with orders to prevent the forcing of the Dardanelles. Unfinished iron-clads are being completed in great haste.

The *Estefette* reports the Russian army marching to the frontier. When it arrives at Pruth, the Servians will commence hostilities.

Two batteries of artillery and a detachment of infantry started for the frontier, by way of Koogwoovatz, on the 7th. General Tschernajeff and the general staff also left for the Bosnian frontier.

A conference of the Powers on Eastern question opens at Ems on Friday next.

A Vienna despatch says:—"In consequence of the remonstrances of the Powers, all danger of a breach of peace by Serbia has been removed for the present.

A telegram from Constantinople reports that Turkish bonds to the amount 8,000,000 Turkish pounds were found in the treasury of the late Sultan and handed to the Minister of Finance. The bonds will not be put in circulation.

A telegram from Belgrade announces that the Servian Government has declared that it will follow the recommendation of Russia to enter into hostilities against Turkey.

It is denied that Chevalier Nigra has been entrusted by the Italian Government with the mission to Ems in harmony with the views of England on the Turkish question.

A special from Vienna, to the *Daily Telegraph*, says it is stated that Count Andrassy has been asked to meet Gortschakoff and Bismarck at Ems, but they have not yet definitely accepted the invitation.

Intelligence received here from Slavonic sources states that Prince Karageorgievic's legion defeated the Turks in the vicinity of Cerkovik, in Bosnia, on the 3rd June, killing 166 men. The following day 2,300 Turks capitulated.

CONTENTS OF No. 22, VOL. X.

POETRY:—
 Pastoral 262

EDITORIAL:—
 Legal Proceeding against Col. Strange 251
 England's Maritime Rights 258
 Another Warning Voice from 1865 259
 Lecture by Capt. Arlidge, R.E. 259
 Novelty in Artillery Construction 259
 Why Lincoln was Assassinated 259
 Utilising Auxiliary Force 260
 Our Ironclad Fleet 260
 Obituary—Hon. Malcolm Cameron 261
 News of the Week 261

CORRESPONDENCE:—
 Quebec 261
 Kanuck 261

RIFLE COMPETITION:—
 East vs. West Sappers' Bridge 261

SELECTIONS:—
 Why Lincoln was Assassinated 255
 Eastern Question 256
 Military Funeral 256
 Another Warning Voice from 1865 262

MILITIA CORPS & ORDERS 262

REVIEWS 261



The Volunteer Review,
 AND
 MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1870.

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. No communication, however, will be inserted unless the writer's name is given, not necessarily for publication, but that it may be referred to.

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

The following interesting lecture from a distinguished foreign General will be read with much interest by our Military friends. We are aware of the value of a small and highly disciplined army for purposes of conquest or aggression—but military men seem to forget that there is in war two principles which in a great measure determine all its operations—these are—aggression and defence. The forces requisite and proper for

the former will not suit the latter, and human experience goes to prove that the best way to avoid the results sure to follow from the employment of "small thoroughly equipped armies," is to train every man capable of carrying arms to such knowledge of their use as would make conquest a hopeless and unprofitable operation.

We quite agree with General Brialmont in the idea that no officer can command the masses of men employed in recent warfare. We should fix without hesitation 100,000 men as the limit of command of a general of the greatest military genius, and then it would be a question as to whether even that amount could or would be profitably employed.

In the present transition state, it is only one horde overrunning the possessions of another not quite as well prepared; and it is hopeless to seek for change till the pressure of taxation will compel disarmament.

"Enormous armaments constitute one of the chief evils of the age. General Brialmont, in a lecture he recently delivered at the Royal Academy of Belgium, gave some statistics on this head which are truly appalling. The General said that in ancient times there may be said to have been no class of men who devoted their lives exclusively to war. Battles were fought by the whole adult population of a nation, and when the necessity was over all returned to the labours and industries of peace. Before the time of Philip of Macedon the only permanent troops in any country were a few palace guards. That ruler may be said to have introduced the custom of standing mercenary armies. The Roman legions for a long time were little better than militia. Maurus introduced the permanent system from the aversion of the higher and wealthier classes to serve. Then came the Empire, with mercenaries, and these always deteriorating in quality while increased in quantity. The largest armies of the Roman Republic, according to this authority, never exceeded 83,000 men. At the close of the reign of Augustus, 197,000 were permanently under arms. By the time of Constantine the number had risen to 450,000. After the upbreak of the Roman Empire, military service under the feudal system was regarded as a natural charge upon landed property. In fact, that kind of property was understood to meet all the expenses of defending and governing a country. By degrees mercenaries were again introduced. The number was increased, but again the quality of the soldiers degenerated. The feudal system may be said to have come to an end about 1445, after which again ensued an era of mercenary and permanent armies. Francis I, fought the Battle of Pavia with only 30,000. It was then the custom, at the end of every war, to disband a great many of the troops, and lessen the strength of the other corps. Under Louis XII. the French army reached 100,000, but the most arbitrary measures had to be taken in order to keep it up to that figure. Louis XIV., raised it to 396,000, but at an enormous sacrifice. After the peace of Ryawick, Vauban declare that one-tenth of the inhabitants of France were paupers, five-tenths little better off, other three-tenths were poor, and of the remaining 100,000 families only 10,000 were prosperous. All this told adversely, according to General Brialmont, against the art of war. The armies became mobs, and the skill of the generals also deteriorated.

Napoleon's most brilliant campaigns were made with comparatively small armies. In 1812 he had at his disposal 1,135,000 soldiers, but his achievements were not in correspondence with these numbers, nor was the personnel of his armies what it had been. Since that time the size of European standing armies has enormously increased. In 1818 France had only 118,000 under arms. By 1832 her peace strength had risen to 452,000, and in 1870 the number had grown on paper to 909,000. Germany, in 1850, had an army on a war footing of 530,000; now it is thought that 2,800,000 could be placed under arms. This is one in every fourteen of the population. In the seven years' war Russia, Prussia, France, and Italy had under arms 1,150,000. In 1827 the same territorial map could have produced 2,629,000, and today 7,170,000. By the new military laws this number will soon become 11,000,000. This is a crushing weight, under which the strongest and wealthiest nations must soon break down. The only remedies, according to General Brialmont, are either universal disarmament by the common consent of all the parties, or the introduction in all cases of personal service without the alternative of substitutes. A small thoroughly equipped army will be found far more efficient now, as in former times, than immense poorly disciplined masses. Whatever may be thought of this, it is evident that it is a folly beyond all follies for Europe to keep eleven millions or the half of eleven millions of its young men in idleness, as a burden on the industrious portion of the different communities, and that for the purpose of being ready for a contingency that may never arise. At the present rate peace is more expensive and more weakening than war, so that some change, and that speedily, is inevitable. Enormous standing armies, in short, are at once symptoms and causes of national decay, and even it may be said of martial deterioration."

The most vital question affecting the British Empire is that of the practical *Security of the Seas*—everything connected with her naval affairs have been consequently keenly criticised—and we may gather in part the satisfactory assurance that her position is as impregnable now as when NELSON left her without an opponent. From *Broad Arrow* of 22nd April, we copy the following "Recent Criticisms on the Navy."

A great source of satisfaction to those who view with regret either the apathy or errors of the heads of public departments is found in the existence of so many associations of professional men, and the fearless expressions of opinion upon national questions which proceed therefrom at their periodical meetings. An evil cannot exist long without being detected and pointed out; and the criticisms of men eminent in their professions are not slow in reaching the notice of Government officials. Indeed, it frequently happens that the responsible authorities consider it worth their while to attend such meetings, and even join in the discussions. Hence, if public servants are teachable, the country profits by the wisdom of professional men who are not in the employment of the State; and, under any circumstances, the public service must be benefited by the exposure of errors and the denunciation of absurdities. While the United Service Institution and the Institution of Naval Architects enjoy such vigorous existence as at present, there is no danger of foreign supremacy in the *material* of war, nor of the public

money being spent in unserviceable munitions without exposure.

It is with considerable pleasure that we direct the attention of our readers to the very important papers and discussions which recently occupied the Institution of Naval Architects. In a late number we gave the substance of a most important paper by Mr. N. Barnaby, and subsequently a summary of the papers read by Mr. Brassey, M.P., and Lieutenant Goutaleff, of the Imperial Russian Navy. Seldom, we venture to say, has the naval policy of any Government received a more able and at the same time a more adverse criticism from this institution. While listening to the censures of Admirals Sir S. Robinson, Sir F. Grey, and Lord Lauderdale, and the suggestions of Mr. Brassey, Captain Scott, and Mr. Reed, we could but remember with satisfaction that for months the columns of the *Broad Arrow* have been devoted to the same object—even pointing out the errors of the Admiralty in almost the same terms.

The novelty of Mr. Barnaby's proposal is almost as striking as its value is great. The progress of the contest between the gun, torpedo, and ram on the one side, and arm our plating, speed, and cellular construction on the other, has been watched by us with anxiety for a considerable time. The superiority of weapons over defence has now become so apparent that it has puzzled us immensely to conjecture in what direction naval construction and tactics should proceed in order that an insular power such as England might maintain the mastery of the seas. That it was impossible to combine every desiderated quality in one vessel had long become apparent; but it has remained for Mr. Barnaby to show how the powers of offence and defence which we possess are to be arranged in order to ensure success in future naval warfare. The heavily armed and thickly armoured ironclad, while constructed in such a way as to reduce injury by rams and torpedoes to a minimum, cannot be rendered thoroughly secure against the combined attack of a number of small rams and torpedo vessels, which have greater speed than herself. As Mr. Barnaby says: "The possibility of such attacks by armoured rams or torpedo ships, or by numerous unarmoured vessels of this kind, exposes the costly armour-clad ship to a risk which she ought never to encounter alone. The assailant ought to be brought to bay, before they could get within striking distance of the ironclad, by consort vessels armed, like the attacking vessels, with the ram and the torpedo, which may take, like them, the chance of being sunk. In other words, I contend that the defence against the ram and the torpedo must be sought for, not in the construction of the ship alone or mainly, but also, and chiefly, in the proper grouping of the forces at the points of attack. Each costly ironclad ought to be a division defended against the torpedo and the ram by smaller, numerous, but less important parts of the general forces." This quotation contains the pith of Mr. Barnaby's suggestion, and although his object was rather to mark out new ground for the naval architect and seaman than to criticise recent Admiralty procedure, yet we are struck with the significant sentence which closes his paper. "In my view," says Mr. Barnaby, "the ironclad must continue to occupy the first place in naval warfare; and we have only to remember in how many different parts of the globe we should require to be present in force in a time of war with any great maritime Power to see how far short the number of our ironclads falls of that which our extended and proud dominion requires." Such a statement proceeding

from the Director of Naval Construction to the Admiralty necessarily commands attention; and, after this, if their Lordships fail to take those steps which such a situation renders necessary, in order to give us the ironclads which Mr. Barnaby says are required, it will be known that the cause of our weakness is not lack of constructive skill or of candid advisers.

Admiral Sir Spencer Robinson, as is well known, was Controller of the Navy about seven years ago, until Mr. Childers made the office unbearable. A more competent authority on naval questions cannot be found. Speaking after Mr. Barnaby, Sir Spencer Robinson said he hoped the warmth with which he referred to the present building policy of the Admiralty would be pardoned; for it was with the utmost anxiety he had observed the total incapacity of their Lordships to deal with the *matériel* of the fleet. "They are all at sea," he said, "and while our Admiralty is vacillating, hesitating, making up its mind, and asking for Royal Commissions, foreign Governments are proceeding boldly and rapidly, building good and serviceable ships." Sir Spencer made a strong case against the Admiralty, when he said of the three ships—*Devastation*, *Dreadnought*, and *Thunderer*—which were commenced seven years ago, when he was Controller, only the first named is at sea, while the *Dreadnought* will not be ready until next year.

Mr. Brassey's paper, as we expected it would, met with an unfavourable reception. Indeed, had not the hon. gentleman expounded his views with extreme modesty, we should feel disposed to blame him for venturing upon a topic concerning which he was so incorrectly informed. For instance, he spoke of a "Treaty of Paris," in which "England and France have entered into a solemn contract with the maritime world to respect private property, not being contraband of war, if carried in ships bearing the neutral flag." Now, as a member of Parliament, Mr. Brassey should be aware that this arrangement between the Powers was never ratified, and hence never assumed the character of a treaty. For our own part, we place little or no confidence in negotiations of that kind, for, depend upon it, should England ever be at war with a maritime Power, she will have plenty to do in protecting her commerce.

We think we detect a slight taint of Mr. Reed's ideas in the following quotation from Mr. Brassey's paper:—"They (unarmoured vessels) are required for the police of the seas and the protection of commerce; but I should consider it unwise on the part of the Admiralty to build a greater number of vessels of this class than are absolutely necessary." "There must, of course, be enough vessels to furnish reliefs for ships coming home from foreign stations. Further than this, we need not go in the construction of unarmoured vessels." As was very pertinently remarked by Admiral Sir F. Grey and Lord Lauderdale, unarmoured ships are wanted for something more than "reliefs"; we want cruisers, flying squadrons, and training vessels for our seamen. How are young sailors to acquire knowledge of their duties, and older sailors to be kept perfect in the same, unless such ships be provided? Mr. Reed thinks we need no more sailors and no more unarmoured ships for them than peace requirements necessitate; but Admiral Grey and Captain Scott think that a large reserve of seamen should be kept in constant training; and, further, that it is desirable to find commands for young commanders, who, if our unarmoured fleet were cut down to its narrowest limits would rarely get employ-

ment, and consequently be ill qualified for it when they did.

In the contest between Mr. Reed and Sir S. Robinson on the one hand and the Admiralty officials who were present at the meetings, on the other in regard to the armament of unarmoured ships, we consider that the former had the worst case. Mr. Reed armed the *Inconstant* with 12 ton guns, and consequently fitted her, on the score of armament, to fight an armoured ship; the *Boadicea* and *Shah* are armed with numerous 64-pounders, which are adapted for fighting unarmoured ships like themselves. As was pointed out by Commander Hall, before the *Inconstant* could get into the range for using her 12-guns with effect against an armoured adversary, she would herself be probably sent to the bottom; whereas should she meet an unarmoured foe armed with a numerous broadside of light guns, she would soon be hors de combat, for a 12-ton gun is of no more use than a 64-pounder in such a case—and the superior number of light guns would carry the day.

But the important points in Mr. Brassey's paper, and in the discussion that followed, are too numerous for consideration in a single article, so that we are compelled to defer the further notice of them until another occasion. In the meantime we commend these proceedings to the attention of Mr. Hunt and the naval members of the Board of Admiralty. We feel confident that they will not be much the worse for the hints they will discover; and if the hints are taken note of, and followed out, the Navy will be much the better.

The following will be a very important invention, if it can be made applicable to the purpose described by its author.

A paper on "Collapsing Boats" was read on Monday evening at the Royal United Service Institution, by the Rev. E. L. Berthon, M. A.; Sir F. Nicholson occupied the chair. The lecturer said that he intended to confine his remarks to the application of his system to the saving of life at sea and also to such purposes as may be required in the Royal Navy. Taking into consideration the enormous number of persons who travelled on the sea at the present day, he thought individual risk of life, in the event of wreck or collision, was very great indeed as the number and capacity of the boats carried was frightfully inadequate to save the lives of the passengers and crew, especially in the case of emigrant and troop ships. But not only was the deficiency of boat accommodation a source of the loss of human life, for in many instances the boats were carried inboard on the booms, and they could not be got out in time to be of service when the emergency arose. The two great desiderata of the boat system of every ship were—first, an abundant supply; and second, such means of stowage as to render the boats available at any moment without the trouble of hoisting them out to the ship's side. Both these advantages were secured by the system of collapsing boats which he had invented, for not only could boats of this kind be carried in numbers and capacities far exceeding those now in use, but owing to their great compressibility they could be carried outboard without the slightest risk of injury, as in fact when collapsed the boats only measured about one-sixth of their breadth when open. The boat which he placed before them was composed of longitudinal timbers strongly joined at each end, and had stout painted canvas between the timbers instead of the ordinary planking. These timbers were broad and flat, the canvas between

them being double, and secured one skin to the outer and one to the inner edges, so that the bottom and sides of the boat were divided into so many distinct separate compartments as there were spaces between the timbers, and in case of injury the water entered no further than the damaged compartment, and the efficiency of the boat was not perceptibly impaired. The number of the canvas skins could also be multiplied where needed. The boat being suspended in a collapsed state from the davits required simply to have a lashing cast loose, when they opened out by their own weight into a perfectly shaped boat. Planking for the bottom of the boats and seats were provided, and laces, on lowering the boat, adjusted themselves, and were ready for use. Mr. Berthon exhibited working models of his boats, and showed (with the aid of these) the perfectly satisfactory nature of his system. He said that he had invented these boats twenty five years ago, and although the invention had remained in abeyance for so long the value of the system had at last been recognised by the Admiralty and the Indian Council, and he was now engaged in executing orders by which all Her Majesty's troopships would be abundantly supplied. The boats would be carried in a collapsed state between the ordinary troop boat and the netting on the upper deck. The system had also applied to boats for the conveyance of horses and artillery, and for sledge boats and pontoon bridges, with every promise of success.

In the course of a brief discussion at the conclusion of the lecture, Sir William Mends said that he had made a careful inspection of the boats which had been manufactured on this principle, and had delivered so favourable a report upon them that the Board of Admiralty, feeling that if any great calamity was to happen to a troopship, the loss of life would entail serious reflection upon its members, and they had therefore felt it to be their duty to order these boats to be supplied, so that provision might be made for the preservation of every life on board.

The following paragraphs are taken from *Broad Arrow*, they illustrate a new phase of the *Torpedo Question*, and remind us strongly of the fable of the Council of the Mice in which the burning question was as to "who should bellow the Cat."

That German diver who gets over the bows to fasten on the football will have a hot time of it—while the *twenty miles an hour* pace will require a taut hand to guide the machine.

It is sheer absurd nonsense to suppose that vessels of the description given, will have any appreciable effect on the *naval actions* of the future.

"Germany now possesses two torpedo vessels, the *Ziethen*, which was constructed in England, and launched last year, and the *Uhlán*, which was launched at Stetin the other day. It has cost close upon £30,000. The *Uhlán* carries immediately under its bows a torpedo which is intended to explode within the vessel at which it is directed, and the force of the charge of dynamite which will be exploded by the collision, is calculated to be sufficient to blow the other vessel to pieces, though the torpedo itself is no bigger than a football. Measures have been taken to protect as far as possible the *Uhlán* itself from being destroyed by the explosion; but the most remarkable point in connection with it, is the enormous power of its engines as compared to the vessel itself. They are

of 1000 horsepower when at high pressure, and take up so much room that there is little space left for the coal-bunkers and the berths of the officers and seamen. The unusual proportion of steam power has been given in order that the vessel may be able to travel through the water very rapidly. When the torpedo vessel is about to enter into action for the purpose of breaking the line of battle formed by the ironclads of the enemy, divers will attach to its beak-head the fulminating cartridge, and it will proceed at full speed, the crew having in the meantime lowered and embarked upon a raft which is to be kept on board for that purpose."

"The construction of a new fish-torpedo has been ordered by the War Department. It is calculated that it will travel under water at the extraordinary speed of twenty knots an hour. When the secret of this description of torpedo was purchased by the Government, the inventor, Mr. Whitehead, could only guarantee a speed of 9½ knots; but subsequent improvements at the Royal Laboratory in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, have produced an accelerated pace of 12½ knots; and certain alterations are now proposed which it is expected will furnish the additional power required."

The following account of the results of the latest trials of monster artillery will be interesting to our readers—it shows that British skill and science can construct a gun to stand a constant pressure of over twenty tons to the square inch; but we have as yet no proof of the gun's endurance; it would seem as if the next question should be—what is the length of the life of the gun?

Engineering gives an account of the latest proofs of the 31-ton gun with the bore enlarged to 15 inches. The results obtained indicate increased velocities and reduced pressures in the gun. It will be noticed too, that the pressures were very uniform, with the exception of that in the third round, which rose above the 25 tons per square inch assumed as the safe working limit, and compares with those exceptional pressures recorded in the fifth and six rounds of the first series where with charges of 230 lb. and 240 lb. of powder, the pressures were 29.5 and 27.3 tons per square inch respectively, and with the eleventh round of the second series, in which with a powder charge of 230 lb. of 1.5 in. cubes, the pressure mounted to 28 tons per square inch. The record is as follows:

Number of Round.	Size of Powder.	Weight of Powder Charge.	Weight of Projectile.	Muzzle Velocity.	Total Energy in Foot-Tons.	Foot-Tons of Energy per Inch of Shot's Circumference.	Foot-Tons of Energy per Pound of Powder.	Mean Pressure in Gun.
	in.	lb.	lb.	ft.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
1	1.7	230	1250	1513	19,991	424.32	60.88	13.25
2	1.7	230	1250	1546	20,789	441.10	60.83	13.25
3	1.7	230	1460	1471	21,997	461.92	60.83	13.25
4	2.0	230	1250	1536	20,667	437.33	60.83	13.25
5	2.0	230	1460	1561	18,825	389.59	63.58	13.25
6	1.7	230	1460	1421	20,523	455.60	63.31	13.25

Arrangements will now shortly be made for the transfer of the gun to the long range where it will be tried against armour plates. The ultimate capacity expected when the maxi-

mum bore of 16 in. is reached, is a penetration of 27 in. of solid armour at a range of 1000 yards, and with a shot weighing 1800 lb. If the statements recently published in the *Times* be correct the performance of the great Krupp gun recently tried has given higher results than those recorded above. The weight of this gun is 57.5 tons, and its calibre is 13.78 in. The projectile weighs 1210 lb., and the powder charge is 237 lb. In recent experiments it is stated that an inflexible target with 24 in. plate was pierced at a distance of 1968 yards. The muzzle velocity is given as 1640 ft., which would give a total energy in foot-tons of about 22,600, and per inch of circumference of bore 523 tons. The foot-tons per pound of powder charge, however, falls to 76.1, showing that the weapon is strained far more severely than our 31-ton gun, and it is to be regretted that the pressures per square inch are not published; they must be of necessity very great.

The news in regard to Turkish affairs is so conflicting that one is at a loss what to make out of it. However, one thing is certain, that the firm and decided stand taken by England, has taken the would-be belligerent powers by surprise, and has completely spoiled the little game of Russia in her contemplated attack on Constantinople and the seizing of the mouth of the Dardanelles.

Austria, it is said, was to back Russia in this enterprise, but the moment *John Bull* heard of it he said no, and sent out his fleet, Austria took fright and backed out. Germany also, it would seem, was in the plot, as Russia made demands on her in support of her Eastern policy which Bismark is not now inclined to sanction.

The new Sultan speaks the French language fluently, which is the diplomatic language of Europe, and consequently he will be the more able and inclined to listen and probably accede to those remedial measures that may be brought before him by the Foreign Representatives at his Court. It is also said that the parties who have helped him to power, are bitterly opposed to Russia, and possibly may precipitate matters somewhat, especially if the present policy of Russia is persevered in in fomenting discontent in Rumania and the other outlying provinces of the Turkish empire.

The latest intelligence from Turkey say that the Prince of Montenegro has openly assumed command of the insurgents; that Serbia has declared her independence and marched her army across the frontier, and that all the Slavonic provinces are in a state of rebellion. Yet, we hope, wise counsels may prevail, and that after all a general European war may be averted.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Times*, generally allowed to be a well informed authority, vouches for the correctness of the statement that the Porte accords full amnesty to all insurgents who will offer their submission, and that to give them time to do this, the Sultan grants a six week's trêve, subject to the movements necessary to maintain the concentration of troops, and the re-equipping of Nicia. He also states

that it is known that the most complete accord exists on the general bases agreed to by the Powers, upon which the negotiations at Ems will be pursued, and the bases are the integrity of the Ottomans, and the necessity of ending constant agitation by effective and legitimate concessions. This is the only possible base for negotiations, and it is a very good one. It is now manifest that a conference between the three Imperial Powers will not be enough—the other signers of the Treaty of Paris must cordially agree in what is decided on if there is to be much chance of carrying it out.

If a war should ensue, where the Navies will undoubtedly play a very important part, England would take the lead; and it is idle for the Northern Powers to suppose that they can controul undisputedly the destinies of the continent of Europe, or undertake to settle its affairs to suit themselves without consulting the other Powers. Russia, Austria, and Germany must be taught that they are not all Europe; and that England for her part is determined that the Treaty of Paris shall not be disturbed without the consent first being obtained of all the subscribing parties to it.

The Montreal Witness of Friday last hits off Uncle Sam in the following capital style:—"An Indian war seems likely to divide with the Centennial Exhibition whatever attention the people of the United States can spare from their presidential contest, in this Centennial year. Perhaps it is well, that when they are doing their utmost to show what advances they have made in the past century, an Indian war should be part of the exposition. It is certainly a natural result of the dishonorable treatment of the aborigines, and therefore quite in place at the present time."

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—I find by the papers that our Battalion is among the unlucky ones who are called out for drill this year. We were in hopes that we would have been ballotted out, but unfortunately we have to turn out. I cannot say as yet what sort of turn out we will make, as there is a vast amount of indignation openly expressed both among officers and men on account of the begrudging pitance doled out by the Government as pay for this year. I wonder what kind of material they think the force is composed of, if they think that it will submit to be treated in such a manner. How are battalions situated like ours, to manage to exist on half a dollar a day and provide their own rations, and with the exception of the 14th, which is

in the City of Kingston, every one of those called out in the 3rd District are just alike. Some companies of ours have to come upwards of twenty miles to Battalion Head Quarters, and will have to pay their own Transport, and maintain themselves while putting in their eight days drill; how they can accomplish that, I would like to be informed. It can never be done, unless the officers do as they have been in the habit of doing for years, that is dip down deep into their own pockets and supplement the sum allowed by the Government, so as to satisfy the men. The men at the head of affairs in our Dominion must count on both officers and men of the Volunteer Force having an immense deal more of patriotism and loyalty than any of themselves have ever displayed, as far as they are concerned, they look out for increased pay, and do very little for it, only bring our country into disgrace, and now with the expectation of economizing, they vote only one third of the amount voted last year for the volunteer annual drill, when every person who knows anything of the matter must acknowledge that even then the amount was too small, even if the men could be got to give up from one dollar to two dollars per day, and accept at the hands of the Government the magnificent sum of fifty cents—what good will eight days drill be to the force, or rather I should say seven days as there will be one Sabbath in the time; but I must request you to hide the last remark from the men in power, or perhaps they will not allow pay for that day.

Brigade Major Smith, when making his last inspection of Arms & Co, took the opinion of the officers of our Battalion on a plan which he was thinking of suggesting for the performance of the Annual Drill this year, under the reduced pay. His plan I think would have been the very best under the circumstances. It was this—To call out the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and about five men of each company, for a term of from sixteen to twenty days, and pay them the regular pay, and make each Battalion act as a Military School for that time; let both officers and men fall in as a squad, and practice squad, company, manual and Platoon Drills each taking the position of Instructor in turn; and by this means make the staff of each battalion as near perfect as possible, so that if any necessity occurred for calling out the whole force the men could be drilled in a short time, as our Non Commissioned Officers could then perform their duties in drilling as well as the Officers, and the pivot man know how to move, and so in a few days at any time have a better drilled force than we have at present. This, sir, was his plan, and I believe it a good one. But now as another of the beautiful moves of our Government, our Brigade Major is turned out of office although without exception he was one of the very best men in the same position in the Province; I have my doubts that we will see his place filled in a few months, by one far inferior to him.

But as I have now unburthened my mind I must conclude.

I remain yours truly,

PETERBOROUGH.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—I would like to give an explanation of my communication for the benefit of Kanuck and your other readers. In the first place the Printer omitted part of the sentence, "A building could be put up for the men to sleep in on the side the officers' rooms would be on for two thousand dollars." This would have prevented the idea that the drill shed was to make a combined Bivouac Barrack room, and drill ground. Straw, as well as blankets could be allowed, which would make it much more comfortable at night for the men than I have seen it many times at camp in summer. Kanuck thinks the time would be wasted in drill sheds for want of room. Well I can say that I have seen battalion drill taught in a room 40 by 60 more effectually than in camp; because the time was not wasted by marching long distances; consequently more movements were made and learned. I agree that we do not get too much pay, but all men that I have mentioned this to (in both city and country) would rather drill for less in Winter than Summer. As for rifle practice some small moveable buildings could be built, each large enough to hold a company, firing could be done through holes in the sides. Every volunteer knows, who has been to camp several times, that there is much time lost through bad weather, which would not be so in a drill shed—it is a well to economize time as money. My calculations are made from last, not this year's small appropriation.

Yours truly,
BARONET.

The Paris correspondent of the Times telegraphs the following:—"There is a rumor circulating here, which comes from a good source, but which must be accepted with reserve, that the eldest son of the late Sultan has committed suicide."—A Berlin despatch says Austria has determined she will not now oppose Russian politics in the East. The Prince of Montenegro has openly assumed command of the insurgents. He has issued written instructions to various rebel chiefs, and is concentrating all his forces in the neighborhood of Podgoritza. A Russian official telegram confirms the report that the insurgents are determined to refuse an armistice. Gen. Tchernysyeff, writing from Belgrade, states that the Serbian army consists of 125,000 men and a force of 100,000 more. Serbians are convinced that war is a moral necessity. Milotich, the leader of the Servian liberals in Hungary, in an editorial published in the Zastava, used these words:—"We are speaking deliberately when we assert that the Servian war against the Turks is now more absolutely certain than anything else in the world."—The announcement is confirmed that the memorandum of the Turkish Conference will not be presented to the Porte, as satisfaction for the Sclavonia outrage has been obtained, armistice to the insurgents has been granted, and guarantees for the reforms are expected to be accorded spontaneously.

RING THE BELL SOFTLY.

BY DEXTER SMITH.

Some one has gone from this strange world of ours,
No more to gather its thorns with its flowers,
No more to lineer where sunbeams must fade,
Where on all beauty death's fingers are laid;
Weary with mingling life's bitter and sweet,
Weary with parting and never to meet,
Some one has gone to the bright, golden shore;
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!

Some one is resting from sorrow and sin,
Happy where earth's conflicts enter not in;
Joyous as birds when the morning is bright,
When the sweet sunbeams have brought us their light,
Weary with sowing and never to reap,
Weary with labor and welcoming sleep,
Some one's departed to Heaven's bright shore;
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!

Angels were anxiously longing to meet
One who walks with them in Heaven's bright street;
Loved ones have whispered that some one is blest—
Free from earth's trials and taking sweet rest.
Yes! there is one more in angelic bliss—
One less to cherish, and one less to kiss;
One more departed to Heaven's bright shore;
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!

Another Warning Voice from 1805.

BY MAJOR-GENERAL T. B. COLLINSON, R. E.

1793-1801.

(Continued from Page 264.)

Remarks

Every General is not a Napoleon; but without any disrespect to the personal qualities of our Generals, we may ask, how many of them would take an interest in, or even wish to see, their troops employed in forming basins for the Navy, or in rowing or working boats, or even in learning gun drill? How many would be prepared to make any proposition about artillery, or to discuss, like Napoleon, surrounded with scientific men of all kinds, the whole bearings of the project, naval, military, and civil? Napoleon said once, that science was superior to arms; but we appear to act sometimes in our Army nearly on the contrary supposition; we seem to think that it is sufficient for a General to know his drill, and that the soldier should practice nothing else all his life; and the result is, that we have seldom a General qualified by practice to take in the whole branches of warfare into his calculations, in the way an Admiral has to do with a Fleet, and that our soldiers at the outset of a campaign are at a loss to do anything but fall in and march. The care and thought bestowed by Napoleon himself on these matters gave new feelings to his troops, and a confidence in the result of their labours they did not feel at first. We are a nation whose whole warfare is made up of such expeditions; how often do our Army and Navy rehearse together the parts they are to play so often in their lives? and yet the British soldier has quite as much time for all these as the French soldier had, and he is better qualified by nature to rise to the occasion. Our Officers and men have, I believe, higher personal qualifications for soldiering than any other race; but these qualities are in great measure wasted by the system which tends to keep each branch of the Army within its own little groove; and we train a portion of our officers very carefully for war, and then make little or no use of this expensively educated section during the long years of peace. This adherence to the purely tactical part of the military profession is a foreign tradition, quite contrary to the English character, which of itself naturally takes

the more comprehensive spirit of the sailor and is not slow to take advantage of the science of the day. We shall never have a really English army until we enlarge our notions about the duties of the profession.

British Attacks.

All the British cruisers appointed to watch all these proceedings did not allow them to go on during those two years without many attempts to stop them. Besides the constant way-laying of the flotilla as they crept, one detachment after the other, along the French shore to the rendezvous, there were several direct attacks upon them in harbour by bombardment or otherwise. Our naval Officers now would no doubt think, as they did then, that it would not be a difficult matter to destroy them in that manner, but none of the attempts at that time succeeded. Even Lord Nelson failed in two attacks on Boulogne in 1801, where there was already a portion of the flotilla collected; and the great cause of failure seemed to be the superior size of the French guns. As the British ships got bolder in their attacks, Napoleon made larger guns and mortars, and fired the guns at high angles. It is true that, now-a-days, bombardments look more hopeful with our powerful and accurate guns; but it must be recollected that the flotilla presented a fair mark even to the guns of those days; there were generally one or two hundred of them moored in the roadstead, close together, and yet, neither by French nor English account, was there much injury done to either flotilla or forts, and their close packing and other precautions saved them from several attempts at boarding. Our torpedoists will also be disappointed to hear that one or two attempts with new and ingenious machines of that kind failed completely, and not so much from any defects in the machines themselves, as from accidents, of time and place and the precautions of the flotilla, to which such inventions in all ages are liable.

Upon the whole, indeed, there seems to be no doubt that the French naval and military forces felt more confidence in the prospect of success in the flotilla in 1805 than they did in 1803, and really began to believe in the possibility of forcing their way across the narrow channel in spite of the British Fleet; the Minister of Marine (Admiral Decrès) declared at last, that with the loss of about 100 vessels and 10,000 men, the flotilla would arrive on the English shores. "We must lose some men in every campaign," observed Napoleon upon this; but these two were in the secret.

The Transit.

The arrangements for the actual transit over the strip of sea were these: On the signal being given by Napoleon, which would be towards high water time, as only half the vessels could get out in one tide, about half the number of troops would at once embark in their respective vessels in each of the three ports of rendezvous, and lay outside off the ports till the next tide; in the meantime the horses would be put on board the transports, and at the next high water the remainder of the troops would embark, and the whole would move on at once to the appointed places on the English coast. The force from each port was to move in three lines—the large gunboats in the van line, the small gunboats in the rear, and the pinnaces in the centre. The naval Commander-in-Chief of the flotilla (Admiral Bruix at first, and, on his death, Admiral La Crosse) calculated on moving in a calm at the rate of three miles an hour, with the help of their oars, they

anticipated and hoped for a calm, or even for a fog, so as to escape the British men of war; and they calculated on the passage, even in a calm, not occupying more than twelve hours. They were not afraid of night time, as the troops had been practised in embarking and disembarking, and moving the vessels during the night.

Whether such an expedition would have succeeded in reaching the English shore in the face of any respectable naval force is a doubtful question. Admiral Lord Keith, who commanded the British naval force opposed to it, thought they would never attempt it without having the command of the Channel; we know that Napoleon did not intend them to attempt it, but it seems certain that the French naval and military commanders, who were not in his secret, had made up their minds to try it, and that after some experience.

It has indeed been sometimes doubted, whether Napoleon seriously entertained the idea of invading this country—whether the whole affair was not a blind to deceive the world, including the French themselves. But I think no one can read his letters on the subject during those years, showing his earnest attention to every detail in the affair, and his anxiety when the action of the plot began, without coming to the conclusion that his mind was really set upon the attempt. But the strongest evidence of all is, that it was on the point of being completely successful; his calculations of the probabilities of success were so carefully made, that the failure was due, not to fault in design, but to defect in execution.

Other Preparations.

The consideration of the points of attack on the English coast, and of the whole scheme, will come better in subsequent parts of the account; but we may record in this part the other preparations for the affair on the French side.

At Texel Napoleon had compelled the Dutch to provide a war fleet, and transports and troops, which with a French contingent formed a separate expedition of about 25,000 men, prepared for long sea voyage.

At Antwerp he had commenced the docks and quays, which were to be the beginning of the great works he contemplated there and at Flushing; and no doubt if he could have postponed the attempt on England, as he wished, till these were finished, the Scheldt would have been chosen as the point of departure of a large naval and military force. As it was, the Belgians were occupied in providing part of the flotilla, which was moved to Ambleuse when ready.

At Brest there were 21 French ships of the line and transports besides, and about 25,000 troops: forming another complete expedition for long sea voyage.

At Rochefort there was a small squadron and a few thousand men.

At Toulon there were 11 ships of the line and 9,000 men; and at Ferrol, Cadiz, and Cartagena, the Spaniards were bound by the treaty with Napoleon of January, 1805, to have 30 ships of the line and 50,000 troops.

It must be recollected that all these war squadrons, and their troops and transports were blockaded in their respective ports by the British ships; and it will be seen, subsequently, that the troops at Rochefort and Toulon and part of the Spanish forces were employed in the West Indies; and that the two great expeditions of Texel and Brest never moved at all.

At the beginning of 1805, Napoleon had available, towards the invasion of England, the following land and sea forces. Of these nearly 200,000 men, about 10,000 must be

deducted for the West India expedition, and 40,000 at Texel and Brest together, for whom there was not transport; leaving 150,000 who could have been embarked for the invasion.

FRENCH NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES PREPARED TOWARDS THE INVASION OF ENGLAND, 1805.

<i>Places.</i>		<i>Troops.</i>			
TEXEL—	{	French 18,000, Marshal Marmont.			
	{	Dutch 12,000,			
		Dutch Ships of the Line 5.			
BREST—		French 25,000, General Angereau,			
		French Ships of the Line 21, Admiral Gantheaume.			
ROCHEFORT—		French 4,000.			
		French Ships of the Line 6, Admirals Missessy and Lalleland.			
FERROL	}	Spanish 5,000	} French 5 ships		
CADIZ				}	Spanish 10 "
CARTHAGENA					
		Admirals Gourdon, Grandallana and Gravina.			
TOULON—		French 9,000, French Ships of the Line 11, Admirals Trevillo and Villeneuve.			
BOULOGNE	French, Ambleteuse	23,727 Marsh.			
do	do	Boulogne	30,657 Marsh.		
			[Davoust.		
do	do	Etaples	20,527 Marsh.		
			[Sault.		
do	do	Reserve	38,801 Gen.		
			[Ney.		
do	do	Staff and Non-combat.	9,233		
			[Baraguay d'Hilliers.		
Total		122,915'			
Horses 14,254	{	Officers	1,023		
	{	Troops	6,065		
	{	Artillery	7566		
Totals : 195,000 troops ; 78 ships of the line.					

THE LAND PREPARATIONS IN ENGLAND.

Unready in 1804—as in 1583.

If there were some points of resemblance between the preparations for the invasion of England in 1803 and those in 1588, there are more between the preparations for resisting it at those two epochs. The general organization of the forces of the country had been, indeed, much altered since the days of the Tudors: the permanent Royal Army had been increased, the old constitutional Militia had been put on a settled footing by Act of Parliament, and a new edition of it in the shape of Volunteers had been established; and the whole was placed much more under the central authority of the Government itself, the same mistaken parsimony and the same bewildering suus when the supreme moment arrived. There was, indeed, the same enthusiasm in the country; at the first sound of the trumpet of victory the English war-spirit broke forth, as it did in the days of Elizabeth; but the very centralizing of the authority, which ought to have led that enthusiasm, by its own supineness wasted it away. The counties were ready to act as over, but they had no longer that spring of local power to act: the men of Kent had no longer the responsibility of defending Kent. It was a better system, no doubt, to have a powerful central authority, but that authority having failed to do his duty, as in 1588, there was no independent local action to fill the gap as in those days.

Now this is not merely a question of historical interest; we have a much more serious concern in it, for the same defects still exist and will lead to the same imminent danger in the next great war we are engaged in. We have gone on improving

the condition of the permanent Royal Army and elaborating a system on paper, and at the same time we have been accumulating more and more power in the central Government, and more and more sapping that local spirit which is after all the essence of English action. And this has resulted from the form of Parliamentary Government now existing in this country; not indeed directly because in all civil questions that come before Parliament, the importance of local government is always strongly insisted on, but the jealousy of Parliament has prevented any Government from ever trying to put the system of defence of the country on a broader, more permanent, and more local, and therefore more national basis, although a proper system of that kind would on the whole tend to deprive the central Government of some of the military power they have now got possession of.

The defensive measures began in England at the same time that the Revolutionary Government in France began to threaten them with invasion. Neither side appeared to be very much in earnest in the matter: the French apparently did not care to do more than make desultory descents upon Ireland and England, and the English felt so confident in the naval guard they kept on the narrow seas, that they did little on land but call out the Militia and arm the old existing coast batteries; and under the reactionary influence that brought about the peace of 1801, even this small expense was economized. The trained troops were disbanded, the guns and stores sold, and the ships paid off, which had been slowly accumulated during the eight years of war, and all in order that the Government of the day should gain popularity by reducing the estimates. Very heavily we are paying for that one year's popularity.

Very different was the feeling twelve months after, when the terrible Napoleon, who now directed the energies of France, and who struck down one enemy after the other on the continent, now turned the individual forces of his goupes and of his kingdom upon what was known to be his most ardent desire—the crushing of England by one overwhelming blow. The popular Government of peace was speedily dismissed to make way for the only man who was felt to be a match for the dreaded enemy, William Pitt. And in 1803 after a peace of Great Britain's own making and breaking, the country had to begin almost *de novo* in creating a fleet and an army and defences, with the sea looking in at the gate. That the country escaped being conquered was no merit of that popular Government, nor of the Parliament; it was due under God's Providence to national characteristics, which from time to time save England in spite of Governments.

The Six War Departments.

I cannot but congratulate His Royal Highness the present Commander-in-Chief. The record of all these struggles to get ready for the impending blow is contained in the correspondence of the various departments concerned. I have been allowed to look over some of the records left by his illustrious predecessor the Duke of York; and I cannot but congratulate His Royal Highness that he has but a Secretary of State to deal with, and that in peace, instead of the task of his royal uncle, who had six different independent departments of the Government to consult, in face of *la Poutance*. There was the Colonial Ministry, who guided the general operations of the war; the Secretary at War, who raised the forces; the Master General of the Ord-

nance, who provided the war stores and commanded the artillery and engineers; the Treasury, who provided the supplies; the Home Office, who controlled the reserve forces; and the Admiralty, who conducted the naval defence. The Commander-in-Chief and his General of districts might propose plans of defence; but any one of these political chiefs might upset the whole by putting in or leaving out his own little independent spoke. If a coast battery was to be altered, the proposition must be submitted through the General of the district to the Commander-in-Chief for his general approval, to the Master General for the guns; to the Secretary at War for the pay of the gunners; to the Treasury for their food; and to the Admiralty for the coast signal. That any defences were ready by 1805 is in itself a memorial of the energy of the British character which could overcome so cumbersome a machine of war.

The machine still exists. It has been put together in a new form, in one large case, and labelled WAR DEPARTMENT; and many people believe it to be an entirely new engine capable of being set in motion by one person. It does very well for show in peace time, but try to set it to work for any practical purpose, and it will be found that the old limbs are there still with the rust of ages on them, and particularly stiff in their connecting joints. And the most curious arrangement about this old machine for a practical people, as we profess to be, is that the man who has to work it, is specially selected on account of his total ignorance of its details, and in order to insure inexperience, he is changed at uncertain times. I am not thinking of the permanent officials in thus speaking of the War Department, I know well how hard they work for the nation; it is the Government and Parliament, who are to blame, who being responsible to the country for providing an efficient war machine, allow this over-worked old affair to go on.

The Force Available.

Throughout 1803 we find from the records that the Commander-in-Chief and his Generals were occupied in discussing a scheme of defence; about the middle of it, he expressed a confident hope that there would shortly be devised some means of impeding the enemy from advancing into the country; what then we may ask had the six independent departments been about, when after eight years of expectation of invasion, the Commander-in-Chief of the land forces, is still in an attitude of doubt as to the defence? In October of that year His Royal Highness made a general report to the Government on the scheme of defence he proposed: and this document is well worthy of the attention of all future defenders of the country; for though many of the conditions are quite altered, the local peculiarities and the general principles remain the same. He calculated on having in 1803, and he actually had in 1805, at his disposal for the defence of the United Kingdom, about the following force.

In Great Britain and the Channel Islands, 70,000 Regulars, 56,000 Militia, 33,000 Volunteers, 16,000 Sea Fencibles. In Ireland, 25,000 Regulars, 25,000 Militia, 10,000 Sea Fencibles. Total 326,000.

There were then in the East Indies and in the Colonies about 50,000 regulars and Colonial corps.

The Commander-in-Chief had, therefore, for the defence of Great Britain (as the troops in Ireland could not be removed under the circumstances) about 126,000 of what in the loose military ideas of that

day, they called Regulars; that is to say regular Army and Militia. He wanted 20,000 more, and 20,000 on the top of that, for the expeditionary corps which never was ready to start: not a very extravagant demand considering the character of the troops, and the character of the 180,000 Napoleon had available to bring against him. The Militia had been embodied during the previous eight years, and had been considered as the legitimate reserve and feeder of the permanent Army; and there was therefore not much difference between them: few of them had seen real war, or had any experience out of the United Kingdom. Hitherto the country had depended mainly for its land forces on the voluntary recruiting for the regular Army and on the old constitutional Militia: and the insufficiency of this provision for the defence of the country, may be judged from these comparative statements: From 1783 to 1800 the regular British Army had about 1-500 of the whole population of the kingdom *per annum*, during the same time the French Army had taken about 1-100 of their population *per annum*, or nearly the whole such population of 20 years of age each year: and at the present day the Prussians take in *peace time per annum* 1-300 of their whole population for their regular army.

But in 1803-4 the Volunteer force, which had hitherto existed rather on sufferance, took a prominent and permanent position in the defensive elements. Now, the very existence of such a body, rising up spontaneously as it did at the beginning of the war, was a moral force such as few countries have been fortunate enough to possess. The mighty Napoleon was trying at this very time, in 1803, to rouse artificially in France that spirit, which in England was almost overpowering in its free growth. The Volunteers had as yet been only a comparatively small supplement to the Militia; but in 1803 the Government being frightened not out of their wits, but into them, then commenced that series of experiments, which continued up to 1812, on the raising of a British army, and which will be found a mine of study to the inventors of such schemes at the present day. It was the first of these, an attempt to raise a sort of *levy en masse* of the country, that drove the whole of those liable to its operations in a body into the ranks of the Volunteers. Thus these 330,000 recruits, who had suddenly sprung out of the ground, were, though equally enthusiastic, of a different character to those which had gradually grown on to the Militia, and the Commander-in-Chief very properly did not trust very much to their assistance in his scheme of defence.

And unless we alter our ideas upon the subject of Great Britain's war requirements very considerably, this is precisely the general character of the force which the future Commander-in-Chief will have to deal with in preparing to defend the country against future invasion. A few Regulars, a partially trained and hurriedly increased Militia, and a vast crowd of Volunteers. Whether the 150,000 experienced soldiers of Napoleon would have forced their way through those spirited defenders of their country up to London is a problem we can only approximate to, by considering the advance of the Prussian Army, in 1870, through the whole French regular army and over distance three times that of London from the Coast, up to Paris. As we did in 1588, as we did in 1797, as we did in 1803, so are we doing now; we are trusting entirely to that one line of defence the guarding of a narrow strait of sea by our ships. We have

really at the present time no arrangement at all for increasing largely and at once the number of regular troops in the United Kingdom, any more than we had at any one of the times above mentioned: and yet that was felt at each of the epochs to be the one effectual security against such a fearful danger.

The Commander-in-Chief's Report.

In considering the defence of the Kingdom in 1803, the Commander-in-Chief took the coast between Norfolk and Portsmouth, as the most vulnerable part—it must be remembered that the threatened points of departure of the invader extended from Texel to Brest—and that the kind of vessels constructed for the great French flotilla, implied a short passage. He then describes the numerous practicable places for the enemy's landing on that coast: and lay down the maxim, far more applicable now than then, that "The period of the enemy's greatest weakness would be that of his landing;" and in order to take advantage of this weak moment, he proposes to distribute part of what he calls his regular forces, that is of the 126,000 above mentioned, in camps along the coast within easy march of it; the volunteers of the counties concerned to proceed on the appearance of the enemy to reinforce these regulars. He then discusses the possible advance of the enemy from some point of this vulnerable coast upon London; for he assumes, as almost every military man, either invader or defender of England, has assumed, that the object of the enemy would be to reach London by the shortest possible line, without turning aside for any purpose if he could help it. And he draws attention to the serious danger, which still remains as a matter of very great concern in our defensive system, that there are no good natural positions between this vulnerable coast line and the capital, on which a decisive battle could be fought with advantage: hence he argues on the necessity of strengthening artificially such as do exist, in order to gain time for the forces to accumulate to oppose the enemy's advance. The tremendous difficulty of the problem was to him, as it is still, in the "dangerous proximity of the capital to the coast." And we saw no way of escaping the risk of losing the capital, but by intrenching and defending it.

Napoleon's Plan of Attack.

The weak part of this system of defence appears to be in scattering the regulars too much; as the whole defence depended on them. The general principle was that the regulars were to remain in their districts, and the volunteers were to march to reinforce them: the whole concentrating towards London. But as the Volunteers were not to move until the enemy appeared the commander must have had little notion of Napoleon's speed of movement if he expected to have time to assemble them between the coast and the capital, in a position to oppose him. An inspection of the map accompanying this paper will show how very much scattered the English land forces were just before the expected invasion. We have no authoritative account of the lines of attack on which Napoleon proposed to move; but we know that he asked for the command of the channel for only six days, and said that he would be in London in five days, and that his naval officers calculated on performing the passage by rowing the boats of the flotilla in twelve hours at the utmost, and that 120,000 men could have been carried in the flotilla; hence we may conclude that the mass of his

forces were to be landed on the coasts of Kent and Sussex. This is confirmed by a French map of the channel which I have seen, and which indicates six places of landing on those coasts, viz., Brighton, Newhaven, Hastings, Shorncliffe, Dover and Deal, with routes from each to London. Other landing places are marked at Swanago (west to Isle of Wight) in the Bristol Channel, and at Harwich, on the east coast, with routes also up to London; but these would probably be the feints to be made by detachments from the fleets at Brest and Texel. If the main body were really to land at these six places, then following the ideas expressed by Napoleon himself of securing one of his flanks on the Thames, they would probably have advanced in echelon from the right, and thus have prevented both their flanks from being turned. The above map, by the references on it, evidently was connected with the scheme of invasion at that period.

(To be Continued.)

An Improved Backsight for Military Rifles.

Much interest has been felt by the shooting fraternity in a new backsight which was sent from England to Major Macpherson a few days ago, and which was shown by him at the range on Saturday last. It is most ingeniously constructed, and if it carries out the object of the inventor, it will be a very decided improvement upon the one in use. It is claimed for it that it will do away with the haphazard or uncertain aim, and blur from the effect of sun, strong light and most especially from winds. The top of the sighting bar having a reversed V to aim through, this peculiar shape, the inventor says, prevents to a very great extent the sun and light from effecting the aim. The bar is also made to traverse by means of a screw, either right or left, thus giving a wind gauge, which is as true as a wind gauge can be made. It is graduated in the same way as a vernier, each degree allowing three inches for every one hundred yards. In rifle shooting the two great difficulties to contend with are of course light and wind, and if this inventor does away with the blur and enables the marksmen always to aim at the bulls eye, the shooting with military rifles will soon approach the perfection attained by the small bore match rifles. The sight will no doubt be thoroughly tested in England, and if found to be, as good as it is claimed to be, will be adopted for military rifles. Its simplicity and strength make it peculiarly fit for this purpose.—*Free Press.*

Mr. Pirasoff has elicited the fact that the number of ships carrying grain lost during the four and a half years ending June 30th 1875, is 415, and the number of *livres* lost therein 2,149. The wheat, barley, oats and maize imported into the United Kingdom during the last five years was as follows:—In 1871 (bushels), 75,698,000; 1872, 93,244,000; 1873, 83,835,000; 1874, 81,944,000; 1875, 95,800,000.

The Prince of Wales has in seventeen weeks traversed 7,600 miles of sand, 2,300 of ocean, seen more of India than any man living, and enjoyed more fun than all the kings of England, from the conquest downwards, put together.

Canon Pope, a leading Roman Catholic clergyman of Dublin, tendered his congratulations to Her Majesty on her acceptance of the title of Empress of India, and received an official acknowledgment of Her Majesty's thankfulness for the good wishes expressed.

A Berlin special in London reports that numerous Slavonian journals assert that a strong Russian force is being concentrated at Bender, on the river Doerster, near the Moldavo Turkish frontier. The Prince of Montenegro has forbidden the transmission of telegrams or letters giving any information of military movements. The Herzegovinese, under the control of the Prince of Montenegro, have determined to accept no communication from the Porte. The Slavonic Committee at Moscow have sent the insurgents 100,000 roubles. The same despatch says it appears that on June the 1st, rival propositions touching a settlement of the Eastern Question were received at Vienna from England and Russia. Similar communications were probably made by both powers to Berlin, prior to the Emperor William postponing his contemplated trip to Ems. News has just been received in London that the Austrian Government has again permitted 6000 breechloaders and several million cartridges to be landed at Cattaro, for the Montenegrins. The Turks have consequently forbidden Austrian steamers from touching at the Turkish bank of the Danube. — A Vienna despatch mentions a report that Germany and Austria decline the suggestion made by Russia to postpone the recognition of Murad until he was willing to receive advice from the Powers. — The Telegraph's correspondent at Paris announces that the Grand Duke Michel of Russia has arrived there. Le Soir says great importance is attached to the visit in political circles. We believe it indicates the restoration of French influence in the councils of Europe.

One native of America, the potatoe, now ranks first among the vegetables of the world. Another native, the cranberry, bids fair to take first rank among the healthful acid fruits.

The Count of Paris has gone to England to bring to France the remains of Louis Phillippe and Queen Amelia, the Duchess of Orleans, the Duchess of Annulla and Prince of Conde. The remains will be landed at Havre on Friday, and will be reinterred in the chapel built by Louis Phillippe for the burial of his family. The transfer of the bodies and their reinterment will be strictly private.

One of the grandest engineering projects of the time is the union of the Black and Caspian Seas. The plan is to join by canal the tributaries of the Manych and the Kouma, two considerable rivers which drain the northern slope of the Caucasuses. If these two seas were united, the naval force of Russia would be practically doubled, for then her Caspian fleet could, in case of necessity, be added to that which holds the Black Sea.

The blow struck by the shot from the eighty-ton gun is equal to twenty thousand foot tons on a circular space of fifteen inches in diameter. If, therefore, a shot from it were to strike another eighty-ton gun from below, it would hurl the second gun upwards of two hundred and forty feet into the air.



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REFERENCES.—By kind permission we refer to the following: Franklin S. Lane, Louisville, drew \$13,000. Miss Hattie Banker, Charleston, \$2,000. Mrs. Louisa T. Blake, Saint Paul, Piano, \$7,000. Samuel V. Raymond, Boston, \$5,500. Eugene P. Brackett, Pittsburg, Watch, \$300. Miss Anna Osgood, New Orleans, \$5,000. Emory L. Pratt, Columbus, Ohio, \$7,000.

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Prospectus for 1876--Ninth Year.

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