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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. V.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1871.

No. 17.

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. VII.

THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

(From the United States Army and Navy Journal.)

SHOES—SADDLES—BRIDLES.

With regard to shoeing, one thing is to be said, and only one thing. As long as it is not made the rigid rule, never to be disregarded, for every man to carry a full set of spare shoes for his horses, with the complement of nails, in the pouches of his saddle, so long there will be constant trouble. General orders are always recommending it; but I never yet saw such an order fully obeyed. As to the form of shoes, I should decidedly recommend plain flat foreshoes for summer, with low heel corks on the hind shoes. These enable a horse to stop short with much more ease, if suddenly pulled up. In the winter both toe and heel corks on all the shoes should be used in slippery ice countries, such as Canada. In mud countries they are not necessary. But, as our next war of any magnitude will probably be in the north our horses will have to be roughed with toe and heel corks for winter campaigning.

Saddling is a different matter. On good saddling and packing depends all the efficiency of a cavalry force. Your men may be well armed, splendid swordsmen, and dead shots; their horses may start on the campaign full of life and vigor; but, if the saddling and packing are bad, sore backs will soon dismount all your cavalry, and render them useless.

During the Crimean war Captain George B. McClellan was sent to Europe to inspect and report on cavalry and infantry weapons, accoutrements, and organization. It is a significant fact that that excellent organizer could find nothing in all Europe, after due examination, worthy to compare, as a cavalry saddle, with our own Mexican or Texan tree.

The McClellan saddle, which is a modification thereof, is far better than any in use in Europe. This Mexican saddletree is the fruit of the experience of centuries. It is the offspring of the Turkish and Arab saddle, very slightly modified. It came into use among the people in whose country the horse took his rise, and it is, in all its modifications, a miracle of comfort and security to the rider. The only objection to it is its weight—a defect by no means remedied in the McClellan saddle.

There is far too much toggery on this saddle. The flaps, the sweat-leathers, the saddle-bags, are all useless dead weight. As for the saddle-bags, they are about as useless and foolish an appendage as I ever saw. Again and again have I seen them thrown away by men whose practical experience had taught them; and the whole reason is that they are too small to hold anything. Take them away and give two light simple canvas bags of twice or three times their size, and you give a man somewhere to put his food. The prime trouble with all military saddles is the want of room for provisions and forage, whereas that is all they ought to be made to carry.

A man wants no overcoat in summer campaigns. By universal consent it is thrown away before many days out, at the risk of wanting another. I never knew this to fail. All the weight a man carries besides rations and forage is himself and arms, one blanket, a piece of shelter tent or poncho, a shirt, drawers, and socks, a towel, comb, and piece of soap. The sleeping blanket and tent are put under the saddle by all old soldiers, and prevent sore backs instead of making them. But forage and food form the weight. As it stands, the men carry them the best way they know how. All the government gives them is one haversack. This ought to be changed. Two good sized canvas saddle-bags with a girth in connection, would hold eight or ten days' provisions with ease. The girth would keep them down to the horses' sides, and save horse and rider from the flapping of his present load. Moreover, a cavalry soldier on his first day's march would no longer resemble a trussed turkey, incapable of motion, and could mount and dismount as easily as he does now with "light saddles."

The bare McClellan tree is quite light and convenient. Its the leathern toggery that weighs it down. The same bare tree is immensely improved in appearance by a brass rim on pommel and cantle. This also preserves the edge of the cover from wearing out. A McClellan saddle always goes first at the edge of the cantle, and, once the rawhide cover is gone, the saddle soon racks to pieces. The Texan saddle, which strongly resembles the Mexican, would be better than the McClellan for troops. There are no buckles anywhere upon it. Instead of straps leathern thongs are used to tie things to pommel and cantle. The broad, flat horn in front is quite a convenience for many purposes, especially to go to sleep on in long night marches. The girth fastens with two rings and a long strap between, being secured by an easy slip-knot.

But the Mexican form of girth has one

disadvantage. Starting from a triangle of leathern, which embraces pommel and cantle, it has a tendency to press on the ends of the saddle and produce sore back. If, instead of this, a surcingle were used, passing over the middle of the saddle, but fastening like the girth with the two rings, it would be far preferable. The ring fastening has this great advantage: you can girth any horse with it, no matter how he swells out. He cannot resist. Every turn of the strap through the rings doubles your strength like a pulley. The surcingle is far preferable to the girth as a mode of securing the saddle. It is so used by the Guachos all all over South America.

One thing about the McClellan saddle as issued is radically bad. It has no breast-strap, and it has a crupper. This ought to be reversed. It may do with mules who have no withers; but in nine horses out of ten, outside of Indian ponies, the fault lies the other way.

In active service the men universally threw away their cruppers in our war, and many who had slim bellied horses were forced to buy breast-straps, by hook or by crook. Many used their surcingles for the purpose, but had to give it up. A breast-strap to a cavalry horse is almost an indispensable necessity. In ascending hills his load is almost sure to slip back, and much botheration ensues. With a breast-strap the girth can be loosened and the horse much eased. Care must be taken to avoid losing the blankets in this case. More than fifty times I have seen the saddle blanket under a carelessly put on saddle slide slowly back, till it gently dropped over the croup, the rider being quite unconscious of his loss till warned of it by others. This is most apt to occur with bellied horses. The blanket should be secured to the saddle in such cases.

The stirrups of the McClellan saddle are good and bad. They have good points, but sadly need improvement. The intention of the hood is excellent. It is to keep the foot from slipping through the stirrup, as well as to protect it from bushes, etc. In practice a man is very apt to get his foot stuck fast between the stirrup and the hood, and to find it worse than the open one for that reason. This part of the objection is easily remedied. A broad strap of leather, nailed across the interval from the bottom of the stirrup to the bottom of the hood, at once removes all the inconvenience. It ought certainly to be done in future in all cases.

The second objection is more serious. It lies in the material of the stirrup-wood. Wood exposed to rain, wind and weather soon rots. Especially around rusty iron

bolts does it become unsound. Twice it has happened to myself to have a wooden stirrup break down under me, once causing me a heavy fall; and I have seen the same thing happen to others so often that I at one time took a prejudice against it and used the open iron stirrup as safer. But there is no denying that the open iron stirrup gives nothing like so firm a seat as the hooded wooden one. The necessity of pressing upon it in order to keep your feet from slipping forward deranges the seat; whereas in the hooded stirrup the foot hangs as easily as when riding bareback.

I have come to the conclusion that a light iron stirrup hooded is better than either, and the wonder is that it has not been issued. It would be cheaper in the end, as it would last.

The McClellan saddle is a very poor one as far as lasting goes. Two years knocks all the glory out of it, and there are so many useless little bits of toggery about it, which are constantly getting lost or broken, that it is a wonder it has held its ground so long. But, as in the case of Colt's revolver, a single excellence has counterbalanced its many defects. It is comfortable to ride in, and if it fits the horse any way near, it never gives sore back.

Take it all in all, it is the best military saddle yet in use. The Texan is still better in its way; but still, strip the McClellan saddle to the bare tree, use a leathorn surcingle with a ring strap girth and a breast strap, throw a pair of useful saddle-bags across the seat, and girth them a little in rear of the saddle girth, and you have as good a cavalry saddle as a man need wish for. Put a long grain bag behind, and all is complete.

With regard to bridling, the first thing that suggests itself is this, that all our military bits are far too heavy, as also the head gear in general. There is a bridle in use in Buenos Ayres for mounted troops that is excellent in this connection. There is no halter. Instead of this a leathern collar is used, which goes just back of the ears. The French Chasseurs d'Afrique, the best cavalry of their country, use the same collar instead of a halter. No horse can slip out of it, it fits so close, though not tight. To the sides of the collar the check-pieces of the bridle hook in two little rings made for the purpose.

This bridle is wonderfully light and strong, and by far the simplest we have ever seen. Simplicity is a great recommendation for military purposes. It saves time in bridling a great object on picket duty especially, to give the horse as much time to rest and feed as possible, without danger of a surprise finding you unready.

The bits of Mexicans, Guachos, Turks, and Arabs are alike savage things. Our military bits follow them too much. The lighter a bit, the better. A thin wire snaffle mouthpiece, quite straight, with two long but very light curb branches annexed to it, is the best bit I know of for military rough riding. It very much resembles the Yelham bit. The reins should be single, and transferable to either snaffle or curb to suit mouths.

As regards appearance, I am decidedly of opinion that all metal work, buckles, curb branches, etc., intended for show, should be of brass, not steel. The difficulty of keeping steel clean in the field is almost inconceivable. At the end of the war, our cavalry, with their steel scabbards, blued carbines and pistols, presented the appearance of a pack of ill-clad bushwhackers, with

dirty weapons and dingy saddle trappings, impossible to make smart.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER AND PRESENTATION.

The officers of the 66th H. V. B. Infantry Regiment gave a dinner to their Colonel, J. J. Bremner last evening at the Halifax Hotel.

About forty officers and guests sat down to a dinner gotten up with the usual admirable taste of "Mino Host" of the "Halifax."

After Grace had been said by Rev. Mr. Campbell, Major Morrow, in the absence of Sonic. Major Oldright, read the following addresses:

To Lieut.-Col. James J. Bremner, Commanding 66th Halifax Volunteer Battalion of Infantry:

We the officers of the Regiment under your command, beg leave to request your acceptance of the Sword and accompaniments, which we present to you herewith, as a testimonial of our respect and esteem.

Many of us have long been associated with you in other positions in the Local Forces of Nova Scotia, and have thus had frequent opportunities of observing the order and diligence which have uniformly characterized the discharge of your Military duties.

Your untiring zeal in the discharge of your duties as Commanding Officer of the 66th, and the uniform kindness and courtesy, which you have always shown to those under your command, render this presentation a duty alike honorable to you and agreeable to ourselves.

Our earnest prayer is that every blessing may attend your amiable lady, yourself and family, and that you may long be spared to command the corps to which we have the honor to belong.

H. D. OLDRIGHT,
Lt.-Col. & Major 66th H.V.B.I.
JAS. B. MORROW, Major.
W. H. NEAL, Quartermaster.
W. B. SLATTERY, Surgeon.
GEORGE MACLEAN, Capt. Paymaster.
R. J. WATT, Capt.
JOHN W. WATT, Capt.
E. H. REEVES, Capt.
GEORGE GUY, Capt.
ALFRED BROOME, Capt.
G. E. FRANKLYN, Lt.
GEORGE W. HART, Lt.
C. H. HERWOOD, Lt.
WM. DENCE, Lt.
WM. M. HUMPHREY, Ens.

Halifax, N. S., March 1871.

The present referred to is a beautiful Sword and an Embossed Scabbard; Sash and Sword-belt and gold spurs, enclosed in a beautiful mahogany case, costing in all about 60 guineas. On the sword and on the case the following inscription is engraved:

"Presented to Lieut.-Col. J. J. Bremner, Commander 66th Halifax Volunteer Battalion of Infantry, by his officers, March A. D., 1871."

The rich, tasteful appearance of the testimonial attracted every body's attention,

Lt.-Col. Bremner in reply to Major Morrow read the following:

Halifax, N. S., April 3, 1871.

Lieut.-Col. Oldright and Brother Officers of the 66th Halifax Volunteer Infantry Battalion:

It is with feelings impossible for me adequately to express, that I accept this handsome and valuable testimonial, which you have now presented to me, accompanied with such flattering expressions of your esteem and respect.

I have long been associated with most of you in the Militia service, and my experience in the former organization, of your diligence in the discharge of your duties, and your uniform courtesy and kindly feelings towards me, always making every allowance for my many imperfections as your commanding officer, encouraged me to enter upon the formation of our present Volunteer Battalion, of which we are all so proud. I was also encouraged by receiving the hearty support of some officers not previously connected with us, whose reputation was high and in whom we all had confidence. My expectations and my confidence in you have never been disappointed, and in accepting this fresh evidence of your kindly feelings towards me, I must acknowledge how little I could have accomplished without your hearty co-operation and sympathy.

The honor which you have done me I can never forget. I will ever cherish the memory of this evening as one of the proudest of my life, and I trust that the handsome sword which you have now presented to me, will be handed down in my family from generation to generation, as one of the most honoured heir looms, which it can ever possess.

I heartily thank you for your kind wishes for myself and family; and that every blessing may ever attend you and yours, is my sincere prayer, and I trust that our intercourse, as officers of the Halifax Volunteer Infantry Battalion, may be long continued in the same harmonious and friendly spirit as has hitherto characterized it.

Thanking you most heartily for the high honor which you have done me.

I remain, gentlemen,
ever yours faithfully,

JAS. J. BREMNER,
Lt.-Col. Com. 66th "H. V. I. B.

During the dinner the 66th H. V. B. Infantry Band, played, in a style which elicited from the speakers hearty encomiums for excellence, the following programme of Music:

1. Grand March..... Webber.
2. Fantasia sur Robin des Bois.... Pillard.
3. Valse, Dominion..... Sullivan.
4. Galop, Mic Mac..... Webb.
5. Royal Canadian Quadrilles.... Italic.
6. Galop, Night Bell..... Clark.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

After dinner the Chairman Major Morrow proposed the health of the "Queen" which was received as became a true British Regiment like the 66th.

"The Governor General."

"The Lieut.-Governor and Staff"—responded to by Col. Sinclair who spoke highly of the efficiency of the regiment, and especially of that of the band, which he said ought to be far better than that of any line regiment, as in the latter case they merely had 4 or 500 men to pick from whilst in the volunteers there was the whole, community of several thousands from which to select.

"The Army and Navy," band playing "British Grenadiers" and "Rule Britannia," called up Colonel Laurie, who said that the citizens of Halifax were certainly competent to form an opinion of the Army and Navy, as they had them always with them, and knew all their faults, of which, no doubt, they had some, and all their virtues, of which he trusted they had some also. He spoke of the friendship and good feeling which had always existed between the citizens and the garrison and fleet, how many of the latter had become citizens, how the families of Halifax were bound up with the service through marriage. He dwelt upon the new policy enunciated by the Imperial Government, "reculer pour mieux sauter," the policy of concentration, so as to have the whole force in hand and available for any service. Congratulated them that Halifax was not to be deprived of the troops; that the morning drum would still salute the Red Cross flag of England as it floated over the citadel. He pointed out that, as Volunteers, they were especially connected with the army, as their common business was the defence of the land, and spoke of the pleasure and advantage there was in being brought together for manœuvring, as in the late field day, when the 66th had won economies from all who saw it. Remarking that there was no naval officer present, and that even our own Naval Brigade, after a sickly existence, had "gone up," he suggested that Lieut.-Col. Belcher, who was now reshaping the remains into a most efficient brigade of artillery, should be called upon as the nearest representative.

Colonel Belcher denied all connection with the naval force, and stated that he had found a very general willingness on the part of the Naval Brigade to be converted into artillery. He apologised for not being in full dress; stated that so long as he could not obtain badges and chevrons for his non-commissioned officers he could not think that much desire was entertained by those in authority that the brigade should be properly dressed out, and he should do his duty in undress.

"Our Brother Volunteers," replied to by Lieut. Col. Creighton, who promised that the artillery would always do their duty in support of their brother Volunteers.

By Lieut. Col. Pineo, M.P.P., who stated that he had been a Volunteer for some years and had afterwards taken a great interest in the Active Militia, as his old inspecting officer, Colonel L., could vouch for. He had now been passed over to the Reserve, where he should be happy at any time to come forward and reinforce the Active Force.

By Colonel Laurie, who spoke for the 63rd Rifles; stated that Lieut.-Col. Mackinlay had expressed his regret that a pressing engagement had prevented his attending that evening. He hoped the utmost good feeling would always prevail amongst the several corps, and that a healthy rivalry would

conduce to make them all more efficient.

The next toast was that of "Lieut. Col. Brunel," received most enthusiastically. The gallant Colonel, who seemed quite overcome with his reception, referred to the fact that almost all who had assisted him to form the regiment had served with him in the old organization. He knew them and asked them to join him in this new formation—he knew what he might expect from them and he had not been disappointed. Never since he began this organization had he met with any impropriety of conduct on the part of any officer or non-commissioned officer; as a natural result the men had all tried their utmost to do their duty, and with what success their appearance on parade would prove. He much amused the company by his account of an occurrence on parade lately, where in drilling a squad he gave the wrong word of command, all obeyed except one young officer, who stood fast. Repeated again and again, with the same result; he at last asked what he waited for? "The word 'turn,' Sir," was the reply. "Face" had been used by mistake.

"The Clergy," was replied to by the Rev. John Campbell in a most eloquent speech. Whilst all other professions were taken into the Volunteers and employment found for them there was no opening for the clergy. He held that the defence of one's country was a most sacred duty, that the highest type of a christian might be found in the soldier, who placed his life at the disposal of his country and took up arms in defence of his home. Were no other place made for him he should feel it his duty to shoulder his rifle, don the red coat, and place himself under the gallant Colonel's command, should any emergency require his services.

"The Legislature" was replied to by Lt.-Col. Honber, W. J. Grains, M.L.C., and Lt. Col. Pineo, M.P.P.

The toast of "the Ladies" called Capt. Brown, who called up Lieut. Johnston, who called up Capt. C. J. McDonald, who called up Capt. Watt, and between these two a word duel took place, which resulted in much laughter.

Col. Laurie, with the Chairman's permission, then rose and proposed "Prosperity to the 66th Regiment." He dwelt upon the fact that with soldiers courage was the result of confidence, in themselves, in their weapons, and in their leaders. Although he did not hold to the traditional theory, so dear to the English boy's mind, that we were braver than any other nation; nor did he admit that of our neighbors; that whilst the Britishers had whipped all creation they had whipped the Britishers; still he held that we were a plucky race. We had the best military weapon yet issued to any soldier; our conditions were thus satisfied, and it now rested with the officers to understand that in their case mere courage was not enough; the rank and file do the actual fighting, the officers are simply to command

them and place them in a position to fight; therefore it may be said that everything depended on the officers, and that discipline, which meant complete subordination of the individual will to that of the commander was of more importance than ever, now, especially where the rank and file were educated men and inclined to think for themselves. From his knowledge of this regiment and their commander, and the spirit with which it was animated, he felt sure that there would be no failure on the part of its officers. He felt, therefore, that, humanly speaking, his proposed toast must be fulfilled, and he called upon the guests to drink it with all the honors.

"The Press" was responded to by Mr. Geo. Johnson, who said one of the pleasantest duties of the Fourth Estate was to record the performances of our fellow countrymen, that they had always taken great interest in the Volunteers, had recorded their acts in time of peace, and would certainly, as special correspondents, do the word painting of their gallant deeds in time of war.

"Our Guests" was replied to by the Hon. Jas. McDonald and Lieut. Col. Milsom.

A complimentary benefit is to be given to the Bandmaster of the O. B. G. A., and we are glad to hear it as the high state of efficiency the Band has attained is not less owing to the careful exertions of Mr. Bonner than to the able and constant exertions of Major Ross and officers of the brigade—*Ottawa Citizen*.

VOLUNTEER CONCERT.—A gay assemblage of the youth, wealth and beauty of Fredericton attended the Volunteer Concert and social assembly last evening. After the promenade programme was concluded, the young people engaged in dancing which was kept up with unabated spirit until an early hour this morning. The whole affair passed off in the pleasantest manner, the band performing their part in a manner creditable to themselves and the Battalion to which they are attached.—*New Brunswick Reporter*.

A GOOD GUN AND A GOOD EYE.—A short time ago, during the past winter, one of our Senators purchased a rifle made upon the principle of the Snider from Guilford D. Booth, of this city, and lent it to one of his sons, who lives in Kansas, in the United States. A letter has recently been received by the Senator from his son, who expresses himself much pleased with the Ottawa made gun, and states that he killed a deer with it on a plain or prairie, at a distance of eight hundred yards. This gun we had the pleasure of examining when completed, and certainly we should not desire a more effective weapon for large game. The breech was made after the Snider principle, to take Snider cartridges. The barrel is about two feet long and a little thicker and heavier than the military Snider, with a twist of groove of one in thirty inches. The sights and stock, as well as the barrel and other trimmings, were perfect models of neatness and strength. It is not too much to say, that Ottawa can boast of as good a gun maker as can be found in the Dominion.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF
THE MILITIA FOR 1870.

[CONTINUED.]

*The Honorable Sir George E. Cartier, Bart.,
Minister of Militia &c., &c.*

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 2.

In this District no brigade camps for the performance of the drill were formed during last summer, for as very many of the corps in this District were placed on active service in the early part of the summer, at the time of the threatened raid from the United States, it was not deemed expedient to take them away so shortly afterwards from their agricultural operations and civil pursuits. Several corps did, however, form independent camps for the annual drill. The first instance, I believe, of a city battalion, moreover, performing its annual drill in camp was very successfully carried out by the 13th Battalion from Hamilton, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Skinner. This corps marched from Hamilton to Grimsby, a distance of 20 miles, in the latter part of the month of July, moving into camp the same day, remaining under canvas for ten days, and marching back to Hamilton on the twelfth day, without any casualties reported, in a manner which reflected great credit on the commanding officer and those under his command.

On the 20th July, I inspected, at Oakville, the 20th Battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Chisholm, and on the 21st, at Barrie, Lake Simcoe, the 35th Battalion, under Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, both corps being fine rural battalions and in good order; these corps are commanded by excellent and zealous officers. The detailed information connected with the inspection of these battalions will be found in the annual inspection returns of this District.

Military District, No. 2, forms three Brigade Divisions, and I propose for the performance of the next annual drill, that the same be carried out in brigade camps in the respective Districts, or if possible, in one large divisional camp on the Niagara frontier.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 3

The whole of the corps in this District, it will be seen, on reference to the Report of the Deputy Adjutant General, with the exception of the 14th Battalion, at Kingston, and the Garrison Battery, at Napanee, performed their annual drill last year. Two brigade camps were formed in this District, one near Belleville, consisting of the 15th and 49th Battalions; another near Cobourg, composed of the Northumberland and Durham Squadron of Cavalry, the Cobourg Battery of Garrison Artillery, and the 40th and 57th Battalions; and five other smaller camps were formed at other places. I inspected the camp near Belleville, on the 7th September. (Corps and strength below as follows):—

15th Battalion—29 officers,
18 sergeants,
272 rank and file,
—
319 of all ranks.
49th Battalion—21 officers,
22 sergeants,
318 rank and file,
—
680 Total Force.

This camp was well situated, about five miles from the town of Belleville, on the shores of the lake. I found these corps

almost entirely composed of men engaged in farming pursuits, presenting, physically, a very fine appearance, and their arms were in fair condition. Certain deficiencies were observed in respect of clothing and equipment, which will be remedied as soon as possible. After duly inspecting each company the two battalions were brigaded together. The 15th Battalion is commanded by Lieut.-Col. Campbell, and the 49th by Lieut.-Col. Brown, M. P., and both these officers appear not only to take the greatest interest in the welfare and condition of their corps, but also to enjoy the esteem and entire support of those under their command. These two battalions, in presence of a large number of spectators, performed the usual service evolutions in a very creditable manner. The camps were clean, in good order, and tents regularly pitched.

On the morning of Tuesday, the 6th September, I inspected the Adolphustown Troop of Cavalry who were encamped for the annual drill on the shores of the Bay of Quinte, about 36 miles from Kingston; this troop being under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Swotman, numbering 47 officers and men. The men were fairly mounted, and armed with swords and Spencer carbines, and performed their drill in good style, acting as skirmishers when mounted, and executing several charges in line in open order.

On the afternoon of the same day, having proceeded to Picton, I there inspected the 16th Battalion, which was encamped near the town of Picton, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Walter Ross, M. P. (Strength as below):—

16th Battalion—3 field officers,
7 captains,
16 subalterns,
5 staff,
25 sergeants,
18 corporals,
17 band,
276 privates.

Total 367

This corps being entitled to new uniform clothing, and being very ill-supplied with proper accoutrements, did not present so smart an appearance as it otherwise would, but new uniforms and accoutrements will be served out to it previous to next year's drill—in other respects the 16th Battalion displayed much efficiency and excellent spirit, the men are a fine body, and when at drill skirmished, and fired very well. At the conclusion of the inspection, the letter marked H in Appendix, addressed to myself, was presented to me by the Lieut.-Col. and officers of this battalion, with a request that I would submit the same for the favorable consideration of Government, which I have the honor accordingly to do, and strongly recommend.

In this letter is pointed out the desirability of increasing the amount of the prizes granted by Government for the encouragement of rifle shooting, and of doing so in such a manner that the same may be more effectually brought within the reach of the great mass of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Active Militia of the Dominion; it being suggested that the money grant, hitherto given by Government to the Dominion Rifle Association be transferred to the Active Militia, and distributed in prizes equally among the various corps.

By this means, increased interest and emulation would be created in rifle shooting all through the country, and what is of great importance among those who would be first called on for its defence, and whose skill in

rifle shooting it is most desirable to develop, and the money aid, and encouragement thus given by Government, in future, not being practically confined to the competition of a few skilled marksmen, (many of whom do not belong to the Active Militia) but distributed equally to the various corps throughout the Dominion, would produce far greater results to the country.

On the 22nd September I inspected the brigade camp near Cobourg; strength as follows:—

Cavalry. 1 field officer,
2 staff,
2 captains,
1 subalterns,
11 sergeants,
2 trumpeters,
110 troopers,
129 horses.

Garrison Battery,
Cobourg 1 captain,
2 subalterns,
3 sergeants,
1 trumpeter,
35 gunners.

40th Battalion, of
nine companies 3 field officers,
4 staff,
9 captains,
14 subalterns,
32 sergeants,
9 buglers,
399 privates.

57th Battalion, of
six companies 3 field officers,
4 staff,
6 captains,
10 subalterns,
24 sergeants,
4 buglers,
247 rank and file,

Total 933

This brigade was encamped on some open ground on the shores of Lake Ontario, a short distance from the town of Cobourg. After inspecting the different troops and companies, whose arms and equipments were in serviceable condition, the brigade proceeded to perform a number of field movements. The cavalry were well handled, and commanded by the senior cavalry officer present, Lieut. Col. Boulton, and the 40th and 57th Regiments, the former under the command of Lieut. Col. Smith, and the latter under that of Lieut. Col. Poole, were also well commanded by these officers. The weather being remarkably fine, a very large number of spectators were on the ground, and all seemed to take much interest and pride in the appearance of this portion of the Canadian army; and, indeed, this force moved and acted as a brigade very well, and like all the other corps previously inspected, only require a longer period of time at the annual drill to become very effective.

Military District No. 3 consists of two Brigade Divisions, and, if circumstances admit, I propose assembling both brigades at some convenient place, and forming a Divisional camp, for the performance of the next annual drill. The details of inspection of the various corps in this District will be found in the annual inspection returns.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 4.

Forms one Brigade Division, and contains a force of 212 officers, and 2984 non-commissioned officers and men.

In this District, one brigade camp of 5 battalions was formed during last season, at Prescott; strength as follows:—

41st Battalion,	
Lt.-Col. Crawford.	23 officers, 320 men.
42nd Battalion,	
Lt.-Col. Buell.	22 officers, 339 men.
43rd Battalion,	
Lt.-Col. Bearman.	26 officers, 312 men.
56th Battalion,	
Lt.-Col. Jessup.	25 officers, 303 men.
59th Battalion,	
Lt.-Col. Bergin.	21 officers, 248 men.

1639 of all ranks.

This camp was situated on ground in the vicinity of Fort Wellington, at Prescott, the tents being pitched in regular order. I inspected the whole of this brigade on the 8th of September, when a long field-day was held, and the troops acted most creditably, the men composing the different battalions being remarkably able-bodied and hardy looking. Targets for rifle practice were erected in the vicinity of the camp, and this brigade performed its prescribed target practice, as far as possible, by companies in succession. The inspection of the remainder of the force in this District was made by Lieut.-Colonel Atcherly Deputy Adjutant General, the details of which will be found in that officer's report and annual inspection return.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 5.

There are three Brigade Divisions in this District, but in it only one Brigade was assembled in camp during last summer; for as the whole of the force in this District had been called to arms in the months of April and May in defence of the frontier, it was not considered expedient to withdraw again the rural corps in the District from their agricultural pursuits and civil avocations. The 3rd Brigade, however, assembled in a camp of instruction (in strength upwards of 1000 men) near Sherbrooke, the whole of the Brigade being present, with the exception of two companies resident at distance, and whose attendance was unavoidably prevented. On the 27th September I proceeded to Sherbrooke, and on the following day inspected this Brigade. The camp was formed on some high ground about three miles from the town of Sherbrooke, the situation being very well chosen, and remarkably picturesque. The Brigade was under the command of Lieut. Col. Osborne Smith, the Deputy Adjutant General of the District; and the laying out of this camp reflected much credit on all concerned. The vicinity of the ground being well wooded, many graceful looking bowers and arches, formed with leaves and branches of trees, had been constructed by the men, and here and there a crown, with Her Majesty's name and an appropriate inscription erected, and being composed of leaves from the neighboring woods—which at this season of the year were colored with the beautiful autumnal tints of Canada—the general effect of the camp was very striking, and the men appeared to take much pride in the same.

The corps composing this Brigade are formed of men chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits, and there are no finer body of men, physically, in the Dominion. On a careful inspection of the different corps I found the arms, generally speaking, in a serviceable condition, although in some instances, increased attention on this point is desirable. This Brigade performed various field movements and skirmished remarkably well, and as some of the companies were

composed of French as well as English speaking Canadians, its proficiency in drill was the more creditable. The Cavalry were well mounted and armed, and manœuvred in very difficult ground exceedingly well. The details connected with the inspection of this Brigade and other corps in this District will be found in the report of its Deputy Adjutant General, and in the annual inspection returns.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 6.

This District contains three Brigade Divisions (nominal strength, 3398.) No Brigade was formed in this District during last summer for the same reason that rendered the same inexpedient in Military District No. 5, but several of the corps performed their annual drill in smaller camps. The details and particulars connected with these corps and camps will be found in the Annual Inspection Returns, and Report of the Deputy Adjutant General of the District.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 7.

This District contains two Brigade Divisions, with a nominal strength of 5212 officers and men. For the greater portion of last year this District has been in temporary charge of Lieut. Col. Duchesney, Brigade Major, 8th Brigade Division, during the absence on duty, in Manitoba, of Lieut.-Col. Casault, its Deputy Adjutant General; although most of the corps in this District were out on frontier duty in the months of April and May, it will be seen on reference to the report of Lieut.-Col. Duchesney, that no less than 3455 officers and men belonging to the District performed the annual drill during last summer. One Brigade camp of instruction being formed with great success at Deschambault; Lieut.-Col. Duchesney, during the absence of his immediate military superior, has performed the duties of the higher position, in the most satisfactory manner, and I would beg to recommend the adoption of his suggestion, viz: that, in future, both Brigades should be assembled together in one divisional camp at a convenient place in the district, for the performance of the annual drill.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 8.

Comprises the whole Province of New Brunswick, contains three Brigade Divisions, with a nominal strength of 3315 officers and men. Two new Battalions were formed in this District during the year, viz: the 73rd and 74th, and the condition of the force in this District may be considered as very satisfactory indeed; one Brigade camp was formed during last summer with the best possible results, the particulars of which, as well as the details of inspection of other corps, will be found in the annual Inspection Returns and report of the Deputy Adjutant General of the District.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 9.

This District, which includes the whole Province of Nova Scotia, contains three Brigade Divisions, with a nominal strength of 4422 officers and men. No Brigade camps were formed in this District during last year, but several corps performed their annual drill under canvass, and the details connected with these corps will be found in the annual Inspection Returns furnished by the Deputy Adjutant-General of this District. One new Battalion of Infantry, viz., the 75th, has been formed in this District during the past year.

GRAND TRUNK BRIGADE.

This Brigade, which forms a portion of the Active Militia of Canada (but has a

special organization of its own,) consists of all the men in the employment of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and is under the command of Lieut.-Col. Brydges, one of the most energetic officers of the force. The strength of this Brigade is 2122, and the men composing it, very many of whom have served in the regular army, are a fine body. Although in the event of war or time of trouble this Brigade could not be moved to the front or taken from its legitimate occupation, viz:—that of working the railway, and protecting the various stations and vulnerable points along the line, without greatly interfering with the means of communication throughout the country and paralyzing the transport of troops and war material when such was most necessary, nevertheless the existence of this Brigade, for the protection of so important a line of railway, is very valuable.

The Grand Trunk Brigade has to regret the loss of Lieut.-Col. Gallway, who died on the 27th Nov., 1870, and who for several years was attached to it as Brigade Major. By the exertion and attention to duty of Lieut.-Col. Gallway, under the able administration of Lieut. Col. Brydges, this brigade has attained a high state of efficiency. Lieut.-Col. Gallway's position has been recently filled by a well trained and thoroughly qualified officer, Captain Worsley, late of the 60th Rifles.

(To be continued.)

In regard to what must be considered the extremely discreditable appropriation of the private property of Frenchmen by the German soldiers, and of the commercial spirit so often manifested by the Germans as an army and individually, the Paris correspondent of the London *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "The tide of conquest is on the ebb, and is selling off its old stores. One hears of horses being knocked down in the vicinity of St. Cloud for £8, and re sold in the city a few hours later for £40; of chemises worth ten shillings being parted with for a franc, and of the German authorities offering to hand back the French Chassepôts taken in war for about twelve shillings a piece more than they cost when new. Some articles are disposed at an alarming sacrifice, and with respect to other things the Germans drive hard bargains. Wonderful tales are told here of the capacious maw of the enemy, and of the long trains of waggons which are still wending their way in the direction of the Rhine laden with household plunder of every description, from Louis XIV. clocks to pewter ladles." The same writer says of the reforms which are to be introduced into the French army: "A good deal is being written and said about army reform. The military schools are not what they used to be, and the examinations to be passed by officers will be of unprecedented severity. One hears, too, that the lively French soldier, whose delight it is not to be a machine, is to be subjected to some of that discipline before which his braggadocio has succumbed. Baron Stoffel, whose admirable despatches on the state of the German army should have opened the eyes of the Emperor Napoleon's government to the danger of a conflict with Prussia, will most likely be offered an important post at the War Office. Many leaves are now to be taken out of Von Moltke's book, just as Prince Frederick Charles took leaves out of the French book, as is amply proved by his pamphlet 'How to Fight the French.'"

REVIEWS.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, of New York, of the *Westminster, Edinburgh, and London Quarterly Reviews* for January, 1871.

The *Westminster Review* contains two very important articles: "The future of the Railway in the United States," and "France and Germany;" it also contains a very interesting article on "The Social Condition of England under Henry VIII."

The *Edinburgh Review* contains one of the best written articles, entitled "France," on the value of constitutional monarchy we have ever read; another of great value, ascribed to Mr. Gladstone, on "The Military Forces of the Crown," and a third on the "Treaties of 1856 and 1867."

The *London Quarterly* contains an article on "Our National Defences," "The Invasion of France," and "The Political Lessons of the War." With the experience of the late contest before us, the intense anxiety which pervades the public mind in Great Britain is easily understood as to the defensive means within the immediate reach of the nation, and knowing the folly of the present *doctrinaire* administration, the ridiculous experiments they have been making with the armaments of the empire, it need be no matter of surprise to find the leading *analytical* literature of the day devoted to the purpose of explaining the lesson taught, the best means to render its application easy and effectual, and the desire to see as far as possible into its future operations on the political condition of the world, for the doctrine has been long since exploded in the minds of all rational people, that any State can permanently benefit by the disturbances or destruction of its neighbors—in other words, the policy of isolation which the Gladstone-Bright clique has sought to make the leading idea in British politics can only lead to the destruction of British power. Those articles, the emanations of the minds of the leading men of the Empire, are worthy of careful study.

Our readers attention is respectfully requested to the issue of the *Canadian Illustrated News* for the 8th April, it contains magnificent Leggotypes of our gracious Queen, Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, the Marquis of Lorne, and Windsor Castle. In the number under consideration there are portraits of the late Hon. D'Arcy McGee, and James O'Reilly, Esq., Q. C., with the usual biographical notices. In that of the eminent Queen's Counsel there is an important omission, which is that Major O'Reilly was a distinguished Volunteer officer, commanded a rifle company for several years, especially during the *Trent* difficulty, at Kingston, and holds the indicated rank on the Retired List. From personal knowledge we are quite prepared to say that Major O'Reilly would be again found at the

front if danger threatened. The Canadian army cannot afford to have distinguished officers passed over in relation to their connection with its organization. There are illustrations of the Rideau Falls in this city, "Cleaning the Snow from the Ramparts, Quebec," and "The Page," from a painting by W. Fyfe. A supplement sheet contains an engraving by Henrique Dupont from a painting by Paul de Lareche, of the "Shrouding of the Body of Christ"—a picture as remarkable for the artistic grouping of the figures, the depths of lights and shadows, as for the mournful and wonderful associations it awakens at a period when Christians of every sect celebrate the anniversary of our Saviour's death and resurrection. Fitly might the angels' announcement at the sepulchre be appended to this wonderful picture as a motto, "He is not here, but risen." It would be hard to find a more acceptable Easter gift than that the *Canadian Illustrated News* has presented to its subscribers, and it may be safely said that in variety and matter it is not one whit behind its more pretentious London namesake.

HOW TO MAKE MONEY.—Send to the American Publishing Company, Rutland, Vt., for their beautiful Specimen Book, and make ten dollars the first day you show the book. Read their advertisement in another column, concerning the Parlor Album, and you will get full particulars.

The Parlor Album contains more beautiful embellishments than any other work extant. The Specimen Book is sent free on receipt of postage.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The past week has not been productive of stirring events. At home the transition from the political excitement during the session of Parliament has ceased with its prorogation; ministers as well as legislators having returned to their homes to enjoy well earned relaxation, and the issues of the daily papers shew what shifts their *locals* are put to encompass a readable article.

The doings of the Joint High Commission has exercised the prying curiosity of our neighbors, the free and enlightened citizens of the great Yankee nation. They have succeeded in *manufacturing* the basis of agreement for the *Alabama* claims. What truth is in it or whether there is any at all appears to be a matter of considerable doubt. A large portion of the people and press begin to realize that honesty is the best policy in political as well as civil life, and that this dishonest *Alabama* claim will result in consequences by no means profitable to themselves. The basis of agreement are so devised (if true) as to preclude the possibility of any verdict but that of entire absolution from all responsibility being rendered in the case of Great Britain, and it will teach our neighbors a lesson they will not forget in a hurry.—as a received article of international law the avowed basis of

agreement precludes the possibility of profitable trading with belligerents in munitions of war—so that those very clever people have to blance themselves for what follows. They have, by dishonest claims, placed themselves in a false position, and their President, by his ignorance of Treaty obligations, has made himself ridiculous and his advisors contemptible.

From Melbourne, Australia, we have had the strange intelligence that they are busy fortifying the seaports in all the British Colonies on that continent, under instructions from the British Cabinet, to the effect that they were liable to a visit from Yankee filibusters. If this story has any truth for its basis, we would strongly advise our fellow Colonists to hang, without mercy, any scoundrels of the kind who may fall into their hands. And the Imperial Government should at once see to it that the United States Government was held to a strict account for all such doings. Having condescended so far as to consent to a Joint High Commission it is to be hoped the English Radicals will end there and not bring the Empire into contempt by their pusillanimity.

There is no news of any moment from Great Britain. It has been said that the Gladstone Ministry has urged the Prussians to interfere in the affairs of unhappy France, for the purpose of supporting Thiers' Government. We should hope it has done no such thing, as the very best fortune that could befall that country would be to leave the Republican wolves to tear each other to pieces. A restoration of the Empire would go far to heal the wounds those scoundrels have inflicted on the country, and that can only be accomplished by allowing the factions to fight it out.

The situation before Paris remains unchanged, the Versailles Fabius is still trying the policy of caution and delay; the *Reds* inside are fighting, and occasionally repulsing the troops he is drawing around the devoted city, showing in their capacity of insurgents a valor which they failed to exhibit before a foreign foe. The troops of the Versailles Government, it is said, fight with reluctance, and it is possible this very strange delay may arise from that fact. Meantime it is dangerous and might result in a total overthrow of law and order, if the Prussians were not within reach. Marshal MacMahon, who commands the troops of the Versailles Government, has been allowed to occupy a portion of the neutral ground, under the recent treaty, for the purpose of more closely investing the city—within which the *communists* are only kept from indulging their taste for blood by fear of reprisals. Those fellows are imbued with "American sentiments." Our Yankee cousins are so fond of proclaiming as the distinguishing trait of all lawless ruffians, and as a proof, it is said their intentions are to make Paris an independent city in federation under the rest of France—in other words the idea is to restore the barbarisms of the four

teenth and fifteenth centuries—splitting France into a number of small states thoroughly undoing the work of the great Cardinal Richelieu. The world has seen some strange mutations within the last two decades, and it is within the possibilities that the change may be effected.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS.

Ottawa, 21st April, 1871.

GENERAL ORDERS, (10.)

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Toronto Garrison Battery.

To be Captain:

2nd Lieutenant Donald Gibson, V.B., vice T. A. McLean, left the limits.

The resignation of 1st Lieutenant Archibald McMurchy, is hereby accepted.

14th Battalion "The Princess of Wales' Own Rifles" Kingston.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant William Skinner, M.S. vice W. B. Thibeau, left the Limits.

To be Lieutenants:

Ensign John Alexander Rowe, M. S., vice Skinner, promoted.

Ensign John Shortt Muckleston, M.S., vice Elswood Chaffey, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Ensigns:

Sergeant James Stafford Kirkpatrick, M. S., vice Edmund J. Lally, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

Private Philio Bajors, (provisionally) vice W. M. Dornnan, left the limits.

Private Joseph Power, (provisionally) vice Muckleston, promoted.

30th "Wellington" Battalion of Rifles. No. 1 Company, Garrison Battery, Guelph.

To be Captain:

1st Lieutenant Archibald Henry Macdonald, M.S., G.S., vice W. Day, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry. No. 9 Company, Dungannon.

The resignation of Lieutenant William L. Pennington, is hereby accepted.

34th "Ontario" Battalion of Infantry No. 1 Company, Whilly.

To be Ensign:

George B. Gordon, Gentleman, M. S., vice White, transferred to No. 6 Company.

No. 6 Company, Brooklin.

To be 1st Lieutenant:

Ensign Joseph White, M. S., from No. 1 Company, vice W. Brown, left the limits.

40th "Northumberland" Battalion of Infantry.

This Battalion is hereby permitted to adopt and use the motto "Excelsior."

No. 3 Company, Campbellford.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Cyprien Francis Caddy, Gentleman, vice Johnstone, promoted.

No. 6 Company, Oranston.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Angus Henry Macdonald, V. B., vice Stanley resigned.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

James Charles Rogers, Gentleman, vice Macdonald promoted.

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant Colonel, from 31st December, 1870.

Major John Kerr, V. B., 14th Battalion.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

The following officer holding a certificate of qualification is hereby confirmed in his rank.

1st Lieutenant Robert Davillo, G. S., 2nd Class, Hamilton Field Battery, from 20th May, 1870.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

8th Battalion "Stadacona Rifles," Quebec.

To be Ensign provisionally:

John Gilmour, Junior, Gentleman, vice Charles S. Douglas whose resignation is hereby accepted.

53rd "Sherbrooke" Battalion of Infantry. No. 1 Company, Sherbrooke.

To be Lieutenant:

William Alexander Morehouse, Gentleman, M. S., vice Whitcher, promoted.

55th "Megantic" Battalion of Infantry.

This Battalion will be hereafter known and designated as the 55th "Megantic Light Infantry" Battalion. And is hereby permitted to adopt and use the following device and motto: "The garter, surmounted by a Crown, on which the word, Megantic, is inscribed. Within the garter the numeral (LV) of the Battalion, in Roman letters. The garter is surrounded by a wreath of Maple leaves and supported by the Regimental Colors, and, underneath, the Motto "Semper Paratus." inscribed on a Scroll.

No. 4 Company, Ried's Mills.

To be Ensign:

James Barwis, Gentleman, M. S., vice Watkins, promoted.

"Kamouraska" Provisional Battalion.

To be Adjutant:

Lieutenant Isaie Dessaint, M. S., from No. 2 Company.

No. 2 Company, Kamouraska.

To be Lieutenant:

Alexis Dessaint, Gentleman, M. S., vice I. Dessaint appointed Adjutant.

To be Ensign:

Color Sergeant Paul Dupuis, M. S., vice Louis A. L. anglais, whose services as an officer are hereby dispensed with.

St. Placide Infantry Company.

To be Ensign, provisionally: -

Ozias Routhier, Gentleman, vice B. J. Bertrand, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

The following officers holding a certificate of qualification is hereby confirmed in his rank.

Ensign Alexander Ross, M. S., 2nd class No. 2 Company, 58th Battalion from 31st March, 1871.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

62nd "The St. John" Battalion.

To be Lieut.-Colonel:

Major James R. MacShane, M. S. vice Charles R. Ray, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank as a special case.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

George W. Godard Gentleman, vice Hatheway promoted,

BREVET.

To be Major, from 14th March 1871.

Captain Cyprian E. Godard, V. B., 62nd Battalion.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

66th "Halifax" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant George Edward Francklyn, Q. F. O., vice Morrow promoted.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY BRIGADE.

1st Battalion Rifles Montreal,

To be Captain, from 2nd May 1870.

Lieutenant and adjutant James Stevenson V. B. vice Henry Tandy, whose resignation is hereby accepted,

By command of His Excellency the Governor General.

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel, Adjutant General of Militia, Canada,

According to the latest reports from the Isthmus of Darien, a new route for the canal has been discovered. It is only 22 miles long and the deepest cutting will not be over 150, perhaps not over 75, or 100.

THE
VOLUNTEER REVIEW
And Military and Naval Gazette.

VOLUME V.
1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When it was first projected fears were entertained for its ultimate success, as two efforts of a similar kind had been made and failed for want of support; but we are happy to say those fears were groundless, and that the VOLUNTEER REVIEW may now be said to be firmly established, thanks to the support it has met with from the hands of the Volunteer Force of the Dominion. It now circulates largely through Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and even the new Province of Manitoba has extended its generous support. Nor is it confined to these Provinces only, but in the Mother Country, and even the United States it has subscribers and supporters. No other Journal in the Dominion has so wide and extended a circulation as the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, and therefore it offers unparalleled facilities to general advertisers. Our terms for advertising will be found liberal on application, either personally, or by letter post paid.

The VOLUNTEER REVIEW will be supplied to clubs at the usual reduced rates, viz:

CLUBS of Five and upwards will be supplied at \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

CLUBS of Ten and upwards at the same rate, the getter up of the Club to receive one copy free for one year. Payment strictly in advance.

No Volunteer officer can be well posted concerning the condition, movements, and prospects of the Force unless he receives the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

We number amongst our Correspondents and Contributors some of the ablest writers on military subjects in America.

Full and reliable reports of RIFLE MATCHES, INSPECTIONS, and other matters connected with the Force appear regularly in our Columns.

A GENTS.

Liberal terms will be offered to Adjutants, Instructors, and others who act as agents for us in their several corps.

LT.-COL. R. LOVELACE, is our General Agent for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

MR. ROGER HUNTER for that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

REMITTANCES should be addressed to DAWSON KERR, Proprietor VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

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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 insertion 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 forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

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The Volunteer Review,
AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1871.

A BLUE BOOK of twelve pages, containing "Returns to addresses to the Senate and House of Commons, relative to the withdrawal of Troops from the Dominion and on the defence of the country, and Honorable Mr. Campbell's Report," gives to the public, amongst other important information, a memorandum from the pen of Lieut.-General Lindsay, which deserves serious consideration. This document is arranged under five heads or divisions, and treats of "1st. Permanent arrangements necessary in consequence of the withdrawal of the troops. 2nd. Special arrangements necessary in consequence of Fenian apprehensions. 3rd. The organization of command and administration of the militia. 4th. The care of armaments, munitions of war, reserve stores, fortifications, lands, and buildings. 5th. Military institutions."

Under the first head it is recommended that garrisons be maintained at Quebec, Kingston, and Isle aux Noix, and any other points fortified hereafter, must also be garrisoned. Under the second head it is stated the safety of the water frontier could be best insured from Cornwall to Go'rich by three gunboats, while the Huntingdon, Nia-

gara, and St. Clair frontier will be best secured by corps of mounted riflemen. In the 3rd division it is recommended that application be made to the Home authorities for a Major-General to command the Militia, and that the staff should only hold office for five years. A control and medical department are recommended; and under the fourth head the organization of an engineer corps and an artillery branch are advised, as also the employment of an artillery officer of the regular service as inspector of warlike stores, and lastly, some alteration in the admission of cadets to the military schools, the organization of a camp of instruction at La Prairie and rifle associations in every district is recommended.

This valuable document, which we republish, has been anticipated in most of its suggestions by the steady development of the Militia Law. The organization of the Quartermaster-General's Department, the engineer corps, the control and medical departments must occupy some time; but it is evident that alone prevents the full development of all the departments of the Canadian army. There are, however, two very important recommendations with which we are at direct issue with the gallant General, because we are sure in Canada they would have a most disastrous effect, and we are not at all certain that one of them will be a successful experiment in the British army—we mean the quinquennial rotation of staff officers. Its direct action here would be to give us a complete set of inexperienced men every five years, possibly dull men at that, while we would be sending away those who had learned somewhat of the business of their departments, to enable others to receive the same practical knowledge we would run the risk of having some people that knew a little, and very little, of their duties, and a great many that know nothing at all. We are not anxious to make our army a democratic mob, like the French soldiers, or as the tendencies of those special arrangements will lead the British army to; so we will keep good staff officers as long as they are fit for duty, and try to train others to take their places when that period arrives.

With respect to the importation of officers to command the Canadian army in the manner General Lindsay proposes, while we profess a personal respect for the talents and abilities of gentlemen trained in the school where that gallant officer acquired his experience, we submit it is time Canadian officers aspired to the higher ranks on the staff of their own army—if ever that force is to occupy its proper position towards the Empire and this country. We have at present as its commander-in-chief a soldier of undoubted ability and unwearied activity, who thoroughly understands the details of our Militia Law, as well as its application to the social condition of our people, as evidenced by the marked success with which he has organized

our active force under its provisions. If he will consent to stay amongst us there is nothing to prevent him being gazetted as Major General. And the Deputy Adjutant-General at headquarters would then become Adjutant-General. So, without resorting to any violent strain on the Staff of the Imperial service, we could have as young a general officer (we believe Colonel P. Robertson-Ross is not over forty-three years of age) as any in the regular service, and, one that understands us far better. The country can furnish its own engineer officers, its medical and commissariat staff, and we hope that Lieut. Colonel French will be the last officer of the regular army it will be necessary to import. We say this out of no desire to deprecate any of those gentlemen's talents or abilities, but it is necessary to our very existence that the officers of our defensive force thoroughly understand its characteristics, and this they cannot do if they are imported or displaced by rotation. We shall be happy to share the post of danger with them, happy to fight under them should necessity call us to the field, but all our local offices must be filled by local men, and the constituent elements of our forces compels that. The rest of General Lindsay's suggestions are admirable and commend themselves to every man who has thought on the subject of the defence of Canada, and will no doubt largely influence the action of the Militia Department in dealing with that question; but it is evident to any one who studies this question and knows the people that a purely democratic force would be the greatest curse Canada ever saw, once begin rotation at the head and it will soon pervade all ranks. Our readers would do well to study carefully Lieutenant-General Lindsay's memorandum.

The writer of the following letter has evidently studied the subject, and places it at once in its true light,—the real disturbing cause in the modern political world is due to the efforts of the people of the United States and the government they control. With philanthropy and peace on their lips they wage incessant warfare against all law and order in other lands, the aiders abettors and recognizers of the legality of every plundering, murdering horde, from a negro riot up to interference in Cuban civil warfare, abettors in Fenianism, and disorganizations, turmoil, and confusion follows in their footsteps, and no doubt a day of retribution will overtake them. But the writer should have gone a little further and given the English Whigs the credit for the treachery and bloodshed of the Revolutionary war—they were the active abettors and plotters of the treason and rebellion which culminated in producing the United States. Englishmen are proverbially slow to take example, they will not receive a lesson from a catastrophe, and they treat the people of the United States as if they were sincere

and honorable. Many of our military contemporaries in Great Britain are periodically delivered of a lot of twaddle about "people speaking the same language, being derived from a common origin, having the same laws, literature, and religion—the great Anglo-Saxon family," and an almost endless repetition of such mawkish trash, their convictions being heightened by the solemn after dinner utterances of some Yankee who was doing the "farnal Britisher," and whose imagination would not be fired by Champagne. It would be well for the people of Great Britain if they would thoroughly understand the character of the people of the United States, and be satisfied that it is all summed up in one word—*selfishness*—with out a single ennobling thought or idea. That in order to make their government paramount there is no meanness or treachery they would not encompass, and it would be done without the slightest regard for the opinions, wishes, or welfare of all the rest of the human race; and this has been their characteristic for the eighty-eight years which has marked their career as a nation. We commend the perusal of the letter to our friends in Great Britain, and request for it their special attention:

To the Editor of the Times (Ottawa).

SIR,—The press is not doing its duty respecting causes in dealing with French affairs. There is a cause for everything, and there is a cause for the insurrectionary condition of the French capital. If the Reds of Paris look anywhere for respect and sympathy it is to the United States. If the United States hope for any eminent disciple of insubordination it is France. Not wealthy France, nor educated France, nor religious France, but the dregs of France and pre-eminently the dregs of the French capital.

Mr. Washburne is, of course, in Paris, so are many others of the apostles of "Liberty." So they are in Dublin, in Cork, in Meath. As in France, it is not from wealthy Ireland, nor educated Ireland, nor religious Ireland, that their hopes or their disciples rise, but the dregs of Ireland, like the dregs of France, are the exclusive objects of their zeal and their unhappy sympathy.

It is the same throughout the whole world, wherever their unhappy presence is felt, to overturn authority, to upset established order, to manifest hatred to respectability, to pull down, to innovate, to make chaos is their universal mission.

The highest classes of Americans, even, are chargeable with this social crime. The vast majority of them make no secret of it. Their genius is in destroying authority. Ambitious as the most ambitious, ambitious from education, from habit, from taste, their "Colonels," their "Generals," their "Senators," all are one or other of these ranks, and are everywhere found. Ambitious notwithstanding Republicanism, if they meet any in the emine. t dut or stations of life, in spite of displays of jewellery, of long purses, of rivers four thousand miles long, and a continent as many wide, they yet feel their disparity in manners, in refinement, in qualities that indicate gentle grace and ennobling refinement.

The piqued vanity, then, which has sought an atmosphere too elevated for it, has its revenge; it at once cultivates the

acquaintance of Jacques and Sandy, or John and Pat and Judy. Nay, more, to pull down, Sambo or John Chinaman, come in for a share of the selfish sympathy.

Then the world hears of the Paradise west of New York. In that Paradise of morals and religion, of law and power, the ignorant peasant one day's residence enables him to look down with contempt on the most noble, and the servant is superior to his master.

Canada has suffered its full share from these spiteful disorganizations. We unhappily too well know those tactics; not so Europe. Divided by an immense ocean, reading vapid books, the laugh of Canada, about the purity, the honesty, the puritan piety that "never told a lie," that "can't tell a lie," Europe is far from that social enlightenment Yankeeism soon bestows on those who implicitly trust it.

France is reaping the bloody harvest of the inevitable consequences of Red Republicanism. New York has before it the present experience of France. An ago or two, when land grows scarce, when there are no more Indians to rob, and when Canada is too strong to threaten; then, too, will come the cry, "Death to the wealthy; death to the priest; and death to law and order."

God's punishment light for murder on the third and fourth generation. A little fell on the United States in the late civil war. France has its cup to drink. God is just; 1776 is a time of blood and treachery yet untoned for.

Meanwhile, Mr. Editor, let us in Canada trust, defend our property, and go onward.

DR. NEDSMIL TWIDSKUNK.

Since the opening of the Joint High Commission the press of the United States have been greatly exercised to determine what was the progress as well as results of its deliberations. Hitherto owing to the proper secrecy observed no inkling of those matters appears to have passed the council chamber; but telegrams dated the 15th instant have been received by leading Canadian journals, professing to give the basis of agreement on the *Alabama* claims, the questions affecting the Canadian fisheries, and the Island of San Juan have not yet been settled; at the same time it must be said that the reliability of it is doubted at Washington. About the fisheries there have been many silly rumors—one in particular, announcing that a money equivalent would be offered and partial reciprocity, but we feel sure that neither will be accepted by the astute statesman that represents Canadian interests on the Commission. He has already succeeded in establishing in the clearest possible manner our proprietary rights thereto, and we shall hear no complaints or treaty claims. It is not the first good service Sir John A. Macdonald has done Canada, nor will it be the last. We give the telegram for what it is worth, remarking that the final board of arbitration looks rather doubtful.

First—High contracting parties agree to be bound in their conduct by the rule that a nation shall be responsible for the depredations committed on a friendly power by vessels fitted out and manned at neutral ports.

Second—High contracting parties shall hereafter enforce this rule in their treaties with all foreign powers, and will endeavor to induce the adoption of this rule as the principle of international law.

Third—The class of claims known as the *Alabama* claims shall be submitted to a commission, to consist of five members, one to be appointed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate; one by the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland; one by the Emperor of Brazil; one by the President of the Republic of Switzerland; and one by the King of Italy. This Commission shall meet in Washington within six months after the ratification of this convention. The Commission shall decide the responsibility of Great Britain in each case, and declare any damages that may be found. If either of the three powers last mentioned fails to appoint their commissioner, the vacancy shall be filled by the King of Sweden and Norway.

Fourth—In case of a vacancy in the Commission, said vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Fifth—The members of the Commission shall be sworn not to be prejudiced in advance, and to decide each claim on the evidence presented to them, being guided, however, by the rule laid down in the first article of this convention, viz: that a nation shall be responsible for depredations committed on a friendly power by vessels fitted out and launched in neutral ports. All claims shall be filed with the Commissioners within six months after their meeting, unless good reasons shall be shown for delay, in which case the Commission may extend the time for the presentation of claims. The final decision upon all claims must be made within two years from the time of the first meeting of the Commission. All sums of money shall be paid in gold at Washington, in such a manner as the Commission may decide. No decision of the Commission shall be binding on either of the high contracting parties unless agreed to by one of the two commissioners representing those high contracting parties.

Sixth—This article empowers the commission to employ all necessary clerks and assistants, and that the expenses of the High Commission shall be borne fully by the high contracting parties, and that all bills shall be paid on the vouchers of the Commissioners, who will enter into the details with reference to these matters.

Seventh—This article provides that in case Commission should fail to agree on any claim, such claims shall be referred to a Board of three members, one to be appointed by the President of the United States with the sanction of the Senate, one by the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and one by the Emperor of Russia. This Board shall meet at New York within four months after the judgment of the commissioners, and shall take the testimony at length and decide as to the facts, amounts due, etc. This provision is evidently intended to cover doubtful cases, with reference to which the other Commission has not time to take the necessary testimony.

Eighth—The last article relates to the expenses of the Board last named, and is similar to the sixth in all its essential particulars.

Such, it is said, is the basis of the agreement which the Joint High Commission has come to for the settlement of the *Alabama* claims.

Later—The statement published in New York purporting to be the terms agreed upon

by the High Commission for the settlement of the *Alabama* claims is viewed here as erroneous, as the expressions of members of the Commission do not warrant the belief that an agreement has been reached.

THE DEFENCES OF CANADA.

IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS BY GEN. LINDSAY.

The following appears in a recent Blue-book:

"MONTREAL, 26th July 1870.

The Canadian Government has not accepted the offer of the transfer of officers and men from the Imperial to the Dominion service which according to my instructions I made in former communications, but I do not feel myself absolved in consequence from indicating several important points which demand immediate consideration, owing to the altered military circumstances of Canada.

"The future arrangements will, I apprehend be based entirely upon the existing militia system which was established with great care by the present Minister of Militia while Colonel MacDougall, who had long experience, was still Adjutant General of Militia.

"While I disclaim my wish or intention to dictate respecting, or interfere with the military system of Canada (of the practical working and application of which to the habits and feelings of the country the Government should be the best judge). I must express my strong opinion that no system will meet the case unless it is worked in a military manner, and with a view to military efficiency.

"The points to which I desire to refer may be stated as follows:

1st. Permanent arrangements necessary in consequence of the withdrawal of the troops.

2nd. Special arrangements necessary in consequence of Fenian apprehensions.

3rd. The organization of command and administration of the militia.

4th. The care of armaments, munitions of war, reserve stores, fortifications, lands and buildings.

5th. Military instructions.

"1st. The permanent arrangement necessary, consequent on the withdrawal of the troops.

"Garrisons must be found for Quebec, Kingston, Isle aux Noix.

"If Montreal and St. John, N.B., are to be fortified they must be held also. The occupation of any other point must depend upon the views of the Canadian Government.

"The permanent force to be employed should be artillery, as it is not only the arm most wanted in a fortress, but can most easily receive therein the special and longer training which it requires.

"At Quebec the citadel will alone want a garrison. Caretakers must be put into each fort at Point Levis. Some 300 men should suffice.

"At Kingston, Fort Henry will take about 100 men, while Isle aux Noix will want a detachment of 30 only.

"The necessity of keeping a garrison in this latter place is owing to the danger of the Fenians possessing themselves of it. Apprehensions on this score might be removed by the destruction of the works.

"The system under which this force shall be provided depends entirely on Govern-

ment, and may partake of a special and permanent character, or may be engrafted on the militia, and made a means of widely applying military instructions.

"It appears to me that the latter plan is the most in harmony with the position of Canada.

"2nd Special arrangement necessary in consequence of Fenian apprehensions.

"Experience has shown the character of these raids, and what has to be provided against. The frequent alarms and calls to service have interfered with people's occupations more than the actual inroads, and the object should be to give a sense of security which would prevent the militia being concentrated earlier, or in larger numbers than absolutely necessary.

"This sense of safety on the water frontier from Cornwall to Goderich, would be given by three gunboats, well commanded and disciplined, more perfectly and more cheaply than by many battalions of militia. This number of boats therefore should certainly be kept up in a state of efficiency.

"But on the 45° parallel, from Huntingdon to Sherbrooke, and perhaps also on the Niagara and St. Clair frontiers, I recommend the establishment of a body of mounted riflemen, who should receive a yearly sum on condition of attending a certain number of drills, of knowing the use of a rifle and of keeping a good horse to ride.

"In each district an intelligent Commander should be named to direct this frontier force and to combine its efforts with the Regular Militia supporting it in rear.

"As the troops in garrisons would form the beginning of an artillery force so the frontier riflemen would supply eventually, additional cavalry to the army of the Dominion.

"Thus future contingencies would be provided against in meeting present requirements.

"The defence of the Huntingdon frontier requires the establishment of a communication with that town, via Coteau and Donaghue's landing or Port Lewis, which should be arranged accordingly.

3rd. The organization of the command and administration of the militia.

"There has hitherto been a General Officer in Canada to give advice and assistance in military matters, and to assume command in an emergency. The administrative departments of the army, now consolidated into the Control, have also been available to provide supplies, stores and transport, if necessary for the militia.

"A professional man whose rank and experience carry weight, is absolutely necessary at the head of a Militia of 40,000. Such a force must entail a large charge upon the country, and unless it is well instructed, disciplined and equipped, and also well commanded and put into vigorous action when necessary, the money spent upon it is thrown away.

I strongly recommend, therefore, that the Canadian Government should ask the Home authorities, to send out for service here, a Major-General, who would be the Chief Military adviser of Government; inspect, and when necessary, command, the militia, and undertake all those duties connected with it which, by a recent Order in Council at home, have been assigned to the Commander-in-Chief of the British army in respect to the Reserve Forces.

I believe that all branches of the Militia, Troops, Staff, Control, would gain immensely by such an appointment, and that while the Militia system was being developed in accordance with the wants of Canada, it

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would thus preserve its connection with the Imperial army, with which if circumstances require, it ought to be ready to combine and to serve.

"This General Officer should receive the Staff pay and allowance of his rank from Canada, and should be appointed, as in the Regular Army, for five years only. He should be young for his rank, and have experience in training soldiers.

"The tone and weight which service in the army give, having been secured in the person of the General Officer, it does not appear to me to be absolutely necessary that the Adjutant-General should be an officer still in the army. His duties would be rather those of detail than of general supervision and command, and would require an intimate knowledge of the working of the Militia system. He ought therefore to be taken from amongst the Deputy Adjutant Generals of Districts, for five years only and subject to re-appointment.

"The Deputy Adjutant Generals of Districts are most important officers, the whole system hinges upon them. They should be appointed for five years, subject to re-appointment, and be taken from the Brigade Majors, or chosen from the best Commanding Officers.

"Each District should be as complete as possible in itself, with stores, schools, ranges and the talents of the Deputy Adjutant Generals might well be exercised in studying and preparing the application to the varying circumstances of their different localities of the system of expansion which would be adopted in time of war.

"The regulations respecting the duties of the Militia Staff appear excellent, and must prove so if effectively carried out under the supervision of superior authority.

"I also strongly recommend the immediate organization of a Control department, upon the plan recently introduced in the English Army, and Commissariat system established whenever troops are in the field.

"I do not anticipate that this would lead to much expense, as it would, in the first instance merely require the careful separation of Staff and control duties.

"Hospitals must not be overlooked. A Medical Department is useless without a store of drugs and instruments, these should be provided.

"The Control would of course furnish the equipment, diets, and medical comforts for any Army Hospital that might be opened.

4th. Care of armaments, munitions of war, reserve stores, fortifications, lands, and buildings.

"These involve, besides the establishment of a control system, or whatever name it may be known by, an engineer and artillery branch. As it seems that works will be erected at Montreal and other points, there will be no difficulty in making the engineer officer employed, inspect and devise upon any point connected with fortifications and military buildings, and he should do all such duties required of him.

"Munitions of war, including all combustible stores, arms and ordnance with their carriages &c., cannot be kept with safety and preserved from deterioration without constant and intelligent care and inspection. This is recognized in the English army by the appointment of a special and highly trained artillery officer in all large commands, whose duty it is to make these inspections both for the Artillery and the Control Department.

"I strongly urge that the Militia Department should include such an officer, and recommend that applications should be made to the Home authorities to select one

of these inspectors of Warlike Stores, and Fire-Masters for service under the Canadian Government, for the usual Staff period of five years during which time he should be seconded in the artillery, and receive from Canada the same pay and allowances as he would have received in the Regular Service. After his five years he should return to the artillery, and Canada should get another officer, fresh from the Arsenal at Woolwich.

"The expense entailed by one of these officers would be inconsiderable and would be covered by the saving he would effect by the careful inspection of most perishable stores.

"I beg to recommend great caution in alienating the military lands and buildings now in military charge, or about to be transferred to the Canadian Government, or in granting leases or rights over them. All such arrangements should be submitted for the report of the General Officer Commanding the Militia, and the officer in charge of engineer duties, in order that the military view of the question may be ascertained.

5. Military Instruction &c.

"The system I have advocated in this Memorandum will, under good officers, ensure a nucleus of artillery and cavalry for the Dominion, but the mainstay of an army is its infantry."

"It is not to be expected that this branch of the service, or even its Cadres can be kept in permanent service, and this makes it all the more necessary to instruct the officers and regimental staff in their duty, and to teach all ranks the use of their arms."

"The Military Schools have done a great deal, but when they shall be re-opened, it will necessarily be in a different form from heretofore. I advise great discrimination in permitting cadets to go through the course. I think nothing can be more advantageous than the yearly repetition of the Camp of Cadets at Laprarie in 1865. The system of moving the Militia into Camp for training is excellent and should be generally adopted. Everything depends upon the commanders; they should, therefore, be the most carefully selected. The short time in the annual training that can be spared for musketry instruction should be supplemented by shooting at home. Rifle associations in every District, and shooting clubs within every regimental Division should be encouraged, but it is essential that all men unaccustomed to the rifle should go through a course of target practice every year.

"It is impossible for men to march without good boots, and my experience is that the city and town corps have nothing but high heeled, narrow soled, short-pegged boots. Nor are Militiamen willing to turn out without good and suitable clothing. A store of it should be kept in each District, for this is a point which greatly affects military pride and feeling.

"The power given by the Militia Act to frame Regulations about Billets, impressing horses and transport, should be exercised. The want of these rules has been recently much felt.

"It is necessary for me to bear testimony to the spirit and adaptability to war of the Canadian Militia. They are recognized by everybody and shown by the past history of the force.

"To give effect to these excellent qualities, discipline and military instructions are required, and it is impossible to embody the men, these can only be secured by carefully training the officers beforehand.

"It is by this previous preparation of the officers, by instilling into them a high sense of duty, by insisting upon their possessing

superior professional knowledge, and by their soldierlike bearing, that in the social system that prevails in Canada, they can hope to command the obedience, confidence and respect of their men.

"I believe that this previous training of the officers, and the supervision necessary to give impetus to the whole system, can be best secured by the appointment of a general officer of known capacity and force of character; and I therefore, advocate the measure as one of paramount importance.

"In this communication I have not entered upon the necessity for armed vessels in the lakes, particularly in Ontario, which would be necessary in the event of war. Nor have I entered into the defensive points of Canada. These subjects have already been reported upon by superior authorities.

("Signed.)

JAS. LINSDAY.

"Lieutenant General."

5TH BATTALION CONCERT.—The concert in the Lecture Hall last evening, the proceeds of which were to be given to the Band fund of the 5th Battalion, V. M. R. was attended by a large and highly appreciative audience. The Hall was tastefully decorated with flags and festoons of evergreens, and these, with the beautiful dresses of the ladies, and the varied uniforms of the military and volunteers present had a fine effect. The vocal and instrumental parts were well sustained, and the manner in which the programme was carried out is in a great measure due to the director, Mr. Mills. The Band of the 60th Rifles discoursed some excellent music. The duet "Music on the waves," by Mr. and Miss Gilmour, was very tastefully rendered, and elicited an encore. Mr. Cook then sang "The White Swallow," which was received with much applause. Then followed the bugle solo by Corporal Trundle, 60th Rifles. "Jessie's dream," was exquisitely given by Miss Rowand. Mr. O'Neill made a very happy selection as usual, and added much to the enjoyment of the evening by his reading from "Jack Hinton." Captain White, Q. V. G. A., sang a pretty song called "The warrior bard," which was well delivered. The Misses Walkem sang a very pleasing duet, "Twas but a bird," and as an encore gave "My heart's desire" with great brilliancy and sweetness. Miss Ardouin then gave "Winter," a song composed and dedicated to her by Mr. Mills, and which was rendered with much taste. Mr. Gilmour sang "Floating away," and the Misses Rowand a duet. "Trust her not," wherein the blending of the voices had a charming effect. Mr. Mitchell-Innes, 60th Rifles, gave his celebrated Dutch song, "Among those bloody noses," which created much merriment. The drums and fifes of the 5th Battalion added considerably to the novelty of the entertainment, and appear to have made good use of their time for the short while they have been practising. A considerable sum was realized, and we congratulate the 5th on the success of this their first concert.

REMITTANCES

Received on Subscription up to Saturday the 22nd inst.

CHATHAM, N.B.—Lt. Col. Caleb McCully, \$2.

(PER AGENT.)

AURORA.—Dr. R. W. Hillery, \$5.

HAWKESBURY.—Thos. Higginson, Esq., \$6.

WALLBRIDGE.—F. B. Prior, Esq., \$5.

ENGLAND.

[The following is the reply to the stirring poem in a late issue of the *Vidette*, "The Mother of Nations is Dead," in which England is represented as in a fatal trance, while the thunders of war rolled upon her shores and threatened to engulf her, her people crying aloud in their agony, "Wake, Mother, Wake!"]

Child! I am neither dead nor asleep,
False to my duty, nor false to my trust.
What does it matter to me who weeps,
So that I stand, before Heaven, just?
It may be that I, who seem to sleep,
Shall weep, weep, weep,
But never, unless my cause be good,
Will offer to Heaven blood.

Asleep? Are my cannon asleep, although
Their throats are gullible of flame and
thunder?

Shall I for every wrong or foe
Tear the ties of the world asunder?
Child! if I did not seem to sleep
All would weep, weep,
Not on Europe alone could I hurl
"The bolt that must shake the world"

Asleep? Nay! Here I am standing for peace,
Fearing no foe, and trusting no friend,
Hoping to gain out of wars a surcease
Of a war that seems to promise no end;
Cannon and rifles be your sleep
Deep, deep, deep, deep,
Bloodhounds of hell! be nerveless and dumb,
With your damp-pulse still and numb!

I mourn o'er my sisters tompost-tossed,
O'er the maddened hate and the brutal greed:
Why should I add to the loved and lost
Daughters that weep, and sons that bleed?
The seeds we sow were the grain we reap.
"Weep, weep? Nay! sleep!
Devils of war that slaughter and burn
Till your sleep slays you in your turn.

NARRATIVE OF THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—CONCLUSION.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

(From *Blackwood for Feb.*)

In last month's number we described the advance of the expeditionary troops as far as Fort Francis, and endeavoured to convey to the reader a general idea of the country in the first of the three sections into which we divided the entire distance between Shebandowan Lake and Fort Garry.

The second section begins at Fort Francis where the leading detachment arrived, as previously stated on the 4th August, starting again that same afternoon. A garrison of one company of militia was left for the protection of the hospital, bakery, and depot of stores established there, and to insure our communications being kept open through the Chippewah territories. Although these Indians had been hitherto very friendly, there was no saying when they might give us trouble, particularly if they saw large quantities of that much coveted article flour, stored in their very midst without a sufficient guard to protect it. Indians have great appetites, and are always hungry—and hungry men are more or less dangerous. Our voyage down Rainy River was most enjoyable. As we pushed off from the shore below the falls at Fort Francis, we were twisted round for some time in every direction by the numerous whirlpools formed by the falling of such a great body of water into a circular basin, where it acquired a rotary motion. At one moment a boat was going at the rate of nine miles an hour, and the next was perfectly stationary, having stopped without any shock, but as suddenly as if it had struck on a rock. In some instances minutes elapsed ere the utmost exertion at the oar, the whole crew pulling their best, could impart the least motion to the boats. They seemed as if held in a vice by the hand of some hidden giant—the sensation being all the more peculiar from the contrast with the rushing frothing waters

around, in themselves the very symbol of motion. Then after some moments of hard pulling, every muscle being strained to the utmost, the boat was released so suddenly that it bounded forward as a spring would which had been kept back by a rope that had suddenly snapped. The sensation of being in a small boat amongst such eddies, whirlpools, and upheaving waves, which rising from below, broke on the surface in great mounds of water without any apparent cause, was most exciting and enjoyable to the strong nerved man; whilst the weak-headed experienced a disagreeable feeling about the stomach that seemed to give a strong tendency to grasp at something or somebody.

As we glided down this deep river at the rate of about four or five miles an hour, the scenery was very pretty. Its breadth was from three to four hundred yards; the banks were wooded to the waters edge, with here and there a patch of greensward peeping out through the trees; whilst occasionally one came to an open park like clearance, where fine spreading oaks reminded one of England. This river is the frontier between British North America and the United States. There are no settlements upon either bank, but the numbers of lodge-poles, showed that the locality was a favourite one with Indians. From Fort Francis to where Rainy River discharges itself into the Lake of the Woods, a distance of 70 miles in a westerly direction, the navigation is unbroken. There are rapids at two places but they can be run easily and safely: and in ascending the stream, boats are tracked up the stream without discharging cargo.

At both, many Indian families are always uncamped, as they are favourite spots for fishing, particularly during the winter, as the water never freezes there. There are wide open spaces at these rapids, covered when we passed with rich luxuriant grass, small spots being under cultivation as gardens for potatoes and Indian corn. There were also some circular mounds of earth, one or two being about twenty feet high. We had not time to land and examine them, but the natives call them underground houses although not used as habitations.

It was a lovely day, and as there was a good current in the river, we determined upon trying the plan of drifting along it during the night. So after the evening meal, we again started, lashing the boats together two and two, one man remaining awake in each boat to steer, the others lying down to sleep as best they could. As the sun went down, a dense mass of curious looking flies came streaming up with the gentle westerly wind. They were nearly white, with grey wings and pale yellow bodies, having a tail more than an inch long consisting of what looked like two white hairs. They flew in a regular column, closely formed up without any stragglers to the right or left, which opened out with a sort of tactical regularity when a boat pushed into its midst. At a little distance they had all the appearance of a driving fall of snow. The pressure from above caused vast numbers of them to strike the water from which they had not the power to rise again.

We had not been many hours drifting along when black clouds came up and hid the moon, the wind freshened and brought heavy rain with it, which soon wet us through. We were making no way, and it became so pitchy dark that steering was impossible. We had therefore to push into shore, and await daybreak as best we could.

We reached the mouth of the river next day in time for breakfast at a small Hudson Bay post, formerly called Hungry Hall, from

the number of men who had from time to time nearly died from starvation whilst quartered there. It has now been renamed Fort Louis by the company, and it is expected, will become shortly a post of importance, being so advantageously situated upon what will henceforth be, until a rail way is opened, the highway for North-western emigration. Close to the post is an Indian burial-ground, where there were some coffins raised in the air on platforms about six feet high; chiefs only and their sons are thus honoured after death. Around the post are many Indian potato gardens; but there were very few families there as we passed, every one that could be away from the ordinary hunting grounds at this season, for the purpose of collecting wild rice, which abounds in some neighboring locality.

In every part of Rainy River sturgeon are found in great abundance one of fifty, sixty or more pounds being no extraordinary fish. It is very good eating, and is a great staple of food amongst the poor half-starved Indians.

The land upon each side is low and marshy at the mouth of Rainy River, from which rose up quantities of wild duck, disturbed at their feast upon the wild rice by the noise of our oars, and by the cheery laughter and songs of our men. A large sand-bar has formed in the Lake of the Woods immediately across the mouth of the river, upon which great seas, rolling in from the ocean like lake beyond, broke with a loud roar, sending up clouds of spray in an angry fashion. Looking out westward as we passed into the space between the bar and the shore, where the water was calm as in a harbour, the lake was covered with "white-horses"—bespeaking, as the breeze was freshening, by no means a pleasant day's work for us. No open boat could have crossed the bar so we turned northward, keeping near shore, but between it and a line of sandy dunes, which seemed to be a continuation of the bar at the entrance to the river, and which had been formed most probably—as the bar has been—when the river's mouth was more to the north than it is at present. These sandbanks extended some six or eight miles, running tolerably parallel with the shore, and from a thousand to two thousand yards from it. The water was very shallow at places; and as we got towards the end of the protecting sandbanks, the force of the waves increased, so that all chance of beating to windward under sail was out of the question. We were therefore forced to put into a rocky island partly covered with trees, where we were detained two days by a heavy westerly gale—a severe trial to our patience. When we did get off, a journey of two days, sometimes under sail and sometimes having to depend solely upon the oar, took us to Rat Portage, at the northern extremity of the lake, where the Winnipeg River flowed out of it. Some of us were without guides in crossing the lake, which for miles at places is crowded with islands of all shapes and sizes; and as the maps were altogether wrong, many wandered about at the northern extremity of the lake searching in vain for the mouth of the Winnipeg River. The Lake of the Woods is about seventy-five miles long, with an average width of about seventy miles. It is in reality three lakes, separated one from the other by clusters of islands, all more or less pretty, some having fine perpendicular cliffs tinted with many shades of red, and standing majestically out of the water. All are well wooded, and in some there are a few acres under cultivation as gardens, where the Indians, from time immemorial,

have been in the habit of growing potatoes and maize. The water in the lake is nearly lukewarm, being from 70° to 78° Fahr.; it is, except at a very few places, of a dark green color, and almost opaque from a profuseness of conservoid growth. These conservoids are minute, needle-shaped organisms, of a bright-green hue, and about half an inch in length. They abound throughout the lake, and are in such quantities at places that the water resembles green pea soup. When pressed between the teeth they have a pungent flavour like mustard. Our musquito-nets were here very useful for straining the water; but even after that process had been gone through, it was not fit for drinking until boiled. A few of the long, deep bays receding from the lake are free from this substance; and upon their banks lived the majority of the Indians who belong to this neighbourhood.

To lose one's way upon an expanse of water like the Lake of the Woods, and to wander about in a boat, as the writer did, through its maze of uninhabited islands, where no sound was to be heard but the dip of the oars at regular intervals, or the distant and weird like whistle of the loon, is to experience the exquisite sensation of solitude in all its full intensity. There are trees and rocks, and earth and water, in all their varied and united beauty, but no sign whatever of man's handiwork anywhere. Oh! if it was not for the trouble of having to cook one's own dinner, how delicious would be existence passed in the society of nature!

The drainage of an immense country is collected in the Lake of the Woods, which flows into Lake Winipeg by the river of that name. This river begins in the former lake, flowing from it by several channels, all more or less romantically picturesque in their scenery, and at the entrance to each of which there are falls about thirteen feet high. Upon one of the central islands thus formed is the Hudson Bay post of Rat Portage. It is approached by a most intricate channel winding round islands in such a manner that a stranger would have very great difficulty in finding it. There is a nice little farm there, and a good garden, the vegetables of which were a great treat after our journey of so many days through a wilderness. There was a most striking difference between the climate of Shobaudowan and on the shores of this great lake; every day's journey from the high level of the former place brought us into a more genial temperature, humming birds having been seen for the first time at French Portage before we reached Rainy Lake; and the corn was being cut as we left Fort Francis, where the summer is very early. The post at Rat Portage consists of a few log houses surrounded by a high wooden palisading. It stands on a bank some fifteen feet high, and when viewed from the river, bears a strong resemblance to a Burmese village. As you ascend the bank to enter the post, you are surrounded by a pack of the leanest-looking and most cur-like dogs, who are always quarrelling amongst themselves, and have starvation written on their countenances, as well as evidenced by their bone-protruding flanks. They are to the Indians, or the dwellers in the backwoods, during winter, what canoes are to them in summer. These dogs drag their *traîneaux*, or *toboggans* as they are indifferently called, and are capable of lengthened exertions over snowtracks where no horse could travel. In summer they are turned loose about the post, and pick up enough to eat as best they can among the Indians encamped around it; but in winter they are regularly fed upon fish.

The gentleman in charge of Rat Portage had been there for thirteen years, without having had, during that period, any further glimpse of civilization than what could be obtained at some of the other posts. He was a half-breed married to a squaw. It is next too impossible that any man could lead such a solitary life and still retain the intelligence and enlargement of ideas imparted by even an ordinary country-school education. Men's minds are too prone to assimilate with the minds of those with whom they are exclusively associated, to retain, after a series of years spent amongst ignorant heathens, many traces of education or civilization. Great, therefore, was our astonishment at finding the table neatly arranged with breakfast things, laid on a clean table cloth, when we entered the house the morning after our arrival. Thrice blessed is the man who first discovered the pleasures of eating. Your *gourmet* in refined life really knows nothing of them; nor has he ever enjoyed the rapturous sensations which broiled fish, boiled potatoes, and tea, afforded us that morning. *En route* our daily meals were always cooked and eaten in a hurry. A picnic once a year is very pleasant to the man accustomed to eat his dinner for the following 364 days in a white cravat, and with his legs under an artistically decorated table; but to eat one's breakfast, dinner, and salt pork, beans, and biscuit, sitting on a log or stone, day after day for months together, is, to say the least of it, rather monotonous, and makes one appreciate the luxury of a chair, table, and clean table cloth in a remarkable degree.

(To be continued.)

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

BRIEF SKETCHES OF THE SAINTS CHERLOTTE'S LEADERS.

(From the New York Herald.)

We publish brief sketches of the leaders of the Paris insurgents whose names have been made public. As will be seen all belong to the red republican party.

GENERAL DUCAL.

This officer who appears to hold the position of commander-in-chief of the insurgent forces is a soldier by profession. He entered the French army in the second quarter of the present century, and was one of the first to agree to the overthrow of Charles X. Soon after the accession of Louis Philippe he gave evidence of his republican sentiments, and immediately after the overthrow of the "Citizen King" gave his adhesion to the republic. He opposed the presidency of Louis Napoleon, but retained his position in the army until after the *coup d'état*, when he sent in his resignation. From that time until the overthrow of the empire in September last he remained in private, taking no part in politics, but recognized as an unswerving republican. After the 3rd of September he again took up arms, was commissioned a general and served during the siege of Paris. He seems to have been one of the leaders of the Montmartre insurgents from the start, and his recent proclamation a synopsis of which we published yesterday, indicates that he is a communist.

GENERAL CREMER.

It is a difficult matter to state what are the politics of General Cremer. As will be seen in our cable despatches he has been summoned to appear at Versailles for trial by court martial, for participation in the insurrection. At the outbreak of the war with Prussia he was a *capitaine de Viat*-major (staff officer) of the imperial army. After

Gambetta went to Tours, Crémier and a captain of engineers, named Bretolles, had an interview with him, which resulted in Bretolles' appointment to a major generalship and to Crémier's receiving a brigadier general's commission. It appears that this sudden promotion resulted from the two young officers laying before Gambetta a plan of campaign which that fiery official at once adopted, and recognized in the planners officers of the first military genius. Crémier was placed in command of a brigade of some 7,000 men forming part of Bretolles' division. The troops lay near Dijon and one fine day Crémier, in disobedience of the order of his superior, marched them to Dijon. Bretolles hurried to Tours to complain to Gambetta, but before he could reach that place Crémier had telegraphed a report of a victory he had gained over the Prussians. It was a trifling affair, but victories were scarce, and Gambetta at once promoted him to a major generalship in army of Bovrbaki. Crémier's division did good service during the fatal campaign to relieve Belfort, and fought hard during the retreat which it covered. After the preliminary treaty of peace Crémier went to Paris, and has since been there. He is said to be both ambitious and unscrupulous and is altogether a dangerous man.

M. ASSY.

Almost every reader of the *Herald* has heard of M. Assy, one of the leaders of the Workingmen's International Society. He is a native of southeast France, and was at one time an employe at the great iron works at Creuzot, belonging to M. Schneider, late President of the Corps Legislatif under the empire. Some years ago he drifted in politics, and soon became prominent in the political and social questions which have agitated France. While Secretary to the association *Internationale des Ouvriers*, the politico-social disturbances at Creuzot took place, and he was arrested and tried for complicity in them, and was committed. Subsequently he left Creuzot and took up his residence in Paris, where he has been since conspicuous for his participation in public matters affecting the workingmen. Personally he is said to be a most agreeable man, but politically he is regarded as one of the ablest and most dangerous demagogues in France. He is a socialist, and holds with Blandqui, Flourens, and the rest all the absurd and Utopian social and political theories of his party.

Promotion in the British army by purchase still continues for the present. An interdiction, however, has been issued from the War Department to prevent first appointments being made under this category.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. *THE CIVIL SERVICE GAZETTE* remarks.—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which not only saves us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in 4lb., 1lb., and 1lb. tin-lined packets, labelled—**JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.**

During the siege of Paris the French Academy was greatly "exercised" on the subject of ballooning. A plan of M. Dupuy for controlling to a certain extent the course of a balloon in mid air attracted particular attention. His plan was to have an egg-shaped balloon floating horizontally in the air, and sheathed in a network of rope supporting an oblong boat provided at one end with a sail rigidly stretched out by way of a rudder. In the centre of the boat was to be a screw propeller made of light materials, and worked by two men, relieved from time to time by two others. The Government of the National Defence granted him 40,000 francs for its execution; but as yet nothing has been heard of it.

"An American" writes to the *Pall Mall Gazette* that "the Navy howitzer 24-pounder is similar to that which the Prussians have found so valuable in the siege of Paris, and has a range of 3 1-2 miles. It is very light, and considered preferable by the authorities to a steel gun. In its founding, however, the greatest care and experience are required. I have heard the Chief of the Ordnance Bureau of Washington say that in the foundry of the Navy-yard at that place, where alone these guns are cast, the judgment of the foreman of the foundry as to the mixing of the metals was of such value that no gun was cast but under his immediate supervision, a difference of a few minutes between adding the more fusible elements and forming the resulting bronze making a very considerable difference in the strength of the metal for gun purposes, any delay after the perfect fusion and mixture causing vaporization of the more fusible elements to such a degree as to make the composition entirely uncertain. If the foundry at Woolwich has not made the necessary experiments to ascertain the best conditions for melting, mixing, and pouring, it may well be that their guns have not the quality of the Washington gun, which I have heard eulogized in the highest terms by Russian officers of great experience, and seen in use in the Russian navy."



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,
6th day of April, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS it has been represented to His Excellency, that the public convenience would be promoted if the Custom House Station at Esquimaux Point, which is situate in closer proximity to the Port of Gaspe, than to that of Quebec, with which it is now connected, was detached from the last mentioned Port and erected into an Out Port of Entry, and placed under the survey of the Port of Gaspe.

His Excellency the Governor General, on the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs, and under and pursuant of the 8th section of the Act 31st Victoria, Cap. 8, intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs," has been pleased to Order, and it is hereby Ordered, that on and after the First day of April, inst., the Port of Esquimaux Point shall be, and is hereby detached from the Port of Quebec, and placed under the survey of the Port of Gaspe, in the Province of Quebec.

WM. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council,

Ottawa, April 10th, 1871.

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F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, April 1st, 1871. }

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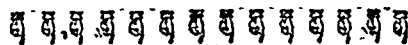
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