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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. IV.

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### PRUSSIAN MILITARY EDUCATION.

[From the Report of the English Commission "to consider the best mode of reorganizing the system of training officers for the scientific corps."]

1. While in France the system of military education has been little altered during the last thirteen years, in Prussia it has in the interval undergone constant extension and improvements. The chief alterations that have taken place are as follows:

(a). All the educational establishments have been very much enlarged, owing to the increase in the army which has taken place since 1866.

(b). The educational requirements for a commission remain in principle the same as they were, the double examination for the rank of officer, and the exaction from every candidate for a commission of proof of both general and professional knowledge, being still the peculiar feature of Prussian military education. There has been, however a constant tendency to raise the standard of the preliminary examination in subjects of general knowledge, and to insist more strongly upon a sound liberal education as a condition of obtaining a commission. The number of *Abiturienten*, or men who have passed through the complete course at a public school, entering the army annually, is now four times as great as it was in 1856, and there is the strongest wish still further to increase their number. These young men may be compared to those who come from the highest forms of public schools in England. A large number of them seem to go into the artillery and engineers.

(c). The cadet schools in their general character are unaltered; the introduction of the peculiar class in the Oberprima in the Upper Cadet School at Berlin is the most important modification made in their organization. The proportion of officers supplied by the cadet schools continues much the same as it was in 1856. The feeling in the army, however, against preparatory military schools appears to be increasing; a strong opinion is entertained as to the narrowing effects upon the mind of exclusive class education; and a preference is very generally exhibited for officers who have had the ordinary education of civil schools. At the war schools, the Artillery and Engineer School, and the War Academy, a decided opinion was expressed as to the intellectual superiority of the *Abiturienten* over those who have been educated in the cadet corps.

(d). The arrangements for the professional instruction of officers of the scientific

corps have been very much altered. These officers now have their education up to the time of obtaining their commissions in common with candidates of the line, their special instruction does not commence at the Artillery and Engineer School until they have been in the service three or four years. For the artillery the course at this school has been reduced to one year, and made more strictly practical in character.

(e). The course of instruction at the War Academy or senior department, has been considerably modified; though still comprising many subjects of an entirely unprofessional character, their number has been reduced: the attention of the students is more concentrated upon military studies than formerly, and a larger amount of time is devoted to practical work. In short, the object has been to render the instruction less purely theoretical than it formerly was.

(f). The most important change, however, which has been made is in regard to the war schools—the schools at which officers of all arms receive their *professional* instruction. Since 1856 they have been entirely reorganized, and placed under the direct control of the Central Educational Department; a much higher class of teachers are employed; the character of the instruction has been greatly improved; and attendance at one of these schools is, with rare exceptions, made compulsory upon every one before obtaining a commission. These schools hold a most important position in the Prussian system of military education, and the greatest pains are bestowed on making them answer the purpose for which they are intended—that of giving a thoroughly practical instruction in military subjects to candidates for commissions. The improvements made in the war schools show the greatly increased importance attached of late years in Prussia to the professional instruction of officers.

2. However different the French and Prussian systems may be in some respects, they both agree in this—that no attempts made to give a special military education at an early age, that a general education is made the groundwork of the professional training, and that at least up to the age of 17 or 18 the future officer receives the same kind of education as the civilian, and in the great majority of cases receives it at the ordinary schools of the country. In Austria also the same principle seems now to have been adopted. The cadet schools in Prussia are no exception to the rule, for the instruction at them, except in the two upper classes at Berlin, is the same as at civil schools. The principle of deferring military education to a comparatively late age is indeed in Prussia

carried even to a greater extent than in France, for all professional instruction is postponed until after the service has been entered, and regimental duty been performed for nearly a year. The few who enter the army from the Oberprima and Selecta of the Cadet Corps (not amounting to 70 each year) are the only individuals who receive any military instruction before joining the service, and in their case this special instruction does not commence until the age of 17. So strongly is this principle insisted upon that even for the artillery and engineers there is no preparatory military education, and the special instruction of the officers of these arms is not given until after they have been some years in the service. The idea in Prussia is that a young man can derive no advantage from studying the *theory* of the military profession until he has learned the *practice* of it. "What use can it be," it was said, "to talk to a lad of the principles of tactics, when he does not even know the movements of a battalion, and perhaps has never seen one on parade?"

3. After, however, entering the service, all the officers of the Prussian army receive a careful professional instruction—that given at the war schools. The course is of an essentially practical character, comprising only strictly military subjects, and excluding such studies as mathematics and even languages.

4. The officers of the staff do not necessarily receive any special training previous to their appointment; but in Prussia this is of less importance, as from the professional education which every officer has had, those appointed to the staff, even if they have not passed through the senior department, must at least be acquainted with field sketching and military regulations, and know something of fortification and artillery. Moreover, after appointment means are taken, in the "staff expeditions" which occur annually, to instruct them in their practical duties, and (as is the case also in France with the officers of the staff corps) to insure their keeping up the knowledge of field sketching and reconnoissance which they had previously acquired.

5. The connection which exists in Prussia between the military system and the general education of the country is remarkable. *Portepée-jahrlich* examinations are not only based on the course of instruction at civil schools, but have been used as a means of raising the character of the education given at these schools. On the one hand, the advantages offered to *Abiturienten* and to those who have been at a university indicate a wish to encourage men of liberal education to enter the army as officers, on the other hand, by

making exemption from the ordinary period of compulsory service in the ranks dependent (among other conditions) on educational attainments, the military system has been employed as an engine for stimulating education among the middle classes.

6. The general management of military education is vested in a single officer, the inspector-general. He is assisted by two boards or councils, the Board of Studies in matters connected with the general system of instruction, and the Supreme Examination Board in regard to the examinations and qualifications for commissions. The system of education has been still further centralized since 1850, especially in the case of the war schools, and much of the progress that has been made is ascribed to the unity now given to the whole system of instruction. At the same time each of the educational institutions has its own board of studies, similar to the *conseils d'instruction* at the French schools, who are charged with the general control of the course of study and with the duty of making suggestions for its improvement. Several of the professors, both civil and military, are always members of this board; so that the benefit of their practical experience is secured, and the control of the instruction is never left entirely in the hands of one man, nor even exclusively of military men. The introduction of the civilian element into these boards is deserving of notice; not merely the professors of the schools, but eminent men connected with the University of Berlin are employed upon them, and have a voice in determining the system of military education. The long period for which individuals are retained in posts connected with the direction of the educational system has been previously noticed—appointments on the board of studies and the examination board are to all intents and purposes permanent. It is considered that the benefits of experience would be lost by frequent changes of the members.

7. In discipline the heads of the various schools are almost entirely supreme. At the war schools the young men are subject to military law, being already in the army; at the cadet schools this is not the case, but the discipline is strictly military in character. At both establishments the regulations are extremely stringent, and the slightest irregularity entails punishment. But the importance attached to the exercise of moral influence over the pupils, the personal interest taken in them, and the kindly relations existing between them and the officer, make the system of discipline much less rigidly military than it is at the French schools. Both at the war schools and the Cadet House specific punishments are attached to idleness.

8. In the appointment of the heads of the various schools and of the subordinate officers employed at them, great attention seems to be paid to selecting individuals fitted for the posts both by educational experience and by personal qualities. There appears to be rather a general opinion that the instructors at most of the schools are underpaid, and that this, combined with the preference frequently given to active military life, prevents the posts being much sought after by the ablest officers. On the other hand, however, selection for such appointments is always regarded as a distinction; and in the Prussian army mere honorary distinctions, altogether irrespective of material advantages, are held in much higher estimation than is probably the case in any other service. As a general rule there is no fixed limit to the tenure of appointments,

but in practice they are seldom held continuously for more than five or six years.

9. The most marked point of contrast between the French and Prussian systems of military education consists in the thoroughly competitive character of the former. In Prussia the principle of competition, though to a certain extent recognized, is little applied in practice, and never perhaps fully and strictly carried out. For promotion to the highest class (the *Selecta*) of the Berlin Cadet House there is considerable competition among the pupils, and admission to the War Academy is obtained by competitive examination open to all the officers of the army; but even in these two cases personal and other considerations come more or less into play, and the rewards cannot be said to be thrown open to pure competition. All the other military examinations are simply qualifying, and there is no attempt to afford the stimulus of publishing a list of the candidates arranged in order of merit. In fact the term "competitive examination" scarcely seems to be understood in Prussia. The pecuniary assistance afforded by the State for the education of boys in the cadet schools is dependent solely on the circumstances and services of the father, not on the abilities of the candidate himself. Few material advantages result from success in any of the examinations. At the same time, in nearly all cases the honorary distinction of being reported by name to the King is held out as a reward to those who display special ability. And this distinction, owing to the great personal influence exercised by the Sovereign over promotion, is probably more than a mere empty honor.

10. The objections expressed to the introduction of a competitive system such as that existing in France have been mentioned in the account of the war schools. They appear to be universally entertained in the Prussian army. Of all the officers with whom the question was discussed, one only advocated the adoption of competition as an element of military education. Of the others none foresaw any advantage from its introduction, while the great majority entertained a most decided objection to it. The object in Prussia seems to be, not to attempt to establish an accurate comparison of the educational attainments of a number of individuals, but to form a general estimate of the abilities, character, and military capacity of each. The army generally are not considered to be losers by the rejection of the competitive principle; the system of inspections and of reports from inspecting officers is so elaborate, and so many checks are provided, that the character and abilities of individual officers are well known, and appointments certainly, as a general rule, are said to be made on the ground of real merit. Even at the less advanced schools, such as the Cadet House and the war schools, without the stimulus of competition, though there may be fewer instances of intense study on the part of individuals, there is said to be fair industry among the whole body of students. At the same time the great inducement to exertion afforded in a country where military service is compulsory, by the desire to escape duty as a private soldier, must not be forgotten.

11. It must be noticed that there is (probably in part owing to the absence of competition) some vagueness in the standard of all the Prussian examinations. There appears indeed in general to be less strictness in enforcing the regulations connected with military education in Prussia than in France. The regulations themselves are very stringent, but exceptions are constantly made

tioned—for instance, in the length of time which a pupil is permitted to remain in the same class at the cadet schools in the number of failures allowed in the various examinations, etc. There is an evident disposition to put as lenient an interpretation as possible upon all regulations.

12. The very great care bestowed upon the method of instruction at all the Prussian military schools is extremely remarkable. Individual instructors are not left to follow out their own ideas of teaching, but careful regulations are issued for their guidance by the Inspector-General of Education, to which all are required strictly to conform. The system of small classes, in striking contrast to the French plan of lectures to large numbers, is a remarkable instance of the anxiety to devote attention to individual students, and to adapt the instruction to varieties of ability. But the most remarkable feature of the system of teaching is the care bestowed upon the higher objects of education, upon forming and disciplining the mind and encouraging habits of reflection. The regulations for the instructors at the various schools over and over again assert that the great object to be kept in view is, not merely to impart a certain amount of positive knowledge, but to develop the intellectual faculties and to cultivate powers of thought and reasoning. The teachers are warned to avoid minute details and barren facts, which merely burden the memory and are soon forgotten, and to direct attention to broad principles, which will lay the foundation for further individual study in after life. With the same object in view, the examination questions are calculated, not merely to serve as an exercise of the memory, but to test an intelligent acquaintance with a subject, and the power of turning knowledge to a useful purpose. The specimens of the examination questions which have been given, will show how much the Prussian system in this respect differs from that pursued in English military schools. In the Prussian method of instruction there is almost an entire absence of the minute detail as to numbers, dates, and facts to which so much importance is attached in all military teaching in England. The system pursued in regard to private study is in accordance with the same principle of aiming at the development of the mind. The students are not, as in the French schools, forced to work under the constant supervision of instructors, but are left to study in private, in order to teach themselves reliance and to encourage habits of work. The great importance attached at all the schools, and more especially at the War Academy, to the cultivation of special talents, is also a striking feature of the system of instruction; the attainment of a high standard in individual subjects is made an object of much greater importance than average acquirements in all.

13. In conclusion a few points of detail may be noticed, in which the course of instruction at the military schools both of France and Prussia presents more or less contrast with that followed in this country.

In neither country are mathematics made an important element in general military education. In France the artillery and engineers receive a very high mathematical training, but for the line little mathematics are required; at St. Cyr the subject is scarcely taught, and even for the staff corps the knowledge demanded is limited to what is practically useful for surveying. In Prussia a knowledge of mathematics up to trigonometry is required for admission to the army; but the subject is not taught at the war schools in connection with the profes-

sional instruction of candidates for commissions. Even in the scientific corps a comparatively small amount of mathematical attainments is exacted from the artillery, and at the War Academy only a low course of mathematics is obligatory on the students. The general principle upon which mathematics are taught in Prussia—even to officers of the artillery and engineers—is, that the higher branches of the subject can only be studied with advantage by a few who have real mathematical talent, and that it is mere waste of time to force the study upon those who have not a taste for it.

To the subject of reconnaissance and field sketching great importance is attached in both countries. For the execution of reconnaissance sketches and reports, a much shorter time is allowed than at English schools; rapid sketching on horseback is frequently practised; the work has to be done much as it would on service, and comparatively little importance is attached to the mere prettiness and finish of the drawings. In both countries also theoretical instruction on topography is given by lecture, in addition to the knowledge picked up by practice, and there is an examination in the theory of the subject as well as in the manual execution of drawings.

Both in France and Prussia thorough instruction in military law and regulations, in regimental interior economy, in the mode of conducting official correspondence, of preparing returns, and of keeping company accounts, is made a very important element of the education of candidates for commissions. Instruction is also given in the practice of writing military reports as they would be required from regimental officers under various circumstances; and the acquirement of a correct, grammatical, and concise style for such reports is strongly insisted upon.

The advantage which is taken in both countries of visits to military establishments, manufacturing departments, and fortresses, to illustrate the subjects taught in the lecture room, has been noticed in the remarks on the French schools.

As a general rule, at all the French and Prussian military schools proficiency in practical subjects of instruction—such as drill, riding, fencing, gymnastics, etc.—as well as conduct, has more or less effect upon the final result. In France the influence of these subjects is more direct than in Prussia, actual marks being awarded for them; but even in Prussia, though their value is not numerically estimated, they are much taken into consideration. Indeed, in Prussia so great importance is attached to the practical military qualifications (both moral and physical) which go to make a good officer, that their possession is often allowed to compensate for a partial failure in theoretical attainments. A thorough knowledge of drill, both as soldiers in the ranks and as officers in command of troops, and acquired not merely on the parade-ground, but also by the study of the drill-book, is made an object of the greatest importance at the schools of both countries. In France especially a large amount of time is devoted to lectures on drill in addition to the practical instruction on the subject.

In regard to the study of military history, the practice somewhat varies. In France the subject is taught at the lower school of St. Cyr, but not at the more advanced schools for the scientific corps and the staff, where its place is supplied by military art, tactics, and strategy. At the staff school, however, the exchange is not considered an advantage. In Prussia an exactly opposite course is followed; the subject of tactics is

taught to the young candidates for commissions at the war schools, while the study of military history is reserved for the older students at the Artillery and Engineer School and the War Academy. Even, however, at the war schools the course of tactics is supplemented by historical illustrations, although no complete campaigns are studied.

A knowledge of at least one foreign language is a necessary condition of admission to the army in both countries. In Prussia, French is obligatory on all candidates in the ensign's examination. In France, for admission to St. Cyr, a choice of five languages is allowed, but at the school itself only English and German are studied, of which the latter is necessary for admission to the staff corps. At Metz also German alone is taught. It does not appear that power of fluent conversation in foreign languages is generally acquired by the students, either in the French or Prussian schools.

Both in France and Prussia an important part is played by *vivâ voce* examinations. At the French schools the examinations are almost exclusively oral; and in Prussia, except for the officers of the higher schools, every examination consists in part of *vivâ voce* questioning, to which the same importance is attached as to the paper work.

In both countries the special education of the artillery and engineers is conducted at the same establishment, but in both a difference is made in the instruction given to the officers of the two services. In France the distinction is less marked than in Prussia, the theoretical studies being to a considerable extent the same for both arms. But in Prussia, by the modifications recently introduced, the instruction of the artillery is from the commencement conducted entirely apart, and differs very considerably from that of the engineers.

### THIRTY-THIRD BATTALION RIFLE MATCH.

These matches took place on the range, at the Maitland Flats, Thursday and Friday, 22nd and 23rd September. The shooting was very good, especially when it is taken into consideration that the bull's eye, this year is only one-fourth of the size it was last year. The Battalion Challenge Cup goes back to Exeter Company, which had the honor of holding it last year.

#### 1ST MATCH—BATTALION CHALLENGE CUP.

Winners of Cup—No. 6 Company, Exeter.  
*Best shot in each Company.*

No. 1. Sergt. Potts .....	\$4
2. Pte. Fritzley .....	4
3. Pte. Sparling .....	4
4. Ens. Proctor .....	4
5. Sergt. Joslin (best shot) .....	8
6. Lieut. Howard .....	4
7. Sergt. McDonald .....	4
8. Pte. Robert .....	4
9. Pte. Girvin .....	4

#### 2ND MATCH—NON-COM. OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

1. Jas. Bailey, Dunganon, Col. Ross' prize	\$20
2. Sergt. Joslin, Exeter .....	12
3. J. Greenway, Bayfield .....	11
4. P. Bisset, Exeter .....	10
5. J. Roberts, Gorrie .....	9
6. Sergt. Potts, Goderich .....	8
7. P. Wilson, Goderich .....	7
8. T. Bisset, Exeter .....	6
9. P. Biggar, Goderich Township .....	5
10. J. Saunders, Exeter .....	4
11. S. McDougall, Goderich Township ..	3
12. P. Tenson, Bayfield .....	2
13. J. Young .....	1

#### 3RD MATCH—OFFICERS.

1. Lieut. McDonald .....	\$10
2. Lieut. Lee .....	8
3. Ensign Wilson .....	6
4. Capt. Sheppard .....	4
5. Ensign Proctor .....	2

#### 4TH MATCH—NON-COM. OFFICERS

1. Sergt. Lewis .....	\$10
2. Sergt. McLaughlin .....	8
3. Corpl. Piko .....	7
4. Sergt. Hart .....	6
5. Sergt. Saunders .....	5
6. Sergt. Williamson .....	4
7. Sergt. Yull .....	3
8. Sergt. Watkins .....	2
9. Sergt. Potts .....	1

#### 5TH MATCH—PRIVATE

1. Private Horn .....	\$11
2. " Copp .....	10
3. " F. Bisset, No. 2 .....	9
4. " Greenway .....	8
5. " Stinson .....	7
6. " F. Bisset, No. 1 .....	6
7. " Robson .....	5
8. " Keating .....	4
9. " S. McDougall .....	3
10. " Sparling .....	2
11. " Saunders .....	1

#### 6TH MATCH—RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

1. Sergt. McIntosh .....	\$10
2. Sergt. Joslin .....	8
3. Pte. F. Bisset .....	5
4. Sergt. Hart .....	3

#### 7TH MATCH—ALL COMERS.

1. Mr. McFavish, Clinton .....	\$8
2. Sergt. McLaughlin .....	6
3. Sergt. McIntosh .....	4
4. Sergt. Potts .....	2

#### THE GOVERNMENT PRIZES,

For the best shooting made at the ordinary target practice of the Battalion, were awarded as follows:

1st. Sergt. Joslin, Bayfield .....	\$10
2nd. Sergt. Potts, Goderich .....	5

Washington, 13th.—The papers in the case of the Fenian prisoners were all received at the Attorney-General's office yesterday, and transmitted to the President for his signature. The President signed them all, and the pardons will at once be transmitted to the keepers of the prisons where these prisoners are confined. The following is a list of those pardoned:—John O'Neil, John J. Donnelly, Owen Starr, William L. Thompson, Edward J. Mannix, David Murphy, John H. Brown, Hugh McGinness, and John T. Monahan.

BREAKFAST.—EPP'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 homœopathic 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 may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in ½lb., 1lb., and 1lb. tin-lined packets, labelled—JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.

## THE LOSS OF H. M. S. "CAPTAIN."

## STATEMENT OF SOME OF THE SURVIVORS.

Full details have now been received of this great misfortune. It occurred about 12:15 a.m. on the 7th ult., the ship at the time being under double reefed fore and main topstails, on the port tack, close hauled, with the wind about N.W. and very squally, with rain and heavy sea. About midnight the ship was felt making a very heavy roll to the starboard, and before she had time to recover a heavy sea struck her and threw her on her beam ends. She then turned bottom upwards, and eventually sank, going down stern first. From the time she fell on her beam ends to the time of sinking was about ten minutes. Captain Burgoyne and a few of the crew swam to the steam pinnace, which was floating bottom up; shortly afterwards the second launch passed close to the pinnace, and Mr. May, the gunner and two men succeeded in getting on board, but Captain Burgoyne failed in the attempt. After various unsuccessful efforts to save him and others, they were so nearly swamped that they found themselves forced to bear up, or the launch must have gone down under them. At this time there were nineteen persons in the launch, but one man was washed out of the boat by her shipping a heavy sea which nearly filled her.

The following accounts are from some of the survivors. One says—

"While the middle watch were being mustered by Mr. E. F. Goodfellow, midshipman, at midnight on the 6th of September, the captain called the gunner's mate, and told him to take a careful hand with him and cover up the turrets. While endeavoring to lift a grating so as to perform this order, the ship was thrown on her beam ends by a squall. The gunner's mate, who was to the leeward at the time, held on to the grating; while holding on, the first launch and second launch and gally (which were both stowed inside the first launch) were washed over him, the bottom of the first launch bruising his back. He says that he went over with the ship; as soon as he came to the surface he saw the launches about 15 yards off, and in about a dozen strokes he got on board, where he found two men who had jumped into the boats while the ship was going down (one of these men could not swim). With the assistance of one of these men he succeeded in hauling in 12 other men, each man as he got in assisting to save the others. They then separated the launches (that is to say, the first launch got full of water and sank from under the second launch, in which latter the men were). During this time they were being swept away to the leeward. On getting out a steer oar they succeeded in passing close to the steam pinnace, which was floating bottom up with Captain Burgoyne, James May (gunner), and five men on it. While passing the gunner jumped into the launch, at the same time asking the captain to jump, as it was his only chance. He does not remember the answer the captain gave him, but he believes that the captain jumped but missed the boat. Three other men also jumped and succeeded in getting on board, making a total of 19 souls in the second launch. When alongside the pinnace one of the men offered the captain an oar, but he declined saying "For God's sake men keep your oars; you will want them." They were then swept away and lost sight of the pinnace. They endeavoured to return to the pinnace, and threw overboard

the gally (which was inside the second launch, as before stated) so as to save the captain and two other men who were left on it, but could not, in consequence of a very heavy sea, which prevented them from making any headway. While attempting this, George Myers, who was in the launch, said, "I think we are all right now." The words were scarcely uttered when a heavy sea struck the boat and washed him overboard; so after a short consultation they bore away for the land which they knew was under their lee, at the same time commencing to lighten the boat by throwing overboard the stay tackles, masts, &c., retaining only the oars. The boat was all this time up to her thwarts in water. Luckily, one of the boats crew (David Dyburgh) happened to be in the boat, and accordingly knew where to find everything, so that they were able to rig the pump, and with the assistance of men that could not man oars (who were bailing with their caps) succeeded in bailing her out. Shortly before the ship went over the captain was on the bridge endeavouring, with the watch, to round in the topsail yards, but could not; he then gave the order to let go the lee topsail sheets (the halyards having been previously let go.) Before this order could be obeyed the ship was over on her beam ends, with the water pouring down the funnel, which was not sufficient to drown the shrieks of the stokers, which were heard by some of the survivors; she then turned bottom up and sank stern first in less than five minutes. The report when she sank they describe as resembling a tremendous explosion. Not a soul could get up from below, as the whole thing occurred in an instant; all the men saved belonging to the watch on deck. Shortly after she sank, a ship, supposed to have been the *Inconstant* or *Belleophon*, passed close over the place, but they did not see the boat or even miss the ship until Admiral Milne, about two hours after the accident, caused a signal to be made to the fleet to count the ships; they accordingly did so, and signalled back ten and there ought to have been eleven; the next day they (the fleet) found two boats, yards, spars, and gratings; secured to a boat's bowsprit they found a silk handkerchief which had been used by one of the men who were saved to fasten himself to the spar, but, seeing the launch, freed himself from it and swam to the boat. The gunner's escape was most miraculous; he was awake by some marines making a noise outside his cabin, and noticing that the ship was knocking about he dressed and went on deck to examine the guns and see if they were properly secured. On going up into the after turret, the ship went over, and he jumped out of the turret into the water, swam to the pinnace, and was rescued by the launch. A mizen topman, as the ship capsized, got on the weather netting, and ran up the mizen tripod, finding the ship still sinking he took to the water, and was saved. Another man, David Dryburgh, crawled over the weather netting, and actually walked along the ship's side as she went over, and finally along her bottom as she turned bottom up. He distinctly remembers placing his foot upon a Kingston valve. At the time the ship was capsized she was under double-reefed fore and main topstails, and fore top mast staysail, close hauled, the yards being braced very sharp up. The general opinion is that the ship was too heavily sparr'd."

All the survivors agree that they felt full confidence as to the ship's sea-going qualities, and no apprehensions of danger were entertained. The "Captain" was built

with a very large fore-castle, and a similar compartment aft; this Mr. Reed has always condemned as depriving turret ships of their primary and supreme advantage, that of providing an all round fire, and more especially a head fire. These two compartments are joined by a hurricane deck running over the turrets, leaving a perfectly open space only occupied by the turrets and funnel casing. The ship at the time was under double-reefed fore and main topstails, and braced sharp up) she was noted for the small angle at which she could brace her yards up) on the port tack, heeling 18 degrees; and it was also the general opinion that she was too heavily masted. With these facts the following conclusions are arrived at:—"The absence of any side between the fore-castle and the poop, presenting no surface to the water, and the pressure of water on the lee side of the main deck, together with the hurricane deck, acting as a sail, and taking into consideration that the yards were sharply up, rendered it almost impossible for the ship to right herself when once over. When the lee side of the main deck is submerged, the water, of course, exercises a great leverage on the side of the ship, tending to press her downwards."

## A NATIONAL ARMY.

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

It is so important that the people of this country should seriously face the question of military reorganization that we make no apology for returning to the subject. The events of the past few weeks have been pregnant with instruction and warning; but all their teaching fades into insignificance beside the one great truth which they bring home to us, that it behooves a nation which would maintain its independence and integrity to be in the highest sense prepared for war. Is what has proved so fearfully possible in France impossible in England? Half our sense of security rests upon an unexpressed feeling that the thing is impossible, simply because we cannot realize it. That England is very far from impregnable now will hardly be seriously disputed. We do not propose to go over the wearisome calculations as to the exact number of bayonets now available, which always end by showing that our military force is quite inadequate to our need. We assume that the country is now thoroughly alive to the necessity of improving our national defence. What then do we require? No one, we think, who cares to observe recent events can have failed to notice that three fundamental requirements must be satisfied to produce a strong military system—numbers, efficiency and organization. On each of these points the present war is pre-eminently instructive. It is the harmonious union of these three qualifications which has mainly earned for the German nation its present position. In 1866 and 1870 it has been so. When men went about exclaiming that the needle gun had won the Bohemian campaign, thoughtful men said, no, it is a higher power than the needle-gun. That is one factor only—one element only in one of three principal qualifications—efficiency. And the proved value of numbers, efficiency and organization in the present war no one will dispute. It is further to be recognized that any one or two of these elements without the other will not secure the desired result.

How are these elements to be obtained? There are, as far as we can see, but two ways, by maintaining a large standing army or by adopting the national military system.

## THE NEW DRILL.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* has the following:

—“The art of war, founded upon the supposed accurate and prompt execution of minor details, requires that certain data should be fixed, such as the length of a soldier's pace, the rate of his march, and the space occupied by bodies of men under different conditions, in order to enable commanders to calculate their movements and engage in all the intricacies of strategy and tactics. The minutiae or alphabet of military science taught under the name of drill may be so incessantly forced upon a soldier as to become a second nature; and it is evident that for the mere purposes of evolution the more perfect and trustworthy a machine a soldier is the better. On the other hand, the advantages gained by moulding men to such an utter submission to the will of their chief that they become clockwork automatons is more than counterbalanced by the uselessness of such persons when left to their own unaided efforts; for when a man surrenders his faculties to the charge of another, he cannot resume possession of them at pleasure, and he therefore becomes a child dependent on the will of his superiors and incapable of individual action. The altered conditions of warfare necessitates the employment of soldiers in small bodies, where intelligence is invaluable, and since the Volunteer movement has shown that men endowed with common understanding enlightened by education are easily taught the rudiments of drill so long as those rudiments are clear, simple and objective, it is proposed to make a similar application of this teaching to our soldiers, whose reduced term of service is insufficient for converting sensible creatures into inanimate dummies. Many of our ardent military reformers will be disappointed with the apparently trifling nature of the proposed alterations in the field exercises of the infantry, which are now being considered by a committee of Army and Militia officers: but, on a more careful consideration of these changes, it will be admitted that they are a step, and a long step too, in the right direction, though it is of course evident that there will be much more to be done before we can adapt our soldiers to the war system of the future. The objects of the drill Committee were to simplify manoeuvres and abolish useless show movements, to give officers a greater power of independent command, to accelerate the change of formations, and to enable soldiers to move in more extended lines than they do at present. The simplification has not been confined to evolution alone, but has included in its scope the simplification of nomenclature and words of command such, for instance, as the suggested abolition of the familiar formula, “right about face,” which will be replaced by “right about turn,” an order applicable to men in motion as well as to men on the halt. “Quarter column” will supplant “quarter distance column,” and the word “column” alone will imply “open column”; the already obsolete “close column” being abolished altogether. The present system of company wheels, although pretty and soldier-like, is too slow and formal to endure, and is to cease, the men moving up to their places separately and in quick succession, as they already do when forming line, to the front in double time on the march. The captain, instead of standing like a fatuous nonentity on the flank of his company, is to be placed in rear of his men, so as to command them and move them about at will, while his subalterns will, when required, lead the company by the flank designated, and make

themselves generally useful. Although the formation of squares is retained, regiments are to be taught to receive cavalry in line, the front rank kneeling, when one of the flank companies will be advanced or retired so as to form an angle with the battalion according to the nature of the attack to be repelled. Much stress is laid upon the importance of direct *en echelon* movement, especially with a view of repelling cavalry by company squares, which when formed in double *echelon* from the centre in a V shape presents a formidable obstacle to horsemen. But the most important suggestions are those relating to the more frequent employment of troops as light infantry, and the novelty of directing skirmishers to move singly instead of in pairs. We do not pretend to have exhausted the list of alterations proposed by the committee, but merely allude to the above mentioned in order to show the character of the changes now under consideration; and we trust that when these are introduced many of the cumbersome parade movements which fill the book of field exercises will at the same time be dispensed with.”

NEW GOVERNOR OF GIBRALTAR.—General Williams, the gallant defender of Kars, who has just been appointed Governor of Gibraltar, is a native of Nova Scotia. He was in the British artillery, and entered the Turkish service. During the Crimean war he served with Lord Raglan, and in 1855 he threw himself into Kars, where he sustained a siege conducted by General Mouravieff. He sallied and beat the besieger, with a heavy slaughter, but he could not follow up his success. The siege became a blockade, and it was not till the last cat, dog and horse were eaten, and that he found that further resistance unavailing, that he surrendered. General Williams was in captivity until the end of the war, after which he received high military honors from the French and English Governments, and was made commander of the forces in Canada.

The following are the arguments given by the Germans why they should incorporate the French provinces: “Would the French have abstained from taking all the territory on the left bank of the Rhine from us, if they had been victorious and beaten us as badly as we have beaten them? Would not Europe readily have permitted them to do so? Would the victorious Emperor have permitted any neutral power to interfere or exercise any forbearance or magnanimity; and if he had wanted to, would the French people have suffered him to do so? Now, why should we forego our chance to secure us against this haughty and troublesome neighbor? No; while we are about it we will finish the job thoroughly, bloody and cruel though it be.”

The Rifle Brigade, on arriving home by the *Tamar*, will occupy the old Marine Barracks at Woolwich. H. R. S. Prince Arthur is expected to join headquarters immediately upon his arrival.

The present siege of Paris by the Prussians is said to be the eighth siege of that city in the following order: B. C. 52.. about 9 centuries, after by the Normans, in 1411, during a civil war, in 1429 by the English; in the reign of Louis XI, during a second civil war in the 16th century, and by Henry of Navarre in 1588, in 1814 during the reign of Napoleon the 1st, and now, in 1870.

It is hardly necessary to set forth the objections to a large standing army. Such an instrument of evil and extravagance is repugnant to English feeling, opposed to the spirit of our national existence, and would not be tolerated in this country for a moment. Under the influence of a panic we might consent to the establishment of a large standing army, but with the return of peace that army would be immediately reduced. Nor is a large standing army necessarily favorable to efficiency. On the contrary, there is apt to be a want of freshness and elasticity about it; there is apt to grow around it a choking conservatism, and with a large standing army—apart from its expense, apart from its perhaps out of date and inflated traditions and by-gone efficiency—there is always the temptation, amounting sometimes, as in France, to a necessity, to “keep it in wind.”

On the other hand, we have the national military system—the system under which the manhood of a nation is trained to arms; under which the army, instead of being a demoralizing agent, becomes, to quote Gen. Trochu, “a powerful instrument of public moralization.” Such a system, intelligently applied, may accomplish what it has accomplished for Prussia. There is a strength, a unity, a completeness, an earnestness, a reality about it which no standing army can hope to emulate. And such a system affords, as it seems to us, the most powerful guarantee against aggressive and needless wars, since before it can effectually be put in motion the national will must be in the movement, and only by great national sacrifices—sacrifices which are brought home to every household with a force which there is no resisting—can wars be waged. This is surely as it should be. It is surely desirable that a nation should be slow to move to war but able when she does move to strike with irresistible force. When as in Prussia a war may take away the father or the son from every household, the propensities of the nation can hardly be restlessly and wantonly warlike. But we have seen that when you do rouse a nation which rests upon such a military basis, you raise up a very levathan of strength, and stir fathomless depths of energy and determination.

Now is the time for England to choose for her home defence between these two systems. Which will she have? That she must have one or the other few men will be found to deny. That she must have a numerically powerful home force—an efficient force and a sound military organization, if her counsels are still to sway Europe—nay, if she is herself to be secure against dismemberment, will now be generally admitted. In which of the only two possible ways will she obtain these requisites of military strength? Will she hanker after that dangerous and most untrustworthy weapon—a large standing army? or will she now seek to construct a truly national system of military defence, on some such pattern as Prussia sets before her? The question of military organization is now occupying many minds and many pens. It will occupy them to little purpose if the subject be not referred back to first principles. It is of little use to advocate a reform here and a modification there. New cloth in old garments will not save us. Ballot for the militia will not save us. Arming the Volunteers with Snider rifles will not save us. We must strike deeper home than this. We must first make up our minds what we require, and we must set to work on some fixed and definite principle to satisfy our requirements. It is no time for smooth words or half-measures.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:—Allow me to correct a typographical error in my letter on page 646 of yesterday's REVIEW. I am made to say "the Council of the Province of Ontario at a very full meeting supported my opinion." In place of the word *Ontario* read *Quebec*.

I am, your obd't. servant,

JAS. ESDAILE.

Secy. Province of Quebec R.A.

Montreal, 11th Oct.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—Your unqualified remarks regarding the decision of the Ontario Rifle Association, together with the very uncalled for interference of Capt. Esdaile, the Secretary of the Quebec Association, leads me to seek a space in your columns for the purpose of justifying that decision by stating the grounds upon which it was made.

A reference to our published prize list will show you that the Battalion Match was to be competed for by ten officers non-commissioned officers or men from any Battalion, *Brig de. Squadro or Field Battery of Volunteer Militia in Ontario.* Under these conditions the 2nd Battalion Rifles, Grand Trunk Brigade competed, and by obtaining the highest score had claim to the prize. A protest was entered alleging that they were not an *Ontario Battalion*, and although the Council were desirous of awarding the prize to the best shots, as they had proved themselves to be, they were reluctantly compelled to rule that they were not an Ontario Battalion, being recorded in the Active Militia List for 1870, as the "2nd Battalion Rifle, Montreal," and moreover, as a Quebec Battalion, having won the first prize in the Battalion Match at the P.Q.R.A. matches in 1870. To all impartial minds the fact must be self-evident that the Battalion cannot be, at one and the same time, a Quebec and an Ontario Battalion; and, although we rank the individual companies resident in Ontario as Ontario Volunteers, it was impossible to overlook the fact of the headquarters of the Battalion being in Montreal, and that the Challenge Cup intended solely for Ontario riflemen could not be allowed to go out of the Province. It was, therefore, the manifest duty of the Council to make the decision that they did, although they were most desirous to show to Capts. Bell and Crowther the leaders of the team, that the reasons were purely technical. Upon these grounds, certainly, these gentlemen cannot complain. Had their course been different the Council would doubtless have given an extra money prize hoping in some measure to have consoled them in their honorable defeat. But no doubt their feelings of disappointment blinded them to the impartial justice of the decision, hence the newspaper correspon-

dence, into which they have brought as their champion an illogical and blind partizan. We are glad as an Association to be assured that our sister Association in Quebec is in a prosperous and healthy condition; that "all its ways are pleasantness, and all its paths are peace," but as we have identical interests and the same great object in view, we decline to be made the subject of comparisons that might possibly lead to an unfriendly conclusion. Consequently the decisions of the Quebec Association, however much we may respect them, cannot prove a guide in our counsels, nor do we feel greatly chagrined that the Secretary considers we have stultified ourselves. We are proud to hold Capt. Bell as an Ontario Volunteer, and proud to consider the part of the Grand Trunk organization resident in Ontario as Ontario Volunteers; but we cannot be held responsible when that precarious organization constitutes a majority of Ontario companies into a Quebec Battalion.

Capt. Esdaile states, by what I understand to be a clerical error, "that the Council of the Province of Ontario Rifle Association, at a very full meeting, supported my opinion." He means, doubtless the Council of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association, who are happy in having such unimpeachable opinions to support. He also refers to the paragraph stating that the Grand Trunk men were satisfied with the ruling of the Council. I have never seen such a statement in the *Globe*, but will vouch for the correctness of the paragraph, word for word, which he so unfairly quotes in his letter, in order to show how *unpleasantly* matters are managed at the Matches of the Ontario Rifle Association.

To conclude this somewhat lengthy reply I would say that the earnest endeavour of the Ontario Rifle Association is to act with honesty and impartiality to all, and if, through lack of experience or want of knowledge, we fail in aught, we trust to the good feeling of our friends in Ontario, with whom and for whom we work, to excuse our errors and condone our faults, but to the opinions of those who unjustifiably interfere with that which does not concern them, we are thoroughly indifferent.

Trusting you will see grounds to reverse your former harsh and one sided judgment,

I am, Sir,

Your obd't. servant,

THOS. C. SCOBLE, Major,

Secretary Ontario R.A.

[Is justice to Major Scoble, Secretary Ontario Rifle Association, we insert his communication; but notwithstanding the plausibility of his reasoning we still contend the Council of the Ontario Rifle Association did wrong. If they were aware that the Grand Trunk Battalion belonged to the Province of Quebec, why did they allow them to enter for the Battalion Match? It was not the proper time to object when they had fairly won the prize. This is our opinion and we

adhere to it, and maintain that the Council did them a grievous injury in not giving them the cup.—Ed. Vol. Rev.]

## FROM LEAMINGTON.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The infantry company here went into camp for the annual drill for 1870-71, Monday morning, August 30th. As usual the company made a splendid muster, turning out 54 non-commissioned officers and men, and three officers, under the command of Capt. J. R. Wilkinson. Tents were pitched at an early hour on the fair grounds adjoining the village after which the company was paraded and inspected in full marching order; standing orders read and the men told off in squads under the different non-commissioned officers to the several tents, guards mounted and orderlies told off, and parades established. Corp. Joseph Ley took charge of the cooking department to the satisfaction of all throughout the stay in camp. The general routine of camp life was rigidly exacted by the commanding officer, Captain J. R. Wilkinson, and cheerfully complied with by all. The weather was all that could be desired, just enough rain to lay the dust and cool the air. The company drilled six hours each day (no child's play I assure you) and made rapid progress under instructor Capt. Wilkinson. Indeed the corps is splendidly drilled; the company movements, skirmishing, bayonet drill, manual and platoon exercises were done like clockwork. The company fired 15 rounds of target practice at 200, 400 and 500 yards, and made a fine average score. Some \$30 in prizes were presented for competition by the friends of the company. Lance Corporal John Ley won the first prize, Pte. P. Hillman, second; James Gahan, third; W. Gahan, fourth; Sgt. J. Davidson, fifth; Corp. S. Fox, sixth; Privates J. Mills, T. Wilkinson, E. Shaw, and S. Scratch also won prizes. The company were well pleased with the prizes so kindly presented by the citizens of Leamington.

On Wednesday the company was invited to a dinner and pic-nic, given by the different Sabbath schools of Leamington and vicinity. A good time was enjoyed; the pic-nic was held in Mr. P. Conover's grove, overlooking the beautiful waters of Lake Erie. After the dinner and speeches, which were excellent indeed, for the amusement of the people and scholars, the company went through a sham fight with blank cartridge. Sgt. Major C. Ley was told off with a force to represent the enemy; he took post as directed in a point of woods opposite an open field. The company under the command of the Captain, advanced in skirmishing order across the open field when the enemy opened fire on them from under cover the main line opened fire in reply and a sharp skirmish ensued, resulting in the enemy being dislodged from their position, when they executed a flank movement turn-

right flank of their opponents by moving round the grove in double time. On this being observed the main line, under the Captain, changed front to the right and again advanced, this time into the woods when the enemy were again encountered which resulted in the main line being driven out of the woods in double time; they rallied and advanced again, and again were driven back; this time they were ordered to reform and were closed on the centre when the enemy were seen advancing rapidly. They were received with two withering volleys, and the charge ordered, which was done in splendid style, the men sending forth a ringing cheer as they swept onward striking dismay into the breasts of the enemy, causing them to halt, ground arms and surrender themselves as prisoners of war. The people and scholars were highly delighted with the sham or mock fight. Three cheers were proposed and given by the people for the company, after which the boys in "red" were marched back to camp well pleased with their entertainment.

On Thursday the officers, non commissioned officers and men were presented with a complimentary dinner by the Captain, spread in an orchard adjoining the camp. The dinner was all that could be desired and did ample justice to the good things provided, after which the Captain was presented with a hearty vote of thanks for his generous conduct. To which he responded in appropriate terms, remarking that it was not for popularity that he had seen proper to present them with such a spread, he appreciated their noble conduct while on frontier service in defence of their country—the country he trusted they all loved. He presented it to them as a mark of respect and as a slight reward for merit. The usual toasts were given and responded to. The Captain's wife was presented (with a number of other ladies) with a vote of thanks for preparing such a fine repast.

On Sunday there was a church parade at 6 o'clock, p.m., for the W. M. Church. The company presented a fine appearance in the splendid new uniforms of the new pattern just received. Nothing could be more quiet or orderly than their conduct while at church. An excellent sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Harris, speaking in a kind and encouraging way to the Volunteers. The company were highly pleased with his remarks.

The camp was broken up on Monday, the District Paymaster, Major Leys, arriving to pay off the Company; the men were paid by the Captain on the ground. After the camp was struck and stores packed away the company paraded in full marching order and were addressed by the commanding officer in appropriate terms. Three cheers were given for the Captain, also for Lieut. W. Ley and Ensign Plant, to whom much was due for the success of the camp. Three cheers were given for the Queen and three

for the Dominion of Canada, after which the company was marched to the armory and then dismissed to their homes. Much praise is due to Sergt.-Major C. Ley, for the efficient manner in which he performed his duties. Praise is also due to Sergts. S. Bicheldor, Davidson, and E. Foster for the performance of their duties. And thus terminated the camp at Leamington which was in every way a success.

MACBETH.

### BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN RAILWAY ROUTES.

Viscount Milton read a paper recently before the geographical section of the British Association on the railway routes across British North America, and the physical aspects of the country. He described the route which he proposed for a railway across British North America, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The railway would start from and form a junction with the Grand Trunk Railway, and then pass on the north of the lakes to Fort Garry. From Fort Garry, the line would be carried across the plains to Fort Edmondstone. Up to this point there was not the slightest obstacle in the way. The railroad, in fact, would simply be laid down without cuttings or tunnelings. The western part of the line would be more difficult of construction, passing through a mountainous region, and British Columbia, and on to the Pacific watershed, the terminating point being New Westminster. In the first portion of the territory through which the line would pass there was abundance of timber, and just where the engineering difficulties began there were beds of coal, some of them sixteen feet thick, which could be worked from the surface. One great advantage of making the line through British North America was that the Indians were not hostile. Throughout all his travels in that vast region he had never had anything stolen by Indians. The harbor of Esquimaux at the termination of the line, was one of the most magnificent in the world, being capable of holding any number of vessels of any size.

Sir Roderick Murchison said he thought the difficulty would be not so much in the western country, where the coal beds were; but how to get over the rocky region, the great bodies of water in which were at present passed by portages. He did not understand how that part of the railroad was to be made. Governor Gilpin, of Colorado, said he was sure no ridiculous jealousy or envy would actuate the Americans towards any project for a line across British territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Sir Stafford Northcote said that no doubt the eastern portion of the line would present considerable difficulties, but at the same time he hoped that these difficulties would not be found insuperable. The Canadian Government were very much interested in promoting this communication. They felt that it was of very great importance for the development of the new country which had recently been added to the Dominion that it should as rapidly as possible have advantages of railway communication. They felt, too, that it was of very great importance to the Dominion itself that the whole of the Dominion should be bound together as closely as possible by rapid communication, and if British Columbia was to form part of the great Dominion, it was essential that easy means of access should be provided for the delegates who

were to come from the remote regions. He believed the general idea of the Canadian Government was that they should take Fort Garry as their centre and proceed at once both eastwards and westwards, instead of commencing at Ottawa or any other terminal point. The line would then be carried from Fort Garry direct westwards to Esquimaux, and eastwards towards the system which connected itself with the Grand Trunk Railway. The line to be followed had not, however, he thought, been sufficiently determined upon. Speaking on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, he said that that company would facilitate in every way in their power what might ultimately be found to be the best course of proceeding.

TRACTION ENGINES.—Now that the subject of new railroads is so prominently before the public, the project of traction engines or street railway and highway purposes, is deserving of attention. A company has been formed at Montreal, to run these road engines, and the chances are, they will raise up imitators in other parts of Canada. It appears, by the reports on Thompson's "road steamer" made to the War Department, that this engine, unless, perhaps, for hunting purposes, is far more useful than a horse. Mr. Anderson, the superintendent of machinery, says he has "come to the conclusion that the question of steam traction on common roads is now completely solved;" that it opens up an entirely new field, and that he looks upon the application as a discovery rather than an invention. The wheel and its tire may be described as consisting of a broad iron tire with narrow flanges, upon which is placed a ring of soft vulcanized india-rubber; this ring is about twelve inches in width and five inches in thickness, which thus surrounds the tire, and is kept in its place by the flanges; then over the india rubber there is placed an endless chain of steel plates, which is the portion of the wheel that comes into actual contact with the rough road, the articulated chain being connected by a sort of vertebra at each side of the wheel. In the construction of the road steamer the greater portion of the weight, including the boiler, rests upon the driving wheels; the third wheel in front is for guiding the direction of movement, and is perfectly under control. In the course of experiments witnessed by Mr. Anderson, the engine went up a zigzag labyrinth of courts, and it can describe any figure almost in a space of twice its length. On the first day Mr. Anderson saw it in Leith the streets were very wet and adhesive. A train of waggons containing ten ton of flour besides their own weight, were standing at the bottom of a slippery street with a gradient of about 1 in 17; to this train the little engine was attached, and away it marched as if it had no load, went up to the top of the hill, and then down on the other side, no breaks being required.

The Werder gun, which the Germans say proved itself superior to the ordinary needle-gun, is a gun of 0.45 inches bore, and six wide flat grooves. An engraving of it in the *Engineer* shows that the breech is closed by a block hinged on the left side, and this block is kept down at the moment of explosion by a kind of claw, which is operated by the hammer. The striker passes through the breech block as in the Snider, and the extractor is worked by the breech block in opening. It is doubtless the more scientific proportions of shot, powder and bore, that give the gun its superiority.



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AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

VOLUME IV.

1870.

ON account of the liberal patronage extended to the REVIEW since its establishment we have determined to add fresh features of interest to the forthcoming Volume so as to make it every way worthy of the support of the Volunteers of the Dominion.

On account of the great increase of our circulation we have been compelled to adopt the CASH IN ADVANCE principle. Therefore, from and after the 1st of January next the names of all subscribers who do not renew their subscription will be removed from the list. The reason for this will be obvious to our friends, as it will be readily understood that a paper having so extended a circulation must be paid for in advance, it being impossible to employ agents to visit all the points to which it is mailed.

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AGENTS.

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LT.-COL. R. LOVELACE, for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

MR. ROGER HUNTER, for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

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

DAWSON KERR.....PROPRIETOR.

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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 such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that we 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, OCTOBER 17, 1870.

Our Subscribers in Ontario will be called upon by our Agent, LIEUT. COL. LOVELACE, (Agent for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec,) during the present month, and we will feel obliged by their promptly meeting the demands made on them for subscriptions due this office on account of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

When the news first reached us of the intention of the President of the United States to pardon General O'Neil and his co-patriots we were loath to believe it, and that it would ultimately be proved to have no foundation in fact. But it now turns out that there are good grounds for the rumor, and that General Grant has determined to set those cut throats at liberty, assigning as a reason for so doing that they are sufficiently punished already, and that their pardon had been largely petitioned for on the grounds of the illegality of their conviction; that they were all tried before a single judge—the law requiring that there should be two, and that the illegality of the convictions having been brought before the Administration, the order for their release was given. If it was absolutely necessary for two judges to be present at the time of trial and sentence—Why was not the objection raised by the prisoners' counsel at the time? and what was the judge himself thinking about to sit in judgment on such important

cases without a colleague? leaving the error to be discovered on the eve of the fall elections, after an imprisonment of about three months. This release of the Fenian prisoners proves that their trial and sentence was a mockery, a delusion, and a lie, got up to hoodwink the British Government, to show their zeal in maintaining their international laws; and so soon as the excitement and asperity of feeling against them had died out, and when the votes and influence these cut-throats could wield amongst their deluded followers were wanted, this triumphary excuse of illegal trial is made use of as a screen to cover their political trickery. Grant, as the head of the Republican party, expects by this act to secure for them the Fenian vote, which has hitherto been chiefly cast in favor of the Democrats—particularly in the State of New York. But, after all he may find he has overshot the mark; the Democrats will not give up the Irish vote to their opponents without a hard struggle first being made by them to retain it.

This is another evidence of the insincerity and want of faith on the part of the American Government towards this country. They openly allowed these rascals to drill, collect arms, and march with arms in their hands for the ostensible purpose of levying war on, or rather murdering and plundering, the inhabitants of a neighboring nation, with whom they professed to be at peace; and when met, defeated, and driven back, the United States Government throw around them its protecting arms, and sent them back to their homes, paying their expenses, the leaders being retained for what turns out a mock trial and temporary imprisonment, the fine imposed being, as a matter of course, also remitted. And by this act of the Government, encouraging the Fenians to organize another expedition against Canada, in the hope of its being more successful than the two previous ones. But we trust if they ever should come again, not one of them will ever be allowed to return to the States, to afford another opportunity for a similar mock trial. No other punishment for miscreants who carry fire and sword through a country and amongst a people against whom they can have no quarrel, but because they were considered an integral portion of the British crown, which they look upon as the enslaver of Ireland, and whose cause they thus pretend to advance by making war on Canada. No punishment we say, however severe, can be adequate for such enormity.

COLONEL WOLSELEY, previous to his leaving Manitoba, visited the Lower Fort, and after carefully inspecting the Quebec Battalion, paid the regiment a very high compliment on their improvement in appearance, drill, etc. He said he found a marked improvement in the appearance and bearing of the men since he inspected them at Thunder Bay, and that he had never been more

surprised than at this marked improvement in the Quebec regiment, as they could now challenge comparison with any regiment in Her Majesty's service. The men looked more healthy and had filled out under the influence of hard work and *abstinence from liquor*. To Colonel Casault and Major Irvine he paid a well-merited compliment, congratulating them on the eminent success which had attended their labors in bringing the regiment up to such a state of efficiency.

The news from Manitoba is so conflicting that no reliance can be placed in it. One report says that Lepine, Riel's late Adjutant General, was shot in Pembina by an American citizen, whose wife Lepine is said to have seduced; but this report Capt. Herchmer, who has just arrived in Toronto from Fort Garry denies, although he says there is no doubt of the cause that led to the alleged death of Lepine. Lepine had been living at a small village on the American side, about thirty miles from Pembina, with the man whose wife he seduced. Riel is reported to be living at an obscure village on the south side of the boundary line in confined retirement. He has made himself very obnoxious, it is said, to the American soldiers for having given up to the American authorities, during his reign of terror, some American deserters, whose friends now vow vengeance against him.

The excitement in the Goulet affair is said to be dying out. The Volunteers, it was proved, had no hand in his death, and the people were beginning to take a correct view of the matter. The great body of the people are anxious for peace, and the establishment of legally constituted courts for the maintenance of law and order. The Government is so far giving general satisfaction. Colonel Jarvis is gone to New York to give evidence in an important law suit. He is expected to be absent for two months, Colonel Casault in the meantime taking command of the troops at Red River.

A telegram from St. Cloud, Minn., dated October 6th, states that parties of French half-breeds are mustering about St. Joseph and Pembina, threatening the boats descending the river, and that Captain Cook's company, Ontario Battalion, has been sent to camp near Pembina, to protect Government and other parties coming down the river. Also that Lieutenant Butler, 69th Regiment, had been sent to Pembina to ascertain the position of affairs at that place. O'Donoghue and co-patriots are at Pembina.

A body of about 500 Indians waited on Governor Archibald for the purpose of securing a treaty that would establish them in their rights. The Governor assured them that their rights would be sacredly respected, but that he could not ratify a treaty with them without first securing full powers to do so from the Dominion Government. This answer did not satisfy them, alleging that they could not return to their hunting

grounds unless they received some satisfactory assurances that their rights would be respected. The Governor then presented them with supplies of ammunition, flour, and other necessaries, and they have returned to their lodges for the present satisfied. Latest despatches report that warrants have been issued for the arrest of Riel, Lepine, and O'Donoghue.

Apprehension is felt for the safety of a detachment of the Volunteers who parted from the main body at the Lake of the Woods, on the 7th Sept., and has not since been heard from.

The American soldiers at Pembina, are deserting in squads of 4 and 5 at a time. They complain of bad usage.

We have thus given a brief synopsis of the news from the Red River country, so far as it has reached us, should there anything of moment occur before going to press we will give it in another column. In the meantime we are glad to learn that the new Government is meeting with encouragement from the great body of the people; and it is to be hoped that peace will speedily be restored to the country. It will not do to allow parties to take the law into their own hands, be they whom they may or what their grievance. Every thing in the shape of rioting and bloodshed must be put down at whatever cost, and the people taught that the law must and will be maintained, that in it is their only safety for life and property.

Mr. D'ISRAELI, at the annual meeting of the Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association, in reply to the toast of the "House of Lords and Commons," draws the following picture of the passing events in Europe. Having first referred to the agricultural prospects of the country, he then proceeded to say:

"I hardly like to sit down without making some reference to those topics which so much occupy the attention of the people of this country and of Europe at the present moment. We have all witnessed great and strange events of late, and it is more than possible—it is probable—that we shall all of us witness, and even perhaps soon, greater and stranger events. There seems a likelihood that there will be in Europe a very trying time. I think it may be some consolation to us that the last forty years of this country have not been wasted, though there may be differences of opinion upon a variety of questions which have been discussed, and which have led to legislation. I think that all impartial persons must admit that, on the whole, the progress of this country during the last forty years has been decided and considerable. The moral and physical condition of the people may not have improved to the extent which the younger portion of those who are sitting in this room, I trust, will witness. But the principles upon which the moral and physical condition of the population of this country can be established and insured are no longer merely the subject of philosophy, but have been recognised in legislation, and we have acted upon those principles. It is impossible to deny that our finances and our commerce are flourish-

ing; and although we have heard from those whom we greatly esteem that our means of national defence are by no means perfect, still the public mind of the country has for a long time been drawn to the subject, and I must say that I think the elements exist in this country of securing ample and complete means of national defence. Now, there is only one subject, and it is a most difficult one, which for a long period appeared as one which could not be drawn to any satisfactory conclusion—that is the distribution of political power in the State. All felt that so long as there was a great controversy in the nation upon that question circumstances might occur, unforeseen and unprecedented, as we experience at the present moment, which might convulse this nation, and which might be the cause of great peril to our political institutions and our social happiness. I think, therefore, it is a matter of great congratulation at this moment—when empires vanish and republics arise, and the greatest possible changes occur or are threatened in every part of Europe—that three years ago, with, if not the entire, yet with very general concurrence of opinion among sensible men of all sections, and without any disruption of political parties—which I, for one, look upon as one of the greatest misfortunes which could happen to England—we did settle the question of the distribution of political power in this country, on principles which I believe are firm—(cheers)—and which at this moment allow every man to feel secure and confident in the political establishments of his country. I have always felt myself that if England were true to herself, there was no fear, I believe, that England is now true to herself, and therefore I think, great, vast, and startling as are the changes that even hourly occur, we as Englishmen need not be appalled. (Loud and repeated cheers.)"

A PERSON of the name of Kennedy, at present residing at Buffalo, writes to the Montreal Herald, giving a glowing picture of the new Province of Manitoba, setting forth its capabilities as an Agricultural country, and of his intention of making it his future home. He says:—

"One thing is sure, the soil of the Red River country, (now Manitoba,) is good, and the country so fine, that if people can readily get to it, they will go there, and in a very short time build up there a prosperous country. It is the first chance Canadian people have had to go into a Prairie country where the farmer can at once open his farm and go to ploughing and sowing, and reaping and digging. In time these ought to make some mode of travel from Thunder Bay to Manitoba, but for the present there is (or soon will be) an easy way of getting into the country, subject only to the one disadvantage of passing through a foreign country.

"The North Pacific Railroad will be finished from Duluth, on Lake Superior to Georgetown on the Red River, a distance of 220 miles, by the 1st of July next, it is said already, over 25 miles of it is built, and by the 1st of April it will extend so far west of Duluth, that it will strike the old Red River Trail, west of the Mississippi river, from which point it is easy waggoning to Fort Garry. The Railroad will strike the Red River (at Georgetown) in latitude 47°, this would be about 140 miles to the boundary line of 49°, thus it will be seen that the whole distance from Duluth to the Manitoba line will be but 360 miles. When the Railroad is completed to the Red River, there will be but the 140 miles of land travel down the river, with as

find a natural road as there is in the world to go over with grass for food, for the taking, or the river can be taken in boats, and all waggoning avoided.

"The settlers going to Manitoba ought to take brood cattle and go at once to raising cattle for American and Canadian markets. They will possess in Manitoba great advantages over Texas for cattle and horse raising that country is now sending to the North immense numbers of cattle, and Texas is further from New York than Manitoba, by over 1,000 miles.

"I have made it very plain that the true way, and the quickest, and cheapest to reach Manitoba from Canada, or the New England States of the United States, will be the way of Duluth, and this North Pacific Railroad, and that when the settler is there, he can go to cattle raising, with the certainty of having a market. Wheat growing, and wool growing, will be equally remunerative. There is no such country elsewhere for wheat raising, and with an immediate outlet, as there will be, to Lake Superior, it will find a good quick market."

—His Lordship the Bishop of Ottawa arrived home on Wednesday evening, in good health, from attending the Ecumenical Council. He was warmly welcomed by the people of his diocese, who escorted him to the Cathedral, where after religious services, he was presented with addresses to which he made suitable replies.

—A TELEGRAM announces the death of General Robert E. Lee, the celebrated commander of the Confederate armies during the late American rebellion, near Lexington, Va., on Wednesday last, in his sixty-third year. His death was caused by congestion of the brain.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE news from the seat of war is so unreliable, and so conflicting, that little or no confidence can be placed in it. However, such as it is, we give below a brief synopsis of it.

It is stated that Lord Lyons recently suggested to Count Bismarck the expediency of an armistice. Bismarck replied that Prussia would be glad to make peace at any time and anywhere; but no proposition looking to a truce would be entertained for a moment.

General Burnside, at the renewed request of Count von Bismarck, carried a message to Jules Favre, stating that the Prussians will allow the elections to be held freely and will not oppose the assembling of the Constituent Assembly, either at Paris or Tours.

The Prussian Government has directed urgent remonstrances to the Government at Washington concerning the shipment of arms from the United States to France.

In the engagement at Arthenay 3,500 French were attacked by 15,000 or 20,000 Germans, and forced to retreat. The French were reinforced by 15,000 men, and renewed their stand in the forest near Monjoye.

Russian journals are still full of the bitterest hostility to Prussia.

Up to the 3rd inst., the Prussians are reported to have burned 20 small villages and

executed 150 peasants in the neighbourhood of Metz, in retaliation of illicit warfare.

A battle occurred on Friday, the 7th inst. between Fort Mont Valerien and St. Cloud on the west side of Paris. The French, under Ducrot, having made a sortie in force, the Prussians were completely defeated and forced to retreat to Versailles, entirely surrendering the position they had lately occupied, and from which they might have shell ed the western part of Paris.

On the 10th, the Prussians made another attack on Chaville in strong force. The inhabitants had erected barricades to defend the town with vigor, repulsing the Prussians after a contest of six hours. The latter burned the hamlets of Chaville, Messangere, and Brassard, in the plains of Beauce, and set fire to several places.

Advices from various parts of France repeat statements that the Prussians are committing the greatest atrocities upon helplessness towns.

On the 12th, the Prussians attacked Dreux and were defeated.

The Prussians shoot all the Franc-Tireurs they capture. This is one reason why the latter carry the black flag. The atrocities are not committed by large bodies of Prussians, but by those who are not under the command of superior officers.

Prince Frederick Charles, who commanded the main Prussian army during the present war, is reported to have died from the effects of a fever.

The London Times has an article going to prove that Bismarck's obvious policy is to render France powerless for offence or defence hereafter.

The French, at the battle of Orleans, were in smaller force than the Prussians, and were literally crushed by their superior artillery and driven back into the suburbs of the town. Some barricades had been erected there, and our forces took advantage of the shelter thus afforded. The Papal Zouaves and Mobiles behaved most courageously, but the regular troops fled at almost the first fire; none of them made much resistance. Many of them threw away their arms in their flight. The Prussians opened fire on the town after the French defeat, and many fires occurred. The Railway depot was destroyed, as well as many other large establishments. At the last accounts, the people of Lyons were flying in all directions.

At a late hour last evening, the Prussians had pushed south to Beaugency and Meung beyond Orleans, and it is feared the Papal Zouaves will be surrounded and captured. Other French troops in the neighbourhood are in a good position, and heavy reinforcements were sent forward to them during the night.

It is reported some heavy guns have also gone forward from Bourges. The French troops at Brangency and Meung are excellent. They are composed chiefly of National Guards and Mobiles, and are determined to resist to the last. In view of the urgency of

the case, General Garibaldi left Tours this a. m. for the field. There is a great movement of Franc-Tireurs here, and troops of all kinds are pushing to the front with all despatch.

The Prussian inventory of Strasbourg spoils, enumerates 1,100 guns, all sorts, 12,000 chassopots, 3 tons of ammunition, and 50 locomotives. The carpenters and masons were impressed to repair the fortifications.

A correspondent of the London Standard, charges the Prussians with constant exaggeration. He writes that the number of men and amount of material captured at Strasbourg should be reduced at least one half from the Prussian figures.

Particulars of the battle before Metz, which occurred on Friday the 7th, have just been received. The French made a sortie in force, and after a battle, were driven back with tremendous losses. The Prussians took a great number of prisoners.

The cattle in and around Metz are dying by hundreds from the rinderpest. The bodies cannot be buried quick enough to prevent epidemic. Notwithstanding the hard frosts that have occurred there, disease is spreading rapidly.

The French fire from the fortifications of Metz continues incessantly.

The Franc-Tireurs not being uniformed the Prussians do not regard them as regular soldiers of France, and shoot them on sight.

On Monday last a Prussian cavalry division drove 4000 Mobiles across the Eure, near Chartres. The loss of the latter were heavy.

The French fleet was still off Uagalon, and this evening it is known that Gen. Garibaldi has left Tours in company with Col. Frapoli for the seat of war. The exact destination has not been divulged, but it is intimated he will take command at Orleans.

Prussia is now negotiating with the smaller States of Germany for national unity, under Frederick, in place of a Federacy.

An engagement occurred on Monday, the 10th, near Bruyeres, between a body of Franc-Tireurs and the Prussians. After a short engagement the latter retired with a loss of thirty killed and wounded; the French loss is not stated.

The rinderpest is spreading rapidly throughout Belgium. Much alarm exists, not only here but in Holland.

The engineers say it will require at least two years to prepare Rome to serve as an Italian capital. The seat of Government will therefore remain at Florence indefinitely.

The Prussians now occupy Orleans. This is admitted by the French authorities, and is corroborated by a despatch from King William to his Queen, in which he states the losses of the French to be heavy, his own small.

The midnight despatches contain an extraordinary story of the precision of one gunner's fire from the fortifications of Paris, preventing the Prussians from placing a single gun.

**FENIANS PARDONED.**—The pressure of the Irish party has been too great on President Grant, and to his disgrace and to the disgrace of the American Government, he has yielded and granted an unconditional pardon to the Fenian prisoners. The trial of these men was conducted in a fair and unobjectionable manner, the arguments of the U.S. Attorney were well put and to the point, the charge of the presiding Judge was strongly against the prisoners, and his course throughout was highly creditable to the bench. It is therefore much to be regretted that the President did not allow the law to take its course, for his own sake and for the credit of the country he represents. It is perfect balderdash to say the ends of justice have been satisfied by the short term which these cut-throats have been imprisoned, and none knows this better than President Grant. If he had frankly acknowledged that he was unable to resist the pressure brought upon him by the Irish section of his party, he would at least have had the credit of having spoken his honest sentiments. The fall elections are coming on, and the contest in New York State is expected to be a very close one. The Fenian party generally acts with the Democrats, but the Republican leaders in New York thought the pardon of O'Neil and his compatriots would be a good card to play, and they have by petition and otherwise compelled the President to yield to their demands. What a humiliating spectacle for the President of a great nation! Justice is mocked, the relations of amity with other nations foully broken, the lowest passions of the lowest and most degraded people pandered to, and the nation disgraced—all for the sake of obtaining a few votes and strengthening a political party. It is the genius of American institutions, however, and however disgraceful it may appear to other nationalities, it is we confess, no more than was to be expected.—*Belleville Intelligencer.*

The rifle practice day at Clifton, New Jersey, passed off with the best success in all that respects weather, management, and attendance. Six hundred competitors is both a comforting promise for the future, and an earnest of the real appreciation which this movement meets with. The marksmanship was not good, far from it, but it was plenty good enough to start from; and we need only to have, for a few years, the experience and drill which public competition brings with it, to see the practice improve very much. It is a pity that something of the kind is not instituted in the Regular Army. The distance which separates contending forces nowadays is so great that a trained eye is an absolutely necessary adjunct to the "arms of precision" in which nations put their trust. The need of an infantry school for rifle practice is as great as the necessity of training the raw recruit in the manual of arms. More than anything else, modern military history enforces the lesson that the soldier should be made an efficient combatant in all circumstances, and whether under the eye of his commander, or abandoned to his own resources. Only training and the self confidence it gives can produce the modern warrior.—*Army and Navy Journal (U.S.)*

A letter has been published detailing a conversation said to have been held with General Von Moltke last March, in which he said that with French geological maps he could go anywhere in France. The truth of

the remark is the best evidence in favor of the reality of the conversation. The town slip maps of France, from which Professor Fuchs of the *Ecoles des Mines*, in Paris, is now making up a new geological chart of that country, are perfect. They show every road, every hill, hamlet, farm and house; and with them in his hand Von Moltke or any other man of good common sense can find his way about France, as easily as he can find his way about New York with a map of that city. The stories of German generals going about disguised as beggars selling matches and exploring French territory meanwhile, must be very well pickled with salt before they are taken; especially so since the fort of Vincennes, where this particular occurrence is said to have taken place, is open in time of peace to any stranger who asks to go in, and when he is in, there is nothing to see but a fort untenable before modern arms.

The Russian problem remains undecided. The Czar has certainly dined M. Thiers, but then he sent the Cross of St. George to the Crown Prince of Saxony for his bravery exhibited in fighting the French. On one hand the great eastern empire is said to be preparing for war, and to have withdrawn her representative from Constantinople. On the other all this is denied, and she is declared to be for "peace and justice." Whatever Russia is doing or leaving undone, it is certain that Turkey is alarmed and bestirring herself for defence; and probably with reason. The relations of Russia and Prussia are excellent, and the friendship existing between the monarchs of the two countries is one of the few personal ties that in this day of impersonal government would probably bear political fruit. The very strength of this amity is partly due to the firm character of political relations between the countries. Prussian ambition seems to be honestly confined to the single purpose of uniting all German speaking people in one government. Russian ambition is to strengthen the internal bonds of what promises to be the most massive empire in the world, and also to extend its bounds over Constantinople, the seat of power on the Black Sea. These aims are not antagonistic, and the two monarchs may not only keep up their friendship, but bequeath it to their successors for generations to come. The power of Russia in the Black Sea was by no means stamped out by the Crimean war. Restrained from keeping a navy afloat there, she built a fleet of merchant vessels which could serve for war purposes, and Russians have had great faith in its powers. Whether the Czar keeps a monitor in those waters for a pleasure yacht we have not heard.

The Italians are gradually attaining the long desired objects of national ambition. Victor Emmanuel has issued a decree annexing the Roman Provinces to his Kingdom, the laws of which are now to be observed from Sicily to Piedmont. He has also proclaimed an amnesty. The into Papal provinces are to be governed by General Lamarmora. The territorial independence and spiritual authority of the Pope are to be provided for as soon as possible by the Legislature, and His Holiness will preserve the inviolability of his personal prerogative as a Sovereign, and his dignity as head of the Church. The feeling in Italy is not altogether unanimous with respect to the future of Pio Nino; and his enemies in Florence are stated by a despatch to an American paper, to demand that he be stripped of everything, and sent with his priests, cardinals, and nuns to Asia or Africa. It is not

probable, however, that such extreme measures will be resorted to; on the contrary, there is every likelihood that the Pope will be permitted to peacefully end his days in the Eternal City. The Italian Government have, it is said, requested other catholic powers to contribute to the fund for the Pope's support.

#### NOTE FROM MARSHAL McMAHON.

It will be seen by the following note, addressed to the *Organe* of Namur by Marshal McMahon, now residing at Pouru aux Bois, near Bouillon, that he repudiates all responsibility for the Sedan disaster.

"Marshal McMahon was wounded on the 1st of September, at six in the morning, at the very commencement of the last battle, in which he held no command. It was by order of the Minister of War, Comte de Palikao, and of the Committee of Defence, that he executed the march which proved so fatal to the arms of France. This is what infallibly happens when people take upon them to direct the movements of distant armies from the closet. In these circumstances one can draw up a general plan, but one cannot descend to details; and this is what General Cousin de Montuban forgot. Marshal McMahon's intention was to fall back on Paris, after having reorganized the army so unfortunately undone at Sedan. He was not permitted to accomplish his wise project. As soon as the state of his health will permit, Marshal McMahon will not fail to publish proofs that he cannot be considered responsible for the immense disaster at Sedan. Between a victorious army and the frontier of a neutral nation there was no escape if an accident occurred."

#### ANOTHER INTERVIEW WITH COUNT BISMARCK.

—The *Times*, correspondent reports another interview with Bismark at Meaux, on the 18th in the course of which the latter said: "In this war we are influenced by no motive of aggrandizement whatever. We have no purpose in view but our own security; consequently we must provide for the next war, which is sure to come. France is now without allies but may soon succeed in procuring them, and is sure to commence another war under better auspices. That is why we demand these fortresses. But the present government in Paris dare not agree to the cession of such territory, nor probably will the next government; but our purpose is fixed, and if necessary, we are ready to stay all winter at Paris." I said:—"The general impression was that France was too much weakened to begin another war for many years." "That is not the case," answered Bismark. "France is a very wealthy country, and will remain so after the war. Within five years she will have so recovered as to be able to recommence hostilities. For that reason we must have those fortresses; but as the government at Paris is not disposed to deliver them up, and probably has no command over them, peace is not very near and we must wait until we can reduce them." "Then the question of peace," I said, "reduces itself to one for the possession of Metz and Stratsburg," and he answered, "Yes, that is it precisely."

Mr. Villiers, formerly riding master of the Hussars, and who joined the Manitoba expedition as Quartermaster of the Quebec Battalion, has been appointed Chief of Police for Red River; and Mr. Plainvil, of the same battalion, is Mr. Villiers' deputy. The force under their charge will, it is said, be thirty men.

## BLEEDING, BUT NOT BEATEN.

Ill-fated France, that bled sore  
 From every vein, at every pore!  
 O'er Belgium's frontier streaming, see  
 The life-blood of thy industry.  
 The patient brains and dexterous hands  
 Of Germany's laborious band,  
 Whom in blind rage and bitter hate,  
 Thou spurnest from thy leagured gate—  
 Blood, whose outpouring wastes thy veins  
 Of labouring strength, and labour's gains.  
 And elsewhere o'er thy frontier, lo!  
 Thine own sons in their thousands flow,  
 Bearing from warfare's scourge and spoil  
 The blood that should enrich thy soil!  
 And while thy industry thy land,  
 Lose life-blood thus, on either hand,  
 See other fountains, nobler still,  
 The streams thou gavest, freely spill!  
 Thy soldier's blood, mixed with their foe's,  
 Like water, on thy bosom, flows,  
 And flows to waste—not to renew  
 The Laurels to such watering due!  
 O noble mother of brave sons,  
 'Twixt thee and me an ocean rans;  
 An ocean whose dissevering tide  
 Doth not more than old hates divide  
 But spite of old hates and old wars,  
 And wounds still rankling 'neath their scars,  
 My heart bleeds for thee and thy palus:  
 Bleeds even with thy bleeding veins  
 Of industry and wealth, and, worst,  
 Of courage, with ill-guidance curst!  
 But bleeding, fainting, falling, still  
 Holds the indomitable will,  
 And seems to harden under blows  
 And strengthens with the strengthening foe's,  
 Till thou hast never seemed so great  
 As now in this thy worst estate!  
 Let me not ask, in this sad hour,  
 What dark designs, what lust of power,  
 What selfish hope to save a crown,  
 Or to a son to hand one down,  
 Spoke the irrevocable word  
 That bade thee draw thy ready sword.  
 Hood-winked, misled, with bosom bared,  
 Ill-generalled and unprepared;  
 Nor seek to weigh with balance fine  
 The weight of others' wrong and thine,  
 What'er thou strovest for first, I see  
 Thou strivest now, for thy right to be:  
 Strivest to guard thy hearths and homes  
 Thine altars and ancestral tombs.  
 For all, for which thy foes had striven,  
 Had thine ill-lot to them been given.  
 And till thou sweep those foes away,  
 Wisely postpone the reckoning day,  
 With him whose dark and desperate game  
 Hath brought thee to this pass of shame!  
 To them that so strive, in their need  
 England, perforce, must wish Good speed!  
 Enough of brave blood has been shed  
 To atone ill-will to strife misled:  
 Enough of thy blood and the foe's,  
 That, worthy thine, as freely flows;  
 God guide their hearts such Peace to frame,  
 As thou mayest sign and feel no shame.  
 May kindly Nature work to hide  
 The prints of the invader's stride,  
 And springs of inborn strength restore  
 The lavish waste of generous gore,  
 Till, as the seasons roll along,  
 And Man's will and Heaven's grace are strong,  
 Good even of war the World shall win,  
 'Tis the great suffering whose the sin!

—Punch.

## WAR LESSONS FOR VOLUNTEERS.

## THE NECESSITY OF GOOD MARCHING.

The French were out manœuvred in the first rush of the war. They were beaten into a corner at Metz, blockaded in Alsace, and, generally speaking, "don for" by the splendid organization of their enemies. There is no need to go further back than the blocking of Bazaine at Metz to explain the capture of Napoleon at Sedan. The Germans swung round their left wing with tremendous energy, brought up their centre sharply into line, and pinned the French against the Belgian frontier in the little fortress of Sedan. Never was such marching seen as that of the Fifth and Eleventh Corps. Though they had marched some five and twenty miles that day, they were in excellent condition. Their bivouacs were well ordered; their camp-fires were blazing bright and clear. They tramped along in light marching order; their knapsacks carried in waggons which followed at a distance. They rushed into cottages for water or for a glass of wine, if any could be found. Tired and thirsty, the Prussian regiments thronged through Chonery on the 31st August. Tired and thirsty they passed on to the front. As each battalion neared

the Prince's quarters, the drums rolled out, the men held up their heads, and went by as at a review in Berlin, but that every one seemed to have been rolled in dust-bins previously. Dusty as they were, the infantry had a fine appearance. They all seemed to understand the need of hard marches, and to be buoyed up by the hope of complete victory.

## THE ADVANTAGES OF DRILL AND DISCIPLINE.

I could follow the falling of their shells which exploded as they touched the ground, and fell with wonderful precision. I noticed also how quickly they changed and corrected their fire. As soon as a French corps took up a position, it was instantly assailed by shells. The first would perhaps fall a few feet short or beyond, but the third was sure to find its way to the troops and to do its awful work among them. The French shells, on the contrary, exploded generally before they reached the ground, and the smoke of the explosions formed innumerable little clouds at different heights, some so high they could do no harm, I should think, to the enemy. A few squadrons of Prussian cavalry made as if they would charge a French force which was towards the left. Immediately two regiments of French cavalry charged in turn upon the Prussian squadrons which fell back and fled. But at the same moment, a Prussian corps of infantry opened a murderous fire upon these too eager French cavalry and they came back sadly shattered from their rash pursuit. When one Prussian battalion hesitates, when even there is a charge in line by a body of French infantry, which requires a good deal of ground, there is always a creeping up of more and more of the dark coated assailants. Their guns cease firing for fear of hitting them, and a gallant dash of French light cavalry is made to recover the hill side. They ride forward, half hidden in dust, and seem for a moment to succeed; but the artillery re-opens, the infantry pour in a deadly fire, and we see the ground strewn with men and horses. The cavalry wheel about and go galloping back like a receding wave. That hill side must remain in Prussian hands. No, there is another rally by the French infantry. Once more they come on; the thin blue smoke rises above the line and they almost run in their wild attempt to push home. But the attack withers away and nothing can be seen of the regiment which made it. There has been heavy loss it is easy to see, though the men who fall cannot be distinguished in the confusion.

The greater part of the French army were indeed, enclosed in a circle of fire and the carnage was frightful. The French strove to dislodge the Prussians, but in spite of the most heroic efforts, they could not succeed in doing so. This carnage lasted all day. The ground was covered with corpses, and the river tinged with blood. The cavalry seized the rifles of the infantry in order to defend themselves, while the infantry took the sabres of the cavalry. All ranks, all arms, all corps were mixed up together. The smoke of the powder was so dense that you could not see two paces before you. The men fired almost at hazard, and a good many luckless French soldiers must have been struck by the bullets of their comrades. Resistance was impossible. Farms, houses, and some entire villages were on fire: the soldiers had used their last cartridge. The rumour spread—and it was correct—that Marshal MacMahon had just fallen on the battle-field grievously wounded. This was the signal for the flight, if that word can be applied to the departure of these brave troops, who had no alternative except to be

pitilessly massacred or to fall into the hands of the enemy.

## SISTERS OF MERCY ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.

At the battle of Woerth, a Sister of Charity who had just dressed a soldier's wounds, had both legs carried off by a cannon shot. Her work was done, and she was just raising her hand to make the sign of the cross when she was struck down.

I was proceeding from Balo to Strasbourg and the compartment I was in was filled at one station by a whole bevy of Sisters of Mercy. Amongst them was one young and beautiful, who sat close by the side of her superior with downcast eyes. I saw glittering on her breast, by the side of her crucifix, the Cross of the Legion of Honour. At the same moment I noticed that she had but one arm. "You were in the Crimea, my sister?" said an old gentleman taking off his hat respectfully. "Yes, Sir," said the young Sister, casting down her eyes. The old man was curious, and after much questioning extracted that her arm had been shot off at the battle of the Alma, while offering to bind up the wounds of a Russian officer.

## THE NECESSITY FOR THE MARTINI-HENRY.

Our often-repeated appeal to the Government to proceed at once with the manufacture of the Martini-Henry rifle has found a powerful advocate in Sir Joseph Whitworth, whose letter to a contemporary we republish in our columns to-day. If ever a subject has passed through all the stages necessary to authorize prompt action, this is that subject; and a heavy weight of responsibility will attach to the authorities if they defer any longer to set to work to arm the forces with the best rifle of the day. It is not too much to say that had the catastrophe of war now fallen upon us—had the French turned their arms upon us instead of upon the Germans—we should have had the Government only to thank that we must have met our enemies with a weapon so inferior as to have involved an enormous extra sacrifice of life.

We always held that to convert the Enfield was a mistake, and we pointed out as strongly as we could that it could be but a temporary measure, and in all probability a mere waste of money, for the converted Enfield could hardly be better in range and accuracy than the Enfield itself. Now the capacity of the Enfield is well known to all of us; it is a good rifle up to 500 yards, but beyond that it cannot compare with the small-bore rifles; and even the Chassepot is superior to it in range, if the reports from the war be true. With a better rifle in the field, it is not likely that this country would sit still and be content with an inferior weapon when such enormous interests were at stake. When we insisted, therefore, that the converted arm would but be a makeshift a temporary measure, we were right; and to meet even the Chassepot with the Snider would place us at a disadvantage which the nation would not tolerate. How rapidly the Germans have taken advantage of their determination to have the best arm they can get, may be seen when they have already proceeded to arm whole regiments with the Chassepots they have taken from the French, notwithstanding that their doing so involves the use of a different ammunition. Now, there can be no doubt that the Martini-Henry is as superior to the Chassepot in every quality—quick loading, accuracy, range, and penetration—as the Chassepot has been shown to be to the needle-gun. It

is really idle to be hesitating about the absolutely best form of breech, when absolute perfection is denied us in human affairs. It is sufficient that the Martini Henry is the best yet known, or, at the least, as good as any other. This surely should be sufficient to insure its immediate adoption. It would still take a year in the manufacture to place a sufficient quantity in the hands of the Regulars, and therefore every day is precious, indeed, each day's delay is so much lost time; and woe betide a Ministry that neglects to take the steps necessary to secure the armament of the forces with the best rifle at the earliest possible moment. In the opinion of a most competent judge, as reported by the *Pall Mall Gazette* correspondent from the scene of war, good shooting formed the first three elements of the German success; and that without it all the organization of the other arms of the service, admirable as they were, would have gone for nought. The Germans neutralized the use of the better weapon by their greater skill in the use of the inferior rifle; but they suffered terribly from the infliction nevertheless. Why, then, we ask, should England be placed in a similar position?—and there is not the slightest excuse for it. It is simply a question of money, and not a large amount for such an object—a million sterling would, at 3*l.* a rifle, provide 333 000 Martini-Henrys—and it is hard to see how a million could be better spent. The abstract of the report of the special Committee on these arms, issued for trial in 1869—extracts from which were published in our last number—so completely confirms the first report of the committee as to leave nothing further to be desired. After a most elaborate dealing with every objection that could by ingenuity be urged by even captious objectors, the report is so conclusive of the excellence of the rifle that the Minister may proceed without fear. It ought to dissipate the last lingering doubt, if any such exists; and we do hope that ere another week elapses, no instruction will be given that the Martini Henry has been decided on at last as the national weapon, and the manufacture of this splendid rifle is to be proceeded with at once.—*Volunteer Service Gazette.*

WAR ITEMS AND INCIDENTS.

**THE BURNING OF BAZEILLES.**—The Duke de Fitzjames gives the following description of Bazeilles after the battle at that place.—“Paris, Sept. 13. I have just returned from Sedan. Ever since Chalons I have not left our heroic but unfortunate army. Entrusted, together with Prince de Sagan, by the International Society for the aid of the Wounded, with the duty of establishing its ambulances where they were likely to be most useful. I have seen all those battle-fields from Beaumont to Sedan, where our soldiers, crushed by numbers, have fallen gloriously for France. Allow me to express my indignation at what I saw at Bazeilles. Bazeilles is near the Meuse, about five miles from Sedan. On the morning of the 31st of August, the courageous inhabitants of that village, perceiving that the enemy was coming on, donned their National Guards' uniforms and aided the army in holding in check a Bavarian corps and a division (Shæfer's) of the 4th Prussian Reserve corps. The French arm was driven back. The enemy entered Bazeilles, and then commenced a scene of horror and nameless excesses that must forever disgrace their perpetrators. In order to punish the inhabitants of the village for presuming to defend themselves, they set the place on fire. Most

of the National Guards had been killed. The population sought a refuge in the cellars. All, women and children, were burnt alive! Out of 2000 inhabitants barely 300 survive to relate how the Bavarians drove the women and children back into the flames, and shot down those who attempted to escape. I myself saw the ruins of the village. There is not a single house left standing. A fearful smell of charred flesh pervades the air, and I saw the calcined bodies of the inhabitants on the thresholds of their own dwellings.”

THE DISCOVERY OF ARMS IN PARIS.

The story of the discovery in Paris of a store of upward of 30,000 Prussian guns is thus given by the *Paris Journal*:—

“Some days ago some chests were seized which were found to contain Uhlan uniforms. Yesterday the arms were found. The plan contemplated was simple, and had it succeeded would have been effectual. The 30,000 or 40,000 Germans who inhabited Belleville and La Villette before the decree of expulsion was issued had been formed into regiments with that machinelike precision which marks all the proceedings of Prussia. At the given moment, and concurrently with an attack by the besieging forces, we should have been taken in the rear by the Uhlands, who would have charged upon us, and caused us to believe that the city had been entered either by a breach or through the sewers or catacombs. Some persons appointed for that purpose were to have called out ‘Treason,’ and then our troops would have been assailed in front and in rear. The discovery was made quite accidentally. A quantity of rifles having been sent to the station of La Chapelle, a railway servant seized one, which he took away with him, and being somewhat intoxicated, declared loudly that he knew where there were plenty of arms. A body of the National Guard, upon being informed of this man's statement, proceeded to the station and interrogated the officials, who at first denied that there were any arms there, but some of the porters pointed out several railway trucks which were laden with cases of muskets. Upon careful search, 16 trucks were found to be so laden, having, according to the statement of the employes, arrived from Sedan some days before. The National Guard having no authority to seize the arms, an application was made to the police, who took possession, not of 16, but of 32 trucks, all laden with arms and ammunition. Among those arms were Chasse pots and needle-guns bearing the Prussian eagle. It is said that cuirasses and lances were also found. An investigation is now proceeding, which it is hoped, will acquaint us with the names of the intended receivers as well as the actual senders.”

Col. Wylie, Provincial Store keeper visited Kingston on the 29th ult., for the purpose of receiving over stores and buildings of the Imperial Government on behalf of the Dominion. The gunboat *Rescue* teamed up, and made a trip through the harbor and down the river for his inspection. Her Armstrong steel gun and brass pieces, of which she was lately disarmed, have again been put on board, and she will no doubt be kept in her present condition of preparation for active service, should occasion, now apparently very remote, ever require it.

THE VOLUNTEERS OF ENGLAND.

The military organization of the Germans is recommended by the *Times* for adoption in England, in an article which thus boldly deals with the subject:

“Do the London Volunteers themselves think they are in condition to be sent tomorrow to assist in arresting the progress of 40,000 continental troops, landed we will suppose, on the southern coast? They would be victims, and the people who ordered them to the front would be murderers. A good many can shoot and that is all they have learned, in a rather costly course of national instruction. As volunteers, however, they cannot be made to learn more than suits their tastes or convenience. If training is to be obligatory, it must be in the militia, in one form or another. In that militia there may be as much variety as in the Queen's army. In the line, itself, there are crack regiments, where both officers and men are allowed a social superiority. Let us have militia to everybody's taste, on the simple condition that everybody must prepare himself to defend his country, and that in the capacity of a real soldier. It may interfere a little with business, and still more with pleasure, but we don't divide all our time between duty and pleasure.”

The Emperor Napoleon, says the “*Times*,” went poor to France, poor he has quitted it. He retains no private property but a small cottage which came to him from his mother. Whatever he received from France he spent in the country. The Czar could not maintain such splendor. The Oriental magnificence of the Sultan was mere shabbiness compared with the French Court. Napoleon III. will leave his German place of captivity at the end of the war almost as poor a man as when he entered France in 1848. The Empress has, indeed, her jewels, gifts at her marriage and on her fête days, but these are her private property, the State jewels being now in the hands of the French Government at Tours: she has, besides, an hereditary property in Spain, and the Prince Imperial has a house which has been bequeathed to him near Trieste. This, we believe, is all that remains to the family which lately was supreme in France. The “*Times*” mentions this simply in order to dissipate the calumnies which have assailed the dethroned sovereign, who, though for a long period so distribute the favours of the most splendid State in Europe, yet left France in his old age with little of its wealth clinging to him.

The territory now united into the Kingdom of Italy, was divided before the war of 1859 among the following governments:

	Area sq. miles.	Population.
Lombard-Venetian Kingdom.....	17,511	5,007,472
Kingdom of Sardinia.....	28,229	5,090,245
Kingdom of Naples (including Sicily).....	41,906	8,704,472
Pontifical States.....	17,210	3,006,771
Grand Duchy of Tuscany (including Lucca).....	8,586	1,815,686
Duchy of Parma.....	2,766	507,881
Duchy of Modena.....	2,073	586,458
Republic of San Marino..	22	7,600
Principality of Monaco...	53	6,000
Total.....	118,358	24,733,385

With the acquisition of the city of Rome, Italy now includes a population equal to that of Prussia, prior to its acquisition of 1866.

## DOMINION OF CANADA.



## MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

## HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 14th October, 1870.

GENERAL ORDERS, (30.)

No. 1.

## ACTIVE MILITIA.

## VOLUNTEER.

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery.  
No. 5 Battery.

To be Lieutenant:

John Alexander Gemmill, Gentleman, M. S., vice G. Malloch, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

12th "York" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Quarter-Master:

Sergeant Major William Parkill, vice N. A. Gamble, left the limits.

22nd Battalion "The Oxford Rifles."

The undernamed Companies of this Battalion are hereby re-numbered, and shall be designated and known by their new numbers as follows:

No. 4 Company, "Princeton,"	as No. 3 Co.
" 5 " "Ingersoll,"	" 4 "
" 6 " "Norwich,"	" 5 "
" 7 " "Strathallan,"	" 6 "
" 8 " "East Oxford,"	" 7 "
" 9 " "Lakeside,"	" 8 "

56th "Grenville" Battalion of Infantry.  
No. 5 Company.

The Headquarters of this Company are hereby removed from "Aultsville" to "Far ran's Point."

28th "Perth" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Paymaster:

Robert Rutherford, Esquire, vice Leon M. Clench, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

29th "Waterloo" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Adjutant, with rank of Lieutenant: William Pickering, Gentleman, V.B., vice F. S. MacGachen, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

8th Battalion "Stadacona Rifles," Quebec  
The undernamed Companies of this Bat-

tallon are hereby renumbered, and shall be designated and known by their new numbers as follows:

No. 5 Company as No. 3 Company.  
No. 6 Company as No. 4 Company.

To be Paymaster:

Orderly-Room Sergeant Alexander Frow, vice Edward C. Baylee, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

9th Battalion "Voltigeurs de Quebec."  
No. 1 Company.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Louis E. Frenette, M.S., vice O. Bourget, left the limits.

17th "Levis" Battalion of Infantry.  
No. 3 Company, Point Levis.

Lieutenant John Campbell is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

21st Battalion "Richelieu" Light Infantry.

The resignation of Assistant Surgeon P. Badouin is hereby accepted.

The "Charlevoix" Provisional Battalion of Infantry.

No. 2 Company, St. Jean d'Orleans.

To be Captain:

Lieut. Pierre Langlois, M.S., vice J. A. Turcotte, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Pierre Onesime Turcotte, M.S., vice Langlois, promoted.

To be Ensign:

Sergeant Antaino Gobeil, M.S., vice P. O. Turcotte, promoted.

No. 1 Infantry Company, Three Rivers.

No. 1 Infantry Company, Three Rivers, having become disorganized, is hereby removed from the list of the Active Militia.

St. Leon Infantry Company, County of Maskinongé.

The St. Leon Infantry Company, County of Maskinongé, having become disorganized is hereby removed from the list of the Active Militia.

## PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

62nd "The St. John" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Brevet Major, from 9th September, last:

Captain William H. Scovil, M.S., 1st class.

## PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

To be 1st Lieutenant:

2nd Lieutenant Robert Burns Boak, vice F. Romans, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally:

Battery Sergeant-Major George Ansley

Sanford, vice F. B. Woodville whose resignation is hereby accepted.

Sergeant John Culverwell Oland, vice Boak promoted.

The resignation of 1st Lieutenant W. Blanchard is hereby accepted.

63rd "Halifax" Battalion of Rifles.

To be Lieutenant:

Patrick Healy O'Donnell, Gentleman, late Sergeant Major of Her Majesty's 76th Regiment, vice John A. Muckasey, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining his rank.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor General.

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



## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Sealed Tenders, addressed to the undersigned, endorsed, "Tender for Lake Harbor work," will be received at this Office until Thursday, the 21st day of November next, for improvements at the following mentioned places:—

AT CHANTRY ISLAND, LAKE HURON, the construction of a Breakwater and Beacon of Crib Work.

AT GODERICH, LAKE HURON, the Dredging and Pier-work necessary to form a new entrance channel to the Harbor, and the enlargement of the Inner Basin.

AT ROND EAU, LAKE ERIE, the enlargement of the channel, deepening a portion of the Basin, and the construction of Entrance Piers, &c.

Plans and specifications of the respective works can be seen at this Office, or at the Custom House, Goderich, on and after Monday, the 7th day of November next, where printed forms of Tender can also be obtained.

Tenders may be sent in for the works at one or all of the places; but they must in all cases be made out in strict accordance with the printed forms.

The signatures of two solvent reliable persons, residents of the Dominion, willing to become sureties for the due fulfilment of the contract, must be attached to each tender.

This department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order.

F. BRAUN,  
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }  
Ottawa, 5th Oct., 1870. }

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