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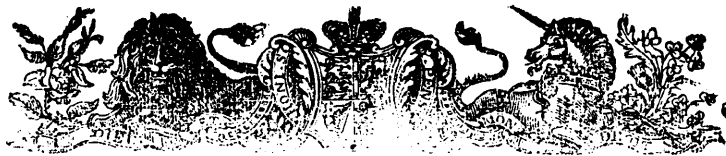
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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1875.

No. 13.

### The Volunteer Review

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

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1875.

No. 13.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Col. Fletcher, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General, accompanied by Lady Harriet Fletcher and family, left Ottawa on the 24th for Portland for passage to England in the *Polynesian*.

A special cable telegram to the *Toronto Globe* says—"It is stated that a Brigade of Artillery and one regiment of the line, and probably the 14th Hussars, will be sent to Canada to drill the volunteer militia."

A meeting of the Canada Central Railway Board of Directors was held in Ottawa on the 23rd inst., when the contract with the Government for the extension of that line from Douglass to the eastern end of Lake Nipissing was signed.

We regret to learn of the destruction, on the morning of the 24th, of the Kingston Court House. At about half-past 11 o'clock a fire was discovered in the west end of the Court House. The alarm was immediately sounded and the firemen were promptly on the spot, but the very high wind which prevailed all morning, frustrated all their exertions. The flames were rapidly carried the entire length of the building, and so rapidly did the destroying element do its work, that at noon there was nothing left of that once magnificent and costly structure, but the outside walls. The loss is computed at \$80,000, and the amount of insurance at \$15,000.

A Montreal telegram says: The papers say that navigation will not be open before the 10th of May. The canals are solid in many places, and the ice on the St. Lawrence is unusually thick and firm. A flood is considered almost a certainty. The Customs authorities are preparing for it, removing goods from the cellars.

A hog, weighing 900 lbs, and measuring 11 feet from his snout to his tail, was sold in Cobourg on the 24th inst.

*Herapath's Railway Journal* of the 6th inst., says: "We are glad to be enabled to announce that the war of rates between the Grand Trunk and Great Western of Canada Companies is at an end, and virtually an arrangement has been concluded under which equal rates will be charged by both companies at the seven competing points. This sensible arrangement will of course be beneficial to both parties. It takes effect at once."

The Legislative assembly of Nova Scotia has passed a resolution in favour of the Eastern Railway extension without a division. The resolution allots 300,000 acres of Crown land in Cape Breton, and the minerals contained in half that land, and a subsidy of \$50,000 per mile.

The funeral of John Mitchell took place on the 23rd at Newry, Ireland. His remains were placed in the Church yard, notwithstanding that exciting placards had been distributed. Over 10,000 people attended the funeral.

Sir M. H. Beach introduced in the British House of Commons, on the 3rd inst., a bill continuing, with modifications, the provisions of the Peace Preservation and other repressive acts in Ireland, stating that the powers conferred by those acts would be, as they had hitherto been, exercised with the greatest moderation. Lord Hartington accepted the measure on the responsibility of the Government. - Mr. Shaw and other Irish members did not resist the introduction of the bill, but promised the strongest opposition in its future stages.

In a letter written to a correspondent in Dublin, Mr. Bright expresses his opinion that, Irish independence being impossible, the agitation in its favour is wicked and unwise, while the House Rule movement he regards as equally impracticable and still more absurd.

On the 3rd instant the British House of Commons rejected, by a vote of 194 to 151, the "Universities Degrees to Women" bill, the object of which was to give the Scotch universities power to admit female students to degrees, and to remove the stamp of illegality which the decisions of the law courts has cast upon the former proceedings of the University of Edinburgh in this respect.

Dean Stanley and sixty clergymen of the Church of England were on the platform at Messrs. Moody and Sankey's revival meeting in London on the evening of the 23rd.

Mr. J. P. Smyth has given notice in the British House of Commons that on an early day he will ask leave to introduce a bill to repeal the Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland.

The bill for the amendment of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act, passed its second reading on the 22nd inst., in the House of Commons, by a majority of five votes only.

News from China to the 17th Feb.: The Hong Kong and Shanghai bank is reported to have lost upwards of one million dollars during 1874.—The Chinese pirates are becoming very active off the coast of Shanghai.—An insurrection broke out in Tien Tar, Kiang Po, in which 10,000 farmers were engaged. The outbreak was in consequence of an increased tax on rice. A body of 5,000 troops failed to subdue, and the increased tax was removed.—On January 22nd a mob attacked the laborers on the telegraph line from Foo Choo to Amoy at the town of Kwang Fas, and destroyed the poles, interrupting the work.

The late Chief Justice Green, of Rhode Island, has bequeathed \$75,000 to the Methodist Episcopal Sunday schools in the State.

A cable telegram from Yokohama, Japan, of 26th ult., says: There was a great fire in Osaka on the 7th February. Twelve hundred buildings were destroyed, including temples and schools. Several lives were lost. There was an alarming fire in Yokohama on the 6th of February, and in Yeddo they are of nightly occurrence.

The purpose of the Japanese Government to restore coast fortifications, communicated through the associated press in a despatch in November last, has just been officially announced. As usual remonstrances have been made by the foreigners, but without effect. All important points hereafter are to be made ready for defense. Houses were destroyed, and the foreign settlement was endangered, but escaped serious injury.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that Gen. Cabrera has organized a staff of twenty Spanish officers, for the purpose of communicating with the Carlists and obtaining adhesion to his programme. The members of the staff enter Spain every day. There is no doubt that the premature publication of Cabrera's first manifesto declaring for Alfonso has greatly marred the success of the movement. It is rumored that Mendini has deserted Don Carlos and arrived in Bayonne; also that Liznaga has been arrested on suspicion of treason.

A conspiracy, for the assassination of General Cabrera, who recently abandoned the Carlist cause, has been frustrated.

Don Carlos has issued a decree calling into military service all males in the Navarrese Provinces over 18 years of age.

Minister Buffet on the 24th in an address to the staff of officials of the Department of the Interior, dwelt with emphasis on the fact that the present ministry is essentially Conservative.

The *Pekin Gazette* states that the King of Barmah offers to send a tribute in acknowledgment of the Chinese supremacy. This ceremony was discontinued two centuries ago.

The Duchess de Medina-Celi is said to possess a pearl necklace which is a family heirloom. It is composed of twelve or fourteen strings of large and beautiful pearls, and is valued at \$400,000. When she wears it, the upper string fits around her throat, while the lower falls below her waist.

The movement for the higher education of women is making rapid progress in Italy. The Princess Margaret of Italy has placed herself at the head of it, and attends every week a reunion in Rome for its encouragement. Her example has been followed by many Italian ladies of rank.

## Annual Report on the State of the Militia for 1874.

HEAD QUARTERS, OTTAWA,  
January, 1875.

The Honorable  
The Minister of Militia and Defence, &c.

SIR.—The Militia Reports which have been presented to Parliament for several past years, have treated exhaustively the question of its organization and development.

It will therefore be my duty to confine myself to a few condensed remarks, as to the probable improvement of the Dominion Forces.

I approach the subject with hesitation, having so recently arrived for the first time in Canada. I would hardly do so at all, but from the experience gained in my late journey through the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

To Nova Scotia and New Brunswick I am still a stranger, as well as to Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia; but these I hope to visit in turn as soon as possible.

The very able and valuable professional opinions which have from time to time been published, viz:—that of the Defence Commissioners, of Colonel Sir William Jervis, by Major General MacDougall in various forms, as well as by others of experience and repute, and more recently by Colonel Fletcher, Scots Fusilier Guards, in a pamphlet distinguished by acute and practical examination of the conditions applicable to the Canadian Militia to day, leaving me no room for new matter, the whole question having been already so comprehensively discussed.

I commend this admirable review of the Militia to the consideration of the Government, and to the perusal of the Members of the Legislature—if this principle were adopted my work would be simple, details alone would require to be filled in.

I may therefore be pardoned if in the few following suggestions I am found occasionally reiterating what has been already forcibly dealt with.

The first question which presents itself to ask, is: how are the officers, the sergeants, and rank and file of the Militia instructed and grounded in every quality that creates a soldier?

It is replied, we have officers and sergeants who were educated at the Army Schools, who received certificates of classification, and many of whom are animated by military proclivities, and take every opportunity to improve themselves.

All very true, but what opportunity have they had to improve their information since the recall of the Royal Forces?—they cannot all go to Europe; they cannot improve themselves without practice here. I have met some very cultivated officers with many military attainments, and full of zeal; but in the condition of things their number must be limited, and Military Schools no longer exist.

Therefore, how is the supply to meet the demand for the time to come? What provision is there for a future flow of officers and sergeants qualified to instruct the remainder?

“Certainly there are camps of exercise, and very pleasant holiday gatherings no doubt they must have been; but, with some few exceptions, who among them can be qualified to give the necessary and desirable instruction?”

Now, it is evident that, since with the withdrawal of the Royal Troops, military example, emulation in discipline and instruc-

tion, with all that is inseparable from making men into soldiers, are no longer reality. The buccaneering raids of Fenians, which roused the anger and the military ardour of the people, have passed away into oblivion; peace, commercial prosperity and contentment prevail.

“In a ratio, therefore, with the annual diminution of the instructed element, the military spirit languishes in a measure throughout the country, and unless some means of attraction or incentive are produced may decline into a blank.

Notably a few who do not look beyond the present are content with the happy thought, that, should alarm arise, regiments of men could be at once clothed in military garb, and with rifles in their hands be sent forth to fight!

But soldiers cannot be extemporized in such fashion; neither the work of war, nor even the subduing of a street riot could be confided with any safety to the efforts of undisciplined bodies of men.

Wars and commotions in these days we live in, come in surprises, suddenly, and often destructively.

It must not be lost sight of, in the midst of increasing opulence and commercial prosperity, which so often tend to put out of sight the possibility of danger, that the Government of Canada has undertaken the control of a vast territorial Dominion, extending over half a mighty continent, and with an enormous frontier line from the Atlantic to the Pacific, embracing within its western confines wild races of Indians to the extent of at least 60,000, many of whom are of predatory habits, semi-warlike and barbarous in their nature.

Also, that this great Dominion cannot expect to be more exempt than other populous and rapidly expanding countries from the usual causes of internal dissension or commotion.

Progressing therefore in opulence and population, with every respect of growing into a great and influential nation, Canada must at no distant time have power to protect its industry, its commerce and its soil; it must, in the natural course, possess material force to make itself secure and respected among nations by resort to arms if necessary. Permanent military institutions must grow with the growth of the country, as all past history of nations teaches us.

Meantime, the sum voted annually for the Militia must be applied to the best advantage and full value obtained for the money expended,—that is by devoting a portion to bestowing a sound practical military education upon officers and non-commissioned officers, who are the very essence and foundation of all armies, and without whom masses of untaught men, be they ever so well equipped or handsomely clothed, are only a helpless mob.

To this end, therefore, it behoves us to lose no time in creating a substitute for the military schools of the past.

The successful experiment of enrolling two batteries of artillery as training schools for that arm, under two very capable officers of the Royal Artillery, invite us at once to convert these into Brigade Schools for the three arms.

The expense of purchasing cavalry horses might, perhaps, impede the adoption of this plan. I therefore reluctantly omit the cavalry branch for the present; but, as a temporary substitute, it would answer a good purpose to obtain the services of a paid drill instructor for each regiment from the regular cavalry, who should be rated as Sergeant Major.

I therefore submit that a company of En-

gineers and three companies, of Infantry be forthwith embodied, the former in half companies, attached to the Artillery at Quebec and Kingston. The Infantry, one company at Toronto in the New Fort, one at Ottawa as the seat of Government, and one either in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, each to have a highly proficient instructor from the Royal Army, but otherwise officered from the militia.

The effect of these Infantry Schools would be to infuse a rapid supply of trained officers and sergeants throughout the Militia of the Dominion, qualified to give instruction and provide against a want already seriously felt and annually increasing.

Its immediate important effect would be to supply the most serious defect in the Militia organization:—officers and sergeants qualified to form a permanent regimental staff, without which battalions are as machinery without propellers.

In the British Militia this staff, in ten company battalions, consists of two officers and thirty six sergeants and buglers, but even one officer as Adjutant and Quartermaster with a sergeant major and a bugler, would be of the very first importance to the Canadian forces; it would, doubtless, be better still that, in the outset, the Adjutant should be taken from the regular army.

By these means proper instruction would be certainly afforded; arms and clothing would be carefully preserved where, at present, loss and waste occur; the pay of caretakers would be saved; a responsible officer would be permanently at headquarters of the battalion; a nucleus for elementary training always on the spot; a military system, cohesion, order and regularity, as well as new life and animation, would be infused into the whole organization.

As I had the honor to report to you, on my return to Ottawa, not only on the various duties which would devolve on such a regimental staff, but also on the moral obligation which officers of every degree would feel to become masters of their professional duties at these training schools, I need not enter into detail here.

The staff would, apart from drill, have varied and important duties in the several districts; their execution ensured by monthly reports to headquarters, and, together with the schools, would remove the apparent blank to which, without these means, we may be imperceptibly drifting.

Camps of exercise with this all important element would then become of real and substantial value, as they are admittedly better for teaching troops the varied duties of a soldier's life, and of inspiring a wholesome rivalry and military emulation between regiments, than mere mechanical barrack drill, but only as a consequent upon it.

The formation of an Engineer Company I look upon as no less a necessity than the infantry already treated of. Their duties are peculiar, and require scientific study; an organized force of skilled artisans is indispensable to keep in repair and preserve from decay the valuable forts, batteries, magazines and other costly military works and buildings which embrace some of the most modern improvements. I only mention these among the many duties which fall into the wide sphere of an Engineer's attainments.

I have proposed a half a company for Kingston; owing to its central position from whence working parties could be detached east or west when required; and a half company at Quebec, owing to the extent of its fortifications and works.

I therefore venture to urge the formation of Brigade Schools on your serious consideration.

The intention of the Government to create a Military College at Kingston must be productive of future advantage. The course of study proposed for cadets at that college will, however, be of a higher and more scientific order, and their attainments will qualify them for a wider sphere than the more mechanical instruction of cavalry and infantry in the minutiae of discipline, drill and interior economy, which is immediately wanted. No doubt the future staff of the Dominion will find room for many talented and intelligent young men, who will commence their career at this College.

ARMS.

The information acquired in my late journey, as well as from experienced officers convinces me that in many instances the rifles are badly cared for. In my casual inspections, I invariably found the arms in good order and well looked after at the headquarters of battalions of infantry; in all cases so with cavalry; but in some country companies of infantry and one small battery of artillery, the reverse—for instance, arms badly oiled or greased, placed in stands for the winter at full cock, with open breech blocks, or leaning against walls, injuriously to the adjustment of the foresight.

As there are about 370 detached companies, besides 39 independent companies of infantry—and in my rapid journey I saw but few—I can hardly think those I did find irregular can be the only exceptions.

Moreover, there is little doubt that men are not prevented from using their arms for sporting purposes, and, therefore, possibly, in other ways. I am even informed that the foresight is sometimes removed from the rifle.

Discipline, good order and efficiency, can be little observed when such gross irregularities are even possible.

The cause arises from arms of country companies being retained at company headquarters, nominally in charge of the captain who receives a contingent of \$40 a year.

The captain, being usually a gentleman with private or professional occupations, deputes a caretaker, in some cases conspicuous for neglect or ignorance.

In one place I went all over a company's store house, containing several hundred pounds worth of Government property, with out the caretaker being aware I was in the town till afterwards.

All this is subversive of efficiency and requires remedy.

The remedy possibly, touches delicate ground. I am told—you remove the company arms and stores and you dissolve the company; their pride is, to be seen and to use their arms and military clothing among their friends and associates; also, it is presumed advantageous to have arms available for the practice of the men when so disposed. Granted; but better remove the arms and stores to battalion headquarters than countenance known irregular practices, attended with injury and loss of public property.

I submit, therefore, that as some commanding officers coincide in the opinion, each officer commanding a battalion should be directed to use his discretion in removing as soon as may be convenient, to battalion headquarters, the arms, clothing and stores of rural companies. The several caretakers annual allowance of \$40 each would be saved, as the duty would fall upon the permanent staff, and the saving could be applied on improving regimental armouries, drill sheds and store rooms, with lockers for the men's uniforms, in which the clothing of each man could be kept separately, and marked.

MILITARY STORES.

I have inspected the military store depots at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal and Quebec; I found them in thoroughly good order.

A searching inspection will in future, be made in each January, of all works, forts, magazines, arms, powder, ammunition and Government stores of every description, throughout the Dominion, by boards of officers of which the Inspectors of Warlike Stores will be members.

These boards will, among other duties, report the number of obsolete guns, carriages, mortars and other sort of ordnance, mounted and dismounted, with a view to their being sold and replaced by modern rifled cannon.

RESERVE OF RIFLES.

In addition to several other descriptions of arms, there are about 60,000 Snider Enfield rifles in the country. I recommend that the War Department be requested to retain for the Dominion at least 60,000 more, to be bought year after year as funds may be provided. The price of these rifles is £2 10s. each, while the Martini Henry costs about £4. The former excellent weapon may be considered well adapted for this service.

It is necessary that one skilled armourer, at least, should be attached to each military store depot, not only to keep in order the spare arms, but also to repair the regimental arms, many of which are, and some have been a long time, unserviceable in every infantry battalion and company in the Dominion; there should be not less than four additional armourers provided as soon as possible, and the arms put in thorough repair.

AMMUNITION.

There is at present in Canada, an insufficient number of rounds of Snider ball cartridge per rifle for the establishment of active militia; this will be augmented shortly, but there should not be less than 400 rounds per rifle, and, when possible, a reserve of double that quantity. The amount of powder in store is 200,000 pounds, besides the service ammunition in charge of "A. and B." batteries.

CLOTHING.

The care of clothing calls for immediate attention, as well as the care of arms.

I find it not infrequently occurs, that men are permitted to take their clothing to their abodes, and the result is, that clothing is often abused or lost, and the great coat frequently used for common wear. The captain is nominally, and by law actually responsible; but the law is not enforced, and public property is often wasted.

Therefore, all stores should, I consider, be concentrated at battalion headquarters under the responsible permanent Adjutants.

The heavy cloth tunic has been found too hot for summer drills; a serge frock, to last for three years, made of excellent material manufactured in Canada, will be substituted; a saving will thus be effected.

TRAINING.

The annexed reports from the Deputy Adjutants General of the Military Districts give full details of the training of the past season.

In consequence of the sum appropriated for training the Militia being only sufficient for 30,000 officers and men this year, a very simple method was adopted: to apply the amount in equitable proportion to the population of the Military Districts.

The population of the whole Dominion by last census was 3,609,782 souls; it is now approximately 4,000,000

The following table will show the numbers trained this year in each Province, corresponding with the population, viz:—

	Population.	Quota trained.
Ontario.....	1,620,851	12,457
Quebec.....	1,191,516	9,992
New Brunswick...	285,594	2,376
Nova Scotia.....	387,800	3,225
Manitoba.....	15,000	126
British Columbia.	15,000	126
Prince E. Island..	94,021	788

(provisionally) quota trained amounting to about 1 per cent.

The Active Militia enrolled, (including this year, Prince Edward Island,) is 43,000, being 1.1-5 per cent, of the population, to which must be added the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade of 2,128, very efficient men.

The Reserve Militia, divided into three classes, amounts to 655,000, making a total of 700,000 men between the ages of 18 and 60, liable by law to be called out in defence of their country.

It is a matter of vast importance that the rolls of the Active Militia should be kept complete to the full number provided by the Statutes, even if the sum voted only admits of a portion being annually called out for training; the remainder being available for muster, if only for one day in each year at battalion headquarters, taking by turn to come out for training consecutively.

By these means combined, the advanced guard of the main Canadian Army, or regular Militia, would be kept complete, and capable of being rapidly made effective for the field.

RECRUITING.

The Reserve Militia is enrolled by officers duly appointed, only once in four years; but it would be desirable that the officers and sergeants should be annually trained, either by attaching them to regiments of the Active Militia, temporarily for that purpose or preferably, at convenient times, by the permanent staff of these regiments when appointed.

The Active Militia is raised by voluntary enlistment for three years, and in the country generally there appears no want of men to volunteer for its ranks, so much so that this year, in some districts, disappointment was expressed when the strength of the companies was reduced from 55 to 42, in order to fit the number into the amount of money disposable.

Of course in Canada generally, comprising, in some parts, a floating population, conditions as to voluntary service vary according to circumstances in different provinces, districts and cities.

I am not sufficiently experienced in the country to express any strong opinion upon the most effective mode of recruiting, but it is apparent that it admits of improvement in times of peace.

In the event of alarm or danger affecting the Dominion, few who could carry arms would be found absent from their post, and the hardy, manly life to which the bold emigrant during people of Canada are accustomed from boyhood; would render them a very formidable army when properly disciplined.

It appears that under the present system, in rural districts recruiting depends much on the popularity of the captains, by whose exertion and influence the company is formed and kept together.

Manifestly this is wrong in principle, because a popular gentleman may be an incompetent officer; but notwithstanding incompetency he is retained, being popular with the company, which it is assumed would disperse were he removed.

I conclude this applies only to rural, and



chiefly to what are termed independent companies.

A means might be substituted to raise and maintain the desired numbers on another principle, when permanent Adjutants are appointed, viz:—through the County Wardens and their Reeves at their usual monthly meetings; the quota or proportion to population being observed as now. The Reeves have rolls of townships, and the able bodied men could be noticed on the Adjutant's application to the warden for the number required to replace casualties, or they could have the option of paying a small annual sum for three years in lieu of attendance. This applies to the Province of Ontario, but could of course be carried out in other provinces under their local systems.

In the United Kingdom all militia enrolments are made by Adjutants, and why not so by this means in Canada, the system being, as at present, voluntary service in the militia of the Dominion?

This plan, under regimental staffs, would give the whole force a tone of consistency, and of reliable organization which it hardly presents now; and the country would receive a certain equivalent in trained men for its annual expenditure.

Furthermore, it might be considered desirable to abolish the rule of permitting men to become entitled to discharge upon giving six months' notice, which is said to be abused; and discretionary power might be given to commanding officers to grant discharges to men quitting the district for a change of residence or occupation.

There are 662 companies of Infantry, comprised in ninety three battalions, twelve of which are however provisional, and there are thirty nine independent companies.

Of the latter, three are in Manitoba, and four in British Columbia, as well as eight in New Brunswick; the majority of the remainder, about fifteen in number, might be broken up with advantage.

#### ARTILLERY AND CAVALRY.

There are seven brigades of Garrison Artillery composed of forty five batteries, and there are sixteen independent batteries; altogether sixty one garrison batteries. I have not yet been able to see but few; but those were good, with one exception.

There are also sixteen field batteries, six of which are already armed with the most approved new rifled field gun. Those I have had the advantage of inspecting were fully equipped with harness, and all in excellent order.

The artillery derive manifest benefit from the admirably conducted Gunnery Schools at Quebec and Kingston, whose commandants, lent from the Royal Artillery, take praiseworthy pains to instruct officers and men. The good result throughout that branch is as apparent, as would be that of the schools of the other arms if similarly organized.

There are three regiments of Cavalry, comprising eighteen troops, and there are three squadrons, viz: at Quebec, Port Hope and Kingston, as well as sixteen independent troops; in all, forty troops of Cavalry.

The arms, clothing and saddlery of those I have seen are excellent, and very carefully preserved. They have the advantage of some very accomplished cavalry officers in their ranks.

The mode of horsing both artillery and cavalry is defective, and a question somewhat difficult of solution; but I hope to have the opportunity of consulting officers of experience in those arms, with a view to its improvement.

As far as I can at present learn, a bonus of ten dollars a year for each horse enrolled and registered for three years, for field batteries, would in some degree lead to satisfactory results.

Cavalry being a very favorite service, I understand there is less difficulty in procuring horses—the property, generally, of the troopers themselves.

I invite your attention to the reports of the Commandants of the Schools of Gunnery; the benefits arising from these institutions, as I have already said, cannot be too highly prized. If it were possible, these batteries should be even upon a larger basis, uniting instruction in both Garrison and Field Artillery, the duties of which are widely different.

Branch Gunnery Schools at Montreal and Toronto, where detachments of these batteries are respectively stationed, would greatly extend their utility by enabling officers and volunteer gunners in those populous cities and rural districts adjoining, to attend for short course studies, which the great distance from Quebec or Kingston frequently prevents.

If the pay of officers attending for short or long course studies was increased from \$1 \$1½ per diem, many more would be induced to take advantage of these schools, who now hesitate to do so, finding the allowance does not meet the obligatory expenses of living.

Moreover, it would be signally advantageous to these schools if each Field battery consisted of four guns, completely horsed, instead of the present insufficient number.

The term Artillery Schools would, I think, be more appropriate than that of "Gunnery" as at present, and more expressive of the instruction derived there.

#### STAFF.

The country is very judiciously divided into Military Districts, of which there are twelve, viz: four in Ontario, three in Quebec, one each in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, one in Prince Edward Island, and one each in Manitoba and British Columbia; for each of these there is a Deputy Adjutant General, with a Brigade Staff. The whole under a General officer of the Royal Army, with a Deputy Adjutant General at Headquarters. The voluminous correspondence and increased work of the Department has thrown a very undue amount of labor on this Staff Officer, and therefore there should be added as Deputy or Assistant Quarter Master General, a thoroughly trained officer, to whom should be entrusted the increased superintendence of the supply of clothing, as well as the various important other duties which apply to that Department, including a general knowledge of the local resources of the country, with its various lines and modes of communication which in case of active operations could not be dispensed with.

At such times confusion and fatal mistakes would inevitably occur, were an inexperienced officer hastily placed in a position of great responsibility, and in such a comprehensive sphere.

I submit that appointments to the District Staff should be based upon the rule long prevailing in the army: to last for five years but eligible for renewal for competency.

Regimental uniforms have in some instances been permitted to imitate minutely those of the Royal Army in ornaments and face. In the British Militia this is carefully avoided and so the propriety and taste of deviating from that system is open to question.

With regard to military titles, it strikes a stranger on arrival in Canada what a super-

abundance of field officers exist throughout the Dominion.

The rank of Lieutenant Colonel, which in the Royal Army is only reached after twenty years, and often more—passed probably in remote countries and unhealthy climates, with every species of military experience, is in Canada obtained in half that time; the possessor probably having seldom or never held proportionate commands—possibly with little amount of military experience—and having spent the whole, or as much as he chose, of his life comfortably at home.

Consequently, military titles are so common as to be held in light esteem; they lose the weight and distinction accorded to them in Europe, and having been acquired so easily and so early in life, no higher distinction of rank remains to be obtained in reward for good, gallant and faithful services to the state.

This has been caused by a rule bestowing brevet rank, after each period of five years' service, which service probably amount in the aggregate to some ten weeks training, according to its duration, during the five years; a very undue proportion of promotion to superior grades has therefore resulted, and in case of the Canadian Militia acting with the Queen's troops the result would be very inconvenient.

A modification of this rule in the future is desirable. The period of five years carrying as a matter of course, brevet rank under paragraph 56 of the Regulations and Orders for the Militia might be made seven.

No brevet rank to be given to subalterns, in accordance with the rules of the army.

Every officer seeking promotion to have a certificate of professional competency for the superior grade.

Captains and Majors to be eligible at all times for brevet promotion for conspicuous, good or gallant service or other special meritorious conduct.

Regimental promotion to continue as heretofore, the proposed alterations not to be retrospective.

I am afraid this report has assumed larger proportions than I anticipated.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

E. SELBY SMYTH,

Major-General.

P.S.—In the foregoing report allusion is made to the staff of the militia in the Military Districts of the Dominion, to the effect that it would prove beneficial in practice if the system were adopted here, similar to that which it was found necessary to introduce into Her Majesty's service several years ago, restricting the duration of staff appointments to five years, but allowing re-appointments for special fitness.

It is only by zealous exertions and constant superintendence that the system of discipline and the reputation and success of any military organization can be maintained, and this specially falls to the duty of Executive staff officers.

Officers selected for employment in such positions should by their previous service as well as by their acquirements and character be considered fully qualified to discharge with advantage the duties of a staff officer.

It is, however, necessary in the interests of the service, that qualifications and competency should not be kept out of view by suffering officers to be placed in such responsible positions through any local or other influence. In such an event, the officer may or may not be professionally qualified, possibly sometimes the latter, and so his duties may be slurred over.

It is especially necessary that staff officers should be independent of local influence, that their energies should be devoted to the interest of the service under the Regulations by which they are bound to abide, and responsible to execute.

Particularly in Canada this is necessary. The vast region of its territory renders it barely possible to administer effectually militia affairs by an exclusively centralized system at headquarters. Much must, therefore, be entrusted to the exertions of local Executive staff officers.

The effect of limiting such appointments in the Army to five years, is:—

1. To ensure a feeling that by energy, and proved competency the officer continues deserving of reappointment in the same, or some other post.

2. To prevent his growing indolent, careless, or falling under local influence, subversive of independent action.

3. To ensure a healthy flow of succession with new thought, and enlarged ideas in modern professional acquirements.

A permanent localized staff must in the nature of things in a great measure fall short in these points; they feel themselves fixtures, enter into local occupations, to which Military duties become secondary, and hence neglected.

Following upon this state of affairs, the public remark that duties are negligently performed—their observation is probably attracted by the small amount of professional, compared with private occupation, and thus, conclusions injurious to the character and maintenance of the Militia engage their attention and give rise to unfavorable discussions, by which the force suffers.

The duties of the Brigade staff in Canada, so far as has yet come under my notice, are small for three fourths of the year. During the training time they have occupation and before and after, but from what I can gather a good deal is incompletely performed. Hence occurs waste, loss of Camp and other stores, and sometimes even money.

Cases of this nature have already come under my notice, which possibly might have been prevented by more activity.

Arriving unexpected in a certain town, one night in January, I found the Militia stores in a disgraceful state. The Brigade Major resides in the town, and on being called to account he simply enough admitted, other armories in his brigade might be in the same condition!

Such a staff officer is worse than useless. I have met several who are active and intelligent, but as I have not seen all, I cannot speak for all.

This I think undoubted, that too local tenure of office, with but little to do for several months of the year, has a tendency to render most men in such positions, less careful, zealous and active minded, if not actually neglectful, than is consistent with the public service, and therefore I consider the system admits of reform.

I am aware this requires careful handling, too long an undisturbed residence has allied some of those gentlemen, either by family ties or otherwise, with persons of local influence, and a change infringing on their comfortable tenure may cause remonstrance.

But such a position is not consistent with discipline or efficiency, and I am willing to bear the onus of responsibility, in carrying such reform as may be approved, into effect.

It is my duty to the Government and people, to represent what a life long experience assures me are defects, without regard to the interests of individuals.

I recommend that all district and brigade

appointments be limited to five years, and that the officers be eligible to re-appointment for competency and zeal in the interests of the service.

That they be liable to removal from one district to another, if thought desirable.

That such reduction as may be approved shall take place.

And that these rules may take effect from the first of April next.

I believe the majority of the present staff are qualified for re-appointment, but the knowledge of their tenure not being indefinite, and being liable to removal, will be a beneficial incentive.

I suggest the Deputy Adjutant Generals of Districts should, instead, be termed "Inspecting Field Officers." The former term being a misnomer inapplicable to positions of command.

The Inspecting Field Officer to be held responsible for the entire duties of executive command; as I was myself, for six years with 43 regiments of various arms, without any Staff assistance, outailing annual journeys from 5 to 6 000 miles into every county in Ireland. I merely instance this to show how much can be done when made a point of duty, and more thoroughly by one than by several with divided responsibility.

To complete the reform, in this direction, permanent Adjutants and Sergeant Majors should be appointed to each battalion of Infantry, and a Cavalry Inspector to each Province. The Artillery are already provided for.

Then old Brigade Majors might gradually be absorbed, reserving a District Adjutant only to assist the Inspecting Field Officer of each District.

To follow out this idea, the system would give opportunities to intelligent officers in which the Militia absorbs, to perform the duties of Brigade Majors in Camps of instruction, receiving, perhaps, forage for a horse.

The knowledge thus acquired and the incentive to become proficient would tend to create an emulation productive of good amongst active young fellows who are soldiers at heart, and they would become practically qualified for those positions in war, after a course of instruction in an Infantry School.

The Military College will, in the future, also produce a scientific class of officers for such situations.

The Inspecting Field Officers would command, as now, the Districts and Camps at training.

The Infantry Schools would supply the Adjutants and Sergeant Majors as well as drilled instructors in abundance.

The Adjutants would pull together the whole regimental machine—recruit—impart drill, keep accurate rolls, accounts and registers, and preserve the costly Government property.

Considerable travelling expenses, inaccurate musters, "tramps" enrolled merely to make up numbers for training, waste and destruction of clothing, arms and equipment, claims to compensation from sickly men who should not have been taken on, and other improprieties would be abolished or reduced to a minimum. Thus solidity and a reality would replace what has tended to become a superficial and somewhat loose condition; a better value returned for the sums spent, and, I think, a general feeling of satisfaction would be stimulated by visible effects.

Assuming these ideas should be approved and put in force, you will, in consequence, for some time to come, only be able to afford to assemble for training comparatively few

men each year; but those will be better recruited more compact and reliable, as well as better trained.

Withal, the quota should be kept complete in each province, and be trained in turn, the rural companies joining headquarters occasionally not only for drill's sake, but for the benefit to be derived from association and knowledge of each other.

Under the above system you would have a flow of fresh material among the staff, with watchfulness, activity, and an interest in suggesting and introducing improvements, instead of the *laissez aller* which prevails.

A large and useful body of well instructed commissioned and non commissioned officers by means of the school system.

A well compacted regimental system by means of the permanent staff.

A great saving in arms, stores and clothing.

In fact a substantial, instead of a somewhat shadowy condition of organization.

I see no other real or more substantial mode of reform under existing conditions, and I feel assured these means would eventually produce, to a certain extent, the sort of reliable nucleus which this country should possess, and beyond which it is not disposed at present to advance.

In the advocating permanent schools and regimental staff, without materially increasing the estimates I have also shown that, therefore, for some time to come, much fewer men can be annually assembled for drill than heretofore, but I believe the soldier like qualities of commanding officers and others will continue to inspire them with zeal to assist the Government in its reform, and that they will hereafter, as heretofore, make good use of leisure time by frequently imparting occasional hours of evening drill to their men in their drill sheds as the Volunteers do in England, in order that when called out they may be reasonably efficient for any service that may be required of them.

E. SELBY SMITH,  
Major-General.

HEAD QUARTERS,  
OTTAWA, January, 1875.

(To be Continued.)

The Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* sends the following story, which shows what rigid discipline is now perserved in the army, and how economical are the new military clubs. The military club at Limoges takes in papers of various shades of opinion, and the committee, to lighten the expense, thought it would be as well to sell them after they had been read by the members. Most of the papers put up to auction were knocked down at 5f. a quarter, but the *Pays* was disposed of for 20f., though the paper might have been obtained first hand from Paris for 16f. The cause of this price being offered was because two officers bid against each other. The *Pays* being an enthusiastically Bonapartist paper, the general in command of the 12th Army Corps reported the matter to the War Minister, who, considering that it is forbidden to officers to occupy themselves with political questions severely reprimanded one officer and ordered the other under arrest for sixty days. It is probably that the latter officer was the one who obtained the *Pays*.

In the British House of Commons Mr. Walpole has given notice of a motion to provide, in the Judicature Amendment Bill, for the retention of the House of Lords as the ultimate Court of Appeal for the United Kingdom.



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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1875.

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

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

The Report on "the State of the Militia" for the year 1874, will possess considerable interest from the fact that it, to a certain extent, foreshadows the future development of the force and the views of its new Commander in Chief. From the very recent arrival of the Major General it is not to be expected that he could become thoroughly acquainted with the organization of the force, which under his fostering care, will, it is to be hoped, in a few years be far advanced on that road of development which must render it superior for all the purposes for which it was intended to any mere standing army—and that the General Commanding will have the satisfaction of announcing that he has completed the solution of the problem of an armed Nationality without disturbing the social relations of the people, or without in any way interfering with their industrial pursuits.

Experience has proved that the Militia law needs only the full development which

its authors intended, and its provision demands, to give this country a most effective army; and as it is a force that cannot have, nor indeed has had hitherto, the incentive to emulation which the presence of a highly trained Regular force would provide, it is evident its future improvement must not be based on any exceptional example, but adapted to suit the needs of the country. In this respect it is totally unlike any military organization in the British Isles, and must be treated in a totally different manner. As at present constituted the company is the unit of military organization—both in the Reserve and Active Militia—every Officer before he is commissioned is compelled by Law to pass an examination, by which he must be qualified to drill and command a company at company drill, and in battalion drill—every Officer attaining by brevet or otherwise the rank of field Officer must know in addition how to handle and command a battalion in battalion and brigade movements—a few Officers, very few indeed, have been specially appointed to the higher ranks, generally retired Officers from the regular service, without the certificates of such examination; but in any case they are too few to be of any account or do more than illustrate the general rule; so that as a whole every Officer in the Service is capable of imparting a knowledge of minor tactics to the men under his command, and that is proved by the Reports in the appendix of the District Staff.

The system by which the Reserve is officered has been devised to regulate the Recruiting of the force in case of need. It does not require non-Commissioned Officers, and from the fact that the Regimental divisions comprise a County in each case, no other machinery would work well. The Regimental Officers of the Reserve are all located in their own divisions—each of which is subdivided into a company-division with its Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign; all local men whose sole duty is to keep the enrollment up and to forward such contingents as may be demanded in case of necessity; knowing every man in their commands personally it is to be presumed that they would be better qualified to discharge a duty prescribed by law and which requires no particular military knowledge than a thoroughly trained stranger. As compulsory service in peace times was not contemplated by the Militia Law, and as the service is voluntary, it is hard to conceive how any remedy can be applied to the case pointed out. The law provides that all officers must be capable, and the presumption is that it has been complied with. In all cases the force must be raised by the popularity of the commanding officers of companies, except the country is prepared to go into the labor market and bid a higher price for the services of the men than what rules there; and any falling off in this matter of recruiting is due to the fact that the pay of the volunteer is consid-

erably below what he could earn, a proof that our people are at heart patriotic; indeed the Report furnishes the best comment on this by the following paragraph, which shows that whatever exceptional circumstances may prove the principle on which the force is organized is sound:—

"The Active Militia is raised by voluntary enlistment for three years, and in the country generally there appears no want of men to volunteer for its ranks, so much so that this year, in some districts, disappointment was expressed when the strength of the companies was reduced from 55 to 42, in order to fit the number into the amount of money disposable." And that is the key of the whole of the short comings of the force, want of money for its development!

There has been 30,000 men drilled during the past year out of a total force enrolled of 43,000, what we should call a very large proportion indeed; and as the intention of the organization was to filter through its ranks the whole able bodied population, it is evident that so far it has fulfilled the expectations of its authors. Its great want is not that of commissioned officers—of higher or lower grade—but good non-commissioned officers; and the real problem is to find out how that want may be supplied. As enlistment is only for three years, and as a constant change is going on, it follows that at the time a trained non-commissioned officer has acquired a thorough knowledge of his duty he generally finds his business calls him to the discharge of other duties incompatible with military service, and his successor requires time, so that the force is really deficient in trained non-commissioned officers. As the commissioned officer is obliged to qualify before appointment, the whole of the duty that is discharged in the Regular army by the intelligent non-com. is discharged in the Canadian army by the subaltern. This view of the case is further confirmed by the Report of the District Staff Officers, as in almost every case the company officers are declared "competent to instruct their men," and it applies equally to all arms of the service. It follows that it will be hardly possible to get a highly trained non-commissioned class in our service, but it is evident that our remedy will be in training a large body of commissioned officers who will be capable of supplying this want to a great extent, and that has been done hitherto by the Military Schools, the reopening of which is advised in the Report. In the event of possible hostilities, we should have an active force of at least one hundred thousand men, and a reserve under arms of twice that amount. Our supply of officers for such a force would be very small although the force shows such a large proportion of field officers, and we are afraid we should be obliged to entrust battalions to the command of officers who had only military aptitude and instincts to recommend them. The decentralization of our military organization is its principal feature,

each Military District was intended to be the nucleus of a *corps de armée*, complete in all its details, any measure tending to disturb that intention and design would seem to us a matter open to serious consideration.

This country has had painful experience of the want of a similar system during the Fenian raid of 1866, and we know that in 1870 it was enabled to place 13,000 men fully equipped on the frontier at twenty-four hours notice in consequence of the Military District organizations.

For the same reason any change in the staff service should be carefully considered. Trained Officers to fill those positions for only five years cannot be had, because it unfits the individual for civil life, and he has no refuge in remunerative military service, foreign or home, to fall back upon, and, as a consequence, the sacrifice would be too much to ask any body of men to make.

A previous Report had recommended that the Deputy Adjutant Generals "should be styled Colonels commanding Military Districts," and a consideration of the extent of Territory as well as the consequent duties would make the titles appropriate.

The Report has taken a step in the direction of development by recommending the organization of a Quarter Master General's Department—including of course what is as necessary to an army as its Artillery, an Engineer Corps—and as there is plenty of material in the country for improvising such a corps, leaving to the Staff College to supply technically trained Officers, we hope to see this want supplied.

It must be very gratifying to the country to find it has such a promising organization, and that its future development is in such able hands.

We publish in another page, the address of EDWARD JENKINS, Esq., M. P., Agent General of the Dominion of Canada, to the Manchester Reform Club, and to commend it to the perusal of our readers as an eloquent essay on the resources of the country, and a brilliant effort of oratory on the part of the speaker, who has done good service to the Dominion. The speech is taken from *The Canadian News* of 28th January.

The peculiar diplomatic measures of Mr. Gladstone's administration are daily manifesting the complications in which they are sure to involve Great Britain. The following is one of the earliest developments, and likely enough to precipitate a contest, the results of which cannot be measured:

"The proposal to establish a Russian fort on the Attrek, with defences 'unusually extensive,' was recently noticed by the *Times* correspondent at Berlin. The *Pall Mall Gazette* observes:—"A glance at the map will show that the point in question, situated as it is near the south-east corner of the Caspian and immediately on the frontier of Persia, is one of great strategical importance to a Power which may at some future date find it convenient to threaten

India. Of the two routes which could be used by Russia one presents many difficulties, the other scarcely one. The former is by the Oxus. Along this route a river, navigable for only a comparatively short distance, arid, sandy wastes, and, finally, a mountain barrier, are formidable difficulties in the path of an invading army, however well organized. The latter is by the valley of the Attrek, and thence through a level and perfectly practicable country to Herat, the garden of Central Asia. Two years ago, in the published correspondence with Russia respecting Central Asia, Lord Granville discussed with Prince Gortschakoff nice questions of the geography of Vakhin and Bukdshan, countries which lie contiguous to the Oxus, or Russia's eastern possible line of advance. Wherever England chose to fix the frontier line of those unknown countries mattered not, for obvious reasons to Russia. She conceded her views to our wishes, and the Foreign Office had the satisfaction of defining the so-called "intermediary zone." So deeply interested were Lord Granville and his advisers in Vakhin and Bukdshan that, of course, it was not to be expected that they could allow themselves to be disturbed about the valley of the Attrek, which rumour said had then just been ceded by Persia to Russia. And as no understanding was come to on this point, Russia can now do as she likes along the only line, the western, that will be of service to her should she ever hereafter harbour designs on India. The site of the proposed fort is about twenty-five miles from the mouth of the Attrek, to which the Caspian offers an easy water-way of some 600 miles."

Russia is not insensible to the value of public opinion, and has largely subsidized the press in foreign countries and in Great Britain. The refusal of Lord Derby to be hood-winked as to the intentions of the Brussels conference has checkmated a little confidence game of the Czars and Kaiser's, and as a consequence we have a burst of that hostility which wisdom would deprecate. *The Saturday Review* says:

"The insolent attack on the English nation and Government, published by the Russian organs at Brussels, affords the most recent instance of the inconvenience of the official journalism of absolute Governments. If there are any alarmists who regret that Lord Derby's judicious and manly answer should have given offence to the Russian Government, they may console themselves with the knowledge that the difference between the Governments, and the consequent outbreak of Russian insolence, could only have been postponed. The course which has been adopted is more courteous, as well as more straightforward, than preliminary compliance with the form of a demand which was not to be granted in substance. Since the days of Napoleon it may be doubted whether any Sovereign has until now advanced the pretension of insisting as of right that an independent State shall accept against its wish the proposal of a conference or congress. Not many years have passed since the English Government declined the invitation of Napoleon III. to a congress; and its example was immediately followed by nearly every Power in Europe. The Emperor was on that occasion seriously disappointed; but the journalists of the French Empire were not instructed to accuse England of wickedness in exercising an independent judgment; and pursuing her own course."

There is little doubt that the Eastern question will be again opened whenever a favourable opportunity occurs. A letter from St. Petersburg in the *Hamburg Correspondent* says:—

"That the endeavours of the Government there to consolidate its friendly relations with Germany and Austria are accompanied by a bitter feeling of hostility towards England, which, though to a certain extent suppressed, is continually manifesting itself. Although every effort is being made to preserve the domestic relations entered into between the English and Russian Courts, the Russians cannot but see that the gulf which has been opened between the two nations by their rivalry for dominion in Asia is gradually widening. The conduct of England in the Pologritz affair has been unanimously condemned in the Russian press, and her refusal to attend the Conference on the usage of war has produced an even more unfavourable impression. "All the world knows," observes the correspondent, "that the plan of the conference arose from the personal initiative of the Emperor, and that he attaches the highest importance to it. The withdrawal of the British Cabinet is therefore regarded not only as showing a difference of opinion between the two Governments, but also as an act of unfriendliness towards the Emperor. The decision of the British Government excited the more astonishment here as the British plenipotentiary had ultimately been induced to sign the Brussels protocol, and as it was expected that the favour with which the new Russian Ambassador, Count Schouvaloff, is received by the royal family would exercise some influence on the decisions of Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby. It is probably not without reason that the Russian Foreign Office fears that the example of England may have some effect on the attitude of the second-class Powers, and deter them from taking part in the Conference, thus defeating the Emperor's favourite project just at the moment when it was about to be realised."

"The Russo-Prussian frontier is at present patrolled by Cossacks. The reason for this demonstration is that Russians liable to the conscription are suspected to have crossed the border shortly before conscription time in order to escape service, intending to return as soon as the business should be over. The Russian Government is particularly anxious to catch such deserters and bring them to rigorous justice as a means of deterring others."

And the Austrian correspondent of the *Times* writes to the following effect:—

"As it had been known here for some time that the British Government was likely to decline sending a plenipotentiary to the conference projected in St. Petersburg, which was to continue and finish the work begun at Brussels, of framing an International Code of War, the resolution taken in this respect was not unexpected; but the declaration in Lord Derby's despatch to Lord Augustus Loftus that England would keep aloof from any agreement which might facilitate aggressive wars and be an obstacle to the patriotic resistance of the attacked, implying, as it seems, an intention in this direction on the part of those who initiated and hoped to bring about the Conference, has caused some sensation. Not as if this could in the remotest way apply to this Government, which has followed rather than led in this affair, and which in the Brussels Conference had sided with those who defended the rights of the weaker; it is the

position which England thus takes up in face of Russia and especially of the Emperor Alexander, the real initiator and energetic promoter of the scheme, which has caused the sensation. From the beginning Russia has protested against this interpretation, as if her object was anything else but to further a work of humanity, while England now declares, in tolerably plain language, that the projected Code of War was likely to favour the strongest and to facilitate aggressive wars.

"After this enunciation on the part of England the impression here is that there is little chance of the Conference meeting at St. Petersburg or anywhere else, for no doubt is entertained that the greater part of the States represented at the Brussels Conference will follow the initiative taken by England and decline continuing the work of the Brussels Conference. In spite of the declarations of Russia that her sole object was to humanise war, and in spite of the agreeable surprise caused by the proposals coming from the Czar, the lord of a large armed host, from whom it might have been least expected, the proposal from the first excited considerable misgivings, above all among the smaller States. It was recollected that Russia, with her immense territory and her scanty population, was tolerably safe from invasion, and could therefore go very far in making concessions in the interest of humanity without in the least impairing her own powers of defence. It did not much contribute towards removing these misgivings when it was seen that it was Germany which espoused most warmly this idea of framing a Code of War, and when the project presented at Brussels was seen to contain little else but the codification of the practice followed by the Prussian and German Armies in 1866 and 1870, which left little indeed to be desired or, the score of humanity, but which was all in favour of the strong aggressor provided with a large regular army. The most objectionable of these provisions have, indeed, been softened, and in some cases conceded, by the Brussels Conference, but enough still remains to cause apprehensions, and it was scarcely calculated to allay these apprehensions when in the very next session after the Brussels Conference a project for organising the Landsturm, or *levée en masse*, was brought in by the German Government, by which this irregular levy is to be organised, and thereby to become entitled to all the rights of a regular armed force.

"But, however unwilling to go further in a work which was manifestly turning to their disadvantage, it may be doubted whether any of the smaller continental States would have had the resolution to decline any further co-operation, while the larger States, having less to fear from the consequences, hesitated to be the first in crossing a project which they knew the Emperor of Russia had set his heart upon. The initiative taken by England is likely to break through this spell, which has bound the European States to continue a work in which, with but few exceptions, no one believed or was sincere. If one after the other the States now fall away, an international Code of War loses more or less of its meaning. As regards this country, owing to the intimate relations which have of late grown up between it and Russia, it must not be expected to be among the first to follow the lead of England."

The following article from the *U. S. Army and Navy Journal* of 27th February, will be read with pleasure, by every soldier desir-

ous of learning, from the lips of one of the greatest of living Generals, details of the most extraordinary campaign with one exception within the limits of History:

"We are gratified to be able to announce that General Sherman has yielded to the solicitation of his friends, and instead of leaving as a legacy to his family the diary, the concluding chapter of which was published in the *Army and Navy Journal* of September 26th, 1874, has consented to its immediate publication. The manner in which that specimen chapter was received in this country and Europe, shows how eagerly the General's forthcoming volumes will be awaited. The manuscript is now in the hands of the Messrs. Appleton, who have arranged for its publication both here and in Europe, somewhere about the 1st of May. The work is in the form of an autobiography, beginning soon after Sherman's appointment as a Second Lieutenant of the Third Artillery, July 1st, 1840. About one fifth, or some 150 pages, is occupied with the period ending with the opening of the Rebellion, and covers the history of the General's experiences in Mexico and California. The remainder of the two volumes of 375 octavo pages each, is devoted to the War of the Rebellion, and to instructive comments on General Sherman's experiences during that brilliant period in his career. How valuable this portion of the work will be to all students of military history, the chapter we have published from it convincingly shows. It is not offered to the public as a complete history, but rather as an *aide memoir* to the future Napier of our Civil War, and the effort has been, to condense as much as possible, and leave abundant room for others to follow. From the tendency of General Sherman's mind to frankness and distinctness of statement we may expect his work will be one to provoke criticism, but this will increase rather than diminish its value, and it is well that it should see the light while so many of the prominent actors in the scenes it describes still continue among us. We shall have further occasion to refer to this most important contribution to military history as it advances toward publication."

Vice Admiral WHITE, of the British Navy, discusses the Naval Administration in a manner calculated to impress on us the idea that the "heroic dealings" of the late Administration, has left behind it a mass of error in administration and rubbish in construction only equalled by the famous "Seagon Island" collection of the United States.

Our readers have long known that our opinion as to the value of the Iron-clads, from the notorious "monster" to the latest "cheese box" type of Mr. Keen has been that they were utterly useless for any purpose of Naval warfare—carried on with the slightest idea of its natural requirements. In this respect the Vice-Admiral bears out all our views and gives the actual reasons a practical seaman would give for his conclusions.

In a letter addressed to the Editor of *Broad Arrow* of 13th February, the Vice Admiral says:

STR.—I will begin with our present much boasted ironclads—many of which, in my

opinion, are perfectly unfitted for the services they may be required to perform in all parts of the world; for, truly, they can scarcely steam from one port to another in our own waters without some accident happening, needing, at times, costly repairs. Now I ask, how would it be possible to carry on a war of any magnitude in our distant stations, particularly in those where we have no dockyards, in vessels of this description? In fact, it would be simply impossible.

Then, in time of war they could not blockade one of our enemies' ports, even for a fortnight. For no admiral, however clever he might be, could possibly keep a fleet of such various capacities and qualities sufficiently together to effect that object, for the enemy might run in and out with perfect impunity, there cannot be any doubt. This is surely a fearful defect, and has often been pointed out by practical sailors to the higher powers, but, as yet, without any effect.

Then should one of these monsters get on shore—not an unusual occurrence—how are their guns to be thrown overboard, or their iron masts cut away, if required, to try and effect their escape from perdition? which would certainly happen after knocking about, maybe for hours, on jagged rocks or hard sand, when a heavy gale or a moderate one, might be blowing.

Again, in heavy weather at sea they are certainly much more dangerous than the old wooden ships, for every part of their fabric is rigid and stiff, and their hulls, masts, and standing rigging being of iron, nothing gives, consequently a larger amount of resistance is exposed to the wind, every thing tending to depress them lower and lower into the sea when on a wind, and maybe capsize them, like the ill-fated *Captain*. Moreover, in boisterous weather, should any serious accident befall their machinery, they have not sufficient sail-power to lift them off the trough of the sea, consequently are easily pooped, and, perhaps, sent to the bottom with all on board. Then, again, merely for defensive purposes they are much too costly; for vessels built on the turret principle—merely floating gun carriages—might be substituted at a third of the expense.

To remedy all these fearful evils, I would propose for the future that all our ships of war intended for ocean service should be built of wood, with thick armour only to protect the more vital parts of the structure, with an auxiliary steam power, to be only used when absolutely necessary.

Now, as to the *personnel* of the navy. I must certainly say that the officers of the military branch of the Service have been very badly treated of late years. So much so that I am grieved to say that the old *esprit de corps*, zeal, and pride of profession is almost a tale of the past. That is to say, if we may believe the testimony of officers of all ranks, from the highest to the lowest; and all this caused by the injurious regulations made against this most important branch of the Service from time to time by successive Admiralties, so that officers do not know what to do or what to expect. Formerly, if an officer behaved himself well, and did his duty properly, he knew that he stood a fair chance some day of arriving at the highest grade of his profession. Not so now; for when an officer fancies he has got the object of his fondest aspirations almost within grasp, some new regulation dashes all his hopes to the ground, and he eventually finds himself retired in the prime of life—not for any fault of his own, but merely at the caprice of the Admiralty of the day.

I do not think, in times like these, when so much skill is required to place the navy in a really efficient state, as it was some

thirty or forty years ago, we assuredly ought to have an able naval man as First Lord of the Admiralty, instead of a civilian, who, perhaps, hardly knows one end of a ship from the other, however clever he may be in other respects, and useful to the Administration of the day.

There is yet one other subject to which I must allude. In former times officers received their ships, in nine cases out of ten, with clean swept holds. They saw them masted, rigged, and stemmed with their own eyes.

Now, on the contrary, this instructing work, particularly to the younger officers, is done by the dockyard men; when ready the officers are put on board, sent immediately, perhaps, to sea, where they are put to their wits' end to put things shipshape and Bristol fashion, as we say on board ship. I heard a rumour the other day that this foolish system has, or it is to be, done away. I trust that such is the case.

G. H. P. WHITE, Vice-Admiral.

REVIEWS.

"THE CHORISTER."—To all of our readers who are fond of good chorus music we would say,—subscribe for *The Chorister*. It is only 56c. a year and postage free. Number four is just out, containing the two fine choruses, "The Pic-Nic Chorus," and "Hail to the Queen of the Silent Night," also a splendid Quartette for male voices, "Oh, I am a Merry Sailor Lad." Send 20c. to C. H. Ashdown, Amherstburg, and by return mail you will receive the first four numbers.

THE Leonard Scott Publishing Co. (41 Barclay Street, N. Y.) have sent us their reprint of the March number of *Blackwood's Magazine*. The following are the contents:

1. "Lord Lytton's Speeches."
2. "Andromache.—The Daughters of Piram."
3. "A Dog without a Tail."
4. "The Abode of Snow.—Zanskar."
5. "Alice Lorraine," Part XII
6. "The Prospects of the Session."

We have received from the Publishers, a copy of the "*The Fishermen's Memorial and Record Book*," by GEORGE H. PROCTOR, containing a list of vessels and their crews, lost from the port of Gloucester, U.S., from the year 1830 to Oct. 1st, 1873, embracing a period of nearly half a century; comprising fourteen hundred and thirty-seven names, and two hundred and ninety-six vessels, including those lost in the gale of August 24, 1873. It also contains valuable statistics of the fishing business, off hand sketches, big tips, tales of narrow escapes, Maritime poetry, and other matters of interest to those toilers of the sea. Price of work bound in paper cover, \$1.00, in cloth \$1.50. Send orders to Proctor Brothers, publishers, Gloucester, Mass.

We have received the first ten numbers of "*Sutton's Leisure Hour Miscellany*"—complete in forty parts, at twenty-five cents each—issued fortnightly. Each part will contain an elegant design originally engraved on steel for the celebrated *Art Journal* of London. The design of the publishers is to produce an ornamental volume, replete with attractive illustrations, but, at the same time, furnishing a large amount of instructive and entertaining matter—to delight the eye and improve the mind. It is published by the *Aldine* Company, 58 Maiden Lane, New York, to whom all orders for the work must be sent.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 24th March, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS (3).

ACTIVE MILITIA.

No. 1.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

22nd "Oxford" Battalion of Rifles.

No. 3 Company, Princeton.

To be Captain :

Lieutenant George F. Williamson, M. S., vice Francis Baker Horner, who is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

BREVET.

To be Majors :

Captain James Thosom, G. S., Goderich Battery of Garrison Artillery, from 10th July, 1873.

Captain Richard William Barrow (formerly of Her Majesty's Army) 14th Battalion, from 10th December, 1874.

Captain and Adjutant John Matheson, V.B., 22nd Battalion, from 10th March, 1875.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

1st Lieutenant Wearman Gifford, G. S., Cobourg Battery of G. A., from 18th June, 1874.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

1st Montreal Company of Engineers.

To be Captain :

1st Lieutenant James Alfred Devine, G.S., vice Rutherford, retired.

To be Lieutenant :

2nd Lieutenant St. George J. Boswell, G.S., vice Devine promoted.

1st Battalion of Rifles, or "Prince of Wales' Regiment."

To be Lieutenants :

Ensigns Thomas Howard Wright, V. B., vice Harnett, resigned.

Ensign Frederic James Claxton, V. B., vice Shepherd, promoted.

Joliette Provisional Battalion of Infantry.

No. 3 Company, Ste. Melanie d' Aillebout. The resignation, to date from 9th May, 1870, of Captain Louis L. Dezuel, is hereby accepted.

No. 2.

CERTIFICATES GRANTED

SCHOOLS OF GUNNERY.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

FIRST CLASS "SHORT COURSE" CERTIFICATES

Gunner Joseph Pettit, Napanee Gar. Bt.  
do Thomas Dodds, Toronto do  
do John Patmore, Hamilton Field Bt.  
Sergeant W. Abbott, London do  
Gunner Joseph Phillips, Toronto Gar. Bat.  
do John C. Cornish, Kingston Field Bt.

SECOND CLASS "SHORT COURSE" CERTIFICATES.

Gunner George Brown, Toronto Field Bat.  
do W. McGuire, Welland Canal do  
do Sidney Wells, Napanee Gar. do  
do H. Wiebalch, London Field do  
do Ar. Wilkinson, Welland Canal F. do  
Sergeant W. Stroud, Wellington F. do  
Gunner C. N. Slade, Gananoque F. do  
do Robert Hooper, Toronto F. do  
do W. Cruise, do do  
do W. J. Sanderson, London F. do

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

SECOND CLASS "SHORT COURSE" CERTIFICATES.

Gunner Robert Ackerman, late of Montreal Garrison Artillery.  
Bombardier Charles Chilton, late of Montreal Garrison Artillery.  
Corporal Arthur Gagné, late Beauce Field Battery.  
Gunner Henry German, late of Montreal Garrison Artillery.  
Gunner Alfred Hall, late of Sherbrooke Garrison Battery.  
Gunner Francis Hope, late of Sherbrooke Garrison Battery.  
Acting Bombardier Thomas Mitchell, late of Sherbrooke Garrison Battery.  
Gunner Patrick Murray, late of Montreal Garrison Artillery.  
Gunner Joseph Mc Nerney, late of Montreal Garrison Artillery.  
Gunner John Williams, "B" Battery School of Gunnery.  
Acting Bombardier William Donaldson, "B" Battery School of Gunnery.  
By Command of his Excellency the Governor General.  
WALKER POWELL, Lieut.-Col.  
Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, Canada.

Gen Campas has inflicted another defeat on the Carlists at Haguet, near Rideaux. The enemy lost 300, and the Alfonsists 68 killed. The Carlists are concentrating for an attack on Puycedra.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscriptions to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 27th inst. :-

Amherst, N. S.—Lt.-Col. Stewart, April, 74 2.00  
Baker Brook, N.B.—Capt. J. Baker, Jan. 76 2.50  
Diamond, Ont.—Capt. R. Walker, to Feb. 75 0.50  
Halifax, N.S.—Capt. & Adj't. Bland, Oct. 75 2.00  
" " Lieut. J. Mumford, April, 75 1.50  
Kendall, Ont.—Lieut. W. McLean, on acc't. 2.00  
Paradise, N.S.—Lieut. W. Marshall, Jan. 75 2.00  
Victoria, Ont.—Capt. John Muchon, May, 72 4.00  
Warwick, Ont.—Capt. C. J. Kingston, Jan. 74 1.00

## CANADA MY HOME.

BY WALTER H. DERMOT.

I know not if the world be fair beyond the bright  
blue sea,  
Its waves can wash no foreign strand that bears  
a charm for me,  
Your Irish streams may gently glide through  
fields of verdant green,  
And lordly Thames roll out his length where  
stately homes are seen;  
The bright, blue Rhine dash sparkling on, past  
vine-clad hill and bower,  
And Seine and Severn on their shores, find  
pleasure chained to power;  
But to the farthest Northern seas, the compass  
points alone,  
There, sparkling in her crystal robes, lies Canada  
my home.

The Celt may love his far off isle—though bound  
in clanking chains—  
The Saxon deem no lordly piles greet stream  
like Father Thames;  
The Gaul may claim that by the Seine dame  
pleasure only strays,  
And in his bowl, the Tueton soul, the Rhine  
land only praise;  
If longings in their breast remain, for scenes of  
long ago,  
We hold them not, as air or sea, they're free to  
come or go;  
For me the world holds not a spot, to which I'd  
sooner roam,  
Than, glittering on the Northern Seas, my bright  
Canadian home.

I love its icy frost-bound shores, her forests yet  
untrud,  
I love her mountain crags and streams, that  
speak of nature's God,  
I love the land where honest toil can scale am-  
bition's hill,  
And where the soul knows no control, but wor-  
ship as it will;  
The land that welcomes to her breast, the exile  
of each clime,  
And shows beneath her spotless robes a gene-  
rous heart in time,  
The land that opens wide her arms, to all who're  
doomed to roam,  
And claims them children—motherland—mine,  
Canada my home.

I cannot own a second love. No land beyond  
the sea,  
Shall rival in this heart of mine, the love I bear  
to thee.  
Let those who claim within thy fold to need thy  
watchful care,  
Be grateful for thy foster love, and deem no land  
more fair  
Let not a flag that greets the breeze, be dearer  
to their eye,  
Let not a banner higher wave beneath the  
bright blue sky,  
Let not a traitor thought for ever to them  
come,  
Nor own another land so fair as Canada our  
home.—*Toronto Tribune*

## THE GREAT DOMINION.

An address by Edward Jenkins, Esq., M. P.,  
Agent-General for Canada, to the Manches-  
ter Reform Club.

When an Englishman sets his face west-  
ward from Queenstown or Londonderry he  
looks across the seas towards an apauage of  
the Crown of Great Britain, within 150,000  
square miles as large as the whole of Eu-  
rope—in extent of territory surpassing the  
United States, exclusive of Alaska, by more  
than 40,000 square miles. It is not enough  
to say that this is the greatest colony in the  
world. Consider properly its natural re-  
sources, physical grandeur, the variety of  
both grandeur and resources, and the mind  
wearies in contemplating the possibilities  
of empire in a region so marvellously en-  
dowed. This country lying between the  
latitude of Rome and the North pole, is ap-  
proached by the unrivalled water-gate of  
the St. Lawrence. On the left, to the south,  
keeping watch and ward, over the enor-  
mous gulf, lie, three thriving maritime  
colonies, constituting together probably the  
largest and most general shipowning com-  
munity in the world per head of the popula-  
tion.

Let us stay for a few moments and glance  
at these three provinces—Prince Edward  
Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

They have had the united area of 32,140,-  
173 acres, or more than 50,000 square  
miles, with a population of 767,415, the  
average being only 15½ persons per square  
mile. Of the 32,000,000 of acres it is stat-  
ed that 25,500,000 are good settlement  
lands, of which New Brunswick has 14,000,-  
000, Nova Scotia 10,000,000, and Prince  
Edward Island 1,500,000. The cereals, root,  
and fruit crops of Prince Edward Island  
and Nova Scotia, and the magnificent sa-  
vanah lands of New Brunswick, are almost  
proverbial in North America. 29,000,000 of  
acres of these provinces are forest lands,  
and, making allowance for the large propor-  
tion of these which are of no value, there  
still remain enormous quantities of lumber  
of the best quality. The value of the total  
exports of lumber from Nova Scotia and  
New Brunswick in the fiscal year end-  
ing June, 1873, was \$5,378,954. From St.  
John, N. B., alone 347,181 tons of shipping  
were engaged in carrying its export of  
wood. If we turn to the register of ship-  
ping we shall find some astonishing items.  
Nova Scotia owns 430,000 tons. New Brun-  
swick 300,000 tons, Prince Edward Island 40,  
000 tons, total 770,000 tons or about a ton of  
shipping to each head of the population.  
The St. John *Daily Telegraph* challenges,  
with just pride, any one to find a country,  
province, state or community in the whole  
world, equal in population, and of whom  
not more than 100,000 live in the cities or  
large towns, whose people own as much  
shipping as the maritime provinces. "If,"  
says the *Telegraph*, "all Canada owned  
shipping in the same proportion we should  
have as large a mercantile marine as the  
United States. As it is even now we are  
not so far behind them in sea-going vessels,  
and we can point with pride to the fact that  
St. John, with its 250,000 tons of shipping,  
is the fourth town as regards shipping in the  
British Empire—only being surpassed by  
Liverpool, London and Glasgow—and owns  
more sea-going vessels than either New  
York or Philadelphia, a pretty good ex-  
hibit for 50,000 people." Or, take again  
the fisheries; for the calendar year 1873,  
the fish product of the three maritime  
provinces reached a total of \$9,060,000.  
This product is nearly doubled by the Uni-  
ted States fishing in English waters. In  
minerals the provinces of Nova Scotia and  
New Brunswick are peculiarly rich, with the  
great advantage of proximity to the world's  
commerce. Coal, iron, gold, and stone  
already yield considerable returns. There  
is no doubt that both have iron of the very  
best quality in as favourable proximity to  
vast coal measures as it is in Great Britain.  
Nearly 1,000 miles of railway are already in  
operation, and 545 more are in course of  
construction. If you glance at the map you  
will observe that Nova Scotia constitutes a  
peninsula, connected by the isthmus of  
Chignecto with the province of New Brun-  
swick, and that consequently the communi-  
cation of the river and gulf of the St. Law-  
rence with the Bay of Fundy and the At-  
lantic ports of the United States can only  
be established either by going round Cape  
Breton or by sailing through the Strait of  
Canso. It is intended to connect the gulf of  
the St. Lawrence with the Bay of Fundy  
by a canal at Baieverte, which will save be-  
tween the upper parts of the St. Lawrence  
and New York more than 300 miles of navi-  
gation, to Boston and Portland 400 miles,  
and to St. John at least 500 miles. In the  
mouth of the gulf lies Newfoundland, hav-  
ing advantages of position and containing  
within itself undeveloped sources of riches,  
and national strength, which might well  
stay our inquiry for this whole evening,

where we not bound to hasten on to vaster  
areas and more wonderful storehouses of  
nature, 1,200 miles round the whole  
coast swarming with fish, it has regions  
wholly unexplored of richly wooded lands  
and fine alluvial soil, Mr. Murray, the pro-  
vincial surveyor, has during the summer re-  
ported to his Government the discovery  
upon the Gander River of vast forests of  
valuable timber, and of a country capable of  
supporting an agricultural population of at  
least 1,000,000 people; and this is but an in-  
stalment of future promise.

Passing through the Straits of Bell Isle  
you enter upon inland waters stretching in-  
wards for 2200 miles. The distance to  
Lake Ontario is 700 miles, and a vessel of  
4,000 tons can steam unobstructed to Mon-  
treal, a distance little short of 600 miles  
from the entrance of the river St. Lawrence.  
On either side is an endless panorama of  
boldness and beauty, of wildness and culti-  
vation, from the highland mountains of  
Gaspé to the smiling fields and quaint vil-  
lages of the Isle d'Orleans stretched out in  
a patchwork of cultivation. This is the  
province of Quebec. And what a province!  
Let me group together a few facts about it.  
Its length between 700 and 1,000 miles, its  
breadth about 300. In area it occupies 193,-  
355 square miles, or nearly 124,000,000 of  
acres. To this enormous territory there  
is at present only a population of 1,191,500,  
or 6.16 persons per square mile. Yet, one  
of the oldest colonies in America, im-  
bued with many of the characteristics of an  
old society, it is well worth statistical or his-  
torical research. Nearly one million French  
speaking Roman Catholics here live, proud  
of the privilege of British citizenship, while  
retaining their language, their Breton and  
Normandy *Patois* and songs, their quaint  
and simple manners and habits of thought.  
Few people in England know what a field of  
delightful and picturesque study is within  
ten days of them in British domain, and en-  
dorsed on the very borders of the blaring  
and novel civilization of America. Turning  
from the insufficient population to the capa-  
cities and attractions of this province, we  
shall be amazed that it has not developed  
more rapidly resources more various and  
splendid than those of any State of the  
American Union. Fisheries along the gulf  
of the St. Lawrence and the Labrador coast  
ample to support the whole fishing popula-  
tion of Norway and Sweden; timber limits  
untouched and surveyed, covering 107,000,  
000 of acres; riverine valleys and stretches  
of plain in the latitudes of Liverpool, Lon-  
don, and Paris, their situation modifying  
those extremes of temperature which  
alarm the ignorant, but are viewed by the  
expert as beneficent climatic conditions,  
endowing this great province with advan-  
tages in health and wealth beyond those of  
any more southern areas. The most recent  
surveys of the vast stretches of country in  
the rear of the settled strips along the  
northern banks of the St. Lawrence and Ot-  
tawa Rivers indicate that there lie here un-  
disturbed territories, with soil, climate, and  
capabilities of access and production, equal  
to anything yet occupied within the pro-  
vince. The extent of its mineral wealth is  
as yet only guessed at; but it is known by  
survey and experience to be enormous.  
Gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, plumbago,  
zinc, and other metals—here, within easy  
reach of English capital, under the protec-  
tion of British Government, are fields  
transcending in promise, scrutiny, and fact-  
lity of access the distant foreign El Dorado  
which so often delude the adventurous  
speculator. Quebec has been too long shut  
up from English enterprise, and deserves



more attention from the scientific man, the capitalist, and the emigrant. Its fisheries alone would, if properly worked, produce a great revenue. On the shores of the little island of Anticosti, which is 140 miles long, almost uninhabited, a schooner has been known to catch 1,100 barrels of herrings in one day. Codfish and halibut abound, and there is, on Sir William Logan's authority, an arable soil inferior to none on the continent. Here, within eight or nine days of England by steamer, lies this rich pendicle of Quebec, in the possession of some hundred persons, or one to every 260 square miles. On the mainland the vigour of the Provincial Government and of local capitalists is opening the way into new country, or improving communication in the old, by several important railways, one at least of which promises to reduce considerably the distance between the maritime provinces and the Dominion.

But, returning to our original journey, we must hasten on.

From Montreal the astonished visitor may take steamer up the St. Lawrence or the Ottawa, the latter leading him, should he choose to pursue his way by water beyond the last steamboat wharf, towards the very limits of the province of Quebec, to latitudes inhabited in Europe by immense populations, but, by an absurd perversity, deemed to be in America too "Northern" for ordinary human beings; but yet, at all events, affording work enough for the lumberman and his axe for some generations. Or, should the traveller prefer to follow the larger river, he can proceed to the heart of the province of Ontario—itsself the very heart and life of the Dominion. The population of Quebec is 1,180,576, and of Ontario, 1,620,850. This province runs south westerly along the bank of the St. Lawrence to the lake of its own name, still keeping a south westerly direction along Lake Erie, then skirting northwards the great Lake Huron, with its huge embayment, the Georgian Bay, and passing along the north of Lake Superior to a boundary, as yet unsettled, lying between longitude 85 and 90 west.

Let me try a few statistics to give an idea of this magnificent province. In length, from south east to north west, about 750 miles, and from north east to south west, about 500 miles; its area including the inland rivers and lakes, but excluding the vast inland seas which bound it, is 107,789 square miles, or 68,979,372 acres. The provincial rights in the St. Lawrence and the lakes extend over 27,094 square miles. It is only necessary to look at the latitude of this beautiful country, and to be told that the greater portion of its settled districts and a practically unlimited part of its unsettled portions consist of a superior, fertile soil, to be assured of the variety of its agricultural wealth, the extent of its capacity, and, what in these vast regions is of immense consequence: the facilities of communication which the great water-gate of the St. Lawrence gives it with all parts of the world. The great peninsula which stretches between Lake Huron and Lake Erie is undoubtedly becoming one of the richest agricultural districts in North America. The wheat which is raised here, paying a duty of 1s, a bushel, can be sold in the United States in preference to their native grown wheat. Indian corn comes to perfection; the other cereals and root crops, as might be expected, are of a superior character; and such fruits as apples, plums, peaches, and grapes are not readily to be excelled. If you look over the surface of those great districts which have only, within a comparatively recent period

been opened up for settlement, you will see that it is diversified by lakes which in Europe would be considered enormous, by chains of smaller lakes, and by numerous rivers which carry their fertilizing influence in every direction, and enable the inhabitants to communicate by steam from lake to lake and river to river with the greatest facility. Here, also, the capitalist may find ready to his hand the means of untold wealth. Iron, copper, lead, plumbago, manganese, silver, and gold are found in various parts. The mineral wealth of the northern shore of Lake Superior has often engaged the superlatives of tourists and geologists, but it is doubtful whether any of them have been able to express an adequate estimate of the richness of the region. We only know that at Silver Islet and in its immediate vicinity on the shore of the lake there exist some of the richest veins of silver in the world, and it cannot be doubted that as soon as the energies of population and the enterprise of capitalists shall have been directed upon that region of treasure, there will be developed there alone the means of employment and sustenance for a mining population greater than that of the whole of England.

The English visitor who goes amongst the people of this province finds here that he is with brethren and friends. Though almost every nationality in Europe, from Iceland to Italy, has its representatives, the mainstays of the population are those from the British Islands. Their physical vigour, their British energy, their loyalty to the Crown, their love for the country from which they have sprung, the air of British society, with its manners and tone, which pervades the whole community, makes one feel that here we have but a transfer to a larger area—under novel conditions, it is true—of a piece of Great Britain. We shall find that amongst these people there are a particular freedom, a strength and activity of political thought and action, toned nevertheless by a sound conservative common sense essentially British, which distinguishes them markedly from their mercurial Republican neighbors on the other side of the river and lakes which form the boundary between the two countries. The population is already about 1,620,000, and, affording as it now does, a large field for the absorption of labour, it promises within the next few years to increase in a ratio equal to that of some of the most successful of the western States. Not many years ago the statesmen of Ontario appeared to be entirely ignorant of the real extent of its resources. One or two even ventured to state publicly that all its cultivable land had been already surveyed and settled; but as settlements were pushed further and further to the north, it was found that among the lakes and rivers, though here and there the spurs of the great Laurentian chain interposed a dreary obstacle to settlement, there were valleys of great richness, and areas of the best land for agricultural purposes. But within the last ten years the gradually advancing waves of population have broken further into the interior, and it has been found that Ontario has not yet more than half developed her resources. It is indeed a province of which any Englishman may be proud. On every side he sees in railways and roads, and thriving towns, and a busy trade, the proofs of a growing State; and should he visit the borders of settlement and see how rapidly civilization is encroaching on the ancient, undisturbed domain of the forest, he may be disposed to turn back contented, and say; "At length I have reached the borders of Empire."

But in sooth he has only made a stage. He is but one-third the way across the great Dominion. At least 40 degrees of longitude intervene between him and the Western Pacific coast. It is this intermediate territory, of which it is impossible in any condensed relation to give an adequate idea, which has been handed over to the Dominion Government, to govern, to develop, to populate, and to convert into an empire larger and, I think I may truthfully say, more vigorous and powerful than that of the United States. Starting from the boundaries of Ontario on our way across this tremendous territory, we come to a small square of it, which is a sort of midway station across the continent—the province of Manitoba. Compared with the province we have been considering this is like Lot's city, but a little one, containing only some 9,177,600 acres, all lying south of the latitude of London. The great prairie of middle America stretches up into this province, affording to the agriculturist fields of loam as rich as that of the Western States, but, from the position in which the province lies, in a climate which is superior. You may read in official publications the evidence of experienced farmers, who assert that the wheat and the root crops of this region excel anything they have ever seen in the best-cultivated districts of England or of any part of the American continent. Wheat weighing from 64 to 68 pounds to the bushel on land bearing 32, 36, and 40 bushels an acre; potatoes and other roots of gigantic proportions; the wheat testified by no less an authority than the Agricultural Bureau at Washington to be of an extraordinary quality. Such are the facts now made familiar by the Government of Canada in its emigration literature.

Stretching out a map of the intermediate tract from Red River to the Rocky Mountains you can observe for yourselves one or two remarkable facts. Look to the south of this territory in the United States and you vainly seek for those sources of fertility and climatic salubrity—frequent rivers and lakes. But here, almost from the head of Lake Superior, you track a gigantic system of lakes and rivers, with innumerable feeders and outlets, extending from 1,200 or 1,300 miles to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, from the snow-capped peaks of which this amazing system originates. Captain Butler says that the forks of the Saskatchewan a little to the east of longitude 105 can, by the construction of a canal 100 miles in length, of an easy course, be brought into direct connection with the St. Lawrence, and allow of sending steamers to Quebec without breaking bulk. During the last summer a single steamer has navigated the Saskatchewan, proving that with little difficulty an internal navigation of over 800 miles can be opened through the North-west. The consenting testimony of the comparatively few witnesses to whom we can refer for an opinion of the capabilities of this region is that, however limitless the tracts of desert to north and south, a great valley, bright with the radiance of life, gloomed with no shadow of death, offers exhaustless welcome to millions of settlers. Speaking of the vast American desert to the west of the 95th parallel, which brings up short the ambitious progress of the United States, Captain Butler says:—"How it came to pass in the world that to the north of that great region of sand and waste should spread out suddenly the fair country of the Saskatchewan, I must leave to the guess-work of other and more scientific writers; but the fact remains that alone

from Texas to the subarctic forests the Saskatchewan valley lays its fur length for 800 miles in unmix'd fertility."

Hind, Archbishop Tache, Butler, Palliser, and Selwyn, the reports of the exploring parties for the Pacific Railway, all confirm this fact. Of the western curve of the fertile belt, especially that portion through the Blackfoot country (of most of which Butler in winter speaks so slightly), extending for 300 miles along the eastern faces of the Rocky Mountains, with a varying breadth of from sixty to eighty miles—our scientific and official observer speaks as "the future garden of the Dominion," magnificent with regard to scenery, with soil of surpassing richness, and in respect of climate with an average temperature during the winter months 15 deg. higher than that of the western portion of Ontario. Here, as yet uninhabited except by the roving Indian and the wild animals of the prairies and forest, are undoubtedly regions of cultivable land, and of a climate as salubrious for a hardy race as any in the world; an area greater than that now inhabited by 40,000,000 of American citizens. The tide of emigration, which has been bearing upon the centre of the American continent, and been rolling westward in great waves, is now checked by the impassible borders of the great American desert. Who can doubt that it will diverge to the north, and be the currents of life and civilization up the great valley of the Saskatchewan?

The last link in this long chain of empire is British Columbia, on the western coast, combining in itself almost all the advantages possessed by the most favoured northern countries of Europe, with a concentration and variety of wealth and solidity of promise which, could it only be reached by population would make of it alone a mighty nation. We shall see directly that British Columbia has, in its situation, climatic advantages rivalling those of Great Britain. A great stream running from the tropics impinges upon its coast and disseminates its salubrious influences over an extent of country much greater than that of the British Isles. The facts related about this wonderful region, whether as regards its agricultural capacity or its mineral riches, are almost incredible. It is said that in its forests are trees of six, ten, or even twenty seven to thirty feet in diameter, some of them ranging from 150 to 300 feet in length, without knots or branches. The total area is 350,000 square miles, of which the wheat area south of lat. 55 deg. N. is 96,000,000 acres, \$22,000,000 of gold have been extracted from its gold mines, which can scarcely be said to have been as yet fairly explored. Its coalfields, in which are found veins unexampled in size and quality, will probably before long be the chief source of supply for Pacific navigation. The result of recent explorations of these coalfields gives these surprising facts. The productive area may be safely considered to be at least 300 square miles. Following the rule applied to coalfields in South Wales, the Union Mine at Cromot alone would yield 16,000,000 tons per square mile. The total thickness, it is stated, of the coal measure in the Nanimo coalfields may be safely estimated at 2,500 feet. It will be seen at once how important this place—so fortunately situated, so richly endowed by nature—is likely to become. The Canadian Pacific Railway will place New Westminster some 500 miles nearer London than San Francisco. The Railway will run upon a lower and more level grade. The greater part of it will pass, as we have seen, not like the Union Pacific Railway, through a desert, but through a country

capable of bearing a vast population. No harbours like those of British Columbia can be found on the Pacific coast, and when communications are established and trade is developed between the Pacific shores of the Dominion and China, Japan, and even Australia, who can doubt the important part which British Columbia is destined to play in the history of the British Empire.

(To be Continued.)

#### District of Bedford Rifle Association.

A meeting of the District of Bedford Rifle Association was held at Cutler's Hotel; Sweetsburg, on the 10th inst., at which there was present, the Hon. Judge Dunkin, Lt.-Col.'s Miller, Fletcher, C. M. G., and Hall; Majors, Hon. M. Aylmer and Gilmour; Doctor Gibson; Captains Jameson, P. Smith, Robinson, Brooks and Hall; Lieuts. Bulman, Perkins and Artis, &c.

The minutes of the last meeting and the Financial Statement, having been approved and adopted. The following gentlemen were elected office bearers for this year.

*President*—Col. Miller.

*Vice-President*—Cols. Hall, and Rowe; Dr. Gibson, Mr. Lynch, M.P.P., Mr. Pottes, M. P., G. B. Baker, Esq., Majors Amyrauld, Gilmour and Cox.

*Patron*—Hon. S. J. Huntington, M.P.

*Vice-Patrons*—Hon. Judge Dunkin, Hon. A. B. Foster, Lt.-Col. Fletcher, C.M.G., *Secy.-Treas*—Hon. M. Aylmer, B.M.

*Council*—Office Bearers, and Captains of Companies.

*Executive Committee*—Lt.-Cols. Fletcher, Miller and Hall, Major Aylmer, Lieuts. Latimer, Whitman and Adjutant Perkins.

*Range Committee*—Captains Mynes, Brooks, and Codd, Lieuts. Latimer and Artis.

Moved by Lt. Bulman, seconded by Captain Smith, "that the next match be held at Waterloo, provided that a suitable range be obtained, and proper encouragement in aid of the prize first be given by the people of that place." Carried.

Moved by Major Aylmer, seconded by Captain Smyth, "that the Annual Matches be held about the end of September, or as soon after that time, as the performance of the Annual Drill will allow." Carried.

Moved by Major Aylmer, seconded by Major Gilmour, "that the last year's prize list be adopted and that a money prize be substituted in place of the cup, now the property of the 79th Highlanders." Carried.

Moved by Dr. Gibson, seconded by Capt. Smith, "that this Association is most desirous to place on record its expression of deep regret, at the recent decease of Major Robert Manson, late of the 52nd Batt., long an active, and zealous volunteer officer of this District, and member of this Association, and of the sympathy felt by all its members, with his widow and family, in their painful bereavement." Carried unanimously.

Moved by Capt. Smith, seconded by Col. Hall, "that the thanks of this Association be offered to Colonel Fletcher, for his efficient services, as Secretary Treasurer, and that he be elected a life member of the Association." Carried unanimously.

The meeting then adjourned and may be considered one of the most successful of the kind held in this or any other Province of the Dominion.

When our leading statesmen, professional men, and agriculturists, think it worth their while to cheer on the soldiers of their country, in their healthy and useful recreations, we as a budding nation may congratulate ourselves, that during these "piping

times of peace" we are preventing the dire contingency of civil war.

It is at these country matches where Canadian Wimbledon heroes first sprout into "shooting existence"—where the eye must be clear, the nerves of steel, and the hand as steady as a rock, ere the coveted prize can be won, and be handed with pride, at the home of the winners.

Mr. G. B. Baker, very generously offered a Range on his property at Sweetsburg, upon which the matches might be fired, this year. However, it is more than probable the meeting will take place at Waterloo, as there has been no contest there for several years.—*St. Johns News*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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

TO MAJOR ROBERT PATTERSON 48TH BATT. V.M.

DEAR SIR,—The officers, non commissioned officers, and members of No. 4 company, have great pleasure in presenting you with this sword. In offering it to you we desire to express our full sense of the firmness, fairness, and kindness—the three chief requisites in an officer—with which you commanded the company, and also, of the state of credit and efficiency, always and every where acknowledged, in which you handed it over to your successor.

We are no doubt sorry to lose you from the company, but we beg, nevertheless, to congratulate you very heartily on your promotion.

We hope this weapon, not of offence but defence may happily, not *rust* but *rest* in it scabbard, while you yourself enjoy every prosperity; but we know, if ever called on, it will leap forth and be wielded with thorough good will, force, and honour.

We are dear sir,

Your attached friends and  
Companions in arms.

For the Company.

J. C. MURRAY, Capt.  
Amhurst Island, 5th March, 1875.

REPLY TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF NO. 4 COMPANY, 48TH BATT. V.M.

Brother officers, and companions in arms, I feel proud to accept the *token of esteem* which you have now tendered, but prouder still to be the *possessor of that esteem* which has moved you to do this.

You refer to my "Firmness," "Fairness" and "Kindness," while in command of the company. Discipline is the "soul and conscience" of military life, and without a certain amount of firmness it would soon cease to exist. If I have been fortunate enough to combine the *three qualities*, while acting as your captain, much of the credit is due to yourselves seeing that, in all the camps through which you have passed, No. 4 has always been noted, for correct soldierly deportment and good behaviour; and I trust you will hereafter give to my successor in command, the same amount of help and sympathy which I received on all occasions from you. And, *be my place in the Battalion what it may*, I shall ever look back on the time, when I was your commander, with heartfelt satisfaction.

I shall keep and *highly prize*, the weapon you have now bestowed, and should the time (unfortunately) ever come, when our active service is required; and "our country and our sovereign call," may my "right hand forget its patterning," if I forget to draw.

R. PATTERSON, Major 48th Batt.  
Stella, March, 5th 1875.

**The Challenger's Submarine Discoveries in the Pacific.**

The deep sea explorations of the Challenger have been followed with keen popular interest, and her progress has been frequently marked by important discovery. Her last run from Cape York, Australia, to Hong Kong, lying through the great eastern seas of the Pacific, adds another important chapter to the history of her long voyage of circumnavigation, as also that of oceanic research. One of the party on board, acting as correspondent of the *London Times*, has just given the results of this last cruise, among which the thermal statistics and physical configuration of the sea bottom are most remarkable revelations. By the incessant use of the dredging and sounding apparatus the general structure and temperature of these dark, unfathomed caves of the ocean have been very nearly determined. These submarine tests of the water at all depths from surface to bottom, it is said, confirm the view of Commander Chimmo, an English navigator, as to the enclosure of these Eastern seas. According to this report of the Challenger exploration they are, in fact a chain of sunken lakes or abyssal basins, girdered and cut off from the neighbouring waters by shallow rims or borders. The water, down to the level of the submarine rim, has an unrestricted circulation, and gradually cools with depth. But the entire mass of abyssal water, below the rim, locked off, as it were, from the general circulation is of a uniform temperature, determined by that which washes over its enclosing rim. These deep sea partitions decidedly affect the flow of the icy cold Antarctic waters, which, in the profounder channels or the open Pacific, travel northward along the marine floor to temper the equatorial seas. The Challenger writer affirms with confidence that the sea east of Torres Straits, although having a general depth of 2,450 fathoms, is now proved to be surrounded by an elevated rim having no deeper water over any part of it than 1,300 fathoms, and all the water below having the steady temperature of thirty five degrees. The Celebes Sea, which is 2,000 fathoms deep, is similarly cut off at a depth of 700 fathoms; and the Sulu Sea, though still deeper, is intercepted by a rim rising to within 400 or 500 fathoms of the surface.

The presence of such physical features in the ocean bed must be of great interest to the hydrographer in ascertaining the flow of the waters, which if more obedient to the surface winds that play upon them, are not unaffected by the form of their channels. The interception of the icy Antarctic submarine currents (seeking to find a way northward) by these submarine rims, throws new light on the mystery of the excessive heat of the Western Pacific rivers. In the Atlantic no such barriers retard or prevent the income of the Antarctic drift along the marine floor between Africa and South America. But in the Western Pacific, the supply of cold, sub-surface water being cut off, the tropical oceans become intensely superheated and their basins enormous caldrons of hot water. The elevation of oceanic temperature even in a few degrees, thus accounted for, would work very great results and become impressively felt in the meteorology of the Indian Ocean, and of the great Asiatic Continent, whose southern shores it washes.

These interesting researches will, we understand, be further pushed in the deep sea region lying eastward of Japan, recently gone over by the American explorers in the *Tuscarora*. It is not improbable that these

proposed soundings will clear up some points uncovered by Commander Belknap's survey.—*N. Y. Herald.*

**THE LATE BISHOP RICHARDSON.**—A correspondent of the *Pictou New Nation* writes of a gallant deed of the late Bishop (once Captain Richardson). While I was doing duty in Kingston, some time in the fall of 1812, the Yankee brig, *Oncida*, and four small vessels came in at the Upper Gap and burned a small vessel at Bath, owned by the Fairfields. They then proceeded toward Kingston. Somewhere about Simcoe Island, or the Lower Gap, they got sight of a small British vessel, (the name of which I have forgotten,) commanded by Mr. Richardson. The Yankees appeared determined to take or sink her, and succeeded in making a hole in her so that she took in water. The lands on board wanted to surrender, the captain declared he would rather sink her, and accordingly ventured to cross a bar which his pursuers dare not undertake. The Captain then laid his course for the nearest land on Kingston side and followed the shore to Kingston, when, as just he got to the wharf, she sank, leaving her deck above water.

**AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.**—The latest "interesting archeological discovery," says the *Pull Mall Gazette* has been made in Crete. The monks of a convent which occupies the site of the ancient and once celebrated town of Aptera have dug up two life size female statues, draped after the fashion of ladies who moved in "society" three thousand years ago. The question as to the identity for these statues has, it is stated, raised a lively controversy among local archeologists. By some it is maintained, on the strength of a barely legible inscription on the pedestal of one of the statues, that they represent a daughter of the Emperor Claudius. The inscription is, however, so clumsily cut, and represents so rude a contrast with the exquisite chiselling of the figures themselves, that it is supposed by others to have been made by an inexperienced hand at a much later epoch. The statues, which attract great interest, are to be sent at an early date to Constantinople, to be deposited in the Stamboul Museum. It is to be hoped that centuries hence no one will dig up any female statues existing in this country draped after the fashion of the present age.

The Argentine Republic turret ship *El Plata*, recently experienced heavy weather in the Irish Sea. It appears that after leaving Liverpool, this vessel, which measures 1,800 tons, is 180 feet long, and 45 feet beam, anchored at Holyhead for safety. On Thursday, the 7th of January, she left, and on the following day the wind gradually increased until it blew a gale, and on the Saturday the wind continued blowing with great violence, and a heavy head sea caused great danger and damage to the shipping on all sides. The *El Plata* behaved with the greatest buoyancy, and gave every confidence to those on board. The steering gear, however, became defective, and Captain Boyce, considering the weather and his position, decided to put into Milford Haven. The engines are reported to have worked satisfactorily, and the conduct of the crew in the safety of the vessel has been entirely established.

According to the latest advices from the Carlist headquarters at Estella, Generals Mendiri, Taballo and Tristany have united in a forcible protest against Gen. Cabrera's manifesto in favour of King Alfonso.

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