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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. VII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1873.

No. 30.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

His Grace the Duke of Manchester, accompanied by his son, Lord Mandiville, intends paying Ottawa a visit. The noble duke is well known to take a warm and active interest in colonial affairs, and is President of the Royal Colonial Institution.

It is declared as an ascertained fact by the returning party that Lake Tanganyika and Albert Nyanza are proved to be one and the same water. The length of this magnificent inland sea, thus for the first time made known to mankind, is not less than seven hundred miles, and it is announced as possible that a vessel can be launched above Murchison's Falls, at the head of the Nyanza, and sail away to Ujiji, or lower, through ten degrees of latitude.

The weather continues very hot (at 12.30 p.m., to day (July 22) The thermometer stood at 86 degrees. A severe thunder storm, accompanied by sharp lightning, swept over Lancashire on the 21st July. The crops were damaged in various localities. Several persons were struck by lightning and killed.

From Madrid we learn the Carlists have sacked and burned the town of Igulada.

A Madrid letter dated June 29, says: Spain is compelled to become bankrupt. All the treasury and all payment has ceased. None but the Madrid employees are paid to-day out of the revenue. The soldiers are paid by loans taken from the banks. It is but natural to believe that this is but a last expedient. The soldier must soon be deprived of his pay. Arrived at that it would not simply be Federal anarchy but brigandage.

The Carlist force which has just captured Igulada is under the command of Don Alphonse, and comprises 3,500 infantry, 200 cavalry and 3 pieces of artillery. In consequence of the Carlist success, the municipal authorities of Barcelona have organized a Committee of Safety, and are pressing into their service for local defence all men between the ages of twenty and forty years.

The crews of the Spanish men-of-war, "Almanza," "Vittoria," "Nindez" and

"Mundel" having revolted, the Government has issued a proclamation declaring them pirates, and authorizing their capture and treatment as such by any foreign power on the high seas.

Decrees have also been issued dismissing from the public service Generals Contreras and Pierrad, and removing from office the Civil Governors of Cordova, Murcia, Pontevedra, Leon and Orense.

Gen. Pavia has been appointed Captain General of Andalusia and Estramadura.

The Province of Alicante has declared itself an independent Canton.

The majority in the Cortes propose to move a vote of censure on the Government for declaring the insurgent crews pirates.

The Spanish Cortes has passed a bill suppressing the Admiralty.

President Salmeron has issued a proclamation calling 80,000 men of the reserve in to active service against the insurrectionists in the country.

It is reported that General Contreras, leader of the revolt at Carthagena, is marching on this city with 6,000 men, having left a force equally as strong at Carthagena.

The president of the Committee of public safety in Madrid, has fled from the city.

Contreras is assuming the title of President and commander of the land and sea forces.

The Canton of Murcia has addressed a circular memorandum to the foreign powers.

The Gormans have librated the crew of the "Volegante" for fear the German Consul and his family at Carthagena should be shot.

Four officers of the Civil Guard of the city of Barcelona have been shot for attempting to desert from the Carlists.

The Russian Government has received a despatch from Gen. Kaufmann announcing that the treaty between Russia and Khiva has been signed. The Khan promises Russia 2,000,000 roubles and to abolish capital punishment in his dominions. The Czar's troops will occupy Khiva until the territory of Khanata is to be given to Bok-

hara for assistance rendered Russian troops.

The *Herald's* Carthagena special says that the decree of President Salmeron declaring the rebel ships pirates causes great panic, and they will not leave port for Malaga as intended. Violent threats are made against Salmeron and other members of the Government.

The proposition for the recognition of the Carlists has been more than once discussed in the French Cabinet. The Duke de Broglie favors treating with the government in Spain. President McMahon is willing to accept the Duke de Broglie's views, even if he were not himself compromised by his promise to the friends of Dou Carles, but the other members of the Ministry apprehend that such a course would greatly excite France; and two glaringly countenance and recognize monarchical tendencies as a right. The Carlists however, are confident of an early recognition, and are encouraged by their recent successes.

The Spanish Government requested permission from the French authorities to take war material to Puycedra from Port Vendres by way of French territory, thus tacitly admitting their incapacity to supply that place by a route through Spain on account of the Carlists. The French Government refuses permission, and Puycedra will therefore, probably fall.

The Assembly this afternoon, after a most exciting and tumultuous debate, adopted the bill empowering the Permanent Committee, which sits during recess, to prosecute insulters of the Assembly.

M. Ervoal in the course of a vigorous speech denounced dictatorships as the draughts of license and declared that tyrannical republics were sure to beget Cæsars.

From Paris we learn it is officially announced that the fortified town of Mezieres, capital of the Department of Ardennes, and the town of Marly-le, on the opposite side of the River Meuse, in the same department, were evacuated last night (July 23) by the German forces which have occupied them since the conclusion of the war. The staff of General Manteuffel, commander of the Army of occupation, will remain at Nancy for a short time. After its departure from that city Verdon District will be the only French territory occupied by the German troops.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF
THE MILITIA FOR 1872.

(Continued from Page 338.)

Cavalry.—Detachment of 8th Regiment of Cavalry—Lieutenant Fowler.

Field Artillery.—1 six pounder field battery—Lieut. Donnell.

Infantry.—67th Battalion, "Carleton Light Infantry"—Lieutenant Colonel Upton, 1st Battalion, "Lieut. Colonel Marsh.

Numerically small as this brigade necessarily was, all the routine of the soldier's duty was carried on in accordance with the full and clear instructions conveyed in the General Orders with the best results.

The site selected for the camp was all that could be desired—about a mile from Woodstock, on a table land called the "Pleasure Grounds," beautifully situated in a commanding position, high above the level of the St. John River, which passes through the midst of that fine agricultural county (Carleton) and within an easy march of an excellent rifle range, on the banks of the Medocnuakeag River. Woodstock being the head quarters of the 71st Battalion, that corps being the first on the ground, and did for others that which had been done for it at previous camps, viz., pitched tents and made preparations for the arrival of distant corps.

The "Pleasure Ground" Association guaranteed a plentiful supply of pure spring water for the troops; and this agreement was faithfully carried out, and it will be remembered that the season was unusually dry and the heat oppressive.

One could not help observing, not only at this camp, but subsequently at battalion camps, how speedily and systematically "our people" settled down to "camp life" and to "camp fare." Work is done cheerfully and zealously, not as mere work, but as duty combined with pleasure. This may in a great measure be attributed (1) to the improved scale of rations, the increased allowance of tea, and the issue of cheese and barley—there were no complaints as to quantity and quality of rations at any camp in my district—and (2) to better cooking than heretofore.

It soon became known from experience—better known too, than can be learned from any code of "regulations"—that the regularity of the men's messing is of primary importance, and calls for unremitting attention of officers commanding corps as well as company officers.

In each company the man best fitted for the post is appointed cook, the men's meals are thereby properly provided, and the full benefit of the means afforded for varying the diet is secured.

I cannot do better than quote from the report of the medical officer of the first day in camp—Surgeon Gregory, 71st Battalion—"The cooks seemed to be well up in their duties, and great satisfaction was expressed by the men, both as to quantity and quality of rations." He adds—"It gives me great pleasure to testify to the general feeling of contentment among the men, owing in a great measure to the improvement of rations and to the cookery. The latter is more worthy of remark, as it being the first day of camp, the cooks could scarcely be expected to be as efficient as they will become after a little practice.

A canteen for the supply of such extra provisions or articles as might be required was established; but no spirituous liquors

were allowed in camp, in accordance with instructions.

There being many recruits in the ranks it was deemed advisable to devote a few days to company and battalion drill before commencing brigade drill and field manoeuvres, but as soon as possible (on the 7th July) in compliance with orders, the brigade was marched from camp in column of route with a view to defend Woodstock from attack from an imaginary enemy, advancing from Houlton by the Medocnuakeag River route. On reaching the open, hilly, undulating country, the advanced guard became a line of skirmishers, and it was reinforced, and the reserve deployed, all taking advantage of the nature of the ground to obtain cover. The detachment of cavalry sent forward to reconnoitre, brought intelligence of the whereabouts of the enemy, and fire was soon opened by our skirmishers, hitherto concealed, and a rapid advance was made by the reserve to gain the crest of a neighbouring hill commanding the position of the enemy. This effected, such an accurate fire was opened by the brigade that the enemy was compelled to retreat, but not without an attempt to turn our flank. However a corresponding change of front on our part secured our holding the strong position of the enemy, and completed the route of the enemy.

It was subsequently ascertained that we had confronted but a portion of the enemy's force, while the rest was advancing upon the north side of Woodstock, hitherto unprotected. The cavalry therefore, was at once sent in that direction for intelligence, and the brigade followed as quickly as possible.

A somewhat similar advance was made against the enemy's position on the north side as that adverted to on the west, and suffice it to state, the attack on Woodstock was successfully defeated.

Subsequently, on the 11th July, during my absence at Apohaqui, at the inspection of the 8th Regiment of Cavalry, the Acting Brigadier, Lieut. Colonel Inches, exercised the troops at brigade drill and field manoeuvres in the country already described.

On another occasion—on the 14th July—having sent out two companies on outpost duty on the heights commanding the camp, and these having reported indications of an enemy advancing from the frontier, in the direction of McKenzie's Corners, the brigade was quickly under arms; skirmishers with their supports thrown out, and directed to act in concert with the outposts. The reserve followed, all advancing rapidly but steadily to gain the heights; and this effected, a still further advance was made in order, by sudden rushes over every open space, to check the progress of the enemy at as early a stage of their advance as possible.

The ground here was rough and broken but soon became interspersed with greenwood troops, and subsequently it was thickly wooded, and some difficulty was at first experienced in keeping the necessary communication by connecting links between "skirmishing" "supports" and "reserve"—in fact the difficulty, not easily overcome with older soldiers, of keeping one's men well in hand in a wood. However, on the skirmishers opening fire, all speedily regained their places, and the advance was steady and the fire of the skirmishers effective, the enemy retiring disputing every inch of ground.

So effective was the work of "our people," that an attempted change of flank on the part of the enemy proved an

abortive effort, and the troops returned to camp.

Several other interesting and instructive "field days" was executed, in all which the force was taught valuable lessons in taking every advantage which the features of the ground afforded, in supplying the knowledge of drill to "field manoeuvres" and in firing coolly and with correct aim.

I may add the officers commanding corps were desirous that the suggestion contained in my last report should be carried out at this camp, viz. forming two divisions, one side to act on the offensive, the other on the defensive—troops moving off from camp for a march of two or three days—corps to bivouac. However, there were so many recruits in the ranks it was not advisable to adopt this plan at this camp; but I consider it may be carried out with advantage at future camps.

On Saturday afternoon, bathing parade was held—the march to and from the river being in itself a useful drill—and the bath was fully appreciated by all the ranks.

On Sundays, the troops assembled on the grounds in front of the camp for Divine service. On the 8th of July, the Rev. T. Neals officiated; and on the 14th, no clergyman being available, the Deputy Adjutant General read the service, assisted by Major Raymond, 67th Battalion.

While in my Brigade Orders, at the breaking up of this camp (hereto appended), I took occasion to express my satisfaction with the manner in which all duties had been performed, I consider this Report would by no means be complete were I to omit mentioning the special services of the detachment of cavalry, under command of Lieut. Fowler.

Despite the great distance of the camp from that at Apohaqui, at which the 8th Regiment of Cavalry was then performing its annual drill, Lieut. Colonel Saunders, ever ready to carry out that which has for its object the good of the service, cheerfully sent this detachment to Woodstock with the view to the three arms being represented; and while this fine regiment won high encomiums for ease with which last year it performed lengthened marches and its general efficiency, referred to by the Adjutant General and other experienced officers at both sides of the Atlantic, I am proud to state that the detachment were no unworthy representatives of the corps.

The practical way in which every member of the detachment discharged the important duties required of them, shows that Canadians can speedily pick up a knowledge of military duty that requires months of careful training in other countries.

The better to carry out the Adjutant General's instructions, the camp, being in a frontier country, and considered as if in the vicinity of an enemy, I directed the officer commanding the detachment to patrol on the roads leading to the frontier, in direction of Houlton, and to gain information, and report on the following subjects:

(1.) As to villages—how situated—the population, (2.) Roads—their general width—from where to where and the distances (3.) Rivers—their general direction, width, depth, &c., (4.) Farm houses—if well supplied with forage and provisions; and he was obliged to convey in his report some ideas respecting the country.

As no general rules can be laid down as to the mode of conducting these patrols, this was left to the discretion and intelligence of the officer in command.

Lieutenant Fowler was required to

pany his report with a sketch of the country.

The task assigned this officer, as may be observed from the sketch hereto appended was by no means an easy one, the country being a complete net work of roads; but from the moment the orders were issued, until the work was completed, both officers and men zealously determined to do their duty, evidently inspired with the same spirit which actuated their brethren of the Imperial Army in the performance of still more practical work—"each trooper becoming something more than the component part of a machine. I may add that Lieutenant Fowler had no previous knowledge of making a sketch.

GOOD CONDUCT.

It is most desirable at camps such as this that a hearty emulation should spring up amongst corps; that they should vie, one with the other in soldierly bearing, in smartness on parade, in cleanliness of the camp and its environs, and more important still—in the discipline and good order pervading the camp.

To quote from the Field Officer of the day Major Raymond—5th July—(word that might with justness be extended to the remaining period in camp), that officer being himself a strict disciplinarian as he is a zealous and efficient officer: "Quietness and good order prevailed during the day; and it is a pleasing duty to report that there was a marked improvement in regard to the quietness of the camp at night (as compared with previous camps at night), it being nearly all that could be desired.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

The sanitary condition of the troops was excellent. Surgeon Gregory reports that "there was not more than one quarter as much sickness in this camp as there was at "Camp Ross" last year." This he attributed chiefly to the improved diet."

The returns of medical officers in this district, showing medicines given in each case, with a list of such medicines as have been expended, have been transmitted to the principal medical officer at Montreal. Some suggestions are submitted for supplementing the whole of the medicine in the box. Amongst others—I again quote from Surgeon Gregory, who has given some consideration to this point—

"There should be added to the medicines supplied, the following:—Rubarb emetic; tincture of squills; tincture of digitalis or kius; tincture of valerian, spirits of nitrous ether; concentrated solution of acetate of ammonia; quinine; opium or compound camphor liniment; a good supply of mustard; tincture of assafoetida; and a suitable supply of bottles for dispensing.

He adds:—"with these additions the medicine chest would be nearly equal to that usually carried by country practitioners; and if supplemented by a proper brigade medicine chest, would be sufficient for all emergencies likely to arise during the short period of the camp."

Surgeon Gregory is strongly of opinion, "that in every brigade there should be a general hospital, properly equipped in every respect, so that medical officers should have an opportunity of doing duty in turn, and thereby learn this most necessary and important part of their duty."

I cannot conclude this report without noticing a gratifying feature connected with this camp, viz., the interest manifested in the

welfare of the force by the people of the country in which the camp was held (Carleton). From the princely entertainment of officers of the brigade by the M. P. of the county, the Hon. C. Connol, to the cordial greeting of the humble citizens, all seemed desirous to do their best to make the stay of the troops in Camp Woodstock as pleasant as possible.

It only remains to offer my highest acknowledgment to the staff who contributed so largely to the success of this camp

The following brigade Order was issued at the breaking up of camp

"CAMP WOODSTOCK."

Brigade Orders issued by Lieut Col Maunsell, D.A.G. Brigadier.

Upon the return to their homes of the troops, the D. A. G. commanding returns them his thanks for their uniform good conduct during the period of training.

The system of assembling corps in Brigade Camps of exercise inaugurated last year has again been successfully carried out in this district.

The "Woodstock Camp" established in the flourishing county of Carleton, cannot fail to produce the best results.

It is extremely gratifying to know that the Adjutant General reported most favourably with respect to the camp at Fredericton last year, and it is only to be regretted that, owing to his presence being required in British Columbia and Manitoba, Col. Robertson Ross is unable again to inspect us this year, as it is observed by all that this camp is even more successful than that at Fredericton. Duties have been performed alike cheerfully and zealously, and a remarkable desire for increased efficiency has been evinced in every corps. Carleton and York have been well represented in this camp. Victoria has also sent its quota. Carleton county besides its field battery, has furnished the strongest battalion numerically, in the Dominion of Canada, of which corps New Brunswick may justly feel proud, while the 71st Battalion "York" is most efficient in every respect.

The improved scale of rations has given general satisfaction, and the sanitary condition of the troops has been excellent throughout.

The prescribed course of target practice has been correctly carried out, and considering that there are many recruits in the ranks the figure of merit is fair, and the individual scores of the winners of prizes are high, as shown by the list of prizes appended hereto.

The most convenient time for the majority of officers and men having been selected, they have come without much personal sacrifice, and will return to their various industrial pursuits after a course of training admirably calculated to render them at once well disciplined soldiers and good citizens. To apply the words of a recent English writer respecting our Canadian army:—"If difficulty there was (in our Brigade Camps), it has been thoroughly overcome: for insubordination, disorder and punishment, seem to be words which find no place in the military vocabulary of Canada."

It only remains for the Deputy Adjutant General, while thanking the Brigade Major and other officers commanding corps for the support and assistance invariably afforded them, to congratulate them on the success

that has attended their efforts, towards securing efficiency in this camp.

By order.

(Signed,)

J.A. INCHES, Lt. Colonel.
Brigade Major

The remaining corps in the 1st Brigade Division have undergone a complete reorganization, and while I much regret that the number of batteries of garrison artillery have been diminished by three (3) and more particularly the absence of the St. Andrew's battery—all having failed to re-enrol—I consider this Brigade Division has maintained its reputation as regards numerical strength and general efficiency of its force. The commendation for the formation of a new provisional battalion, comprising infantry companies of St. Stephen, Deer Island St. George, and St. James, has recently been submitted. Besides this the service rolls of two new companies for the 1st battalion have been transmitted.

In respect to the battalion above referred to, Lieut Colonel Jago states:—"The two battalions at St. George, the Adjutant General and Inspector of Artillery last year decided could be spared, if the men did not decide to re-enrol; but with regard to the battery at St. Andrew's the case is far different." He adds:—"It is not necessary for me to point out the importance of St. Andrew's commanding as it does the navigation of the St. Croix River; and it is much to be deplored that there should be no garrison artillerymen at this place. In his opinion, the loss of the battery at St. Stephen is not of more importance than the one at St. George."

I may add that I have hopes that the St. Andrew's Battery will shortly be reorganized without having recourse to the draft.

Lieut. Colonel Jago inspected No. 5 Battery, at Woodstock, on the 15th July, and he reports that the battery attended the brigade camp formed at that place as a field battery, they having two (2) 6 pounder guns in their charge, but having no horses properly enrolled and really belonging to the Brigade of the New Brunswick Garrison Artillery.

Col. Jago adds, that "we saw some creditable shot practice made by them, and the men drilled well at standing gun drill; but he recommended that the battery be either turned into a field battery, and properly armed and horsed (the country around Woodstock offering peculiar advantages for the establishment of a good field battery) or that in future they should perform their annual drill at St. John.

It is necessary to add that the Brigade Major has already taken steps to form a field battery of Artillery at Woodstock, and with fair prospects of success.

In respect to future camps of exercise in the Brigade Division, I am of the opinion that Charlott County having now its battalion of infantry, St. Andrew's will afford equal facilities for assembling such camp with Fredericton and Woodstock.

2nd BRIGADE DIVISION.—Lieut. Colonel Utty,
Brigade Major.

8th Regiment of Cavalry.—Lieut. Colonel Saunderson.

On the 20th June and 12th July, I inspected this fine corps at its camp, at Apohaqu. The camp was beautifully situated on the grounds of the Lieut. Colonel, on a commanding height overlooking the valley of the Kehnebeckasis.

During the past year the regiment has been largely recruited from an excellent class, and so popular is the corps that captains of troops, on completing the quota, had to decline the services of numerous applicants for admission to the ranks.

The Adjutant General formed a very favorable opinion respecting the material and efficiency of this corps at the time of training at "Camp Ross," last year, as conveyed in the "Militia Report;" and so successfully have the recruitment and annual drill been carried out since then, that I consider the present condition of the regiment, both as to material and general efficiency, most satisfactory—even improved in many important particulars.

It must be stated that the brigade Major Lieut. Colonel Otty, who attended this camp, rendered valuable assistance to the Lieut. Colonel of the corps in having the recruits taught from the first step in drill and routine and the old soldiers better instructed in the details of duty. Thus the utmost advantage was taken of the limited time allotted for cavalry training.

The desirability of allowing an additional period for winter drills for this arm has been clearly pointed out by the Adjutant General.

Fifty new sets of saddlery have been issued to the Corps; the rest of their equipment is old and nearly unserviceable.

Spencer carbines have been exchanged for Snider carbines, which were in good condition. The course of target practice was correctly carried out under the supervision of Major Darling.

New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery—
Lieut.-Colonel Foster.

In accordance with General Orders, dated Ottawa, May 31st, 1872, an Artillery camp was formed at St. John on August 22nd, of which I took command, in conjunction with Lieut.-Colonel Foster commanding the Brigade, while Lieut.-Colonel Iago acted in the capacity of superintendent of drill and practice; and that officer's report is so satisfactory that I need only apply his words, referring to his position as superintendent of drills to mine as commandant, viz.: that the duties of commandant "were as easy as they were pleasant." Lieut.-Colonel Iago reports as follows:—

"Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 10 Batteries attended from St. John, and No. 7 sent a strong detachment with two officers from Chatham, whilst No. 5 also sent a small detachment with one officer from Woodstock."

"Without doubt," he adds, "the officers and men derived great benefit from the camp. The continuous drill of never less than five hours per diem did more for the attendants at it than treble the time consumed in a drill room."

"He found the officers fully capable of instructing the men, and the men anxious and willing to profit by their instruction, whilst both endeavored to maintain the credit the corps has enjoyed for good conduct."

His position as Superintendent of drills was, therefore, as easy as it was pleasant. And he had also the satisfaction of superintending some excellent shot practice made by the different batteries, both as regards accuracy and also rapidity of firing, for prizes presented by well-wishers of the brigade."

Lieut. Colonel Iago concludes his report with some excellent remarks, in which I entirely concur, as to the want of a School of Gunnery for the instruction officers and men in this District,—“it being useless to hope to make a really good battery without a certain number of the officers and men being competent to impart instruction in the theory and practice of artillery.”

This subject is now under the consideration of the authorities at head quarters; and the Adjutant General is well aware of its great importance, in connection with the duties of St. John and the coast of New Brunswick generally, to have the militia resident in the maritime portion of the Province trained to artillery exercises, and submit that if it be not practicable at the present moment to establish a "School of Gunnery" at St. John on the same principle as those provided for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, at Kingston and Quebec, authority be obtained to open such a school at St. John on the 1st December, prox., on the basis of the infantry military schools, with Lieut. Colonel Iago as Commandant, and an efficient assistant, and also an instructor.

It must be added that Lieut. Colonel Saunders has submitted some practical suggestion as to the establishment of a Cavalry School during the winter months, so soon as the larger question of a battery of artillery similar to those at Quebec and Kingston, is arranged. The following is my Brigade Order on the breaking up of the Artillery camp at St. John:—

[BRIGADE ORDER.]

ARTILLERY CAMP,

St. JOHN, N. B.,

30th August, 1873

The Artillery camp will break up to-day; and the Deputy Adjutant General commanding desires to express to the officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners, his satisfaction with the manner in which the duties have been carried out.

Assembled for the first time in camp, and having from the start to learn the routine of a soldier's life in the field during somewhat bad weather, while discipline and good conduct have not been relaxed, the condition of the troops has been most creditable.

Lieut. Col. French, Inspector of Artillery, announces that he was highly pleased with the drill and practice of the batteries. The manner in which the Chatham Battery fired their five rounds in the competition for Mrs. Iago's cup he considered especially creditable.

The Deputy Adjutant General has received his usual energetic support from the Staff (Lieut.-Colonels Otty and Iago), to whom, as well as to Lieut.-Colonel Foster, commanding the Brigade, he tender his sincere thanks.

By order.

(Signed),

ANDREW C. OTTY, Lieut.-Colonel.

Brigade Major.

Engineer Company—Captain Parks.

This corps having become disorganized, owing to delay in completing its re-enrollment, has recently been re-organized, and my remarks as to improvement of material when referring to others may in a special manner be extended to this corps, nor recruited above the established strength from a class of young, active, intelligent men,

who will, I doubt not, by applying their intelligence to their important duties as Military Engineers, render the corps very efficient.

In conjunction with Lieut.-Colonel Iago, I inspected this corps at St. John, on 31st October, on completing its annual drill, and found that a sufficient foundation in the knowledge and practice of infantry drill, had been laid to warrant my expectation as to future efficiency being realized. The Inspector of Artillery proposes placing this corps in charge of certain fortifications and batteries at St. John, with the view to their learning to keep these works in order, and possibly adding to and improving the present system of fortification at that place. The advantage of carrying out this suggestion is obvious—comment is needless.

62nd "St. John" Battalion—Lieut. Colonel Macshane,

Inspected this corps at Camp, St. John on the 9th September, having previously seen it under arms more than once during the period of training.

The camp was formed on the barrack grounds, recently occupied by the camp of the Garrison artillery.

Aware of the difficulty experienced by those officers who zealously undertook the task of re-enrolling this corps (partly owing, I think, to the erroneous idea conceived of the true position of corps of active militia in general, and city corps in particular), it was extremely gratifying to observe at this camp that success had attended their efforts in this respect, and in all that concerned the better efficiency of the corps. The men were carefully drilled both in company and battalion drill—soldierlike in their bearing, orderly in conduct; while the regimental duties appeared to have been systematically carried out and the arms in good condition.

74th Battalion.

I inspected this corps, at Camp Sursox, on the 18th July, although three companies are drawn from the 3rd Brigade Division—and these composed of as fine a body of men as any in my District—the camp was formed at Sussex, the residence of the Lieut. Colonels in the 2nd Brigade Division, which has heretofore furnished the remaining three companies (half battalion.) However, two of these companies (those at Kingston and Elgin) have failed to re-enrol, and will be disbanded. The Lieut.-Colonel is now taking steps to supply their places with others.

The drill, discipline, and conduct of the corps in camp were all that could be desired, the only thing to be regretted being the absence of the two companies adverted to. The Lieut.-Colonel is also desirous to organize a regimental band; and that want supplied, with two new companies, I cannot doubt but that the 74th Battalion will be second to none in the District.

The Brigade Major of this Division, in answer to enquiries as to whether he considers the present strength of the active militia in his Division, can be maintained without resorting to the draft, that, "judging from the returns of the current year of those who have performed their drills in camp, and in view of the zeal and activity that has recently been displayed by the city as well as some of the rural corps, he is led to infer that, at least for some time to come, the system now in force, under judicious management, will furnish the quota required in this Division."

(To be Continued)

REVIEWS.

Blackwood, for July, contains: The Parisians, Book VIII; French Home Life.—No. VIII; The Curé Santa Cruz, and the Carlist war; Newfoundland; The Four Ages; The rate of Discount; Alexandre Dumas.

Republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton Street, New York.

The *New Dominion Monthly* for July, is, as usual, filled with excellent articles, especially those under the heading of *John Kanack's Experiences* which are as valuable in a literary and instructive point of view, as any of *Blackwood's* novellettes, and we hope when finished, they will be published in a book form.

The *Phrenological Journal* for August has been received, also the *Science of Health* for August. Both of those valuable periodicals contains useful and rare practical information of the utmost importance to those who wish to thoroughly understand the principles of the natural life of man and to live in conformity thereto.

The *Phrenological Journal* has a portrait and memoir of the late lamented Lieut-Governor of Nova Scotia, the Honorable J. Howe, and although the writer of the memoir, is unable to see the exact bearing of the political issues in which the late great statesman held such a conspicuous part, because the comparisons are between a Republic governed without law, and a monarchy governed by law, yet it is written in such a kindly and appreciative strain, so fully gives the history of Joseph Howe's career, that we willingly pass over the display of national egotism, which would otherwise be entirely out of place. Our readers would do well to peruse the copies of that Journal.

We publish below the report of the *Royal Colonial Institute*, and have great pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to the great work it has taken in hand and the successful manner in which it is being carried out. The fame of the honorary secretary whose name is appended thereto pervades every country trod by a British foot, and all colonists feel they have in him a known and true friend.

"The Council are happy to report that the Institute has made satisfactory progress during the last year.

"The Financial Statement which will be laid before the Meeting shows it to be in a sound position, £300 having during the year been invested in Colonial Securities, making a total amount of £900 so invested, and all liabilities being amply provided for.

"Since the last meeting 101 Fellows have been elected, viz., 50 Resident and 51 Non-Resident.

"The Council have taken and furnished additional rooms, and these now comprise a reading room, a writing room, a smoking room, and a library. The Institute, however, is not committed to its present premises beyond this year in case more desirable ones can be met with, the advantage of having a house of its own being kept constantly in view.

"The Council have in the course of the year lent their aid in the promotion of various objects of Imperial Interest, amongst which may be mentioned the dinner in celebration of the completion of Telegraphic Communication with the Australian Colonies, of which celebration they have published an account.

"The Society of Arts have again during the present Session obligingly lent their Theatre for the use of the Institute.

"The remaining Transaction of 1871 and those of 1872 have been printed and circulated, and those of the present year are in type, and will soon be ready for issue. They will comprise a paper by Lord Bury on the San Juan Boundary; one by Mr. Bournoit, of the Senate, Ottawa, on the Marine and Fisheries of Canada; one by Mr. William Walker, on the Social and Economic Position and Prospect of the British West India Possessions; one by Mr. Hugh Munroe Hull, Clerk of the Tasmanian Parliament, on Tasmania, and its wealth in Timber; one by Mr. J. C. Calder, of Tasmania, on the Forests of Tasmania; one by Mr. H. E. Watts, on the Three New Rules of the Washington Treaty as affecting our relations with our Colonies; and one by Captain J. C. R. Colomb, on the Defence of the Colonies; together with the records of the inaugural dinner of the Session and of the annual dinner, and a list of the Fellows.

"Large Donations to the Library of Books, Maps, Pamphlets, Papers, and Specimens of Colonial Produce have been made, and the Council have to record their obligations to the Donors.

In closing this brief record of the Proceedings of the Institute, the Council must refer with the greatest satisfaction to recent official expressions to the effect that it is a subject of congratulation that at present there is no question of importance to evoke ill-feeling in any of the Colonies, and that, in all forms of prosperity and material progress the British Colonies may compare favourably with any portion of the world. And the Council feel that they may fairly claim for the Royal Colonial Institute some share of the undoubtedly improved feeling towards our Colonial Empire lately evinced in many quarters.

The accompanying Balloting List for changes in the Council, as prescribed by the Regulations will be submitted to the Meeting.

By Order,
C. W. Eddy,
Hon. Sec.

18th July, 1873.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 19th inst.

CHATHAM, Ont.—Surgeon T. K. Holmes \$1.00
KINGSTON, O.—Col. John Kerr (to March, '74) 4.00
LONDON, O.—Maj. John Walker, (to Jan. '74) 6.00
WALLACETOWN, Ont.—Lieut. J. W. Luton, (to July, '74) 2.00
WATERLOO, Que.—Captain J. F. Leonard, (to July, '73.) 2.00

From St. Petersburg, under date of 24th July, we have the following:

The decree issued by the Khan of Khiva, totally abolishing slavery throughout the dominions, provides that all persons held in bondage shall be made citizens, or returned to their native countries.

From Rome, 25th July, we learn that a consistory will be held next Friday for the nomination of Bishops.

The Cardinals have had instructions from the Vatican not to receive the Curé of Santa Cruz, on his arrival in this city.

The Commission for the liquidation of ecclesiastical property opened its session here to day.

A Nienna despatch states that the Emperor Joseph of Austria visited most of the American and British departments yesterday, accompanied by the Russian Commissioner.

The Emperor of Austria will go to St. Petersburg in the autumn. The visit is regarded by the press as of deep political significance.

Mexican advices state that an official telegram from General Dábellos to the military commander of this city, dated Tepic, July 17th, just announces the complete defeat of the revolutionists in the State of Jalisco, and the capture of their leader the famous chieftain Losado, who has for the last fifteen years refused to submit to the authority of the Imperial Government, and who headed a band of malcontents in armed hostility nearly all that time.

Spanish despatches from Santiago de Cuba report several small engagements with the insurgents near Yargal and Jucaro, but do not confirm the previous telegrams, which announced a heavy battle. They show, however that the insurgents are concentrating their forces Puerto Principe, and news of a general engagement may arrive at any moment.

Advices from St. Thomas to the 16th inst. report a severe drought in the island. Even drinking water was scarce.

As the insurgent iron clad *Vittoria* was sailing from Alicante, a German frigate which was lying in the harbor, got up steam and followed her out, by the orders received from the German Legation at Madrid.

The remains of General Cabrinetz, who was killed in an engagement near Ripoll between Republicans and Carlists, will be brought to this city.

Fearing disturbances in consequence of the issue of the proclamation of independence, many of the respectable inhabitants are leaving the city.

A Colonel of the Civil Guards here has deserted and joined the Carlists.

The Carlists claim that their effective force in Spain now numbers 30,000 men. They have disembarked a large quantity of arms and ammunition from England at Requeto.

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The Volunteer Review,

LONDON

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1873.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be prepaid. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and in 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.

Captain H. BRACKENBURY, R. A., recently delivered a lecture before the Royal United Service Institution, H. R. H. Prince Arthur presiding, on "the tactics of the three arms," the following condensed report of which is copied from *Broad Arrow* of 7th June.

Captain Brackenbury, premising that the object in battle was to demoralize the enemy while sustaining the moral force of our own troops, remarked that this was effected by fire and shot both assisted by surprise. He cited the results obtained at Shoburness and Hythe to show the precision and rapidity of modern fire and shot. He admitted that in actual warfare owing to the excitement, smoke, and other causes, such extreme accuracy was not obtained, or movements of troops under fire would be impossible, but the front of position held by troops, in good order was practically unassailable in any close formation if, as naturally would be the case,

the assailant had to pass over open ground in 1866 and 1870 neither Austrians, Prussians, nor French attempted to attack in the dense columns of the Napoleonic period, the Austrians and French attacking in line, and Prussians at times using whole battalion, half-battalion, and company columns. The Prussian regulations showed that, profiting by experience, they now recognized the principle of small units under fire in moving to the attack, and regarded company columns as the normal formation of the first line. Abolishing battalion and half-battalion columns, substituted an elastic line better able to seek cover, and the fighting was done by the shooting line (what we should call the skirmishers), the bodies in the rear being practically reserves, which fed that line and conformed to its movements. There was a subdivision into sections of not less than eight or more than twelve men, each under a separate command. Each body was formed to suit the ground without any rigid rule, and each officer, trained to understand the progress of the fight, was brought up to accept responsibility and to use it aright. The fighting line, fed by small bodies moved up in extended order, not in close formation, and their places taken by fresh bodies brought up from the reserve in the rear, worked its way up to the enemy, without the fearful loss and demoralisation attending the advance of a rigid line of equal strength. At the moment of final attack whole battalions might be absorbed into the fighting line, which, thus reinforced, became a fighting swarm, closely followed by the nearest supports. The system was based on two principles—the impregnability of the front of a position held by good troops until they were demoralised by superior fire, and the waste of life involved in bringing up troops in close formation, except where there was shelter, under the enemy's effective fire. As essential to the success of the system, the lecturer laid stress on the subdivision of infantry into bodies of gradually diminishing size capable of independent action, and on thorough tactical training, theory doing something, but actual fighting instruction more, since the officers commanding, these small units must act on their own responsibility and know how to act under any circumstances. He pointed to the mental and physical power of our junior officers, men in the prime of life, full of activity, eagerness, courage, and desire for instruction and responsibility as the material available for this purpose. Meeting the argument that the line formation suited the British soldier's characteristic steadiness, he admitted that troops in line were more under control, but asked what became of the steadiness of troops in close formation on open ground, within range of the enemy's fire. He hailed the recent order for experiment formations as the first step towards meeting necessities of modern fighting, but did not see that it extended the principle of responsibility for small units beyond the commanders of half battalions. The training requisite to infuse vital force into every limb of an army should, he suggested, be secured by an Act of Parliament as to the use of ground in private hands, or by the purchase of a large tract of country for a fighting school. With such a training—he dared not say before it—must come the extension of responsibility. He showed that the principle of deep formation applied also to defence, and that it was contemplated by Count Moltke for troops of all arms, the front being held by a small body, and the reserves held far back, ready to move on the radius towards a threatened flank, while the enemy had to

pass round a circumference whose radius was effective artillery fire. Passing by the cavalry whose functions had been discussed by Colonel Baker, the lecturer next treated of the artillery. He urged that an infantry attack should be preceded by a long continued and accurate artillery fire, the omission of which led to great loss and failure in 1866 and 1870, and that initial superiority in fire being important, masses of artillery should be brought early into action and concentrated on the immediately important point, without losing a moment in accurate or divergent fire. Hence he urged that the artillery should be near the head of the marching column, that the power of accurately and rapidly judging range should be developed, precision rather than rapidity being the tactical aim, and that there should be a thorough system of artillery command, so that the guns may act with an object. He quoted French testimony to the successes reaped by the Germans from massing as well as accuracy. As to the position of guns, he stated, as the result of a study of the battle fields of the late war, that, except at the beginning of an action, when the artillery came on the field before other troops, the Germans almost constantly fired over the heads of the infantry, the fire being kept up during the advance of the latter to the last moment consistent with safety. In conclusion, he spoke of demoralisation like that of the Austrians in 1866 as the fate of an army with false tactical formations, and predicted that history would speak of the present generation of English tacticians as severely as of those defeated at Jena, Sadowa, and Sedan if they evaded the responsibility of meeting modern military requirements. The knowledge that officers of high rank took a different view might have sealed his lips had not five months spent in a country overrun by the foe inspired him with so intense a feeling of responsibility that he dared not to keep silence.

In the discussion which ensued, *Major Colley* urged the importance of covering the flanks of the skirmishers. *Lord De Ros* objected to the prevalent fashion of treating our young officers as inferior to those of other nations. *Colonel Hamley* expressed his belief that there were English officers who, with equal facilities, were capable of planning an invasion equal to that of the Germans in 1870, but regarded theory as of little avail without experience. The old system dragged down men of resources and ability to the level of men of routine, where as the new system developed the best qualities, and brought officers into closer contact with their men. *General Macdougall* believed a slight alteration, not an entire dislocation, of our system was necessary. The main body, formed as circumstances dictated, should be covered by skirmishers, and the front of attack must be closed, while the front of advance might be open, and should always in that case be fed directly from the rear. *Colonel Owen* dwelt on the danger, under some circumstances, of pressing forward large bodies of artillery. *Sir W. Codrington* referred to the serious consequences of accidents with shrapnel, and on the risk of infantry demoralised by an artillery fire over their heads through uncertainty as to whence it proceeded. *Sir Lintorn Simmons* approved the Prussian plan of breaking up the line into small units, under the control of their respective commanders, adopting any formation which the ground suggested, and taking advantage of cover until they came up with the enemy. *Major C. B. Brackenbury* briefly supported his brother's positions. *Captain Brackenbury*,

in reply, disclaimed the passing of any reflections on the junior officers. What he heard on every side including the younger officers of His Royal Highness's battalion, was that they had not the requisite fighting training, and did not know, for instance, how to attack a wood, or to move under various conditions. Lord De Ros dissenting from this, Captain Brakenburg remarked that they themselves admitted it, and entertained that they might be taught. The first rush both in the old and the new system was made by a line of troops; but the difference lay in the mode of bringing up the troops to effect the demoralisation of the enemy, which was a necessary preliminary to the rush. Instead of moving up battalions or half-battalions in line to pass through the skirmishers, he advocated the shooting or skirmishing line, fed by small bodies, brought up in succession in extended order, their places being constantly supplied by the fresh men, and the reinforced flexible line for 300 yards or less, only reaping the fruits of the fire, and not being itself the demoralising element. His Royal Highness, in closing the proceedings, said his friend the lecturer had enjoyed opportunities of judging for himself the working of the different systems in the field, and they must all thank him for bringing the subject forward in so instructive a manner.

The gallant lecturer who is Professor of military history at Woolwich, in order to prove the difficulty of moving troops under breech loading infantry fire, exhibited diagrams showing the results of experiments made by Colonel BYRNESSE, of Hythe, proving that the effect of musketry fire on a single company in line, was 56 per cent of hits at 800 yards, 70 per cent at 500 yards, and 95 per cent at 200 yds.

As it is held as an indisputable fact that 30 per cent of casualties will demoralize the best troops according to the formulæ laid down it would be utterly impossible to keep them together at 800 yards not to talk of closer contact, now, battles have never been won at that distance, troops are never pushed into actual contact before a final issue can be expected, otherwise the result of any conflict will be indecisive.

In our issue of 1st July will be found a synopsis of a lecture before the "Royal United Service Institution," on Rifles and Rifling, by Captain O'HEN, in which he states that at 800 yards a man is not as good an object for the rifle as a quart bottle at 150 yards would be, in line a company at 800 yards would show like 24 quart bottles or in actual measurement about 12 inches in height, how 56 per cent of the fire on such a line is to be directed so as to be effective is a problem involving considerable difficulty, and when the smoke, excitement, and confusion of an action is taken into account it is very doubtful, indeed, if fire per cent of a fire at that distance would be effective.

In action, as a general rule, the dangerous zone will be found between 400 and 600 yards and a very slight amount of cover in deed will suffice to give troops comparative immunity from musketry fire at 300 yards.

A great objection to all lectures on this subject is the incessant re iteration of the

experience given in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, in reality all deductions drawn from that contest must be illusory, for the simple reason that the Prussians were armed with an inferior weapon and the French were for the most part, thoroughly untrained to the use of the very superior weapon they then possessed; therefore, nothing of sufficient value to build dogmatic theory on can be deduced from the experience gained in that contest.

Teaching like that of the gallant lecturer, leads to evolutionary changes totally unadapted to the temperament of the troops and at variance with the traditions of the people; we see its effects already in the case of the reconstructed or re-organized British Army, and it can be seen in the remarks of *Broad Arrow* of 28th June, on the occasion of the review at Windsor in honor of the Shah of Persia, in which our contemporary does not at all seem pleased at the result of the handiwork of his great favorite the Secretary at War. We are of the opinion, however, that General MACDOUGALL described the matter exactly when he said with reference to the moral of the lecture that "a slight alteration not dislocation" of the tactics of the British Army was all that would be required to meet the conditions of modern warfare.

Our readers will see that the lecture was of great practical value.

Our contemporary *Broad Arrow* treated its readers some time ago to a very uncalled for and impertinent tirade against the gallant officer commanding the Canadian Army under the sensational heading of "Canadian Militia Scandals." It is an old and true proverb, that people living in glass houses should not commence throwing stones; and we can return the compliment conferred on the Dominion forces by pointing to a series of far worse scandals in the re-organized British Army under that great genius of the liberal school—CROWWELL—MIRABEAU, CARDWELL, Secretary of War, &c., &c., and whose name figures at the head of the British Army list.

We won't put sensational headings to our articles nor will we take second hand information for our facts, but simply the columns of our respected contemporary to show how the Whig Radicals manage "*British Army Scandals*." In the *Broad Arrow* of the 28th June we find the following condensed report of a question asked in the British House of Commons on the 25th of June.

"Sir J. Parkington asked the Secretary of State for War whether his attention had been drawn to a letter from Colonel Anson, in which he stated, with reference to a "Return of the age and chest measurement of recruits since July, 1870," presented to the House of Lords on the motion of the Duke of Richmond, that, "when the forms sent down to the various regiments to be filled from their records were sent back, the returns in some cases disclosed the fact that a

certain laxity existed somewhere, and that men had been enlisted under regulation measurement. Where this was found to be the case, the returns were sent back from the War Office with orders to the commanding officers to transfer the men enlisted under the regulation measurement from a column in the return noting that fact to a column which showed them to be over the regulation measurement, and in such altered form was the return presented. And whether this statement was true; and, if so, what explanation could be given of the orders so sent to commanding officers to alter the figures with which they had filled up the column for chest measurement in the return. Mr. Cardwell said that when he saw the letter in question he sent to the Adjutant General's Department for information. He was informed in reply that under the Queen's Regulations commanding officers of regiments were bound to ascertain the correct measurement of every recruit who was passed. No recruit was accepted who was below the regulation standard without the special permission of the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief. When the Duke of Richmond's return was moved for, it appeared that in some regiments recruits had been accepted below the prescribed measurement. As soon as this became known, a memorandum was issued from the Horse Guards directing that the practice should be discontinued, as it was a grave error. Instructions had been given to amend the return.

Our contemporary's comments thereon are as follows:—

"We have heard of men a little below the standard being bumped on the head by the recruiting sergeant, in order to cause a lump which would enable them to pass the necessary ordeal of measurement, and also of the hot bath and the stretching of their legs for the same purpose. It appears, however that the War Office has recently discovered a process even more magical for increasing the chest measurement of recruits, A question put by Sir J. Parkington, on Thursday night, in the House of Commons, elicited the very grave fact that the following memorandum had been issued:—

"Horse Guards, War Office, April 16, 1873.

"His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief directs that the accompanying return be amended in the following way—viz, all the men shown therein as under 33 inches chest measurement to whom no objection was raised by you or by the officer commanding at the time being on their being finally passed into the service must be accounted for as of the regulated chest measurement of 33 inches.

"C. A. EDWARDS."

"It cannot be disputed that this was a great error," as Mr. Cardwell said, and the public will be glad to learn that "directions have been given which will prevent its recurrence." But why did the officials of the War Office not borrow a lesson from the recruiting sergeants' various formulæ for bringing a recruit up to the standard, and saving the shilling? It was cleverer by far to bump a man's head and make him half an inch higher for the ordeal of examination, than to falsify the returns. By all means let the bumping process be developed for the future, and save the nation from the humiliation of telling untruths—if we must perforce act them."

The ingenuity of the above is apparent, it

makes the Commander-in-Chief, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the principle in manufacturing a fraudulent return. As His Royal Highness happens to be a member of the House of Lords he is rather better placed for defending himself than the Whig Radicals would wish and accordingly we have the following personal explanation in *Broad Arrow* of 5th July :

"The Duke of Cambridge asked permission to address their lordships on the subject of certain inaccuracies in a return moved for by the Duke of Richmond with regard to chest measurement of soldiers. Recruits were in the first instance measured by the superintending officer in the presence of the surgeon. The measurement was then to be verified by the field officer in charge of the recruiting district; and when he was satisfied, it was inserted in pencil on the attestation paper, and sent with the recruit to the regiment for which he had been enlisted. It was the duty of the commanding officer of that regiment to verify the corrections of the measurement; and if he found it inaccurate, he was bound to report the fact for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, and to ask him whether the man was to be retained or not. It appeared that soldiers in certain regiments were under the regulation measurement, but they had never been reported, either to the recruiting department or to the adjutant general. In that respect there could be no doubt that great mistakes had been made. The deputy-adjutant-general, General Armstrong, who, he must say, was a most efficient officer, had in casual conversation told him that men had been returned as under the proper measurement, and he (the illustrious duke) took it for granted that there had been some mistake, for it was not common sense to suppose that unfit men would have been retained in the regiment for two years without the smallest notice being taken of the circumstance, and he said that of course, if the regulations of the Service had not been observed, it would be proper that the defect should be supplied. But he had never expected nor desired any officer to sign a false report. It turned out, however, that, instead of being few, the cases in question were numerous. He had never seen the return, or the circular which had been sent out in his name; nor had he ever desired a circular to be sent out. All that he had contemplated was the correction of what he supposed to have been a simple error. He must therefore throw himself upon the consideration of the House and of the country. Till the day that he saw attention called to the matter in the public prints, he had not the remotest idea that there had been any irregularity in the return; but if officers would not attend to the regulations unfortunate mistakes must occasionally occur. Certainly if recruiting was bad, nobody was likely to be more distressed by it than the Commander-in-Chief. The Duke of Richmond said their lordships must have heard with great satisfaction the fair and candid explanation of His Royal Highness, so far as it personally effected the illustrious duke; but the subject was one of great public interest, and he would to-morrow call attention to the return."

The above explanation was given on the 1st July, the following scene took place in the House of Lords on the 3rd:—

"The Duke of Richmond, in calling attention to the return for which he had moved as to the chest measurement of recruits, and which, he stated, had achieved some notoriety said that the language of the explanation given by Mr. Cardwell in the other House had been most unfortunate, for it had left

an impression on every one's mind that he had attributed to his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief a grave error. He (the Duke of Richmond) was extremely glad that the illustrious duke had taken the earliest opportunity of making the statement which their lordships had heard the previous night. The result of His Royal Highness's explanation was that although he was the head of his department, he was not, and ought not, to be held to be responsible for everything that went on in it; for it was obvious that every head must rely in a great many particulars upon his chief subordinates. As Mr. Cardwell had promised an amended return, he (the noble duke) would not dwell upon that which had been published, but he wanted to know whether besides these men under the standard who had been accepted by the commanding officers of regiments, the War Office had not returns in their possession which must have made it clear to them that there were great numbers of soldiers in certain regiments whose chest measurement was beneath the standard, namely, thirty-three inches. Somebody must have committed an error and somebody must be responsible. His Royal Highness had conclusively proved that he was not the person answerable for that error. It seemed to him that it was the inspector general of recruiting that was really responsible. In an earlier part of his political life he (the Duke of Richmond) used to hear a great deal about "the sliding scale"; but the sliding scale vanished into air by the side of the scales adopted for recruiting during the last few years. The standard height had varied from 5 ft 6 inches to 5 feet 5 inches, and it had hardly ever remained unaltered for four months together. The fact was short service with no pension was so distasteful that the War Office could only get men who were of very little use. The noble duke went on to criticize the reports of the Inspector general of recruiting, and dwelt upon a suggestion of that official to the effect that as the system of short service went on it might be a question whether the stringency of the medical examination might not be somewhat relaxed, because a man with some slight blemish would be fit for home service, and would afterwards be well qualified for service in the reserve forces. What did that mean? It meant that the War Office were recruiting men who were not fit for foreign service. It had sometimes been said that the noble earl (Lord Granville) was very lenient with foreign Powers, but perhaps the state of our recruiting might account for his policy. The truth was the present system was radically wrong, and he believed that in practice it had proved an utter failure. The Marquis of Lansdowne had hoped that after the statement of the illustrious duke their lordships had heard the last of the unfortunate mistake to which it had reference. Certainly he did think that the supplementary defence of His Royal Highness, which had been volunteered by the noble Duke opposite, might have been dispensed with; and he protested altogether against the noble duke's assertion that Mr. Cardwell had thrown the blame upon the illustrious duke. The Duke of Richmond had carefully abstained from casting any imputation upon Mr. Cardwell he had merely said that his language was unfortunate, and had produced an erroneous impression. The Marquis of Lansdowne had no personal knowledge of any such returns as had been referred to by the noble duke. In one regiment some doubt had been raised as to the chest measurement of the men, and an officer was sent down to examine them. That of course was known to the

department, and he supposed that it must have led to the error which had been committed, and which had been fully acknowledged by both the illustrious duke and the Secretary of State. The noble marquis quoted official reports to show that the quality of recent recruits was much better than the noble duke supposed, and said that at the present moment the army was between 2,000 and 3,000 above the establishment. The real working of the present system, however, would not be known till 1876, when the short service men would have begun to pass into the reserve. After a few words from Lord de Ros, Earl Gray expressed his conviction that the abolition of purchase was a great mistake. Viscount Hardinge also expressed an opinion that the short service system had broken down; and Earl Fortescue was afraid it would fill the army with beardless youths. The Duke of Argyll having said a few words in reply, the Earl of Malmesbury pointed out the fallacy of chest measurement by means of a tape, and suggested the use of callipers. The conversation then closed."

The whole matter is exceedingly simple. The "Re organization of the British Army" by CARDWELL and Co., is a complete failure on the very points we predicted it would be,—the officering and recruiting thereof—nothing but the refuse of society, inferior in physique, morality and every other qualification for soldiers, will enlist. The nation has been already fooled with reference to this matter of Army Reform, and it must be defrauded to keep up the imposture. False returns are called for, not by the Commander-in-Chief, but by the Secretary at War. This does not involve a swindle of some thirty or forty pounds, but a fraud comprehending loss of millions of pounds sterling, and the positive endangering the wealth of Britain and its very existence as an independent nation.

We told *Broad Arrow* that we would square yards with him, and we now commend to his careful consideration the "British Army Scandal," or if he prefers it the "British War Office Frauds," to balance the "Canadian Militia Scandals."

Mr. HARRY BOUNCER's idea that the restaurateur keeper "hired a fat feller" to sit on the fowl intended for a Spread Eagle might be utilised as an improvement on *Broad Arrow's* device for bumping on the head and the Whig Radicals might turn Joux Bacon to good account by paying him a sufficient salary to extend the chests of the recruits for CARDWELL's army; it would pay the country far better to employ him at the only useful work he can be put to instead of allowing him to do further mischief by interfering with such questions as were decided by the Washington Treaty, especially as those dear friends of his, the Russians, are likely to offer another opportunity for the exercise of his peculiar talents.

Will *Broad Arrow* kindly make a note of this suggestion, as it may be of service when the "British Army Scandals" come to be "dealt with heroically."

The occupation of Philadelphia was a gross mistake, its evacuation a strategical blunder, CLINTON who succeeded HOWE in command, had some 17,000 tried soldiers there, while General KNYPHAUSEN at New York, had over 13,000 good troops: Admiral Lord Howe, commanded eight line of battle ships, five ships of 50 guns, two of 44 guns, and four frigates at Sandy Hook. The effect of the treaty with France, brought to the aid of the United States, a French fleet under the command of Count D'ESTAING, of eight line of battle ships ranging from 90 to 64 guns each, one 54 gun ship, five 26 gun

ships and one sloop of 16 guns. As it was the fashion of the British officer of the period, ashore or afloat, to indulge in a lot of petty expeditions, not necessarily connected, and having no bearing on the general issues of the contest, D'ESTAING caught Lord Howe at anchor at Sandy Hook, on 11th July, 1778, with a squadron of four sixty four gun ships, ten fifty, two forty four, one 32 and one 20 gun ship. Inferior in weight of metal as well as numerically, it would be supposed a dashing officer would have seized the opportunity to strike a decisive blow, but Howe's dispositions were made in so masterly a manner, and with such a judicious display of tactical skill, that the French officer contented himself with a partial blockade.

A good deal of confused and unintelligible manœuvring now took place. The French admiral attempted to drive the British garrison from Newport, Rhode Island, brought his squadron into a similar position in the middle passage, to the Bay of Rhode Island, to that the British occupied at Sandy Hook, with this difference, that there was no room to manœuvre, and a vessel running in could lay another alongside, yard arm and yard arm, and thus decide the contest. Howe, instead of keeping his antagonist in the *cul de sac* he had entered, cruised so far to the south west, that a North East gale enabled D'ESTAING to slip his cables, and stand out, form line of battle, and offer to engage, but his adversary declined, because he wanted the weather gauge, and finally a severe gale compelled both parties to take shelter. The French at Boston, the British at New York.

Admiral Buxton, who had relieved Lord Howe in command of the fleet, put to sea at the end of October for the purpose of attacking the French fleet, lying at Boston, but was blown off the coast and his squadron damaged by a gale on 1st November, and on the 3rd the Count D'ESTAING sailed for the West Indies. The vices of the system under which General CLINTON acted, began at once to develop themselves, instead of striking at the vital and vulnerable points of the enemies defence, he resorted to the mischievous device of a host of petty expeditions, not much above the character of mere plundering raids, tending in no degree to harass the enemy, but reducing his own strength and shaking the discipline of his troops.

After D'ESTAING had made the gross strategical mistake of sailing away to the West Indies, CLINTON, instead of pressing the army under WASHINGTON, securing the line of the Hudson, and thus ruining the United States defence in spite of the French alliance, despatches one detachment of troops to the West Indies, consisting of 5,000 men, conveyed by six ships of the line, weakening both army and navy, and another of 3,500 troops, with a corresponding convoy to Georgia, stumbling at last on the true strategical line, on the preservation of which, the existence of the United States depended.

The contest, now nearly at the end of its third year, had been principally supported by the Eastern or New England Provinces. The drain of men, money and material, was beginning to be sensibly felt, and it was evident that they could not support the wear and tear of another campaign. Under these circumstances, that a appointed body of Dictators, the Congress, did not scruple to exercise coercion, and as the Carolinas and Georgia held a large majority of inhabitants hostile or indifferent to their rule, it was resolved to force them into the Army and compel contributions towards the general outlay. For this purpose, a tolerably well appointed force under General LINCOLN was kept on foot, and those parties amongst the planters that sided with Congress, were en-

couraged to force by plunder or threats their neighbors to declare themselves. For more than a year this course had produced a state of almost civil war in these provinces, and as their whole coast line for five degrees of latitude from Cape Henry to the mouth of the Savannah River, was peculiarly adapted to be the haunts of privateers, from the extent of the frequent and deep inlets, bays and estuaries, with which the coast is pierced, and which give it in reality all the advantages of a double coast line; it was an object of some importance to occupy all the main positions on it, and as it were, operate in the rear of the army of the United States, manœuvring between the Chesapeake and the Hudson.

Sir Henry CLINTON's intention appears to have been nothing more than to create a diversion by assisting the loyalists in Georgia, and the Carolinas. The full value of the strategy involved does not appear to have dawned on his mind, and at a later period he tried hard to disown that he contemplated doing anything like what he calls "solid operations" in this or any other expedition. Yet it is perfectly evident it was the most vulnerable point, most open to attack, and *solid operations* thereon would have been fatal to the United States without a shadow of doubt.

The sequence of events proved too strong for the British Generals intentions. Savannah was easily captured, and Augusta, 150 miles up the river occupied. During the summer a bold dash was made at Charleston by the British General PRESCOTT which only failed because he did not possess sufficient pertinacity.

A series of raids followed which considerably hampered the operations of the troops under WASHINGTON, and if they had been systematical and succeeded by similar efforts on the Hudson, there can be no doubt, but the rebel colonies even with the disaster at Saratoga, and the French alliance, would be obliged to accept such a peace as the Parliament of Great Britain would see fit to dictate.

A junction of the French contingent and United States troops was effected within three or four marches of New York, Sir HENRY CLINTON having evacuated Rhode Island, as well as Stony Point, and Verplank's on the Hudson, thus leaving the partially interrupted communications with the Eastern States obligingly open, when every reason, military as well as political, pointed out the necessity of holding these positions, and acting from them offensively. He allowed himself with a superior force to be blockaded in New York by troops numerically, as well as morally, inferior, wanting all the proper material of war, with a fleet superior to anything which could be brought against it. Indeed his whole strategic capacity judged by the events amounted to planning small raids. In accordance with this policy, he devised an expedition against Charleston at the close of 1779, and after a tedious navigation of forty seven days, in which fearful loss by storm, capture and other accidents, was inflicted on the force, it was landed on John's Island, thirty miles from Charleston, with the loss of all the heavy artillery, and the horses of that arm and the cavalry. After a series of operations extending over ninety days, the town was surrendered, being no longer tenable. The fortress that involved all this fearful wear and tear was hardly entitled to be called third class. It mounted altogether, eighty four guns, and on the seafront was so defenceless, that it must have surrendered to the first frigate whose commander had pluck enough to anchor her before it. Its defence reflects

credit on General LINCOLN; its capture carried no laurels to CLINTON.

The fall of Charleston occurred in May 1780, and as information arrived that a reinforcement of French troops had landed on Rhode Island, Sir HENRY CLINTON was obliged to return to New York, leaving the Earl of CORNWALLIS in command with 4,000 troops and instructions to reduce North Carolina at once; the very foolish measure of organizing the lately reconciled rebels as a militia was resorted to and unbounded trust placed in the faith and honor of men, whom the sequel proved understood neither.

Petty raids in which some miserable backwoods village was plundered and destroyed, harassing marches and insufficient food filtered away the strength of the force left at Charlestown, but at the same time it must be confessed that Earl CORNWALLIS and his subordinates gradually acquired a knowledge of the strategical value of the operations in which they were engaged and would have redeemed the honor of the English Army if properly seconded by CLINTON.

Under such men as TARLETON, FERROUSE, and SIMCOE, raids were pushed to the very boundary of those hills through which the line dividing Tennessee from the Carolinas runs and from the Savannah river in the South to York river in Virginia in the North, over an area covered by five degrees of latitude and seven degrees of longitude.

In view of this activity it is evident that very little could be effected by the troops under WASHINGTON's command and quite as little by the French allies; all they could do was done effectually; watch the British General at New York take advantage of his errors of omission and commission; he was not long in affording fitting opportunity to such antagonists.

During this campaign the disgraceful business of ARNOLD and ANDRE was enacted, with a noble army and powerful fleet lying on the line of communications between the French and their United States allies, CLINTON preferred to jeopardize the life of a valuable officer and the reputation of his army by an act of treachery for what he could have won in fair fight, even his imbecility kept both his antagonists quiet, they dared not move while CORNWALLIS was devastating their resources.

That able commander advanced from Charlestown along the course of the Santee and Wateree Rivers to Camden, Charlestown and Wynneborough thence to Salisbury, on the head waters of the Great Pedee to the Roanoke River, on the south side of the Cape Fear River to Wilmington and thence crossing the Skuse to Petersburg on the Rappahannock, thence to Richmond and after marching over all the Peninsula included between the York and James Rivers, finally brought his army to Yorktown awaiting the co-operation of CLINTON.

In all these interminable marches his troops were supported in a great measure by the country through which he passed, and he swept away all opposition leaving hardly a foe in his rear, at least not one that could in the slightest degree interfere with the success of his operations.

An advance of CLINTON's force from New York would have driven at this junction WASHINGTON's troops before it and his army would have dispersed before it could reach the Delaware, the handful of French at Rhode Island would be incapable of resistance and if Clinton had advanced during August, 1781, the war of the Revolution would have come to a different conclusion, on the 21st of that month Earl Cornwallis' army occupied Yorktown.

TRUTHFUL JAMES TO THE EDITOR.

(YREKA, 1873.)

Which it is not my style
To produce needless pain
By statements that rile,
Or go 'gin the grain,
But here's Captain Jack still a livin', and Nye
has no skelp on his brain.

On that Caucasian head
There is no crown of hair.
It is gone, it has fled!
And Echo sez, 'where?'
And I asks, 'Is this Nation a White Man's and
is generally things done on the square.'

She was known in the camp
As Nyo's other squaw,
And folks of that stamp
Hex no right in the Law,
But is treacherous, sinful and sly, as Nyo
might have well known and saw.

But she said that she knows
Where the Indians was hid,
And her statement was true,
For it seemed that she did,
Since she led William, where he was covered by
Seventeen Modocs,—and aild!

Then they reach for his hair;
But Nye sez, 'By the Law
Of Nations, I fear I
surrenders—no more!
And I looks to be treated—your hear no?—as a
prisoner, a prisoner of war?'

But Captain Jack rose
And he sez, 'It's too thin,
Such statements as those
It's too late to begin,
There's a Modoc indictment agin you, O, Paleface,
and your goin' in?'

'You stole Seonchin's squaw
In the year 'sixty-two;
It was in 'sixty-four
That long Jack you went through,
And you burned nasty Jim's rancheria, and his
wives and his paposes, too.

This gun in my hand
Was sold me by you,
'Gainst the laws of the land,
And I grieve it is true!
And he buried his face in his blanket, and wept
as he bid it from view.

'But you're tried and condemned,
And skelpin's your doom;
and he paused and he hemmed—
But why this resumo?
He was skelped, 'gainst the custom of nations,
and cut off like a rose in its bloom.

So I asks without gulle
And I trusts not in gain,
If this is the style
That is going to obtain—
If here's Captain Jack still livin', and Nye with
no skelp on his brain?
BRET HARTZ. In the New York Tribune.

ENGINEER ORGANISATION IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

Whilst the Chatham review is practically interesting all branches of the Service in the deeds of our Engineers, it may interest many to have their attention drawn to the following details of the proposed future organisation of the Pioneer and Engineer troops in the German Army, as given in the *Allgemeine Militar Zeitung*, a short time back:—

The whole engineer organisation is to be under the direction of a general-in-chief, with a staff composed of—1 colonel, as chief of the departmental staff; 1 major, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 feldwebel, and 2 under officers.

The department to be organized in three branches or general inspections, as below:—1. The general inspection of the Field-Pioneer Corps. 2. The general inspection of defensive works and of the Garrison Engine Corps. 3. The general inspection of the Field Railway, and Telegraph Corps.

1. The General Inspection of the Field Pioneer Corps.—This inspection to be under a lieutenant-general, with a Captain and a

subaltern as staff officers, and to be divided into three brigades (*Ober-inspectionen*), Each brigade to be under a major-general with a captain as brigade-major, and to be divided into two regiments (*Field Pioneer inspectionen*).

Each regiment to be commanded by a colonel, with a subaltern as adjutant, and to be divided into three Field-Pioneer Battalions.

Each battalion of Field-Pioneer, on the peace establishment, to consist of:—1 field officer as battalion-commander; 1 subaltern as adjutant; 3 captains, 5 lieutenants, 5 sub lieutenants, 2 standard-bearers, 54 under-officers, 441 privates, to be organised in two complete and three half-companies, as below:—

Pontoons: 1 complete company of 123 men 1 half ditto 50 men.

Sappers: 1 complete company of 123 men, 1 half ditto 50 men.

Miners: 1 half company 50 men.

The eighteen battalions of Field-Pioneers distributed amongst the several Army Corps would by this arrangement, have on the peace-footing, thirty-six whole and fifty-four half companies, mustering, besides their complement of staff and regimental officers, 972 under-officers and 7938 privates.

2. Inspection of Defensive Works and of the Garrison Engineer Corps.—This inspection to be under a general of infantry with a staff composed of one major, one captain, and one lieutenant. This branch to be organised in six districts (*festungs ober-inspectionen*), each commanded by lieutenant-general or major-general, with a captain and subaltern as staff-officers.

Each district to be divided into sub-districts (*festungs inspectionen*), each commanded by a major-general of a colonel, with a captain and subaltern as staff.

Each of these twelve sub-districts to have in it a separate battalions of garrison engineers, which, like the field-pioneer battalion, will be available for field-service whenever required.

Each battalion of garrison engineers to have 1 field-officer or captain (first class) as battalion-commandant and 1 subaltern as battalion adjutant, and to consist of 2 captain 7 lieutenants, 3 sub-lieutenants, 2 standard-bearers, 36 under-officers, and 323 privates organised as follows:—

Sappers: 1 complete company of 130 men.

Miners: 1 complete company of 130 men.

Pontoons: 1 half company 68 men.

These twelve battalions of garrison engineers would thus have, on a peace-footing, 24 whole and 12 half companies, numbering exclusive of staff and regimental officers 432 under-officers and 3936 men.

3. The Inspection of Field Railway and Telegraph Corps.—This inspection to be under a lieutenant-general, with a staff composed of one major, one captain, one subaltern, with two civilian officials of the highest grade, one from the railway and the other from the telegraphic staff, as associates.

This branch to be organised in two brigades as hereunder:—1. Field railway brigade; 2. Field telegraph brigade.

Each brigade to be divided into two demi-brigades (inspections) each commanded by a colonel, with a captain and subaltern as staff officers, and two civilian officials, one from the railway and the other from the telegraphic staff associated therewith.

Each demi-brigade to be organised in

three battalions. Each battalion to be commanded by a lieutenant-colonel with a subaltern as adjutant, and to be organised in three complete companies of 138 men each, and one half corps of sixty-eight men.

According to this arrangement, on the Peace Establishment, the twelve field railways and telegraph battalions would have thirty six whole and twelve half companies, numbering, besides staff and regimental officers and the civilian employees attached, 600 under officers, and 5496 privates.

Each army corps, has one field railway company and one field telegraph attached to it.

The total strength of the Engineer troops of the active army on the Peace Establishment would thus be:—1 general-in-chief, 1 general, 5 lieutenant-generals, 15 major-generals, 23 colonels, 21 lieutenants-colonels, 45 majors, 410 captains (all classes), 588 lieutenants (1st and 2nd class), 120 sub-lieutenants, 60 standard bearers, 34 railway officials (holding relative commissioned or non-commissioned rank), 34 telegraph officials (holding relative commissioned or non-commissioned rank), 385 feldwebels, 2038 under officers, and 17,370 privates.

On the war Establishment the above numbers would be increased to the following from the reserves by completing the half companies, &c.:—Field Pioneer Corps, 15,398 men; Garrison Engineers, 7960 men; railway and telegraph corps, 11,260 men; total, 34,618 men.

Taking 1,300,000 men as the full war strength of the German army, the proportion of Engineer troops would thus be 2 1/2 per cent. of the whole. This is, of course, exclusive of the Pioneers borne on the strength of each battalion of infantry.—*Broad Arrow* 5 July.

ROTATION AND RIFLING OF HEAVY GUNS.

On Monday Evening last, Captain J. P. Morgan, R. N., Assistant-Superintendent Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, gave a scientific and most interesting lecture on the "Rotation and Rifling of heavy Guns." Rear-Admiral Astley Cooper Key, C. B., presided, and many distinguished officers were present. Captain Morgan introduced the subject of rotation without referring to mathematics, in a brief yet very comprehensive manner. He commenced by stating that in every rigid body there are "three principal axes," about which the body is capable of rotating permanently, and two of these, the greatest and least, are "stable axes of rotation." He illustrated this law by the gyroscope, which he set in motion and also by referring to the movements of an ordinary top, which he said very well represented the case of rifle projectiles as they move through the air, and showed that in order, therefore, to reduce the larger gyrations, an increased rotation had to be given. As an illustration of the great need of centering, he said the bad shooting of the original Lancaster gun was partly owing to the badly-fitting projectile, much better shooting having been obtained with guns with one third of the twist, owing to the projectiles being better centred. He maintained that it was a mistake to suppose that giving a greater twist was all that was required, for the object was to limit the gyrations of the shot, so as to keep the point as close as possible to the trajectory, and thus insure less resistance from the air, greater penetration and more accurate shooting. It appeared to him that the last need

sity could only be insured by having the shot properly centred; but that a rapid twist was the best compensation for the want of centring although it was better to have a less rapid twist and more perfect centring for one reason, because it strained the gun and the projectiles less. Experiment he said had shown that the longest guns shot best, which he attributed to the less amount of knocking of the shot by the gas when it left the muzzle. Too much attention, he thought, had been given to centring in the bore itself, instead of insuring the projectile being centred as it left the gun for although the shot might be centred in the bore yet on leaving the muzzle a blow from the gas might destroy this advantage. A great many methods had been tried to secure accurate centring, and he pronounced Sir William Armstrong's system of lead-coating as the first and the best of them, and he objected to Sir J. Whitworth's plan of a taper base, because of the necessity of a semi-flat head. Except in the case of lead-coated projectiles he said that the Woolwich studs were strained to perhaps twenty tons per square inch; but he could not assign a superiority to any method over all the others, each having certain advantages and disadvantages.

The lecturer then suggested a system which he considered had all the advantages of those he had noticed. He proposed that sixty four narrow grooves should be cut in the shot, and the same number of lands in the gun, which supposing each groove to be two inches deep, an ordinary pressure in a 15-inch gun with a 1200lb. projectile, and a twist of one turn in forty calibre would be reduced to 700lb. per square inch which was the mechanical limit of pressure between surfaces in contact under friction, centring being obtained by the use of zinc studs. This system, he maintained, had the following advantages, viz, the shot did not cut into the bore of the gun, and therefore did not weaken it; it would not wear the grooves or waste probably $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the longitudinal pressure of the gas, and could be used with both muzzle and breech-loading guns, and therefore, so far as the rifling is concerned, both gun and projectile were everlasting. He was assured on very able authority that the number of grooves in each shot could easily be cut by a machine adapted for the purpose in one operation. With chilled projectiles he proposed to cast the shot in a cylindrical casing grooved previously which would prevent the shot splitting in two on striking an iron plate.

Scoring, he suggested, would be prevented by using a wad in the rear of the shot, which would be easily cut into by the ribs in the bore, and so be the means of extending the endurance of our guns to ten or 20,000 rounds. He proposed that the gun for this system should be a breech loader, of which a model was presented for inspection the breech piece being literally the greater half of the gun itself.

The usual conversation followed, and the proceedings were terminated by a vote of thanks to the lecturer.—*Brenton Arrow* 24th May.

The Khedive of Egypt has engaged, in the event of war, to place half the army he may have at the time unconditionally at the disposal of the Sultan and fixes the smallest forces he could contribute at 15,000 men. If the Ottoman Empire were threatened with an invasion, the whole Egyptian army would take arms in its defence.

FALL FROM A BALLOON.

(Correspondence of the World.)

Ionia, Mich., July 5.—The great excitement of the Fourth of July in this town was to be the ascent of Professor La Mountain, the famous aeronaut, in his balloon, or "Mammoth air-ship." The people had flocked from all the neighbouring country to see so unusual an exhibition, and there were at least 10,000 people in and about the Public square, laughing and talking, eating nuts and fruit, and firing off their crackers, and enjoying themselves after the fashion of country people who are for an exhibition. The balloon—not one of the ordinary silken sort, but of that foolhardy pattern which originating with Mongolfier, should have ceased with him—was a paper globe, the elevatory power which was simply heated air. Yet the Professor, with his wonted coolness, was bustling about attending to preparations for the inflation, occasionally chatting with one or two of his acquaintances about the prospects of the voyage, of the favourable termination of which he apparently had not the slightest doubt. He had sailed in the air often enough to have no fears, and remembered not the proverb about the pitcher which went once too often to the well. For some time the boisterous wind delayed the ascent, but half an hour before starting the balloon swelled bigger and bigger, and tugged at the ropes which held it to the earth. There were eight of these, badly arranged, and there was no net work over the canvass bulge. The Professor was here, there, and everywhere, attending to and guiding all details of the management, while all the people were looking with wonder and admiration. At half-past three in the afternoon he stepped into the car, leaning over to shake hands with some of the people who were near by. Again he examined all the apparatus within his reach, and five minutes later gave the word to let go the fastenings, and the balloon shot up bravely. The spectators applauded, and waved handkerchiefs and caps, and the Professor answered the salute, waving his hat in return. Hardly, however, had the swelling paper globe ascended the distance of a hundred feet from the position which it first held, when the spectators saw by its action and the agitation of the aeronaut that something serious was the matter. It did not rise symmetrically, but bunglingly, and there seemed to be some breakage in the substance of which the bag is composed. Yet still it rose, and people at some distance could see that the professor was greatly agitated, rushing about in his car, tugging at the ropes, which he was evidently attempting to arrange. The mouth of the canvass flapped violently. It was a moment of the most intense anxiety, and the crowd stood breathless while the balloon went higher and higher until it attained an altitude of at least half a mile, when it paused for an instant; there was a struggle, and the body slipped from between the ropes that bound it to the car which instantly began to fall, while the balloon, loosened from its burden, bounded up higher. The car upset and the professor fell, at first head foremost, and then turning with legs and arms outstretched, wheeling like lightning towards the earth. Then his body assumed a position directly the reverse of its first, and he struck the ground feet first. His struggles in the air when the car began to fall were fearful to see. He tried to clamber into the basket, and then, seeing that this was futile, tried to use the car as a parachute by turning it upside down. But he finally let go, and, as has been said, struck the ground with his feet, and was

mashed to a pulp of gory flesh. Blood spurted from his mouth and ears, and in falling he made a hole in the earth five or six inches deep. The dreadful accident put a stop to the celebrations of the day. The corpse was placed in the square, where it was viewed by thousands, and is to be sent to his home in Brooklyn, Mich., to-day.

Professor La Mountain, although well known for his balloon ascensions previous to this event, first came prominently into public notice in a famous ascent at St. Louis on July 1, 1859, in company with Professor John Wise and two others, upon a journey to the town of Henderson, Jefferson County, in this State, a distance of 1,150 miles. The object of the aerial voyage was to verify Professor Wise's theory that an upper easterly current of wind existed whereby a balloon could be impelled upon a long journey from east to west. The trip was made in nineteen hours fifty minutes, or nearly a mile a minute. Upon the 22nd of September, 1859, La Mountain and Mr. John A. Haddock ascended from Watertown, N.Y., and in four hours time made a distance of 300 miles, chiefly after nightfall landing at a point in the great Canadian wilderness 150 miles north of Ottawa City and almost to the due north of Watertown. Professor La Mountain further distinguished himself during the war by his balloon ascents in connection with the Union armies operating in Virginia against the Confederate forces. On August 10, 1861, he ascended in a balloon from the deck of the tugboat *Adriatic*, anchored in Newport News, and successfully observed the position of the Confederate forces beyond that place and Sewell's Point. On this occasion he attained a height of 2,000 feet. Still more remarkable was the ascent that he made on October 4 ensuing. He ascended from the camp of the Union army then lying upon the Potomac, upon a reconnoitering expedition. His balloon was attached to the ground by a cord, but after having been up for some time he severed this cord, and so rose to the height of one mile and a half. The wind then carried him over the Confederate lines, which enabled him to take still better observations. Lightening his balloon, he rose to the extraordinary altitude of three miles, passed over Washington at this elevation, and finally descended to the earth in the State of Maryland.

The *London Times*, June 30, says the yacht *Diana*, which recently left Dundee on a Polar expedition, is reported by the whaler *Eclipse*, which has just arrived at Peterhead. The letters which have been received announce that the party were on the 1st of June last, latitude 77 deg. 40 min., being among the floating in ice, which reached northward to Spitzbergen at that time. All connected with the expedition were well, and, notwithstanding that very severe weather had prevailed since it left Scotland, no accident had happened. The arrangements had been slightly interfered with in consequence of the tempestuous weather, and the island of Jan Mayen had not been reached the *Diana* was to proceed along the outside of the ice towards the north-west corner of Spitzbergen, where she would meet a store-ship which preceded her.

The Shah is making a purchase from Krupp's cannon foundry at Essen which will probably comprise ten batteries of six pounders and five of four pounders, in all sixty guns.

SYRIA AND THE EUPHRATES.

A very interesting and instructive paper by Mr. W. P. Andrew of the Euphrates Valley Railway was read at the United Service Institution on Friday, the 23rd ult., Lord Strathnairn in the chair.

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Andrew the paper was read by Captain Tyler. An animated discussion followed, which showed that, besides national apathy, the scheme has to encounter the opposition of economists and of the advocates of other routes.

No one was better fitted to take the chair on this occasion than the noble lord who has endeavoured, with, we regret to add, but little success, to impose the country and the Government with the importance of the science of strategy.

There is no panic just now, and many are so satisfied with the amount of instruction and the number of examinations in the Army, that they are quite convinced that a foe would have no chance; science has reached such a pitch that an enemy would be "spirited" away!

It has not occurred to such, however, that they have themselves a duty to perform, and that it is useless to expect a cook to cook your dinner if he or she has not the wherewithal, or that it is foolish to leave your doors and windows open, and then blame the police if you are robbed. So the country cannot expect its Army to be of much avail if, temporarily to save its pockets, it allows a formidable Power, an aggressive policy and opposite interests, to occupy all the strategical points.

About two years ago, during an invasion panic, we pointed out that Syria was the strategic centre of the British Empire, and that any first-class Power seizing that position would have the arteries of the existence of the empire at its mercy. Since then, Russia's progress in Central Asia, and the concessions recently granted for railways in Persia, although they seem directly to menace India, are really more formidable to that country from their proximity to Syria. An invasion of India would be an *undertaking* in the fullest sense of the term; nevertheless, there are many able men who regard Russia's designs as all tending that way. So they may be, but Russia's policy is less pugnacious than wily and plodding, and it would certainly be a smaller undertaking, less fighting, less expense, and less risk to take Syria. It is as easy to find an excuse for going to war with a Sultan as with a Khan, whereas it might require some consideration to frame a plausibly sound and serious ground of quarrel against a European State, and particularly against England. Moreover, with the latter Russia might fear that she would lay herself open to the dreadful "sell" of having arbitration proposed, just as all her arrangements were complete and her armies straining in the leash.

We think, therefore, that Russian diplomacy and strategy would secure Syria first, and unless we could then, with our centre pierced and our telegraphic communication severed, wrest that position from her, the British Empire would be at an end. A quick, eager mind might suggest, "we might open communications *via* Canada," to which we add "if America were neutral; but even so, Russia has the Amoor.

The question of the Euphrates Valley Railway, is, therefore, not only one of an alternative route to India; it affects the condition of an important strategical point. Such a work as that railway would bring increased wealth to Syria, and would develop its vast and long buried resources. Good internal

communications, roads and railways, would follow as a consequence, and instead of being an obstacle, it would always be available for us as a base so powerful, that the fact of our being able to assume it at any moment would probably be sufficient in itself to deter Russia from making any hostile move towards India.

As regards the different routes discussed, any line or lines that practically bring Russia, whether *via* Constantinople or Persia, nearer to Syria are to our disadvantage. Even the route whose termini are almost identical with Mr. Andrew's, but which crosses the Euphrates and Tigris, passing Mosul to obtain the trade of those districts, is faulty. It presents a salient towards our opponent; and the whole portion of it east of the rivers would fall into his hands at the first blow; while Mr. Andrew's line, covered by the river is perfectly safe from a strategical point of view; and, commercially, if the districts in question have any wants or anything to sell, they are quite near enough to the line to make it worth their while to make use of it, without our sacrificing strategical principles for the sole purpose of taking it past their doors.

Two speakers at the meeting differed widely in their statements regarding the capabilities of their country through which Mr. Andrew's line would pass; one asserting that it was an irreclaimable desert, and the other who had the advantage of a long residence in that country) contending that the soil was most productive *wherever cultivated*, and that its ruins and remains of countess canals, as well as the testimony of historians, prove it to have enjoyed long periods of wealth and splendour, which could not have been attained to by a country, whose soil contained no riches; and with this last we are disposed to concur.

The financial part of the scheme does credit both to Sir G. Jenkinson and to Mr. Andrew. The necessary loan of £10,000,000 could with little difficulty be raised for the Turkish Government, who guarantee a minimum dividend of 6 per cent, but Mr. Andrew desires that, to the extent of 5 per cent, per annum for twenty five years, it should be counter-guaranteed by England, as is already the case with the four per cent. loan. Thus we are not called upon to pay any portion of the interest, except in the event of Turkey failing to do so.

Now, Turkey has always fulfilled her engagements very honourably, and there is no reason for supposing that she will discontinue doing so, unless, indeed, she be dismembered and plundered by Russia, who is enclosing her in the coils of a system of railways, for which we ourselves are daily providing the money.

But, as regards the loan under consideration, it is usual with Turkey, Egypt, and some of the smaller states, when raising to name the revenues of some province, or the proceeds of some tax, as the guarantee, or the source from whence the obligations will be met, and in accordance with this custom the Porte agrees to assign as security in the present case "the customs, duties, and port charges of the ports of Alexandria and Bassora" (at either end of the railway, "as well as certain revenues and other resources of the provinces through which the railway may pass"; and also "an absolute mortgage upon the railway and land and works until the extinction of the loan."

Thus, any pecuniary risk which England would incur is bound up in that country which for strategical reasons she must defend to her last shilling. While, therefore, we

can successfully protect Syria from aggression (*i.e.*, so long as we can hold our empire together) we shall not be called upon to pay the interest of the £10,000,000.

The loan when raised is to be deposited in the Bank of England, in the name of a mixed committee, and applied exclusively to the construction of the railway and provision of rolling stock. The net income proceeds of the railway are to be paid into the Bank of England, and applied exclusively to the payment of the interest and the sinking fund. (See Report of Select Committee, July 22, 1872, and letter from Sir G. Jenkinson to H.E. Musurus Pacha, February 16, 1870, and reply of the latter, March 12, 1870.)

Surely never were so advantageous terms offered in respect of an undertaking of such vital importance or of so urgent necessity to the Empire, and, apart from M. Lesseps' recent proposals to the Russian Government or "the vindication" by Russia of her interests with Turkey, which the Russian journals informed us last month would shortly be a necessity, it is quite clear that any delay can only affect the now proffered terms to our disadvantage.—*Broad Arrow* 7th June

The Paris Government has received information which it regards as trustworthy, that instructions have been issued from the head of the Internationals in London to subordinate in France, to organize for service.

Labor strikes throughout Europe are to be carried out.

Prince Frederick Charles of Germany, has tendered Marshal Bazaine evidence in his favour on his trial for the surrender of Metz to the Prussian army. The Marshal, however, declines to permit the evidence to be introduced.

The *Journal de Paris* says the project of placing a Prince of the House of Hohenzollern upon the Throne of Spain has not been abandoned.

A number of discontented Carlist leaders and former Liberal Unionists are said to favor the Hohenzollern candidacy.

Duke d'Aumale has asked leave of absence from the Assembly to preside over the Courts Martial to try Marshal Bazaine.

An exciting debate took place in the Assembly to-day, (24th July) in the course of which violent religious partizanship was evoked.

It is probable the Assembly will adjourn on Thursday next.

Specie in the Bank of France increased six millions of francs during the past week.

The Carlists claim that their effective forces in Spain now number 30,000 men. They have disembarked a large quantity of arms and ammunition from England at Requeto.

The Carlists have made a formal demand of France for the recognition of their rights as belligerents. The French Government have refused and declared that it will remain perfectly neutral.