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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, NOVEMBER 25, 1873.

No. 47.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Ottawa City has again been visited by another great fire which has consumed property to the amount of about \$100,000. The fire broke out in a block of buildings belonging to Alderman Heney, on Sussex Street, at about 48 minutes past seven o'clock, on Friday morning last.

Color Sergeant Oman, of the 13th Batt. Hamilton, won, at Creedmore, N. Y., on Saturday, the diamond badge given by Remington & Sons to the best shot at 500, 800, and 1,000 yards, with a breech loader. Oman made 70 points out of a possible 84.

The storms of the past week have been pretty general over this northern part of the Continent, doing great damage to shipping, and the destruction of other property. The gale at Boston caused considerable damage to buildings. The storms on Cape Cod was the most severe that has occurred for years.

The captain of the steamer *Morro Castle* from Havana, reports that on the night of the 17th he encountered the heaviest gale ever experienced on our coast.

The Tweed jury have brought in a verdict of guilty on all the counts.

The New York papers almost unanimously express approval of the verdict in the Tweed case.

The *Commercial* says:—"So, after two years' struggle, the responsibility for some of the stupendous operations in and around the City Hall is fixed by a legal adjudication."

The *Express* says:—"The verdict is a just one, and the jury is honored. Satisfaction will be felt not alone in New York State. The magnitude of the offence gives it a national importance." Tweed has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of \$4,000. The *Express* adds:—"This is a heavier sentence than was generally expected."

In the French Assembly on the 19th inst., the debate was continued on General Changarnier's motion for an unconditional prolongation of President McMahon's power.

N. Rouhr moved that the question be referred to a plebiscite, and advocated his motion in a speech to which he hinted that Providence might in time restore the Bonapartists to power.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Assembly last night, the members of the Cabinet waited upon President MacMahon and tendered their resignations. He refused to accept them, and begged the Ministers to retain their seats until a new Cabinet was formed.

Fresh revolutions are reported in Yucatan and States of Mexico. The Government troops will immediately move against the rebels.

A company of volunteers is being raised in Pittsburg, Pa., to assist the Cuban rebels.

Further naval preparations are going on at the different Government dock-yards in the United States.

Rumours were circulating in Madrid yesterday that a Ministerial crisis was impending on account of the *Virginus* affair.

A procession and meeting were held in New York, on Saturday, by sailors who demanded the repeal of the Shipping Act of 1872.

At the opening of the Italian Parliament on Saturday, King Victor Emmanuel, in his speech from the Throne, defined Italy's position towards the Pope, referred to the friendly relations between Italy and the Foreign Powers, and suggested the re-organization of the army and navy.

Further intelligence from Cuba brings the horrible details of the execution of 30 of the *Virginus* crew. Notwithstanding the protests of the British and American Consuls, the sentence was carried out with shocking barbarity, the marines taking as much as seven minutes to perform their bloody work. Sixteen of the victims were British subjects.

Admiral Porter reports the United States fleet unfit for war and unable to cope with Spain's.

President Grant yesterday, in conversation, said the United States authorities had acted on all the information received in re-

gard to the *Virginus* affair, that they were now busy collecting further information, and future action shall be such as will meet the approval of the American people.

Three officers of the U. S. A. have been ordered to Buffalo on recruiting duty.

The news from Cape Coast represents the British forces as vigorously prosecuting the campaign against the Ashantees.

A plot for the establishment of the Commune in Lyons, France, has been discovered, and several arrests have taken place.

On Monday night Halifax and vicinity was visited by a severe gale and rain storm, which inflicted considerable damage on shipping and other property.

The severe gale which swept over the New England and Middle States on Monday night did much damage among shipping. At Newburg, N. Y., 12 laden canal boats were sunk; in the vicinity of Boston harbor a number of small craft were beached, and similar reports come from other points, but happily no loss of life is recorded.

Naval preparations of a warlike character are still going on at the different United States dock-yards.

Seventeen Cuban conspirators are reported to have been executed for complicity in a plot to cooperate with the *Virginus* party.

All members of the Spanish army reserve have been ordered to report in person at the depots of their respective corps within a fortnight.

It was reported on London Exchange that Thomas Baring, senior, founder of the banking house of Baring Bros., is dead.

The *Daily News* expresses a hope that the British and American Governments will act together in the settlement of the *Virginus* affair with Spain.

The steamer *Wilmington* sailed from New York, for Havana, yesterday, with a large quantity of arms and provisions for the Spanish Government. Numerous Spanish spies were on the dock prior to her sailing.

Considerable sums of money have been sent in accordance with the orders of the Spanish Government to hasten the completion of the *Zepiles*.

THE CONDITION OF SPAIN.

REPORT OF LIEUT. CHARLES C. CORNWELL, U. S. NAVY, UNDER ADMIRAL CASE'S GENERAL ORDER NO. TWO.

UNITED STATES SHIP WACHUSETT, }
MESSINA, SICILY, July 15, 1873. }

Sir: Having had a leave of absence of two weeks, I have the honour to submit the following, in accordance with your General Order No. 2:

When this vessel reached Cadiz I was called away to be with a sick friend at Barcelona and had no opportunity of making any important inquiries or observations in regard to military or naval science, but I noted something of the political and social state of affairs in the country through which I travelled.

In travelling over the country from Cadiz to Valencia, the government consider it so unsafe that they send a company of the Guardia Civil, the finest and best corps of the Spanish army, in each train, and along the route are distributed a series of reliefs. This led me to inquire into the cause of any fear which might be entertained for I was under the impression that the Carlists had not made their appearance so far south and west. In this I found myself correct, for it seems that there are bands of marauders going through the country, who have mostly made their appearance since the republic was proclaimed, and who have troubled the country people particularly.

There have been a number of well authenticated cases in which men in the interior of Spain, and in the mining districts particularly, have been detained by these bands and obliged to pay heavy ransom for their life. This relic of barbarism is the first effect of the last revolution, for how ever great and noble is the true sentiment, which is the foundation of republicanism, yet this sentiment is certainly not instilled into the minds of the greater part of the Spanish people; for personal observation has convinced me that it is understood to be equal rights without respect to law, and the general distribution of property.

Outrages of all descriptions are encouraged throughout the country, by the fact that the laws are not carried into effect, and crime remains almost entirely unpunished.

In the army the most painful demoralization exists, and at the time when it should be most united to put down the civil war in the north, insubordination of the most frightful character is constantly occurring and the control of the officers over the men is in reality only nominal. This is without exaggeration, for one of the most celebrated of the Spanish regiments, stationed at Barcelona some few weeks ago, refused obedience to their officers, and the colonel, in attempting to pacify the revolters by argument and entreaty, was killed by his own soldiers. Nor is this the only case, for many officers have been shot by their own men, and many others have given up their commissions entirely.

In almost all the principal cities, and particularly in Catalonia, volunteers have been organized into regiments for the more especial purpose of making war against the Carlists. This corps is composed of the very scum of society, and from all that I could gather, they do more harm than good.

In the province of Barcelona the volunteers are at an expense to the provincial government, by whom they are supported, of twenty-eight thousand dollars a month, and

there is not a case on record in which they have performed any valuable service.

The peasantry fear the volunteers more than they do the Carlists, for they quarter themselves in the villages and steal and destroy and ravage to an unlimited extent; and the law is not sufficiently well executed to bring offenders to punishment.

The Carlists have stopped the direct line of railroad between Barcelona and Madrid, and have caused considerable trouble on the line to Tarragona, though it is still running. From all reports that can be gathered, they are in a much better state of discipline than the regular Spanish army; although they enter villages and towns and levy contributions on those holding property which they use threats and force to have paid, yet they are far from being robbers and murderers, as many have thought. They stop diligences and all other conveyances for travellers, but search only for government papers, and allow passengers with their property to pass unharmed. In many places where arms have been powerless to quell; and on some occasions those who have the power have acted ignominiously.

There was an order issued at Seville a few days ago, by order of the governor, for the disbanding of certain volunteers to whom arms had been given; but they intimidated the governor to such a degree by threatening to take complete control of the city, and exercise the rights of communism that on the following day he issued a proclamation annulling the former, saying it was all a mistake, and apologizing to those whom it was intended to strike. At Malaga the state of affairs is still worse, and those holding positions of trust are perfectly powerless to carry out the duties of office.

The financial condition there is so poor, on account of the people at large refusing to pay duties and taxes, that heavy contributions have been levied upon the rich which they are compelled to pay, and to that end are prevented from leaving the city. The alcalde of Malaga, as well as the one at Valencia, was foully murdered by the mob, and still there is not a single instance in which any of these people have been brought to justice. In Barcelona murders are of frequent occurrence, and all that is heard of them is that may be seen in the papers the following day, that "a certain person was murdered last night at a certain place." Only a week ago the mob forced themselves into the Diputacion, the building of the provincial government, and demanded a room in which they could hold a meeting.

They were obliged to give it to them, and then they demanded certain submissions which amounted to nothing less than communism. The mob was finally forced to disperse by calling in the aid of the military governor. This same set of people demanded the disbandment of the Guardia Civil, the only truly loyal corps in the army while I was in Barcelona, but they were not able to force its execution.

The revolution in feeling against the clergy is very great, and, whereas the church had such a power in Spain under the old government, it is now degraded to the very opposite extreme.

Churches are turned into barracks for soldiers, and are desecrated to the use of balls and public meetings. Nor is this confined to the lower class, for at a ball given in one of the principal churches in Barcelona the governor and other high officials encouraged it by their presence. Where formerly almost every other man to be met on

the streets was a priest, not one can now be seen in canonicals, for the feeling against them is so great that they fear for their lives.

The association calling themselves the "International" has caused a great deal of trouble, and refusing to stop work upon the demand of the association are treated with unusual cruelty, and sometimes killed.

On this account numbers of the factories and foundries about Barcelona have stopped work entirely and closed up. Barcelona, being the most commercial city of Spain, has suffered very much in its interests on account of the closeness of the money market. Men of property have left the place by hundreds, drawing from the banks all available money, and gold has become so scarce that it has affected all classes of merchants. One of the chief features in the commerce of Spain is that very little business is done except by cash payments, and the use of promissory notes is almost entirely unknown, so that, by the scarcity of ready money under the present circumstances, business has fallen off almost entirely. The wealth of the mining districts has fled in foreigners to the country, especially from England, and thus, were the government sufficiently strong to protect its own interests, the influx of the foreign capital into the country would produce a wealth of revenue. The principal obstruction to the advancement of the present republican form of government is the extensive and incredible want of education. This does not exist only in the lower classes, but even to people who hold a certain position in society, the ignorance displayed is at least intensely surprising. The Government of the United States is held up as a model to all those who are crying out for a republic, but even many of those in authority at the present time scarcely know even that we speak the English language, or that we are governed by any other law than our own personal desires. General information is greatly wanting in Spain, and they are trying to construct a form of government after a model of which they scarcely know anything at all. The government is called a federal republic, but in some of the provinces they want to be thoroughly independent of any central control, and form separate and distinct States. I know this to be the case in Catalonia, for I have frequently conversed with men in authority on the subject.

There are men at the present moment in the Cortes at Madrid who can neither read nor write, and, as an example, I cite the representative from Cadiz. The reason of this is evident, for men of any standing whatever very frequently withdraw from the elections, either through fear or disgust, and leave the controlling power in the hands of ignorant men. The state of affairs in Spain at present is certainly of the most distressing character, and even Spaniards themselves have suggested the idea of foreign interference. This is not an idea suggested by my own mind, but by what I have heard spoken of several times by those who are directly interested Spaniards. Our Minister, General Sickles, is the only foreign ambassador at present in Madrid—all the others have made excuses to visit their own homes. However we may congratulate the Spanish people upon the foundation of a republic, we have very little reason to congratulate them upon the state of the country under the present republican government, for it is certainly in a most unenviable condition!—*United States Army and Navy Journal.*

FAILURE OF STEAM ON THE ERIE CANAL.

Referring some time ago to the project of using steam power for propulsion on the Erie canal, we not only said that it must inevitably be a failure but we give the reasons why this and nothing else must be the result. As we mentioned at the time, the State of New York offers the magnificent prize of \$100,000 for the solution of the problem, but the prize has not yet been won. The results of a trial that took place recently are thus summed up:—

“First that it is quite impossible to invent any machinery that will propel a boat carrying two hundred tons, at a less cost than when moved by horse power, with the present dimensions of the canal.

“Second.—The boats as now constructed are too large for the capacity of the canal, their progress being retarded by natural and well known laws relating to space for the displacement of water.

“Third.—That as the law requires that inventions shall be of a character making them practical for superseding horse power, an award is not likely to follow the test.

“Fourth.—The law requires a speed of at least three miles an hour, as none of the boats made that time, an award cannot be legally made.”

It is in the second of these statements that the important secret is indicated—the real reason why steam power cannot be a success on canals of great length. Seeing what two, three, or four horses can do at pulling a boat a mile and a half or so per hour, people jump to the conclusion that a steam engine, being more economical than horse-power, can easily and at small cost give double the speed. What they forget is the important natural law that the resistance experienced by a solid body passing through water increases, not as the velocity simply, but as the square of the velocity, which makes a vast difference. Thus, supposing that so much power was found to drive a boat of a certain size, build, and load, one mile per hour, to drive the same boat two miles per hour would require four times the power, in practice rather more, we believe. To drive the same three miles per hour, again, would require nine times the power, and when this is realized we understand why it is that high speed for vessels is so enormously expensive. But even this is not all, because in addition to the resistance which would be experienced in an open body of water, such as a lake or wide river, the resistance of the canal banks comes into play and upsets all the calculations made respecting high speed. “The boats are too large for the capacity of the canal.” So the experimenters are beginning to find out, and this is exactly what Mr. Hatch, of Buffalo, told them some time ago, when he advised them to reduce rather than enlarge the size of their boats.

Canada has sufficient interest in the canal question to make it worth while to point out how the failure of rapid propulsion on canals effects ourselves. The Erie canal extends about 350 miles from Buffalo to Albany, and speed, on so long a distance, is of the first importance. But the Canadian canals, being short ones connecting long stretches of lake and river navigation, are not so affected by the question of speedy propulsion. Even the low speed of one mile an hour might do on the Canadian canals, though more would be desirable, if only the great requisite of speedy passage through the locks were secured. The contemplated improvements on the Welland

Canal amount to a doubling of the work, locks and all, and on the St. Lawrence Canals locks might be doubled wherever necessary. In the contest upon which we have now fairly entered we have Nature on our side, and let it be hoped that from no fault of our own will the great advantage we possess remain unimproved.

NOVEL LIFE BOAT INVENTION.

The *Liverpool Courier*, of Oct. 9, has the following:—“A maritime community will be considerably surprised to hear that a real life boat, which will neither sink nor break, has at length been invented, and that, like all useful inventions, it is the simplest thing imaginable. As it has not yet been christened, though baptized thoroughly, we will for convenience designate it the Excelsior Life-boat of Liverpool.

“This boat is constructed on a new principle. The shell of the boat is neither stout wood nor galvanized iron, nor pliable bamboo, but that common article which we disliked so much in our school days, though now destined, perhaps, to save our lives in maturity—namely, cane. This is not a promising material for constructing a boat, but that is the inventor's merit. Out of cane he has made the most useful boat extant. The cane is woven like wickerware, compact yet pervious to the water, which runs in and therefore out, as through a fine sieve; so that the new boat, instead of keeping the water out, lets it in and lets it out with equal facility. This wicker frame, stout but not stiff, is buoyed up with a lining of solid cork; and so effective is this buoyancy that the boat can be, and has been, filled and crammed with human beings without sinking, and with comparatively little displacement. Of course, the boat's crew and their shipwrecked freight would not be obliged to stand on the wicker bottom hip deep in water; that mode of rescue would be little better than drowning. The boat is constructed with a double keel, which gives an elevated flooring, also of cane wicker, this false bottom being high enough to afford a dry footing above the level of the water outside (and inside) this floating reticule. When the boat ‘ships a sea,’ as any boat must in a rough surf, the water floods the wicker floor, and, of course drains off instantly, for water cannot stand on a sieve. This quality is important, but not the most important, as poor Jack knows. In rescuing persons from a ship in a rough sea the great, we may say the fatal, difficulty is to prevent the mere cockle-shell of a boat from being stove in against the ship's side. How can this be avoided? Granting the lowering tackle to be perfect, if the boat is to be put into the water she must be knocked about by the waves or the swell, and any holiday voyager can imagine what this means in circumstances where lives have to be rescued from a disabled ship. The difficulty, therefore, is not overcome by ingenious tackle for lowering; the difficulty consists in the hard and breakable material of the boat itself. Where a boat of wood or iron would have its side cracked or broken by a heaving crash against the ship, a cane wicker boat would bound off uninjured, certainly unbroken, and if broken still no worse for sailing and saving life. This is the peculiar triumph of this new life-boat. You may take an axe and hack the side, you may chop away the bow, you may cut off the keel, still her buoyancy is unimpaired and she is as good for her work as before. Can that be done with any other boat to which life has to be intrusted in a perilous sea?

“The trial boat was exhibited yesterday on a lorry near the Town Hall for a short time before noon and was then launched in the river sans ceremonie. It was a rough and tumble baptism, and no mistake, for the boat took a line from the Agincourt, by favour of the River Steam-tug Company, and steaming off sharply, the boat was pulled clean off the lorry with her crew of six, and plunging nose under in the tide, as a bold liver takes a header, came up trim and lively, half filled, one oarsman completely drenched, the others wet variously, and a general chorus of applauding laughter from a miscellaneous crowd. Of course the water above the wicker floor drained through instantly, so that in a minute the men were standing on a dry floor, and appearing surprised to find themselves floating so comfortably. The boat was literally tumbled into the river a height of sixteen to twenty feet, in order to demonstrate her behaviour under the worst conditions, and her lively independence of any ‘lowering apparatus.’ The tug now ‘let go the painter,’ and the scratch crew in the new boat put their oars in the rowlocks, and pulled about in a pretty rough tide. She went very steadily, and seemed about as light as any ordinary boats Mr. Gaves and Mr. King then resolved to sink their property, if overcrowding would do it. They got into it as many men as could stand up anyhow—about fifty five—and the boat was so far from sinking that double the weight might possibly have proved insufficient. This showed the boat might be overcrowded without danger—a great matter during the tumult and wild selfishness of a shipwreck. What a different tale there would have been to tell if three or four boats of this kind had been attached to the Northfleet. The Agincourt once more took the life-boat in tow, and steamed at full speed down stream to the Tower, and back to the George's stage, the boat riding the ‘wash’ in admirable style, satisfying even the exactions of nautical critics, and putting some amateurs in ecstasy. As to the boat's dimensions, she is twenty-five feet long, three feet four inches deep, with eight feet beam, her weight being about twenty hundredweight, or, say, one-third the weight of an ordinary boat of equal capacity. At either end is a water tight tank for provisions. She is fitted with the usual valves required by the Board of Trade, but these are practically unnecessary in wicker-cane life-boat. We shall watch with interest the progress of this admirable invention.”

Two vessels of war have been launched from naval yards in England during the past three months, the first being the composite sloop *Albatross*, of four guns and 894 tons, which was built at Chatham. The other was the handsome frigate *Shah*, formerly the *Blonde*, which was launched from one of the building slips at Portsmouth. She is an iron frigate, cased with wood, and carries twenty-six guns, while her engines, which are very powerful, are of 7,500 horse power, and she is expected to attain a speed of about eighteen knots an hour. She is of the same class as the *Inconstant*, her tonnage being rather less than that of that vessel, but her engine power is greater, besides which several improvements have been carried out in her. In Australia four schooners, the *Beagle*, *Conflict*, *Renard*, and *Sandfly* intended for the suppression of kidnapping in the Polynesian islands, have been built in private yards for the Government, and now appears on the navy list.

THE GATLING GUN.

The recent trials of the naval experimental battery, to which we referred in our last issue, have established beyond all question the endurance and reliability of the Gatling gun, and have proved it to be a perfect arm when supplied with a perfect cartridge. The experiments at Annapolis, made under the auspices of the Ordnance Bureau Navy Department, were more particularly intended to test the recently adopted service cartridges, made by the United States Cartridge Company. The peculiarities of these cartridges consist in the character of the shell—a solid head without reinforcement—in the powder, which experimenter has shown to be, both in granulation and specific gravity, best adapted to the weight of charge and ball, and lastly in the fulminate, which in those tested was in sensitiveness especially suited to the force of blow developed by the Gatling lock. The usual tests for penetration, fouling, accuracy, and initial velocity, showed these cartridges to be fully up to the standard, while in point of reliability and certainty of effective action, the results are thought to be unprecedented. Out 100,000 rounds tested, but forty-six cartridges failed to act effectively. Of these, two were found to possess defects which should have caused their rejection at factory inspection (three were noticed by the gun's crew in handling), leaving but forty-one miss fires, many of which would undoubtedly have been discharged on second trial, as was the case with the only two subjected to it, had it not been deemed advisable to discover, by a careful inspection, the cause of failure.

Examination of a number of cartridges thus reserved pointed to the coarseness of the glass in the fulminate as the source of difficulty, a defect easily guarded against. The resistance of the shells proved to be strikingly good, but eighty-five showing rupture of the metal, the splits occurring in the cylindrical part, and in no case reaching the head, permitting the escape of gas or preventing extraction.

With such cartridges the mechanism of the gun was evidently fairly tested, and its behavior throughout the trials awards it an equal share of the triumph achieved. The piece, supplied with ten drums, each holding 400 rounds, although fired rapidly, was manipulated with only a moderate degree of skill, the gun's crew being new to the work; notwithstanding which, the entire experiment passed off with no delays due to the gun which were not susceptible of correction in an improved model (which has already been made), or of prevention in piece under trial with experience in handling, except two failures of the extractor to clear the shell, and the breaking of an extractor between the 98 and 99 thousandth rounds. When it is remembered the practice was conducted in some instances at the rate of forty-eight seconds to a drum, the average being about one minute twelve seconds, and that 64,000 rounds were fired in less than six hours, without washing out, it will be conceded that no gun will ever be so severely tested in service; yet a careful examination, after the experiment, shows the piece to be in no way injured, except in the lock already mentioned. The precautions taken to prevent heating were simple, efficient, and under almost all circumstances of active service thoroughly practicable. The target made after 64,000 rounds without washing out, was a fair one

for a clean gun, the barrels not being at all loaded. It was found to be a matter of easy accomplishment to reduce leading—which under normal conditions of practice was serious—below the point of injurious effect on accuracy, by either keeping the barrels cool, or by using external lubricant on the cartridges.—*Army and Navy Journal*

A despatch from Havana November 5th, announces that the steamer *Virginus* was captured, with all on board, by the Spanish gunboat *Tornado*, near Jamaica, on October 31. She had 170 passengers and crew, who, with the vessel and cargo, have been carried to Santiago de Cuba. The *Tornado*, which had been searching for the *Virginus* since her attempted landing on the south coast of the island, came in sight of her at half past two p.m., October 31 and immediately gave chase. The *Virginus* put on all steam and made for Jamaica, hoping to find a refuge in British waters. In her flight she threw overboard several horses and used a portion of her cargo for fuel. The *Tornado* caught up with her at ten p.m., near the Jamaica coast, and she surrendered with all on board. Among the prisoners captured are the well known Cuban Chief Bombetta, who was reported killed a few days ago, a brother of Cespedes, a son of Quesada, Senor Jesus del Sol, and other important personages. The prisoners have all been brought before a competent tribunal at Santiago, and are being tried as pirates. There was great rejoicing in Havana over the news. The streets and houses were decorated with the national colours, and subscriptions are being raised for a testimonial to the officers and crew of the *Tornado*. We wish no ill to the *Virginus*; but, if her capture has in no way involved us, we shall be relieved from the perplexing problem of knowing just how to deal with a vessel which was not quite American, and not clearly foreign as to its right of protection.—*Army and Navy Journal*.

INGERSOLL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

We copy the following from the Toronto Leader of Tuesday:

To the Editor of the Leader.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to express my great satisfaction, as well as that of the other competitors from Toronto who were present at the annual matches of the Ingersoll Rifle Association, held on the 15th and 16th inst., at the manner in which the whole affair was carried out. The courteous manner in which we were treated by the officers and members of the Association, and the feeling of friendliness which was exhibited on all sides, tended to make the match the most pleasant and enjoyable we ever attended. The weather on both days was delightful and the arrangements made gave general satisfaction on all sides. Will you also allow me to express our thanks to the proprietor of the Atlantic Hotel, at Ingersoll, who, at no small trouble, furnished his guests with their dinners on the range, served in regular picnic style. From the successful manner in which everything passed off I am sure that the annual matches of the I. R. A. will take a prominent position in the rifle matches of the Dominion.

I am, sir, your obedient servant.

C. SHEPPARD.

Toronto, Oct. 20th, 1873.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF ASHANTEE.

As from the country we learn from McCulloch and others that it is generally mountainous, save some small tracts to the east and west through the mountains are neither abrupt nor precipitous. It is well watered among the rivers being the Assinee, which is looked upon as the boundary between the Ivory and Gold Coast, and is, for some distance the western boundary of the empire, and the Volta or Oaweda, the principal river, which runs a course of over 400 miles before reaching the sea. Both the heat and insalubrity of the climate are believed to be exaggerated, though the former from October to March—the hot season—is very great. During the rest of the year it is so very moderate that fires and warm clothing are not requisite. The nights, indeed, always cold, and in the forests fires are as necessary against the cold dews as against the wild beasts. The climate along the coast is certainly unhealthy, especially to Europeans, owing partly to the chilly nights following scorching hot days but mostly to a kind of miasma which rises from the valleys and neighborhood of rivers. The interior, indeed, is healthy, and Laet has even recommended the erection in it of hospitals for the benefit of invalids from the forts on the coast. Usually the air is pretty calm, although there are sometimes tornadoes and the harmattan, as the wind from the desert is called. The latter is felt between the end of December and the beginning of February, and it is very destructive—blowing sometimes for two or three days only, but occasionally for a fortnight together, and it is so dry that it absorbs the moisture of everything it comes in contact with. There are two rainy seasons and one dry in Ashantee. The first rains occur about the end of May or beginning of June, and are followed by fogs and hazy weather, very dangerous and very powerful in July and August. The second rain comes on in October, after which till August is the hot season. For about half its length, more or less that is from about 7½ deg. N. latitude to the coast, and for the whole length between the Assinee and Volta rivers the country is a mass of forest the trees of which are all on an immense scale varying, however, on the coast and inland. Thus near the coast are to be found the baobab, the cactus, the mangrove, various specimens of palms, the cotton and other large trees, all mixed with a wild entanglement of thorny bush, itself growing to an inconceivable size. When the summit of the first mountain is reached about fifteen miles inland, the baobab disappears, and is placed by another tree of equal magnitude. So, too, does the mangrove; the palms become scarce, but other trees are found in their stead, including a new kind of aloe and citron. In the north there are trees and shrubs only in patches, and the country is covered with jungle and guinea grass of an enormous height and thickness, and which is fired and used to manure the plantations. The sugar-cane grows wild, and there is also tobacco, maize, houfra, millet, yams, rice, potatoes, and every other tropical plant in abundance, of gums, and aromatic plants of dye and hard wood. The animals are numerous and various. There are elephants, rhinoceroses, giraffes, buffaloes, deers, antelopes, civet cats, monkeys, porcupines, and goats, as well as lions, tigers, leopards, jackals, wolves, wild boars and wild cats. The rivers swarm with hippopotamus, and alligators; but the animals seemingly peculiar to Ashantee are

a gigantic rat, an odoriferous mouse, and the arampou, or 'man-eater,' which digs up and devours dead bodies. Reptiles are numerous, including serpents of all kinds, scorpions and centipedes, toads and frogs—some of the former being of an immense size—and lizards. Of birds there are pheasants, partridges wild ducks (of a very beautiful plumage), doves, crown birds, parrots, paroquets, guinea sparrows, and bee-eaters. The waterfowl are heron, bittern, and sea mews. Birds of prey include eagles, kites, and one not larger than a dove, but older and more rapacious than any other bird. Those peculiar to the country are the pookoo—useful for destroying field rats,—and a bird about twice the size of the sparrow, with a shrill, hollow note and the sound of which is said to be of ill-omen. All the Ashantee birds are remarkable for their plumage, but none have pleasing voices, the only songsters being the nightingale and the thrush. The woods are full of bees, and a species of ant called termites, so numerous and rapacious that a sheep attacked by them in the night has been found a skeleton in the morning. Fire flies dragon-flies, a fly like the cut-throats in appearance and scent: indeed all tropical insects but the mosquito are found here. Black and hump-backed whales are found on the coast between September and December, and there are plenty of sharks— which form the common food of the Gold Coast negroes—and other sea fish; and the rivers yield corals and oysters, which feed on the branches of the mangrove and other trees, but are not good for food if the water be fresh.—*Land and Water.*

At Cronstadt is being constructed a submarine vessels of enormous dimensions, in which 2,000 tons of iron and steel have been employed, which is propelled by two powerful air engines, will be armed with a formidable ram, and will carry all the means for fixing to the hulls of vessels large cylinders of powder, which it can afterwards explode by electricity. Two glass eyes will enable the crew to find their way about, and they may choose their course to what depth they please below water.

The German *Military Weekly Gazette* explains that Berlin is not included in the German system of fortresses, because it is not really the military centre of the Empire, or even the Monarchy. Berlin will therefore not be fortified, but really for protection upon the fortresses surrounding it at some distance, namely, Magdeburg, Spandau, Kustrin, Glogau, and Torgau. These fortresses will be raised to places of the first order; Magdeburg has been so strengthened already.

Russia, says *Broad Arrow*, is positively mad about railways. Certainly they are excellent devices for drawing money, and a poor Government which is not particular in appropriating railway money to war purposes finds them very convenient. A Central Asian line is the last announcement. The Kirghese Steppe has been surveyed for this purpose by General Bezoussikoff, and he has suggested six routes. The most preferred is 850 miles long.

Experiments are still in progress with fish torpedoas at the canal in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and several improvements have been effected in them to promote both their speed and accuracy. The mechanism at the tail end of the fish, presumed to be a novel steering apparatus, is always kept carefully covered up while on land to conceal it from curious eyes.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

71ST BATT. RIFLE ASSOCIATION

The Annual Competition of the Association took place on Monday at the Rifle Range, Freetown. The weather was most unfavourable, cold, raw and chilly, the wind blowing a gale, straight across the Range, and testing most severely the skill of the competitors.

The highest figure were made by Bindsmann Perkins, who came out with the splendid score of 47 points—7 shots at 400 and 500 yards. Quartermaster Sergt. Lapsett followed with a similar score; Pt. Woodward 3rd, with 44 points.

The prizes in this as well as in the York County Match recently held, were presented in the City Hall last evening, in the presence of quite a number of ladies and gentlemen who thus manifested their interest in our local Rifle Associations.

The prizes in the first competition of the County Match were presented by Lt. Col. Maunsell, D. A. G., who in a brief and pleasant speech rehearsed the rise and progress of Rifle Associations, the patronage extended them in England and more recently throughout the Dominion, and showing that these annual competitions had been the means of largely enhancing the efficiency not only of the Volunteers but of the Regular Army as well. He concluded by complimenting the York County Association on possessing such a number of good shots, notable that veteran marksman Lt. Johnson, standing at the head of the list in both competitions.

The prizes in the 2nd Competition were presented by Hon. J. A. Beckwith, who, unsparingly facetious, somewhat sorely tried the nerves of several bashful young gentlemen who at his hands became the recipients of their respective prizes.

The Consolation prizes were presented by Lt. Col. Saunders

In the Battalion Association a number of very handsome prizes were offered for competition. These included Twenty dollars presented by Robert Robinson, Esq. M. P. P.; Ten Dollars by the Prov. Secretary; Ten Dollars by Hon. John A. Beckwith, together with money prizes from Lt. Col. Maunsell, A. G. Blair, Esq., and G. F. H. Minchin, Esq. In addition to these were Sheriff Temples' Challenge Pitcher, a set of beautiful Castors presented by His Worship the Mayor, a silver Cup by a lady friend, a silver Cup by G. Fred. Fisher, Esq., an elegant Shawl by Miller & Edgecombe, together with a number of other prizes which will appear in the following list together with the names of the winners. The money, it will appear was subdivided into smaller prizes, thus giving encouragement to the younger members of the Association

1. Sheriff Temples' Challenge Cup and \$8.00—Pt. Perkins.

2. Set of Silver Castors by His Worship the Mayor—Quar. Mr. Sergt. Lipsett.
3. Lady's Cup—Pt. Woodward.
4. Silver Cup by G. Fred. Fisher, Esq.—Lt. Johnson.
5. Shawl, by Miller & Edgecombe—Pt. B. Morris.
6. \$7.00—Pt. Biggs.
7. Bronzo Bird, very fine, by Lemont & Sons—Major Morris.
8. Pair of Pants, by Major Morris—Pt. Whitehead.
9. \$6.00—Sergt. Pinder.
10. Silver Cup, by Pt. Loggjo—Quartermaster Hogg.
11. Silver Cup, by Quartermaster Hogg—Pt. M'Bean.
12. Watch Stand and Ash Stand, by Capt. Cropley—Pt. Jhonston.
13. 5.00—Pt. Macpherson.
14. Papier Mache Ink Stand, by S. F. Shute, Esq.—Lt. Payne.
15. Meerchaum Pipe, by McDonald & Keadey,—Buglar Moxon
16. Clock, by Alderman Babbitt,—Sergt. Winter.
18. Pencil Case, by E. I. Wetmore—Ens. M'Lean.
18. \$4.00—Pt. Brannen.
19. \$3.00—Ensign Bird.
20. \$3.00—Pt. Patchell.
21. \$2.00—Capt. A. G. Beckwith.
22. \$1.00—Pt. Loggie.
23. Pair of Vases, by Pt. Perkins—Capt. Staples.
24. Guntlet Gloves, by T. Logan, Esq.—Sergt. Major Vandine.
25. Little Cologne, by C. L. Davis, Esq.—Pt. Richards.
26. Spoon Holder, by J. G. M'Nally, Esq.—Ensign Boone.

The prize for the poorest shot, a pair of Spectacles, presented by Pt. Perkins, was won by Pt. Morrill, who scored 2 points.

During the presentation the Band of the Battalion, now in a most creditable state of efficiency played some very fine selections, concluding with the National Anthem.—*N. B. Recorder.*

Kass, Prince of Tigre, now Johann II., Emperor of Abyssinia, and a Christian to boot, according to the correspondent of the *Giornale delle Colonie*, who writes from Moscow, under date of the 3rd of August, having captured the brave pretender to the throne, Abba Kassai, ordered his ears to be filled with gun-cotton, which he caused to be exploded, when the head was blown to atoms. It is reported that he lately caused the right hands and the legs of no less than twenty-seven captives to be chopped off in his imperial presence and then abandoned them to be preyed upon by lions, tigers, and panthers.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* describes the changes made in four of the little howitzer carriages, specially constructed for the expedition against the Ashantees, to adapt them for use with the Gatling mitrailleuse. The entire carriage and limber are constructed of wrought iron, the limber-boxes, being of best steel, with a bottom loose lining of wood. Two drums for cartridges are contained in each limber-box, which has a partition running down the centre; thus four drums are upon the limber, containing each 240 cartridges, making a total of 960 rounds for the gun. The loose lining of wood in the boxes forms a stand for the pin upon which the drum rests.

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The Volunteer Review,
AND
MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, NOV. 25, 1873.

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

THE BAZAINE trial, or rather broad farce, drags its weary length along, with apparently little prospect of fair play for the accused. The President of the Court, albeit a Prince of Royal blood, is not above or below the theatrical effect which the average Frenchmen must always display. On a recent occasion, in his defence, the unlucky Marshal urged that he was obliged to take the initiative altogether, as no Government he could recognize existed, except the scoundrels at Paris could be so called: the Prince President was not ashamed to interrupt him with the exclamation—"What! France, then, no longer existed!"—a remark certainly true as regarded its national autonomy, but calculated to injure the prisoner in the eyes of a proud as well sensitive people, whose national vanity makes them blind to defects of national organization.

In French legal practice, the *interrogatory* bears a conspicuous part. It is a series of questions addressed by the Judge to the prisoner, leading him, if possible, to incriminate himself, as, notwithstanding what his witnesses might say, his answers or the admissions into which he might be entrapped are used as evidence against him. In the Englishman this is evidently unfair as well as unjust; as it puts the prisoner at a great disadvantage and as the glory of the law is to obtain a verdict, not to elicit truth, the chances against the accused are increased ten-fold, especially if any object, political or otherwise, is to be gained by his condemnation.

After the exclamation quoted above, a contemporary remarks:—"This was the most discouraging part of the Marshal's examination, and to make it worse he declared that in using the words in his examination "to obtain neutrality for the army," he meant to obtain an armistice for the purpose of establishing a regular government. The President reminded the accused of his military oath, and asked him whether he observed the regulations forbidding capitulation in the open field. Bazaine pleaded as justification the existence of an insurrectionary government.

"The President—"Does the imperial constitution, to which you considered it your duty to remain faithful, authorize negotiating and treating with the enemy as you did?"

"The Marshal replied that it did not. He maintained that the capitulation was compulsory. He had resisted to the last, "not having even a morsel of bread left."

"The accused was embarrassed in manner, and often hesitated in making his replies to the searching interrogatories of the court."

The objects of the Marshal were evident enough. He tried to save France from degradation and from Treas and his co-conspirators; and for this he is probably doomed. A pen-and-ink sketch of the above scene must close our remarks for the present on this extraordinary trial:—

"At every moment the marshal, in the interest of his defence, tries to introduce some incidental narrative, some unknown particular; but at every moment the duke stops him with, 'I think, Marshal, that incident will come in more appropriately at such and such a time,' and he brings him back within the narrow limits of the interrogatory he means to put him through. At a given moment the marshal stops and says, 'Will you allow me, *Monsieur le President*, to read you an order emanating from me?' 'Is it of interest marshal?' 'Of great interest.' 'Yes, but is it of interest for the question now before us?' 'Yes, *Monsieur le President*.' 'Then read it, please,' and the marshal puts on his double eye-glass, the duke his most attentive look, and the marshal reads, so that anyone coming in just then would think that it was a council of war, not to judge him, but to deliberate with him in common. On another occasion this scene occurs again, but in a more dramatic form. The duke has got to the battle of Borny, to the bloody affairs of Rezonville. St. Privat, and Grave-

lotte. He strikes the marshal home, he presses him, he harasses him. But, then, you did not want to break through in the direction of Verdun, you did not comply with the orders, the desires of the Emperor, who wanted you to cross the Moselle. 'Will you allow me, *Monsieur le President*, to read you one of Napoleon I.'s commentaries?' 'Is it opportune, Marshal?' 'Perfectly so, *M. le Duc*.' Thereupon the marshal begins to read a passage:—"A commander-in-Chief should never take into account the orders of a general or prince who is at a distance from the field of battle," &c. Meanwhile the interrogatory narrows its circle; it becomes more pressing. 'Did you reflect that the road by Gravelotte was a dangerous defile eleven miles long? Did you destroy the bridges so as to prevent the enemy from passing, and secure your own retreat? Had you not on the heights where you were supplies for two days? Why, instead of taking advantage of them to march forward, did you allow them to return? Why did you keep your reserves on your left which was protected, and why expose your right when your retreat might be cut off?' And the questions follow close upon each other. It is like fencing. The marshal parries, covers himself, makes a return thrust by advancing some military principle, but at length the duke draws from the marshal's answers this conclusion, which is like a thrust right home:—"It is then true, as was maintained, that you never had any intention of going to Verdun, and that your only object was to camp before Metz?" The marshal feels the blow. He hesitates and then replies sharply, 'I have not said so. I stuck fast to Metz, which was my supreme resource, but with the firm resolution of re-organizing the *cadres* which had been destroyed and omitting my way through?"

The correspondent of the *Times* astutely remarks at the bottom of this sketch, "The two fencers are worthy of each other and both very clever; but one has the *beau role* of avenging the country; the heavy, crushing task of the other is to save from this his honor and his life, both alike threatened." The careful readers of the trial, who judges impartially, will altogether dissent from this statement of the case. The honor of France is no less on its trial than the honor of Marshal Bazaine, and so far nothing has been elicited by the interrogatory to justify the infamous charges which have been framed to accomplish "the *beau role* of avenging the country." If all that has thus far been elicited is true, the country is disgraced by the disclosures as far as a great and noble nation—noble in spite of its faults—can be disgraced by the misdeeds and misunderstandings of its representative men and its governing classes. The fact is, however, that the circumstances of the war were unprecedented; and if Bazaine, or his staff either, were at fault in allowing political considerations to have any influence on their military duties—and this has yet to be proved—some allowance must be made for the responsibilities of a time when a country, struggling against the fearful odds for its very existence, was suddenly split into factions by the revolution in Paris.

Another correspondent says:—"A stronger contrast to the elaborate exactitude of the duke cannot be imagined than that afforded by the rough and ready rapidity of Marshal Bazaine. His voice is muffled; he speaks with great precipitation, often interrupting the president, and in so low a tone that the official stenographers, now placed close to his elbow, often frequently look up perplexed as they strive to put out

paper his disjointed sentences. There is a bourgeois roughness in his demeanour as he leans forward over the table in front of him, his shoulders rounded, and takes up his blue spectacles to refer to some article of war, which he hurries through as fast as he can speak, afterwards beginning a reply with "You must know as well as I do, Monsieur le President, ——" There is a something about him which seems to say, "I don't care a straw what any of you think, for I know more about the matter than you do."

Broad Arrow of 18th October seems to be in a vein of fault finding with its friends the Whig-Radicals. The service appears to be going down hill at a rapid rate. Under their jurisdiction and management, the following extract shows the utter recklessness and incapacity that, under the specious names of economy and efficiency, are suffered to run riot in British Arsenal:—

"It is not unreasonable to suspect that the unsatisfactory character of some of the work recently turned out of our Government dockyards is to a certain extent owing to those defects in the staff of the yards and that loss of skilled workmen upon which we have lately commented. Among some of the more prominent examples of recent indifferent work we may instance the main shaft of the new screw corvette *Encounter*, which had to be taken out and sent to the workshops at Portsmouth to be altered as the vessel had to be stopped several times in the short run from the Nile to the Nile, on account of heated bearings. The trials of the *Hellerophon*, after she had been somewhat elaborately fitted for flagship on the North American and West Indian Station, proved unsatisfactory from a similar cause—"The white metal having run from hot bearings." Then the engines of the *Esart*—just got ready the other day at Portsmouth for service at Gibraltar—would not work well on trial, and some alterations were found necessary in her paddles. The *Victor Emmanuel*—the hospital ship for the West Coast of Africa—is said to be overmasted with the *Royal Oaks's* "sticks" with which she has been fitted, although this, if it be a fault, is one of design and not of workmanship. Still for the resources of the yard in which it is done. Altogether, under the circumstances, it is far from satisfactory to learn that Gen. Stosch, the German Minister of Marine, has been visiting Chatham and Portsmouth, and has carried off some of the best hands in the various workshops for service in the dockyard at Kiel. There is also, we understand—to put it mildly—a want of harmony between the Lords of the Admiralty and some of the heads of the dockyard departments which must necessarily exercise a certain prejudicial influence on the working of the yards. We are glad to know that Devonport is but little affected by these little blots apparent elsewhere."

The question naturally arises as to how such people can have either soldiers or sailors. It is a notorious fact that there are no seamen in the Royal Navy; and the following from *Broad Arrow* shows what sort of an army they are likely to turn out:—

Sir,—As the difficulty of obtaining recruits is daily becoming more and more apparent, perhaps a few words on the subject may not be inappropriate from one who has experience in the matter.

In the first place. Wages are high in the labour market, and men of really good character, who might enlist and bring our regiments up to something like a good stalwart appearance (if proper inducement were held out to them) will not now entertain the idea of, as they say, "going as a soldier for nothing"; and their reasons are very cogent, and to the point.

The Line, as rule, is very distasteful to the better class of would-be recruits, and very few now will take service in it under the present rules, except those who, in nine cases out of ten, are absolutely driven to it either by their own fault, or being out of employment, with no prospect of getting any, have not any alternative but to take the shilling as a last resource, and possibly, as is too frequently the case, abscond before attestation, or desert (if not en route to join their regiment) very shortly after joining their respective corps.

And why this unwillingness to enlist?

These are the replies to the recruiting sergeant:—

Enlist? No! not for short service, no bounty, and no prospect of pension! If I want to soldier, I can get 10s bounty to join the militia, and take away tolerable kit with me after each annual training; after that return home and follow my trade, and by paying 18s I can go and be free. But to enlist in the Regulars for six years and forget my trade, with no prospect of any sort of description, on completing my service certainly not! I would go for long service, with pension on discharge, but not otherwise!

There is no doubt the Short Enlistment Act has seriously affected our recruiting, and I think if the old rule of long service and pension were reverted to, we should find a considerable gain in both the numbers and quality of our recruits—nothing can be worse than it is at present. I have heard many say they would enlist if it were not that the service was too short, and held out no prospect of pension on discharge.

In a word (for I think I have already trespassed too much on your valuable space), the Short Enlistment Act is distasteful to would-be recruits. What is wanted is bounty on enlistment, long service, and pension. No man will enlist for a short period, to lose his employment, possibly to forget his trade; to be sent adrift, with nothing to fall back upon when he has completed his service, in addition to having perhaps, lost his health (as many do) during his service in foreign climates.

Line parties are not open to enlist for cavalry now. I know many instances where recruits have been lost because the recruiting sergeants to whom they applied to enlist had not authority to recruit for cavalry, and could not consequently take them! Let us hope for better days!

Yours obediently,

MILES—OLD STAMP.

The Army and Navy Journal of the 5th inst., has an article on the trial of the Gatling Gun, which we republish in another page. It would appear to be a most perfect weapon except for the fact that its range is so limited, and this also limits its use.

If such an arm could be made to throw shell to its full range, its usefulness would be very much increased. The projectile used would be something like Shrapnel, smaller and loads, say with backshot. The value would be to have them explode on touching the ground throwing the charge in every

direction for fifty or sixty yards radius. If such an improvement could be effected, it would make the advances of skirmishers more difficult; and in ground where slight cover alone could be found, altogether impossible. The gun experimented with is of small bore 0.45. Would it not be possible to invent a shell weighing half a pound, with an explosive and charge sufficient to produce the effect intended? In which case it would be necessary to modify the mounting of the gun.

"No successor has been definitely appointed to Colonel Robertson-Ross, Adjutant General of Canadian Militia, but one or two names are mentioned of likely officers. That of General Hewson, an American, and a military engineer, has been prominent. He was at one time Adjutant General for the State of Mississippi. Long interviews between General Hewson and Sir John A. Macdonald have given rise to the rumour of his appointment, and the quillman is otherwise completely at sea."

The foregoing paragraph from *Broad Arrow* of the 25th October will be news indeed to our readers, some of the quillmen have been hoaxing our contemporary. Whoever General Hewson may be, this is the first time the Canadian people ever heard of his pretensions, which are sufficiently absurd when it is known that the law creating the office of Adjutant-General of the Canadian Militia, expressly declares he must be a Field Officer in Her Majesty's Regular Service; and if it did not, we have plenty of capable officers in our own ranks without going to the State of Mississippi for one. Whoever, therefore, gave out, temporarily the information, was indulging in a reprehensible hoax.

"The *Toronto Globe*, commenting on the Duke of Manchester's letter on the defence of Canada, says his letter was not "the wisest that could have been written. The truth about the defence of Canada is, that there is no danger of attack. When will Englishmen realize the fact that the people of the Union have no intention of molesting us? If they had, we think we should be able to defend ourselves; but when there is no hostile intention, what is the use of crying out before anybody is hurt?"

The above paragraph from *Broad Arrow* of 25th October is an attempt, in a small way, to depreciate the value of the letter referred to, but as the *Globe* is neither a military authority, nor a prophet, our readers and the people of Canada set a very different value on the utterance of the Duke of Manchester. First, because he states a fact representing the defence of this country; and secondly, because it is always wisdom notwithstanding the *Globe*, to speak the truth, especially in the case before us. It is of more importance to the interests of the people of Canada that the people of Great Britain should know from disinterested witnesses, such as His Grace of Manchester, that they were able and willing to bear their share of the responsibilities of their position as the first responsibility of the Empire, than that they

should believe the assurance given by the *Globe* of our neighbor's pacific intentions, and the latter belief has unhappily obtained such a hold on the imaginations of the average of Englishmen that it does not want any enlightenment from the pro Yankee press of Canada. The letter in question was a sensible, judicious, and truthful document, emanating from a nobleman of known ability, and above all, better capable of judging the value of what he was writing about than the scribes of either the *Globe* or the *Broad Arrow*. The latter may as well know at once that the former does not represent Canada, or even a respectable minority of its people in the present instance.

WE entirely agree with Sir GARNET WOLSELEY'S assertion that "Many civil occupations are doubtless very commendable as necessary for the well-being of society, but an old woman could compete with you in most of them, whilst the work of a soldier can be done only by a man." And therefore it follows that every *civilian* who may chance to possess the aptitude should become a soldier with as little delay as possible, in order to perform that duty to the State which can only be done "by a man;" nor would we recommend that the peculiar civil occupation if the individual should be interfered with in order to acquire the knowledge necessary to fit him for a duty which is at best but temporary. The theory which the gallant General enunciates, will, it is hoped, receive fair illustration in the organization of the force necessary to conquer the Ashantees, and that practical experience will bear out in detail all the few oracular words convey. The great fault of the mere professional soldier in the *British Army* is that he undervalues the manhood of his fellow countrymen, especially when that manhood has been trained and manipulated in accordance with the circumscribed circle of ideas to which his reasoning is necessarily confined, and the practical results have been that all civilians seeing through the folly of restraining a class of men to the stagnant moisture of military life, having the advantage of position and power like Mr. CARDWELL, for instance, look with supercilious contempt on what they call pretensions, and on the first favorable opportunity sweep away the whole system out of which the theory grew, and as a consequence England has not an army in her hour of need. Between Sir GARNET'S theory, which so far as a principle goes is correct enough, and Mr. CARDWELL'S presumption, he the whole people of the Empire and their interests, which are imperilled by both; the enthusiastic soldier, "chuck full science," would confine the energies of all that is valuable in the mass of the people to the barrack yard; the supercilious civilian reverses the order and proves that if an old woman cannot be a soldier, something in the shape of a man with a good

deal of her characteristics can scatter the army to the winds and upset the theory altogether. Like all extremes the *mediocrities* lies between the two. The day of standing armies are numbered. Even the days of the *Regular British Army* as a military force has passed away. In its place true wisdom would create a national force in which regulars, volunteers, and militia should each form as it were a separate contingent drawn from the manhood of the mass of the people.

We will not go into the question of the composition of the British Army, as it now exists, it is beyond doubt the most contemptible in Europe. As regards its rank and file, the effort to re-organize a military power must be made with strict reference to Sir GARNET WOLSELEY'S theories. Volunteering should be encouraged and ought to be confined to the large towns and cities. Service in the militia should be enforced in the counties, and the regular army—*i.e.* that portion of the whole force required for foreign service, should be drawn from both by the simple process of volunteering alone, in which the recruiting sergeant should have no place. In order to attract a constant succession of recruits the militia and volunteer officers should be encouraged to enter the regular service taking the necessary contingents according to rank with them; thus, as it were, purchasing those commissions; the inducement to volunteer for the rank and file being twenty-one years' service, good pay and either establishment in the colonies where serving, or a certain class of Government officers at home as well as full pay or pension for the remainder of the individual's life; this system could be worked cheaper with far less scandal and more benefit than the *old woman's* re-organization scheme.

THE abolition of purchase has been looked upon as the salvation of the British Army, if we are to credit the assertions of the advocates of such a measure. It appears, however, that, with very few exceptions, the men and officers in the service had not materially benefited thereby, as the following from *Broad Arrow* of 18th October will shew:—

"Majors Maxwell and Wilkinson, of the 80th, are about to retire upon half-pay, and yet most unfortunately, neither Lieutenant Howard nor Lieutenant Ridout will derive any benefit from their retirement, as according to the warrant neither of these officers having twenty five years' service, the vacancies must be filled up from the half pay list. Lieutenant Howard is the second senior in the army, Lieutenant Ridout is the third. Neither of them have ever been purchased over, never exchanged, nor have they ever had a chance for promotion. The case is really very hard. Both officers have now served nearly sixteen years as subalterns, and are senior in length of service to nearly all the captains in the army. Such a case as this almost make us think that since purchase is abolished, it would but fair to give army promotion to all ranks as in the Artillery,

Engineers, and Marines. The chances are, that in most instances officers would still get promotion in their regiments, so that our present regimental system would not be interfered with, and officers might have the option of refusing promotion out of their own corps, but cases would be very rare when men would decline to be advanced in their profession."

The case of both these officers in the active service is far worse under CARDWELL'S regime than under the old purchase system. In the first case, they suffered from positive injustice; in the latter, they could only blame fortune. We believe Lieutenant Ridout is a Canadian, and we are sorry that himself and gallant comrade suffer from the oppressiveness of the favoritism of the Whig Radicals. *Broad Arrow* may try to back up its friends by getting up a row about Guards' privileges and the Royal Yacht; but in neither cases did the patronage extend beyond a limited number of individuals, which the whole retired or half pay list is the exclusive patronage of the Ministry and its hangers on, to the exclusion of deserving officers on active service. An arbitrary rule is all that is necessary to direct it into the proper channel.

Whig-Radicalism has, to use a Yankee slang term, "run representative Government into the ground," and the British people will, ere long, have to uphold the privileges of prerogative against the usurpations of the shop keepers.

THE notorious pirate, the *Verminus*, whose existence to the present has been the disgrace of the British and United States Governments, has at last come to grief, she was captured off Jamaica by the Spanish Gunboat, *Tornado*, on 31st October, taken to Santiago de Cuba, four of her passengers, so called, insurgent Generals tried by court martial and shot next day (4th Nov.) It is to be hoped that the fate of those brigands will be a warning to others, and that the United States authorities will restrain their subjects or citizens, as they prefer to call their people, from equipping in their own ports vessels of her description. It is a great pity the gunboat did not sink her with all on board.

WE have received the first number of a new Liberal Conservative paper called *The Standard*, just started in the thriving village of Elora, Ontario. It is owned by a Company, is vigorously edited, and will be hailed with delight by the Liberal newspaper press of Canada as a valuable acquisition to their ranks. We wish it every success.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Immediately after the adjournment of the Assembly last night, the members of the Cabinet waited upon President McMahon and tendered their resignations. He refused to accept them and begged the Ministers to retain their offices until a new Cabinet was formed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

(For the Review.)

The annual drill of the 14th, 47th, and Cavalry and Kingston Field Battery was put in by these Corps at Kingston. They assembling on the 12th of September last and returning to their homes on the 20th of the same month.

Before going further let me say that I think, with all due deference to the authorities, and those in command of battalions more particularly, no corps below Cobourg should be allowed to go into camp so late in the year, as you cannot be certain of good weather and you want good fine weather when you put in only eight days in camp. Now, with us in Kingston, the weather was simply disgusting, for we had only three whole days of 24 hours really fine. It poured and rained off and on the whole time, except three or four days; and, one or two nights, tents in the horizontal position was a common lunar observation.

The 14th Battalion marched under command of Lieutenant Colonel Callaghan who, however, did not remain to do duty with the battalion during camp, and consequently the command devolved on Maj. Mathews, the junior major, with Capt. Barrow acting as major.

The 47th Battalion was under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Kirkpatrick, M.P., who was also the officer commanding the brigade (which consisted of the two infantry corps, and the cavalry under Lieut. Colonel Duff), who appointed Captain Barrow of the 14th, Brigade Major.

The men got along capitally and the camp was very orderly and very well conducted; and spite of the wet weather, a great want of blankets and the general disagreeableness of Jupiter Pluvius' disgusting conduct, there was not any of that grumbling which is the privilege of the British soldier.

On Friday, the 19th, Lieutenant Colonel Jarvis, D.A.G., inspected the brigade which was drawn up on Barriefield Common. The rain could not let us have our usual inspection without coming down in pelting showers which drove any civilians on the ground at the double.

Colonel Jarvis complimented the troops on the very creditable inspection they had passed and then rode over to the camp where after the men's dinners were ended he mustered the brigade by regiments, District Paymaster, Lieut. Colonel Strange, calling the rolls by companies.

Colonel Jarvis gave a luncheon in the afternoon to the Commissioned Officers and others. On the previous evening the officers of the brigade entertained Colonel Jarvis and others at dinner in the mess room when a very pleasant evening was spent.

The 14th was first to leave camp on the morning of the 20th about 9-30, a.m. The 47th went home as they came in by detachments, as did also the cavalry and artillery, but of the latter we don't know much as they encamped in the Artillery Park.

As the camp commenced so it ended, viz. with a lovely day; but the weather was anything but pleasant throughout, and consequently the shooting was not so superior as it probably would have been otherwise.

K.

NAUTICAL.

The REVIEW is to be congratulated upon its preception in naval affairs, and especially for the uncompromising stand it has continued to assume against the tentative abortive attempts of the navy-yard to construct a fleet at all commensurate to the varied requirements and exigencies of a power so situated as Great Britain. And should the *Shah* become—as it seems probable—the model for the next phase in naval architecture, the REVIEW's pre-conception of an efficient ship of war may be shortly established, and England's navy of the future, exhibit in every sea, the full rigged heavy armoured auxiliary steam power ship of war.

This cheering prospect of a partial return to the old conditions of naval warfare, must be hailed with enthusiasm by every true British Tar; and poetic inspiration may be as true in the future as in the past:

"England needs no battlements nor towers
along her steep,
Her march is on the mountain wave, her home is
on the deep."

I am not aware to what extent naval officers, as a rule, approve or deprecate vessels of the monitor type,—but to a landsman,—of many voyages who has seen the old ocean in his wildest revelry—these deeply immersed huge masses of iron are assuredly more suggestive of *urch*, *send*, and *wallow* than of Byron's ideal of the British frigate "walking the waters like a thing of life."

Only a deep admiration for the symmetrical picturesque ships of the old navy, and a soldier's instinctive appreciation of the dauntless courage that made it to dominate the Main, can be offered as an apology for a landsman shoving in his oar in naval affairs.

SABREUR.

15th November, 1873.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—I believe you do not object to some plain talk, and so would suggest that you leave non-military and kindred topics alone for a while, and go in for instruction.

Now, talking of service in this country, what is the use of a soldier that can't shoot? How should he be taught to shoot? Why should not an officer have a rifle? How many Canadian Volunteers can judge distance? Is there any benefit in small bore shooting? There are a good many "Martini-Henry's"

in the country, why are they not more used by their owners? What is being done to improve rifle shooting in this country? What has the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association accomplished in this way? Many other topics about rifles, steel barrels, drawn bullets, targets, trajectory, and lots of kindred subjects; why don't you advocate them instead of matters of dress and drill?

Yours truly, R.

REVIEWS.

The *New Dominion Monthly* for November, has for its frontispiece a likeness of the Rev. Geo. Douglas, L.L.D. "Only a Seamstress," is the beginning of a new story, which, judging from the first chapter, bids fair to be an interesting one, as the author, Jeanie Bell, is of known celebrity. "Voices from Ramah; or, Rachel's Lamentations;" by E. H. Nash, is a well written and interesting story. Take it all in all the November No. is a very interesting one.

The *Science of Health* for December closes the third volume of this practical and interesting Magazine. Its leading object is to teach the Science of Life, including all that relates to recovering and preserving health and promoting a higher physical and mental condition. Every family should read this Magazine. It is published at \$2 a year. A new volume begins with the next number. Now is the time to subscribe. Address, S F. Wells, Publisher, 389 Broadway, New York.

A WRITER in the Surrey (England) *Comet* says: "Magenta was won by the Austrian positions having been observed by the aeronaut, and information transmitted to the French staff by electric wires enclosed in the rope which detained the balloon captive. Such a balloon would be of inestimable value in Ashantee. Though near the coast, the bush is so high as to conceal the enemy; yet some indication of their course would be visible, and in the interior all their movements would be laid bare. The balloon itself would no doubt be an object of superstitious dread to these savages. While on the subject of this war, may we not ask why elephants should not be employed? Wild elephants abound on the Ivory Coast, and therefore there could be no difficulty in sustaining an elephant battery from India. They would not suffer from insects like horses, and would strike terror into the Ashantees. After the war advantage might be taken of them to utilize the native elephant, which could be domesticated as well now as in the days of Hannibal. By this, ready access would be gained to the interior, and the progress of civilization would be greatly facilitated."

The London newspapers, in commenting on the Cuban executions, all express the hope that the United States will avenge the victims.

THE SPRINGS OF LONG AGO.

I hear in the thicket the brooklet's fall;
A thrush on the lilac spray
Sings, as of old, the vesper song
Of the slowly waning day:
And the fragrance comes down from the chestnut
trees

In the meadow where the daisies blow,
And it came when the tender twilight came,
In the Springs of long ago.

Far over the dark and shadowy woods,
Comes floating the church-bell's chime,
And I wonder and dream in the fading light,
As I dreamed in the olden time,
When I lingered under the chestnut boughs,
Till hushed was the bird's sweet strain,
And the shimmering light of the moonbeams fell
On the leaves like a silver rain.

But never again shall I wait and watch,
In the hush of the sweet Spring night,
For a step in the depth of the rustling copse,
And the gleam of a garment white.
And never again, 'neath the dew-gemmed
flowers

Shall linger my love and I,
When the tremulous stars through the fleecy bars
Look out in the western sky.

Yet a joy which is nameless and strangely sad
Throbs oft in the heart's deep core.
As the sweet, sweet love of the days long fled
Is thrilled into life once more.
Oh dear was I to the heart that is cold,
And her love o'ershadows me still;
And the stars shine down on her grave to-night,
In the lone churchyard on the hill.

TRIAL OF MARSHAL BAZAINE

(From Broad Arrow, Oct. 18.)

(Continued from page 552.)

FOURTH DAY: SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS.

On Thursday, last week (October 9), the trial of Marshal Bazaine was resumed at 1.15 p. m. The names of three witnesses who had not yet appeared were again called. The clerk then commenced reading the documents annexed to General Rivière's report. The first relates to the communications between Metz and Paris, and states that the railways and telegraphs were cut on the 1st of September. Numerous emissaries were sent by Marshal MacMahon and other generals from different places, but all efforts had failed to trace out the greater part of these messages. Lengthy details follow relative to the despatches sent from Thionville to Metz, and *vice versa*, several of which were suppressed. This document strongly censures the conduct of Colonel Turnier, commander of Thionville. It relates to the commission of Commander Magnan, who had been sent by Marshal Bazaine to Chalons, and lays special stress upon the fact that, despite the many opportunities that officer had, he did not succeed in delivering Marshal MacMahon's reply to Marshal Bazaine. It further seeks to prove the suppression of the despatches addressed to Marshal MacMahon, which is alleged, by deceiving the latter, brought about the catastrophe at Sedan. In conclusion, it alludes to the emissaries who at the termination of the siege of Metz proceeded to Tours.

FIFTH DAY: SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS

On Friday the court opened at 12.40 p. m., when the clerk resumed reading the documents annexed to General Rivière's report. The portion read to-day related to the efforts made to communicate with Metz. More than 300 or 400 messengers were employed in this service, of whom only twenty appear as witnesses in the present trial. The prosecution attaches great importance to the despatch delivered to Marshal Bazaine on the 23rd of August, announcing Marshal MacMahon's movement on the Meuse. Mention is made of the balloons sent from

Metz, of which Marshal Bazaine refused to avail himself.

Details follow respecting the efforts made by the Government of the National Defence to communicate with Metz.

The document seeks to prove that the marshal was informed that a quantity of provisions were collected at Thionville.

With this the reading of the annexed documents, relative to the communications which passed during the siege, was brought to an end.

The clerk of the court then commenced reading the documents relative to the artillery question, giving the number of guns, and the quantity of supplies in Metz, with the object of refuting Marshal Bazaine's assertion that he was obliged to stop the movements of his troops on account of the paucity of ammunition.

The document further shows that the 4 pounders had on the 16th of August 284 shots to fire, and that only thirty nine were fired, and that on the same day 17,500,000 cartridges remained in the arsenal, of which 1,000,000 only were used. It concludes that ammunition was not wanting, and says:—"When it was said that there was no ammunition, the fact was that there was no intention to fight.

The clerk subsequently read the documents relative to the provisions which declare that want of foresight alone delayed the collection of supplies in Metz at the outbreak of the war, and that thereby the food resources were diminished.

The reading of the documents proceeded as far as the investment. The Prince of Serbia was present at the sitting.

SIXTH DAY—OCTOBER 11TH: END OF THE INDICTMENT.

The court resumed its sittings on Saturday, when the clerk proceeded to read a general review of the charges against Marshal Bazaine:—

"In relinquishing the chief command under the pressure of public opinion, the Emperor had given a last order to Marshal Bazaine—viz., to bring back the army to Chalons. In consequence of certain circumstances it had been found necessary to send nearly all the regiments to the frontier, and to begin the war simply with the cadres.

"Nothing was more important than to reconstitute the war effective by means of the reserve, for while the cadres were shut up in Metz it was impossible to organize fresh armies on a solid footing. The events which followed but too clearly proved this. This view of the situation weighed especially upon the mind of the Emperor, who, on the 13th and 14th of August, repeatedly insisted upon the marshal taking active measures for effecting a retreat, and who took his departure from the army when he saw the troops commencing their advance in the direction of Verdun.

"With regard to Marshal Bazaine, whose anxieties had often been increased by the by the Emperor's hesitation, he had but one desire—escape from the control of his sovereign—as has already been proved."

Alluding to the military operations, the report summaries them as follows:—

"In presence of the facts we have pointed out, the reporter comes to the conclusion that the marshal, far from having fulfilled his duty towards the Emperor, constantly deceived him, and that, in causing by his false information the advance towards Montmédy, which culminated in the catastrophe of Sedan, he has assumed a great part of the responsibility for that disaster."

General Rivière then alludes to the Reg-

nier incident, and contends that the marshal ought not to have listened to the overtures of an unknown person without credentials. His duty was to fight, and, if he was not in a position to take the field, he should have harassed the enemy's forces by incessant sorties, and taken measures for obtaining provisions, instead of remaining inactive in Metz. General Rivière then says:—

"Why, instead of entering into negotiations with the enemy, did not the marshal seize all possible means of communicating with the Government of the National Defence? The two frivolous despatches which he sent to the Minister of War during the period of the siege, until the eve of the capitulation, cannot be considered as serious attempts.

"At the same moment (September 25) when he disclosed to M. Regnier the state of affairs with regard to the provisions, he did not send the slightest information to the War Minister on the subject. In short, he forgot the duties he owed to his country in so far as he did not order General Bourbaki to communicate the state of his army to the Government, which was struggling against the invasion, in case his mission to Chislehurst should fail. There were numerous opportunities for corresponding with the interior of France, and as the marshal did not think it necessary to avail himself of any, the prosecution has the right to come to the conclusion that the marshal was not desirous of communicating with the Minister of War. His army was the only hope of the nation; so long as it existed nothing was lost, and every day it was expected the marshal would succeed in cutting his way through the enemy's lines and so arrive in the interior of the country, which the new recruits, without cadres, were powerless to protect. In that situation, if the marshal had asked the Government of the National Defence to combine their efforts with his in the Vosges, or in another direction, who can say what might have been the result? At that supreme moment the question of a form of Government was of no importance. We are about to lose Alsace, and perhaps Lorraine, and still the Commander-in-Chief chose to remain idle and to enter into negotiations with the enemy. The Empress was otherwise inspired when, in granting a farewell audience to General Bourbaki, she advised him to proceed to Tours and offer his sword to the cause of national independence. In presence of this spontaneous movement on the part of the Empress; it may be easily understood with what high-mindedness, after having disavowed the Regnier intrigues, she rejected the convention of which the first clause must inevitably be a dismemberment of the territory."

"If, in consequence of Regnier's silence, the marshal resumed negotiations which he knew beforehand must fail, it was not a return to fidelity which animated him. Here is to be found the guiding principle of his conduct, and not in the interests of a cause which he had abandoned, and towards which he was drawn only by the egotistical impulse of his ambition."

The report proceeds to dwell on the duty of a commander-in-chief towards his soldiers, and says:—

"A general is bound to shed the blood of his soldiers without hesitation when the salvation of the country requires it. But while this should render him absolutely deaf to false humanitarian pleadings, he should all the more carefully spare them when a grievous sacrifice would be useless.

Eleven thousand soldiers of the Metz army died in Germany from sickness and privation. Would it not have been preferable for these lives to have been immolated in effecting the sortie of the army from Metz? What sacrifice could have been more legitimate and more glorious? On the other hand, why did the marshal on the 18th of August, when resolved to return to the entrenched camp, sacrifice 12,000 men in order to hold one day longer the heights above the valley of Monvaux, a position which he must abandon the following day?

"After fighting until the 1st of September a series of battles in which 40,000 men were placed *hors de combat*, it was all the more painful to the army to remain in the most fatal inactivity from the moment of its return to Metz until the day of the final disaster. The honour of an army is symbolized in its flags, and a general's duty, if the fortune of war be against him, is to preserve his army as far as possible from the humiliation of defeat. Did Marshal Bazaine fulfil this duty? History will tell us that when he could have destroyed the flags of his army he delivered them to the enemy."

"As to the arms, report states that, if time failed the marshal to have them destroyed, he should have ordered his soldiers to break them." The report continues:—

"There is one feeling which alleviates the bitterness of the saddest positions, and this is the solicitude of a commander for his soldiers. The soldiers need to see their general, for seeing him gives them firmness and hope. Now, it is deplorable to have to say that the marshal never held any reviews and never visited any of the ambulances, while the inhabitants of Metz of all ranks vied with the military doctors in zeal and devotion in tending the sick and the wounded. One clause of the capitulation gave liberty to those officers who engaged not to serve against Germany during the remainder of the war. Why did Marshal Bazaine admit a condition which might be a cause of blamable weakness? Why did he not point out the duty of his officers in this respect?"

General Rivière's report having been brought to an end, the Duc d'Aumale ordered that the memoir written in justification of the marshal's conduct, which had been already laid before the committee on capitulations, should be read. This memoir is with a few exceptions, the reproduction of the marshal's book on the army of the Rhine. It briefly relates the battle of Forbach, quotes the despatches exchanged on the 6th and 7th of August and declares that the engagement at Saarbrück was an ill timed affair decided upon by the Emperor, who gave all the necessary orders. After having given an account of the battle of Borny, attributing to the measures taken by General Coffinière the delays which occurred in the advance of the troops on the 14th and 15th of August, the memoir relates the battles of Rezonville, Mars-la-Tour, St. Privat, and La Montagne, indicating the dispositions which had been taken by the marshal, but very briefly alluding to the points upon which the prosecution lays special stress. It goes on relating the different events which followed, but does not reply at length to the charges contained in General Rivière's report. However, in a paragraph relative to the battle fought on the 7th of October, Marshal Bazaine throws upon his lieutenants the responsibility of having badly carried out a movement, which prevented him from attempting seriously to advance on the road to Mézières. In conclusion, the Marshal states that events were

stronger than he was, but that his conscience does not reproach him with anything, and he regrets that the officers under his command have turned against him; and become adverse reporters of his conduct. This memoir proved to be briefer than had been supposed, the defence not wishing, it is said, that the marshal should exhaust the means he has at his disposal for answering the charges brought against him, and which the defence reserves in order to make use of them at a more decisive moment. When the memoir had been read, the Duc d'Aumale told the marshal to stand up. "It results," he said, "from the documents you have heard read, that you are charged with having, at Metz, on the 28th of October:—1, capitulated and given up the place without having exhausted all the means of defence you could dispose of; 2, with having signed in the open field, capitulation which resulted in our troops having to lay down their arms; 3, with not having, before treating and signing, done all that honour and duty commanded you to do. I must inform you," added the duke, "that the law gives you the right to say everything which you deem useful for your defence." The marshal bowed, not a muscle of his face moved. He left the hall in haste, like a man who is delighted to return to the solitude to which he has been accustomed for the last eighteen months.

The indictment which has so excited public attention since the opening of this grave trial may be accurately summed up as follows:—It imputates to the marshal a very great part in the responsibility for the disaster at Forbach. It is well known that General Pourcet intended to protest against the reading of that part of the indictment which is anterior to Bazaine's appointment to the chief command. We may be certain that the general, who thought it best to be silent on the subject rather than raise a premature controversy, will abandon, in his speech for the prosecution, the facts alleged against the marshal previous to the 12th of August. Otherwise there would be nothing to prevent the marshal from being called upon to answer for the doings with which public opinion reproaches him in connection with the Mexican campaign. Impartial people will certainly approve General Pourcet's scruple, and his language can but gain in authority by being freed from passion.

The indictment then charges the marshal with having sought from the first to withdraw himself from obedience to the Emperor's orders; with having marched only on the 14th of August, when he might have done so on the 13th; with not having destroyed the bridges; with having followed only one road when he might have taken four; with not having taken advantage of the success obtained on the 16th; with not having informed the Emperor of that success in time; with having falsely announced that he was marching northwards; with having sent contradictory despatches to Marshal MacMahon, the Emperor, and the Minister of War; and with having, in one word, taken measures contrary to orders received.

From September the 1st to October the 29th the report is quite as severe. It charges the marshal with having done nothing to second the efforts of the Government of National Defence; with having begun overtures for a capitulation when he had still six weeks' provisions left; with having confided to Regnier the true state of the provisions; with having deceived his lieutenants; with having been the first to leave Metz, before

even the surrender was complete, and with having deceived the army so as to allow the colours to fall into the hands of the enemy. Consequently the indictment demands that Marshal Bazaine shall be put upon his trial for transgressing two articles of the military code, both of which punish the accused with death, if he is found guilty. This indictment has already begun to fan men's passions, and it is very diversely judged. For some it is a pamphlet filled with violence; for others it is a work of patriotism, clear, ardent, conscientious. To some Bazaine already appears as the personification of treason to fatherland; in the eyes of others he is a great commander to whom fortune has proved fickle, and whom it is sought to sacrifice to national pride.

Perhaps the exact truth is to be found in the following lines of the report itself, which do not excuse the marshal, but which make of him the ambitious victim of the German Chancellor's wiles, and which, while exposing him to the severity of his countrymen, remove from his brow the foul stigma of treason:—"To sum up," says the report at the end of Chapter IV., "by informing Marshal Bazaine of the intention of the German Government to enter into negotiations with him, M. de Bismarck transforms a general into a negotiator, paralyses the army he commands, and, by prolonging preliminaries that have no issue, waits without striking a blow for the day, still unknown, when famine shall place that army at his mercy."

These lines, it is thought, exactly summarise the chancellor's diplomacy and the marshal's conduct, and in choosing an agent such as Regnier to learn when "that fatal term," as the report calls it, would arrive, M. de Bismarck gave one more proof of his infallible perspicacity. A more serious agent would have set the marshal on his guard, Regnier was nobody in his eyes, and he let his tongue wag freely in his presence. M. de Bismarck knew so well what would happen that he did not fear to run the risk of appearing ridiculous by treating with a man like Regnier. He well knew that when the piece was played out the roles would be correctly distributed; that the laughs would be on the side of the prince, and the military judges on that of the marshal.

SEVENTH DAY: MONDAY, OCT. 13TH.—COMMENCEMENT OF THE INTERROGATION.

When the court resumed its sitting on Monday, the number of persons present was greatly in excess of those who attended the trial during the last week's sittings. All the foreign military *attaches* were present. The sitting having been declared open, the names of the witnesses who have not as yet answered were called, among whom is M. Rouher.

The Duc d'Aumale then informed the court of the divisions which he intended introducing into the interrogatory of the marshal inviting the court and counsel for the defence to bring in the witnesses in groups corresponding to those divisions, reserving to himself, however, the right of making any alterations he might think necessary to elicit the truth. These divisions are as follows:—The first division will commence from the moment the marshal assumed the command; the second will relate to the military operations from the 13th to the 19th of August; the third will comprise the communications exchanged with the Emperor and the other generals; the fourth will relate to the operations from the 19th of August to the 1st September; the fifth will bear upon the defence and the provisions at Metz; the sixth upon the incidents and negotiations during September; the seventh

will relate to the communication with the Government of the National Defence; the eighth will comprise the last negotiations; and the ninth will refer to the capitulation.

The court then proceeded to the examination of Marshal Bazaine with regard to the first part of General Rivière's report.

The president observed that the responsibility of the marshal commenced only with the 12th of August, yet he addressed to him seven questions upon the preceding period, having principally reference to the positions held by the troops at the battle of Forbach, and the orders given to the generals.

Marshal Bazaine, in reply, said he was not informed of all those orders, which were given to the generals direct. He added that, in the interview he had with the Emperor at Faulquemont on the 9th of August, it was not intended to appoint him commander-in-chief. He was summoned to the camp, where a council of war was being held, which simply resolved that the army should be brought back under the walls of Metz. The movement commenced on the 11th of August. Marshal Bazaine declared that he did not receive notice to get fresh supplies of ammunition, and he drew attention to the carelessness of the Information Department. He received only on the 13th of August precise indications as to the situation of Marshal MacMahon.

The Duc d'Aumale remarked that General de Failly received contradictory orders on the 13th of August.

Marshal Bazaine, in reply, threw the responsibility upon the staff, adding that he knew only on the 12th of the order to throw bridges over the Moselle, and that he was not aware of the approaching departure of the Emperor, of whom he considered himself but the lieutenant. The marshal, in fact, rejected all responsibility with regard to the delay in the erection of bridges, the order for an advance, and the choice of the roads, which all rested entirely with the commanders of corps, when the general movement had been indicated by the commander-in-chief. In reply to a question why he had not destroyed the bridges after the passage of the army, the marshal repeatedly stated that he was not acquainted with the telegrams sent direct to the major general. It results from two telegrams, which were read, that the marshal intended to counteract the flank movement of the German army, but that he was prevented from doing so by the Emperor. With regard to the march of the 15th August, the marshal justified the course he pursued by stating that it had been agreed with the march on Verdun should be continued, without, however, compromising the position of affairs. He admitted that the battle of Borny caused a loss of at least two hours, and added that the chief officers of the staff belonging to the different corps were at fault in the choice they made of the routes to be taken, a duty which properly devolved upon them. The Duc d'Aumale hereupon remarked that he thought the delay was due rather to the encumbrance caused by the baggage. Marshal Bazaine said the Emperor on leaving, on the 16th, left no special orders, but it was well understood that if Marshal Bazaine encountered too strong a resistance he was to remain under the walls of Metz, at least, for a few days, and let the storm pass over. Marshal Bazaine insisted on this point. The army in any case was not to go beyond Verdun, and the Meuse was to constitute a fresh basis of operations. After the battle of the 16th, it became impossible to advance. The marshal declared that Generals Lebœuf and

Canrobert were of the same opinion. The statements made by the responsible chief of the artillery, General Soleille, and the Commissary of Stores convinced him that the supplies would run short. He added that provisions were destroyed in opposition to his orders. He then entertained the idea of taking the Briey route. After that came the battle of St. Privat, and Marshal Bazaine maintained that he afforded General Canrobert all the aid he asked for. He further held that if the reserves were employed too late in the battle of the 18th, it was the duty of those who commanded these reserves, and especially the duty of General Bourbaki, who commanded the Guard, to send them to the front at the right moment. It was for them to decide. Marshal Bazaine blamed General Ladmirault for not having called up General Bourbaki, whose services were at his disposal. He explained the subsequent movements by again citing the order he had received to place nothing in jeopardy. The sitting was then suspended.

The point which stands out most conspicuously from the day's proceedings is, that the marshal sought less to force a passage through the German lines than to detain a German army under the walls of Metz.

Colonel Conolly, Military Attaché of the British Embassy, was present, and it is said that a large box behind the stall in which Marshal Bazaine sits is crowded each day with his relatives and friends.

After the entry of the members composing the council of war, complete silence is restored in the hall in anticipation of the arrival of Marshal Bazaine.

On Monday the marshal took his seat in front of a table which was covered with papers, directly facing the members of the court. He appeared much excited at the commencement of the examination, and replied at first with some haste, but soon assumed a more easy manner. The conversation is carried on in a very familiar tone, and the marshal frequently turns to his council to point out the notes which he is to take. The ministers, the Duc de Broglie and M. Beulé entered the hall several times to-day. Marshal Bazaine read the documents, the president asking him almost each time whether he considered them useful.

(To be continued.)

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 21st November, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS (27).

No. 1.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

"A" Battery of Artillery and School of Gunnery, Kingston.

The following Officer is authorized to join

the School of Gunnery, Kingston, on probation, for a three months's course of instruction.

2nd Lieutenant; Edward George Green, Toronto Battery of Garrison Artillery.

10th Battalion of Infantry or "Royals," Toronto.

The services of Lieutenant Colonel John Boxall and Major John Watson Hetherington as Officers of the Active Militia, are dispensed with, and their names are hereby removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia of the Dominion.

13th Battalion of Infantry, Hamilton.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Gilbert Wakefield Griffin, M. S., vice Boice, promoted.

To be Ensign:

Sergeant Major Robert Crockett, M. S., vice Dyett, resigned.

The resignation of Assistant Surgeon Henry Strange is hereby accepted.

35th Battalion of Infantry "The Simcoe Foresters."

To be Quarter Master:

William Hunter Gentlemen, vice Lieutenant Frederick Larard, left limits.

• No 3. Company, Cookstown.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Private William R Runkin, vice Ayrst, resigned.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

58th "Comptoir" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 4 Company, Marbleton.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Sergeant Edward Lothrop, vice Weyland, promoted.

No. 7 Company, Coaticook.

To be Lieutenant:

Robert George Trenholm, Gentleman, M. S., vice Ernest V. Norton, left limits.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Private Henry Silas Whitzomb Goodhue, vice Trihey, resigned.

65th Battalion or "Mount Royal Rifles"

No. 4 Company, Montreal.

To be Lieutenant:

Sergeant Major Pierre Bélanger, M. S., vice Joseph Perrault, resigned.

BREVET.

To be Major:

Captain John Slous, M.S. Gaspé Battery of Garrison Artillery, from 23rd October, 1873.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY BRIGADE.

3rd Battalion Rifles.

To be Quarter Master:

Arthur Wily, Gentleman, vice Edward P. Broughton, left limits.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor General.

WALKER POWELL, Lieut. Col.
Acting Adj. General of Militia,
Canada.