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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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[Written for THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.]

THE INVASION OF CANADA IN 1874.

WRITTEN IN 1900 BY A RETIRED MILITIAMAN.

The winter of 1873-4 has passed sadly enough. The Canadian people were full of misgivings. The Russo-French combination against Prussia, resulted in the evacuation of the Rhenish provinces, and although the German nation were confident of the ultimate result, yet Austria's undefined position caused some anxiety. The revolt in India had assumed formidable proportions; but the mutineers were everywhere held in check by our Forces. In Egypt the Khedive after sustaining a series of defeats from the Turkish army had obtained such assistance in money and arms from the Americans, (under the pretext that it was a war of independence) as to enable him to turn the tide of war, and in turn to press the Turkish Troops. Early in the spring of 1874 a naval victory gave the Russians the possession of the Baltic, and preparations on a large scale were made for the invasion of Prussia from the north; grown careless by success, or perhaps with the intonation of drawing England into the contest, the integrity of Belgium was violated, and a conflict occurred between a portion of the French Troops, and the Belgian Frontier Guard, The Radical Government of England having been defeated on the Washington Treaty, had given place to a conservative administration, and the new Government, without hesitation, demanded from France an *amende* for the act. In this remonstrance England was joined by Holland.

After some delay, this was refused, on some trivial pretext; and another violation occurring, (they say secretly provoked by Prussia) with the overhauling of an English steamer in the Mediterranean by a Russian frigate; England declared war, and sent an army into Belgium to co operate with the Belgians and Dutch. Simultaneously with England's declaration of War, Russia took possession of the Blacksea, and invaded Turkey. This necessitated sending an army to the assistance of the Sultan and the King of Italy, who had long chafed at being out of the fight, again declared himself England's ally.

The Yankees profiting by their adage "that England's embarrassment was America's opportunity" sent out a number of privateers, ostensibly under French colors, but in reality leaving American ports, and armed and manned by Americans. One of these being captured by an English gun-boat, and it having been proved that its papers were forged, that it had not touched at a French post, and that its officers and crew were all Americans or Irish, the captain, pilot, and three seamen were hanged at the yard arm as pirates. This caused a remonstrance from the U. S. Government; but the English Government while deprecating the zeal of their officer, refused to apologise. Upon this the U. S. Government declared war on the 7th of June 1874. Pending the negotiations, which resulted in war being declared, the Imperial Government secretly advised the Dominion Government that arrangements were in progress by which Independence could be granted to Canada, thus absolving her from the necessity of bearing the brunt of the war. While this was discussing, the arrogance of the United States Government surpassed its discretion, and they loudly announced their intention of occupying Canada, independent or otherwise. This fired the spirit of the Canadian people; and with the exception of a mercantile clique in Montreal, and a few scattered sympathizers through the country, they boldly announced their intention of retaining their British connection, and abiding the consequence. Britain's other colonies did nobly also. Australia sent 25,000 volunteers to India, and 5,000 men went from the Cape of Good Hope and Natal to the same place; thus giving the disposal of the bulk of the army to the British Government for other purposes. Ireland too, finding there was a chance of fighting elsewhere, gave up doing so at home. All the line Regiments were full; and many Militia, and some Volunteer regiments had volunteered for foreign service. But it is not with this, that I have to do; we Canadians speedily found something at home to occupy us; and after the distracting anxieties, and depression of trade, for we past nine months, the activity of preparation for war was almost a relief.

The six weeks hiatus between the diplomatic correspondence and the declaration of war, had not been lost; and on ascertaining our position England nobly seconded our efforts. With a well devised policy 10,000 men, consisting principally of the Regiments that had last been in the colony, were sent as under the command of a Lieutenant-General and two Major-Generals. A Major-General was appointed, with a suitable staff, to the command of the maritime Provinces.

As regards our local Forces; the thorough organization inaugurated in 1871 had been carried out. The Volunteers in the several districts had been brigaded, and were furnished with Brigade and Division staffs.

Each Division had been rendered independent in the matter of camp equipage and field equipment. A transport service had been organized, and arrangements perfected for the carriage either of troops or provisions. The artillery had been considerably augmented, and by a lengthened period of drill, and the training effected in the schools of Gunnery, were fairly efficient. The proportions of cavalry (or mounted riflemen) and infantry, had been adjusted; to each Division. Preparations had been made for the establishment of a manufactory for small arms ammunition, but, unfortunately, this had been too long delayed, and the arrangements were not completed. But so far the organization of the small Canadian army was complete, and indeed by a liberal system of rewards for good conduct and marksmanship, exemptions from civil duties and a grant of land for continued good service; the several corps were filled with hardy and energetic young men, enthusiastic in their profession, and looked upon with pride as the National Guard of the country.

These changes had been brought about partly by an alteration in the Militia Law, making the Active Militia the constitutional force of the country, in which every able bodied man was obliged to serve, imposing a direct tax upon those not actually serving; and partly by the liberal grants made for the purpose by the Dominion Legislature, upon whom the shadow of war had exercised the same effect in loosing the purse-strings as in former years; and with whom no present sub-

ject seemed to have so great an interest, as those which pertained to the efficiency of the Canadian Army. It was well for the country that it was so, for had the force remained in the semi-organized luke warm state as in 1870-71, I fear that I should have to narrate a far different series of circumstances than those which fill these pages. In May 1874 the Active Militia Force was called out, ostensibly for the performance of their annual drill; and were gathered together in Brigade Camps at Kingston, Niagara, Brantford and London. Two regiments were assembled at Collingwood, and the Garrison Batteries called into Kingston and Toronto. For the instruction of the latter, earthworks were thrown up at the mouth of the Humber, and the batteries at the new and old Forts repaired. An excellent naval Brigade was formed and for this, and others formed along the Lake frontiers of Ontario, Erie, and Huron; powerful tugs were fitted up as gunboats, each mounting a 72 pdr. Armstrong gun. Great fear was entertained as to the necessary supplies of ammunition, but to our great relief, some two weeks before the war broke out, vessels arrived with ample supplies of both ammunition and arms. The next week brought us the English troops, and I have seldom witnessed more enthusiasm than was displayed at their reception. I was in Toronto that day, and as the 69th, 47th, and 29th marched through the streets to their camp on the Garrison Common, both population and soldiers seemed to have gone mad. The ranks were all broken; the red and green coats mixed up with those of divers civilian hues, not without a sprinkling of the brighter habiliments of the fair sex, in inextricable confusion, to the great amusement of the other officers, and the due indignation of the subs, who did not seem to approve of such infractions of dignity and discipline.

The prospect of a row seemed to these jovial warriors the subject of infinite jest, and the good humoured chaff and fun with which they greeted their acquaintance in the crowd was amusing in the extreme. The artillery did not participate in the general reception, having been sent on to the Queen's Wharf to disembark their guns. In consequence of the great demand for horses in England, they were sent out without them, but in a short time they succeeded in horsing the Batteries splendidly. I have always thought the Canadian farm horse a most tractable animal, but the readiness with which these drafts acquired their duties surprised me.

To return to the subject of my narrative. The Brigade Camp at Niagara to which I was attached, with my squadron of mounted rifles, consisted of the 2nd, 10th, 12th, 34th, 36th and 44th Battalions of Volunteer Militia, six Troops of Cavalry, four of mounted Rifles, and two Batteries of Artillery, from Hamilton, and the Welland Canal. The whole were under the command of the Deputy Adjutant-General for the 2nd Dis-

trict, under whom they were divided into two brigades consisting of 3 regiments, six or four troops and a battery. The second or "Light Bobs" consisted of the 2nd and 36th, 44th Battalions, my squadron, and two frontier troops of mounted rifles under my command, and the Hamilton Field Battery in all about 1,500 men. The other Brigade was commanded by the senior officer, an unqualified man, but anxious and zealous in the performance of his duties. Towards the last of May the headquarters of the 1st Brigade were shifted to Chippewa, and we were instructed to throw out pickets as far as Fort Erie, some 14 miles up the river.

This unpleasant duty fell upon my little command, together with that of warning the inhabitants to be prepared to move at short notice. Nothing could exceed the incredulity, or obstinacy, of these people. They would not, or could not, believe that war was imminent. They were ready to sell, however, and as a depot for provisions was to be established at St. Catharines, I made contracts for all their spare supplies of grain, to be delivered at that point, within one week after the declaration of war. The next week passed over, with many scares—*one*, the most serious of which, was caused by the cutting of the Telegraph wire between Chippewa and Fort Erie. This, though the work of some idle vagabond, kept me riding the whole night, as I feared my patrols might be cut off by some of the Fenian scum who had gathered in large numbers at Buffalo. On the 3rd of June we heard that the Major-General had arrived at Niagara, and had confirmed the commands already made.

The organization of the Reserves had been determined on and was carried out with characteristic energy. I should have mentioned that simultaneously with our move to Chippewa, a Brigade from Brantford moved down to Port Colborne, the other remaining at Brantford.

In the meantime, we saw nothing of the regulars, but on the evening of the 5th heard that two regiments and a battery had arrived at St. Catharines, and another Regiment and a Battery had gone to Brantford; which, for the present, was to be the General's Head-Quarters. This was welcome news to us; for although pretty steady, it increased our confidence, to feel that we had some regulars at our back. All this time we had been hearing, from every source, of the vast army that was to crush us into insignificance; and seeing the crowds that assembled on the other side of the River whenever a party of our men showed themselves, we could quite believe, that in numbers, we were greatly inferior to the army of invasion collecting in Buffalo.

On the night of the 6th, by previous arrangement, I received a cypher telegram from Head-quarters instructing me to destroy the International Bridge on the morn-

ing of the 7th, as war would then be declared. As a precautionary measure, the swing had been left open all night for some time past, and it was with deep regret that I embarked with a chosen party, at about 11 o'clock p.m., to carry out my first piece of military vandalism. Landing at the east pier, we awoke the surprised and frightened bridge keepers, bundled them into our boat, put two kegs of powder under the pivot rest half swung the bridge, laid our train and waited. So soon as twelve o'clock the chimes from the Catholic Cathedral in Buffalo commenced playing, and singularly enough the tune was "Home, sweet Home." The most brutal and unrefined Boolin in the world could not have carried out the work of destruction with such sounds in his ears; but scarcely had the last sweet chime died away than we heard the puff, puff, of a tug descending the river. I fired the train, and letting the boat drop down the current reached the shore. Scarcely had we done so than a burst of flame shot up in the air, a sound as of thunder, a crash of falling material, a scattering pit pat on the surface of the water, and our work of destruction was accomplished, and the war commenced. As the noise of the explosion reached Buffalo, a solitary gun boomed from Fort Porter, the sound of distant bugles rang out faintly in the distance, lights flashed, and sentries challenged; but in a short time all was still, and we in the first excitement of actual warfare, patrolled the banks of the majestic Niagara, having severed the International link that bound us to another people.

At the same time the Bridges at Clifton were undermined on our side, and plunged into the river.

For nearly a week, though living in constant excitement, we were unmolested. Our patrols were fired at from boats, and returned the fire, but no man was lost. We scarcely seemed to be at war,—much of the bustle and hurra had died away and the quiet seemed almost oppressive, but at last, preparations were made to cross. First, we saw drawn upon the other side of the river, some batteries of artillery; under their cover, a gun-boat steamed down followed by a flotilla of tugs and scows. From a safe distance we watched the embarkation, and following our orders, as the first boat touched the Canadian shore, we retired down the river road, destroying the bridges as we crossed them.

On arriving at Chippewa I reported the crossing to the officer commanding the Brigade, and there tried to obtain a little rest, of which I was much in need. The next day I learned that the invading force some 14,000 strong, had occupied the heights above Fort Erie. For two days after, no movements were made on either side; but on the third, an order was received to proceed with the Brigade to Port Robinson, on the Welland Canal, leaving an outpost at Chippewa. The right Brigade of our Div-

sion had, we learned, marched on St. Catharines, leaving outposts along the Niagara River, to communicate with ours. These outposts were formed of companies of infantry, with two troops of cavalry for patrols and videttes.

On the 12th of June a report came that the enemy was advancing by two roads on Port Colborne, and that their advanced guard had exchanged shots across the canal with our force at Stone Bridge, about 1½ miles from Port Colborne. The east half of the village had been destroyed (under orders) some days previously, and earthworks thrown upon the west side, from the shelter of which our men had an opportunity to engage with the enemy at long range. Little execution was done, however, and at about three in the afternoon the enemy's gunboats came into range and soon shelled our men from their position. Trains being in waiting, they were soon embarked, and at daybreak the next morning the enemy advanced and took possession of our works; repairing, and building bridges over the canal, and destroying the lock-gates. The 3rd Brigade of ours, after leaving Port Colborne destroyed the bridges on the Grand Trunk, retired on Dunville, crossing the river, and entrenching themselves on the west side.

On the 14th the 2nd Brigade left Port Robinson, being replaced by the regular Brigade. We marched through to Welland port, and there halted for the night, keeping up communication with Port Robinson and being exactly parallel with the enemy, although separated by a series of swamps and the Chippewa creek. Here we heard that the enemy's gunboats had taken possession of port Maitland, and had got within range of Dunville, drilling our men from their earthworks as before.

The 3rd Brigade again retired along the line of the Grand Trunk Railroad to a point about 12 miles west, the 4th Brigade of ours, with the regulars from Brantford, joining them; it was determined to make a stand. Our right consisting of the regulars and 4th Brigade of volunteers, rested on the Grand River, extending to the line of the Grand Trunk Railway. My own Brigade, (2nd) arriving, we took the left of the line, while the 3rd went into reserve on the line of the G. T. R. The baggage and knapsacks being put on the cars, we threw up a line of earthworks, and bivouacked behind them. It fell to my lot to form the outlying picket for our Brigade, and with no small anxiety did I look forward to the probable events of the night and morning.

At about 3 o'clock the alarm was sounded on the right, and a few dropping shots were heard, but next morning soon after daybreak sharp artillery firing commenced on the extreme right, from which we augured that the enemy advancing by the river road were trying conclusions with us. My picket being relieved, we tried to get something to

ent, but failed, as our commissariat was not up to the mark, and the three days cooked provisions taken from Port Robinson were exhausted.

From some of our better provided friends we got a hasty meal, and I sallied out to see what could be seen. It was a lovely June morning, with a soft haze rising from the fields that lay stretched before us, rich in the verdure of spring. A fringe of woods skirted the rising ground on the right of the railroad track, and lounging about beneath the trees, were the gallant "Queen's Own," next lay the 36th, more conspicuous in their red coats; and on a semi-circular ridge that flanked their lines, was the Hamilton field Battery in position.

On their left again lay the right wing of the 44th, their left wing furnishing the skirmishers that covered our lines. On the extreme left were my own men, partially concealed in a wood, in front of which was a swamp skirting the south branch of the Chippewa Creek. Thus much could I see from my point of observation. The remainder of the force was, I believe distributed as follows. The 29th Regulars occupied the river road, and bank; having felled trees as abatis on their left; and on a height commanding the road, was a division of Royal Artillery, with the cavalry in their rear; next on the left were the 13th, 20th, and a provisional Battalion from Wentworth; the regulars furnishing the skirmishers. Their position was equally good with our own; the heights being fringed with woods, and open fields for about 1000 yards in front of them. While I watched I could see sharp irregular puffs of smoke rise from our skirmishing lines on the right and the deadened sound of the report reached the ear soon after.

The firing soon became pretty general along the line, and about 7.30 our skirmishers began to retire. I could not help contrasting the precision with which the regulars accomplished this, and the helter-skelter of our own men. "Every man to his trade," however, and our men, on seeing the example set them, began to retire with less confusion. Presently the Artillery on our left opened out, and soon after I could see blue jackets among the snake fences in front. They advanced in no regular line, but with a reckless rapidity, and disregard of cover, that did not tell well for their experience. They proved to be the 74th New York State Volunteers. Shortly after this the halt was sounded from the enemy's line and the skirmish line lay down, still keeping up their firing. At this point I noticed the superiority of our arms, their bullets constantly falling short, while those from our men were occasionally telling in their lines. We now saw three dark lines form under cover of a wood on our left front, and presently a cloud of skirmishers extended from the first line, and re-enforced their skirmish line; the whole advancing. During this

time our right had been busily engaged; our artillery pounding away, and the firing increasing.

We soon had as much as we could do ourselves, our skirmishers falling back followed by the enemy at an unsteady run, yelling like demons. By some fatal error they changed obliquely across our lines towards the railway, and then, although scarcely within 400 yards of us, a storm of bullets rained upon them, and the next minute they were scattered over the field in confusion. Whilst this happened, their second line was advancing, and again the same scene was enacted. The third line came on more steadily, and less quickly; but again took that fatal and oblique direction.

They were mown down in the same way, and retired hopelessly demoralized. Elated with this success, our men cheered again and again, but changed their tune, when a few moments later, the enemy's Artillery was brought to bear in the direction of their shouts.

They appeared to have about twelve guns and they were well and quickly served. But lying close to their earthworks, our men suffered little, and after an hour's shell practice from both sides, with little effect, a fresh effort was made to storm our lines.

This resulted in partial success, for the second line gained a footing on the earthworks of the 36th, and a hand to hand fight ensued, in which our men were victorious. Not a moment too soon, however, for the third line seeing the advantage pressed on quickly; but were opportunely caught by a shower of canister from our guns, and again routed. This defeat seemed to change the plans of the opposing general. He drew off from the left altogether, and concentrated his attack on the right. We afterwards learned that the attack on the left was to create a diversion. Presently we saw a Battalion and a division of the Royal Artillery move from our reserve towards the right; and found that the enemy had got a Battery across the river, and was delivering an effectual flanking fire. Our right slowly wheeled back, fighting every inch, till our lines were almost like a Δ , leaving the river road open. The half battery last brought up, being mowed on the road now opened, and completely enveloped the enemy, who were pressing our men as they retired. Meanwhile the cavalry on the right had left their position, and an order was brought to our cavalry to take their place. All this time the battery across the river was annoying us greatly, and it was with the greatest excitement that we saw our cavalry emerge from the woods to the left of the guns, and boldly charge them.

To be continued.

It has been ascertained from an official source that Austria has made no offer of an asylum to the Pope, and the reports that his Holiness intends to leave Rome are discredited at Vienna.

[Written for the Review.]

OUR NATIONAL POLICY.

BY G. T. D., JR.

Canada a few years ago a wilderness sparsely settled in but few localities, has since gone through several stages of national growth; first as a crown colony, and then with a certain amount of self-rule under a responsible government in detached provinces.

Four years ago, however, these provinces were united in a Confederation. We then took our first step on the ladder of national progression. Duties not formerly thought of were thrown upon us and responsibilities hitherto unknown became of pressing importance. Our statesmen should bear this in mind and should not forget the rapidity with which in modern times event follows event; more than ever is it necessary that they should look far into the future and prepare for whatever it may bring forth. Politicians who are guided more by present party exigencies than by the desire of laying the foundations of power for future generations are more than ever dangerous to the well-being of a State.

A young country most requires far-seeing Statesmen for it is in the youth of a people that the ground work of future greatness is established; as in the man the vigour of the system is the result of the strength imbibed into the constitution during the period of youth. Canada during the next twenty years is about to pass through the most important phase of its existence. During that time she will either be gaining the vigour and national spirit that will carry her triumphantly through the trials that may come upon her, or she will have implanted in her system those seeds of weakness which will cause her premature decay and rapid decline.

This generation has, therefore, a grave duty to perform. It will have to lay the foundation of a new nationality and it must do so on a sure and lasting basis if the structure is to endure. Discussions on this point are, therefore, at the present moment not only appropriate but necessary.

In considering this question we may therefore justly contemplate our present position and draw attention to the advantages the country possesses in commencing to build up a great nationality. No country ever set out on its career under such favorable auspices or had fewer drawbacks or difficulties to encounter. Canada is one of the most extensive territories in the world, compact, flanked on either side by two great oceans and safely backed by the frozen regions of the north. It is a fertile country, rich in agricultural products. It has mines, fisheries, water powers, and great stretches of inland navigation, and what is more to be prized than all, a vast territory where a waggon can be driven for twelve hundred miles across a boundless prairie

open for settlement where there are no old world customs to respect, no traditions of a dead past to clog the wheel of modern progress and advancement, no vested rights to interfere with the onward march of our race, but all clear and open and free where our Statesmen, drawing experience from the past, can build solidly and surely the foundations upon which the great future of our country shall be firmly established.

Canadian Statesmen have another advantage not possessed by the founders of any other nationality in the world's history; side by side with us, on the same continent under somewhat a similar climate, a great nation sprung from the same race, peopled from like sources, and speaking a common language have established themselves. The United States have been experimenting in front of us. It will be our own fault if the manifest lessons taught by their experiences should fall dead upon our ears, or if we should shut our eyes to the warning conveyed by their failures.

They have shown us, and our people appreciate the fact, that although in theory the Republican form of government may seem a good one, there are, nevertheless, grave difficulties in the practical working of the idea which the United States have clearly been unable to overcome. They have shown us that excess of liberty means license. They have taught us that the true secret of government is to draw the line where liberty ends and license begins. They have experimented in the elective system to the fullest extent. They have elective sheriffs, district attorneys, and even judges; and they have adopted the system of changing all office-bearers on every change of government. The practical results of all these experiments are such as are not likely to induce us to imitate them.

While we find much to avoid in their institutions, there are some points upon which we can follow their example with great advantage, and on no one point more than in the encouragement of a national sentiment. The founders of the neighboring Republic knew the necessity of inculcating in the citizen not only a love of country, but a confidence in it, in themselves, and in each other. They wisely commenced at the right place in the education of the children. Every effort was made, every measure taken to encourage a national feeling. Their school geographies conveyed the idea to the children that the world consisted mainly of the United States and Territories; the other countries being referred to so as to set off, as much as possible, the existence, grandeur and importance of the great Republic. Their history were equally marked by this spirit. Histories with them virtually commenced with Pocahontas saving Captain John Smith's life, and culminated in the Declaration of Independence, and the battles of Trenton, Princeton, and Yorktown. The war of 1812 was chronicled in order to place on

record several naval duels (generally illustrated) in which British ships were captured, and to mark the victory of New Orleans. Modern history was practically summed up in glowing accounts of the Mexican War.

There is no doubt they carried this principle to excess. An instance worth mentioning lately came under the writer's observation which shows the absurd lengths to which the Yankees will go in pandering to their vanity. A panorama for the entertainment of children has been lately exhibited in which, among other scenes there is a representation of Moses and the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea with the stars and stripes waving boldly at the head of the column.

The citizen of the United States partakes a good deal of the Chinese idea that his own country comprises all the world or nearly all of it and could easily whip it. We may laugh at all this, we may ridicule their school books and their ideas of their strength, but, nevertheless, their success in the late civil wars can be attributed mainly to this unbounded confidence in themselves. No defeat however complete ever seemed to shake their confidence for an instant, and they continually hammered away until they succeeded.

In the Pogram Defiance which "defied the world in general to compete with our country upon any hook and developed our internal resources for making war upon the universal faith." Charles Dickens merely satirized the general sentiment of the masses in the States, a sentiment the result of the school books and school education.

Until lately Canada has been acting in the very opposite extreme, and blameably so. For years in the public schools Yankee books were used teaching the children history so-called in masquerade, in which abuse of England was unstinted and nothing but her failures and defeats chronicled. The geographies were quite as bad.

It is gratifying to know that although we have not gone quite so far as our neighbours, yet a few years ago the educational Department followed their example to a certain extent; and now all the common schools are supplied with geographies, histories, and readers compiled from a Canadian point of view. The new books are already beginning to impart a tone to the public sentiment of the people. The late Fenian Raids and the different marchings to the frontier of our volunteers, the recent insurrection at Red River and the expedition to put it down have given a great impetus to Canadian national feeling. This is a matter to which every attention should be paid, every encouragement given, for upon the training of the youth the spirit of the nation will depend in the future.

In this country the State educates the children at the public expense, and the children owe something in return to the State. It would be a reasonable and feasible idea

to have military drill taught in the common schools to all boys over a certain age. If this were done, even if the knowledge of manoeuvring or the steadiness in executing movements were never great, still a military spirit would be infused into the population for the boys on becoming men would naturally be more willing to give military service to the state, and in a few years the whole people would be defensively warlike. The masters at the Normal School could soon learn enough drill to enable them to teach all that would be necessary, for the benefit would be more from the impulse given to the military spirit than the precision of drill the boys would attain.

Although a valuable lesson has been taught this country by the neighbouring States in the matter of common school education and a good example set us, yet there are many points upon which the more we diverge from them the better. On no point is this more clear than on the worship of money in itself.

Canada will certainly be a powerful agricultural community, and by her shipping will excel in maritime strength, but it is doubtful if she will ever be a very rich country and it is hardly to be regretted. The immense fertility and boundless resources of the United States have made them wealthy. Money is rapidly and easily made and the natural results of great wealth easily acquired have ensued. In the political sphere corruption and dishonesty of the worst type organized into rings and monopolies forms the every day occupation of the politicians who fill the places statesmen alone should occupy, the greatest politician being that one whose unscrupulous cunning enables him to secure the largest spoils at the expense of the community, and who has tact enough to properly impress the public with the idea of the great wealth he possesses.

The worship of the almighty dollar in the States is demoralizing the whole people. Politicians could not hold power by dishonest and corrupt practices if the moral sentiment of the nation did not endorse the proposition that the end justifies the means, and that the possession of wealth ennobles the possessor even though he has obtained it by swindling the very dupes who recognize in it alone the patent of nobility.

The following anecdote will show the effect of political training in the States. A citizen of the Republic who had lived some years in Canada and become naturalized, had on one occasion voted for a very estimable and honorable member of our parliament. On the member returning for re-election the Yankee refused to vote for him again, because, as he explained to a friend, "I voted for him for one spell but he don't seem smart enough; I don't see that he has done anything for himself, there is no use casting a vote on him." His whole idea being to give some friend a opportunity of swindling the state for his own benefit.

Our Statesmen should legislate so as to check the slightest attempt at imitating the weakness of our neighbors on this point. The Controverted Elections Act of the Ontario Legislature was a step in the right direction and has given a great blow to the corruption in elections which was fast becoming a disgrace to the country and rapidly destroying the political morality of the people.

The founders of the United States wisely adopted the policy of changing everything on the acknowledgment of their independence and of adopting in every day matters, customs which would be national by their originality. New editions of the Bible following literally the English translation of James 1st time, but omitting the dedication to King James, and containing in its place a sneer at him, were published for use by their people. The Church of England prayer-book was altered sufficiently to make a difference, and the system of drill for their army before they adopted the French as a basis was similar to the English with the words of command slightly varied so as to make the people feel that a change had come upon them.

We are close neighbours, we trade continually, and to a great extent with them; we travel in their country and they in ours, and although we originally sprung from the same race and living on the same continent, yet we may thankfully say that in all our peculiarities were diverging, and every day becoming more distinct in our characteristics. Nature, climate and habit, are creating two new races on this side of the Atlantic and our Statesmen should encourage the distinction as much as possible. Fortunately Canada has the northern and best end of the Continent, that is to say, the end sure to produce the hardiest and most dominant race.

Every measure should be taken to perpetuate and increase this divergence in our national characteristics, for the more we differ the more cause we shall have for national pride. A Canadian travelling in the States feels that he is in a different country, the flags and eagles stuck about in every conceivable position, the accents of the people he meets, the unequivocal sneers at our great mother country enthusiastically received in the theatres and places of public entertainment, the absurd enquiries everywhere as to whether his native country is not longing to be absorbed in a foreign and hostile one, all make him feel that he is in a foreign land, one inately inimical to the British Empire, and all tend to strengthen his patriotism and love of home. One can well sympathize with the gentleman who after travelling through the States on crossing the Suspension Bridge said he could have welcomed the service of a writ for the satisfaction of seeing "Victoria by the Grace of God" at the head of it.

Our most important public duty is to increase this patriotic feeling and to encourage a national sentiment in our people, and

there is no reason why this sentiment should not be distinctly Canadian. Canadians have hitherto drifted along without any national aspirations or hopes, encouraging those feelings which nature creates in the heart of man for the land of his birth, to wind themselves around the traditions of countries that they have never seen. They have been too much in the habit of stifling or at least carefully concealing any affection for their native land. They have too long looked upon themselves as colonists and acquiesced in the inferior status that name seemed to give them in the eyes of those in the mother country. It is time this was changed. Our fathers and grandfathers were colonists but we are Canadians. We are not as proud of this name as we should be. The national societies praise-worthy in their objects as they are, and evidences of a national sentiment on the part of the members towards their own native lands, have been continued and opened to their descendants; and Canadians, born in the same town or village or on the same concession or side line and educated in the same schools, have been taught that because their fathers did not come from the same kingdom they are not fellow-countrymen. This is all wrong. In the United States they are wiser than we are on this point, for in the second or third generation they are all Yankees irrespective of their origin. So should it be in Canada. When Canadians cease to connect themselves with National Societies and feel that the proudest boast they can make is that they are Canadians, when our people begin to feel that the Dominion can produce sons the equal of those of any country in the world; when Canadians are no longer looked upon by their own rulers and their own citizens as inferiors because they are Canadians; when it is considered possible that Colonial Volunteer Officers might sometimes be the equals of those imported from abroad; when Canadian engineers are no longer set aside on their own railways because they are not foreigners, then and not till then will this country have that self-confidence and self-respect which is the mainspring of national power; then the Dominion will have made the first step towards the attainment of national greatness.

Two bronze rifled muzzle-loading 9-pounder field-guns with carriages and limbers complete, but with no internal equipments, have been purchased in England by the Baron de Grancey, on behalf of the French Government, with a view of their ultimately adopting the British system of rifling. 700 filled cannon shell and 650 empty of the same description, together with 3,300 lbs. of powder, and 1,350 empty flannel cartridge cases, have been issued with the guns. It will be remembered that the *Cuvier* took over to France two rifled muzzle-loading steel and iron field guns in November last of the latest approved pattern, one as a present, the other upon payment. The Prussian Government likewise received from us in the spring of last year one of the bronze guns,

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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1872.

INDIA rubber pontoons are liable to destruction by sulphuric acid formed from contact with water charged with nitro or carbonate of soda, (common salt), they are also liable to air leaks and chafing when launched from a gravelly beach.

In order to remedy these defects it has been proposed to employ a pontoon of corrugated galvanized iron of the following description: a boat twenty-one feet long with sharp bow and stern, five feet six inches wide for a length of thirteen feet and two feet deep; air-tight compartments with valve openings occupy both extremities, making a powerful life-boat, each boat has four thwarts for rowing and can transport from fifteen to twenty men; its weight will be 615 lbs. It is anchored in the usual manner at twenty feet between each pontoon from centre to centre and the bays are formed with *balks* and *chesses* in the usual way.

The advantages of this bridge train would be many, its disadvantages the additional weight.

Bridges formed of casks lashed together in pairs can be rendered very effective for the passage of troops, by proper combination with transoms they can even be made to

support artillery with safety, most of our rivers are large and it is not very likely that this method could be rendered easily available.

A river may be easily and rapidly crossed by a flying bridge formed of a raft, all that would be necessary in this case would be a cable sufficiently strong, and as the weight depending on it can be easily calculated, the strength of the rope and its size may be as easily found.

A raft forty feet in length and ten feet wide will transport sixty soldiers, equal to 10,800 lbs., the raft will weigh 13,200 lbs., total, 24,000 lbs.; a cable five inches circumference would support a strain of 28,500 lbs., such a raft would therefore be capable of transporting the heaviest material of an army.

In operation it would have one grave fault, it would be slow work, but it would enable troops to travel without a costly bridge equipage as axes, augers, a hand saw or two, and the necessary quantity of cable, say one to three hundred fathoms, would be all that would be required, a five inch cable would weigh 13½ lbs. per fathom, and 300 fathom would weigh 4,050 lbs. a load for two waggons with a small pontoon for crossing, it would be possible to cross 240 men per hour on the flying bridge described, with the material at hand it could be built in two hours or even less.

If circumstances required, the passage of a large force and the necessary time could be afforded for the construction of floating bridges, rafts of the above description moored thirty feet apart from centre to centre would afford a cheap, stable and safe bridge, one easily destroyed, if a retrograde movement should make that operation necessary, and as easily constructed; in such a case good mooring anchors would be required.

A description of raft making is hardly necessary in Canada, where it is a portion and a very important one of the staple trade of the country.

A raft should be composed of the lightest possible material in pieces of equal length and as nearly as can be of the same diameter, kept together by traverses crossing it laterally and confined if necessary to each piece by a tree nail of wood.

Ordinary pine will weigh about 33 lbs. per cubic foot, water 62½ lbs. a log twelve inches square will float half out of the water, and it will take about 29 lbs. on each foot of its length to barely submerge it.

Allowing the logs in the raft to be forty feet each and ten feet wide, each raft will bear 11,600 lbs. beside its own weight, and according to the rules given for the India rubber pontoons, any weight which could be put on them belonging to an army or its equipment.

Trestle bridges are useful for crossing rivers or shallow streams, the depth of water should not exceed eight feet, nor the veloci-

ty of current more than five feet per second, with the bottom hard and even, as the trestle will form an obstruction to the current which would cause it to excavate under its sill and destroy the stability of the bridge, causing probably a fearful accident; burdened with equipments, a soldier is especially helpless in such a case.

The construction of the trestles should be as simple as possible, so that any intelligent soldier could frame them, and they should not be a greater distance than fifteen feet apart.

If the conditions of the stream are such as has been described, it will not be necessary to pass artillery on trestle bridges, it can be hauled over the bottom of the river and the horses made to swim; the limbers and waggons can be taken over by hand.

Trestles may either be formed as described for India rubber pontoon land bays, or with four legs about six inches square with a spread of one fourth the vertical height, at one fourth the height from the bottom, transoms are halved into the legs and nailed in their places nine inches from the top, upper transoms or cap rests are halved and nailed into the legs leaving a width of nine inches for the cap sill of sixteen feet in length, the upper end of each leg is bevelled off to lay square against the cap sill to which it is firmly spiked.

Six good men will make one of these trestles in three hours, or even less time; the roadway will be laid as previously described, a raft or boat will enable the trestles to be laid with facility.

Pile bridges are made when trestles cannot be used, they are generally six to nine inches in diameter and driven with a heavy maul into the bed of the river, four of them enabling a bridge twelve feet in width to be constructed, a cap sill 14 feet long and nine inches square is checked to receive the heads of piles to which it is fastened with spikes or tree nails, the roadway is laid as previously described with *balks* and *chesses*.

In practice many varieties of these bridges will present themselves and the ingenuity as well as professional skill of the Military Engineer will be tested to provide for their rapid construction, their strength and applicability to the service required as well as the site.

Every nation pretending to civilization has adopted as part of their military establishment, a bridge equipage with a corps of artisans especially trained to construct those very important adjuncts of successful military operations.

In this particular Austria has taken the lead, having one of the broadest, deepest, and most rapid of European rivers—the Danube—to manœuvre on.

The system adopted consists of trestle and pontoon bridges.

The trestle is composed of two legs to the lower ends of which iron shoes are attached.

they are inserted into mortices in the cap at an angle of 22 degrees, and are driven with a maul into the bed of the river till the shoes have a firm bearing, the cap is partly supported at the proper height by suspension chains with large rings passing over the head of the trestle and by corresponding rings on the upper side of the cap.

After the chain is made fast and the cap is at its proper height, it is held in its place by toggles through the last links which are passed through the suspension rings.

The cap is seventeen feet five inches long, nine inches deep, and 6½ inches wide in the middle, and nine inches for a length of three feet at each end.

There are four kinds of this bridge distinguished by the length and width and thickness of material, and the elevation to which the cap can be raised as follows:—

	No. 1,	No. 2,	No. 3,	No. 4.
Length of feet.	8.3½	12.5½	16.7	20.9
Width of do,	5	5	5	5
Thickness,	3½	3½	3½	3½
Greatest elevation of cap,	5.6	9.3	12.4	10.4

Nos. 3 and 4 are always coupled and put in the same mortice of the cap, No. 1 and 2 are not coupled, a false leg fills the void in the mortice.

The balks are five for each bay, placed 2½ feet from centre to centre, 23 feet 2½ inches long, 4½ inches thick, and 6½ inches deep, a notch is made on the under side of each 5½ inches from the end to receive the cap.

The chesses are 10 feet 9 inches long, 11½ inches wide, 1½ inch thick, half chesses used for hand rails, &c., are 6½ inches wide, the outer balks are lashed to the cap and chesses by which a roadway 10 feet 1½ inches wide is completed.

The pontoons are flat bottomed wooden batteaux of one piece, but of different forms viz, a body piece eleven feet five inches long, terminated by vertical planes, width at the top six feet three inches, at bottom four feet six inches with a depth of two feet five inches, a bow piece fifteen feet long of which nine feet aft has the same section as the body, the remaining part diminishes to two feet ten inches in width, but nothing in depth at the bow, these can be bolted together making a passable boat.

It requires fifteen carriages to convey material for making a bridge fifty-eight yards in length on this system, the balks, chesses, and other material being as previously described.

Although highly prized by Austrian Military men this system has very grave effects, it is so complicated and requires far nicer arrangement in construction than can be afforded in the hurried events of a campaign.

of its experience in organization by an attack on the Militia Staff, especially the Deputy Adjutant's Generals.

Strange to say, no direct charge of inefficiency is made, nor tangible reason given for assertions which could only have emanated from extreme ignorance of the actual duties those officers have to perform, the position they fill in the economy of our organization, and the necessity which existed for their appointment.

The gist of the articles in the *Telegraph* is as follows: "It has been much discussed of late among Volunteer Officers whether there is any necessity for the cost of maintaining such an expensive staff. It seems the force could be as well managed, in fact better managed without the Deputy Adjutant's Generals than with them." It then goes on to state a direct falsehood that the appointments have been given to officers who failed in the Regular Army, that the practical result is annoying to Volunteer Officers, that the whole work of the districts is done by the Brigade Majors, and that the Volunteer Lieutenant Colonel does all the work, and in return is "aggravated and annoyed," by the Deputy Adjutant General.

The writer must be one of those bright luminaries occasionally to be found in select circles, the *Knight of the Rueful countenance* in a crusade against wickedness in high places, and according to his own showing, an able Judge of Military efficiency to say nothing of discipline.

According to this new light the inferior officers of a force are the fit and proper parties to sit in judgment on the propriety of filling the offices in the higher grades, since Carawell's attempt at confidential reports we have seen nothing half so good as the effort of the *Telegraph Cardwell*, or the impudence with which the public are assured, that a *penny a-liner* at Toronto is the fit and proper exponent of the opinions of the whole Volunteer Force, or that even if he was that such opinions were worth the ink wasted in printing his lucubrations.

At the organization of the Canadian Army it became necessary to fill the higher staff appointments with officers from the Regular service for the good and sufficient reason, that no Volunteer Officer was thoroughly qualified to perform the necessary duty.

The intention and design of the system being to make each military district the nucleus of a *corps d'Armee*, complete in all its equipments, rendered it necessary that they should be commanded by an officer second only in rank to the actual Commander-in-Chief, and as the law had fixed his title so it fixed their's.

There can be no doubt that the discipline of the force has been benefitted in no ordinary degree by the appointment of those officers, and that so far from furnishing an institution for the establishment of a bureau-cracy of *red tape* (according to *Jefferson Brick*

of the *Telegraph*), the system has diminished the amount of work at Head quarters in no ordinary degree.

There is spent yearly on the whole System about \$1,500,000, of this the Head-quarter Staff takes the following proportion:—

Office of Minister of Militia including his and all other salaries	\$11,080 00
Account branch	6,776 51
Store branch	5,050 00
Adjt.-General's Department ..	16,969 49
	<hr/>
	\$39,875 00
District Staff—9 Adjutant Generals, at \$1,200	\$10,800 00
Allowance \$500 each	4,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$15,300 00
23 Brigade majors pay and allowance, \$1,150 per annum ..	26,450 00
	<hr/>
	\$81,625 00

The whole less than six per cent. on the amount expended, the Deputy Adjutant Generals costing the country just one per cent. We cannot tell whether the astute writer in the *Telegraph* is one of the Tooley street tailors or not, but we submit that no business establishment worthy the name in Canada administers its affairs at a cheaper rate.

The effort to catch the *blackwoods' economist* with the miserable clap trap, the *Telegraph* and other journals achieve an undeniable notoriety by indulging in, will be a failure if their Jefferson Bricks understood as little of financial as they do of military affairs; and articles of the style under consideration can be fairly denounced as a disgrace to the Press and an attempt to lead public opinion from a true appreciation of the necessities of the hour.

It is the positive duty of all true Canadians to cherish and expand the military organization of the country, and the fellow is a scoundrel who for paltry party or personal purposes will seek to give our people false ideas of the facts connected therewith.

The positive duty of the Press is to incite our young men to qualify themselves to fill those offices and profit by the experience of the men who are laboring hard to perfect the organization and discipline of the Canadian Army.

This is not the first time we had to appeal to the *Toronto* press on their conduct in endeavoring to make use of the prejudices of class in the Military Organization of the country for party purposes.

It is needless to repeat the old proverb about playing with edge tools, but unluckily to please the paltry ambition of some mischievous sneak or other thousands must suffer; there is one safeguard, however, the good sound sense of the country will revolt at the impudent falsehoods which those people have tried to palm off as facts.

The *Toronto Telegraph*, has been using its knowledge of military administration and giving the people of Canada the benefit

THE readers of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW will find in this issue two admirable original papers written by officers of the Canadian Army—alike remarkable for their literary acquirements and professional knowledge.

The "Invasion of Canada," is an essay on tactics and strategy which would do credit to a veteran officer, and "Our National Policy," is worthy the pen of our ablest statesman.

Both were written with the express intention of provoking criticism, and in each case the object is to lead the public mind to a consideration of the actual position in which this country is placed.

It is evident the motive is both far seeing and patriotic, for it is perfectly certain that while the Whig-radicals hold power in Great Britain the interests of Canada are not safe, and it is therefore the duty of every man interested in its welfare to take his position boldly in public affairs.

That our rulers have done their duty nobly and well for the best interests of the country is too self evident to need comment; there is probably no country in the world enjoying so much prosperity on a sure, and stable basis, and this state of affairs has been the work of Canadian statesmen in a period not exceeding seven years.

But there is much yet to be done, party virulence has to be overcome, and the folly of the political economist eradicated; the practical results of the latter so ably depicted in one essay, and the political wisdom of the other, will go a long way towards neutralizing the poison which unscrupulous Journalists have sought to instill into the public mind.

With the elements of mischief so rife in European politics and the unsettled relations existing between Great Britain and the United States, complications leading to a fearful contest may at any time arise. It behoves us therefore to set our house in order, for in the event of hostilities that *Secret Treaty*, between *gabbling Gladstone* and *slippery Fish* wont save us from (the attempt at least of) being gobbled by our neighbours if they can, but as our people have very decided objections to any such process, the warnings conveyed in those able articles will have their intended effect.

REVIEWS.

Blackwood for February and March has been received from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company. The February number has its special interest centered in "the Maid of Sker, part VII" in which is the best pen and ink portrait ever drawn of England's greatest seaman, the immortal Nelson, the greatest master of seamanship the world has ever seen.

The March number has been re-published very early reflecting great credit on the energy and enterprise of the publisher, although unusually attractive its principal

interest to us is to be found in an article on the Life of the late Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Confederacy of the Southern States, truly a great man as well as a great soldier. There is also a good article from Cornelius O'Dowd on the "American Revolt," in which that shrewd and clever writer hits off the present position of England and the United States by a story of a game at whist which a *cute Yankee* wins by a revoke, the point being that it was not discovered till too late to remedy the mischief, and that he had calculated on that result.

Stewart's Quarterly for January has also been received, it is full of interesting articles.

The *New Dominion Monthly* for April is a good Number.

The *Phreological Journal* has been received.

To Lt.-Col. Patton of the 38th Battalion Hamilton, are we indebted for a copy of the *Neilion Examiner*, New Zealand, of the 20th January last, from which we make the following extract:—

COMPETITIVE FIRING.—The preliminary competitive firing by the City Rifles came off on the 28th ultimo. The target used was 6ft. x 4ft. We append the scores:—

	200	300	
	yds	yds	Tl
Barnett, A.....	13	18	31
Moore, J. A.....	14	14	28
Guy, D.....	15	13	28
Smith, J.....	11	16	27
Watts, L.....	9	17	26
Otterson, A.....	14	10	24
Clouston, W.....	13	9	22
Finney, E.....	10	11	21

The four highest will shoot off against the four highest of the Waimea Volunteers, and the one who then makes the highest score will represent the province at Christchurch in the competition for the General Government prizes

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The 21st of March will be remembered in London for a severe snow storm, it deferred the intended journey of Her Majesty to visit the Princess Imperial of Germany till the 24th, on which day she left England for Cherbourg.

Earl Granville has addressed a second note to the United States Minister in which he states distinctly that England will not allow the claims for indirect losses to be submitted, suggesting at the same time what looks like a very dishonorable compromise that such claims should be submitted on both sides but not adjudicated upon.

No act of baseness of the Whig radicals would surprise the world.

Another of those Naval nondescripts known as *armor plated rams*, has been launched, it is called the *Thunderer*, is a turret vessel designed to carry *four* thirty ton guns.

It is reported if the negotiations now pending for the withdrawal of German troops from

France are successful the Assembly will be dissolved. The debate of the independence of the Pope was terminated at the instance of M. Thiers, Bishop Dupanloup declaring that he could reconcile his feelings as a Churchman with those of a Frenchman. It is pretty evident that the restoration will take the direction of the Legitimists, the *drapeau blanc* and golden lilies may yet wave over a resuscitated France. A revision of Commercial Policy does not appear to be giving unmixed satisfaction to other foreign powers.

It is stated that Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, during a recent visit, was present at a review of the Italian Army, examined its system of organization and discipline, and advised that it be reorganized on the Prussian plan doubled with a view to future complications.

The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Rome, had an interview with the Pope in which the latter expressed his warmest gratitude for the sympathy of the Queen, and praised the piety of the English people. His Great Minister Cardinal Antonelli has resigned.

The Spanish Government anticipates serious trouble with the elections for Cortes, two more war vessels have been sent to Cuba.

President Grant and party are desirous of placing Mexico under a *Yankee protectorate* as it would give stability to their institutions and recover the country out of the hands of the revolutionists. It would be "out of the frying pan into the fire" with the unlucky Greasers if they came to be governed by *Yankee carpet baggers*; their own brigands are bad enough but not at all up to the business-like habits of the more scientific and practised members of the "Tammany ring." In case those worthies are let loose in Mexico that unlucky country will have realised the force of the prophet's description of utter desolation, "what the locust has spared the palmer worm hath eaten."

Brigham Young and his followers of the Mormon Hierarchy have been removed from the goal at Salt Lake City and sent to Camp Douglas for safe keeping, ostensible cause, a free and easy talk at the former institution in honour of the suffering saints.

Severe snow storms have been doing considerable damage to the railway property.

It would appear as if the interest in the complications out of the Washington Treaty had nearly died out, the mass of the people know the demands are unjust and also that they are powerless to enforce them.

Throughout the Dominion we have been plagued by a succession of snow storms which have blocked up the railways, it has been particularly heavy in the Maritime Provinces.

Signs of activity are every where evident, the members of the House of Commons for Manitoba and British Columbia have arrived at the Capital to attend the opening of Parliament.

Mexican affairs are not easily understood but according to latest accounts the rebels were being beaten by that pet of the Yankee—Juarez.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Sir,—Your correspondent "R" in your issue of 25th inst., has forestalled a communication which I had written for you on the same subject, and I am sure he deserved the hearty thanks not only of captains of companies, but of every one who has the interests of the Volunteer (and only) Force of the Dominion at heart.

It is a well-known fact that the history of the Volunteer Force of Canada, for many years back, has been little else but a series of almost superhuman exertions on the part of captains of companies to maintain their organization, in the face of manifold impediments; old members of the Force have not altogether forgotten the low estimation in which they were held by the general public prior to the "Trent Outrage;" how they were sneered at and jeered in the public press, as *feather bed soldiers, fond of parading to show their fine clothes, &c.*, and that socially they were regarded as roughs and rowdies, and the fact of a gentleman being known to be connected with them was often sufficient to debar him the pleasures of "good society," and invariably the cause of cool looks and sneers.

The prospect of trouble, however, and the knowledge that the "Feathered Soldiers" were the only men whose services would have been at once available in defending the lives and properties of their former revilers, made them for a time the popular idols and induced "money bags" in a transport of patriotic (?) fervor to pat him on the back and cry, "well done! you're a splendid fellow! and deserve the thanks of the whole community!" &c., &c. The unsettled state of affairs during the continuance of the Secession War, and the very uncertain feeling as to whether we might not be drawn into it, kept "money-bags" alive to a sense of probable danger, and caused him to tolerate the movement, and even permit his employees to remain attached to it (with few exceptions) but they must never neglect his business or ever ask so much as half an-hour of the time he paid for to be expended in drill or target practice. After the close of the war the Fenian designs kept alive the same feeling of anxiety and possible danger, which culminated in the raid of '66, the popular feeling then excited on behalf of the Force fostered by judicious legislation was not of so evanescent a nature as on the former occasion (we will not be so ill-natured as to say this was caused by the danger having a more tangible shape than at the present), and at the pro-

sent moment it may fairly be said that the Volunteer Force has become popular, and is regarded by a large majority of all classes of the population as a credit to the Dominion; this happy state of affairs has, however, not been brought about by any liberal treatment either by the wealth of the country or by the peoples' representatives in Parliament, quite the contrary; but in spite of the want of both, it is alone owing to the inborn manly and soldierly spirit of the young men of the farming, mercantile, and mechanical population of the country, and as Lieut. Col. Higginson and R so plainly put it at a very considerable sacrifice of time and money on their part, and also to a departmental management and policy, which certainly makes the utmost of the niggardly allowances of Parliament.

The time has now come for the inauguration of a more liberal policy towards what we are so fond latterly of calling the "Canadian Army" if its hitherto efficient state is to be maintained; and on the principle that every able bodied man owes military service to the state; every such man should be compelled to perform such duty or to pay in cash for the privilege of exemption from year to year, a capitation tax of say \$5 per annum, to be levied on all who are not *bona fide* members of the Force or who have not already completed such a term of service therein as the law requires, would at once place the Government in such a position that they could afford to treat the Force on a most liberal scale, and ensure the complete defence of the country against all contingences.

To insure some such legislation during the approaching session of Parliament it becomes the officers of the Force to take council together and bring to bear such influence as they can on their Representatives (many of them officers) as may cause them to deal with the Force in that spirit of liberality which they so well deserve.

The interest which I feel in the cause must be the apology for so encroaching on your valuable space to such an extent by one who is

TWELVE YEARS A VOLUNTEER,
FROM MONTREAL.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The long pending suits against the City Corporation, brought by Colonels McKay, M. G. A.; Bethune, V. V R., and Muir, Cavalry, for the pay of their corps before Mr. Justice Tonnance, last week for argument of the demurrer made by the plaintiffs to the plea which asserts that there was no riot, nor even reasonable apprehension of one to justify the magistrates in requiring the troops to aid the civil power. It was contended by Mr. Pominville, Q. C., and Mr. R. A. Ramsay, for plaintiffs, that this was no answer to the demand, seeing that, as they interpret the statute 31 Vict., chap. 40. s. 27, the calling out of the militia on receipt of a requisition signed by any two magistrates, was a duty

made imperative on the Adjutant General, who was not vested with any discretion in the matter; and that in turn the plaintiffs and their men could not question the necessity of the occasion without an entire subversion of all military law and discipline, and in addition, (see, 82) incurring a fine of \$20 per man in case of disobedience. The Corporation Counsel, Messrs. Roy and Devlin, on the other hand, maintained the validity of their plea, by interpreting the Statute that the requisition of the magistrates was legal only when the civil power was insufficient to keep the peace and required armed aid, and that not being the case, as their plea asserts, when the requisition was made it was illegal, should not have been complied with, and cannot fix responsibility on the Corporation for the expenditure incurred. The matter was reserved for deliberation by the Court; and the decision is not expected before the middle of next week.

The members of the non-commissioned officers mess of the Montreal Garrison Artillery held a special meeting last week to make arrangements for holding their first quarterly dinner. There was a fair attendance. Lt.-Col. McKay who was at the meeting denoted \$50 to the mess, at the same time expressing his wish that the non-commissioned officers would do all they could to keep the men together.

It is proposed to raise eight troops of Cavalry for No. 5 District. Major Muir of No. 1 Troop Montreal Cavalry will no doubt get the Colonelcy.

Arrangements are being made for the removal of the Militia officers and stores to the old Quebec gate Barracks. The D. A. General's and Brigade Major's offices will be located in the building formerly occupied by the Royal Engineers, and the Militia store office will be in the old Barrack store office. A suitable place will be provided for the volunteer armory either in the barracks or the old commissariat store. The Cadets now drill in the old Quebec gate Barracks, over thirty young men are at present under instruction, and several more are expected to join at an early date.

The mother of the unfortunate man Champagne, who was accidentally shot at the butts at Laprairie camp last summer has received from the Government, through Col. Harwood, the sum of \$260.

The vacancy caused by the death of Major Edward Smith, Superintendent of Military Schools, it is believed will not be filled.

The Adjutant General is in town to day (Thursday.)

I notice by the papers that the Queen's Auctioneer of this city has retired from business, if any change is made in the appointment it is the expressed opinion and wish of leading merchants here that the post should be given to Mr. Alfred Booker, one of our first auctioneers and only son of the late Colonel Booker, whose long service and untiring interest in the welfare of the Volunteer Militia is too well known to require any recapitulation from my pen. B.

THE OLD RED FLAG OF ENGLAND.

Eliza Cook has addressed the "United Service" in the following Dibdin-like strain, which throws Tennyson's "Riflemen Form" into the shade. R. L.

Old England! thy name shall yet warrant thy fame,
If the brows of thy foemen shall scowl;
Let the lion be stirred by too daring a word:
And beware of his echoing growl.
We have still the same breed of the men and the steed.
That bore nobly our Waterloo wreath,
We have more of the blood that formed Inker-
man's flood
When it poured in the whirlpool of death;
And the foe—'an shall stand, neither coward nor
slave,
'Neath the Red Cross of England—the flag of the
brave.

We have jackets of blue, still as dauntless and true,
As the tars that our Nelson led on;
Give them room on the main, and they'll shew
you again
How the Nile and Trafalgar were won,
Let a ball show its teeth, let a blade leave its
sheath,
To defy the proud strength of its might,
We have iron mouthed guns, we have steel
hearted sons.
That will prove how we Britons can fight,
Our ships and our sailors are kings of the wave
'Neath the Red Cross of England—the flag of the
brave.

Though a tear might arise in our mourner's bright
eyes,
And a sob choke the tearful "Good-bye,"
Yet these women would send, lover, brother, or
friend,
To the war field to conquer or to die,
Let the challenge be flung from the braggarts
bold tongue,
And that challenge will be fiercely met,
And our banner unfurled shall proclaim to the
world,
That "there's life in the old dog yet,"
Hurrah! for our men on the land or wave,
'Neath the Red Cross of England—the flag of the
brave.

ELIZA COOK.

REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

Continued from page 146.

Thus terminated the actual movements of the troops, and on Friday 22nd, the entire force was assembled in the Long Valley at Aldershot, for the general inspection and march past. With this object I formed the infantry in double column of battalion on their centre in first line, the artillery and the columns being in the second line, the Engineer Train with pontoon equipment and the train of the Army Service Corps formed the third line. The troops then marched past me; Artillery by batteries and cavalry by squadrons, at a walk and a trot; infantry in grand divisions. I have every reason to think that the appearance of the troops of all arms was most creditable to them, and produced a favourable impression on the distinguished foreign officers, whom we all were much gratified to welcome as our guests; the feeling which I heard them express being, that troops must have been well looked after by their officers who could appear to such advantage after the long marches and hard work to which they have been exposed for so many successive days. In concluding this portion of my report, I cannot too strongly express my sense of the zeal and attention evinced by the General officers commanding divisions and brigades; as well as the general staff and the entire body of commanding and regimental officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, during the whole of their operations, including those belonging to the Yeomanry, Militia, and Volunteers. Where all endeavored to do their best, it would be invidious, and indeed most undesirable, to bring forward either the names of individuals or to specify corps, though I feel bound to express my thanks

to Lieutenant-General Sir Hope Grant, upon whom, and his immediate staff, not only a very heavy responsibility fell in making all the preliminary arrangements for the concentration, but who also took so prominent a share in the operations that took place during the period of manœuvres. I am also satisfied that I should not do justice to the feelings of the entire *corps d'armée*, were I not to notice the pleasure that all experienced in seeing His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales associated with the force in actual command of a brigade of cavalry, the duties of which command he conducted with an interest and vigour (taking part in all ordinary duties of camp life) which it was truly gratifying to observe.

Having now given a short detailed account of the manœuvres of the forces, I think it will be well to express my opinion on the general points which were immediately came under my observation; and here I would begin by referring in the first place to the Staff.

I have every reason to be satisfied with its general zeal and efficiency. The officers of all departments worked hard and well. The general officers evinced much capacity, and showed every desire to avail themselves of the advantages thrown into their way, by extending the sphere of the knowledge they already possessed; and they were well seconded by those who worked under them. The great drawback was decidedly that the officers were new to one another, and new to the troops with whom they were for the most part for the first time associated; and in this respect no doubt had greater difficulties to contend with than will be found to be the case in most continental armies, into which the combination of troops into corps, divisions, and brigades is a permanent organization, which naturally must have great advantages. Any arrangements which could bring about a similar system for our army would be doubtless of great value; but the dispersion of our troops in small bodies throughout the United Kingdom renders any such organization difficult, and to some extent almost impossible.

The umpire staff evinced much zeal and attention. The peculiar functions they are called upon to perform are at times somewhat invidious, and require both delicacy and tact in their performance; but when rightly understood, will, I am convinced, be fully appreciated on future occasions, and were conducted during the present manœuvres in a manner highly to the credit of those distinguished officers who were called upon to undertake these delicate duties.

The next point I would wish to allude to is the actual state of the several branches of the Service.

The Royal Artillery batteries, both horse and field, showed to great advantage; admirably horsed and most ably handled by their respective field and battery officers, they generally took up their ground well, moved with rapidity and precision, and covered the movements of the troops in a highly satisfactory manner. A marked improvement in the manœuvres took place after I had directed an order to be given that the officers of Artillery, were to take up their own positions in accordance with the general course of the movements, without adhering too formally to actual alignment or contact with the brigades of cavalry and infantry to which they were attached. The object of this order seemed to be well understood and fully appreciated by batteries generally, and a marked improvement in the taking up of ground was the result. The condition of the horses under heavy work was admirable, clearly proving that the officers and men

were attentive to this essential part of their duty, and the driving was as I could wish to see it; the result being that, in spite of the roughest ground, very few, and these generally but slight, accidents took place, while the guns followed the troops over every obstacle that presented itself.

The cavalry in like manner evinced the greatest facility of movement, over the most difficult and rutty ground; and this, moreover, without accident. The whole, of the cavalry are well mounted; the riding of the men is highly creditable; the condition of the horses perfect. Sore backs were extremely rare amongst the whole mounted portion of the force, which I ascribe to the use of the numnahs now generally introduced into the Service with such great advantage. The work done was severe, and yet there was no apparent loss of flesh. In these remarks I include the whole cavalry—Household Troops as well as those of the Line—and I am gratified on being able to report that the Household Cavalry, though mounted on heavier horses than the Line, performed all the duties, outpost duties included, with the same facility as the other portions of the cavalry force. The picketing of horses has always been a great difficulty, and much difference of opinion exists as to the best mode to adopt with a view to security. The general idea had been, that the picketing by the fore foot was the safest plan, but the result was unfavourable, and in several corps of cavalry most serious and most lamentable accidents occurred in the first days of concentration: I consider no sort of blame attached to either officers, non-commissioned officers, or men, in these unfortunate occurrences, for their attention to their stable or line duties was most marked, and horses fresh from their stables are very apt, till accustomed to the change, to be easily alarmed from the slightest cause. My opinion has always been that the best mode of picketing is by long rope-lines along the ground to which horses should be attached from their heads, with heel-ropes for a time at least to keep them in their places. The squadron carts can always carry these ropes, and the heel-ropes can be used for many secondary purposes. When detached, a dragoon has always the means of fastening his horse by his headrope to a tree, a post or any other firm object which comes in his way. The drill of individual regiments and squadrons is good, but outpost duties want more practice, and require an amount of study, which is now, I hope thoroughly appreciated, as will, I am satisfied, be clearly demonstrated in the future. I look upon the cavalry as the eyes and ears of an army and it is the knowledge of country, the watching the movements of an enemy, the gaining of information, and its rapid transmission to superior authority, which constitute the features of its utility and its strength. Constant practice alone in such duties can secure the attainment of these objects, and, once understood, they will be thoroughly appreciated and fully developed. The movement of cavalry in large masses, except to cover the front of an army, has, with the modern arms of precision, become a most difficult operation, and should seldom be resorted to, excepting in supreme efforts, when sacrifices must be made for the general good. Consequently, the exposure of cavalry to the direct fire of either artillery or infantry is to be deprecated, and every sort of shelter should at all times be sought, and could almost invariably be obtained, as it seldom occurs that the undisturbed ground does not admit of advantage being taken of it. In this respect our cavalry will, I hope, benefit much by the experience it

has gained, and marked results will, I feel persuaded, be observable in future concentrations.

The Royal Engineers, with their equipment and pontoon train attached, had less opportunity of developing their special duties than I could have wished; but whenever called upon to assist in the formation of encampments, the passage of obstacles, the obtaining of water supply, and other like duties, fully maintained the character for intelligence and resource for which they have at all times been distinguished. The use of the pontoons was unfortunately only possible over the canal which was within the line of operations; but whenever required they were at hand, and proved of value to the movements that took place. The field works at Chobham to defend the position there taken up were judiciously executed by the corps, aided by the Volunteer Engineers and the working parties of infantry, and showed that the officers were alive to the advantages of ground, and had in their non-commissioned officers and men the means at hand for turning those advantages to account. The field telegraph was worked entirely by the corps, and did much hard and useful service. I would however, remark that I think some improved mode of laying the wires is absolutely necessary, as that adopted of placing them along the road led to the inconvenience of their being constantly cut and broken by mischievous people in the neighborhood, whereby the communication was constantly and most inconveniently impeded for lengthened periods. If it were possible to raise the wires so as to be less accessible, it would, I am certain, be a more reliable means of communication.

The solidity and efficiency of the infantry battalions, both of the Guards and Line, was generally highly satisfactory. It was to be regretted that many corps were unable to come out in any great strength, but this of course is a question of establishment, which must be regulated according to the annual requirements of the Service. Possibly, when a larger body of men have been enrolled in the reserves, the regular army may be supplemented for these occasions of manoeuvres by men of the reserve filling up the ranks of battalions to an approximate war establishment, which cannot be kept up in ordinary times of peace. Such an arrangement would add greatly to the strength and weight of our present regiments, which are admirable as cadres to be expanded into larger bodies. The battalion of Guards, and some other corps highest up for foreign service, showed to greater advantage in this respect, having larger establishments. The marching of the men was all that could be wished. Few, if any, stragglers were to be seen, though the marches were at times long and tedious, with a large amount of dust, always most unfavorable to the working powers of men; and the efficiency of battalions on the day of parade and march-past, was a clear proof that non-commissioned officers and men were none the worse for their unusual exertions, and that they had been well looked after by their officers. The new equipment seems to answer remarkable well, and all the corps that carried it were satisfied with the result. The movements in line must be thoroughly understood to be fully appreciated. In foreign armies, columns are almost invariably in use, which of late years have been modified in the Prussian Army by the introduction of company columns with large intervening bodies of skirmishers. The value of these, as compared to the heavier columns of whole battalions, or even regiments of more than one battalion, cannot be overrated, and nobody

is more prepared to appreciate their utility than I am; but wing columns can easily be more adopted in our service than they hitherto have been, and no doubt would be found very valuable, so long as the troops are not exposed to any severe direct fire. But with exposure to fire, the ground admitting of large development, I am as strong an advocate as ever for the formation in line, to which our troops have ever been accustomed and in which extended order with good reserves in support, they have been so often able to resist the most formidable attacks by troops in formation of columns, far less exposed themselves from the thinness of the double line of men, as compared to the depth of men in column. It requires both steadiness and solidity—which is another term for confidence to justify the line formation, but these are qualities which I venture to believe and hope our infantry possess, and under these circumstances I do not think it would be right to give up a formation which has hitherto always proved itself to be well adapted to the character of our troops. The skirmishing of our men has greatly improved, from the value all men attach to good and deliberate shooting, and was generally much approved of. I think at times regiments and companies, and indeed whole brigades, exposed themselves too much to direct fire, and the undulations of the ground were not at all times sufficiently appreciated or taken advantage of, but these are defects which manoeuvres will mend, and I doubt not that great changes for the better will be visible in coming years. The outpost duties of infantry still require much study, and it is in such duties that these larger concentrations are so valuable, as their real objects or results cannot be so fully appreciated as when demonstrated by manoeuvres on an extended scale. The desire of all to learn these duties was, however, so apparent, that I feel persuaded no opportunity will henceforth be lost to master the subject thoroughly and with effect.

I regret extremely that the Yeomanry were only represented by one corps, the Hampshire. When these manoeuvres were first announced, several corps volunteered to take part in them, and no doubt would have done so but for the difficulty of leaving home during the period of harvest, which at the time had not been thoroughly completed. The Hampshire Yeomanry, during the week they were with the force, looked and did well, as would no doubt other portions, of the force had they been able to attend. I think the Yeomanry, as a home Auxiliary force, valuable and useful; but I think their equipment should be simplified as much as possible, and that they should be specially trained to use their carbines or short rifles dismounted. Knowing the country well, they would in this manner do much good service, and would be moreover very useful in escorting convoys, gaining information, and patrolling with a view to keeping up communications. The great difficulty is decidedly to find periods of the year for them to concentrate, as the men and horses depend so much on harvest time and the work after harvest, the period when the weather is most suitable to the manoeuvre of troops. If the next time a concentration takes place any arrangement could be made to meet these difficulties, it would be most desirable.

(To be continued.)

Woman whipping is still indulged in by Delaware and Virginia, and the Senate of the latter State has recently refused, by vote of 8 to 21, to repeal the law punishing feminine pickpockets with the lash.

WOOLWICH ARSENAL.

GREAT PREPARATION OF WAR MATERIALS

(From the London Weekly Despatch.)

The Royal Arsenal is still in activity in every department, which is the more remarkable, because at this period of the financial year, when the army estimates are about to issue, there are usually reductions more or less extensive. Seeing that large numbers of extra hands were taken out at the outbreak of the late war, and that most of the orders given have been long fulfilled reductions on a very extensive scale were anticipated this year, but comparatively few men have been discharged, and it is now expected that, in view of possible contingencies, the establishment will be kept up to its full strength for some time longer. Heavy guns for naval service and coast defences are being produced with unprecedented rapidity at the Royal gun factories; in the Royal Carriages Department, the manufacture of iron carriages for the guns is proceeding with corresponding speed; the men of the shell foundry are working overtime to execute new and extensive orders for Palliser and other shells of modern kinds; and in the Royal Laboratory, though the cartridge makers have accumulated such a stock of ammunition so that there is little left to do, the department is very busy in the preparation of torpedoes, fuzes, and the other material of war. In reference to torpedoes, it is scarcely a secret now that a party of skilled workmen have been some time engaged during the night only, trying, perfecting and manufacturing several new descriptions of these "submarine guns," both aggressive and defensive, and that in this respect, as in some others, the country is better protected from invasion than it has been at any previous period. The colonies and out stations are also being supplied with the newest designs of guns and other munitions of war; one large ship the *Edgar Cecil* is loading with 25 ton guns, the largest yet issued, and will sail in a day or two for Halifax N. S., notwithstanding the withdrawal of the British troops from the Dominion, and the war Department steamers *Lord Punmure* and *Earl de Gray* are engaged in shipping guns of the heaviest calibre to Portsmouth, Marchmont and the other forts round the coast.

THE PIN TRADE.—There are eight pin factories in the United States, whose annual production is 2,000,000 packs, each pack containing 3,660 pins, a total of 6,720,000,000 pins. One manufacturer's agent in Boston, says the *Bulletin*, sell every six months from 700 to 1,000 cases of pins per week, each case containing 672,000 pins. The factory which he represents turns out eight tons of pins per week. Hair-pins are jobbed by the cask. There is but one factory in this country that produces them. They turn out fifty tons per month. The machine that cuts and bends the wire making 360 hair-pins per minute, ready for japaing. Yankee pins are salable in nearly every city in the world, and the production and consumption increases each year about ten per cent.—*New York World*.

Mr. Charles Dilko has at least set one good example to his countrymen, not only by getting married, but also by getting married without any nuptial pomp and circumstance. He walked quietly to church from one quarter, and his lady from another. He made no long wedding tour, and was punctually in the House of Commons on the opening night.

DOMINION OF CANADA.



MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 28th March, 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS (S).

ACTIVE MILITIA.

1. Advertising to General Orders (6), 8th March, 1872, it is to be understood that the cancelling of No. 1 General Orders (19), 1st September, 1871, does not alter the rank or status of the Officers concerned, in their capacities as Inspectors of Artillery.

2. In reading paragraph 2. of No. 1 of General Orders 8th March, 1872, the words "Schools of Gunnery at Kingston, and Quebec (A and B Batteries)" to be omitted, substituting therefor "A and B Batteries at Kingston and Quebec."

3. With reference to a paragraph 3 of the same General Order, for the words "A and B Batteries," on first line, to the word "Batteries," inclusive on the fifth line, read "Schools of Gunnery, will notify Commanding Officers of Military Districts direct, whenever there are vacancies in the respective Schools of Gunnery."

The States and Returns alluded to in the same paragraph will be confined to matters of supply, except when otherwise specially ordered.

Correspondence, Artillery and Engineers (Province of Quebec.)

4. Correspondence on all Regimental matters relating to Field and Garrison Batteries of Artillery and Companies of Engineers, in the Province of Quebec, (matters affecting clothing or discipline excepted) will in future be forwarded by Officers commanding Military Districts, in that Province, to the Commandant of the School of Gunnery at Quebec, in his capacity as Inspector of Artillery. This Officer will submit such correspondence as may be necessary for the consideration of the Adjutant General with any remarks he may think advisable to make thereon.

By Command of His Excellency the
Governor General.

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel,

Adjutant-General of Militia,

Canada.

A MISERABLE SINECURE.—It is only right at the commencement of Lent to call Sir Charles Dilke's attention to the gratifying fact that the office of the King's Cockerer has been abolished. The duty of this official was to crow the hour each night within the precincts of the palace during Lent instead of calling it out like an ordinary watchman. The last instance on record of the cockerer performing his duties was on the first Ash Wednesday after the accession of the House of Hanover, when the unfortunate man got into sad trouble, for George II then Prince of Wales, being disturbed at supper by the cockerer entering the room and making an unpleasant noise to announce that it was "past 10 o'clock," imagined that some insult was intended, and was with difficulty made to understand that such was not the case. There is, however, reason to fear that the office existed for some time as a sinecure after its duties had ceased to be performed, for in DeBrett's *Imperial Calendar* for 1822, the "cock and cryer of Scotland yard" appears in a list of persons holding appointments in the Lord Stewart's department of the Royal Household. It is to be regretted that although the cockerer no longer exists, the practice of cackling occasionally like sillier birds than the cock still prevails in certain quarters—not only in Lent but at other seasons—and might be discontinued with advantage to the public service. It is painful to note that the observance of Lent by public departments is far less strict now than in former days. The Lord Chamberlain, it is true, forbids theatrical representations on Ash Wednesday, but the Admiralty and War Office make no difference in the diet of our sailors and soldiers during Lent, although by so doing they might effect a decided economy. A precedent for saving in this respect may be found in *Pepys's Diary*. On the 12th of December, 1663, he writes, "We had this morning a great dispute between Mr. Gauden, the Victualler of the Navy, and J. Lawson and the rest of the commanders going against Algier about their fish and keeping of Lent, which Mr. Gauden so much insists upon to have it observed, as being the only thing that make up for the loss of his dear bargain all the year."—*Pull Mall Gazette*.

It figures often lie, says the *Boston Globe* they as often reveal awkward truths. Take for instance, the conclusions forced upon us by the accounts furnished by the German *Feldpost* of the number of money letters transmitted to and from the German army in France during the period embraced between July 16th and December 31st, 1870. The sums forwarded to German soldier by their families are stated to have amounted to 13,440,000*fr.*, whilst the amount sent back by the soldiers to their relations and friends reached the enormous sum of 34,881,000*fr.* or about thirty five millions in round figures! The Germans are excellent fathers and husbands no doubt, but it may be safely asserted that not a twentieth part of this sum represented the savings of the soldiers in the field. As to where the remainder came from we have the pillaged chateaux and farm-houses of France to answer.

The population of the British Empire, including the colonies, did not exceed 12,000,000 in 1760, when the Third George became King. At the present time the populations in both the Old and New Worlds which speak the English language may be considered to far exceed 60,000,000.

It is reported that the ex-Prince Imperial of France will visit the United States next summer. He is now 16 years of age, and it is said speaks five languages fluently.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY.—ITS WESTERN TERMINUS.—The *Puget Sound Dispatch*, of January 15th, states that the western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad has been fixed at North Whatcom, at the mouth of the Nook Sahlk river, twenty-three miles south of the British line, and about six miles north of the old town of Whatcom. A long narrow island in front of the town divides Bellingham Bay from Lunie Bay, and upon this island the company intend to build their depot and warehouses. The name of the place they will change from North Whatcom to Puget City. Much of the land between this place and the British line has already been taken up by the German immigrants, three or four hundred families of whom are already on the ground. Puget City has been laid out into blocks and lots of 20 feet front by 140 feet deep, which have been sold at \$100 each. Work upon the main line of the railway is to commence at Puget City in the spring. The road from the port of Kalama, on the Columbia river, to the main trunk has been partially completed, and the cars are already running on a section of 25 miles of this branch line.

A French paper, alluding to the rapidity with which news travels now-a-days, says that the other evening intelligence was received in Paris that the wife of a French diplomat had been brought to bed that morning of a son at Shanghai. To think, adds this paper, that it was three months before Paris learned that St. Louis had fallen under the walls of Turin, and that the accounts of the battle of Fontenoy, gained by Marshal Saxe (or by the Irish Brigade) in 1745, were not published in the capital till eight days after the engagement, though the scene of action, was only seventy leagues from Paris. The news of Austrelitz, fought on December 2, 1805, only reached the Tuilleries on the 16th of the same month, and Algiers had been captured a fortnight in 1830 before Louis Philippe heard of it. The writer might have added that news of some of the French disasters was much longer on the road. The news of the Trafalgar affair, for instance, travelled so leisurely that France knew nothing of the affair for months—that is to say the public. However, in the case of Waterloo the disaster, by some curious means never explained, appears to have been known in Paris almost as soon as the Emperor galloped off the field.

A new substance has recently been discovered by Aime Girard in the india-rubber of the Oaboon. When treated with a mixture of sulphuric and nitric acid, the rubber is transformed into a gummy, thick, and translucent substance, which thrown into water, precipitates in the form of flakes. The precipitate when carefully washed and dissolved in boiling alcohol, deposits crystals of nitrated dambonite, which are insoluble in alcohol, and detonates under the hammer. The new base, dambonite, treated with fuming hydrochloric acid, yields dambose which acts similarly.

The *Irish Times* foretells a Parliamentary vacancy namely for Talce, not that the O'Donoghue means to resign, but because he is said to have been offered the governorship of Madras, which Earl Milton has declined.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday, the 30th ult:—

TORONTO.—Lt. Col. Darle, D.A.G., \$1.00.
PORT HURON.—Lt. Col. H. W. Smart, \$2.00.
KEWLETON, Que.—Lieut. A. E. B. Kimball, \$2.00.
LACHUTE.—Ens. George Walker, \$2.00.
SHEKUNOKE.—Dr. E. Worthington, \$1.50.
HAMILTON, Ont.—Lieut. P. B. Beaman, \$2.00.