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Vol. I.-No. 1.

QUEBEC, 1st FEBRUARY, 1880.

Sub. 181.10 per ninum.

fate of its predecessors.

cciation, its nim will be identical, viz., the dissemination of mution for the future historian of the Royal Canadian Milita. professional knowledge; it will, however, embrace all arms of the editor for publication, in order that the force at one-end published, to make it an entire success. of the country may know what is being done at the other, and a spirit of chiplation axcited accordingly.

the best military journals, (English and Exench), thus giving nuch information on technical subjects which could not be obaffed without great expense; ample space will be lost for those minor expenses being all that is required. tho may wish to ventilate their opinions (within the bounds of lisaplina), con-puzely firofesional matters y changes, in Arill ic., etc.

AN issuing this the first number of the CANADAN ALLITARY It is also intended, if officers commanding corps will be good REVIEW, a paper devoted to the interests of the Milita enough to furnish the necessary information, to give a short of the Dominion, we hope that every officer and member of the history of each corps, showing dute of fermation, names of force will wish it God speed, and extend to it their cordial officers who took part in its organisation, officers who have sucsympathy and support, without which it cannot fail to meet the cessively commanded it, extracts from orders, in fact everything that might prove interesting to its members. This would have Being issued in connection with the Dominion Artillery As a tendency to create an esprit de corps, and furnish much infor-

The publishing of a military journal, with the above object, the service, and the utmost endiavois will be made to make it lias met with the approval and promised encouragement of the interesting to all—to this end, it is requested, that every one Monorable the Minister of Militia and Defence, and has rewho has the interest of the militis at heart, will forward the coived the concurrence of the General Officer commanding it doings of their corps, batteries, etc., regimentally or socially, to now only requires the support of those in whose interests it is

It will be issued for this year, monthly, in parts similar to the present. In placing the subscription at Our Dollar per It is intended that it shall contain articles and clippings from Annum; it is hoped the REVIEW will be brought within the reach of all—at any rate, within the reach of a sufficient number to warrant its continuation, the cost of printing and a few

> Intending subscribers will be good enough to forward the enclosed ferin to the Editoria in the first and the second

Will we have an Arsenal.

Among the most important events in connection with the militia, and not only the militia but the whole country, which occurred during the past year, was the successful conversion of smooth bore gun und a rifled gun on the Palliser system, by Tue gun, a 32 pr. of 56 cwt being furnished by the Government, and the expense of coversion borne by Sir William Palliser. The proof took place in the presence of Licut. Col. the Houble L. R. Masson, Minister of Militia, who expressed himself estisfied with the manner in which the gun stood the heavy test to which it was subjected, the last round-of un-

The establishment of the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, may be said to have been commenced by a similar event, in the latter case, however, it was not quite so successful, as during the process of casting a bronze gun the metal flew and killed 17 of the spectators, besides wounding the first Colonel of the Royal Artiliery in four places.

Will the test on St. Helen's Island be followed by the establishment, on however small a scale, of an arsenal in Canada tor the manufacture of the supplies needed for the defence of the

It has been said that Canada can rely on England for supplies when required, and doubtless the mother country would be in sore need herself when she would turn her back on her oldest daughter, but there are other considerations which might interfere sadly with England's willingness and which are beyond the power of man to control. Relying on Great Britain, means having a base of supplies at a distance of about 2500 miles from our Eastern boundary and about 6000 miles from our Western and least protected coast, the point most liable to be assailed from the sea, and which was seriously threatened when war was probable with Russia. It may be urged that this distance can be traversed in eight or at the most ten days, by the fast be borne in mind that the sea is, at all times, a very uncertain element and not always to be depended on, the record of wrecks ziong our coasts is something terrible to contemplate; delays on account of fog are of frequent occurrence; or a fast steaming cruiser might possibly intercept the vessel containing the stores most seriously required; the non-arrival of a stcamer, laden with ammunition, might cost the loss of many important positions, possibly the whole country. Canada has hitherto seemed asleep with regard to the necessity of preparing for her defence; there are, unfortunately, too many who say the best defence for Canada is no defence—what would a merchant say if one were to tell him that the best way of keeping thieves out of his warehouse at night, would be to leave the door open-foremost among these are those who when the town is quiet say "the ponce are sufficient to protect us;" "the money spent on militia purposes annually is worse than thrown away;" etc., but let 40 or 50 angry laborers, out on strike, parade the streets, and they are the first to cry for military protection.

The time has arrived, however, when Canada should look around and prepare at home, the materiel necessary for her own defence; the existing store, for even the present obsolcte armament, being nearly exhausted. That its manufacture here would prove advantageous to the country is beyond the shadow of a doubt. In the first place, it could be obtained cheaper, the cost of transport, at least, being saved; secondly the money required for its purchase would be kept in the country; thirdly, not the least of the many arguments which might be adduced in its favor, it would afford work to many idle and may be starving arti pers.

A considerable supply of small arm ammunition is required annually, and much more would be expended, on repayment by our volunteers, if it could be purchased at a cheaper rate from the Government; that the quantity expended is not thrown away

own at Wimbledon. It has been found that the gunpowder can be made in this country, why not try the manufacture of the whole cartridge, a good reason for which, exists in the fact, that our militia is now armed with a weapon which has been withdrawn from the regular army, it having been replaced by the Martini-Henry, which requires a different cartridge; the Messrs. G.lbert and Son. Canada Engine Works, Montreal manufacture of the ammunition for the rifle in our possession (the Snider) will therefore if it has not already, shortly cease in the Royal Arsenal. Again there are at most only from 20 to 25 rifled garrison guns in the Dominion and these are the only ones that could be depended on if necessity arose for their use, the others having been obsolete for years, and utterly unfit to cope with the guns which might be brought against us. It precedented severity—being composed of a charge of 24 lbs. has been proved that these can be converted into good service-Pebble powder and a 62 pr. common shell.

able weapons at a reduced price, compared with their cost in England.

The shot and shell required for them can easily be made in the country.

Our supply of gun carriages cannot last for ever, wooden carriages must deteriorate through use and effects of climate; we have heard of practice having to be discontinued owing to the carriage falling to pieces when the gun was fired-a gun would not be of much service if this occurred in action, and the detachment had to wait until a second carriage was received from England to replace it.

Some one is credited with saying "trust in God but keep your powder dry," it is just as well for Canada to have faith in England, but at the same time to be able to supply herself with the articles required for her defence in time of war; the best way to accomplish this is to cultivate their manufacture in time of peace: that this should be carried out under Government con trol and under sufficient military protection is self-evident.

Cavalry.

The difficulties with which the cavalry arm of the Canadian Militia has always had to contend, makes it only the more won deriul that a sufficient number of enthusiastic officers have been found, among a people not over famous for horsemanship, t maintain such a really respectable body of irregulars, as is repre sented by the 40 troops of cavalry, belonging to the active

These troops in round numbers amount to some 150 officers and 1800 N. C. officers and men; of whom about two third were allowed to perform last year, the annual twelve days drill and the total cost therefore of this portion of the militia may h estimated at \$30,000 annually.

Now the very first question that enters the mind of a soldie a: whether this small body of mounted men, should not be made as efficient as possible? and whether it would not be reeconomy in the long run, to do so? while on the other hand, the first question which presents itself to the mind of the economis is: whether this greater efficiency and more thorough militar bearing, does not mean, an enormously increased expenditure which the finances of the country cannot afford, and the remot ness of danger do not warrant.

If then we can show how this respectable little force—equ in number to the British cavalry sent to the Crimea—can made fairly efficient, and that too, at such a modest sum comparison to the advantages gained; hesitation to adopt the

suggestions, will be difficult. All that is really necessary at present, in the opinion of man is to open two small cavalry schools of instruction, in connect with "A" and "B" Batteries, with a sufficient number of me to form a squad, under a competent cavalry officer instructor who can lecture upon, and teach the higher branches of cavel work, as well as riding school drill. Should the number those attending for a short course of six weeks or three mont be limited, to say 12 at a time; by the end of each year fro 48 to 96 men could pass through each school, and the expe is shown by the fact that the Canadian team is able to hold its including horses would be less than \$7000 personum, while

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rses of the Kingston school would also be available for the ling drill of the College Cadeta.

Another great advantage would be, that competent drill in-uctors from these schools, could be sent to every corps, during eir annual training; and when it has been considered advisle, to attach drill sergeants to these batteries, to instruct fleges and solools, surely at were worth while to provide oper and uniform instruction for corps of cavalry, which have en twenty years or more in existence.

The events of the France-German war showing the advantage possessing well instructed cavalry, should be so familiar to all ldiers, that it seems unnecessary to allude to them; and we ght to remember that the lessons learnt by the Prussians in 16 were not thrown away. For in a great measure the adrable manner in which the duties of outposts, and reconnoing, were performed, conduced more than any other cause to success of the campaign:—While on the other hand, no one read the history of the French cavalry during that war, thout feeling that ignorance of the modern uses to which rairy can now be put, in addition to its old rele, contributed no small degree to many of the dieasters which beful the ench arms, whose Generals received little reliable information the doings, or whereabouts of their enemy; for the important es, of being the eyes, cars, and nerves of the army, were lected by the French cavalry.

For simple bravery in the field, nothing could exceed, and we not but admire, the gallantry and devotion of those magnifit regiments we used to see in Paris; who needlessly and tlessly sacrificed themselves, attempting something approachthe impossible; and like our own light cavalry at Baiaclava, entable examples of what brave men will do, but which they uld never be asked to attempt. Can anything exceed the very of Bonnemain's Cuirassiers, who charged through the

frique, down the slopes of Sedan. et us hope that more attention will be directed by the autho-is, to the importance of the cavalry arm; and we connot do valuable when incorporated with drilled and experienced ers of an infantry battalion. But in cavalry it is different. hr from being useful, untrained men and horses are absoy dangerous. They throw everything into disorder, and, like through the sand and cracked a boiler plate on top. Hake's Hussars at Waterloo, are werse than useless."

THE VICTORIA CROSS.

Not of gold with glitt'ring diamonds Is the ornament I sing, But the soldier helds it dearer Than the jewels of a king.

Tie a cross of simple pattern, Worthless in the huckster's eye; But the scidior gives his life-blood oft, This sorthless thing to buy.

No ancient, foreign motto Decks this cross, whose days are young, But the trumpet-words, For Volour," In the grand old English tongue,

Peòr and Private wear it proudly, For the queenly heart who gave Confesses all men equal In the legion of the brave.

Duaky cross i so full of brightness In the dauntiess soldier's sight, May you over deck the bosom Of the champion of the right!

And where'er the might of England Is seen in war array, We shall find brave hearts resolving— "I will win the Cross to-day."

W. FERGUSON.

Cartridge Manufacture.

The making of cartridges is not quite so new in Quebec, as some people suppose, for we find in Knex's Journal

page 204, the following, on the 13th November, 1759.
Onders.—" Each regiment is to give three men to the nitillery to assist in making cartridges; men most accustomed to this work to be chosen, who are not to be cent on any out-guard, that they may be ready, whenever they are wanted."

Thunderer Experiments.

Experiments with the view of ascertaining the cause of the explosion on board H. M. S. Thunderer are being carried out by a Committee at the proof butts, Woolwich Arsenal. A 38 ton gun, believed to be similar in every respect to that with which the accident occurred, indeed its sister gun from the Thunderer's turret, has been hunded over to the war Department by the Admiralty authorities for this purpose.

The following are amongst the theories arged as caus-

ing the accident :--

Ist. The existence of an air space between the shot and cartridge; this might have been caused either by the projectile not having been ramined home, or through its having slipped forward through the motion of the gua whilst being run up from the loading to the firing position.

2nd. Double leading, i. e., having been leaded a second time without being fired. This was the opinion of the Court of Enquiry immediately after the accident.

3rd The jamming of the projectile in the bore -either during the precess of loading or after being fired

The Committee evidently inclines to the supposition of eyards at Worth; or those Lancers who being kept all day an air space, all the experiments, thus far, having been or fire, lost nearly half their officers and men, without even curried out in der this condition. Spaces varying from asslves coming into action; or the charging of the Chasseurs one foot to six feet have been left between the that and cartified without any roult other than a diminution of the relocity of the projectile as the space was increased.

The most interesting feature of the experiments was the er, than quote from a lecture at the Royal United Service action of the projectile after entering the butt. For outet on by Major Frank S. Russel, (14th Hussans,) who dinary proof, flat headed projectiles are used, which are "Han drilled men, if their heart is in the right place, easily found; but in this case the gun was leaded with the service shell or shot (pointed). After the first day's experiments two of these were dug out 10 feet below the solid foundation, and on the second day two passed upwards

Those who hold the slipping theory ought to be fully satisfied with the experiments already carried out, for it is impossible for any projectile to slip forward 6 feet whilst the carriage is being run up, and even this it has been shown is not sufficient to burst the jun. Those, also, who laid the sin of double loading to the charge of the unfortunate detachment would, one would think, concur with the opinion which must be urrived at after the experiments carried out by Sir Wm. Pulliser as detailed in two articles of this number, headed "Doubly-leaded Gans" and "Experiments at Erith."

The jamming theory is that held by Sir William Pallicor who is of opinion that it occurred through the partial withdrawal of the wad, it having caught in the rammer during the process of loading. We believe we are correct in saying that Sir William was supported in this opinion, by a piece of spun yain being found attached to the randor head after the accident. The consequence of such an accident, as the above, would be that the projectile mesting with the wad would, owing to its pointed form, override it, and being divorted from its proper course exert the force imparted to it, towards the destruction of the gun. There are very few of our readers, doubtlest, who are unacquainted with the effect of a bullet meeting with resistance in the barrel of a rifle-even a row plug of enow in the muzzle is sufficient to-kurst it.

Doubly-loaded Guns.

The Times, December 9, 1879.

The conclusions at which the committee of investigation into the cause of the bursting of the 38-ton gun on board Her Majesty's ship Thunderer arrived are well known. Briefly stated, they are that the gun was doubly loaded—the first charge being 110b. of powder and a Palliser 700b. shot, and the follower 85b., of powder and a common shell weighing 590b. and that, being fired under these conditions, the gun burst, owing to the exceptional pressure exerted by the second or forward charge, upon a portion of the gun which was not intended to receive, and which consequently was not constructed to resist, such a strain. It is equally well-known that the reached to within half an inch of the axis of the trunnions correctness of these conclusions has been questioned by several, but by none more persistently and consistently than Sir William Palliser. The conclusions at which he arrived after careful investigation and experiment were that there was only one charge in the Thunderer's gun when it burst, and that that charge consisted of S5lb. of powder and the common shell with a papier-maohe disc lin, thick and 12in, in diameter; that when the gun was fired the shell overran the disc, which caused the former to jam and to force open the steel tube, the pressure of the powder gases completing the destruction of the wenpon. In its base and the front of the powder charge. On firing order to demonstrate whether or not the committee on the charge the shot was simply driven from the gun into the b. Thunderer explosion were in error in supposing that the front charge in a doubly-loaded gun would exert any exceptional pressure, and, consequently, whether double-loading was or was not the cause of the bursting of the Thunderer's gun, Sir William Palliser organized and last week successfully carried out an int resting series of experiments with a doubly-loaded gun. The trials took place at Messrs. Eastons and Anderson's works at Evith, and attracted a large number of Government officials and future occasion. others interested in art llery operations. Among the company present were General Younghusband, C.B., R.A., General Crawley, Major Fairfax Ellis, R.A., Major Montagu Lambert, R.E., Captan Morley, R.A., Captan Downes, R.A., Colonel Monerieff, E.M.A., Captain Edward Palliser, Captain Lowrie, and others representing the military branch of the service, the naval branch being represented by Admiral Hamilton, C.B., Admiral Hoskins, Captain Cyprian Bridge, R.N., and Commander Custance, R.N. There were also present the military and naval repres atatives of various foreign Governments, including those of France, Germany, and Japan. Sir William Palliser personally conducted the experiments, Mr. Palliser, C.M.G., and Mr. Auderson being also present.

The gun used in the experiments was one on Sir William Palliser's converted system, and was made for him by Sir William Armstrong and Co., about 12 years since. It is one of the two which were then made at the request of the late Ordnance sellet Committee for the purpose of competing with two wrought ronguns made in the Royal Gun Factories. Ore of the two Pall'ser guns having been the successful competitor, the second has remained the property of Sir William ever since. This weapon is a 64-pounder rifled gun, of 71 ewt., with a 6.3 inchealibre, the bore being 1034 mehes in length. It was mounted on a wooden slide, 6th long, and carried on a timber platform last double charge fired from the Palliser gun consisted of with rails 20ft, long and laid with an ascent towards the rear of powder and 128lb, of shot. It will thus be seen that of 1 in 12, or a total rise of 20 inches in the whole length, total charge here was about 1-10th that of the supposed I The recoil was checked by breeching ropes connected with indiarubber buffer springs. The gan thus mounted was placed in a strong timber built chamber about 30ft, long, 7ft, high, and 7st. wide, surrounded and well covered with earth, except, of be confirmatory of the correctness of Sir William Pal course, at the front. Facing this chamber, and at 15 yards opinions. range, was an earth mound or butt, into which the projectiles were fired. The charges consisted of pebble powder and GAD. solid round-headed proof shot, made of east-iron, and without were fired. The charges consisted of pebble powder and Galb. solid round-headed proof shot, made of east-iron, and without studs. The service charge for this gun is 8lb. of this powder and a Galb, projectile. Five rounds were fired with the gun doubly loaded, the first round consisting of 6lb. of powder and a second 64lb. shot, and then another 6lb. of powder and a second 64lb. third round time amounted to 2lb. of powder and projectiles charges were need to the first round consisting of 6lb. of shot in two fibs. In the second round two projectiles are the third two 10lbs. charges were need. The total charges the third round time amounted to 2lb. of powder and projectiles that the test was very severe.

After the gun had been fired the recoil was found have been 11ft. The powder charges were increased at a round by 11b. in each cartridge or 2lb. in the gun, the two s remaining of the same weight each time, until at the fifth ro the double charge was 20lb. of powder-or a total of 12 more than the service charge—and 128th, of shot. The real at the second round was 12th,, at the third round 1-fft., wh was the practicable limit of recoil, springing forward 1ft. At the fourth round the 'ecoil was again to the full extent : the rebound 2ft. Sin., and it was practically the same at the fround. The length of the first double charge was 31in., this length was increased at each round by 2in., or at the r of lin. per lb. of powder, until at the fifth round the front cha the gun. The gun was examined after each round, but nos of flaw or damage could be perceived.

In order to combat the theory advanced by some that bursting of the Thunderer's gun was due to the circumstance an air space having been left between the powder charge and base of the projectile, Sir William Palliser next fired a con of rounds under that condition. In the first round the cha consisted of 10lb, of the same powder as before, and another the same projectiles placed in the gun with a 2lt. space betw the gun recoiling 2ft. up the incline. A second round with same quantity of powder and a similar shot, but with a 5ft space, which brought the nose of the projectile within 21in the muzzle of the gun, was fired with a similar result, ex that the recoil this time was but Gin. This terminated experiments for the day; but Sir William expressed his in tion of carrying them still further with studded projectiles

To artillerists the results of these experiments will speak themselves; but there are others to whom their practical will be rendered more apparent by a comparison between of the conditions under which they were made and those a which the Thunderer's gun is supposed to have burst. the assumption that two charges were fired in the Thunde gun, the nose of the front projectile would extend some dist forward beyond the trunnion of the gun. In the Palliser the front charge barely reached to the centre of the axis o trunnion. But then the Thunderer's gun has a light of and consequently the trunnions are comparatively near breech; whereas the Palliser gun has a heavy muzzle, and trunnions have to be placed well forward. The bore of Thunderer's 38-ton gun was 12in, and the thickness of metal at the centre of burst 15in, or a calibre and a qui The calibre of the Palliser un is 6-Bin., and the thickness metal round the front charge 74in., or about 1 1-7 calibre. weight of the Palliser gun is 3 tons 11cwt., while that of Thunderer's gun was 38 tons, or about 11 times the weight the Palliser weapon. The charges alleged to have been i Thunderer's gun when it burst were 110lb. of powder a 700lb, shot, and 85lb, of powder and a 590lb, shell, the weight being 195lb. of powder and 1,290lb of projectiles. derer's double charge, while the weight of the Palliser s about 1-11th that of the Thunderer's gun. Honce the & sions to be drawn from the recent experiments would app

the gun used yesterday was much lighter than the one which is fired on a former occasion, the latter having been objected to exceptionally strong. It weighs 3 tons, and is the same as the new which are used by the Volunteer Artillory-mancly, a 32-under east-from smooth-bore converted into a 61-pounder ride by ans of a colled wrought-from barrel only 21s. In the leaness the previous history of this barrel is very remarkable. It forrely belonged to another 32-pounder, which it converted into a 61-ander ride, and was tested by fifting excessive charges; hext a less of shells filled with gam-powder were purposely burst inside and, Anally, it was deliberately to sted to destruction by charges increasing severity. Towards the end of the programme it three crounds of 30b. of R. L. G. powder and 100b, rifted shot. At last wrought-from barrel burged to the extent of one quarter of an hand gracked the easing harmlessly through a hole which had an bored into it near the trunnians, the charge being 30bs, of R. G. powder and 1540s, short. The bulged barrel was then taken to fits easing and the barged part, 26. long, was bored out. A withing about 1 in. in thickness was inserted, which brought bore back to fits original size. The external bulge was next need off in a lathe, and the barrel was thon put into its present strong gun. The chief point which Sir William Palliser has had view in theseoexporlments has been to Highstrute the extraording strength, toughness, and adaring qualities of a colled wroughts barrel, to the worthy of attention that two Palliser rifted guns we also hear tested to destruction with increasing charges by Spanish Government, and that in each instance the gun mitally because taked to destruction with increasing charges by Spanish Government, and that in each lastnine the gun mitally because taked to destruction with increasing charges by Spanish that upon the principle of frediton franglit is practically bessible to explode a gun fined with a colled was barrel batted has underlang of this gun will be

Torpedo Warfare.

Brid Arrow, 1st November, 1879,

THATEVER difference of opinion there may be respectting which side was victorious in the recent mimic torcontest at Portsmouth, there can be only one opinion reling the benefit which both Army and Navy derive from well-conceived sham encounters. It is in the highest de-desirable that our governing authorities should recognise important part which torpedoes will play in future naval fare. In order to clearly realise the advantages of torpedo nce or the dangers of meeting torpedo attack, it is nevesthat the various descriptions of that weapon should be fully studied and their capabilities tested. To discover all it is possible to know about the torpedo, it is not sufficient scertain what can be done with it; our information is not plete until we know in what way it can be succesfully met. all other human instruments, there are limitations to its bilities, and like most mundane monsters, there are joints eak places in its armor. The recent mimic contest was arranged with a view to the attainment of both these deble objects. For the protect on of the harbour the torpedo employed in every way which our present acquaintance the weapon enables us to do, without having recourse to or war vessels. These operations were confided solely to military authorities, chief among whom were necessarily d the Royal Engineers and Art'llery. The attack was into the hand of the Navy, and was conducted by the dhound gunboat, the Vesuvius torpedo vessel, and six seclass torpedo-launches of the Vernon torpedo-school and Meda torpedo-depot. There was thus arrayed on the one uch as possible of the advantage sought for in making the by our European neighbours. But it is not of much moment k by night. The skill with which the celectric lights to the Power which maintains the mastery of the seas what used constituted a very important element in the defence, may be the local defences of a port, so long as an effective even way, the extent to which those in the torped-beats blockade can be maintained. It is our pre-eminence on the

managed to clude the glare of the light was also a considerable factor in the offensive force brought to bear on the obstacles laid down. All these conditions were well provided for in the scheme prepared for the guidance of the umpires, so that the decision arrived at by that body of officers necessarily afforded a very fair criterion of the manner in which each party availed themselves of the circumstances and forces under their command. We also believe that, with abilities so fairly balanced as was the case between the attackers and the attacked on this occasion, we may fairly judge by the results not only which party was successful in this part cular instance, but also which arm would probably have the advantage under the circumstances in a real combat. In short, we are of opinion that the relative advantages of the torp do for attack and defence were clearly exemplified in the recent mimic encounter.

In taking this experiment as a Lasis upon which to estimate the value of the torpedo for offensive and diffusive purposes, it is necessary to remember that only the fixed sunk a form of that weapon was employed on this occasion by eather party. It will, therefore, be at once evident, at what an advantage the defenders of a port start in having these mines had down precisely in those channel ways which a vessel must take to reach the place to be attacked. There is no limit to the number of torpedoes which may be sunk and placed under the cut re control of the defenders, exc. pt that fix d by their financial capabilities. But so inexpensive is the weapon when in this form that even that limitation may be removed. Hence the work imposed upon an attacking party may be rendered so considerable and defficult of atta mment as to make it practically hopeless. No admiral would send a hundred hoats to drag for and destroy the mines laid down by the defenders of a port, when he knew well that the feat, even if sceees ful, must cost him at least fifty of that number with their crows. Yet such must inevitably be the case in a well-devised system of torpedo defence. No attack, however bold, could succeed if the defeathers became aware of its approach, and had previously provided themselves with the electric light to discover the enemy's movements, together with art llery and rifle fire to co-operate with the manes in destroying his gun and torpedo boats.

The orrespondent of one of our contemporaries reported that "the enemy exploded the mines, the defenders submitted to a landing being effected, and it new only remains for the "umpires to decide that the Navy were victorious." Considering that the Bloodhound was ruled as being blown up, that the Lightning's propel or was disalled, that four of the terpedolaunches were destroyed by artillery fire, another blown up while the last was deabled, and that all this was the price paid for breaking the electric contact of six out of thirty-two mines laid down, it is difficult to learn upon what information our contemporary's correspondent based his communication. So far from the victory being with the Navy, the result showed that the attack was completely repulsed, and that the defences of the port received thereby no more injury than could be made good in a few hours,

, all the advantages of prearranged and concealed defence, such a result is in the highest degree satisfactory to an insue on the other hand the darkness of night left its aid to lar nation like ourselves. It establishes the fact that an imattacking party which had for its object the destruction of pregnable een t defence is at our command. It shows us that obstacles laid down by the defenders. The obstacles were even with our first line of defence withdrawn on distant service, so kinds—a boom and submerged torpedoes fired from the it is still possible for us to by down such obstacles to an invad-To protect these obstacles was the duty of the artillory ing enemy's approach as would present to him an impenetrable chment stationed in Fort Monckton, together with a com- barrier. It may perhaps be said that the advantage to ourof the 24th Regiment and another of the Royal Marines, selves is quest anable, seeing that we have to share it with addition to the sixteen guns of the fort and the rifles of the others. We do not question for a moment that what we find otry, the attacking party were further exposed to the angles of two electric lights placed one at each extremity of lin fact the experience of the Russo-Turkish warshows that the fort. These lights attacking party, and thus deprive them fered by torpedoes and sunken mines has already been realised to the party and thus deprive them. seas which enables us to look with satisfaction upon the defen-sive powers of the torpedo. With a sufficiently numerous Navy for field purposes have on the other hand tagged far behind to maintain a complete blockade of an enemy's ports, we have the race of progress. But a few years ago, the power of smoot no need to enter them, and with sufficient ships to prevent any bore case fire was far greater in amparison, that that of the of our own ports being blockeded for more than a few days, we Brown-Bess, (the effective range of which was about 300 yard may, by the help of such defensive means as were recently a and decided the fate of many a great battle, by its deciding depend at Portsmouth, prevent an enemy from landing at any suit, when hurled against minarty in close formation, (as we part of our coasts.

Monoktou to despaten Wintenead torpodoes among the cateny of at such distincts as to render shrapped shells amost ineffecting boats had there been any advantage found in so doing. But the low muzzle velocities and high trajectories of the pieces the attacking party had no weapon at their disposal except a longing to existing batteries, necessitating close quarters for a tempedo for forcing the boun across the harbour, and counters satisfactory development of this particular description of princes for destroying those of the enemy. They had to take jettle, the modern, "long range case shot." The Germans about in the darkness for the sable attacked to the defend real their late war were well aware of thus weakness. about in the darkness for the cables attached to the defender's their late war were well aware of this weakness, (low murmines, thankful if they were not found out by the electric velocity which causes a large cone of dispersion in shell firm light to be shot at by the Artillery or blown up by the Royal and invariably pressed their artillery forward to short ranges, Engineers. So heavily hand capped were the Navy in this actually large masses of guns and men, caring little for the of tion that, with only the most moderate skill on the part of wholesale sacrifice of their gunners, so long as they effected the those on shore in the use of the appliances at their hands, the purpose. destruction of the attacking party was certain from the commencement.

The subject of torpedo defence is one which must prove inthesting to the majority of our readers, no matter to which of battle. branch of the service they may belong, as in the event of hostilities, it would form an important particular in the defence of all the forts in the Maritime provinces, those on the river St. tactics, but also on future artillery manufacture, it become Lawrence, on the Lakes and those in British Columbia. If a matter of the greatest and most vital importance that a sim hostile cruiser escaped the vigilance of the fleet, (as suggested accurate and rapid method of ascertaining the actual range by the General Officer Commanding the militia, in one of his an enemy, should be introduced and practiced by field batter able reports,) stationed in the vicinity of the Gulf of St. Law- without the aid of which, the best art llery that could be rence, nothing in the present armament of Quebec would pre-|s.bly, placed in the field, would be worse than uscless, as vent her laying that city in ruins, and it would be possible for her to pass on to Montreal and reduce that city to a similar ments might be found wanting. state. It is true that the crew might suffer afterwards for their temerity, but hundreds of commanders would only be too duced, for effecting this purpose, all suffer more or less from glad to run the risk were it open to them tomorrow. What main defect, viz. delicacy, both of manufacture and of man defence has Montreal? St. Helen's island in an enemy's postlation, rendering the appliances uscless, where rapid class session and it has no artillery but a Field battery to depend on, exposed positions and uneven ground, places anything. The garrison artillery being practically without guns. What scientific surveying out of the question. A range finder, to is there on St. Helen's Island to prevent its being taken? A the requirement of the service, should combine the following points: descended by the Richelien, could be off beyond the effective range of the guns mounted there and dismount them one at a time. This would not be possible if there was a chain of torpedoes arranged at particular points with sufficient guns to form an adequate defence. There are many such places on the St. Lawrence which could be named as affording special advantages for their arrangement.

Their necessity in Br.t.sh Columbia has been pointed out by General Sir. E. Selby Smyth, Commanding the Militia, in his report for 1877, page XX. "Booms and Torpedoes would of course be an additional protection, * * * because in the absence of a man-of-war from the anchorage in Esquimalt harbor, which sometimes happens, there is no kind of protection for the valuable naval stores in the dockyard, nor for the city of

Victoria," etc., etc.

Range Finding for Field Guns.

By Lieut. G. F. Cole, N. B. B. G. A., Quebec School of Gunnery.

One of the practical lessons, taught by the reprospect of the lat: wars and which has been taken to heart by the home authorities, impresses us with the powerful effect of modern inauthorities, impresses us with the powerful effect of modern infantry rifle fire, over that of our present imperfect system of
field artillery, for, while the killing capacity of the former weapon has been developed, in the last few years, to an enormous
callibre, which fires a 7 lbs shell, at a m v. of 220 F S
ext out and practically, as far as our present knowledge of military

13 The new 13 pr. gun of Rowt. which has just been made at
which fires a common shell of about 1, lbs. with a muzzle ve
field artillery, for, while the killing capacity of the former weapon has been developed, in the last few years, to an enormous
callibre, which fires a 7 lbs shell, at a m v. of 220 F S
ext out and practically, as far as our present knowledge of military
and theories segment.

(3) The new 13 pr. gun of Rowt. which has just been made at
which fires a common shell of about 1, lbs. with a muzzle ve
field artillery, for, while the killing capacity of the former weapon has been developed, in the last few years, to an enormous
capture of the former weapon has been developed, in the last few years, to an enormous
capture of the former weapon has been developed, in the last few years, to an enormous
capture of the former weashell at a m. v. of 1553 F. 8.

then the rule), at a little over the above distance. The scale l We have already mentioned that only one form of the tor-pedo, and that the simplest, was employed in the recent sham the Henry-Martini, the rapidity, ease and range, (1) of fight. It was within the power of the defenders of Fort from this rifle, enabling it to hold field artillery in check, a

(3) The problem then being worked out, is to produce f guus of about the same weight and cal.bre as the existing of which firing heavier shells at high muzzle velocities and with trajectories, shall once more place artillery foremost on the fa

There being, then, little doubt, that long range infantry will not only excresse a considerable influence on future artil apparent power would only tend to mislead and in decisive

The various plans, which have from time to time been in

1st. The base should be as short as possible, never more the length of a battery at full intervals, say 100 yards.

2nd. No instrument of any del cacy should be used. 3rd. Any N. C. officer or gunner should be able to u

without special training.

The base should be as short as possible, as it is almo certainty, that smoke, dust, passing of treops, irregular tie ground, or the intervention of trees, one or all, would prethe base points from seeing each other if the distance but them be very great.

No instrument of any d licacy should be used, for apart the hab I ty of derangement the study and careful I and for manipulation, would hardly be found in the heat of action

Any N. C. officer or gunner should be able to use it, as gun should be furnished with a separate arrangement, and mean range of the whole taken, men specially trained in su ing, would no doubt be employed when permanent occupat position was decided upon.

⁽i) At Playena, the Russians began to suffer loss at 1877 yard Tu ks being armed with rifles similar to our own.—Ma Peabody.
(2) The Germans however only fired a common shell which somewhat like our segment.

to 4000 yards, equals 3 degrees, this with a radius arm of 20 yards, distance from A to B, gives the total space moved over the cord by handle B as 3 feet, or a difference of about half an

inch for every 50 yards of range.

The method of ensuring that A takes up a position exacly at

right angles to the gun, is as follows:-

When A after inserting into the vent, the spike, which connects the ends of the wires, and is doubling out to his position, B takes hold of his wire, and doubles back to the rear of the gun, to a distance of 20 yards, at that length along the wire is fixed a mark, (a link,) which is brought by B into a line prolonged through the sights of the gun. Then wires, A, gun and B form a right angle triangle, w th a base of 20 yards, distance from gun to B, the right angle being at the gun, and the hypothenuse being the wire from B to A, 36.05 yards, distance from gun to A being 30 yards, therefore A is at right angles to the gun.

As soon as A has fixed himself in this position, B now doubles towards the rear of A, and drawing the wire tight, (one end of which is connected to the gun at the vent, and the other to the reel which is held by A,) brings his sighting handle on the wire into

line with object and A, reel as explained before.

This process just reverses the triangle, the base being now from A to B, and the hypothenuse from B to the gun. At long distances a field glass can be used by B simply fixing the sighting handle between the glasses.

Taking these desiderata into consideration—thewriter subling that colors should be aboltshed, may have served in the army,

Taking these desiderata into consideration thewriter submitted some little time ago, to the Militia Department, a proposal in which he endeavoured to embody the foregoing principles, and had the honor of a favourable report upon same, being forwarded by the Inspe tor of Art.llery to the General Commanding who was pleased to desire experiments to be made in the forthcoming practice season to test its merita. The following is a description of the proposed plan.

In a reel are coiled on a separated spindle two steel wires, one, say 30 yards long, which forms the base of measurement, and the other (56° 65) which forms the base of measurement, and the other (56° 65) which forms a triangle in rear and on which the required diestance is measured, the extremities of both the ends of the cords being joined together.

When a range is required to be found, the gun is laid upon the object, a man A then takes the reel in his hand, and inserting in the extremities of one end of the wires, doubles back, until the same becomes tight, and lines himself as near as possible in prolongation of a line through A, and the object laid upon over the sights of the gun. The man A now holds the reel firmly in his hand, (keeping the base cord saretched tight), on the top of which is fixed A fine projection acting as a foresight. B then brings his handle, the top of which had be acts as a hindsight, into line with A sight, and the object aimed at over the gun, he also with the same becomes tight, and the object aimed at over the gun, he also in the strength of the cord, over which the handle B slides freely in his hand, (keeping the base cord saretched tight), on the top of which is extended to the ord of which is acts as a hindsight, into line with A sight, and the object aimed at over the gun, he also in the projection acting as a foresight. B then that B has to do is to line his gath, and at once read off the required distance. With a base of 30 yards. All then that B has to do is to line his sight, and at once read off the required dist

While Victoria, Queen of England and Empress of Hindostan, was laying her immortelles upon her Consort's tomb at Windsor, Eugénie, Empress of the French, widowed, childless, orphaned, was earing a prayer for the father and for the chivatrous son who sleep the eternal deep in the exile's grave. For that poor Lady at Chislehurst we all have the verriest compassion, and we may be sure that her Christmas, dark and heavy as it is, will be cheered by tender messages from Osborne and Sandringham; for it is the happy fortune of the Queen and the Queen's children, to be downed with the most kindly hearts and the most sympathising souls. "Blessed are the doad, for they rest from their labours." It is this knowlodge that will send a glimmer of sunshine radiating brough the two Imperial homes when the Christmas peak hakes the belfry and when multitudes of happy children luster round the glittering Tree,-Whitchall Review.

The following paragraph from the Broad Arrow of the 30th Sept. 1879, may be interesting as showing how the heros of what one might all a by gone ago still remain among us, and doubtless in reading the exploits of our army of the present, fight again the battles of the DRSL

ming handle between the glasses.

The appliance would be carried in a case attached to every gun.

In these days when many are proposing that the practice of carrying colors by the various regiments should be abolished, and that they (the colors) should be relegated to the lumber-room as useless trash, such addresses as the following are worth preserving. Those of our compatriots who were born in the island of Jersey will no four compatriots who were born in the island of Jersey will no gunner his colors are to an infantryman—the centre round which he is "to do or die." We are amongst those who believe, that as it lakerman three artillerymen found means to change a broken wheel in order to fight their gun, so while there are even two favour or infantry mon left on the field, they will hold the colors between them and fight to the death. The mon who write advocat
The two last survivors of Copenhagen were Commander Charles Jefferis, who deled in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and Commander Histofier, who deled in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and Commander Flattmaurice, who so denth in his ninety-second year is just announced. The last of the Nile, Cape St. Vincent, and component who have all passed away some time since-Commander Hobert Trotter, R.N., who died in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and Commander Histofier, who so denth in his ninety-second year is just announced. The last of the Nile, Cape St. Vincent, and component Hobert Trotter, R.N., who died in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and Commander Histofier, who so denth in his ninety-second year is just announced. The last of the Nile, Cape St. Vincent, and component Hobert Trotter, R.N., who died in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and Commander Histofier, and subtrest, and commander Mistofier, and subtrest, and the last of the Nile, Cape St. Vincent, and component Hobert Trotter, R.N., who died in July, 1876, aged eighty-six, and commander Histofier, and subtrest, and was announced. The last of the Nile announced. The last of the Nile announced. The last of the

The Annual Meeting of the Pominion Artillery Association, will be held at Ottawa, on the 4th March.

At the moment of going to press we learn that Lt Col. the Hon. L. R. Masson has resigned the Portfolio of Minister of Militia and Defence and is to be replaced by the Hon. Sir A. Campbeil. Lt.-Col. Masson deserves well of the Militia. Having made himself acquainted with the short comings of the Force previous to coming into College, the Rolley of the Short time he has giverned it than any of his predecessors.

We hope the Hon, gentleman will see his efforts on behalf of the Militia, and for the defence of the country.

Captain—Jonathan Tremain.

Captained—Jonathan Tremain with

behalf of the Militia, and for the defence of the country. fully realised.

Malifax in the Olden Times.

"THE HALIFAX FIELD BATTERY."

In place of our usual instalment of "Hallfax in the Olden Time," w. place on record this evening a few particulars regarding the Halliax Fleid Battery, which now—under the command of Major J. R. Graham—is a relic of many generations, and our sole reliance whenever any salute of a local character is wanted.

The Battery takes its source in 1778. But there, is no record of its progress, save as is afforded in the list of officers in old alumnacs and periodicals. In Anthony Henry salmanac for 1791, we find the toologing officers of the "Hallfax Artiflery Company":

Captain Halifax Artillery.

The Company met on the 2rd May, 1811, when the following was agreed to: That the coater agreed to by the Committee should be the

Profues

Regimental News.

Regimental News.

The Company met on the End May, 1891, when the following was agreed to:

"He Baltery S. G. Quober "The strength of this lattery has been increased by one Eactionant Major L. M. Tischerous has been increased by one Eactionant Major L. M. Tischerous has been increased by no Eactionant Major L. M. Tischerous has been increased by no Eactionant Major L. M. Tischerous has been increased by no Eaction and Domin. C.J. Dai tes fourth increased the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. O. Prevost is under orders to proceed to England to Study the major the Capit. Orders the Order of Capit. Orders the Development of the Capit. Or

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