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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. VI.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1872.

No. 47.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The English news for the past week is unimportant. A large and destructive fire had occurred in London, on the 19th.

The European governments, while sympathizing with England in her efforts to suppress the Eastern slave trade, decline to join in active measures to that end.

Sir George Cartier is going to Torquay, in Devonshire, for the further improvement of his health.

Saturday the 9th inst., being the birthday of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was celebrated with great enthusiasm; all business was suspended, and the day was observed as a general holiday.

It was also Lord Mayor's day, the procession with all its ancient quaintness being particularly brilliant on this occasion. At the subsequent banquet, all the Ministers except Mr. Gladstone were present.

The French National Assembly met on the 13th inst. The following important message was addressed to the members by the President of the French Provisional Government M. Thiers:

The message begins with thanks to God for the general prosperity of the country. Referring to the extraordinary success of the last loan asked by the Government, it says the whole available capital of the commercial world was offered to France. The half of the loan has been realized in three months. Germany has been paid 800,000,000 francs of war indemnity, and she will receive 200,000,000 more in December. The budget shows a deficit of 132,000,000 francs for the past fiscal year, but the estimates show that the equilibrium of expenditure and revenue will be restored in 1873, and that a surplus may be looked for in 1874. Allusion is made to the disasters of the late war, the cruel dismemberment of the country, the frightful burthen it had to bear, and the establishment of the republic. All these things suddenly bursting on a surprised and disheartened country, might have resulted in an irreparable disaster, if order had not been maintained. Forceful appeal is made to the theoretical republicans not to

spare even excessive sacrifices, for order in their own interest, and events have given them the republic. The republic exists as the legal government. An attempt at any different form of the government would lead to most terrible revolution. The President deprecated a formal proclamation of the republic by the assembly. The better policy would be to impress on institutions our country's features of conservative republicanism. The republic must be conservative, otherwise it cannot exist. The absolute need of France is repose. The mass might live through a few days of agitation. After frightening others it fears itself and falls into the arms of an adventurer travelling the sad and humiliating journey from anarchy to despotism, and despotism to anarchy; the slightest fault is sufficient to wreck the republic. France is orderly and strong in spirit and in confidence with foreign powers who desire above all a just equilibrium. France, if she chooses not to isolate herself, may become surrounded by trusting and useful friends. To the Assembly is left the initiative of the constitutional measures. The decisive moment has arrived for the work. The President promises deference, co-operation and devotion. The President concludes by invoking God to bless the work of the Assembly, and render complete and durable a consummation which had not been attainable since the commencement of the century.

The message was well received by the Left, to whom it gives great satisfaction.

M. DeKerdela (Conservative) moved the appointment of a committee to draw up a reply.

The motion was agreed to by a small majority.

It is thought that the President's message will lead to an early dissolution of the Assembly.

A brisk slave trade is said to be going on between Tripoli and Constantinople.

Count Chambord has been waited upon by fifty members of the right.

Satirical articles on the water supply, which appeared in the *Levant Herald*, have led to its suspension for two months.

The reported interview between Thiers and Gambetta is denied.

M. Thiers has been requested to arbitrate in a colonial question, the nature of which is not stated, between England and Portugal.

Thirty-eight workmen lost their lives by a fire damp explosion in a coal mine at Moceaux, Department of Seine and Loire.

The Prussian Diet has been reopened. Various important measures are promised.

Cholera morbus has appeared at Dresden. Three fatal cases. It is said to have come from Pesh.

Generals Ampudia and Mendueria, commanding the Royal forces in Cuba, have been recalled to Spain.

The King and Queen of Saxony celebrated their golden wedding yesterday.

Spain still presents a very unsettled aspect. Carlist plots are frequent, and there is no predicating what the consequences will be.

It is said that the Spanish Government propose to allow cipher telegrams addressed to foreign countries to pass over lines in Spain.

It is proposed to abolish compulsory service in the Spanish navy.

The abolition of slavery in Spanish dominions is part of the programme of the Republican members of the Cortes.

The Spanish Government has appointed General Balerict Captain General of Catalonia.

A fire broke out in Boston on the evening of the 9th inst. and raged with fury for three days, burning over eighty-three acres of the most populous and busy part of the city. The loss is roughly estimated at over \$100,000,000. The commercial men of the city will be the principal sufferers; the fire was not finally subdued till the morning of the 12th inst.

It is said the London (England) Insurance Companies are the sufferers by this fire to the amount of \$25,000,000.

In the event of a reconstruction of General Grant's Cabinet, it is rumoured that an effort will be made to have the colored element represented.

## THE AUTUMN MANOEUVRES.

## THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS.

(From the Broad Arrow, August 31.)

(Continued from Page 545.)

*Southern Army.*—The proceedings of the southern army were in the nature of an episode. After a march, prolonged by a totally unlooked for piece of international courtesy, Sir A. Horsford's Division, reached its old position at Blandford to find that the enemy had given it the slip, and, making a wide detour had actually gone in search of them to Bottle Bush Down, the very point which they quitted this morning. In other words the 1st and 2nd Divisions had changed places, selecting routes at opposite sides of the main Salisbury road, so that the long lines of transport and of military might not clash, and so wide apart that they did not even see anything of each other in the distance. Sir A. Horsford's division struck its tents punctually at half past eight o'clock, and it was most interesting to watch the various divisions and brigades start and move off successively by roads which first diverged across the undulating park like surface of Bottle Bush Down, to converge again and re unite some miles further on Launceston Down. Here after a dusty march of six or seven miles, a surprise awaited them. They were to halt and lie down—an order not unwelcome in itself—but the explanation was even more surprising than if they had by accident, stumbled upon the main force of General Brownrigg. After yesterday's proceedings, a pitched battle would have been comparatively speaking, in the natural order of things, however little desired at the moment by hungry men. But the reason for this sudden interruption of a march undertaken to beat up the enemy's quarters, was that the envoys of a friendly power had arrived, desiring to see the troops of Queen Victoria, the particular flag under which they were serving at the moment being to them a matter of secondary importance. As hastily reported by an aide de camp in passing, "the Japanese ambassadors are on in front!" And truly there they were in two carriages, with their interpreters &c, surrounded by the whole of the headquarters staff. It appeared that with the energetic and enquiring spirit of their nation, the Japanese had taken Blandford on their way to visit the Portsmouth fortifications; and Sir John Michell could do no less than offer to show them what there was to be seen. Orders were at once given for a general march past—a movement for which the springy level turf of Launceston Down is eminently well adapted. First came the Light Cavalry Brigade, under Col. Baker, consisting of the 7th and 10th Hussars, and the 12th Lancers. Nothing could possibly be finer than the appearance of all three of these regiments, and our visitors from the far East were evidently not a little surprised at the glorious pageant of clean built troopers and well bred horses. Then a battery of Horse Artillery went by at a walk, their dressing it is needless to say was perfection. Then came the infantry and splendid regiments of Foot Guards leading the way; and remembering that they had been marching with knapsacks for the last three hours, there was little fault to be found either with the regulars or Militia as they marched past Sir Alfred Horsford and his foreign guests. But yet a prettier sight than all was in store for them. With a rattle and a clash, the whole brigade of cavalry went by at a sharp trot. Then there

was a whirl of dust, and a suppressed murmur of admiration from the crowd, in which the foreign visitors did not hesitate to join, as the Horse Artillery dashed by at a gallop. Then a battery or two was unlimbered, and some powder burnt in honor of our guests. The new 16 pounders were examined with much curiosity by the Japanese, who were profuse in their acknowledgments of the compliment paid them by Sir A. Horsford, and of the admirable state of the troops under his orders.

The duties of hospitality being duly performed, the 1st Division resumed its march in two columns, and so reached at a little past one o'clock the now well known height of Racecourse Down. As the men marched on to the ground, the Guards leading the way, it was easy to see that their outing to Bottle Bush Down had done them no little good. I was compelled to mention the fact that on Saturday the Guards looked just a little "done" after their march. One could not have said as much of them to day, for the big men in bearskins were a glorious sight as they tramped merrily across the downs. Not the Rifle Brigade itself went better than did the Guards to day. The march out to Bottle Bush had evidently done our crack regiments good in more ways than one. Tent pitching on Racecourse Down was a comparatively easy matter, as many though not all of the regiments occupied the same ground as they did previous to marching out, and consequently the digging of trenches, &c., was a very easy operation. Within twenty minutes of the baggage wagons' arrival on the ground, the tents were up and the cords being tightened. So far as I was able to learn, the men of the 1st Division, although they had had a long day, were in excellent trim, and not in the least too fatigued by their steady march. "Fath and its right hungry we be," said a Kilkenny Militiaman; and that was the only semblance of a complaint that ever I heard.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28.

*Southern Army.*—In accordance with the programme of yesterday, the troops of the 4th Division left Silchester and Pamber at six o'clock this morning. Lord Mark Kerr has given orders that on this occasion the infantry brigades should march in one column instead of in two; and that the cavalry brigades should take a different route and meet the column at a particular point before reaching the encamping ground. After the advanced guard, the three infantry brigades set out in order of their numbers. First came Maxwell's, consisting of the 46th Regiment and the 102nd Fusiliers; next, Col. Pakenham's, made up of the 2nd Battalion 4th Regiment and the 27th Regiment; and lastly Col. Stephenson's, composed of the 30th Regiment and the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade. Each brigade was accompanied by Artillery and Engineers. Lord Mark Kerr and his staff were with the column. The route taken was by Aldermaston Park on the right. Having passed through the village they turned sharp to the left, and here in a lovely green lane leading to the river Emborne, the Division met an unexpected foe, whose sudden appearance caused no little surprise, and was well nigh being the occasion of a very serious embarrassment to the general and his staff, and a battery of Artillery that was immediately behind them. Lord Mark Kerr had just ridden back from the head of Maxwell's brigade, and was just between the Engineers and the three regimental carts of the 102nd Fusiliers, when his horse and that of Captain Poole, the brigade major of the First Brigade, began to jump and kick violently. In an instant

afterwards, the general and his staff found themselves literally enveloped by myriads of wasps, who fastened on them and their horses and began to sting horribly. Lord Mark Kerr had some half a dozen of the vicious insects stuck on to the back of his head, and two or three about his face, all of them stinging in perfect unison. The horse which Captain Salis Schwabe, aide de camp was riding received six very bad stings. The general's horse made a spring of about twenty paces forward, in an endeavor to escape from his tormentors, but they were not to be baffled. They held on as long as they could, and were supported by equally determined reinforcements. Lord Mark Kerr saw that if the regimental carts, which were close at hand, should come up, the wasps would set upon the cart horses, and that a scene of dangerous confusion would set in throughout the whole column, a battery of artillery lying next in the march. He at once shouted out an order for the regimental carts to halt, and at the same instant landed his horse in magnificent style over a fence and into a barley field, through which he saw the remainder of the column might pass by a flank movement and so outmanoeuvre the wasps. At the further end of the barley field was a gate; but as there was no outlet at the end nearest to Maxwell's brigade, the general ordered the engineers to make a gap in the fence. When they were engaged in this work, the farmer who owns the barley came up, and supposing that what he saw was a portion of the autumn manoeuvres, regularly, sketched out, beforehand, he said to Lord Mark, "General I don't think these ere autumn manoeuvres will be good for the harvest." Lord Mark told him how matters stood, and that if the remainder of the column did not avail themselves of the barley field they would have to march a round of two or three miles to avoid the wasps. The Engineers had the gap made in a minute or two, and the troops began to march in files two deep, along a path in the barley field, in order not to injure the crop. This movement had scarcely commenced when the adjutant of the 4th Regiment with a sergeant and a private announced that the wasps had "settled down" took up some sods and clapped them upon the wasp's nest, the adjutant himself, drying home the sods with a blow of the spade. The enemy having been thus securely disposed of, the remainder of the column continued its march through the lane. The river was crossed at Sherbert Bridge, and the three brigades passed on through Brimpton, to Crookham Heath.

The cavalry brigade consisting of the 9th Lancers, the 13th Hussars, the 19th Hussars and the E Battery C Brigade of Royal Horse Artillery, under the command of Major General Shiute, took the route by Tadly Common, Holt Common, Healdy Common, over the Emborne river at Knightsbridge, and so on direct to Greenham Heath. "The morning was lovely, and the gentry and peasantry of the country, on both lines of march, turned out in considerable numbers to witness the march. In every village the soldiers received manifestations of welcome, and their way throughout the twelve miles was through landscape scenery of a completely English character. They passed lordly parks wide heaths, brilliant with heather bloom, smiling village greens, and cottages, covered with flower gardens in front; flowers all round the doors and windows, flowers on every window sill. In more than one place there were large companies of ladies and gentlemen between whom and the officers of the various battalions many a recognition was exchanged. The cottage population

stood in front of their little dwellings and behind the hedgerows; and there was pleasure in the face, and pride in the tramp of every soldier as he marched through such scenery and before so many admiring eyes. It was impossible for any of them not to feel when marolling this morning that "This is a country worth fighting for." The main body of the troops, having passed over Crookham Heath—certainly one of the finest in England—reached Greenham Heath by ten o'clock. The water on this heath is not good. Some of it, marked "for horses," is so bad that no one who valued his horse could think of letting the animal drink it, so that the cavalry horses have had to be sent to water at some distance; but, with that one drawback, it is a capital encamping ground, and the surroundings are really beautiful. There is a good deal of heather here, but it is not so high as at Silchester and Pamber, and a good deal of the ground selected for the camp is covered with grass that would not disgrace a lawn. We have the town of Newbury at a distance of a mile and a half, and the scenery in that direction is not inferior to that through which one enters the heath at its western extremity. The camp is formed with the headquarter tents up the north western end of the common and facing the south. Immediately in front of the headquarters are the tents of the Cavalry Brigade; in front of them, those of the Royal Artillery. Not far off from the Artillery are the three brigades of infantry, Maxwell's on the right, Pakenham's in the centre, and Stephenson's on the left. The Engineers and the transport branch of the Army Service Corps are to the right of headquarters. Throughout the day crowds of visitors have been making the tour of the camp. The weather has been delightful, and the health of both men and horses is in the highest degree satisfactory. When it is remembered that there are no fewer than 7000 men and 5000 horses on Greenham heath, it will readily be understood that there are public servants who must have a very anxious time of it amid all those beauties of nature by which they are surrounded. One casualty of a melancholy nature occurred this morning at Silchester. A soldier, servant of Major Windham 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, dropped dead while cleaning his master's horse. An inquest having been held on the body, it was brought into the camp here in the forenoon, and the poor fellow will be buried with military honors, in Newbury church to-morrow morning.

The 3rd Division, with the headquarters camp, marched from Hazley Heath, a distance of about eleven miles, to Burghfield Common, near the Mortimer station of the Reading and Basingstock Railway, where they pitched their tents about half past one. The start was made at seven o'clock; the cavalry must have been out of their beds two hours earlier, and it thus appears that had the order for the marches to be over by 9 a. m., been adhered to, the slumbers of Brigadier Marshall's unfortunate troopers would have been broken at half past twelve last night. Seven o'clock will probably be the starting hour for the rest of the manoeuvres, and that is, soon enough, in all conscience.

The chief incident on the march occurred in passing Strathfieldsaye. The Duke had courteously offered Sir Robert Walpole the short cut through the lodge gates. To enter the park, the division had to pass close to the statue, and Sir Robert ordered the column to close up, and to do honor to the memory of the great field-marshal by drawing their

swords and fixing bayonets as they passed below his bronze effigy. A British regiment had never before, we believe, passed the Strathfieldsaye gates, nor had the British soldiers ever done an honor to the memory of the chief, who led them as none ever did, since they followed him to his grave in St. Paul's. To-day some of the finest regiments in the army, regiments which carry the Duke's greatest battles on their banners, saluted him once more. The decision to pay this mark of respect had only been come to yesterday, or doubtless, spectators would have come from far and wide. As it was, a hundred or two of country folk, many of the duke's tenantry among them, stood by the roadside, or on the blocks of granite strewn round the palisade which fences the column. There were a few carriages, full of ladies, and a few gentlemen on horseback—Sir Wm. Codrington who commanded in the Crimea, Lord Eversley, whose beautiful park is on the other side of the heath, Col. Towneley, the courteous and indefatigable commissioner for Hampshire, Mr. Dunn, the commissioner for Berks, Sir Paul Hunter, and others. The son of the great duke was there, and rode forward to greet Sir Robert Walpole, and the Duchess of Wellington sat in a carriage drawn by three ponies abreast, as in the newest ladies' fashion. The troops came by in the order of their march, first an advance guard of cavalry and guns, then the main body of cavalry, artillery, and infantry. When the main body had closed up, Col. Marshall's brigade, who had been standing by their horses, got into their saddles. Sir Robert Walpole and his staff rode in front, the word was given to march, and the troops moved towards the park gates, between the first Duke of Wellington, keeping watch in bronze on the right on his high granite column, and on the left the second Duke of Wellington, the duchess's pony carriage being drawn near him. Two Life Guards had been posted before the park gates on either side as sentinels of honour, and between them the troops passed on and out of sight behind the tall flag of Strathfieldsaye Park. As in a march past, Sir Robert Walpole, and then Sir Charles Staveley, and then the generals of Brigades, and all the Staff drew off at the saluting point, ranging themselves, Sir Robert Walpole beside, and the rest behind the Duke of Wellington. The cavalry came on—Horse Guards, Life Guards, and Life Guards again—with drawn swords. When abreast of the column the word was given, "Eyes, left," and looking up at the statue, and riding between the father and the son, the squadrons passed on into the park, which the nation gave to the soldier it delighted to honour. The duke accompanied Sir Robert through the park and some way beyond; but the duchess drew the reins of her three ponies just beyond the further lodge, and went back to breakfast. In the roads beyond Strathfieldsaye the infantry rested for a while, piling arms and lying down on either side. Sir Robert and his following, rode on to Silchester, and inspected the Roman wall, and the remains of a forum laid bare by the Duke of Wellington. By the time the staff returned the camp was pitched, that of the troops on Burghfield Common, a good and comfortable camping ground broken into patches by furze and gorse. The headquarters of the Army corps made a little colony by themselves about a mile off at Mortimer Mill. This headquarter establishment pitches 60 tents, and draws rations for 267 mouths. To-morrow night the divisions will lay in a fine clear camp on Crookham Heath; the next day they will again diverge, and will reach Pewsey on Saturday.

*Southern Army.*—The most notable event to-day was the change of position on the part of the headquarters staff, and the general concentration of the forces upon Raccoourse Down. Hitherto Sir John Michel's camp had been at Franco Farm, a point on the river Stour, about two miles to the left of Blandford. In future it will be with the infantry on Raccoourse Down, some three miles to the right of Blandford, or a distance of between four and five miles from the point where headquarters originally stood. As long as the enemy lay quietly preparing in his lines at Aldershot, it was considered apparently that the convenience of the moment was all that need be studied. Now, however, that General Walpole has actually began his march, things wear a different aspect, and the only safe position for our general is in the midst of his army. The headquarters staff do not move alone, for the pontoon and telegraph troops of the Royal Engineers, which hitherto have been encamped on Whitley Mill Down, between Elandford and Franco Farm, also move up to-day to Raccoourse Down. They will no doubt regret the beautiful view which they have hitherto enjoyed over Lord Portman's park, where at one time some hundreds of deer can be seen grazing or lying under the shade of the trees, which are separated from Whitley Mill Down only by the road to Franco Farm, and the light iron railing which skirts the park. But the Engineers will probably miss still more the crowd of sight-seers from Blandford and its vicinity, with whom their camp was a favourite object—partly because it was most easily accessible from the town, and partly because, in the Engineer equipment, there is much of special interest that is comprised. Of the camp generally, as of the Egyptian Queen, it may be said that "Time does not wither, or custom stale the infinite variety" of its attractions, for the worthy denizens of Dorsetshire, the more they see of the "licentious soldiery," and their glittering equipments, the better pleased they appear to be.

The 2nd Division is encamped peacefully on Bottle Bush Hill, and like the invading force now represented by Sir Alfred Horsford's command, the troops under General Brownrigg's supervision are halting and gathering fresh strength for tomorrow's fight, which promises to be far more energetic and interesting than that of Monday last. The 1st Division is to move at 3 a. m.; and the helligents will meet on or near Linnecston Down about 9.30. General Brownrigg has orders to attack at all hazards, and so we are sure to see some powder burnt. A finer site for a pitched battle could hardly have been selected, and if all goes well, tomorrow's manoeuvres will be highly relished by the fortunate spectators.

(To be continued.)

The St. Peterburg *Artillery Journal* asserts that the attempts to imitate Krupp's cast steel ordnance in the government works of Perma and Obouchow have been entirely successful, and Russia will not only be able to dispense with M. Krupp, but it is confidently affirmed that the Russian cast steel is firmer than and more durable, and not so liable to burst as M. Krupp's. The gun foundry at Perma now engaged in casting 26 9 inch mortars, with Trellis do Boltier locks, and one 11 inch mortar, Obouchow is to turn out thirty two 7 in. cast steel guns. Time for delivery is however, allowed till the summer of 1874.

## DOMINION OF CANADA.



## MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

## HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 8th November, 1872.

## GENERAL ORDERS (28).

No. 1

## MILITIA STAFF.

To be Paymaster for Military District No. 9, from 1st instant:

Major Charles J. Macdonald, M. S., from 66th Battalion, vice Robert Brechin, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence for six months, from date of sailing, is hereby granted to Colonel Laurie, Deputy Adjutant General Military District No. 9, to enable him to proceed to England on private affairs.

Lieutenant-Colonel Milsom, Brigade Major 2nd Brigade Division, Province of Nova-Scotia, will, in addition to his duties as Brigade Major, take over the duties of Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, Military District No 9, during the absence on leave of Colonel Laurie.

## ACTIVE MILITIA.

## SCHOOLS OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

The several Schools of Military Instruction at Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton and Halifax, will be re-opened on 1st December next, for six months.

## Provisional Battalion on Service in Manitoba.

The Provincial Battalion now serving in Manitoba under the command of Brevet Lt. Colonel Irvine, heretofore clothed as Rifles, will in future be clothed and equipped as Infantry of the line.

Adverting to G. O. (24), 20th September, a further extension of leave of absence, till 1st January next, is granted to Brevet Lieutenant Colonel and Captain Thomas Scott.

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

## Ottawa Troop of Cavalry.

To be Coronet, provisionally:

Sergeant John Stewart.

Gananoque Field Battery of Artillery.

Erratum in G. O. (26), 25th October last,

read "To be Surgeon Edward Hamilton Merrick" instead of "Muriok."

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

1st Lieutenant John Cotton, Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, having completed his "short Course" of instruction is hereby authorized to remain for the "Long Course."

## 1st Battalion, Governor General's Foot Guards.

To be Ensign:

Frederick William Mills, Gentleman, M. S.

MEMO.—Erratum in G. O. (26), 25th October last, read "Harry Wilmot Griffin" instead of "Henry."

## 15th Battalion or "Argyle Light Infantry."

Quarter Master St. G. B. LePoer Crozier to have the rank of Honorary Captain, from 15th June, 1871.

## 18th "Prescott" Battalion of Infantry.

Lieutenant and Paymaster William Cleveland Wells, V. B., to have the rank of Honorary Captain, from 24th July, 1868.

## 24th "Kent" Battalion of Infantry.

To be Surgeon:

Assistant Surgeon Tecumseh K. Homes M. D., vice C. J. S. Askin, deceased.

To be Assistant Surgeon.

George Archer Tye, Esquire, M. D., vice Holmes, promoted.

## 25th "Elgin" Battalion of Infantry.

Major John Ellison is hereby permitted to retire with the rank of Captain.

## 33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry.

Quarter Master Francis Jordan, to have the rank of Honorary Captain, from 5th April 1872.

## 36th "Peel" Battalion of Infantry

No. 2 Company, Orangeville.

To be Lieutenant provisionally and specially from 26th February, 1869:

Ensign Francis Grant Dunbar, vice Parsons, promoted.

## 43rd "Carlton" Battalion of Infantry.

Paymaster Robinson E. Lyon, to have the rank of Honorary Captain, from 14th December, 1871.

Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Joseph R. Hanna, V. B., to have the rank of Honorary Captain, from 22nd January 1871.

## 44th "Welland" Battalion of Infantry.

Captain and Paymaster J. C. Kirkpatrick, to have the rank of Honorary Major, from 10th August, 1871.

48th "Lennox and Addington" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 2 Company.

The Head Quarters of this Company are hereby transferred from Tamworth to Clark's Mills, in the Township of Camden East.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Fowler, 48th Battalion, for six months on private affairs.

MEMO.—During the absence on leave of Lt. Colonel Fowler, all communications respecting the Battalions will be made to the Senior Major, Brevet Lt. Colonel Fairfield, at Kingston.

## CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Ensign Andrew Irving, Junior, M. S., No 7 Company, 42nd Battalion, from 17th April 1872.

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

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

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign Robert W. Shepherd, Junior, V. B., vice Mulge promoted.

54th "Richmond," Battalion of Infantry.

Paymaster James Richards White, M. S., to have the rank of Honorary Major, from 26th October, 1871.

## PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA:

63rd "Halifax," Battalion of Rifles.

To be Lieutenants:

Ensign James M. Mumford, M. S.

Ensign B. Berkley Bond, V. B.

To be Ensigns:

Corporal John Milsom, Q. F. O., vice Mumford, promoted.

Sergeant John McInnis, V. B., vice Bond, promoted.

Captain and Paymaster Patrick Hayden, Q. F. O., to have the rank of Honorary Major from 11th December, 1870.

## CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Ensign B. Berkley Bond, V. B., 63rd Battalion, from 20th August, 1872.

Ensign James E. Dimock, V. B., 63rd Battalion, from 20th August, 1872.

Ensign William Kelson Angwin, V. B., 63rd Battalion, from 20th August, 1872.

By-Command of His Excellency the Governor General;

WALKER POWELL, Lt. Colonel.

Deputy Adjutant General of Militia  
Canada.

NIAGARA FALLS WITHOUT WATER.

On the 29th of March 1848, the river presented a remarkable phenomenon. There is no record of a similar one, nor has it been observed since. The winter has been intensely cold, and the ice formed on Lake Erie was very thick. This was loosened around the shores by the warm days of early spring. During the day a stiff, easterly wind, moved the whole field up the lake. About sundown the wind chopped suddenly around and blew a gale from the west. This brought the vast tract of ice down again with such tremendous force that it filled in the neck of the lake and the outlet, so that the outflow of the water was very greatly impeded. Of course it only needed a very short space of time for the fall to drain off the water below Black Rock. The consequence was that, when we arose in the morning, at Niagara, we found our river was nearly half gone. The American channel had dwindled to a respectable creek. The British channel looked as though it had been smitten with a quick consumption and was fast passing away. Far up from the head of Goat Island, and out into the Canadian rapids, the water was gone, as it was also from the lower end of Goat Island, out beyond the tower. The rocks were bare, black and forbidding. The roar of Niagara had subsided almost to a moan. The scene was desolate and but for the novelty and the certainty that it would change before many hours, would have been gloomy and saddening. Every person who has visited Niagara will remember a beautiful jet of water which shoots up in the water about forty rods south of the outer Sister in the great rapids, called with a singular contradiction of terms, the "Leaping Rock." The writer drove a buggy from near the head of Goat Island out to a point above and near to that jet. With a log cart and four horses he had drawn from the outside of the outer island a stick of pine timber, hewed twelve inches square and forty feet long. From the top of the middle island was drawn a still larger stick, hewed on one side and sixty feet long. There are few places on the globe where a person would be less likely to go lumbering than in the rapids of Niagara, just above the brink of the horseshoe fall. All the people of the neighborhood were abroad exploring recesses and cavities that has never before been exposed to mortal eyes. The writer went some distance up the river. Large fields at the muddy bottom were laid bare. The singular sinuosity of the waters lasted all the day, and night closed over the strange scene. But in the morning our river was restored, in all its strength, beauty and majesty, and we are glad to welcome its swelling tide once more.—*Holley's Niagara.*

REVIEWS.

The *British Quarterly* for October contains the following articles:—  
 The Goths at Ravenna.  
 Immortality.  
 Our Railway-System.  
 The Authorship of the Fourth Gospel.  
 The present phase of Prehistoric history.  
 Archaeology.  
 Sir Henry Lawrence.  
 Contemporary Literature.  
 The Review is re-published by the LEONARD SPOFFORD Publishing Company, 140, Fulton-street, New York.

THE HORSE DISEASE.

A MODE OF PREVENTION AND CURE.

His Worship the Mayor has received the following letter, accompanied by a request that he would have it published:—

CANNING, Nov. 4, 1872.

Mr. Editor,—

Sir,—Please give the following advice to horsemen in your paper, to prevent the introduction of the epidemic now raging in the neighbouring Republic: and if this advice be taken; it will save thousands of dollars in Halifax alone. As I am an obscure person and poor, I know the world takes but little notice of anything coming from one in matters of this kind; but as I do not expect to make anything out of it, and the treatment simple, it is worth trying, both for prevention and cure. viz., "keep Stockholm or Southern Tar in the feed boxes, that the animal may inhale it; dip a piece of cloth in tar and put the bits with it; mix raw linseed oil in the food (say one tablespoonful per day) and if the throat is anyway affected, rub with turpentine and garlic (1 oz. garlic to 1 pint turpentine) cut up or bruised and mixed. This, if generally adopted, will prevent the disease or cure it. Keep the stables clean, and don't spare the lime. I have had considerable experience with the thousand maldies the horse is liable to, and I challenge the above against any other cure for catarrhal fever.

G. J. MARSH.

—*Acadian Recorder.*

PRINCETON RIFLE MATCHES.

As announced, came off on Monday last. The day was very favorable and the large turn out, of not only competitors, plainly manifested that the people of this section appreciated the efforts of the committee to have a successful Rifle Match. Capt. Hornor was in command, whose decision, it is needless to say, gave the best of satisfaction. The following are the names of the successful competitors.

COMPANY MATCH.

First prize, Princeton Rifle Company, \$8.  
 Lieut. Williamson making the highest score.  
 Second prize, Drumbo Company, \$8. Sergt. Cockburn making the highest score; in justice to this company, they shot with only four men in their team.

ALL CORNERS MATCH.

1st, Corp. McLaughlin.....	\$8 00
2nd, Sergt. Cockburn.....	7 00
3rd, Dr. Benham.....	6 00
4th, Corp. Wilson.....	5 00
5th, Ensg. Fair.....	4 00
6th, Sergt. Reid.....	3 00
7th, Corp. Whale.....	2 00
8th, Sergt. Henderson.....	1 00

—*Paris Transcript.*

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday, the 18th inst.

HALIFAX, N.S.—Captain John Dance, \$2.  
 ST. MABLE, Que.—Lieut.-Col. H. J. J. Duchesneau, \$4.  
 LA CRUZE, Que.—Joseph Palliser, Esq., \$2.  
 MILTON, Ont.—Capt. Thomas Rixon, \$2.

A NEW RIFLE.

A new rifle has recently been patented in the United States, which far surpasses any weapon as yet known for its exterminating qualities, and which bids fair to be adopted by the chief nations. Mr. J. V. Meigs is the parent of the arm, which is so constructed that a metallic tube takes the place of the ordinary neck of the stock. To this tube is attached a check piece and butt plate, making a gun of the usual appearance. The frame of the gun which unites the barrel and stock is so arranged that the guard within it is capable of being moved to and fro, which by a single intermediate moves vertically a breech block, which never leaves its bearings. Within this block is the lock, which is also acted upon by this intermediate, used as a lever, so that by throwing the guard forward the piece is cocked; the breech is opened and closed in its proper time, and by means of a serrated bar, moving within the stock, acted upon by the head of the guard, the cartridges, fifty in number, contained in a magazine pivoted within the tube of the stock, and fed into an inserter (which in proper time acts as an extractor), is carried by the intermediate before-mentioned, acting as a link, into the end of the barrel, behind which the breech block descends into position, where only the hammer enclosed in it, can strike the cartridge and ignite the fulminate. The backward motion of the guard in turn opens the breech, withdraws the extractor, carrying it to the mouth of the magazine, throwing the old shell at the feet, and locking the extractor in place, to receive a new cartridge, which is inserted (optionally) by the forward motion of the guard, loading the piece ready for firing, as before described. Thus it will be seen that only two motions, made while the gun is yet at the shoulder, are necessary to load, fire, and throw out the exploded shell. The magazine, composed of five slotted tubes, arranged pentagonally, each carrying ten metallic cartridges, is inserted into the tube of the stock through a hinged opening in the butt place, which, when closed pivots the magazine and releases a revolving attachment, so that when over the under one of these tubes is emptied of its cartridge; no matter what number it contained, it will revolve without loss of time and bring a new tube round, so as to be acted upon by the feed bar. The obvious advantages of this arrangement of parts is to give with great simplicity the utmost rapidity of fire which can ever be obtained with a single barrel, 2, 250 shots without ever taking the gun from the shoulder, in 45 seconds. There are but four pieces beside the magazine additional to those enumerated in the common muzzle-loader. The lock is simpler than the common one. A perfectly straight central fire, metal cartridge is used, thus avoiding the liability to rupture occasioned by the headed shell, making the shell appreciably cheaper. The extractor withdraws the empty shell or cartridge fully, and is not possible to make a condition under which it will fail to do its duty.

The London papers have, almost without exception, given most flattering criticisms on the character and literary labors of the late Dr Norman McLeod. One of them calls him the leading ecclesiastic of Scotland, and in some respects the foremost man in the Northern kingdom.



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## The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1872.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WAINWRIGHT GRIFFITHS, at present on a tour through British Columbia, has kindly consented to act as the Agent for the VOLUNTEER REVIEW in that Province.

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

The last issue of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW contained a very well written and judicious article on the new system of "Skirmishing drill," recommended by His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army.

It would seem to us, however, that the rules laid down by the Deputy Adjutant General's memorandum would bring the reserves within the line of effective fire, the whole distance covered by skirmishers, supports and reserves, being, according to that document, 500 yards, and any one reading the

records of our rifle shooting, will find that all troops (except they are under efficient cover) within that distance must be actively engaged for their own preservation, and as a line of reserves must necessarily expose a closer formation than supports or skirmishers, the consequences are sufficiently obvious.

Whatever other advantage may be derived from the new "Tactics of Attack," that portion of it which brings Reserves under fire must be altered.

The movements of half battalion columns will, no doubt, effect everything described in the memo, and be as available for direct as flank movements, but it is evident that the whole "Tactics of Attack" must necessarily be compressed within the single idea of cover, and cannot even then be successfully attempted till the adverse artillery fire is silenced.

Recent experiments with WHITWORTH'S new gun threatens a total revolution in the "Tactics of Field Artillery," and it must be confessed that there is no prospect of producing a soldier's rifle of sufficient range to compel that weapon to keep its distance, the chance of disabling a battery by picking off the gunners has become infinitesimally less and if the newly-tested field gun bears out its promise would be impossible.

The question then would resolve itself into an artillery contest during which an advance might be possible, but in any case it should be strictly under cover. On this very important subject we should like to have the views of the gallant officer who sent us the article which appeared in last week's issue, as a discussion thereof in all its bearings will be most valuable to our Canadian soldiers.

Any operations of war in which the army of this country will be engaged for many years to come, will be always under exceptional conditions owing to its topographical development and natural obstacles, a partially cleared country interposes to military manœuvres on a large scale.

It is, therefore, more necessary to train the troops which must be engaged therein to that system of tactics which practical experience suggests as best adapted to its conditions and requirements.

The inception of our military system was not burdened with the obsolete traditions of the former periods, and as a consequence its successful working will not be hampered with these terrible draw-backs which render the efficient reorganization of the Regular Army an almost impossible task.

In this country the law which makes every man capable of service (with a few unimportant reservations) a soldier, if fairly worked out brings those of highest social standing forward as the officer of a force whose legal compulsory service is voluntarily rendered.

In England the difference is that the Army is recruited from one class and the officers selected from another, neither parties having any previous connection one being bound to obey, and the other existing only to command.

As long as the officers of the Army were the scions of old aristocratic houses or the representatives of wealth this system worked indifferently well, but the overthrow of purchase and the substitution thereof of competitive examinations or selection has opened up another phase of the problem which will be rather difficult of solution.

In the first place, it is found difficult to obtain recruits under the new system although the pay of the soldier has been raised and his position decidedly bettered; secondly, the new principle of giving commissions to those best qualified, when pushed to its logical conclusion extends to the rank and file involving the fallacy of the Marshall's baton in the knapsack of the recruit," for which France is now doing penance in sackcloth and ashes. Thirdly, the short period of service asutely framed to suit the exigencies of the labour market for the benefit of the manufacturers has resulted in placing the soldier at a disadvantage and keeping those who would be eligible recruits from entering; and fourthly, the promotion of officers from the ranks involves an expense to the State not contemplated by the wise-acres who overthrew the old system before they had prepared another to take its place.

Not only has the abolition of purchase altered all the relations of the officers and soldiers of the regular service but, it has in an unprecedented degree deprived promotion from the ranks of any value it may have had, under the old régime an officer promoted from the ranks if in an infantry corps received £100 and for the cavalry £150 as outfit under the Royal Warrant, in addition after a certain number of years he could retire by the sale of his commission, and if he had only attained a lieutenantancy he realized £700, under Mr. Candlish's *ranked system* he gets nothing, so that his position is infinitely worse than before.

Is it any matter for wonder then that the rank and file of an army organized on a system of downright injustice should be inferior to that in which promotion was a prize worth contending for and in which purchase secured for the soldier his natural leaders.

Doctrinaires and theorists may patch up the English military system as they please, but they must eventually come to the practical idea of making military service compulsory on all classes composing the Active Army; of Volunteer companies raised by their captains, and in short adopt that system of organization under which we have raised such an efficient force in Canada.

It is all nonsense to expect that a course of collegiate training alone will make either a good or intelligent officer, it must be com-

bined with practical knowledge, and that can alone be acquired while on active service.

The only nation who has tried promotion from the ranks as a rule has proved its inefficiency, our system is not based on purchase but popularity, a man that can induce fifty-five intelligent men to accept him as their leader, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred will prove worthy to command, and we take the best possible care that he shall be so by requiring a certificate within three months of his provisional gazette, if he fails the rank is offered to the next in command on similar conditions, and we believe since the force was organized such cases would not exceed two per cent. of the whole number of officers gazetted.

Our English friends will see that the difference between paying £900 sterling for a captain's commission and raising a company would be for the benefit of the State, while here the command is raised without costing the State one penny.

Taking the old regulation prices as £900 for a captain's commission, £700 for a lieutenant's, and £450 for an engineering, the whole cost of the command to the officers would be £2,050, the cost of raising 55 men by the State say £550, the difference went into the Exchequer.

Under the circumstances we have secured all the advantages of purchase for the State without its drawbacks, we have secured the natural leaders of the people's officers, and we have put no party at a disadvantage, nor sacrificed any interest to the benefit real or supposed of an adverse party.

The Army Reformers in Great Britain have a fearful task before them, and they have not yet taken the initiatory step towards its fulfillment.

The British colony of Honduras has been periodically cursed with raids from hordes of savages from the neighbouring Mexican Province of Yucatan, under a native chieftain named Kanul, they have committed depredations which calls for speedy and decisive measures.

This colony has always been looked on as producing nothing but mahogany, but a correspondent of *Broad Arrow* states that it is rapidly developing into a sugar producing country equal in extent to any in the West Indies, and that rice, cotton, and tobacco can be grown with great profit.

It appears also that the River Hondo which bounds it on the north is the only strategic line to be maintained, and Captain E. Rogers, late of the 3rd West Indian Regiment, who acted as Brigade Major of an expeditionary force in 1860, describes in a letter to *Broad Arrow* the means which should be resorted to for defence, and they are simply the employment of gun boats of light draft on the Hondo and the building of a log fort or two.

During the last invasion the savages under

Hondulovied a contribution of \$3,000 on the settlement or town of Corosal, and large sums have been demanded as the price of individual ransom from men calling themselves British subjects.

Our contemporary well remarks that the Empire is like a chain whose ultimate strength is measured by its weakest part, and it is a standing disgrace to the authorities to allow atrocities of this description to be perpetrated in any colony where the British flag waves.

We do not like the alternative our contemporary puts forward of yielding to the Monroe Seward doctrine, nor do we think the United States at all competent to deal with the evils afflicting Honduras.

To the people of Great Britain the Washington Government is supposed to represent a mighty power, they say so themselves and are believed from the constant and persistent iteration of the idea, but it is evident they have to deal with a by no means compact confederacy on which the diversity of interests will, at some not very distant day, produce a separation far more disastrous than that attempted within the last decade.

At all events they are not the heirs of Great Britain, if the sceptre is about to depart from her in this quarter of the Globe, the Dominion of Canada can hold British Honduras and deal with its savages better than the Government of the United States can.

*Broad Arrow* of 23th October, has an article on *musketry*, in which the present system of rifle practice in the British army is severely condemned.

It appears that an allowance of ninety rounds per man is expended in five days continuous shooting, sixty of which are devoted to *individual practice*, and thirty more to *miscellaneous exercises*. But it is not the quantity of ammunition with which our contemporary finds fault, but with the manner in which it is expended. A large proportion appears to be devoted to "Volley and rapid firing," the object of which is said, with great truth, could be as well, if not better attained with blank cartridge.

The system under which the practice takes place, is not calculated to produce good shots. It is not continuous, and as the rotation frequently makes eighteen months elapse between the competitions, it is evident that the soldier will have forgotten a good deal of the practical experience acquired at the targets.

As the new system of *depot centres*, localizes to a great extent the Regular Army, it would be supposed that the liberality and good will of the municipal authorities and the British people generally, would be directed towards the encouragement of company and battalion rifle matches at the different head quarters, and as the whole value of a soldier now a days is based on dexterity

in the use of his weapon, local rifle ranges should at least be as numerous, as the different stations of the troops.

Our experience points to the fact, that a good deal depends on the encouragement given by local authorities and patriotic individuals, to the different corps in the shape of prizes, whether as a general rule, it produces good marksmen or not, the efficiency in a great manner being dependant on the interest taken in rifle shooting by outsiders, and in many of our local matches *civilians*, that is parties not members of the Active force compete.

It might not be possible to introduce a corresponding system into the practice of the British Army at once; but if it is to be the nucleus of the national force, that element must not be neglected.

The ninety rounds might be fired for annual company or battalion drill exclusively by the troops alone, but outside, all that the further practice should be kept up by county or other local associations.

As the question of economy would govern this idea, the association should pay for all ammunition used in the practice; here the Government supply it at cost price.

The only drawback of which we have to complain, is the practice of permitting officers to compete, but even that has its advantages.

The following description of a Russian ironclad, is copied from the *Broad Arrow* of 12th October, and is calculated to awaken serious reflections as to the continued rivalry which must exist between Russia and the newly created German Empire for the naval and military supremacy not only of Europe but of the world.

A combination of both powers, if their naval extension progresses for a very few years, would be more than equal to any force that Great Britain could put to sea, and the consequence can be easily conjectured.

"Last otherwise Englishmen should be exultant in their new warship, they should read in *Naval Science* for this month a very able and interesting paper by Mr. Alger, a gentleman who received his theoretical education at South Kensington upon the "Curves of Stability for Monitors." In it the *Devastation* is compared with the *Peter the Great*, a similar war engine to the *Devastation*, and just launched for the Russian navy, but described by Mr. Alger as being "a larger and more powerful ship." Mr. Alger says:—"By the curve of the *Peter the Great*, it will be seen that she possesses a great amount of range of stability for a ship of her type, as much, in fact as some sailing ships. This is obtained by means of the great height of the metacentre above the centre of gravity, which is 8'54 feet, or nearly double that of the *Devastation*, and will make it perfectly safe to rig the ship and send her to any part of the world, and she is probably the best ship in the world." In one particular of her construction she is an improvement on the *Devastation*. Her breastwork walls are built up from the top sides of the hull, and are not a compromise,



as with the *Devastation* The comparative dimensions of both are as follows:—

<i>Peter the Great. Devastation.</i>	
Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Length between perpendiculars.....	321 0.....285 0
Breadth between.....	64 0.....62 3
Draught forward.....	22 9.....25 9
" aft.....	24 9.....26 6
Displacement in tons.....	9.062.....9.062
Metacentre above centre of gravity.....	8.64.....3.85

The armour of *Peter the Great* is said to be in every part equal to that of the *Devastation* and the four guns on her turrets are to be the most powerful Krupp can produce.

The only ally on which Great Britain could rely would be France, and her condition as a naval power, may be judged by the following extract, and by the inefficiency of the navy, during the late Franco-Prussian War.

"The *Ocean*, of Brest, prints the following details of the composition of the French fleet in 1872:—The fleet consists of 104 vessels fully equipped, seven of which are iron-plated, and of 52 ships of the reserve, of which 19 are plated. The marine compose an effective force of 23,441 men. The amount allotted for new vessels during the two years 1872 and 1873 is 22 million francs. The 94 vessels that will remain equipped in 1873 are distributed in the following manner; the evolution squadron, 11 ships, 2 plated frigates, 4 plated corvettes, 1 corvette with battery, 2 advice and instruction boats. Besides the evolution squadron the fleet must provide 36 vessels for the squadrons of the Antillas, and the South Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; other 24 for stations in Algeria, Egypt, Martinique, Guadaloupe, New Caledonia, Réunion, Mayotte. Finally 14 vessels are assigned for special missions and for provisioning New Caledonia. The floating material is divided into three groups:—1. Vessels that are in a thoroughly serviceable condition; 2. Vessels that may still be used; and 3. Vessels condemned to be broken up.

It would be a useless speculation to attempt to enumerate the United States amongst the powers that would take an active part in limiting the advance of despotism in Europe, her antecedents and leanings are in favor of it. Between the tyranny of the mob, to which she is subject, and the rule of the one-man power, the choice of the educated classes, must necessarily be in favor of the latter, and when this is backed up with the unconcealed desire to supplant Great Britain in her naval supremacy, the side taken in the question of hostilities by the United States can be easily predicated with certainty.

Although of no account as a naval power, her active aid, and the facilities her great coast line affords for fitting out cruisers. The necessity of watching this in case of assumed neutrality, would make her equally dangerous as friend or foe, and the only alternative would be to compel her to take sides at once.

The political horizon of Europe is charged with war clouds, dense and impending, and the Mistress of the Sea will have an ugly time of it.

*Broad Arrow* of 12th October has the following paragraph:

"A circular has been issued from the War Office stating that a non commissioned officer granted a commission (except as riding master or quartermaster of a regiment of cavalry) will be allowed £100 in aid of his outfit, and if subsequently appointed lieutenant of a horse brigade of the Royal Artillery, or of a regiment of cavalry will be allowed a further sum of £50. A non commissioned officer granted a commission as riding master or quartermaster of a cavalry regiment will be allowed £150 in aid of his outfit. These allowances may be issued without previous reference to the War Office and charged in the accounts in which the first charge for the officer's pay appears, vouched by proof of payment and the certificate that the officer has provided himself with the necessary outfit and paid for the same. The certificate in the case of regimental officers will be signed by the officer commanding the regiment or corps, and in the case of sub inspectors of army schools by the Director General of Military Education.

An arrangement of this description will go further to procure a good class of recruits for the service, than the abolition of purchase, and it will be for the interest of the Empire if Mr. CARDWELL will go one step further, and show what retiring allowance those officers so promoted will be entitled to.

All the advantages given by the circular were enjoyed under the old Regime.

The following account of a trial of rapid firing is taken from the (English) *Volunteer Service Gazette* of 12th October, and is certainly a remarkable feat.

We re-publish it in hopes some of our crack shooters will be tempted to try and rival the performance.

"Mr. R. C. Vanscolina, of Hadleigh, who holds a commission as Lieutenant in one of the Metropolitan Corps, wagered with some friends that he would, with the breech-loading Snider rifle, make not less than 200 hits at the 100 yards range within the hour, and he further wagered that he would score not less than 550 points. It was arranged that the trial should come off at the Hadleigh range, and it was stipulated that Mr. Vanscolina should place himself in any position he thought convenient, and use two or more rifles. Accordingly, at three o'clock on the day named, Mr. Vanscolina, with several friends and others interested, met at the rifle range, Surgeon Muriel and Captain Davy acting as umpires. The weather was unfavorable, being wet and squally, but Mr. Vanscolina was very confident, and as the shooting gradually proceeded it became evident that he would be an easy winner. The 200 hits were made in three quarters of an hour, and Mr. Vanscolina continued firing until he had registered 651 points, thus winning the second wager within the time specified, and 101 points to spare. There were three targets in use scoring, and the following shows how the points were obtained:—

	Bull's.	Outers.	Centres.	eyes.	Total.
First target ...	44	22	8	186	
Second ditto ...	27	23	20	203	
Third ditto ...	45	28	22	262	
	116	73	50	651	

The following notice of the Minister of War is copied from the *Broad Arrow* of 26th October, and must be gratifying to the numerous friends of that distinguished Statesman, whose health we are happy to inform our readers has so much improved as to warrant the expectation of an early return to the scene of his labours, which have always been directed to the benefit of his country and the advancement of the interests of its people.

"Sir George Cartier, the Canadian Defence Minister, who is now in this country, received on Monday, by telegram from Manitoba, information of the arrival there on the 20th inst. of the expedition which some time since left Canada, 200 strong, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel O. Smith. The party took about three weeks to effect their passage by the Dawson route from the head of Lake Superior, and arrived at their destination without casualties. They were despatched from Canada in order to relieve an expedition sent a year ago."

At 9:10 this morning (13th) the Governor General received the following telegraphic message, which was dated Nov. 15th, Australian time:—

"Telegraph banquet held. Desira Health of the Queen and Union of the Empire."

(Signed,) GOVERNOR OF ADELAIDE.

At 11:10 this forenoon, the following telegraphic message was sent in reply:—

"Canada re-echoes Australia's toast: The Queen and a United Empire."

DURHAM.  
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 "B," in one of his former letters advocates the just claims of Colonel Fletcher, C.M.G., to the vacant post of D.A.G. of No. 5 District, with great warmth and a good share of reason. Colonel Fletcher, as senior officer, is entitled to it, and, if this sterling officer is passed over, it will be a lasting disgrace and shame; but I have better hopes than that.

What is Colonel Fletcher's record? as noble and meritorious as one as any one can show.

From 1837 to 1846 non-com. officer in the Montreal Light Infantry.

From 1846 to 1855—Captain and Adjutant of the Montreal Fire Battalion.

From 1855 to 1858—Captain with rank of Major of a Company of Bikes (now No. 2 P. W. R. Regt.)

From 1858 to 1862—An officer in H.M. 100th Regt.

From March 1862 to November same year—Major in the 5th Royals, Montreal.

from November, 1862, to the present time—  
Brigade Major.

Thirty-five years of continuous service. Colonel Fletcher's many friends simply wait to see justice done to an experienced and veteran officer, and the vacant post of Deputy Adjutant General of the 5th Military District is his by virtue of that justice.

Yours truly,

FAME PLAY.

MONTREAL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The annual inspection of Batteries No. 4 and 5, of the Grand Trunk Brigade, took place on Friday last in their drill shed, Point St. Charles, Brigade Major Worsley being the inspecting officer.

The two batteries numbered about 100 men with five officers present.

Being formed into line the inspecting officer was received with a general salute and the inspection immediately began. Captain Huddell being called out exercised the men very creditably, then the Drill Inspector, Captain Atkinson, took his place and put them through the manual exercise, advancing and retiring in line, breaking into column and to the right wheeling into line, wheeling from column from the line in the march, and other movements. The inspecting officer expressed himself as pleased with the efficiency shown and promised that the drill pay should be coming in a day or two. The Batterie were then marched back to the depot to the music of the band, and were there dismissed. Subsequently, the officers invited Major Worsley and the inspecting officers, Adjutant Ratford and Capt. Atkinson, with a few friends, to supper at the Express hotel where, after disposing of a very nicely got up menu, the usual loyal, patriotic, and complimentary toasts were varied by some very practical remarks relating to means whereby the interests of officers and men, and the Brigade generally, might be furthered. Among other things it was proposed to have an annual reunion of some sort of both officers and men, and their wives and sweethearts, also to establish an officers' mess, an athletic club, and a class of instruction for officers. Judging from the tone of the various speeches, it would seem that all of the above propositions are worthy of being followed up, and that the disposition to be so prevails to a large extent.

Mr. L. de Plainville, Chief of the Provincial Police of Manitoba, is in the city. He comes for the purpose of making himself acquainted with the workings of our police system.

In regard to the ceremony of unvailing the Queen's Statue on the 20th, a committee composed of Mr. Wm. Murray, Hon. Thos. Ryan, Mr. F. B. Matthews, Mr. Drummond, Mrs. P. Redpath and Mr. A. McGibbon, are appointed to arrange matters.

Lady Allan is making preparations for a great ball to be given in Ravenscraig in honor of Lord Dufferin, on the occasion of his visit to this city to unvail the Statue. The ball will take place on the 21st. Lady Dufferin, it is understood, will not accompany his Excellency, but in January we are promised another visit from both, when they will remain here the greater portion of the season.

Mr. G. Futvoys, Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence, was in the city last week.

La Minerve says, by a letter received from London, it understands Sir George E. Cartier continues to improve.

No. 1 Troop of Cavalry are the first to take the lead in regard to drill. They meet every Munday in the Drill Room, Quebec Gate Barracks for that purpose.

B.

RIFLE MATCHES.

5TH BRIGADE DIVISION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.  
MILITARY DISTRICT No. 6.

The fourth annual prize meeting of the 5th Brigade Division Rifle Association, in Lieut. Col. Hanson's Division, was held at the Riviere du Loup, "en haut" Range, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 7th, 8th and 9th November.

Two splendid cups were presented by the Association, one from Lieut. Col. de Lotnier Harwood, D. A. G., the other from Lt. A. Boyes, Esq. M. P. for the County of Maskinonge. Other prizes were given, among which was a handsome gold brooch, and a double barrel gun, presented by the ladies of Riviere du Loup.

1ST RIVIERE DU LOUP MATCH.

Rifle, Snider Enfield, Government issue. Range, 200 yards. 5 rounds Entrance 25 cents.

1st prize, Sergt. Sharp, No. 2 Co., Rawdon. 15 pts., Association Cup.

2nd prize, Sergt. Contu, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers, Prov. Batt., 15 pts., \$10.00

3rd prize, Pte. St. Jean, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt. 14 pts., \$8.00.

4th prize, Ens. Levesque, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 14 pts., \$7.00.

5th prize, Sergt. Morgan, No. 2 Co. Rawdon. 14 pts. \$6.00.

6th prize, Capt. Bouvier, No. 4 Co. Three Rivers, Prov. Batt., 13 pts. \$5.00.

2ND ASSOCIATION MATCH.

Rifle as above, Ranges, 200, 400, and 600 yds. 5 rounds. Entrance 25 cents,

1st prize, Sergt. Legris, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 45 pts., Cup, by L. A. Boyer, Esq., M. P.

2nd prize, Sergt. Sharp, No. 2 Co. Rawdon, 43 pts., \$12.00.

3rd prize, Sergt. Contu, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 41 pts., \$10.00

4th prize, Capt. Bouvier, No. 4 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 41 pts., \$8.00.

5th prize, Capt. Gagnon, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 38 pts., \$6.00.

6th prize, Pte. R. A. Cann, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 38 pts. \$4.00.

7th prize, Ens. Levesque, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 33 pts., \$3.00.

8th prize, Lieut. Mason, No. 2 Co, Rawdon, 33 pts., \$2.00.

Six highest scores at 600 yds. 3 rounds. Entrance 25 cents.

1st prize, Sergt. Contu, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 7 pts. \$15.

2nd prize, Capt. Bouvier, No. 4 Co. Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 7 pts. \$10.00.

3rd prize, Capt. Gagnon, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers. Prov. Batt., 6 pts, \$5.00.

3RD RAWDON MATCH.

Rifle as above. Range 500 yds. 5 rounds. Entrance 25 cents.

1st prize, Capt. Sharp, No. 2 Com. Rawdon, 18 pts. \$10.00.

2nd prize, Sergt. Morgan, No. 2 Co. Rawdon, 15 pts. \$8.

3rd prize, Lieut. Mason, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 14 pts. \$6.00.

4th prize, Sergt. Legris, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 13 pts. \$5.00.

5th prize, Sergt. Caron, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 13 pts. \$3.00.

6th prize, Capt. Bournier, No. 4 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 12 pts. \$2.00.

4TH COMPANY MATCH.

Rifle as above. Range 500 and 600 yards. 8 rounds. Entrance, \$1.00.

Open to 5 officers, Non Commissioned officers or Privates of any Company in the Division.

1st prize, Riviere du Loup, or No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 138 pts. Cup presented by Lt. Col. Harwood, D. A. G.

2nd prize, Rawdon Co., 135 pts. \$20.00. Highest score in above.

1st prize, Sergt. Legris, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., Association Medal, and \$10.00.

2nd prize, Pte. Copping, Rawdon Co., \$5.00.

5TH LADIES MATCH.

Rifle as above. Ranges 400 and 500 yds., 3 rounds. Entrance 25 cents.

1st prize, Sergt. Sharp, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 24 pts., Gold brooch by ladies.

2nd prize, Sergt. Legris, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 19 pts., \$8.00.

3rd prize, Capt. Gagnon, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 17 pts., \$6.00.

4th prize, Pte. Copping, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 17 pts. \$4.

5th prize, Sergt. Contu, No. 3 Co. Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 16 pts., \$3.00.

6th prize, Sergt. Laffiere, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 16 pts., \$2.00.

5TH ALL COMERS MATCH.

Rifle as above. Range 500 yds. 7 rounds. Entrance 25 cents.

1st prize, Sergt. Legris, No. 2 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 24 pts. Double barrel gun, by Ladies.

2nd prize, Capt. Sharp, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 22 pts. \$10.00.

3rd prize, Capt. Gagnon, No. 3 Co., Three Rivers Prov. Batt., 21 pts., \$8.00.

4th prize, Sergt. Sharpe, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 21 pts. \$6.00.

5th prize, Pte. Copping, No. 2 Co., Rawdon, 20 pts. \$4.00.

6th prize, Mr. Antoine Bellemare, of Riviere du Loup, 18 pts. \$3.00.

## AN AIM.

Give me a man with an aim,  
Whatever that aim may be,  
Whether it's wealth, or whether it's fame,  
It matters not to me.  
Let him walk in the path of right,  
And keep his aim in sight,  
And walk and play with faith alway,  
With his eye on the glittering height.

Give me a man who says,  
"I will do something well,  
And make the fleeting days  
A story of labor tell."  
Though the aim he has be small,  
It is better than none at all;  
With something to do the whole year through,  
He will not stumble or fall.

But Satan weaves a snare  
For the feet of those who stray  
With never a thought of care  
Where the path may lead away.  
The man who has no aim,  
Not only leaves no name  
When this life is done, but ten to one,  
He leaves a record of shame.

Give me a man whose heart  
Is filled with ambition's fire,  
Who sets his mark in the start,  
And keeps moving it higher,  
Better to die in the strife,  
The hands with labor rife,  
Than to glide with the stream in an idle dream,  
And live a purposeless life.

Better to strive and fall,  
And never reach the goal,  
Than to drift along with time,  
An aimless worthless soul,  
Ah, better to climb and fall,  
Or sow, though the yield be small,  
Than to throw away day after day,  
And never strive at all.

## A RELIC OF THE REVOLUTION.

(From the U.S. Army and Navy Journal)

We are indebted to a gentleman residing in Castine, Me., for the following copy of an interesting diary kept during the revolutionary war by Mr. Calef, a volunteer, as he styles himself. It will be observed that the disastrous, and even disgraceful result of the expedition whose progress is described in this diary, was owing principally to the incompetency, or something worse, of the commodore in command; but, in justice to his memory, it should be stated that subsequently he was reinstated in command, after having been cashiered, and redeemed his character from the stain of cowardice at least. How different would have been the conduct of our present naval officers! They would have at once dashed into the harbor, captured the three British ships-of-war, and of course the fort and its defenders must have surrendered:

On the 17th day of June, 1779, Brigadier-General Francis McLeap landed at Majorbigduce (Penobscot), with about 700 of His Majesty's forces, composed of detachments from the Seventy fourth and Eighty-second regiments, to take post in the eastern country of New England. The time from this day to the 17th of July was taken up in clearing a spot to erect a fort, and building the same, and a battery near the shore, with storehouses, etc.

July 18. Intelligence was received that a fleet and army are preparing at Boston to besiege Penobscot, of which little notice was taken. Captain Henry Mowatt, of His Majesty's sloop *Albany*, having been many years on the American station, and well acquainted with the disposition of the inhabitants; and of the importance of the country of the Penobscot to the Americans for fire-wood, lumber, masts, cod, and river fish, gave credit to the information, and ordered the three sloops-of-war into the best situation to defend the harbor, annoy the enemy, and co operate with the land forces.

July 19. The intelligence of yesterday

gains credit, whereupon the General, in order to make the proper dispositions for an immediate defence, desists, for the present, from his purpose of proceeding in a regular way as to the fort; and prepares to fortify in a manner more expeditious and better suited to the present emergency; in doing which he shows the utmost vigilance and activity, giving everywhere the necessary directions, visiting incessantly, night and day, the different parts of the works, and thus by his example animating the men to proceed, regardless of fatigue, with vigor and alacrity in their operations,

The inspector of the inhabitants begs leave of the General to call in the people to assist in carrying on the works, which being granted, about 100 of the inhabitants came in (with their captain\* at their head) as volunteers; and having worked three days gratis, cleared the land of wood in front of the fort, with satisfaction of the General, who returned them his thanks.

July 20. All hands being at work, preparing to receive the enemy.

At noon Captain Mowatt, having made every preparation in his power to receive the enemy, secure the harbor, etc., sent 180 men on shore from the ship-of-war to work on the fort.

July 21. Intelligence is received that a fleet of near forty sail of vessels had sailed from Boston eastward. All hands at work day and night.

July 22. Nothing remarkable. All hands at work day and night. This evening a spy brought an account that forty sail of vessels put into Townsend Harbor yesterday.

July 23. Every person busily employed. The inspector calls a great number of the inhabitants to work, who are employed in felling trees, raising an abatis round the fort, building platforms for the guns, etc. Saw three sail in the offing. Several canoes from the islands below came to advise the General of a large number of vessels being becalmed off St. George's Island, standing with their heads to the eastward. All doubt of an attack from the enemy is now vanished.

Saturday, July 24. At 4 P.M. discovered a large fleet standing up the bay, which, from various circumstances, we believed to be the armament that, according to intelligence received, had been fitted out at Boston to besiege this place. On this account Captain Mowatt thought proper to detain the *North* and *Nautilus* sloops, which had been ordered for other service. At 5 P.M., by signal from the *Albany*, the seamen, who had been for some days past at work in raising the southeast bastion of the fort, repaired on board their respective ships (which were immediately cleared for action), and, as had been usual, on every evening exercised at their quarters. The *Albany*, *North*, and *Nautilus* had dropped down the harbor and moored in a well-formed and close line of battle, across the entrance, immediately within the rocks on M—b—c point and the point of *Nautilus* or Cross-Island, giving a berth out of the line of fire to three transports, stationed and prepared to slip and run foul of the enemy's ships should they attempt to enter the harbor. The troops were encamped about half a mile from the works, Seamen's battery 7 quite finished. But on the appearance of the enemy the works were put in a more defensible state, some cannon were mounted, and the little army

\*John Perkin's, Robert's father.

Also called as being the work of the seamen only, under the direction of Lieutenant Brooke, of His Majesty's ship *North*.

were in garrison the next morning. Guard-boats during the night watched the motions of the enemy, who are discovered to have come to an anchor about three or four leagues off, in the narrows of Penobscot.

July 25. At 10 A.M. a brig appeared at some distance from the harbor a mouth and after reconnoitring the situation of the men of war, stood back into the fleet. At noon the enemy's fleet, consisting of thirty seven sail of ships—brigs and transports—arrived in the bay off the harbor. The transports proceeded about half a mile up Penobscot river, and came to an anchor, while the armed ships and brigs stood off and on, and a boat from each ship repaired on board their flagship, which had thrown out a signal for that purpose. At 3 P.M. nine ships, forming into three divisions, stood toward the King's ships, and as they advanced in the line, hove to, and engaged. A very brisk cannonade continued four glasses when the enemy bore up and came to anchor in the bay without. The King's ships suffered only in their rigging. The fire of the enemy was random and irregular, and their manoeuvres as to backing and filling bespoko confusion, particularly in the first division, which scarcely got from the line of fire when the second began to engage. The second and third division appeared to have but one object in view—that of cutting the springs of the men-of-war, to swing them from the bearing of their broadside, and thereby to afford their fleet an entrance into the harbor. During the cannonade with the shipping, the enemy made an attempt to land their troops on B—e, but were repulsed with some loss. On the retreat of the enemy's troops and ships, the garrison manned their works and gave three cheers to the men-of-war which were returned, and soon after the General and field officers went down to the beach and also gave three cheers which were returned from the ships. Guard-boats and ship's companies during the night lay at their quarters.

July 26. At 10 A.M. the enemy's ship got under weigh, and forming their divisions as yesterday, stood in and engaged the King's ships four glasses and a half. The damages sustained this day also, were chiefly in the rigging at the extreme ends of the ships, and the fire of the enemy appears again to be directed to the moorings, which attempt not proving successful, they bore up and anchored without. The enemy again attempted to land their troops, but were driven back with some little loss. At 6 P.M. the enemy having stationed two brigs of fourteen guns and one sloop of twelve on the east side of *Nautilus* Island, landed 200 men and dislodged a party of twenty marines, taking possession of four ½ pounders (two not mounted), and a small quantity of ammunition. At 7 P.M. it being found that the enemy were busy at work, and they had landed some heavy artillery, which they were getting up to the heights of the island, and against which the men-of-war could not act in their present station, it was judged expedient to move them further up the river. This was accordingly done, and the line formed as before. The transports moved up at the same time and anchored within the men-of-war. Guard-boats and the ship's companies, as usual, lying at their quarters.

July 27. Pretty quiet all this day. A few shots from some snips of the enemy were aimed at the spall battery on Majorbigduce point, which are returned with a degree of success, one ship having been driven from her station. Observed the enemy very busy erecting their battery on *Nautilus* Island. The garrison being much in want

of cannon, some guns from the transports and the off-side of the men-of-war were landed, and, being dragged by the seamen up to the fort, were disposed of for its use. At 3 p. m. a boat passing from the enemy's ships to Nautilus Island, was sunk by a random shot from the fort. At 11 p. m. the guard-boats from the King's ships fall in, and exchanged a few shots with the enemy's.

July 28. At 3 a.m. under cover of their ship's fire, the enemy made good their landing on Majabigundo, and, from their great superiority of numbers, obliged the King's troops to retreat to the garrison. The enemy's right pressed hard, and in force, upon the left of the King's troops, and attempted to cut off a party of men at the small battery; but the judgment and experience of a brave officer (Lieutenant Caffrae of the Eighty-second) counteracted their designs, and a retreat was effected with all the order and regularity necessary on such occasions. An attempt was made to demolish the guns, but the enemy pushed their force to this ground so rapidly as not to suffer it. The possession of this battery afforded their ships a nearer station, on which they immediately seized. At 6 a.m. the enemy opened their battery of 18 and 12-pounders from Nautilus Island and kept up the whole day a brisk and well directed fire against the men-of-war. The King's ships cannonaded the battery for two glasses, and killed some men at it, but their light metal (6 pounders) was found to be of little service compared with the heavy metal brought to bear against them. At 10 a. m. the *Warren*, of 32 guns, the commodore's ship, and which as yet had not been in action, got under weigh, and, with three more ships, showed an appearance of entering the harbor, but hauled by the wind at a long shot distance. A brisk fire was kept up for half an hour, when the enemy bore up and came to anchor again without. The *Warren* suffered considerably; her mainmast shot through in two places, the gammoning of the bowsprit cut to pieces, and her fore stay shot away. Their confusion appeared to be great and very nearly occasioned her getting on shore, so that they were obliged to let go an anchor and drop into the inlet between M—b—c head and the point, where the ship lay this and the next day repairing her damages. The battery on the island still keeping up a heavy fire, and the ship's crews being exposed without the least benefit to the service, Captain Mowatt thought proper to move further up the harbor, which was done in the night and the line formed again, he being firmly resolved to dispute the harbor to the last extremity, as on that entirely depended the safety of the garrison, whose communication with the men-of-war was of the utmost importance. The dispositions on the shore and on the water co-operating and perfectly supporting each other, foiled the enemy in their purposes; their troops were yet confined to a spot they could not move from, and while the harbor was secure, their intention of making approaches, and investing the fort on all sides, could by no means be put in execution. The present station of the men-of-war being such as rendered it impossible for the enemy's ships to act but at particular periods, the marines (whose service in their particular line of duty was not immediately required on board) were ordered on shore to garrison duty, holding themselves ready to embark at a moment's notice, which with ease they could have effected in ten or fifteen minutes. Guard-boats, as usual, during the night.

July 29. At 6 a. m. the enemy's ships weighed, and altering their position, came to an anchor again. The state of the fortress requiring more cannon, some remaining off-side guns were landed from the men of war and dragged by the seamen up to the fortress for its use and that of the batteries; and though the task to be performed was up a steep hill, over rocks, and innumerable stumps of fallen trees, was laborious, yet their cheerfulness and zeal for the service surmounted every difficulty. p. m. the enemy opened their batteries on the heights of M—b—c, and kept up a warm and incessant fire against the fortress. The commanding ground of the enemy's works, and the short distance from the fortress, gave them some advantages with their grape as well as round shot, which considerably damaged the storehouse in the garrison.

Six pieces of cannon at the half moon battery, near Banks's house, and which belonged to the fortress, being now found necessary for its particular defence, were moved up to it, and replaced with some ship's guns, under the direction of the gunner of the *Admiral*, with a party of seamen. Captain Mowatt, having obtained intelligence that the enemy, in despair of reducing the King's ships by means of their own, or of getting possession of the harbor, had come to the resolution of joining their whole force in troops, marines, and seamen—to storm the fortress the next morning at daybreak, judged it expedient to reinforce the garrison with what seaman could conveniently be spared, and for this purpose, at the close of the evening, 140 men, under the command of Lieutenant Brooks, were sent into garrison. Part of these were immediately detached to reinforce the troops on the out line pickets, and others manned the facing of their own bastion, while the remainder were busily employed in raising *excalets* in the fort. In all these operations a brotherly affection appeared to unite the force both by sea and land, and to direct their views all to one point, much to their credit and to the honor and benefit of the service. During the night the enemy threw a number of shells into the fortress. At 10 p. m. a few shots between the enemy's guard boats and these from the King's ships.

(To be continued.)

The Spanish ram *Numancia*, 7,000 tons drawing 28 feet of water, arrived at New York, August 12, from Havana, having yellow fever on board. As it was impossible, owing to the shallowness of the water, to anchor in the Lower Bay, the Health Officer permitted the ram to come a short distance above the Narrows, at least a mile from either shore. The vessel draws more water than any that ever before entered this harbor, she having a draught of 28 feet, which exceeds that of the *Great Eastern* by two feet. In appearance she is a long, low, and heavy looking craft, with the bow elongated at the water line into a most formidable looking ram. The *Numancia* came to New York for repairs previous to sailing to Spain, and is one of the three Spanish iron clads detailed to serve in Cuban waters. She was constructed in France before the days of turret ships, with slightly concave sides plated with five inches of iron. She carries 25 rifled guns, of which 6 are 300 pounders, 3

180-pounders, and 16 68-pounders. Her commanding officer is Captain Edouardo Roviray Bellona. The second in command is Don Carlos Garcia de la Torre, deceased, Her other officers are: Lieutenants—Wenceslao Vallarino, Teobaldo Gisbert, Jose Duran, Fernando Lozano, and Pedro Maria Gonzalez. Navy lieutenants—Manuel Rodan, Emilio Gullart, Eloy de la Brena, and Eloy Melendreras. Artillery lieutenant—Francisco Coren and Jose Granados y Sancho. Paymaster, Don Santiago Soriano; First Physician, Candido Ilermida; Second Physician, Estenilas Garcia; Chaplain, Antonio Morel. Marine officers—Ignacio Calle, Santiago Selis y Garcia, Vincento Perez Andujar, Vincento Guervo, and Francisco Mallo Arguelles. She has also seven sailing masters, nine midshipmen, three carpenters, two marine instructors, one sail-maker, two first class engineers, one second class, two third class, and one fourth class, and fifty-eight firemen. Altogether she had on board when she left Havana 659 men, officers included. According to the Spanish measurement she is 7,235 tons. She has made as many as fourteen miles in an hour. The *Numancia* played a prominent part in the bombardment of Callao, Peru, by the Spanish fleet under Admiral Mendez Nunez, in May, 1866, and in commemoration of this bears a marble tablet in her main saloon, upon which are engraved the words: "Este buque se batio en la combate del Callao el 2 de Mayo de 1866. Recibio en su casco 51 proyectiles de grueso calibre." (This vessel took part in the combat of Callao, May 2, 1866, and received 51 projectiles of large calibre in her hull.) Also the memorable words of Nunez uttered before the combat commenced: "Mi nacion prefiere honra sin barcos a barcos sin honra." (My country prefers honor without war vessels to war vessels without honor.) The Spanish Admiralty claims that the *Numancia* was the first iron-clad vessel that circumnavigated the world, and because of this another marble tablet adorns her main saloon bearing the Latin words, "En loricata Navis quæ primo terrem circumvixit." Among the relics on board, which are highly prized by the officers and men, are the chair in which Mendez Nunez rested for a while after receiving a wound in the combat of Callao, and a small table on which he subsequently wrote his official report of the combat.

The President of the Republic, says the *Paris Patrie*, has adopted a measure of great interest to the army. He has decided that every military operation having as its object the re-establishment of order and the defence of society, shall count as an actual campaign in time of war. In fulfillment of this resolution the Minister of War announced that two corps, and parts of corps, which were present in 1871 in the departments of the Seine and the Seine et Oise, occupied by the army of Versailles, and that took part in the siege of Paris from the 18th of March to the 7th of June, will be held to have passed through a campaign. The same favor is granted to the troops engaged in March, April, and May, the same year, in repressing the disturbances at Lyons, Marseilles, Bordeaux, and other towns.

According to the *Herald* correspondent, the War Department has information of a new system of harbor and coast defence invented by E. O. Rudebeck, a Swedish engineer. It is claimed for it that it offers no obstruction to trade, and is free from danger to vessels engaged in defence. It consists of a system of torpedo towers for the outer harbor, and of vertically ascending torpedoes and bottom mines for the inner channels. The torpedo towers are cylindrical, with conical or cupolashaped roofs, and they rest upon piers, masonry, or the natural bottom, according to circumstances. They are invisible to the enemy, their upper surfaces being several feet under the water. The towers consist of several stories, and the torpedoes are arranged in each story and are projected horizontally by a spring, electro-magnetism, or any motive power. In the centre of the tower a vertical channel affords communication between the several stories. The officers charged with the defence are stationed in casemates ranged on the side of the harbor. Electric cables are laid from each casemate to the towers, and on the approach of an enemy's vessel the angle which its course makes with a line drawn from the casemate to the tower is telegraphed to the officer in the latter. This determines which of the torpedoes shall be projected. The embrasures or the towers are protected by shutters, which are so arranged as to open the moment the torpedo is projected, and to close again immediately afterward. The electro-magnetic machinery is said to be very simple. Where it is necessary to use mines it has been shown by several experiments that a very small quantity of dynamite is necessary to sink an iron clad when exploded within three feet of the vessel's side. The inner harbor is defended under the system by torpedoes that ascend rapidly from the bottom, or may be projected horizontally, and are fired by electricity. In order to protect them from destruction by the enemy, they are collected below the deck of submerged pontoons, which are furnished with machinery for projecting them either vertically or horizontally. By this device the inventor believes that he has overcome all danger of having the torpedoes dragged out or exploded by the enemy. Use or both systems may be employed, according to the formation and condition of the coast and harbor. *U.S. Army and Navy Journal*.

Interesting and highly important experiments with dynamite and compressed gun-cotton continue to be made and deserve to be recorded. The other day, says the *London Engineer*, a series of experiments were made under the superintendence of the inspector-general at the Engineers' Polygon at Arras, on the comparative effects of gunpowder, dynamite, and compressed gun-cotton. Two wooden bridges built on piles were blown up; beneath one of them was placed a barrel containing 1 cwt. of powder, carefully pitched outside, and an electric spark being passed a violent explosion occurred, which produced a magnificent cascade of water, smoke, and broken timber. The second bridge was then tried with dynamite—quantity unfortunately not stated—which was placed in a cavity and not over one of the principal supports of the bridge, the consequence was that the injury done by the explosion was superficial. Afterwards a small charge of dynamite was placed on one of the trestles which support these military bridges, and shattered it to pieces. The next experiment was very conclusive; the explosion of the barrel of gun-

powder in the first case had left the piles intact, and the destruction of these piles is of course, of the greatest importance to a retreating army. Several dynamite cartridges were now attached to a small wooden frame, which was slipped over a pile and allowed to fall to the bottom of the stream. When the cartridges were fired the pile was snapped off and shot up violently into the air. Another experiment was made on a large poplar. The tree was surrounded by a canvas collar as big as a German sausage and filled with dynamite, and when fired the tree was cut through very cleanly where the collar had been, so cleanly indeed that the upper portion remained for a second or two poised upon the lower and then fell with a crash. Charges of compressed gun-cotton and of dynamite were then laid against a section of permanent way prepared for the purpose, and the effect of two explosions was almost identical, each tearing out a piece of rail about half a yard long. When another charge of compressed gun-cotton was laid against the joint of two rails, and covered with bags of earth, the effect was far greater; the ends of the rails were broken off, and the rails themselves wrenched out of position. An experiment was then made by firing a ball against charges of dynamite and gun-cotton took fire, but the dynamite resisted. This result was not in accordance with former experience, and the opinion was that the dynamite must have become injured in some unknown manner. The experiments terminated with the explosion of a mine containing a ton and a half of powder, buried in three separate portions, at a depth of 16 ft.; an immense irregular dome, composed of earth and stone, rose majestically and hung for a few seconds in the air, the soil stifled the greater part of the noise of the explosion, but a violent shock was left at a long distance. The ground was torn up in an extraordinary manner, and presented a gaping gulf 12 ft. to 20 ft. deep, about 100 ft. long, and 30 ft. wide.

How one of the most astonishing *canards* of the late war gathered credence as ultimately adopted by the French government is amusingly related in the *Figaro* and translated by the *Army and Navy Gazette*. It will be remembered that while terrible fighting was going on round Metz the news arrived in Paris that Prussian *corps d'armee* had perished in the quarries of Jaumont, and the most sensational accounts for this fearful tragedy appeared in the papers. Correspondents, who had visited the spot some days after the catastrophe, found there a still palpitating mass of men and horses, some dead, others dying, and the whole heap of mangled and crushed victims swaying about with the efforts of those still alive to escape from their terrible fate. It appears that there are quarries at Jaumont out of which Metz and its cathedral were built; but this is how the *canard* was hatched, on the 19th August, 1870, at the Rheims station: A peasant of Amanvillieres, who had come from Verdun early in the morning to tell the *Maire* about the battle of St. Privat, which had been fought the day before, was taken before General Guerin de Waldersbach. This peasant, in order to revenge the death of his son, caused the soil to give way beneath the feet of the German hosts, who were precipitated into the quarries. The *Maire* interrupted him, and said that the story was an old tale of the siege of Metz by Charles V., polished up for the occasion. However, the peasant repeated

his account in the market place, and the news flashed through the town, and reached the railway station. General d'Exea was there with his staff, and he received the legend with distrust. The quarries of Jaumont, too, were not marked in the maps which he had at his disposal. However, M. Louis Noir (who was the author of many wonderful tales respecting the Crimean war) was present with a map drawn from the time of Louis XVI, and in it the famous quarries were placed at the spot indicated by the peasant. M. Louis Noir showed this map to General d'Exea, who then forwarded a dubitative despatch to the War Minister, who made the following announcement in the Chamber on the 20th August. "I have shown to several members of this House despatches which state that, instead of having obtained any advantage on the 18th, three *corps d'armee* which were opposed to Marshal Bazain were, according to various accounts which appear worthy of belief, driven into the quarries of Jaumont." Before the news reached Paris the original *corps d'armee* had become three *corps d'armee*; but it is now acknowledged that no one fell into the quarries, from which the Prussians are now drawing stones for their new forts. Concerning these works destined to protect their latest acquisition it may be mentioned that Prussians are constructing two large iron clad batteries, one on each side of Fort St. Privat, which will command and sweep the valleys of the Sella and the Moselle.

The *Cologne Gazette* is enabled to state that an improved model of the Manser rifle has been definitely selected as the German infantry weapon of the future. The choice was really made ready a year ago, though it has hitherto been kept secret. The original has, however, been so largely improved upon that the new gun hardly deserves to be called by its name. The weapon is highly spoken of. Even before its manifold improvements it could be fired twenty six times in a minute, which is twice more than the Werder rifle, and even men unused to its handling could in action be trusted to fire twelve or fifteen rounds a minute. The rifle is constructed on the central fire system, and the cartridges are cased in metal. It is lighter and considered more handy than the Chassepot, and answers in truthness of shot to the improved needle-gun, which in other respects it surpasses. The shape of the bayonet is still undetermined. It will be either an ordinary triangular bayonet or a sword bayonet. Government is so anxious to arm the infantry with the new gun that large orders for component parts have been given to private makers, among others to a sewing machine manufactory in Berlin; but the finish will invariably be given in the Government works at Suhl and Amberg. Even with these helps the work cannot progress as rapidly as is desired—namely, so as to enable the army to be completely served within two or three years.

The English people, not content with rifle-matches, boating, cricketing, and the Derby Day, have introduced a new game, called "polo," which is only a game of "hocky" or "shinny" in which the players ride ponies. It is of Oriental origin and bids fair to be quite popular, since the necessity for having a pony will make it an aristocratic game.