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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. V.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, MAY 1, 1871.

No. 18.

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. VIII.

THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

(From the United States Army and Navy Journal.)

DRESSES.

The United States cavalry uniform is quite comfortable, no doubt. But there is as little doubt that it is by all odds the most completely hideous under the sun.

Especially is this the case with the present regulation hat. Without its brasswork, in the simplicity of its native felt, it is a steeple-crowned reminiscence of Praise God Barebone and the Rump Parliament, anything but martial and heroic. Cocked up at one side, with its shabby-looking brass ornaments, and one little mangy feather, it reminds one of a broken-down brigand. Anything more hideous was never put on a soldier's head.

I remember well, that when my first old regiment was mounted and sent to the front, the road was strewn for miles with "that d—d old hat," as our men called it, thrown away as soon as our parade days were over. Afterwards for a couple of years, there was no sort of regularity in head coverings. A dress parade of one of our regiments reminded one of Donnybrook Fair, as regards hats. Every sort of battered old tile was used and the effect was ludicrous. But when Gen. Sheridan took command, by a general order he compelled the adoption of the forage cap, and after that there was no trouble. True, the regulation forage cap, as issued, was even more worthless than the hat, in point of make. But the sutlers sold very nice little caps of similar pattern, and nine-tenths of the men preferred paying two dollars for a decent and serviceable cap, to drawing one at sixty cents, literally worthless.

Army caps ought to be made of cloth alone. The visor of leather is only a nuisance. The red fez of the Zouave is the most comfortable and convenient of any. All the contractors of the world cannot make it stiff and ungainly. The kepi, on the other hand, as we use it, is a miserably poor cap, which the first shower puts out of shape, and ruins for good, on account of the leather and pasteboard.

For the cavalry of the future we should

decidedly recommend one of these patterns: the fez with its tassel, or a cap of the same kind as the ordinary Astrachan skating cap, something like the old turban or "pork-pie hat" ladies used to wear.

Both are comfortable. They can be used to sleep in. They are jaunty and soldier-like. If ornamented with lace, or in different colors, they are very handsome. And lastly, the rain will not spoil them, and the contractors cannot make them ugly. A disk of cloth, with a broad band at right angles to its edge, is the fundamental principle of both, and there need be no paste-board in them, to warp in rain and sunshine.

When we come to the rest of the cavalry uniform, we find but little modification necessary. The uniform jacket is hideous simply from the yellow lace. Strip that off, cut down the collar to one half the height, and you have a neat, simple uniform. The service uniform of the cavalry corps under Sheridan was all that could be desired for work. Under a general order the men wore only the flannel blouse instead of the dress jacket, and their looks were decidedly improved thereby. This was well enough. But by experience the men learned one thing, that trousers are not the things for cavalrymen, especially in winter. Almost without exception they purchased jack-boots, and found themselves vastly benefited by the change. In the cavalry of the future the lesson should not be lost.

After careful comparison of cavalry uniforms in all parts of the world, the one that strikes the eye as best adapted for work in all weathers is a modification of the Hungarian hussar dress.

The light breeches and Hessian boots are the very things for riding. They give the legs a grasp on the horse impossible in loose trousers. In muddy weather there is no bedragged cloth to hang about the feet and ankles. They are equally good for dismounted fighting in brushwood. The dolman need not of necessity be tight, and the hanging jacket is an excrescence. A Spencer cut into the form, neither tight nor loose, reaching to the saddle, and barred across the breast, is an equally common form of the dress, and the fur cap is not high or cumbersome.

We are decidedly of opinion that the spencer, with tight breeches, and boots and a light cap, is as good a uniform for real hard work as can be made. Everything is close, and nothing is left to fly away here and there. With regard to the color, I suppose we shall have to stick to the dark and light blue; but if there is a color not now in use which is good for active service, it is

gray. An unfortunate prejudice will no doubt exist against it for many years yet in the United States, on account of it having been the uniform of the rebellion; but since it has been adopted as the militia dress in many States of the Union, we hope that the prejudice will die away. Apart from the associations, it is an excellent color. It has the great advantage of being unlike any other national uniform. Our present dress is nothing but a copy of the Sardinian in colors, and the sooner it is changed the better. Gray possesses the quality of invisibility in action, a most valuable one. Our own men will often remember the ghostly gray lines of the rebel infantry in the battle-fields of the past, and how difficult it was to catch sight of them. And with regard to prejudice, if our enemy has a good thing in his possession, and we can use it, we are foolish to let prejudice interfere with our benefit.

The disadvantage of gray is that it gets dingy and shabby soon. But this objection is remedied by trimming it with black. Any uniform of a single color gets shabby when the color fades. It is the contrast of trimmings that makes an old uniform look respectable to the last. Gray or bluish gray barred with black makes a neat and very handsome uniform. Its effect, as seen in the New York Militia, in several of its regiments, is very soldierly, neat, and handsome. Any uniform barred across the breast has a very fine effect, and as such are generally double-breasted, another item is gained in comfort and warmth. A soldier's coat ought to be double-breasted. It lasts longer, looks better, and keeps the *placo warra* that most needs it, his chest.

As for material of clothes, there is but one article in a cavalryman's dress that needs special mention, i.e., his trousers or breeches whichever they be. Cloth very soon wears out under the incessant bumping of a cavalry soldier. A pair of ordinary trousers goes in three weeks, and the reinforce cloth will not save a pair over two months. The reinforce, to be of any good, must be of leather, as in European cavalry. A single pair of trousers will then last a year and look decent, where three are now insufficient.

The sooner the government discards trousers and adopts tight breeches for cavalry use, the better. Jockeys, hunters, and grooms, all those whose avocations lead them among horses and who desire a firm seat wear breeches and boots. The cavalry should do the same. The material ought to be buckskin, if possible; but as that is far too expensive for private soldiers' use, its common substitute, corduroy, or moleskin, is equally good in its way. A still cheaper

and even strongest material for breeches to stand hard usage is canvas or sailcloth. This is almost everlasting, and costs but little, besides being easily cleaned either by washing or pipe-clay. If ever introduced, it will be found inimitable in its way.

WASHING AND PREVENTION OF VERMIN.

On long summer campaigns it quite frequently happens that the men are compelled to march and fight for weeks together without changing their underclothes. Washing is a luxury that those clothes never know for weeks at a time, the allowance of soap being small and irregular. The only time it is possible is when a day's rest near a stream comes, and then it is hastily and imperfectly performed. The consequence with woolen underclothes is very simple, i.e., vermin. They accumulate in a miraculously short time, and are almost impossible to get rid of. The greatest care is hardly sufficient to avert them in many cases, and they spread like magic, forming an intolerable nuisance, and a very wearing hardship to the sufferers.

Now from very disagreeable and painful experience the writer can testify that woolen underclothes in the summer are a terrible nuisance from this cause. If all the medical men in the United States were to swear to the contrary, he would still maintain that woolen underclothes for summer are totally unfit for soldiers. They may possibly avert some colds, but they are certain to breed vermin; and for one would rather undergo the remote chance of a possible cold to the certain misery in ten days of vermin.

If there is one thing more than another that I would urge, it is to have the summer underclothes of cotton or linen, smooth. They are easier washed, dry quicker, and there is no cover for the vermin to harbor.

I may be thought singular in mentioning a subject usually ignored, but I know so well the universal misery caused by the pest of lice that I desire to save my comrades of the future from much that befel us ignorantly. If vermin do get into the clothes in spite of precautions, the only way to kill them is to boil them, and that for a cavalryman is well nigh an impossibility. The quickest and easiest thing to do is to throw them away.

So much for dress in summer campaigns. In the winter flannel is a good thing, and a long overcoat is a good thing too. Our present cavalry overcoat is an excellent thing, and when lined throughout with thick flannel, instead of the wretched stuff generally put in, is as good as can be worn.

A sleeping blanket, piece of shelter tent, and poncho were carried by almost all our men during the war. With the horse blanket they made an excellent bed. But the horseblanket should not be taken for the purpose. It may be wanted in a hurry.

In the summer time a single blanket is amply sufficient to keep a man warm, but in the winter the case is different. Oftentimes, then, the cold of the ground strikes through all that a man can put there. In such a case, old campaigners will make themselves warm where young ones would freeze. Clubbing together in threes and fours, they make a common bed together, over which stretches a large and comfortable shelter tent, and thus illustrate the advantages of union.

SHELTER TENTS.

The shelter tent, as taken from the French, needs a change very much. Theoretically, two men are supposed to unite to

make a tent. Practically they might as well have none at all if they obey the regulations. They secure for themselves an open shed, which is just no use at all. If it rains the rain beats in at both ends. If it doesn't rain, the shelter may be dispensed with.

The fact is, that it takes three pieces of the present shape that will shed water, or be any good. As three men are too much for one tent. A very little reform would make the shelter tent much better, even if used according to the regulations.

Instead of a square piece of cloth, as at present, it should have at either end a triangular flap, which would button over, and so make a tent close at both ends.

The dimensions of the quadrangle should be 6 by 5 feet; the triangular part should have a base of about 3 feet or 40 inches. With a shelter tent of this kind, no man need carry more than one piece, and so the weight would be reduced, and the tent be even better than at present.

Thus supplied, any regiments who have used it will agree that the shelter tent is a most valuable gift to the soldier, rendering him independent and comfortable at all times and places. It is infinitely better than the European practice of bivouacking in the open air, or billeting in houses, and possesses none of the disadvantages of transportation incident to ordinary tents.

Shelter tents have often been issued in the United States army, made of oiled linen or india-rubber, and in the form of ponchos, with a hole in the middle to put the head through, covered by a flap. Once or twice I have seen them put up as tents, but their more general use was to cover the person from rain, and to keep the wet of the ground in the tent from striking through the blankets at night.

These ponchos are excellent things. The proof is, that they were in universal use among our men, who were very quick to reject the bad and take the good. If made in the form suggested above, they might even supersede the shelter tent, and so reduce the weight, for some india-rubber covering is almost a necessity, and certainly a great comfort to men campaigning.

In pitching tents for a long stay, a ditch should in all cases be cut around them, the deeper the better. It drains the ground and prevents rheumatism, the only disease that affects men campaigning.

(To be continued.)

RECIPROCITY VERSUS RESTRICTION.

The *New York World* has the following sensible article upon this subject:

"The political acumen displayed by Gen. Grant, when, in his famous message to Congress last December, he recommended a policy of non-intercourse with Canada, in retaliation for her outrages upon American fishermen, finds a marvellous justification in the statistics of the commercial intercourse between the two countries just made public by the Canadian Commission of Customs. The bungling, unsystematic way in which our own Statistical Bureau at Washington buries useful information under mountains of useless detail, prevents us from expecting to find any facts of so much importance in our own bulky and annual returns. Besides the protective spirit reigns so thoroughly supreme throughout the Treasury, that all the figures in the department could not be made to show any result which conflicted with that preconceived theory. We have therefore to depend for our figures upon the

statisticians of the Dominion. These figures illustrate charmingly the effect of non-intercourse with our neighbors.

"When we abrogated the reciprocity treaty we did so partly to punish England, through Canada, for her Southern sympathies, and partly to prevent Canada from flooding the States along our northern frontier with their cheap barley, wheat, lumber, etc. We imagined that the advantages of reciprocity were all on the side of the Canucks; without reciprocity they would be obliged, as heretofore, to buy from us whatever they wanted, while we, being entirely independent, could get along without their products, which we should have the satisfaction of seeing rot upon their hands, as a well deserved though inadequate punishment for the manifold insults and injuries heaped upon a weak and defenceless neighbor. In the same way, when their foolish local authorities unjustifiably interfered with our fishermen, General Grant gravely recommended that he should be allowed to still further restrict the intercourse between the United States and the Dominion as a fit punishment for the outrage. Now, if our worthy President and his politico-economical advisers had taken the pains to ascertain the result of the last measure of restriction, even they would probably have hesitated before recommending further measures of restriction, at least as a punishment to Canada. The report of the Canadian Commissioner shows conclusively that since we abolished reciprocity the amount of goods purchased of us by Canadians has largely declined; in other words, that we have lost the Canadian markets—while at the same time our own purchases in Canada have largely increased—in other words, that more produce of the British Provinces has been imported and has entered into competition with our own. The restriction on trade, which was to punish Canada, has lost us a market and thrown our markets open to the Canadians. The aggregate amount of trade between the two countries has remained about the same (it ought to have doubled), but the relations of the parties have changed. From being heavy exporters to Canada we have become heavy importers from Canada. Last year our imports exceeded our exports by one-third; and while our exports decreased, as compared with the previous year, nearly three-quarters of a million, our imports increased over five millions of dollars. These results of the abolition of the reciprocity treaty are worthy the attention of all honest protectionists who believe that the industry of this or any other country can be benefited by measures of restriction inaugurated for any purpose whatever.

FENIAN RASCALITY.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES.

The funds collected up to May 1st 1866, to "free old Ireland" and "take" Canada, amounted to \$463,385. Of this vast sum \$346,620 was expended for the furtherance of revolutionary action in the British Isles, leaving a balance of \$116,765, a small part of which was spent in healing the disruption that occurred in 1865-6, but the major portion must be credited to pic-nics and Delmonico. Mr. James Stephens, during the Mahoney administration, collected \$60,380 from Irishmen in America, not a cent of which can be accounted for outside of the Head Centre's own pocket-book. During the Kelly administration, the sum of \$57,104 was collected from the friends of the Brotherhood, \$22,578 of which was sent to Ireland, the balance, \$34,575, being credited

to pic-nics and Delmonico. During the regency of Mr. Moynahan—which lasted only eight weeks—\$1294 were received, \$356 of which were expended in revolutionary purposes, the balance, \$438, going to pic-nics and Delmonico. During the regency of General John F. Gleason, which lasted six weeks, the total receipts amounted to \$3933, of which \$735 were expended in revolutionary purposes; the balance, \$3198, not being accounted for, and may therefore, be put down to pic-nics and Delmonico. During the administration of Messrs Griffin and Savago, which has lasted from the 2nd March, 1867, to the present time the receipts amounted to \$102,194, of which \$21,045 were expended in revolutionary purposes, and \$7 were handed over to the next chief executive, leaving a balance of \$81,142 unaccounted for, and which may, therefore, be put down to pic-nics and Delmonico. It will be seen by the above statement that \$688,290 have been collected since the inception of the Brotherhood of which \$391,824 were expended for revolutionary purposes, leaving \$295,466 stolen or gone to pic-nics and Delmonico.

A SKETCH FROM ANCIENT HISTORY.

For the Cobourg Sentinel.

I ask to be excused for obtruding myself or your notice with the following brief sketch of ancient military discipline, which may perhaps be of interest to some of your readers: Who has not heard of the ancient Romans? Of the then known world, for centuries, they were almost indisputed masters. They dictated laws to the most extensive nations in Europe, Asia and Africa. However, let it not be supposed that they conquered all peoples. The Persians, although often badly beaten, were never subjugated; nor were the Sarmatian countries along the north side of the Danube and along the Euxine sea, forming at present provinces of Russia. The Germans, so far from being subdued, although in battle often vanquished, as Tacitus in his time tells us, would seem to have the advantage.—“*Præmis temporibus triumphati magis, quam victi sunt*”—Gen. 37. So then the Roman arms were not everywhere victorious. Yet they once extended from the Euphrates to the Grampian mountains—from the Atlas mountains to the far shores of the Euxine. The conquest of these nations was effected as much by the surpassing skill of the Roman Generals as by the superior discipline of their armies. Sallust says that to their greater strength of body their success could not be attributed, as he tells us in “lib. cat.” By the following brief sketch, it will be seen that the ancient Roman army was disciplined and officered in a manner somewhat similar to our modern armies of the present day: When at war, the Roman army was called *exercitus*; when on the march it assumed the appellation, *agmen*—(column as moderns call it;) when in battle array it was called *acies*. It was composed of infantry of all arms; of cavalry called *ala*, as they were always posted on the wings; of archers, horse and foot; of slingers and artillerymen, in their way; libratores, who managed the catapultum and the balista. The army was composed of *legions*, or brigades; every legion in general consisted of 6000 men; and every legion was subdivided into *cohorts*; a cohort consisted of 500; the cohort was divided into *centuries* of 100, and this was again divided into five *manipuli* or companies of 20 men. Every army or division of the Roman forces acting in the field was commanded by a head officer called “Imperator;” this was the title of the chief general before

the Empire was established; but after the Cæsars became princes, they reserved this title solely for themselves. Every legion was presided over by a subordinate general called “Legatus,” or lieutenant. The head general of a Roman army after the Empire was established was called “Dux,” or commander, so we always find Agricola in Britain and Corbulo in Armenia call themselves. Every cohort was commanded by a “Tribune Prefect,” or “*Centurio primi pili*.” Every century had its “Centurion” and “Aquilifer,” i.e. Captain and Ensign; every manipulus or squad of 20 had its “Manipularius” and “Juarius,” which petty officers were somewhat similar to our sergeants and corporals. With the Roman army, of necessity, there were other officers connected. These were, quartermasters “*profectus castorum*,” Commissariat officers. Pioneers formed an important and very necessary appendage to the ranks; there were “band boys”—*Cornicines et Jibicines*; there were sutlers and pedlars, perhaps Jews, *lixo et colones*. One description of office found in modern armies was wanting in the Roman army—the office of Chaplain. Of this holy office neither Sallust, Livy nor Tacitus make mention. Your modern “Yankees” were more pious than the old Romans, as we find a large number of Chaplains attached to the army in the late war. However, their avarice far surpassed their piety and respect for religion; for during the war we beheld those Yankees compel a minister of religion to pay a fine of \$600, or serve in the ranks or work in the mines. The Romans also had their fleet of ships, their crews consisting of “*classarii*,” or marines; “*remiges*,” or rowers, who in calm weather propelled their galleys with a triple tier of oars, as a substitute for steam; “*liburnici*,” or seamen, who understood navigation, a business very difficult in those times, the use of the compass not being then known. A great deal more could be written upon this subject, but I will conclude for the present, lest I may trespass too much on your space, and express the hope that you may judge this cursory review of ancient military discipline worthy of a place in your valuable and interesting journal.

FOREIGN NAVAL AND MILITARY ITEMS.

In order to prepare for the forthcoming summer campaign, Lieutenant-General Sir James Hope Grant, G. C. B., has given orders for the troops under his command at Aldershot, England, to be instructed in forming encampments. The nature of the instruction is to be as practical as possible.

A report comes from Gibraltar that the 12-ton guns which should have been mounted in battery three years ago are now being mounted on temporary platforms in batteries constructed for 32 pound guns, the parapets and embrasures of which would not stand even one shot from an 8 inch 68-pounder. It is asserted that this has been done to enable the British Government to affirm that the place is in a state of defence, while in fact it is not.

In a Parliamentary debate on the subject of abolishing promotion, Mr. Trevelyan quoted the late General Havelock's assertion that “he was sick for years in waiting for promotion; that three sots and two fools had purchased over him; and that if he had not had a family to support he would not have served another hour.” Mr. Trevelyan maintained that the cost of the regulation and non-regulation price of commissions would be in all £11,000,000, to be spread over a very long time.

THE MONCRIEFF GUN-CARRIAGE.—The new pattern Moncrieff gun carriage was tried on Wednesday at Woolwich Arsenal with a 7-inch gun. Four rounds were fired with complete success, the recoil each time bringing the gun down to loading position under cover with great exactitude. The carriage will be removed to Shoeburyness for further experiments.

We learn from the *British Medical Journal* that Dr. Crace Calvert, of Manchester, having been requested to carbolize a quantity of charpie for the use of the ambulances at the seat of war, found that charpie was unsuitable for the purpose; and after trying several textures, finally hit upon oakum as the most excellent. The oakum is first soaked in Burgundy pitch, and then rendered antiseptic by the addition of carbolic acid. This application has been a good deal used at the Manchester Infirmary, and with good results.

In Parliament recently asked Mr. Cubitt the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any information had been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington as to the result of the trial of the soldier of the United States Army who was accused of the murder of Captain Wilfred Spear, and whether he had received any particulars of the trial. Viscount Enfield replied that a communication had been received on the 16th of March under date of 6th, stating that one William Barret had been tried for murder and acquitted. Instructions had been sent to Sir E. Thornton to have the depositions and notes of the trial sent home.

How “prayerfully” the Emperor of Germany has accepted his divers victories, the world knows. The following from the *Manchester Examiner* isn't so very bad;

Perhaps the only distinct gain upon which we can congratulate ourselves as the result of peace is that it will put an end to the public prayers and thanksgivings of the Emperor. With all our tolerance we have found it at times rather difficult to endure the devotional freaks of “Holy Willie” at Versailles. They have reminded us of one advantage which Paganism had over Christian Theism. When the inhabitants of the hills worshipped other deities than those of the valleys and every nation had a god all to itself, the devout people of one race would be susceptible of no offence to their religious sentiments at finding the deity of another race taking sides against them. But the Almighty Father whom Christendom adores is believed to have an equal regard for all the families of mankind. He is worshipped in our English homes; altars are dedicated to Him in every village of France; the poor peasants of Champagne as they knelt in their churches imagined that the Great God had some love for them, and that the land of their birth was not cut off from His tender mercies. But the Emperor has treated the Almighty as if His sole sanctuary were at Berlin and the Germans, more especially those of the Northern Confederation, were his chosen people. We are prepared to cede a good deal to the Germans, but hardly this exclusive monopoly of the Most High. They might be contented with annexing Alsace and Lorraine without annexing Heaven. . . . Big battalions are undoubtedly a great help to the piety of martial kings, and the wonderful successes of the Emperor offer some excuse for his enthusiasm, but on the whole it will be a decided relief to have his exuberant devotion transferred from camp bulletins to some quiet chamber at Potsdam.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE MILITIA FOR 1870.

[CONTINUED.]

The Honorable Sir George E. Carter, Bart., Minister of Militia &c., &c.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

The force despatched to the Province of Manitoba in the month of June last, duly arrived at Fort Garry without accident, encountering those difficulties, however, incidental to so long a journey through a comparatively untravelled country. The advanced party, did not reach Fort Garry until the 24th of August, and they were joined shortly afterwards by the remainder.

This force (three-fourths of its strength consisting of militia) was a joint expedition despatched by the Imperial and Dominion Governments, on the agreement that three-fourths of the men required were to be furnished, and three-fourths of the expenses borne by the Dominion, and although by the wise measures of both Governments, all danger of a collision with our fellow subjects in "Manitoba" had been happily removed previous to its departure (the expedition being purely "a mission of peace,") it proceeded nevertheless in accordance with military rule, properly equipped with all necessary stores and appliances, and as its route lay through a country destitute of supplies, conveying the necessary subsistence: the manner in which this expedition performed its long and toilsome journey, cheerfully enduring the hardships inseparable therefrom, elicited the marked approval of His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief of the Regular Army.

A few days after reaching their destination, that portion of the force consisting of the regular troops, commenced their homeward journey to Canada, the two Militia battalions remaining in Manitoba. On the withdrawal of the regular troops, the arrangements for the military command of the Militia devolved on the Adjutant-General; the senior Militia officer, present in Manitoba (Lieut.-Colonel S. P. Jarvis,) was directed, in general orders to assume and take over the command of the Militia in the district, the 1st or Ontario Battalion of Riflemen was quartered in Upper Fort Garry; the 2nd or Quebec Battalion in Lower Fort Garry; and subsequently one company of the Ontario Battalion was detached to occupy the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Pembina. Necessary instructions in detail, for the guidance of the officers commanding in Manitoba were duly transmitted by the Adjutant-General, as also those required for the victualling and supplying of the troops, and the same has been most satisfactorily carried out by the officer in command, and by Major Peebles, the supply officer, in Manitoba.

On the 1st of September (that being the date on which it had been arranged with the Imperial authorities to despatch them,) ample supplies of new uniforms, winter clothing, bedding, hospital stores, medicines, the whole of the officers' heavy baggage, and a certain number of books to form a soldiers' reading-room, were forwarded to Fort Garry by the Adjutant-General, in charge of Capt. Perry, Canadian Militia, who proceeded via St. Paul's Minnesota and Pembina, and duly reached Fort Garry with the whole of this baggage, amounting in all to two hundred and twelve pieces,) in perfect order, on the 26th day of October, having traversed a distance of 2263 miles. The timely arrival of these supplies was fully appreciated by

the troops, and Capt. Perry executed his mission with great judgment and energy.

The necessary arrangements for erecting temporary barracks and housing the men in Manitoba were effected with as little delay as possible, and, as far as means at disposal would admit, under arrangements made by the Department of Public Works, the soldiers themselves executing great part of the work, and before the winter had set in, the troops in Manitoba were all warmly housed, and sufficiently provided to meet the winter season.

In short no measures that could conduce to the comfort and welfare of the force, left to garrison Manitoba, were neglected by the Militia Department, and it may be safely affirmed that no body of troops have ever been more liberally paid, clothed, and provided for than these two battalions belonging to the Dominion of Canada.

As the first period of service for which the men, composing these corps, were engaged, expires on the 1st May next, and as many of them are desirous of obtaining their discharge for the purpose of settling in the Province of Manitoba, and as the necessity, moreover, for maintaining, under arms, so large a force in that Province no longer exists, (the peaceful solution of all difficulties there having (as anticipated) been happily realized,) the reduction on 1st May next of the greater portion of these battalions has been decided on, and I had the honor, when called upon by Government for a report, to recommend that the reduction of the force should be carried out in the following manner:—

1st. That on the 1st May next the force at Manitoba should be reduced to two companies (total strength 86,) to be under the command of a field officer, and that the officers and men of these two companies, should be retained for a six month's longer period of duty, and liable, if required by Government, to a further service of another six month's the whole period not to exceed one year from the 1st May next.

2nd. That the men should be composed, if possible, of Volunteers, in equal proportions from both battalions, preference being given to those individuals purposing on discharge to settle in Manitoba.

3rd. That officers commanding battalions should nominate company officers, the field officer in command to be nominated from head-quarters.

4th. That those officers and men desirous of settling in Manitoba should receive their discharge in that Province on 1st May next, and that they should receive grants of land in such proportion and on such condition as the Government may deem fit to make.

5th. That the men so discharged should be invited to enrol themselves in the Active Militia Force, intended to be organized hereafter for the Province of Manitoba, in accordance with the provisions of the Militia Act, as applicable to the rest of the Dominion.

6th. That all those officers and men of the two battalions, who are not desirous of remaining in the Province of Manitoba, or included in the two companies retained for further service there, should be brought back to Canada at the public expense, in accordance with the terms of their engagement, as soon after the 1st May next as circumstances admit.

7th. That the Province of Manitoba be formed into a Militia Military District, numbered No. 10, and that the field officer left in command of the two companies, remaining as a temporary garrison, should have the command of all the Militia enrolled in the district, until such time as a militia staff

officer shall be appointed to the command of this Militia district.

8th. That on the reduction of the force in Manitoba all the arms, ammunition and military stores, now in possession of the troops there, should be stored in an armoury and magazine at Fort Garry, in order that the same may be available for the service of the Militia in that Province, whenever required.

The whole of these recommendations were approved of by an order in Council, dated 19th January, 1871, and the necessary detailed instructions for carrying the same into effect have been transmitted to the officer commanding the Militia in Manitoba.

MILITARY SCHOOLS.

During the past year the following number of Cadets obtained first and second class certificate:—

Provinces.	1st class.	2nd class.	No. of Cadets remaining in the Military Schools on 1st January, 1871.
Ontario.....	20	151	Schools closed since 1st June, 1870.
Quebec.....	29	229	6
New Brunswick	3	77	6
Nova Scotia.....	1	90	12
Totals.....	53	599	78

And a much larger number would have obtained certificates of qualification but for the fact that three of the military schools, viz., those at Toronto, Kingston and Montreal, were closed on the 1st June last, owing to the withdrawal of the regular troops from those stations. The total number of Cadets who have obtained certificates of qualification, since the first establishment of these schools in 1864, to 1st January, 1871, is as follows:—

Provinces.	1st class.	2nd class.
Ontario.....	497	2,240
Quebec.....	741	2,141
New Brunswick	7	145
Nova Scotia.....	9	181
Totals.....	1,257	4,707

Giving a grand total of 5967.

From the above it will be seen that nearly 6000 individuals have received military training in these practical schools of instruction, obtaining from the commandants of the respective schools (field officers in the regular army) certificates of their fitness to act as company and battalion commanders. A certain proportion, also obtaining gunnery certificates from the School of Gunnery formed for their instruction by the Royal Artillery.

The value of these schools for practical instruction in military exercises, and training officers to command companies and battalions is very great, and as no such advantageous system existed for training officers of the Volunteer Force in England, it appears that a plan, similar in principle to what has been adopted in Canada, is about to be followed there. Indeed some provision for the training of officers of the Militia is indispensable, otherwise, when the force is called out in defence of the country, those appointed to lead and command corps would be ignorant of how to do so.

Owing to the withdrawal of the regular troops from all stations west of Quebec, in order to keep up the system of training established in those districts from which such aid had been withdrawn, it became necessary to re-open the schools at Toronto, Kingston and Montreal, forming the same on the staff of the Militia at those places, and as certain abuses in regard to the number and selection of individuals for admission to such schools as military Cadets had crept in, I had the honour to recommend the follow-

ing modifications in the military school system.

1st. That, until further orders, six schools for practical military instructions be maintained in the Dominion and kept open during six months of the financial year only, viz., from 1st December to 1st May, and that practical instructions not only in Infantry, but in Artillery exercises, should be imparted therein.

2nd. That the maximum number of Cadets for the Dominion, to be authorized for admission to such schools, for such period of six months, to be limited to 500, with an addition of fifty to the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, until the number of Cadets in those Provinces equals (proportionately, according to the strength of the Militia in the respective districts) the number of Cadets already trained in the Provinces Ontario and Quebec, and that they be taken from the several brigade divisions in proportion to the strength of the Militia in such brigade divisions, as shown by the periodical enrolment from time to time.

3rd. The Cadets to be selected from applicants *bona fide* resident in such brigade divisions, and the maximum number of Cadets to be admitted into each school not to exceed sixty-five at any one time. This arrangement giving, according to the enrolments of 1869, the following numbers from the different brigade divisions (allowance being made for fifty additional Cadets in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.)—

Brigade Division.	No. of Cadet.
Province of Ontario	1st.....41
	2nd.....40
	3rd.....33
	4th.....36
	5th.....7
	6th.....22
	7th.....22
	8th.....37
	— 238
Province of Quebec	1st.....10
	2nd.....16
	3rd.....11
	4th.....26
	5th.....15
	6th.....20
	7th.....34
	8th.....21
	— 159
Province of New Brunswick	1st.....23
	2nd.....24
	3rd.....23
	— 70
Province of Nova Scotia	1st.....37
	2nd.....30
	3rd.....16
	— 83
Total.....	550

4th. That the school still in operation at St. John (New Brunswick), Halifax, and Quebec, in connection with Her Majesty's regular army, should be continued as already organized until further orders, subject to the foregoing regulations, and that three new schools be opened as soon as convenient.

5th. That the duties in connection with these schools hitherto performed by officers of Her Majesty's regular army, be undertaken by the officers of the Militia staff stationed at those places, a Deputy Adjutant General of Militia acting as commandant, and a Brigade Major as Adjutant for each school.

6th. That in order to obtain the necessary assistance for drill instruction, two active and competent non-commissioned officers who had served in the regular army (one in

the Artillery and the other in the Infantry,) should be appointed to act as drill sergeants and instructors, and attached to the Militia staff.

7th. That any men who might be required in addition to the Cadets themselves for drill purposes should be taken from Corps of the Active Militia residing in the vicinity of the respective schools, those detailed for such duty being paid at the rate of 25cts. per diem. By this means not only would they be furnished for the practical instruction and examination of the Cadets, but additional practice being thus afforded to many of the Active Militia themselves, increased general efficiency would result.

8th. That the services of the Artillery officer, recently attached to the staff of the Militia, should be made available, for the examination of, and granting certificates of qualification, to the Artillery Cadets. The whole of these recommendations were approved by an order in Council, dated 1st December, 1870, and the schools have been duly re-established.

By the above modification of system many advantages will result, a ready means afforded for the practical instruction of officers (now in the force,) and Cadets, not only in Infantry, but also in Artillery exercises—a point of great importance, in view of the increasing power and value of that arm in modern warfare—and the keeping of these schools open also during the winter months will best consult the convenience of the Cadets, especially those from the rural districts. The services of the Militia staff officers for military school purposes, are also most available during the winter, and these officers themselves, by having to undertake the duties of instruction, will be afforded good practice and rendered more efficient; in addition to which a very important saving of expense to the public will be secured by limiting the period, during which such schools shall be in operation each year, and the admissions to what may be considered a sufficient number to secure the training in military exercises, not only of officers now in the force, but also of those Cadets who may be required to fill vacancies from time to time.

(To be continued.)

THE MARTINI-HENRY RIFLE.

The final report of the Special Committee on Martini-Henry Breechloading Rifles has just been presented to Parliament. We append the text of the report itself, but most of the appendices and the minutes of evidence are, of course, far too bulky for us to print, though we shall have occasion to comment on them in an early number.

PRESIDENT.

Lieut.-Col. H. C. Fletcher, Scots Fusilier Guards.

MEMBERS.

Majors R. W. Haig, R. A., F. R. S.
 Captain A. T. L. Chapman, 34th Regiment, District Inspector of Musketry.
 Captain V. D. Majendie, R. A., Assistant-Superintendent, Royal Laboratory.
 Captain J. E. F. Aylmer, late 54th Regiment.

Lord Elcho, M.P.
 C. Hutton Gregory, Esq., Past Pres. Inst. C. E.

E. Ross, Esq.
 Lieut. B. de B. Fupper, R. A., Secretary.

WAR-OFFICE, Feb., 5, 1871.

In accordance with directions received

from the Secretary of State for War, the Committee have the honour to forward a report in continuation of that dated 12th July, 1870, on the experimental Martini-Henry arms. In this report will be shown the results of the trials of the Martini-Henry rifles of the pattern as first issued, together with those of the short-actioned arms suitable for the cartridge of the short-chamber form recommended by a Special Committee on 12th April, 1869. During the course of these trials, the Committee have taken evidence on certain questions relating to the mechanical construction of the Martini breech action, and have also made experiments with reference to the suggestions and criticisms contained in the reports, as they have from time to time been received, from regiments, ships, and stations to which the arms were sent.

For the sake of convenience and clearness the Committee have arranged the subject under the following heads—viz. :—

- I. The Long-actioned Martini-Henry Rifle.
- II. The Short-actioned Martini-Henry Rifle.
- III. The evidence on the mechanical construction of the breech action.
- IV. Alterations and improvements suggested by the results of the trials and by the evidence.
- V. Conclusion.

I.—THE LONG-ACTIONED MARTINI-HENRY RIFLE.

The Committee, in their report dated 12th July, 1870, dealt with fifty reports from regiments and ships stationed in England, Ireland, and Canada; since then fifty-five more have been received—viz., one from the Mediterranean, eleven from India, and the remainder from Canada and Home Stations. A summary of these has been prepared, and the remarks of the Committee are appended on the points to which their attention has been called.

The previous reports from regiments and ships are so strongly corroborated by those now under consideration that the Committee have little to add to their last report. In nearly every instance the great accuracy of shooting of this rifle as compared with the Snider, and the simplicity and facility of manipulation of the breech action, have given complete satisfaction. The misfires at first complained of are proved to have been caused by the weakness of the spiral springs originally issued, and have practically ceased since the substitution of stronger springs. Sixty-five of these arms, after having been severely tried by regiments in England, Ireland, and Canada, were returned to Enfield, for the examination of Colonel Dixon, Superintendent Royal Small Arms Factories; it is there shown that the wear and tear of these rifles under severe and exceptional trials have been very slight, and that no fault in construction has been developed.

II.—THE SHORT ACTIONED MARTINI HENRY RIFLE.

(a.) Arm.

The construction of the breech arrangement of the short-actioned arm is similar to that of the long, the action being somewhat shortened to suit the shorter cartridge. The only difference between the barrels lies in the form of chamber.

Twenty-two short actioned arms with a sufficient supply of Boxer-Henry short-chamber cartridges were issued for trial to certain regiments and ships in October, 1870. A summary of the reports already received is attached. These reports corroborate the opinion expressed by the Committee which recommended the trial, showing that in accuracy and general serviceability these rifles are equal to the long-actioned arms.

The reports of the short action arms from the several regiments have received confirmation from the results of the shooting of the same arms at the last Wimbledon meeting, and from their trials in comparison with the Gatling and Montigny mitrailleurs at Shoeburyness, in August, 1870. At these latter trials 1879 rounds were fired at distances varying from 300 to 1200 yards without any defect either in arm or ammunition becoming apparent.

(b.) Cartridge.

The form of cartridge, which is shorter and without paper covering, was designed to meet the objection raised against the former pattern—viz., liability to break, and inconvenience caused by the rucking up of the paper cover.

The short cartridge, which has no exterior covering of paper, is less liable to bend or break, and more convenient for loading than the long cartridge, while in accuracy of shooting it is somewhat superior.

Comparative experiments have been made to ascertain the effects of water and moisture on the long and short cartridges, when it was found that while the longer cartridges with an exterior paper covering were slightly better adapted to resist immersion in water, the shooting qualities of both were about equally affected by insertion for a length of time in wet sawdust. The trials were more severe than those to which cartridges would probably be subjected on service, and the Committee are of opinion that the ammunition, when properly packed, is sufficiently waterproof for all practical purposes.

The Committee beg to record their conviction of the importance of having a cheaper and equally accurately shooting cartridge for target practice.

(c.) Powder.

The powder first tried by the Committee in the Boxer-Henry cartridge, and of which they entirely approve, is known as "Curtis and Harvey, No. 6." Several other descriptions manufactured at the Government Factory, Waltham Abbey, have also been tried, but have not afforded the same uniform accuracy of shooting.

There appear to be difficulties, confined, it is believed, to the question of expense, in producing a powder at Waltham Abbey in all respects equal to "Curtis and Harvey, No. 6;" but the Committee, keeping in view the importance of maintaining the great accuracy of shooting of the Martini-Henry rifle, recommend that no powder should be used for its ammunition that does not give results at least equal to those obtained in the Committee's experiments, whether such powder be obtained from the Government Factory or from the trade.*

III.—EVIDENCE ON THE MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE BREECH ACTION.

In consequence of doubts having been raised as to the soundness of the mechanical principles involved in the construction of the breech action, the Committee considered it desirable that independent scientific and practical evidence should be obtained on this point. They, therefore, with the sanction of the Secretary of State for War, invited the attendance before the Committee of the following gentlemen, viz:—

F. J. Bramwell, Esq., C.E.
James Nasmyth, Esq., C.E.

* Messrs. Curtis and Harvey's powder was employed by Mr. Henry during the competition for accuracy of shooting, and as the results then obtained were satisfactory, the Committee have, without making trial of the powder of other manufacturers, continued its use as a standard.

Dr. Polo, C.E., F.R.S.
Edward Woods, Esq., C.E.
Colonel Dixon, Superintendent R. S. A. Factories.

Captain Beaumont, R.E., M.P.
Mr. Davidson, of the Royal Laboratory
Mr. Perry, of the R.S.A. Factories.

Mr. Martini was also requested to attend, to give him an opportunity of answering any objections that might be urged against the mechanism of the breech action.

All these gentlemen were examined, with the exception of Mr. Bramwell—who declined on the ground that he had already been consulted as a friend by a gunmaker, and that, therefore, the Committee would not have the benefit of his undivided services—and Captain Beaumont, R.E., M.P., who gave the Committee reason to think that his evidence might not be received as thoroughly impartial. A programme containing the heads under which the Committee desired that the evidence should be arranged was sent to the several witnesses, and they were invited either to give written or verbal answers to the questions therein contained. The programme appears below.

In the opinion of the Committee the evidence was conclusive as to the soundness of the mechanical principles of the breech action. On only one material point—viz., the general serviceability of the spiral main spring—did one of the witnesses differ from the others; but such was the preponderance of the evidence in its favour that when considered in conjunction with the success which has attended its use in the trials of the experimental arms, the Committee have no hesitation in expressing their opinion that not only is the spiral spring well suited for the purpose to which it is applied in the Martini action, but that it is superior for a military arm to the flat spring of the ordinary lock.

VI. ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED BY THE RESULTS OF THE TRIALS AND BY THE EVIDENCE.

(a.) Weight, Length, and Balance of Rifle and Barrel.

The Committee in their former report recommended for the whole of the infantry, as well as for the naval service, an arm, 2½ inches shorter than the original Martini-Henry, of the same length as that used by the Rifle Brigade and Navy. The Committee were induced to make this recommendation for the following reasons—viz., the diminished weight and increased handiness of the rifle; its convenience in regard to length for military purposes, as evidenced by its use in the rifle regiments, whose tactics are similar to those of the infantry of the Line; and the consequent doing away with the present long rifle drill, and the establishment throughout the services of an uniform system of manual and platoon exercises. They also considered that in respect to manufacture there would be some advantage in having one pattern rifle for the infantry of the Army and of the Reserve forces and for the Navy. These opinions the Committee continue to hold, but having received no definite instructions in regard to the recommendation contained in their former report, they have made experiments to determine whether the balance of the longer arm could be improved and the weight diminished—two objections alleged against it in some of the reports. After communication with Col. Dixon, Superintendent R.S.A., Factories, and Mr. Henry (of Edinburgh,) they tried a barrel prepared at the R.S.A. Factory, Enfield, six ounces lighter than the original Martini-Henry, making the whole arm one

ounce lighter than the long Snider rifle. The balance of this arm, which is far better than that of the original Martini-Henry, is well adapted for shooting purposes, and if the back sight be shifted half an inch nearer the muzzle, the rifle can be conveniently carried at the trail. In accuracy and flatness of trajectory, the shooting of the lighter barrel is equal to that of the heavier one, and the recoil is but very slightly increased. The strength was ascertained by trial to be sufficient to stand a severe side strain upon the sword bayonet.

The short arm recommended by the Committee is of the same length as that at present used by the rifle regiments and the naval service. In accuracy of shooting and flatness of trajectory it is equal to the longer barrel; its weight is about the same as that of the present short Snider rifle, viz., 8 lb. 12 oz; it balances well in hand, and it has been found that by shortening and reducing the comb of the stock the recoil from this rifle is less felt than the recoil of the original Martini-Henry pattern arm, which weighs 9 lb. 7 oz. The objection as to the weight and balance which has been urged against the original Martini-Henry rifle has thus been met and remedied. The Committee are making experiments to determine whether the barrel of the short rifle may not be still further lightened.

(b.) Sword Bayonet.

The sword bayonet issued with the experimental arms has received the approval of the majority of the regiments by which it has been tried; some have, however, advocated an increase in the length of the saw. A modified pattern of this bayonet has been brought to the notice of the Committee by Lord Elcho, and has been tried by some regiments; the reports received are generally favourable; its advantages over the original saw backed sword bayonet consist in its greater power and convenience as a cutting and chopping instrument for brushwood, &c., and the increased length of the saw.

Its dimensions and weight, without scabbard, as compared with those of the sword bayonet in use by the rifle regiments, are as follows:—

	Length.	Weight.
Rifle Brigade sword bayonet	2 ft. 2½ in.	11 lb. 12 oz.
Elcho pattern	2 ft. 1½ in.	11 lb. 8 oz.

The Committee have received a favourable opinion on the utility of this pattern of sword bayonet from Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir W. Mansfield, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., &c., (vide letter to Lord Elcho.)

Taking into consideration the favourable reports received of the original saw-backed sword bayonet and the increased advantages of the modified form, the Committee recommend the adoption into the service of the Elcho pattern saw-backed sword bayonet.

Some alterations in the form of scabbard and in the mode of fixing the bayonet to the rifle, to which the attention of the Superintendent R.S.A., Factories has been called, are under consideration, and will be reported upon when finally settled.

(c.) Minor Alterations.

A few minor alterations having reference to the form of the main lever, the shape of stock, the position and form of back-sight, &c., have been approved by the Committee, and will be found enumerated below.

These alterations have been suggested by the Committee's own observations, by the reports of the trial of the rifles by the two services, or by the evidence of the witnesses examined.

It may still be desirable to make some

slight alterations, not in any way involving changes of principle, before the arms and ammunition are produced in large quantities and issued for general service. Suggestions on such points will naturally emanate from the officers in charge of the manufacturing departments.

(To be continued.)

THE AUDACITY OF BISMARCK AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF HIS PREDECESSORS.

(From the Saturday Review, March 4.)

"The policy of the Allies when dictating terms to France in 1824," says the philosophic Allison, "was founded on a noble spirit—it rested on the principle of eradicating hostility by generosity, and avenging injury by forgiveness. The result proved that in doing so they proceeded on too exalted an estimate of human nature." The Germans of 1871 may have profited by the teachings of history and have avoided the errors of their forefathers. They have not troubled themselves much with the principle of eradicating hostility by generosity. Having got their enemy down, they made the most of the situation. Their estimate of human nature, or at least of French nature, is far from exalted. They calculate on France nursing the spirit of vengeance and doing them all the harm that may be in her power. The one aim of the terms of peace is to make France enter on war with Germany for the future, with the odds heavily against her. No other object has had any weight. There is no longer any talk of uniting to Germany the lands torn from her in past ages. The Germans of Alsace and Lorraine have so conclusively shown that they wish to remain united to France, that their conquerors know that, in spite of common language and descent, they will have to treat them as vanquished aliens. There is an affectation of moderation. The Germans might possibly have had more, but they have got all they wanted. The maximum of military defence, with the minimum of disaffected population, explains sufficiently why they keep a fifth of Lorraine with Metz, and let the other four-fifths remain French. They have not listened to the counsels of neutrals in the matter, or to the pleadings of those who speak in the name of civilization and of the nineteenth century. One idea fills their minds, and that is, that France will make war on them again if she dare. In 1814 the allies were very moderate towards France, and the desires of Prussia especially for a good military frontier on the French side were baffled because it was said that the way to keep France quiet was to appeal to her higher feelings, and to treat her generously.

EXPERIMENTS WITH ABEL'S GUN COTTON.

An important experiment in connection with the employment of gun-cotton was carried out last week in Woolwich Marshes. It has been decided to employ this explosive largely in torpedo defence, extensive works for its manufacture are now in course of erection at the Government factory of Waltham Abbey. We have, says the *Globe*, hitherto looked upon gun-cotton as a highly dangerous and explosive material—so much so that it has only been received into our arsenals and magazines in small quantities, and even then under protest. The railway companies have with great difficulty been induced to carry the article at an, price,

and no underwriter would think of insuring a cargo of gun-cotton. It turns out, however, that all these fears are groundless. It has been completely proved that when stored in the damp condition it is impossible to set fire to gun-cotton and that even when dry and in the form of compressed discs (Abel's) the gun-cotton cannot be exploded by the application of ordinary fire. In the experiments we have alluded to a number of wooden boxes, each containing 28lbs. of dry gun-cotton discs, were stacked on one another, and surrounded with similar boxes weighted with clay, so as to represent the superincumbent weight of a tier. One of the lower boxes was then ignited, when there was a momentary flash of bright flame unaccompanied by any explosion. The other boxes were not ignited, nor was the heap disturbed in the smallest degree. In a second experiment a box of gun-cotton was tarred, then placed on a bundle of shavings, and surrounded as before by other boxes of gun-cotton and earth. Upon the application of a match, a fair-sized bonfire was presently blazing; but some ten or fifteen minutes elapsed before the flame penetrated to the gun-cotton; even then there was no explosion, only a puff, and upon the remainder of the burning heap being pulled down and scattered, it was found that the other gun-cotton boxes had not gone off. One of these, however, fired up while it was being dragged out of the burning debris, but without doing any damage whatever. These experiments have proved that Abel's gun-cotton, when stored either in a railway truck or shed, is perfectly harmless as far as explosion is concerned, and that an accidental fire would only entail ordinary consequences. 200lbs. of the same material lain on the floor of a Martello tower, and fired by detonation, was sufficient to convert the entire structure into a heap of bricks and rubbish.

THE QUEEN'S FORTUNE.

Recent discussions upon the cost of royalty in England have had one useful tendency, in contradicting a great deal of nonsense put forward on the subject. The British throne is the cheapest in Europe, costing, with all allowances, appanages, and expenses for symbols less than half as much as any first-class throne supported out of revenue. Its whole expenditure, even if it comes out of taxes, would not be equal to ten farthings in the pound, or 1 per cent, upon the gross collections—an indefinitely small amount, if the monarchy really secures the order, permanence, and habit of obedience supposed to be insured by its existence, and, as it accidentally happens, little more than the sum which any Republican change would of necessity add to the direct expenditure in the shape of payment to members. Lacking the throne and the system it supports, England must pay her representatives as the Union does, and the sum required would of itself exceed the Queen's share of the money voted for the Civil List. Nor is this all. The Crown Lands were undoubtedly the property of the Sovereign, so much so that he could give them away; and Parliament, when it interfered to prevent waste, did so on the distinct plea that it had the right in all cases of entail to make laws to prohibit waste. The life interest is surrendered by every new sovereign on conditions, one of which is certain payments, which are specified, and another is, certain possible allowances as to dowries, &c., are unspecified, and are, in fact, governed by unwritten, etiquette vary-

ing with the temper of Parliament and other circumstances. These lands produce more than the Queen's allowance, or £350,000 a year, and if decently managed, like any noble's property, would produce £100,000 more than the sum total of all the moneys drawn by all members of the Royal Family.

THE DETROIT RIVER TUNNEL.—As the public are aware, it has been for some time in contemplation by those interested in the Great Western and Michigan Railroads to construct a tunnel under the river from Windsor to Detroit, thus to avoid the delay and inconvenience attending the passage of the cars in the ferry boats. It is now understood in well informed circles that this very important work will be commenced during the coming summer. The plan is to construct three tunnels, two of which are to be about sixteen feet in height, and running parallel to one another, and uniting at one entrance and exit at each end. A third will be made of smaller dimensions, say five feet in diameter, to act as a main drain, and be situated underneath and between the other two. The work will be commenced upon the last named tunnel first, so the drainage of the works may be effected as fast as they are carried on. Present appearances justify the surmise that this valuable engineering work will be completed in about two years. It is impossible to estimate the value which this direct connection between the Canadian and Michigan railroads leading to the great West will effect. The financial conditions upon which the enterprise will rest will no doubt be shortly announced to the public.

A recent letter from Thunder Bay states that the silver mines on Silver Islet and the main land are turning out beyond all expectations. The yield is said to be something extraordinary. In one instance a mass of almost pure silver, about three feet square, and weighing 2,100 lbs., was taken out. A few days later, a piece of solid native silver, weighing eighteen pounds, and containing only three ounces of quartz, was taken from one of the mines. The letter states that the miners no longer attempt to barrel the precious metal. The yield has been so great that they have the ore piled up in heaps to be shipped by the first boats on the opening of navigation.

That portion of the Fenian organization which acknowledges John O'Mahoney as head centre, has published its accounts. The receipts for the military occupation of Canada, Ireland, and various other places, amounted to \$185,000, and the expenditure of Mr. O'Mahony and his friends, to \$180,000 leaving the nice little sum of \$5000 to go a-fighting with.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. The CIVIL SERVICE GAZETTE remarks:—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately favoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in ½ lb., ¼ lb., and 1 lb. tin-lined packets, labelled—JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London England.

THE
VOLUNTEER REVIEW
And Military and Naval Gazette.
VOLUME V.
1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When it was first projected fears were entertained for its ultimate success, as two efforts of a similar kind had been made and failed for want of support; but we are happy to say these fears were groundless, and that the VOLUNTEER REVIEW may now be said to be firmly established, thanks to the support it has met with from the hands of the Volunteer Force of the Dominion. It now circulates largely through Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and even the new Province of Manitoba has extended its generous support. Nor is it confined to these Provinces only, but in the Mother Country, and even the United States it has subscribers and supporters. No other journal in the Dominion has so wide and extended a circulation as the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, and therefore it offers unparalleled facilities to general advertisers. Our terms for advertising will be found liberal on application, either personally, or by letter *post paid*.

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We number amongst our Correspondents and Contributors some of the ablest writers on military subjects in America.

Full and reliable reports of RIFLE MATCHES, INSPECTIONS, and other matters connected with the Force appear regularly in our Columns.

AGENTS.

Liberal terms will be offered to Adjutants, Instructors, and others who act as agents for us in their several corps.

LT.-COL. R. LOVELACE, is our General Agent for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

MR. ROGER HUNTER for that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

REMITTANCES should be addressed to DAWSON KERR, Proprietor VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON KERR Proprietor, to whom all *Business Correspondence* should be addressed.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

All Communications regard' the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

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We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably send us confidentially, their name and address.

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We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that we may reach us in time for publication.

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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, MAY 1, 1871.

NOTICE TO OLD SUBSCRIBES.

As a great number of our early subscribers in the Volunteer Force must have been promoted since they became subscribers, they will kindly favor us by sending in their present rank and proper address.

Advices from Washington state that the Commissioners have not been able to decide on any basis for the settlement of the San Juan difficulty, and as British Columbia has become an integral part of the Dominion of Canada this question gravely affects our interests, inasmuch as the occupation of the island of San Juan by a foreign power is a standing menace to us, and it can be held for no other purpose. To understand the full bearings of the case it is only necessary to state that it completely commands our means of access to the Pacific, closing the Straits of Fuca between the southern end of Vancouver's Island and the mainland—and its history is briefly told. The treaty of 1818 agreed to the joint occupation of the country on the Pacific coast north of the mouth of the Columbia river by the United States and Great Britain, it went under the general name of Oregon. It was about as well known and its boundaries as clearly defined to the negotiators as those of the

Kingdom of Timbuctoo—in other words, the high contracting parties were totally ignorant of almost everything connected with the territory or its surroundings. The treaty was to continue for *ten years*, at the end of which it was continued by another treaty for an indefinite period until either of the two powers gave the other notice of withdrawal therefrom. In 1844 the British Minister at Washington proposed to treat for defining the boundary of Oregon which he determined to make the line of the Columbia River. Negotiations were suspended for some time, and in the interim came on a Presidential election, in which the cry was for the line of 54° 50', and Mr. Polk, in his inaugural address, declared it should be maintained at the risk of war, but this declaration brought out from the late Sir Robert Peel the memorable declaration that "England had rights and would maintain them,"—which compelled the Yankees to back down and propose the adoption of the 49th parallel, which was finally accepted, although it is said that the stupid action of the British ministry was influenced by a transaction which happened in 1844. Her Majesty's ship *America* arrived in Port Discovery, two of her officers were sent to the Columbia, one of them, Captain Gordon, was brother to the English premier and "*becoming disgusted because the salmon would not rise to his fly* in the Columbia river; reported that the whole country was not worth a *d—m*," and advised it to be given up. The story is curious, but of a piece with the manner in which British territory has been bartered away by those imbeciles who have represented Great Britain on this continent.

Vancouver's Island covers nearly the whole frontage of the Canadian Dominion on the Pacific. It encloses between it and the mainland the Gulf of Georgia—the island stands north-west by south-east. It is as large as all Scotland; possesses vast mineral resources, singularly fruitful soil, and can afford a plentiful supply of splendid coal—in fact possesses all the requisites for a great naval station. The southern entrance of the Gulf of Georgia to the Pacific is between the south-east end of the island and the mainland, through what is known as the Fuca Straits, but those straits are closed at the northern end by the islands of the Haro Archipelago. The treaty negotiated in 1846 provides that "From the point on which the 49th parallel of latitude, where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between the United States and Great Britain terminates the line of boundary between the territories of the United States and those of Her Britannic Majesty shall be continued westward to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver Island, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and Fuca Straits to the Pacific Ocean. Provided, however, that the navigation of the whole of the said channel, and straits south of the forty-ninth parallel of

north latitude remain free and open to both parties."

At the time this treaty was negotiated neither of the parties thereto had correct maps of the Gulf of Georgia, and consequently described the channel connecting it with the Pacific as open; whereas it is obstructed by several islands, the principal one being that of San Juan, which lies nearer to the eastern shore, or Vancouver, than to the mainland—the channel on that side being known as the Haro, while that towards the mainland was known as the Rosario channel.

This island of San Juan was occupied by the British, and governed from the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Victoria up to 1859. In the month of August of that year a General Harney, of the United States service, landed a couple of companies thereon and took military possession of it by force. It was the intention of British Columbia, which had become a Crown Colony, to dislodge him by force and with precious little ceremony, when unluckily one of those blundering fools which seem born to bring trouble on a peaceable people, turned up in the person of Admiral Baynes, whose extreme caution ended in doing nothing; and in the joint military occupation of the island, in which condition it at present remains. It is beyond question that the Yankees were guilty of a grave breach of international law in putting foot on the island at all, and it was both an insult and outrage which should have been chastised and repaired at once. While the stupid imbecility of the English ministry which left it in their hands since cannot be too severely reprehended. During the late civil war they should have been compelled to evacuate the island at once. It was a mistake to treat them with any courtesy, they only understand the language of force and will use fraud unscrupulously.

If the Joint High Commission does its duty San Juan will be at once evacuated, and it is as well to say that the people of the Dominion will have it so. There is no use in reiterating the arguments against the Yankee claim, one is decisive—the Rosario channel was the only one known to navigators at the period when the treaty of 1846 was negotiated. It is the only channel used now, and therefore the island of San Juan belongs to us. The purchase of Alaska by the Fox of Auburn has a new significance in this connection. Was it that the idea predominated of bullying, buying, or cajoling British statesmen out of the Pacific territories had been seriously entertained, and that was to be effected by outflanking. At all events, the admission of British Columbia to the Dominion, has completely upset the annexation scheme, and Canada will demand that the joint occupation of San Juan shall cease, peaceably, if possible, if not, by force. It would never do to allow a foreign state, inimical to us the means of commanding access to our internal waters, the fisheries

therein being of quite as great importance as those on our Atlantic coast, as well as controlling the trade with the Pacific. We are bound by the terms of compact with British Columbia to build a railway to the Pacific within ten years, if San Juan remains in the hands of the Yankees that cannot be of much use to us. Nor will it do to allow them to erect a Gibraltar within ten miles of Victoria, the capital of Vancouver's Island. It has come to this that the occupation of San Juan must cease.

The public mind in England is still exercised with the necessary measures for putting the country in a proper state of defence. Seaports, whose actual wealth is greater than that of European kingdoms, are absolutely without defence of any kind and could be plundered by any active rover. The doctrines of the Manchester school appear to have emasculated the present generation of Englishmen. The followers of John Bright were never tired of proclaiming that they wished to be at peace, and, like the people of Laish, "dwelt careless after the manner of the Zidonians, quite and secure, and there was no magistrate in the land that might put them to shame in anything, and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man." This description, written over 4000 years ago, describes the Quaker's political paradise exactly, and its ultimate results will be decidedly the same; as those doctrinaires have so imbued the mind of the people of Great Britain with the idea of resisting legitimate authority that it has become an anxious problem with the Government as to whose hands they will commit arms for the defence of the country. A pretty result this of friend John's demagoguism. He has at least two wars to answer for already, and may live to see a foreign foe on English soil. There is a hope for the country, and the question of defence would be very greatly simplified if the British Government did its duty to the people—a duty so plain, simple, and necessary that the impression has got abroad that it is shirked for the purpose of benefitting the commercial and manufacturing interests at the expense of the masses; this is a blind policy in any state but that of half or whole pauperism, the surplus population of Great Britain would add more to the national wealth and to the profits of those interests than they do under existing circumstances. It is the plain duty of the Government to assist the surplus population to emigrate to her own Colonies, where they would become producers as well as consumers. The country would then get rid of a dangerous class. Remove them from the atmosphere of demagoguism, and turn them into conservatives by enabling them to acquire property to take care of. As a general rule republicanism with Englishmen is not skin deep, it is the natural result of hopeless poverty, and once place its professor or disciple where he

can acquire a competence and he will be the last in the world to acknowledge the justice or policy of a community of goods or allow the abolition of social distinctions, but will hurrah as heartily for the Queen as if Beales, Bradlaugh, or Odgen never existed.

By offering inducements to emigration the power of the dangerous classes would be destroyed. A thoroughly efficient force might be raised from the county militia, sufficiently strong and trustworthy to restore England's military prestige, but it would be necessary to exercise great caution in the larger cities. It was an old party cry regularly brought up every session, during the latter half of the last century that the "Power of the Crown was increasing, had increased, and ought to be abated." The same resolution should be applied to the English House of Commons, it has arrogated to itself, under Radical leaders, the functions of the two other estates of the realm. In those two vicious political practices lie the whole weakness of England. The preponderance of her commercial and manufacturing over the agricultural interests has been the cause of all the evils, because upon the latter rests the whole social fabric, and when it is displaced compression is sure to follow, and the lesson taught is that representation should rest on a property qualification. The problem to be solved in England is to get rid of her surplus population so as to strengthen her own hands, and there will be no lack of people to defend her in the hour of need. But such a policy is too vast for the Whig-Radicals.

On another page will be found an interesting report on what appears to be the military weapon of the future, the Martini-Henry rifle. We are always suspicious of novelties in soldiers arms, especially when their adoption involves mechanism of a complicated character, out of the power of the person armed with the weapon to adjust. Knowing well that it is one thing to test the weapon comfortably on an English shooting range in skilful hands, and another thing to put it into the hands of the ordinary rank and file of a line regiment, subjecting it to the usage of an ordinary campaign. To illustrate our meaning, the old Brown Bess with which England's greatest victories were won, was a clumsy weapon, but except the main or feather spring were broken, could be adjusted by any soldier after rough usage—it was as dangerous clubbed as probably in any other way. The Martini-Henry is a much finer weapon, with more complicated machinery, will it bear the rough usage to which its predecessor was subjected? The report of the Commission precludes the possibility of doubt, although we thought the Snider-Enfield was the *ne plus ultra* of perfection, and it is a weapon not easily put out of adjustment. There is a novelty accompanying this new rifle in the shape of a sword bayonet, which forcibly recalls But-

ler's famous description of Hudibras' dagger of all work :

"This sword a dagger had his page
That was but little for his age,
And therefore waited upon him so
As dwarfs upon knights-errant do.
It was a serviceable dudgeon
Either for fighting or for drudging;
When it had stabbed or broke a head
'Twould scrape trenchers or clut bread,
Toast cheese or bacon, though it were
To bait a mouse trap 'twould not care,
'Twould make clean shoes, and in the earth
Set leeks and onions, and so forth."

This wonderful sword-bayonet is known as the "Elcho Pattern," weighs one pound eight ounces, is two feet one and a-half inches in length, and is sword, saw, bayonet, chopping knife, bill hook, and axe all in one, according to Lieut.-General the Right Honorable Sir W. Mansfield, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., an authority which few will like to dispute. But the weapon appears to be adapted to too many purposes to be very valuable in an army. As a pioneer's tool it would be useless in Canada, where the four and a-half pound axe would do the work of a dozen sword-bayonets. The report will be, however, of great interest to our readers, as it gives a complete analysis of the value of the new rifle. The commissioners appear to have done their work thoroughly and well.

The Staff Officers of the various Military Districts arrived in Ottawa on the 24th inst., for the purpose of conferring with the Adjutant-General on matters connected with the Militia, the following officers attended: No. 1 District—Lt.-Col. Taylor, D.A.G.; Brigade Major Moffat; No. 2 District—Lieut.-Col. Durie, D.A.G.; No. 3 District—Lieut.-Col. Patterson, (acting) D.A.G.; No. 4 District—Brigade Major Jackson; No. 5 District—Lieut.-Col. Smith, D.A.G.; No. 6 District—Lt.-Col. Harwood, D.A.G.; No. 7 District—Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, (acting) D.A.G.; No. 8 District, New Brunswick—Lt.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G.; No. 9 District Nova Scotia—not represented, owing to the illness of Lieut.-Col. Sinclair, D.A.G.

The staff officers at head quarters entertained those distinguished officers at dinner at the Rideau Club on Friday last.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The attitude of France is the most absorbing topic during the past week, whether as a political problem awaiting solution, or that the self elected commune cabal shall govern France from Paris, vice the equally self elected republicans outside. The political aspect seems to be further interference on the part of Prussia, and the consequences likely to follow. We have always held that the Emperor William should have treated with the legitimate, or rather legal, government of France—the Empress Eugenie, and her ministers, leaving Monsieur Thiers and colleagues to their original obscurity; because with a foreign force occupying one-third of its departments France was not free to elect representatives. Therefore the Assembly at Versailles is in no sense the ex-

ponent of the wishes or feelings of France. This very row at Paris is a proof of this, and the evident reluctance of the troops to be made the means of bringing the dissentients under Thiers' government is a proof of it, and the evidence that the recall of Louis Napoleon cannot be far distant. The fighting in and around Paris still continues with varied success. Mont Valerien has been bombarding the city, destroying the Arc de Triomphe and doing great damage in the neighborhood of Neuilly. On Monday last an armistice was arranged to allow of the burial of the dead. Mr. President Thiers has been very lavish of promises to put down this insurrection, but has signally failed to do so. He now tells the country that new preparations are about being made, and the final close of the struggle predicted. In order to accomplish this it is supposed that he was obliged to take council with Prince George of Saxony, and the Prussian Commander. Whatever the result of that seance may have been one thing is certain, the Prussians will not relax their hold on the forts they now occupy until the final treaty is ratified. Meantime Thiers' own troops are wavering, and the chances that they will join the insurgents are becoming every day more certain.

In Great Britain the result of the Radical teaching found practical expression on the occasion of the attempt of Mr. Lowe to impose a tax on matches. It was opposed in the House by the conservatives, by a portion of the ministerialists, and, what the administration felt more deeply, the ragged mob of match sellers in London, who improvised a meeting for their benefit, and were with difficulty kept from forcing their way into the House of Commons. On the division the ministry narrowly escaped defeat, and in order to show how entirely they are prepared to follow the example of the United States, Mr. Lowe, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, telegraphs to the United States Customs Commissioner to find out how the match tax worked in that country. Of course he was answered that it worked admirably; but as Great Britain is essentially a different country, and as a great many people see farther than Mr. Lowe, and as Mr. Disraeli gave notice that the financial policy of the government should be reconsidered, as it was unsatisfactory, Mr. Gladstone at once abandoned the obnoxious measure. The radical ministry are moribund—but woe be to their successors if they are unable to initiate a more manly and comprehensive policy—foreign and local.

One of the greatest warriors of the age, Schamyl, the celebrated Circassian chief, is dead. The active and deadly foe of Russia for over twenty years; he kept her best generals with armies of 150,000 to 200,000 men employed, inflicting astounding defeats and never having more than 30,000 men at command. It was one of the many blunders of the Crimean war that he was not succoured and a comprehensive effort made to cir-

cumscribe the Russian power in the Caucasus. Betrayed into their hands in 1859 he was treated with great consideration,—dying at Medina during a pilgrimage to Mecca, the old warrior being a staunch Musliman.

The celebrated Dr. Dollinger, the great Bavarian theologian, has been excommunicated. The Vatican will take little by that move, as he has the sympathy of the great majority of the professors of the Munich University, and is not a man likely to be easily sacrificed by the Jesuit cabal that sways the Papal councils.

From New Orleans the latest is a freak of the Mississippi, which stream, it appears, has taken a fancy to a new channel. It has burst the levee about 38 miles above New Orleans, cutting a new channel of large dimensions on its way to Lake Ponchartrian. The United States Engineer says it cannot be stopped, and it is probable it will submerge over one-third of New Orleans.

From Washington it is stated that the Joint High Commission has decided to leave the San Juan difficulty to arbitration, satisfied that if their papers are admitted it will be decided in their favor. Possibly so if no other evidence was produced; but the story is, like all others, not reliable.

The President of the United States has called an extra session of the Senate, to be held on the 10th of May, to take into consideration the action of the Joint High Commission.

The most noteworthy affair in Canada has been the meeting of the Deputy Adjutants General at Ottawa to confer with the Adjutant General on matters affecting the Militia.

In Nova Scotia active preparations are making for the coming local elections, while the writs for the Province of Quebec will be issued on the 15th of May.

Very favorable accounts have been received of the progress of legislation in the House of Assembly in Manitoba. Spring appears to be nearly a month earlier there than in Canada.

REVIEWS.

The Canadian Illustrated News for 22nd April contains copious and beautiful illustrations of the principal scenes and actors in the wedding of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise with the Marquis of Lorne. On the first page are admirable portraits of the eight bridesmaids, daughters of noble English houses, bearing that look of high breeding which belongs exclusively to a haughty aristocracy, and the ideality of refinement and beauty inseparably connected therewith; they are the ladies Florence Gordon Lennox, Mary Cecil, Alice Fitzgerald, Mary Butler, Grace Gordon, Constance Seymour, Elizabeth Campbell, and Florence Montague, all bearers of great historical names; the likenesses are from photographs by F. Sargeant, photographer to the Queen. There are portraits of His Grace the Duke

of Argyle and the Duchess, the marriage scene in St. George's Chapel, with its gorgeous surroundings and its diversity of color and costume. This latter is from a drawing of the special artist of the *Illustrated News*, Mr. Frank Vezittally, and as a work of imitative art, is unrivalled. We have had repeatedly to direct attention to the enterprise and spirit displayed by the energetic proprietor of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, but his efforts to give the people of this country a faithful representation of the great historical event in which they are so interested, deserves the liberal patronage of every one desirous of cultivating and inducing a taste for fine art in the minds of the present and rising generations. The illustrations are far superior in finish, grouping, and effect to those furnished by the London illustrated journals, and Mr. Desbarats deserves the thanks of the people of Canada for the splendid artistic treat he has afforded them—the expense has been considerable, and the enterprise deserves all support.

The New York *Albion* for 22nd April contains an able article entitled the best "*Pacific Railroad for Canada*"—with a map of the route. As this subject is one of great importance to the Dominion we propose to discuss it at considerable length, and therefore shall refrain from any comments at present. The *Albion* is, as well known, the British organ in New York, and has always been distinguished for the talents and moderation with which it has been conducted, and on any of our external affairs or relations demands the respect which its honest and consistent course merits. We are glad to see by the present number that it has in no way deteriorated—and we shall be happy to discuss any measure affecting the country with such an able exponent of outside British opinion. Practically acquainted as the *Albion* must be with the very peculiar institutions of our neighbors, and having the means of judging accurately as to the peculiar modes of thought and action that makes what is known there as public opinion—which is untrammelled by law or other inconvenient conventionalities—it furnishes a valuable as we" as reliable index of every phase of that unstablest of all elements, and a pretty sure guide to shape our course by in our relations with the States.

THE ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

About \$3,000 in prizes are to be offered at the Annual Match of the Ontario Rifle Association, which commences in Toronto on the 26th day of June next. The Aldwell trophy, the Brassy cups, and a cup are to be presented by the ladies of Toronto. In the report of the Council of this Association for last year we find the following remarks.

"Your Council hope that the donation from the Mother Country, and the recognition of the usefulness of the Associations by the Legislature of the Province, will stimulate the institutions and people of Ontario, outside of the Volunteer organization, to aid

the Association in the work it has successfully commenced, by spontaneous aid to its funds, and by voluntary memberships and contributions—without which it cannot carry on its operations with success, and without compelling its members to sue for support, as they have hitherto been obliged to do from year to year."

If the Ontario Association expects assistance from towns and cities other than Toronto, its officers will have to act more fairly and honestly than they did last year in dealing with the Grand Trunk Team who, after winning the Aldwell trophy, was deprived of it by a technicality which was anything but creditable to the Association.

The Report of the Association for 1870 says in reference to the team which it is proposed to send to Wimbledon, during the present year.

"The President has been in communication with Lord Elcho, one of the Council of the National Rifle Association, and with Captain Mildmay, Secretary of the National Rifle Association on the subject of the Ontario Team visiting Wimbledon. The result of the correspondence is very satisfactory. The Ontario Team is assured of being received with a most hearty welcome, and will be allowed to compete for all prizes open to Volunteers, including the Queen's.

"The President suggested to the Council of the National Rifle Association, through Lord Elcho, the modification of the existing rules in reference to the International Trophy, as to throw it open for competition to Canadian Volunteers. The suggestion has been most kindly received, with an earnest desire to meet it; and although the Council of the National Rifle Association would not entertain a further amendment of their rules, they proposed to institute an Imperial Challenge Match, open to teams of ten from Great Britain, Ireland, India and the Colonies. It will undoubtedly be a most important and interesting match, and in which the Ontario Team will have an opportunity of competing."—*Belleisle Intelligence*.

THE CAVALRY CHARGE AT BAPAUME.—Writing from the headquarters of General von Gubern, Army of the Somme, Domprere, the *Telegraph's* correspondent gives the following account of the charge made by the squadron of the 8th Rheinischer Cuirassiers at the battle of Bapaume:—"The squadron was commanded by Captain von Marees, and together with other detachments of cavalry, was ordered after the battle of Bapaume to follow up the retreat of the French troops along the Arras and Douai roads. Just beyond the village of Sapignio between it and Mory. Captain Marees came upon two retreating battalions of French infantry—one a Chasseur regiment, the other consisting of Gardes Mobiles. At the moment he discovered the French he was riding exactly parallel to them. He determined to attack the enemy. The great part of the country in the neighborhood of Bapaume is arable land, most of which has been ploughed, and the furrows from the severe frost of the last ten days are frozen into bars of iron. A spot was chosen upon which to attack. No sooner did the French infantry perceive the approach of the Prussian Cuirassiers than they formed two squares. The foremost square waited until the cavalry came within three hundred yards before it opened fire. Then however a perfect shower of bullets rang against and pierced the cuirasses of the advancing horsemen. The captain was shot through the knee and his charger through the head; the lieutenant was unhorsed, and suffered a severe concus-

sion; and the troop sergent-major received a bullet through the heart. Undaunted by the fall of their officers and squadron leader the men rode boldly at and right through the square, scattering the foe on all sides, sabring and trampling down many. When the Prussian cavalry had thus pierced their way to the other side of the enemy, they immediately spread to avoid any concentrated fire. They were not supported. If they had, in all probability the regiment of infantry would have been cut to pieces, but a ravine of great depth separated them from their comrades, who were unable to cross in time to take part in this gallant action. The remains of the shattered French battalion were thus able to gain the shelter of a village, against which it was impossible to advance with cavalry. Capt. von Marees had to undergo amputation above the knee."

RIFLE MATCH.

A return match between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies of the 8th Battalion, fired on Friday, 21st instant, on the Beauport Flats. Ranges, 200, 400, and 600 yards—5 rounds at each range, resulting in a majority for No. 2 Company, of 23 points. The following is the score at each range:

No. 2 COMPANY.

	200 yds.	400 yds.	600 yds.	TOTAL
Capt. Morgan	17	16	7	40
Lieut. Wurtelo	14	17	12	43
Ensign Mahoney	18	18	0	36
Sergt. Baxter	16	19	9	44
Sergt. Hawkins	17	15	7	39
Corpl. W. Scott	9	16	8	33
Pte. Taylor	15	11	0	26
" Rickell	12	13	8	33
" West	13	19	3	36
" Magee	13	16	3	32
Total				362

No. 1 COMPANY.

Lieut. Scott	18	15	6	39
Ensign Scott	16	16	2	34
Sergt. Norris	14	16	14	44
Sergt. Halloway	15	18	12	45
Corpl. Wilkinson	12	8	2	22
Buglar Norris	19	7	0	26
Pte. Ray	13	18	3	34
Pte. Hetherington	13	9	0	22
Pte. Dunlop	16	10	9	35
Pte. Anderson	15	15	8	38

Total..... 339
Majority for No. 2 Company, 8th Battalion, 23 points.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

SPLENDID RIFLE SHOOTING.—Ex-Major Muri-son, of Hamilton, is, it is stated, one of the best shots in the Dominion. He excels not only at short ranges, but equally as well at long shots, as may be seen by the following score of 70, in a possible 80, at 1000 yards: 44433344333444432344—70. The man who can make eleven bulls eyes out of twenty shots at a distance of 1000 yards, is one whom that city might well feel a pride in sending to meet the crack shots at the Wimbledon ranges.

REMITTANCES

Received on Subscription up to Saturday the 29th inst.

- BERRITT'S RAPIDS.—Major Geo, Shepherd, \$2.
- METCALFE.—Lieut. J. Hanna, \$2.
- CHELSEA, Que.—Lieut. W. Millar, \$2.
- IROQUOIS.—Capt. Alex. McDonnell, \$2.

HOW MAY WAS FIRST MADE.

From the Poetical Language of Flowers.

BY THOMAS MILLER, THE BASKETMAKER.

As Spring upon a silver cloud
Lay looking on the world below,
Watching the breezes as they bowed
The buds and blossoms to and fro,
She saw the fields with Hawthorns walled,
Said Spring, "New buds I will create."
She to a Flower-spirit called,
Who on the month of May did wait,
And bade her fetch a Hawthorn spray,
That she might make the buds of May.

Said Spring, "The grass looks green and bright,
The Hawthorn hedges too are green,
I'll sprinkle them with flowers of light,
Such stars as earth hath never seen,
And all through England's glided vales,
Her steep hill-sides and haunted streams,
Where woodlands dip into the dales,
Where'er the Hawthorn stands and dreams,
Where thick-leaved trees make dark the day,
I'll light each nook with flowers of May.

"Like pearly dew-drops, white and round,
The shut up buds shall first appear,
And in them be such fragrance found
As breeze before did never bear,
Such as in Eden only dwelt,
When angels hovered round its bowers,
And long-haired Eve at morning knelt
In innocence amid the flowers,
While the whole air was every way
Filled with a perfume sweet as May.

"And oft shall groups of children come,
Treading their way through shady places,
From many a peaceful English home,
The sunshine falling on their faces,
Starting with merry voice the thrush,
As through green lanes they wander singing,
To gather the sweet Hawthorn-bush,
Which homeward in the evening bringling,
With smiling faces, they shall say,
There's nothing half so sweet as May.

"And many a poet yet unborn
Shall link its name with some sweet lay,
And lovers oft at early morn
Shall gather blossoms of the May,
With eyes bright as the silver dew,
Which on the rounded May-buds sleep;
And lips, whose parted smiles diffuse
A sunshine o'er the watch they keep,
Shall open all their white array
Of pearls, ranged like the buds of May.

Spring shook the cloud on which she lay,
And silvered o'er the Hawthorn spray,
Then showered down the buds of May.

NARRATIVE OF THE RED RIVER
EXPEDITION.—CONCLUSION.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

(From Blackwood for Feb.)

At Rat Portage more letters were received by the officer commanding, from the Red River Settlement, urging the necessity of haste, and begging of him to send on even a couple of hundred men in advance, for the purpose of inspiring confidence, and of putting an end to the feelings of doubt and apprehensions of impending danger, then universal amongst the loyal inhabitants. Riel was still in Fort Garry, surrounded by armed men and the banditti composing his government. He still ruled most arbitrarily; and although he had permitted the Hudson Bay Company to recommence business, he had forced its representatives to pay a large sum for the privilege of doing so. The chief of the Swampy Indians (who inhabit the banks of the Red River for a distance of about fifteen miles from where it falls into Lake Winnipeg) wrote volunteering the service of his people in any way in which they could be made useful. They had been staunch and loyal throughout all the half-breed disturbances, and had always been anxious to take up arms against the rebels. The dread of calling in such a dangerous element as these Indians would have been, had hitherto deterred those most anxious for the reestablishment of order from making any use of them. This Indian chief complained greatly in his letter of the inconsistency of our conduct in having made a practice of

punishing Indians when they robbed or committed any crime, whilst the gang of robbers under Riel was allowed, he said to overturn the lawful government of the country, to pillage private property, to imprison loyal men, and even to commit murder with impunity. A number of the English-speaking people of the lower Red River Settlement had, under the sanction of the Protestant bishop, started off up the Winnipeg River to meet us with some large Hudson Bay boats, having experienced guides and crews, for the purpose of assisting us in descending that river. Its navigation is generally esteemed to be most dangerous, and none but those well skilled in the voyageur's art and acquainted with this river in particular, will ever attempt to take boats along it. We were very deficient in good steersmen, and had not more than a few guides—obtained at Fort Francis—who knew the route, so when this party of men, under charge of the Rev. Mr. Gardner, an English clergyman met us at Rat Portage we realized for the first time that there was really an active party in Manitoba, who had not yet bowed the knee before Baal; that there were men whose loyalty was not of the lip only, but a reality for which they were prepared to leave their homes, and share the dangers to be encountered by their countrymen who were struggling through a vast wilderness to their assistance, and in order to relieve them from the tyranny to which they had been so long exposed.

The description given to us by these men of the dangers which were before us, of rapids where the least false step would send us over heavy falls into whirlpools of such magnitude that the largest-sized boats are quickly engulfed in them, made many of us wince. When shown the boats in which we had made the journey up to that point, and in which we expressed our determination to go on, they shook their heads in mournful astonishment. Here, as throughout the whole of this Expedition, we found a general conviction stamped on the minds of every class that we met, that the British soldier was fine brave fellow, who, as a fighting man, was superior to two of any other nation, but utterly useless for any other purpose. They thought it was impossible that he could carry loads perform heavy bodily labour, or endure great physical fatigue. It need scarcely be added that we now bear a very different reputation in those parts; and it is not saying too much to assert, that we left behind us a character for every manly virtue. Our men soon acquired considerable skill in managing their boats, in portaging &c., &c.; and the natural cheery energy of the British character shone out brilliantly when displayed side by side with the apathy and listlessness of the half-breed voyageur.

We were informed that it would take us about twenty days to get to Fort Alexander, at the mouth of the Winnipeg River. This was very discouraging, because we had been previously told by our leader that we should reach Fort Garry about the 23rd of August, which would be impossible if it were to take us so long in descending the river.

The journey down the Winnipeg River can never be forgotten if once made. The difference of level between the Lake of the Woods and Lake Winnipeg is 340 feet—the distance between them by river being 160 miles. The descent down that number of feet is distributed throughout 30 falls and rapids, presenting every variety of river scenery that nature is capable of. For the first fifty miles there are numerous islands—so much so, that the river is a succession of lakes, or as if there were four or five rivers running side by side, uniting here and there

only to separate a few miles further down. At some points it is, however, contracted into one or two comparatively narrow channels, where the great rush of water resembles a magnificent mill-race. The passage of such places is always more or less dangerous, particularly if small islands or large rocks divide the rapids into several channels, crossing one another before they meet in the boiling cauldron of foaming water below. Numerous were the hair-breadth escapes; in many instances the lives of boats' crews seemed held in the balance for some moments—more awful for those who watched the scene from the bank, than for the soldiers actually in the boat. Providence—a noble term which this war in France has taught newspaper writers to sneer at—watched over us in a remarkable manner; for although we had one or two boats wrecked on this mighty river, and many men were for minutes in imminent danger, the whole force reached Lake Winnipeg without any loss of life.

There is no more deliciously exciting pleasure in the world than that of running a really large and dangerous rapid in a canoe or in a small boat. As your frail skiff bounds over the waves, ever and anon jumping as it were from a higher to a lower level, whilst the paddlers or oarsmen tug away with might and main, and the outcropping rocks are cleverly avoided by the skillful bowsman or steersman, every pleasureable sensation is experienced. As each boat turned into the slack water beyond the rapid, one took a long breath of relief, and the world and life itself seemed to be different in the calm stillness there from what it was when we were dashing through the roaring, rushing waters in mid stream.

No length of time, nor any amount of future adventures, can erase from the writer's mind his arrival at Slaves Falls. He was in a birch-bark canoe manned by Iroquois, one of whom acted as guide. The regular portage for the boats was several hundred yards from the falls, and lay in a slack-water bay, reached without any danger as long as the boats kept tolerably well in towards the bank on that side. Our astonishment was great at finding the guide take the canoe out into midstream, where the current ran at an exciting pace, becoming swifter every yard, until at last, as one approached the vicinity of the falls, it was palpably evident that we were descending a steeply inclined plane. Consoling ourselves at first with the reflection that the guide knew best what he was about, we sat motionless, but, let us confess it, awe-stricken, as we swept into the narrow gully at the end of which the great noisy roar of falling waters, and the columns of spray that curled up like clouds into the air announced the position of the fall. We were close to the brink. We appeared to have reached that point which exists in most falls from whence the water seems to begin its run preparatory to a good jump over into the abyss below. and we knew, from having watched many great cataracts for hours, that it was a bourne from whence there was no return. Quick as lightning the idea flashed across us that the Indians had made, a mistake and that everything was over for us in this world. In that infinitesimal fraction of time a glimpse of the countenance of the sturdy bowsman rather confirmed this idea—his teeth appeared set, and there was an unusual look in his eye. All creations of our own heated fancy; for in another second the canoes head swept in towards the rocks, and was turned nose up stream in tolerably slack water, two of the paddlers jumping out and holding it firmly there. All our poetical fancies were rudely

dispersed by a cheer and chorus of laughter from the Iroquois crew. The speaking of a paddle in the hands of either bowman or steersman would have been fatal at that critical moment when we turned sharply in to the bank, the stern being allowed to swing round in the heavy stream, and by so doing, aid in driving the bow inwards. Nothing could have saved us if such an accident had occurred; yet here were those Indians chuckling over the danger they had only just escaped by the exertions of their greatest skill and of their utmost muscular power. They had needlessly and wittingly encountered it, for they could have gained the shore about a hundred yards higher up with comparative ease, and then lowered their canoes through the slack water pools in the rocks along the side to the place they had only reached with extreme danger. There was no use in arguing with them on the subject, they had confidence in themselves, and gloried in any danger they felt certain of overcoming. If any of these Indians say they can take you down a rapid, reliance may be placed on their doing so, as they will not attempt what they feel would be beyond their powers. Therein lies the great difference between them and the white-faced voyageur, who is often foolhardy, and prone to allow his pluck to overtax his strength and skill.

The name of Slave Falls is in memory of a base act perpetrated there some generations ago by the Chippewahs. The Sioux of the plains have always been their hereditary enemies, and from time immemorial raids have been made by each into the other's country. The Chippewahs on one of these forays had taken two prisoners, whom they kept as slaves. To gratify some passing whim, or to afford amusement to their children, they one day bound these poor wretches in a canoe, and in that manner sent them over these falls, so sublime by nature, but put to a cowardly and degrading use by what we are taught to call nature's noblest creature—man.

The banks of the river are wooded everywhere, poplar being the prevailing timber, interspersed here and there with poor birch and stunted pines. The syenite rocks and granite boulders were very grand at places and occasionally river-scenery was presented upon the largest imaginable scale.

Several large sized rivers join the Winnipeg, particularly from the west, up some of which the Hudson Bay Company have outlying posts. About half-way to Fort Alexander is an English missionary establishment, with a good farm attached, and a few Indian log shanties scattered around it. No clergyman resides there, but it is presided over by a catechist, who has a school where he teaches English to about twenty or thirty children. Now and then we came to a spot capable of cultivation, but as a general rule, the land on the Upper Winnipeg is poor, and unsuited for settlement.

We had a good deal of rain whilst descending it; but as we neared Fort Alexander the weather mended considerably, the days being warm and balmy, although the nights were always cool and sometimes extremely chilly.

The locality most celebrated for its danger is at the "seven portages," where the boats have to be unloaded and everything portaged that number of times, although the entire distance from the top of the first to the bottom of the seventh is only two and a half miles. The work was most wearisome upon both men and boats; every one looked forward to Fort Alexander as the end of their hard work, it being clear sailing from thence to Fort Garry. The finest

scenery on the river is at Silver Falls; there is nothing that can compare with them in Northern America to the eastward of Red River. Niagara is a thing apart, as there is nothing elsewhere that can be likened to it. Silver Falls as a great rapid also stands alone. Time pressed, so we had to hurry past them but their magnificent grandeur will long remain impressed upon the memory as a glorious picture, illustrating the vast power of running water. Owing to some dividing rocks above, the stream rushes down this steep incline in two separate volumes which appear so to jostle one another in their downward race, that in the centre the water is pushed up into a high ridge, marking their line of contact until both are lost in the great chaos of foam, spray, and broken water below.

(To be continued.)

THE TEXAS CATTLE KINGS.

THE MIGHTY STOCK FARMS OF THE PLAINS.

PARADISE OF FORTUNE HUNTERS.

(From the Pittsburg Commercial.)

Texas alone had 3,800,000 cattle, divided into 950,000 heaves, 950,000 cows, and 1,900,000 young cattle. The plains on which these cattle roam contain about 152,000,000 acres of ground. The principal pasturages are on the Nueces, Rio Grande, Guadalupe, San Antonio, Colorado, Leon Brazos, Trinity, Sabine, and Red Rivers. The cattle are owned by scores of ranchmen, each one of whom has from 1000 to 75,000 head. On the Santa Catantios river is a ranch containing 84,132 acres. It is owned by one man, Richard King, and has 65,000 cattle, 20,000 horses, 7000 sheep, and 8000 goats. This immense number of live stock requires 1000 saddle horses and 300 Mexicans to attend and herd it. 10,000 heaves are annually sold from the ranch, and 12,000 young calves branded. There is another ranch on the San Antonio river, near Gohad, which grazes 40,000 head of cattle, and brands 11,000 head of calves annually. Mr. O'Connor, the owner of this ranch, sells \$75,000 worth of stock each year, and his herds are constantly increasing. In 1852 he began cattle raising with 1500 head, and his present enormous herds and wealth are the result of natural increase. On the Gulf, between the Rio Grande and Nueces, is a ranch containing 142,840 acres, and owned by Mr. Robideaux. It is on a peninsula, surrounded on three sides by water, and to enclose the other side has required the building of 31 miles of plank fence. Every three miles along the fence are houses for the herders, and enormous stables and dens for the stock. There are grazed in this enclosure 30,000 head of beef cattle, besides an immense number of other stock.

A ranch on the Brazos river contains 50,000 head of cattle, 300 horses, and 30 herders. John Hilson, the owner, drives 10,000 cattle annually. Ten years ago he was a poor farmer in Tennessee; but selling his land and going to the Brazos, he succeeded by dint of hard labor in getting together 60 cows and 9 brood mares, when he went to raising stock. He has now 50,000 head of cattle, worth \$150,000, and he is still only forty years of age. This man is establishing a ranch on the South Platte, in Nebraska, where he now has 5000 head of cattle and next spring will bring in 10,000 more.

The whole number of cattle brought North overland from Texas during the year 1870 did not fall short of 100,000 head. Of these 20,000 went to Montana, 8000 to Utah,

8000 to Nevada, 9000 to Wyoming, 10,000 to California, 11,000 to Idaho, and 30,000 to Colorado and New Mexico. The amount of money handled along the base of mountains in transferring the stock was over \$1,125,000. At Abilene, the great Kansas cattle market, over 200,000 head were handled. The shipments in September reached 60,000 head, and in October nearly 75,000 head. This immense trade may be estimated, when it is stated that it took 111 cars per day to transfer the stock, and one bank in Kansas city handled \$3,000,000 cattle money.

Texas, the great cattle live of the country, has during the past year received 300,000 settlers, and already cattle growers there feel that they must soon look elsewhere for untrammelled ranges. A few more years like the past—a few deductions of a million acres of pasture lands in a single season. Texas will be no more of a grazing State than New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio. Yet compare these States, and how do they stand now? New York, with her settlements of 250 years old and a population of 4,000,000, has 748,000 oxen and stock cattle; Pennsylvania, with over 3,000,000 people, has 721,000; Ohio, with 3,000,000 people, has 749,000; Texas, with 800,000 people, has 3,800,000 cattle alone.

The great Platte Valley has over 8,000,000 acres of rich pastures; but how long will these acres remain grazing grounds? The Union Pacific Railroad has already divided these lands from their eastern to their western extremity, and towns and villages are springing up everywhere along its iron rails, and farms are being opened on every side of them.

TRACTION ENGINES IN WAR.

In one of his recent letters from Versailles, Dr. Russell says:—"The Prussians neglect nothing: When the war broke out there were two traction engines, by Fowler, of Leeds, in use at some Prussian port—I think Swinemunde—under the charge of Mr. Toeppler, a Prussian engineer. He was hable to serve as a soldier, and, wishing to do better service with his engines than he could with his arms, he went to Count Moltke and explained the use of them. That eminent personage, whose mind grasps things great and small, had the engines tried, and was satisfied they could be made of use, and so they have been indeed, ever since the siege of Toul till the present moment, when they are to work at Corbeil dragging ammunition, &c., on the road for the park at Villacoublay. Each is provided with a rope five hundred yards long, and a drum to wind it; and in case of the gradient being too steep for the engine to drag the load up, the rope is used for the stationary engine made fast at the summit. As these engines can be made to work on road and on rail, there is no limit to the immense value the system may possess in war time in civilized countries."

The German Imperial crown is a foot high, of 24 and 21 carat gold, and heavily set with pearls. The sceptre is of silver gilt, and two feet long. The globe carried in the hand is of the finest gold, 2½ inches in diameter, and encircled by two rings, one perpendicular and half covered with jewels, and the other horizontal and entirely crusted with gems. On top is a cross which blazes with precious stones. These insignias have long been kept in the Hofbourg, at Vienna, and will be brought forth for Kaiser Wilhelm's coronation.

"Colonel" Lynch, the Fenian convict, one of the party engaged in Fort Erie affair of 1866, has been released from Kingston Penitentiary, owing to the weak state of his health, by order of the Governor General in Council



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Wednesday, 19th day of April, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Customs, and under the authority given by the 5th Section of the Act 31st Vic. Cap. 6, intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs;" His Excellency has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the Port of Morrisburgh, in the County of Dundas, and Province of Ontario, shall be and the same is hereby ordered into and constituted a Warehousing Port, within the meaning of that Act.

W. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council,
Canada.
Ottawa, April 27th, 1871. 18-31



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,

6th day of April, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS it has been represented to His Excellency, that the public convenience would be promoted if the Custom House Station at Esquimaux Point, which is situate in closer proximity to the Port of Gaspé, than to that of Quebec, with which it is now connected, was detached from the last mentioned Port and erected into an Out Port of Entry, and placed under the survey of the Port of Gaspé.

His Excellency the Governor General, on the recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Customs, and under and in pursuance of the 8th section of the Act 31st Victoria, Cap. 6, intituled: "An Act respecting the Customs," has been pleased to Order, and it is hereby Ordered, that on from and after the First day of April, inst., the Port of Esquimaux Point shall be, and is hereby detached from the Port of Quebec, and placed under the survey of the Port of Gaspé, in the Province of Quebec.

WM. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council,
Canada.
Ottawa, April 10th, 1871. 16-31



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F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, April 1st, 1871. } 15-1m

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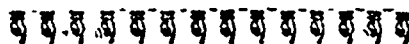
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