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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. VIII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1874.

No. 6.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The peaceable manner in which the elections in this country have been conducted compared with the rioting and murder attendant on almost every election in Great Britain and Ireland, speaks volumes for the law-abiding subjects of our glorious Dominion. The elections, however, have so far preponderated largely in favor of the Conservative party. It is a singular coincidence in the revolution that has taken place in the position of political parties at home and in this country here the Reformers are sweeping all before them, there it is the Conservatives.

The news from the Gold Coast is cheering—the Ashantee war is ended. The King has accepted Sir Garnet Wolseley's terms of peace.

The latest news from the gold coast is encouraging. The British forces had advanced unopposed to within a day's march of the capital. A German missionary who had been held in captivity, had been sent to Sir Garnet Wolseley to treat for peace. The troops were generally in good health, but fresh proof had been given of the unreliableness of the native allies.

The following important despatch from Sir Garnet Wolseley was received to day by the War office:—"All the white prisoners held by the Ashantees have been delivered to me. The King accepted my terms for cessation of hostilities which he asked, and has agreed to pay an indemnity of £200,000. We halt for a few days thirty miles from Coomassie."

It is reported that Gladstone has sent his resignation to the Queen, seeing the Elocutions have gone against him.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was installed as master of the Prince of Wales Lodge at Willis's Room, London, on a recent afternoon.

Whether or not the Princess Maria, the bride of the Duke of Edinburgh, shall precede the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, is said to be now agitating the English court circles. Queen Victoria and the Czar are said to interest themselves in the matter, the former advocating the claim of her daughter, and the latter that of his. The dispute is to be settled by the Herald's college.

The Queen is still at Osborne, and it is expected will remain there until the middle of February, when Her Majesty will return to Windsor to receive the Duke of Wellington and his bride.

Professor Kuskin has sent an address to an Aberdeen Bible class, which pointedly concludes thus:—"Don't think it serves God by praying instead of obeying."

The Trades Unions Congress at Sheffield has declined to associate itself with the Geneva Universal League of Workmen, the delegates evincing great disinclination to connect themselves with any revolutionary associations. At Wednesday's meeting Mr. Goldwin Smith made an interesting speech respecting the advantages of emigration to the United States and Canada.

Charles Studdert Maunsel, late a Captain in the 82nd Regiment, was committed for trial on a charge of assaulting the Duke of Cambridge. The defendant admitted the assault, and expressed regret, but excused himself by reciting the story of his alleged wrongs, in being refused a brevet promotion on retirement from the army.

A vessel has arrived at Portsmouth from the Gold Coast with one hundred invalid soldiers, lately belonging to the Ashantee expedition.

The famine in India is increasing. It is estimated that 150,000 natives are already distressed for lack of food.

It is expected that the large store of arms at the Tower of London will be removed to Woolwich and deposited at the dockyard in charge of the Control Department, and that the ancient armour at the Tower is to be taken to South Kensington. The removal of the Crown jewels was also contemplated, but appears to have been abandoned as soon as thought of, as too serious a violation of the traditions of the place, the character of which as a museum or show-place for visitors would in that case have been utterly destroyed. The idea, somewhat vague at present, is that those changes are in accordance with some scheme of the City Corporation, a scheme by which the larger buildings in the vicinity, occupied as the Mint and the Custom House, are equally affected, the city being in need of some river frontage, which, by transferring the Mint to the Tower, and the Custom House to the Mint, it may at some cost obtain.

The session of the Reichstag was opened today with a speech from the throne, delivered by Imperial commission. The Emperor regrets that he cannot attend the opening in person. He enumerates as among the principal measures to be submitted during the session, bills relating to the army, the press, trades unions, and marine jurisdiction. The speech concludes with assurance that all nations of Europe are resolved to preserve peace.

Archbishop Ledochowski will be tried on the 11th instant on no other charge, except refusal to pay fines. He may yet be released, if the fines are paid. The Emperor has declined to interfere in the case, notwithstanding the great influence brought to bear in the Archbishop's favor.

General De La Marmora today requested permission to resign his seat in the Chamber of Deputies, but the Chamber refused his resignation, and decided to grant him two months' leave of absence.

The Minister of War has received intelligence of a desperate engagement near Lerida between Republicans and Carlists. The latter were defeated with heavy loss in both killed and wounded.

A profound sensation has been caused at Versailles by articles in the North German Gazette urging restrictions on the freedom of the Church and the Ultramontane press in France and Belgium.

CANADA.

Mr. C. J. Bridges has been appointed chairman of the Board of Intercolonial Railway Commissioners in the place of Mr. Walsh, resigned.

The next Annual Convention of the Dairymen's Association of Canada, will be held at Belleville, commencing on Wednesday, the 11th of February. The Committee are spring no pains in order to make this Convention the most profitable of any before held. The services of eminent gentlemen, both from the United States and Canada, having been secured for the occasion.

The Dominion Government have forwarded to the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick a gold watch for presentation to Capt. John C. Wilson, who gallantly rescued the crew of the schooner *Scordish*, of Miramichi, N. B.

Two men of the 60th Rifles were badly burned by the explosion of powder a few days ago at Point Pleasant. They, with a number of other men, were at work in an excavation, and were withdrawing a charge from a boring when the powder exploded, and both were badly burned about the arms and face. Their names are Edward Brown and Amos Allison.

It is stated that the Gih Company Royal Engineers, which recently arrived at the School of Military Engineering from the Carriagh, will shortly proceed to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

We see by the proceedings of the County Council of York, reported in the *Toronto Globe*, that a grant of three thousand dollars sometime since recommended by the Finance Committee, has been recently passed for the purpose of building Barrack and Company drill shed for the Volunteers of the County. This is as it should be, and it speaks well for the Volunteer spirit so substantially manifested in the sum thus given by the good old County of York.

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

THE BRITISH ADVANCE.

CAPE COAST CASTLE, Dec. 14.—On the 27th ultimo Colonel Wood attacked, with a few hundreds of his irregulars, the Ashantee rear guard, and drove them pell mell into Faisu, when the whole force under Amanquattia at once turned out, and compelled him to make a very speedy retreat. The want of disciplined troops was then most severely felt, for although the Houssas and Kussus fought most pluckily and daringly as long as their side was on the offensive, they became quite panic stricken once it became necessary to retreat; in fact, it is unfortunately too notorious that they ignominiously ran, and that all the efforts of the few European officers with them were unavailing to stop them. At length, the arrival of darkness and of a few West India troops under Sub Lieutenant Patchett put an end to the fighting, and averted what otherwise might have been a great disaster, as the Ashantees had assumed the formation of an immense horse shoe, and had almost enveloped the small force opposed to them.

The following day Amanquattia evacuated Faisu and marched further north, and today Colonel Wood's command, which has been reinforced by 100 men sent up by King George of Bonny and commanded by his son, Prince Charles, leaves Satah for that station, where it will probably be encamped for a few days until more certain intelligence of the Ashantee movements has been gained.

A detachment of fifty Europeans, consisting of the blue jackets and marines, arrived a few hours ago, and have taken up their quarters in the new huts specially built for their accommodation. All along the road from Cape Coast and at intervals of about ten miles barracks for Europeans are being constructed, some of which give promise of being very comfortable indeed. These huts are constructed of bamboo, which is plentiful in every part of the country, and are thatched with palm leaves; and it is surprising to watch the rapidity with which they are put up.

One of the prisoners lately taken near Dunquah, on being informed that it was our intention to go to Coomassie, burst out laughing and ridiculed the idea. On Col. Festing asking him what he meant and why the idea appeared to him so very absurd, he replied that no English army could ever get to Coomassie, for that the whole Ashantee nation would turn out, and that the only passage would be over their dead bodies. But, in spite of this bravado, King Koffee Kallalli, monarch of Ashantee, must by this time have begun to quake in his shoes, for it must have become evident to him that the white man's determination is not to be shaken; and that, plucky, determined, and numerous as his troops may be, they are no match for those terrible men who come against them, armed with rockets and with the rocket's "pickin'" (child)—as they have christened the Snider, thereby intimating that in their opinion it is the next terrible weapon against which they have to contend; and they ought to know, for during the last few months some thousands of rounds have poured into them. We are now barely fifteen miles from the Prah, and every step we advance facilitates our movements, as the country is becoming gradually clearer and sufficiently open to admit of troops moving through it and seeing what they are about.

The real work of the war must now soon begin. So far nothing has been done save

making preparations for the real business to come, and most effective and most thoughtful preparations they have been. Mansu is one vast storehouse and hospital, where everything necessary for the sick and wounded is to be found; but on reaching the Prah, which we shall do shortly, I presume that all preparatory measures must of necessity cease, and that the fighting, which these preparations have led up to, will then commence in earnest. If I may venture upon anticipating what Sir Garnet's plan will probably be, I should say that after having collected his troops at Prahsu he will make a dash for Coomassie and strike blow upon blow and deliver fencer upon fencer until the capital of the Ashantees be reached; for, when one comes to think of it, it would be absurd to suppose that the systematic advance which is being made on this side of the Prah can be attempted on the other if the campaign is to be finished this dry season, and we are much more likely to carry terror into the hearts of the Ashantees by following the celebrated dictum of Danton—"De l'audace, encore de l'audace, toujours de l'audace." If there be a leader prepared to carry that advice into effect, I am much mistaken if that leader be not Sir Garnet. During the short time he has been here he has completely won over those under his command, and speaking to an officer the other day I casually asked whether he considered that Sir Garnet was a popular leader, when he replied: "My dear fellow, he is the kind of a man a fellow would go to— for." Such a remark as that speaks volumes, and no leader capable of calling forth such sentiment could be unsuccessful.

The expedition probably will not suffer through the laying down of the railway turning out to be impracticable, for the energetic and hard-working officer in charge of the transport branch of the Control Department, Commissary O'Connor, works night and day to prevent any breakdown in that all important branch. At five o'clock every morning he may be seen in the Castle yard mustering his Amazons, giving them their loads, and despatching them to their destinations, and it not infrequently happens that just as, tired and leg-weary, he is about to tumble into bed, a messenger will come to him with a requisition for a hammock for some person going off to the front. Owing to combination of fortuitous circumstances, he is now superintending and performing single-handed the duties of the transport branch at Cape Coast Castle, and, moreover, owing to the indisposition of Controller Irvine, he had at one time the duties of senior control officer to perform in addition to his own.

Runaways report that Amanquattia and his army crossed the Prah, and are clear of Fanteeland; and it may now be accepted as a fact that Sir Garnet Wolseley, without any extraneous aid, and merely with the materials he found on his arrival at Cape Coast Castle has cleared the Gold Coast of the Ashantees, and rendered a march on Coomassie possible. The troops who have come out all appear to be in very high spirits and to be eager for the fray, as true Britons always are; and it was very amusing to see the manner in which every one boarding the *Himalaya* was outdone by some of the fresh arrivals, and asked all kinds of questions as to what was going on; the two most important queries, as a rule, being respecting the whereabouts of the Ashantees and the amount of personal luggage they could take to the front.

The *Himalaya* has brought news that the Forty second Highlanders and the Twenty-seventh Regiment have been ordered out. This intelligence has given intense satisfaction, as if the Ashantees really intend fighting; our force, with that addition, will not be a bit too numerous after we cross the Prah. I say if the Ashantees really intend fighting; for I still adhere to the opinion I expressed long ago that when the Ashantee chiefs are fully convinced of their impotence against the army which we shall put into the field, peace will be asked for. Up to the present they have no reason to believe that they cannot contend with us with some chance of success in the bush, and particularly in their own country, where they will have abundant supplies of both men and ammunition; but if they entertain any such ideas, the first real fight will destroy the illusion, and show them the hopelessness of resistance.

Everything is now quiet, but we are gradually and surely pushing our way. The labours of the nine weeks are now beginning to bear fruit, and in the next three weeks will probably culminate with a storm upon the Prah such as we never witnessed there before.

The *Tamer* came with the Second Battalion of the Twenty third Regiment and some artillery; all well on board.

I understand that both the *Himalaya* and *Tamer* are to cruise well out to sea until the 30th instant, and if this information be correct, as I have every reason to believe it is, the Prah cannot be crossed by the main body until the end of the first week in January. The difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of labourers for the transport department still exists; half the number required is not forthcoming in spite of most enticing wages; and although the Elminas have cried peccavimus and have sued for pardon, none of them will come forward and work. The *Adela* will leave and call at the different ports along the coast as far as the Gambia in search of recruits for the Transport Corps.—*Liverpool Post*.

LIFE IN THE ENEMY'S CAMP.

CAPE COAST CASTLE, Dec. 13th.—Before attacking the Ashantee camp at Mampon, you will remember that messengers were sent from Elmina and Cape Coast Castle to the Ashantee Commander-in-chief. I had the good fortune the other day at Elmina to fall in with the bearer of the letter to Amanquattiah from that place, and to hear his story. It is worth repeating, if only for the insight which it gives into the inner life of the Ashantee camp. It furnishes, also, an idea of the fighting at Dunquah, from an Ashantee point of view. Not much importance, it would seem, was attached to this man's mission at headquarters, and he was shortly succeeded by the more important embassy of native police men, from Sir Garnet Wolseley, who had an interview with Amanquattiah while the Elmina messenger was there. These envoys direct from Sir Garnet Wolseley were courteously treated and allowed to return. The story this man tells is as follows—

"I was called by Quamina Esserie, Chief of Elmina, and asked if I could go to the big General at the Ashantees camp. I said I should fear to go—I might be killed. He replied 'That is impossible; neither the Ashantees nor any other nation would kill or detain an ambassador in time of war.' I, therefore, agreed to go, and at three next morning he came and woke me, and sent me to the Governor of the Castle (of El-

mini). He handed me the letter and sent an Ashantee prisoner to accompany me, with instructions to give the letter to no one but the great General. He also gave us each ten shillings and a few biscuits for our subsistence. About twelve o'clock the same day, at about an hour's distance from the Ashantee camp, we met two of their men, who asked who we were, and demanded the letter. We refused, as we would only give it to the General himself. When we reached the camp the General rose up and asked me to read the letter; but as I could not, he sent for a native scholar of Aquassim near Accra, who had been made captive, to read and explain it. He said it was, 'The Queen of England greets you, and finds you to be the only powerful King on this coast. She sincerely wishes you a prosperous victory. The merchants of England greet you and require you to make out your expenses during this war, and they will pay it. I deem it advisable for you to go back to your country and make your abode behind the Prah, for the place you now occupy is under the Queen's protection, and you and your master are unable to resist her power. The Queen allows you two weeks to remove from this place, otherwise unpleasant steps will be taken against you.'

It is not unlikely that some such translation was given to Amanquattiah, and quite certain that the Governor of Elmina sent a very different message.

"While the interpreter explained all the people gave audience. The same evening other messengers (policemen) came in with a letter to the King of Ashantee; but the General said it must be opened, for he had power to do whatever was right. The letter was opened privately, but I heard the contents were the same as above. Before I was sent the General had made up his mind to remove farther into the bush, hearing that the white troops were preparing to come against him. But his Mahometan priests prophesied, and swore the great forbidden oath of the King of Ashantee, that he must not remove yet, for two separate messengers would be sent to him—one from the right and one from the left—and if these statements were not fulfilled in three days their (the priests') heads might be cut off. The said messengers were the policemen and myself. When we reached the camp the priests were chewing medicine, and praying with their heads bowed to the earth. The General finding that they were true men, presented them with sheep and money. Next day the General sent the policemen and three Ashantees to Cape Coast Castle. He presented them with gold. When I asked if I might go away also, he said 'No; for you Elminas are rogues. I will deliver you to the King of Ashantee as he will give you an answer.' I said it was not lawful to detain a messenger; and he replied—'Silence!' I had to swear the great oath that if I were caught running away my head might be cut off. Next day we marched from there, and I had to carry a package on my head. We had to pass the white troops at Fort Napoleon. We went on to Dunquah; it took us fifteen days. In the middle of the thick bush for those fifteen days we could get nothing (little) to eat, and I swore that over two hundred souls died of hunger. Then the white troops came and fired at them; they fought a little and then both sides retreated. Next day was; (Thursday) a lucky day for them in fighting; and the young men and the sons of lords said, 'Let us go and attack these foolish white men to-day. We are powerful, and we ought to occupy the main road

from Duquah to Prahsu.' The same moment they swore the big oath that by that road they would pass on; that it was impossible they should not fight on Thursday; that it was on a Thursday they had before fought at Dunquah and killed all the Royal families (of the Fantees), and so they must on this Thursday attack them, take the road, and go away, for there was too much hunger in the place. Amanquattiah was the first who swore the great oath. I saw, about an hour after the attack, when he put on his war-dresses and took something to eat out of his package, that he took something out and set his eyes on it. The thing showed him bad, and smote his breast and prayed to his gods. They did all they could to overcome the white troops and to get the road to Mansu, and to get ammunition and eatables from the white troops, but in vain. Princes and sons of lords and chiefs died; altogether the number that died and were wounded, and are not to be supposed to live in this world, was over 2,000. Even the General's bodyguard assisted to fight, but in vain. The General felt great sorrow that day, and next morning we heard three guns fired, inviting the Ashantees again to go and fight, and they sent to spy the bush. Shortly after we heard that the white troops were close upon us, and I assure you we ran 'as much fast as we could.' The General himself actually ran. Many of his things were taken by the white troops, though his best things were sent by his wives to Ashantee. But the Royal things he took from the Fantees, part of his own things, and the Royal death bones, all were taken from him that day. His senior General, Essamooaquanta, sent fresh troops to assist him. About a week after this the senior General was much vexed. He drew his sword and said, 'You Ashantee people swore before the King his great oath that you will fight to the last drop of blood to claim Elmina and Cape Coast Castle, for which the King supplied you all with ammunition and a great deal of gold dust. Now you Ashantee people disappoint him, and, instead of claiming any of these forts, you consume all the chiefs, princes, and sons of lords. O upon my star, I will not bear it.' So shortly after he and his troops went to the thick bush, and the black troops of the white men came and fired at us. The Ashantees did not fire, but lay down with their breasts to the earth, and then when the Fantees cried to their commanding officer for more powder, the Ashantees rose and caught them. Report was brought to Amanquattiah that sixty had been beheaded and seventy taken alive. I do not expect any more fighting, because the Ashantees have received word from prisoners that there are white troops at Dunquah, Mansu, Abrakrampa, Yankoomassie, and Prahdo; and as their powder remaining is only 300 kegs, 20 lbs each, they will take another way to go back to the Prah—through the thick bush."

The prisoner then narrates how he effected his own escape. It seemed that in the fight after the great battle he hid himself in the hollow of a tree. When found by the enemy he pretended that he belonged to "the big General's" troops, but was too ill to follow them. By this ruse he excited the compassion of the retreating Ashantees, who seemed sorry to leave a comrade thus helpless. There appears no reason to doubt that the object of the attack on Abrakrampa and Dunquah was to gain the main road, and if possible to capture our supplies, and that after the failure at Dunquah the enemy became so completely disheartened as to resolve to do their best to get through the

thick bush to the Prah, afraid, apparently if they attempted the main road they might again encounter white faces."

I learn from Sir Garnet Wolseley that the force which he will take to Coomassie, including the three battalions from England, the West Indians, Kossus, and Houssas, will be 9,000 strong. There will be no Fantees, except those employed as carriers. I may add that Elmina is naturally a far superior place to Cape Coast Castle. I see no reason why it should not be rendered as free of fever as a European town.—*London Telegraph*.

INSPECTION OF THE 8TH BATTALION, STADACONA RIFLES.—Yesterday evening this Battalion mustered in great force in the Drill Shed, St. Lewis Road, to undergo their annual inspection by Lieutenant-Colonel Casault, C. M. G. The battalion was formed into column of companies, five in number, and received the Inspecting Officer at half-past eight o'clock. After the inspection of the companies, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Alleyn put the battalion through the manual and firing exercises. Then the Adjutant, Captain LeSueur, put them through the bayonet exercise. Several officers were called out in turn to put the battalion through different manoeuvres, all which were executed in very creditable style. At the conclusion the Inspecting Officer expressed himself very much pleased with the general appearance and proficiency of the battalion. There were about 250 spectators present many of whom were ladies. Lieutenant-Colonel Strange and the officers of the B. Battery, the Militia Staff, Colonel Knight, Lieutenant-Colonel Pope, Major Turnbull, and many of our prominent citizens were present to witness the review. After the inspection the officers of the battalion invited the Inspecting Officer and other officials to a sumptuous supper at the Stadacona Club.—*Quebec Mercury*.

TURKISH INDIFFERENCE.—Mr. Layard, the eastern explorer, once requested a Mohammedan official to give him some statistics of the city in which he lived. He received in reply a letter, of which the following is an extract:—"My Illustrious Friend and Joy of my Liver: The thing you ask of me is both difficult and useless. Although I have passed all my days in this place, I have neither counted the houses, nor have I inquired into the number of inhabitants; and as to what one person loads on his mule and the other stows away in the bottom of his ship, this is no business of mine. But above all, as to the previous history of this city, God only knows the amount of dirt and confusion that the infidels may have eaten before the coming of the sword of Islam. It were unprofitable for us to inquire into it. Oh, my soul! oh, my lamb! seek not after the things which concern thee not. Thou comest unto us and we welcome thee; go in peace."

The bridge to be constructed over the Frith of Forth will be by far the largest in the world. According to the London Builder, its heights will be one hundred and fifty feet, and the number of spans nearly one hundred. The smaller span will be one hundred and fifty feet wide, which is beyond the average width of the largest span in ordinary bridges; but the crowning marvel in the whole structure is the great span in the centre which is to be fifteen hundred feet, or nearly one third of a mile in width, an extent unparalleled in any existing structure of the kind. The entire cost of the bridge will be at least ten million of dollars.

LORD DERBY ON OUR MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

When ever Lord Derby speaks he secures a favorable hearing, because he is certain to utter manly English sense and sentiment. Although he has shown himself on many an occasion a stout party man, he has never given up to party what was meant for mankind. Belonging to the cooler order of Conservative statesmen, he never or rarely exaggerates, but, measuring his language, he remembers the past as well as the present, and spakes with an eye to bygone as well as futuro history. Moreover, he has the great merit of recognizing and not shirking facts, however distasteful they may be to his mind, and he is ready to grapple with them, not as an enthusiast who sees only one side, but as a man of business, sober practical, who believes that the means adopted must apply to actual exigencies, not to fantastic cases easily conjured up by a vivid imagination. In addressing the Liverpool Volunteers on Wednesday he displayed the qualities we have described, and never transgressed the limits of reasonable appreciation. His picture of the time—"We live in an age when armies have assumed more gigantic proportions than in any period known to us in history"—is strictly accurate. It is repulsive, not to say abhorrent, to his nature, but he manfully declares that "we must accept the fact." And England, without distinction of party, indorses his statement. Germany, wisely mindful of a threatened revenge, has added considerably to her already enormous disposable forces. France, supposed to be intent on recovering lost Provinces, and extorting an equivalent for a huge indemnity, has, after her own fashion, imitated Germany, while Russia, not open to attack like her great neighbor or the recently stricken Western Power, has entered on a system of recruitment and organization which she hopes will give her a numerical preponderance. Austria is not behind-hand, for Hungary alone supplies a formidable native army of renowned fighting men, while even Turkey has striven, not altogether unsuccessfully, to imitate the greater European powers. Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, with more or less success, follow in the same track; and Lord Derby is amply justified when he says that "never since the world began have such masses been drilled and disciplined for the purpose of war." He looks on it as a reaction, a recurrence to the practice of primitive communities; he regards it as "injurious, almost disastrous to civilization," but he accepts a fact which no nation can overlook without peril. No doubt there is only a superficial likeness between the army of Von Moltke and the soldiers of Arminius, and only a fanciful resemblance between the disciplined and organized levies of our time and those of a primitive era; yet, beyond question, the state of Europe warrants the language used by Lord Derby.

Nor can we be indifferent to its existence. Without imitating Germany, France, or Russia, we must approximate towards their status. A maritime power, we rely mainly on the iron walls of England, not only to keep her safe, but to guard, defend, and, if need be, increase an empire which has possessions in every land washed by ocean waters. Still, ships alone cannot do the work. They secure command of the sea, protect commerce, keep open communications between the island centre of power and distant provinces. Beyond the indispensable fleet, always our ark of safety,

we must have troops; and so widely extended dominion involves the penalties of greatness, so eloquently described by Lord Derby, we must provide for periods when the regular army, in larger proportions than usual, may be absent from our shores. How can that be accomplished save by raising and organizing those auxiliary forces which, dropped out of sight so long, were recalled on a memorable occasion nearly fifteen years ago? Taught by experience, we revived the militia, and, spurred on by the teachings of contemporary history, we established the volunteers. The country would not submit then, or now, to those sacrifices required for the construction of a powerful army based on the German, which is, indeed, the old English type; the expedients set up in its place are more suited to modern nations. Lord Derby is quite right in cautioning his hearers not to overrate the military efficiency of our defensive forces. They are makeshifts; they do not correspond to the soldier's ideal; they are superior, as we believe, to the French mobiles; they are inferior to the German Landwehr; but they constitute the only kind of supplementary force which public opinion will endure. It is true, as Lord Derby says, that in general culture and capacity the surpass the average found in the line, and it is probably that, like the American levies in the Succession War, they would excel professional soldiers in the art of shifting for themselves. But, when all these allowances are made, the militia and volunteers represent inchoate forces, and, if ever they are wanted, the work of making them really effective will have to be done there and then. It would be wrong, however, to suppose that, as a nation, we do not stand in a better plight than we did in 1858. During the fifteen years which have passed since General Peel issued his famous permissive circular, scores of thousands have not only undergone an elementary military training, but have learned to handle the rifle so skilfully as to produce trained shots whose average performances equal, if they do not surpass, those of the regulars. That alone is an immense gain, all the greater because it rests on a basis of elementary drill. Nevertheless, if war broke out to-morrow, the home defensive army, apart from the establishment, would have to be created, a feat no minister could perform unless he had ample time. That is an aspect of this important question upon which Lord Derby is wholly silent; yet it is ever present to the minds of all who take a serious view of our military position.

In the present state of public opinion, perhaps always, we shall go on as we have gone on for nearly two centuries, trusting to fortune, British pluck and the energies of an hour, to parry the blows of emergency. Our sagacity and practical vigour are almost absorbed in politics and trade, excepting, of course, the navy, which is organized, nourished, and sustained on sound principles. We are sometimes described as a warlike but not a military nation, meaning that we are always ready to defend ourselves or our belongings anywhere on the earth, improvising the means as we go forward, and yielding, in a contest, only to indisputable necessity. While we maintain a navy on a basis of long sighted calculation, preparing for probable war and possible contingencies, our military forces are kept just abreast, occasionally below, actual everyday needs. In that respect we differ from all great Powers, the chief reason being that we are girdled and guarded by the sea. Another is the rare necessity which impels us to

take part in Continental wars, and the apparent remoteness of a danger, which, nevertheless, may come at any moment and find us relatively unprepared as we were in 1827 and 1854. But probably the main effective reason is that "desire to get on industriously and socially," that "wish to get settled early in some permanent employment," to which Lord Derby referred, and we may add that British dislike of restraint which ages of independence have fostered and confirmed. Otherwise, the advantages embodied in the idea of making the army "something like a great training school," where order, punctuality, obedience, discipline, readiness to cope with sudden demands, in one word, duty in its largest sense, might and should be taught, would not have escaped the notice of a practical community. Lord Derby lightly touched on this "favorite idea of many people who speculate on military matters," and dismissed it with the remark that he had "always been sceptical" as to the plan we have described "getting itself realized on a large scale." His scepticism is founded on a correct appreciation of British human nature. The opposite proceedings, which he so rightly approved, that of meeting danger and hard tasks by an outburst of voluntary spirit—suits at least existing opinion better than any largely forecasting systematized preparation. He spoke of an eagerness to serve on the Gold Coast as if it were only on the part of the officers, but he might have added that there was not less promptitude among the men. So long as that spirit lasts, he said, so long as a sense of public duty is kept alive, "defects of organization may, indeed, give us trouble and inconvenience, but we need not doubt that we shall come right in the end." Yet it would be well to remember that in a real and sudden ordeal involving the very life of the country, we should suffer more than trouble and inconvenience by relying on patriotic forces improvised to encounter a stupendous peril.

THE NOVGOROD RUSSIAN MONITOR.—The *Borsen Zeitung* gives a description of the first vessel of the future Russian Black Sea fleet—the monitor Novgorod. It resembles a huge circular kettle of more than 100ft. diameter, and only rises a foot and a half out of the water. In the midst of it is a turret a fathom high and seven fathoms in diameter, with two 11 inch steel guns fitted to a moveable platform. The Novgorod is set in motion by six screws, and in the trial trip it moved at the rate of six and a half knots an hour. When fully equipped it draws 12 ft. 4 in. of water at the stem and 13 ft. 4 in. at the stern. The total cost of the construction of this new sea monster and of its conveyance from St. Petersburg, where it was built, to Nikolaioff is 2,500,000 roubles. Since the naval review held by the Emperor of Russia last August, at which 18 ironclads, including six frigates, three turret-ships, and seven monitors, and 30 other ships were present, an ironclad corvette, the German Admiral, has been launched at St. Petersburg. The engines of this vessel are stated to be of 6,300 horse-power, and its plates were constructed in the factories of the Russian Admiralty.

The canton of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, has resolved to place a portrait of the late Prof. Agassiz in his legislative hall.

A KICK AT THE SICK LION.

The curtain has fallen upon the drama of Metz, and Marshal Bazaine, like well-worn actor, leaves the stage. It were, perhaps, premature to say that he retires for ever from public view, for who can so "foresee the future" as to say with assurance what may or may not happen in a country so distracted as France? We are not going to speculate on a subject where all speculation would be in vain, yet we may fairly say that the consideration with which Bazaine has been treated since his conviction furnishes the best text for a commentary on the case, and the probabilities of the future. There are those, however and they are, of course, represented by the leading journal, since Bazaine is fallen, who only see in him as he passes into seclusion a "degraded man." The picture of the sick lion is a most disgusting one. "No charms of nature and no domestic diversions will be able to silence in his mind the perpetual contrast between what he is and what he might have been. All the possibilities of those three months at Metz, all the occasions for a great resolve, all the respect he might have won, and all the disgrace he has incurred, cannot be a perpetual torment to him amidst the monotony of an existence without public duties or interests. Even if in the excitement of his trial he has persuaded himself, as he says, that his conscience is clear, the verdict of the court-martial will none the less have inflicted its sting, and in long hours of solitary reflection he will be unable to silence its recorded reproach. If the President, as some think, has been merciful, he has none the less been compelled to inflict on his former comrade a punishment which in some respects must be worse than death."

Having thus satisfied the æsthetic demands of its readers a bit of touching portraiture, the *Times* puts the issue as follows:—"Had he been able to escape from Metz and place but the skeleton of an army at the service of his country, he would have won an imperishable claim to its gratitude; had he been overpowered in a desperate struggle by superior force, his renown would still have shone brightly in the annals of glory." It is on this point that we wish to say a last word. It was Bazaine's opinion that he could not fight his way through the German lines with a force that would have been of any service compared with the service of detaining 200,000 men of the enemy around Metz; and it was the opinion of the Council of War at Paris that he did good service by so detaining them. This being so, the other alternative of throwing himself against the enemy with the certainty of being overpowered, but at the same time of winning a name of renown in the annals of glory, is precisely one that we are bold to say a general in the position of Bazaine ought not for a moment to have entertained. This preference of Frenchmen for empty "glory" is that one of their characteristics which has ever been the most loudly condemned in England.

When the single minded and gallant soldier Leo—with whom we do not for a moment propose to compare Marshal Bazaine, or any other modern French commander—knew that the way of escape was completely barred to him, what happened? Colonel Chesney shall tell us in one of the most pathetic passages ever written in a military biography. Leo was confronted, like Bazaine, by the inevitable necessity of a disastrous capitulation, and like him had only one other alternative. "For a moment those who looked on him saw him

almost overcome; and the first words of complaint ever heard from his lips during the war broke sharply forth, I had rather die a thousand deaths!" Musing sadly for a few seconds, as his men's favourite cry broke on his ear, "There's Uncle Robert!" in deep sad tones he said to those near him, "How soon could I end all this and be at rest!" 'Tis but to ride down the line, and give the word, and all would be over." Then presently recovering his natural voice, he answered one who urged that the surrender might be misunderstood, "That is not the question. The question is whether it is right. And if it is right I take the responsibility." Then, after a brief silence, he added with a sigh, "It is our duty to live. What will become of the wives and children of the South if we are not here to protect them?" So saying he sent in his flag of truce without further hesitation to Grant. The coming action was stayed on the instant, and the struggle of the Confederacy was virtually over."

Again, when the heights all around Sedan were manned with the German batteries, ready to open fire, and an hour or two more would have sufficed to reduce the place to a heap of un-distinguishable ruin, brave old De Wimpffen had no idea of surrendering but proposed that the Emperor should place himself in the midst of a column of men, who would endeavour to cut their way through in the direction of Carignan. This was the blind and reckless instinct of the gallant soldier, thinking only of that same "glory" of which the *Times* speaks. The Emperor declined to save himself at the cost of such a fruitless sacrifice of life, and thought it equally honourable to surrender to an overpowering force. After this, General de Wimpffen assembled a council of war, composed of about thirty-two general officers, to consider the situation, when it was decided, only two dissentient voices objecting, that as any fresh struggle would but entail the useless sacrifice of many thousands of men, the capitulation should be signed. We may safely conclude from these notable instances that the pernicious notion of the *Times* that it is one of the duties of a commander-in-chief to raise for himself a monument of so called "glory" on the bodies of men uselessly slain, receives no countenance from the cooler judgments of military men themselves, who are the best judges in such a case. When De Wimpffen proposed to sacrifice a column of men for the glory of carrying off the Emperor, it was in the heat of battle, and an hour afterwards, in the midst of his most experienced generals, he decided otherwise. Leo, feeling for a moment the temptation like De Wimpffen, decided for himself in accordance with the inspirations of humanity and sound policy.

But the *Times* suggests, if it does not absolutely affirm, that if Bazaine had passed the German lines with only the skeleton of an army the service to his country would have been so great as to deserve its gratitude. But is this really so? Let us consider what might possibly have happened had the investment of Metz been voluntarily abandoned by the Germans, and if Marshal Bazaine, known to be devoted to the Government by which he had been sent into the field, had commenced—as he then must have done—his march on Paris. Was there no danger that the Republican levies of Gambetta would cross his path, and, if so, what would have been the consequences? Let us hear the *Times* once more: The restlessness, the lack of any institution or authority capable of commanding unreserved

devotion, which is the chronic disease of France, is seen in its worst symptom in "Bazaine's fall." Why, the gravamen of the charge against Bazaine is, that he preserved his devotion to the Empire to which he and his soldiers had sworn allegiance! Had he possessed the versatility of a Trochu, the restlessness of a Gambetta, or that fatal suppleness of character which has characterized so many Frenchmen high in authority, he might indeed have immolated his army instead of surrendering it. But after all, if the destruction of the Commune, and the resuscitation of the French army since the close of the war, have been of any service to France, it is worthy of consideration how far the country was indebted for these results to his conservative policy.

But the *Times* goes on to say: "Assuming, as we must, the finding of the court-martial to be true, it is France which is the real victim of Bazaine's career." In the first place, why must we assume the infallibility of a court composed of half a dozen obscure generals headed by an Orleanist prince? Frenchmen are themselves divided in opinion as to the justice of the verdict, and why must Englishmen be of one mind on the subject? We have the evidence before us, and the old British love of fair play compels us to be guided, not by what other people have decided, but by what that evidence points to, and what must be the logical conclusion from it.

The truth is—and it cannot be too strongly insisted on—the situation in the then state of France was one of unprecedented difficulty. Those who contend for the observance of a hard and fast line between military and political circumstances in this particular instance forget that these two elements in the constitution of a State were at that time everywhere mingled in a state of chaotic confusion; and Gambetta himself, the most violent accuser of Bazaine, more than any other man in authority, subordinated military to political considerations in his administration of the army and his distribution of commands, if not in his strategy. This part of the question is one upon which the lapse of time may be expected to throw much additional light. It extends from the situation of Metz to the whole conduct of the war, and the appointments made by Gambetta in the south and east of France. However, *Ve victis!* the last kick at the sick lion is given by the leading journal.

The *Anglo-Brazilian Times* claims the acquaintance of a living Brazilian who was born on the 29th May, 1695, and who is consequently in his 178th year. Don José Martino Coutinho is, we are assured, still in possession of his mental faculties, and the only bodily ailment he complains of is "stiffness in the leg joints," which, for a gentleman of his years, is hardly to be wondered at. In his youth Coutinho fought as a soldier in Pernambuco against the Dutch, and remembers the most notable facts in the reigns of Don John V., Don José, and Donna Maria I. It is added that he can count 123 grandchildren, 86 great grandchildren, 23 great great grandchildren, and 21 great great great grandchildren, which is, perhaps the astonishing part of the story.

A fire in Constantinople, on Monday night, destroyed over one hundred houses, including the residence of the Grand Vizier. Spain has provisionally recalled her diplomatic representatives from Berlin, Vienna and several other European capitals.

In Alsace the French candidates for the German Reichstag have been elected by overwhelming majorities.

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Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 1874.

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

We republish in another column from the pages of the *United States Army and Navy Journal*, the report of a speech in the House of Representatives by a Mr. ARCHER, on the condition of the naval force of the United States, which exhibits in a striking manner the state of decay into which it has been allowed to fall; and we cannot but be astonished that a people so astute as our neighbours, should so thoroughly neglect what is to every power with a sea frontier a first consideration, the maintenance of a primary line of defence. The object in detaining the Spanish frigate, *Arapiles*, in dock at Brooklyn, is now more fully apparent, as that vessel alone would be quite able to lay New York under contribution, or do it such injury as the cost of a naval force many times greater than the United States ever maintained could repair; and it is evident that there is not a city on the whole sea

board that could resist insult from a third class naval power.

We should be sorry to think the sober sense of the majority of the nation approved of the course pursued by the majority of the members of Congress in crippling the navy and reducing the military force—it is undoubtedly to be traced to the commercial spirit which has pervaded the Legislative body and cannot look on anything that has not the appearance of immediate gain,—this spirit has of late years dominated amongst all people who have adopted Representative Institutions, and is most destructive to all notions of patriotism or national honor. It cannot be a very pleasant reflection for those officers and soldiers who have shed their blood freely for their country, to find the arbiters of that country's destiny and their own usefulness to be of higgling backwoods grocers ready to barter both for the chance of making a saving, as they call it, of a few dollars, which, as Mr. ARCHER fairly showed, would in the end be the means of squandering untold millions. Meantime the exposure is not a pleasant one, the *millenium* has not yet arrived, many repetitions of the *Virginius* affair will occur before it does, and it is just possible our neighbours may be caught napping. We should very much regret the occurrence of a *contre temps* which is inevitable if their naval force is allowed to sink lower in the scale.

The following from the *Quebec Saturday Budget* of 17th January, points out the inevitable fate of all *fortifications* under the ancient system, and although we may regret the loss of the walls of the ancient capital of Canada, with the stirring historical recollections which they never failed to awaken in the mind, we cannot gainsay the fact that they have served their purpose, are not only now useless, but obstructive, and therefore the city council has acted in the interest of the community.

"As a preliminary step to the removal of the useless barriers created by the crumbling walls of Quebec to its progress and advancement, we are happy to see that Councillor Woods, at the last meeting of the City Council, gave notice, seconded by Councillor M. A. Hearn, of the following motion, which he intends to make at next meeting, and which we expect to see adopted without objection:

"That various parcels of ground and other property within the city limits, formerly owned by the Imperial now by the Dominion authorities and held by them for military purposes are admitted no longer to be required, or if required to be of any services for purposes of defence.

That the old city walls no longer serving their original purposes, and now fast falling into ruin are artificial barriers to the natural growth of the city proper, being a serious impediment to its development, that while such were necessary in the past when our city served the important purpose of a military fortress for the defence of the provinces, such reason now no longer exists. See

ing therefore that our city has so long served a national purpose without any reference to its commercial or municipal requirements, this Council thinks that the time has come when they should claim on behalf of the city a cession of all properties, the use of which for military purposes has been abandoned by the present holders.

"That a memorial be prepared and forwarded to the Governor-General in Council, setting forth the claims of this city, the grounds upon which the same are based and respectfully praying for the several reasons therein stated that the various properties, a schedule of which is herewith annexed, be ceded to this city.

"That such memorial be given in charge of one of the gentlemen who may for the time being represent one of the divisions of this city in the Dominion Legislature who with the other city representatives be requested to use their influence in favour of granting the prayer of such memorial. And further that this Council appoint a deputation to proceed to Ottawa during the approaching session to urge on Government the expediency and justice of granting the prayer of the memorial in question."

Our neighbors of the United States are still active in experimentalising on *torpedoes*—it does not, however, appear that any great amount of success has as yet attended the investigations into the best and most effective mode of manœuvring those sorry substitutes for an efficient naval force; but we give our our readers the benefit of the following:—

"The *Ossipee*, upon making her way to the Washington Navy-yard, ran ashore at (Goshorn's) point, on January 9th, but in half an hour succeed in getting off, and again ran aground in the Eastern branch, off Buzzard's point. The *Gettysburg* proceeded to her assistance, and pulled her off, when she steamed out into the main channel, off the arsenal, and anchored until high water late on the evening of the 9th instant, when she finally reached the yard. The *Ossipee* is direct from New York. The experiments with the torpedoes were continued at the Navy-yard on January 9th. A large cable chain, the links of which were two and a half inches in diameter, and the whole buoyed by spars, was lowered six feet under water, and extended from the eastern dock to one of the ironclads in the stream. A torpedo, containing one hundred pounds of powder, was lashed to the cable, but the first attempt to explode it was unsuccessful, when another torpedo was added, and fired by means of the electric battery upon the wharf. The second effort proved a complete success—the explosion sundered the cabin chain and hurled water, mud, and fish high into the air. The sight was a novel one in the Eastern branch. The experiment, which was conducted under the direction of the ordnance officer, Commander Sicard, was highly satisfactory, and showed that, with two torpedoes, containing 100 pounds of powder each, the largest ironclads in the world could be blown into atoms. These torpedoes were manufactured in the yard under the instructions of Mr. James Davis, foreman of the ordnance department. The experiments will be repeated to day.—*Washington Chronicle*, January 10.

Captain COLONN, R.M.A., in his admirable paper on "Colonial Defence," shew conclusively that mere coast defence is only a sec-

ondary consideration, because if once a host the fleet approaches the shores sufficiently near to make it requisite, the investment of the territory has been accomplished, access to the outer world cut off, and all means of aggression annihilated. The advocates of torpedoes, as a principal element of water defence, admit their inability to keep an enemy off their coasts or to fight him in the open sea, and are liable to blockade as well as isolation, to which no country could submit and maintain its independence or social order.

The fallacy of trusting to such a means of defence is illustrated by the following from the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of 17th January:—

We are indebted to Major-General Hancock U. S. A. for an extract from one of the French journals describing some very successful experiments at Cherbourg, to test the security and solidity of carrying torpedoes:

"The object to be attained is never to turn the side of the ship towards the enemy, but strike him at full speed amidships, or on the quarter, with the spur. In so close a struggle, the fear of being blinded by smoke will silence the artillery, and two hostile ships, bearing down upon each other like two furious bulls in the arena, will often only blindly strike without effect, recoiling for a fresh attack. It is in such a close combat that the torpedo will play the principal role; carried at the end of long booms studding out nine or ten metres' length from the ship's side, the torpedo will sink to a depth of three, four or five metres, burst under and explode the enemy's vessel. The experiments made on board the *Flandre* last Thursday in Cherbourg harbour were for the purpose of trying the booms which are to hold the torpedoes, and testing both their strength and their effect upon the vessel carrying them. The *Flandre* has three of these booms; the first upon the bow in the line of the keel, the second athwart the foremast on the port side, and the third abreast the *Flandre*, when she was going at the rate of twelve knots. These booms (of the *Flandre*) are nine metres in length, and the end of them can be plunged to varying depths by means of a chain which raises or drops the boom. On Thursday several torpedoes were sent off with fifteen and twenty-five pounds of ordinary powder; each one raised a column of water from twenty-five to thirty metres in the air, and the shocks caused thereby to the vessel were violent, but not enough to cause doubt of her strength to resist them.

"A despatch from Cherbourg announced that the *Flandre* was expected there, returning from sea after making under way the same experiments made in the harbour, and with the same favorable results."

The proposition is given two vessels of equal speed, say nine knots per hour each, or about 800 feet per minute, with projecting spars rushing at each other, bows on—what mechanism could be invented to enable said spars to stand the shock—to explode the charge on the instant of contact, or prevent the heave of the sea sending one outrigger entirely below and the other entirely above water—and what precaution could be taken to prevent the explosion doing as much damage to the vessel that could ignite her

torpedo as to the one against which it was directed—for the largest outrigger would not be over thirty feet? When this problem is solved there are a few more equally interesting and quite as difficult to be overcome.

We noticed in a recent issue a challenge from the Irish Rifle Association to the New York Amateur Rifle Club, which we are pleased to see has been accepted. The following notice of this event is from *Forest and Stream* of 1st January:—

"In pursuance of the resolution of the Amateur Rifle Club, published in the *Forest and Stream* of November 27th, a letter has been addressed to their President, Captain Geo. W. Wingate, to A. Blonchassat Leech, the Captain of the Irish Team, stating the willingness of that Club to accept the challenge on behalf of themselves and the riflemen of America, and asking Mr. Leech to specify the nature of the deposit referred to in his letter. No objection is made to the terms of the challenge, except, that as the range at Creedmoor is limited to one thousand yards, the firing must not exceed that distance.

"The letter closes with the remark, that while the Amateur Club, from their recent organization, are not very sanguine of surpassing marksmen of such renown as Mr. Leech's Irish Team, yet, they have no hesitation of assuring them of a cordial welcome to this country."

The final conclusion of the farce consequent on the tragedy of the *Virginus*, at least for the present, is contained in the following paragraph from the *U.S. Army and Navy Journal* of 24th Jan.

When the condition of the naval force of the United States is so disgraceful, the disreputable shifts resorted to in the case of this vessel and the *Arapiles* must become necessities of State.

"The Court of Inquiry in the *Virginus* case met in Washington, D.C., on January 12. After reading the proceedings of Jan. 10, Lieutenant Commander Woodrow, who commanded the vessel when she sank, and all the officers who were with him and the entire crew of forty enlisted men, were called into open court. Rear-Admiral Davis read paragraphs of the naval regulations which state that, when any vessel under command of naval officers shall run aground or sink, the narrative or report made by the captain regarding such accident shall be read aloud to the surviving officers and crew in the presence of the court. Lieutenant Commander Woodrow's report was then read by Captain Luce, judge-advocate, but developed nothing new, as the report has already been published in full. When the reading ended, Admiral Davis rose, and, after administering the oath to all present of the *Virginus* complement, put the following questions to Captain Woodrow: "Is the narrative just read of the loss of a vessel of the United States, the *Virginus*, a true and correct one?" "It is." "Does it state all the facts connected with the disaster and causes which are known to you?" "Yes sir." "Have you any complaint to make in this connection toward or against any of your officers or crew regarding their conduct on the matter in your report?" "No sir." "Is there any complaint from

any of the officers or crew affecting the conduct of Captain Woodrow, or his ability or efforts to save the vessel?" "No sir, none at all." (From officers and men) "Is the report of your captain which you have heard read a true one?" An affirmative response was made by all hands, and after calling the roll, to which every man who was on the *Virginus* answered, the crew, under charge of Midshipmen Tyler and Underwood, withdrew. Lieutenant Commander Woodrow and Second Assistant Engineer Kirby of the *Virginus* were called and examined, as was also Chief Engineer King, who made an inspection of the condition of the *Virginus* on Christmas day."

We have to thank the courtesy of T. D. SULLIVAN, Assistant Secretary and Librarian of the Royal United Service Institution for a copy of the following programme of lectures and evening meetings, which will enhance some of the most important and interesting questions ever brought before the Institution.

LECTURES AT THREE O'CLOCK

- Friday, January 16th. (Captain Blake, R.M. L.I., Barrister-at-Law)—"International Maritime Law as a Study for Naval Officers."
- Friday, January 30th. (Lieutenant Colonel Schaw, R.E., Professor of Fortification and Artillery, Staff College)—"Field Engineering; illustrated by some of the operations of the German Engineers during the war of 1870-71."
- Friday, February 13th. (Staff Surgeon-Major J. D. Macdonald, M.D., F.R.S., R.N., Professor of Naval Hygiene, Army Medical School, Netley.)—"Ventilation of Ships, especially of Low Freeboard, and Hospital Ships." (To be followed by a discussion.)
- Friday, February 27th. (Major General Millington H. Syngge, R.E.)—"Suggested Improvements in Sanitary arrangements for Barracks, Camps, &c." (To be followed by a discussion.)
- Friday, March 13th. (Major General J. L. Vaughan, C.B.)—"The Retreat of the Ten Thousand, a Military Study for all time."
- Friday, March 27th. (Lieutenant Colonel George Chosney, R.E., President, Indian Civil Engineering College, Cooper's Hill.)—"The English Genius, and Army Organization." (To be followed by a discussion.)

EVENING MEETINGS AT HALF PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK.

- Monday, January 19th. (Captain Shortland, R.N.)—"Economy of Coal, as viewed by the Commander of a Steamer." (Marshall Adams, Esq., B.A.)—Adams' Patent Mensurator and Cosmometer."
- Monday, February 2nd. (A. Leith Adams, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., Surgeon Major, London Recruiting District.)—"The Recruiting Question, from a Military and a Medical point of view."
- Monday, February 16th. (Surgeon General W. C. Maclean, M.D., C.B., Professor of Military Medicine, Army Medical School, Netley.)—"Sanitary precautions to be observed in the moving and camping of Troops in Tropical Regions."
- Monday, March 2nd. (Captain W. S. Croudace, late M.M.)—"Croudace's Stellar Azimuth Compass, and Ordnance Night Light-Vano or Collimator." (R. Griffiths Esq.)—"Further experiments with his Bow and Stern-Screw Propeller."

Monday, March 16th. (E. J. Reed, Esq. C. B.)—"Ironclad Navies."

Monday, March 30th. (Nathaniel Barnaby, Esq., Chief Naval Architect, Admiralty.)—"Trials of H.M.S. 'Devastation.'"

As the Lectures and Papers read at the Evening Meetings are prepared by officers and Professional Men, whose time is subject to sudden claims of public or professional duty, the dates above specified are liable to be changed; notice of such change, and of any occasional Lecture or Meeting will be duly advertized.

By order of the Council,
B. BUNOUSS, Captain, Secretary.

Royal United Service Institution,
29th Decembes, 1873.

Members have the privilege of introducing Two Friends (Ladies or Gentlemen) either personally or by ticket.

REVIEWS.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from the Publishers of *The British Trade Journal* and *The European Mail*. The value of the former can be best appreciated by the articles which we have republished from time to time, it ought to be in the hands of every man engaged in Trade, as we know of no journal which contains so much valuable, reliable, and practical information on every subject.

The interesting articles on "The Fisheries of Newfoundland," "The Dartford Gunpowder Works, and British Porcelain, are taken from its pages, they speak for themselves.

The British Trade Journal is published by WILLIAM AGNER, 42 Cannon Street, Parish of St. Mildred, Bread Street, London.

The European Mail obtained a world wide reputation and circulation, it is published at the Colonial Buildings, 44½ Cannon Street, London.

The February number of *Wood's Household Magazine* is really a wonder of what can be furnished for one dollar a year; considering the cost and the quality this is the cheapest magazine which comes to our table. Its articles have a chasteness about them which is not always found in periodical literature, which adapts it to fill a place now too largely occupied by cheap publications that are positively injurious to the young, without being exactly immoral.

We have not room to specify the articles which fill the pages before us—but they are many and excellent. The magazine contains three engravings—a pretty house design—also the New York Fashions (illustrated) prepared especially for the *Household* by Mme. Demorest. The publisher announces that hereafter the magazine will *always* be illustrated.

Subscribers may begin with any number. One Dollar a year, or with Chromo Yosemite, \$1.50. Address: *Wood's Household Magazine*, Newburgh, N. Y.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MITRAILLE.

(Continued from Page. 57)

It is worthy of remark, in connection with Sir Garnet Wolseley's operations on the Gold Coast, that the Government which has, for the last few years, so well produced towards their ultimate result (the reduction of England to a second rate power) the principles of the Manchester School, not very long since disbanded one of the three West India Regiments. It may, I suppose, be presumed, that the corps so reduced might have lent serviceable aid to Sir Garnet in the present war. Fatuous in policy, sordid in action, false in her sympathies, sluggish, supercilious, ignorant and apathetic, I fear too-late waking from her premature imbecility of the once grand old country will be a sad one. By the way I do not believe a more hopeless chimera than that of a Federation of the Empire now occupying the thoughts and pens of some men of otherwise sound mind, ever tantalized the brains of an empiric. Diplomatic imbecility, fear of war, and a spirit of the meanest adulation towards an unscrupulous power, have done all the harm to Canada that it has been in the power of England to do. All the good that it remains in her power to do is to be accomplished by emigration, and that is sore against the will of her governing classes. Federation would do little for us were it accomplished to-morrow.

I suppose we shall not be very long now without new Field Exercise. It is time that some advance towards definite rules for the conduct of the skirmish line, its supports and reserves, should be indicated. Captain Parker's system, as explained in the Vol. Rev. of 23rd December, does not, if I remember rightly the system proposed by Col. Macdonald of Edinburgh, vary much in principle from it. That skirmishers should be re-inforced by their own company seems to me an all important point. At least it is tolerably certain that Canadian soldiers of different corps mixed together in a skirmish "swarm," would scarcely be amenable to the orders of chance officers. I scarcely see why Captain Parker adopts the idea of making the supports twice the strength of the skirmish line, and the reserves only the same strength, (viz., one section skirmishing, two in support, and one in reserve) thereby reversing, as it seems, without due cause, the old established proportions.

The editorial remarks (23rd December) in advocacy of increased stringency of drill are unquestionably correct, but it is to be hoped that when a new Field Exercise is prepared, its compilers will not suffer themselves to be

led away by pet crochets into confounding stringency with complication. There are instances of this tendency in the Field Exercise of 1870, immonso as was its advance to simplicity. I think Colonel Macdonald points out one, the retention of the absurd countermarch by ranks, instead of that by the files. He might have gone further and deprecated the drill, essentially non pivot. It is only a demonstration of the great difficulty of clearing the mind from the cobwebs of old conventionalities. The absurdly demonstrative salute too, is a perfect crochot.

But apart from the abstract question of the undoubted expediency of strict drill, without which it is clear that what has come to be called "appel" cannot be attained, as any one will know who has ever commanded inexperienced skirmishers in even a sham fight—exists the stiff fact that for the Canadian soldier, stringent training, or at least enough of it, is unattainable. This consideration does not present itself to the compilers of a manual for regular troops, with whom, it may be said, time is scarcely an object. There is therefore some temptation to retain formations and manoeuvres of a character more showy than strictly useful or practicable under fire, and it reflects credit on the whole, on those who have constructed the successive Field Exercise; for the last few years, that they have withstood that temptation with considerable success. It is most to be regretted, for our sakes as Canadian soldiers, with whom, in the early stages of training, time, and therefore simplicity of formation, are above all things precious, that anything like a complication in squad drill should be suffered to hold place. I think the English formation of fours to which our military authorities seem wedded, a mistake in this respect. Some very sensible adaptations from the cavalry took place in the Field Exercise, 1870. Why did they not extend the principle to squad drill, and inaugurate the wheel of sections of fours (or threes) instead of the present formation, which is no small bugbear to some recruits? I remember that this was advocated some years since by one of your correspondents. I have seen the work in it among American soldiery, and its superiority is manifest.

I was talking some few months since with a distinguished American General Officer on the subject of drill. His knowledge of foreign systems was extensive, and generally accurate. I had mentioned my preference for the wheel of fours in moving to a flank, as I had that day seen it exemplified by a regiment of National Guard under his inspection. It was a regiment which would have done credit to any nationality. "By the way," said the General, I do not remember precisely the details of your way of "forming fours," but I was struck with it some time ago, as very neat, but I thought a little complicated, and I go for

simplicity. "I described the operation. The General considered a minute or so; then he said, "Well, it is neat, but I should not like to have to teach it to recruits raised in a hurry for immediate service. I said, "Some of your movements are very complicated, or rather perhaps the definitions of them want clearness. You also want an uniform system more logically constructed, so to speak." "We have perhaps stuck a little too closely to French ideas and method," he said "and your drill book is admirably arranged; its method is perhaps better than any of ours have been, but we have a new one coming out."

In the same State in which I met this officer, they are paying much attention to military studies in private scholastic institutions. Not one, but several colleges and academies of high standing, are conducted on military principles, and military studies constitute a large portion of their curriculum. The military spirit of that State would tell in the event of war, perceptibly on that portion of the Dominion contiguous to it.

I notice with pleasure (Vol. Rev. of 20th inst.) the replies to Colonel Strange's Examination papers. In reference to the importance justly attached to the great lines of invasion in the East, events are in progress which will in a very few years bring into prominence the vulnerability of the frontier west of Manitoba. Whenever the Northern Pacific shall be completed, and it will not be very long, in spite of Jay Cooke's failure, it will be but a short time further before that line, and the Union and Central Pacific Roads will be united at least, three points, besides the line of the Missouri River. There is already progress made from Omaha towards Yankton in Dakota, and there cannot fail to ensue extension from Yankton to Fargo, or some other point on the Northern. Even as it is, troops could be thrown in close proximity to the frontier from Chicago, and even from Burlington or Ottumwa to the West of Chicago.

In the Far West San Francisco is approaching connection with Portland and Puget Sound by rail. There is country east of the Rockies, within American Territory, as well as within our own boundaries, calculated to draw settlement freely. The population of California is over 750,000. Of San Francisco alone more than 150,000. The town of Portland, Oregon, alone contains about 13,000 inhabitants, more than the white population of British Columbia. Washington Territory is not a wilderness. Indeed its towns are more numerous and more lively than those of British Columbia. Both California and Oregon swarm with Irish. The whole force of those States and Territories might thus be easily poured upon some point on our more westerly frontier.

The new Territory of Montana is so enthusiastically spoken of by those who have visited it, that it has already begun to at-

tract considerable numbers of those bold and free (if sometimes a little lawless) spirits who fixed a congenial home on the broad prairie and in the fastnesses of the Rockies and the Sierras.

So soon as flourishing settlements are developed in that future State, Utah will push through the Rocky Mountains at some convenient gorge, and a third great connecting link will be accomplished.

The Northern, Union and Central, and ultimately even the Southern Pacific will form a triple base of operations extending the whole breadth of the continent parallel to the frontier, which we, at best, and with an infinitely smaller and more sparse population, must depend upon our one line when we get it!

If the construction of that line be delayed, I for one, believe it will be fatal to the idea of the Dominion. No time should be lost by us in pushing settlement and military protection into the Saskatchewan country far enough to confront the main settlements of Montana. As it is impossible to kick England into a war with the States, any strong settlement of Americans which might establish itself within our Territory from Montana, Idaho or Washington, might cause the gravest complications. If the present Government desire to play into hands of the Americans, they can do so by raising obstacles to the national railway.

Let it be remembered also that British Columbians detest Canada only a degree less than the idea of American domination, and with all the vigor of a small, isolated, and exclusive community.

Verb. sap: I know whereof I speak!

"FRANC-TIREUR."

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

THE GREEK CHURCH CEREMONY AT PRINCE ALFRED'S MARRIAGE.

The marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Grand Duchess Maria gives an interest to the details of the marriage ceremonial as arranged in the Russian-Greek Church. The Greek Church makes one book of the four Gospels, leaving out the Epistles; and a copy of this, very richly bound, is placed on the altar. The bride and bridegroom kneel before it with lighted tapers in their hands, and the priest asks, "A—B—, hast thou a good and unrestrained will, and firm intention to take to wife this woman, Y—Z—?" The bridegroom replies, "I have, most reverend sir." The priest again asks, "Hast thou not promised any other women?" the answer being, "I have not promised another." These questions are also put to the bride, and then the benediction is given. This is followed by the Ectinia, and a number of prayers are said; then two crowns are brought on a tray and the priest takes one, and making the sign of the cross with it over the head of the bridegroom, says, "The servant of God, A—B—, is crowned for the handmaid of God, Y—Z—, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." It

is kissed by the bridegroom, and is then placed on his head, or is held over him during the ceremony. The same takes place with the bride and the other crown. These crowns have no relation to the rank of the couple, but are used at the marriage of a peasant as well as that of a prince. On the crown of the bridegroom there is the figure of Christ, and on that of the bride is the Virgin. A benediction is given—"O Lord our God! Crown them in like manner with glory and honour;" and then follows the "Prokimeoun"—"Thou hast put crowns of precious stones upon their heads; they asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest them a long life; for Thou shalt give them the blessing of eternal life; Thou shalt make them glad with joy of Thy countenance." Then comes the "Epistle of the Office," Eph. v. 20, 33, and the Gospel, which is the 2d chapter of St. John's, relating to the Marriage in Cana, ending with the 11th verse; the Gospel is preceded and followed by the anthem, "Glory be to Thee, O Lord, Glory be to Thee."—The "Common Cup," containing wine, is now given by the priest to the bride and bridegroom, who each drink out of it three times in remembrance of the marriage in Cana. Up to this point in the ceremony the marriage might still be broken off should either of the parties change their minds at the last moment; but what now follows makes the marriage indissoluble.

The priest covers his right hand with his vestment, and on it the bride and bridegroom place their right hand, and they are led slowly round the altar. The altar has no rerodos; it is simply like a small pedestal standing on the floor. This is repeated three times. This practice of circumambulating is a very ancient rite. In the marriage rite of the Russian-Greek Church this part of the ceremony is explained to mean that the man and wife are to walk together through life with the Divine Presence along with them to guide and protect: the mystical three times being symbolical of the Holy Trinity. During this part of the ceremony the choir are singing, "Exult, O Isaiah, for a Virgin hath conceived and brought forth a Son, Emanuel. God, and Man; the East is his name; Him do we magnify, and call the Virgin blessed." As the two are now one—inseparably bound in the ties of holy matrimony—the priest takes off the bridegroom's crown, saying, "Be thou exalted O Bridegroom, like unto Abraham and blessed like unto Isaac, and multiplied like unto Jacob. Walk in peace, and do all according to the Commands of God." Taking the bride's crown he says—"And thou, O Bride, be thou exalted like unto Sara, and rejoice like unto Rebecca, and multiply like unto Rachel; rejoice with thy husband, and keep the ways of the law; and the blessing of God be with thee." At night when the couple go to their own house, the priest also goes to bless it; and they pray to the shrine which is in every Russian household—this is a picture of one of the Saints, with a lamp hanging in front of it, towards which they perform their devotions, and always cross themselves before and after meal. A ceremony with bread and salt is also gone through, when the newly-married pair enter their future home for the first time, as husband and wife.—*London Telegraph.*

The Carlists threaten to open the bombardment of Bilbao to day. The city has two months provisions. General Marony is receiving reinforcements, and will advance to its relief.

A LARK TO THE LATIN'S

What a joke, ye Latin Nations,
What a spectacle for you,
That of British complications
Grave, with Yankee Doodle Doo!
See those those Anglo-Saxon races,
Bloudish much as they abhor,
Flying at each other's faces!
Like enough to go to war.

They who scorned your laurels gory,
Deemed your blood-won prestige vain,
They, who will not fight for glory,
Are prepared to fight for gain!
Not for Cause, or Faith, or Colour,
No, those men of common sense!
But for the Almighty Dollar!
Yes, for base pounds, shillings, pence.

Hard as working bees toil, honey
Hoarding, so completely they
Gave their minds to making money,
Which in war will flee away.
To make money of each other
Striving still, they disagree,
Brother at the throat of brother,
For his money may we see?

Plutus is their god of battle,
Money is their battle cry,
They for money slave like cattle!
Wolves, at strife like, let them die,
Heretics and blood-relations
They, more brutal and more blind,
Than the faithful Latin nations,
More will also shame their kind.

ON COLONIAL DEFENCE—A PAPER BY
CAPT. J. C. R. COLOMB (LATE R.M.A.)

READ BEFORE THE ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE,
ON 28TH JUNE 1873.

(Continued from Page 60.)

If the mind of the mother country is morbid, and, from dwelling continually on the terrors of invasion, has lost the power of comprehending the consequences of investment, it is time her young and vigorous offspring should awaken her to a true sense of her position.

A Royal Commission to enquire into the defence of the Imperial communications, if properly constituted on an Imperial basis, would lead to most important results. It may be taken as a certainty that such a Commission would recommend the permanent strengthening of the great strategic points, which it would be in a position accurately to define. It might possibly determine the just limits of Imperial and Colonial responsibilities in the question of defence.

With the creation of Imperial fortresses commanding the Imperial roads would grow up a feeling of common security. They would be links in the chain which binds together the military forces of our Empire: stepping-stones by which those forces can cross to afford mutual assistance and support.

Such a Commission, and such measures, might prepare the way for a Federation of the war forces of the Empire, which is essential to its safety. It would be easier in a given time to collect forces from all parts of the Empire at a given point now, than it was to concentrate the military forces in the United Kingdom on any particular place on the coast line sixty years ago. It is singular that when science has done, and is doing, so much to increase our power of concentration, Imperial policy should be undoing her work by persisting in the creation of local forces which it is impossible to move, and all this at a time when concentration is the great principle of attack, and the concentration is the great principle of defence. Though by nature and by science we possess all the physical means necessary for the concentration of military forces, we have neglected to turn them to account, and further, by limiting the action of military forces to the particular portions of the Em-

pire where they are raised, we wilfully destroy the necessary power of resisting concentrated attack by a combination of Imperial resources which is in these days the true source of strength.

It is only in maintaining the second line of Colonial defences that local forces are of real value, but it is the duty of the Empire to see that they are provided with the means and weapons to enable them to act. For the first and third lines they are of no avail, so long as the necessary power of concentration at the weakest point is absent. It is military necessity, and not constitutional law which determines where the greatest power of resistance is to be applied.

While we acknowledge and applaud the principle, that it is every man's duty to defend his home, it is to be regretted that our ideas of its practical application are lamentably indistinct. The mother country has put her own construction on the word "home," in applying the principle of calling into existence military forces which can only be used to put up her shop shutters and to bar her doors. She calls on her children to adopt her definition of its meaning and to follow her example, and some have done so. But who among the armies thus organized, for what she is pleased to call "home defence," can determine the exact distance from a man's home at which the obligation ends? Who can draw the magic circle which is to include the territorial area of his duty to die for his country? Home is something more than an abstract idea having reference only to locality; its foundations are laid in common interests, sympathy and affection. A "silver streak of sea" cannot divide these interests, nor can miles of ocean sever the strong ties of affection and of sympathy. Hence it is that from whatever quarter of the Empire a cry for help comes—wherever the British flag waves over Englishmen struggling on their own ground for all they hold dear—it is there our home is in danger, there is the rallying point of forces created for its defence.

While we boast of armed hosts here and in the Colonies, whose proud motto is "home defence," they must "survey the Empire to behold our home."

At the conclusion of the reading, the President said he had to express the thanks of the society to Captain Colomb for his able and patriotic Paper. He only regretted that there had not been more Fellows present to hear it read. They would, however, have the advantage of circulating the Paper in the *European Mail* to all the Colonies. He confessed as to the policy the Paper indicated, and the measures suggested, he strongly agreed with Captain Colomb, but they must look for the execution of these measures to be carried out by the action of the Colonies themselves. He feared that the House of Commons was too restricted in its policy and measures to look at such a wide question as this. He thought they must look to the Colonies to get this policy adopted and enforced. He hoped that as the Colonies grew in wealth and strength they would see in what their true interests lay. They should not rest satisfied until federation had been achieved, and then the Colonies should insist upon their right in mutually contributing to the defence of the empire, and after this was done, in controlling the disposition of the forces they had helped to maintain. He meant shortly to visit Canada, and was glad that on this

the last meeting of the year so patriotic and able a Paper had been read, which would no doubt be circulated in Canada before he arrived there. The vote of thanks to Captain Colomb was then unanimously carried.

Mr. Frederick Young regretted that the extremely valuable Paper just read had been presented under circumstances which rendered it impossible for them to do it justice by discussion. It would not do to let the Paper go forth to the world without its being quite understood that, though no doubt acceptable in many points to the meeting, it would have been fully discussed if time had admitted.

Colonel Alcock, referring to the recent events on the Gold Coast, deprecated the Governmental action which had deprived the native population of obtaining means of defence, and now, consequent on this, famine and serious after wars were imminent. He might add that the reason we lost the Ionian Islands was simply because the Greeks, not being encouraged to take part in their own defence, had no means of entering into military affairs, and sent their young men to prepare for the Civil Service in Italy. They all came back Carbonari, and thus it was that these beautiful islands had been lost.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN ROYAL MARRIAGE.

The following are Edmund Yates' special despatches to the *New York Herald*:—

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—The ceremonies of the Royal Marriage commenced at noon to-day in the presence of a large and brilliant assemblage at the Winter Palace. The various galleries were filled with ladies sumptuously attired. There was a prevalence of peculiar Russian costumes, made up mainly of velvet and diamonds. The gentlemen all wore uniforms with the exception of the American diplomats. After assembling, the bridal procession was formed, with the grand equerries, chamberlains, and other officers of the court leading; then came the Czar Alexander and Czarina, the Imperial Prince, the Czarowitz and his wife, Princess Dagmar, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Crown Prince Frederick William and Crown Princess of Germany, Prince and Princess of Denmark and Prince Arthur of England. Then came the Bride and Bridegroom, the bridegroom wearing the Russian naval uniform. The bride, Princess Maria Alexandrovna, was splendidly appraised in a long crimson velvet mantle trimmed with ermine, and wore a coronet of diamonds. Her train was borne up by four pages. Then followed an immense procession made up of members of the Imperial Russian family, Princes, Princesses, and Court officials; the Imperial Russian Prince wearing the uniform of the Cuirassiers; the Prince of Wales the scarlet British uniform, and the Prussian Prince that of a Russian colonel. All of the gentlemen were decorated with the insignia of the Russian Order of St. Andrew. The Princess of Wales was dressed in dark crimson velvet, and wore a diamond coronet and collar, with a pearl necklace. The Imperial German Princess was habited the same as the Russian Princess, in a dress of blue velvet, with gold trimmings. Prince Arthur of England wore the uniform of the British Rifle Brigade when acting as groomsmen, and all other persons present appeared wearing wedding favours of silver. The procession upon reaching the Russian Church was received by the Metropolitan at the head

of the choristers of the church, the Holy Synod, bearing crosses, sacred vessels and holy water. The Emperor of Russia conducted the bride and bridegroom to the middle of the church, assuming a position with the Empress immediately behind them. Around the bridegroom stood Prince Arthur and the Grand Dukes. The wedding rings were borne on golden salvers and deposited on the altar temporarily by the Imperial confessor until they were placed on the fingers of the bride and bridegroom. The magnificent chapel was illuminated with wax candles and the floor covered with a carpet of velvet with a pattern of crimson and gold. The pillars of the altar were covered with gold. The Greek marriage ceremony was unique. There was an absence of music; the chants were intoned and there were prayers offered up. During the service crowns were held suspended over the bridal pair; Prince Arthur holding the Crown over the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Sergius of Russia the crown over the bride. The Imperial confessor then said: "Thou servant of God, Alfred Ernest Edward, art crowned for this handmaiden of God, Marie Alexandrovna; in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost." Then was read the epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesian, 5th chapter, from the 20th to the 23rd verse inclusive. Then the crowns were removed, and the married couple walked thrice around a raised dais, holding the tip of the confessor's robe in one hand and a lighted candle in the other.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the sacramental cup was brought forth, blessed, and its contents partaken of by the bridal pair, the confessor presenting the cross, which the bride and bridegroom kissed. The deacon delivered an eloquent admonition on the marriage duties, and immediately afterwards the choir chanted "Glory to Thee, O Lord," concluding with the pronouncement of the benediction by the clergyman. Thus ended the Greek service. Leaving the Russian chapel the procession slowly reform ed, and the party proceeded to the Hall of Alexander for the performance of the Anglican church service. The Very Reverend Dean Stanly, Westminster Abbey, officiated. Dean Stanly, who, during the solemnization of the Greek Church service, wore a protestant Episcopal Doctor of Divinity's hood and gown, and who now appeared at the altar wearing an Episcopal surplice with the jeweled collar of the order of the Bath around his neck, was assisted by two of the resident English clergy. The members of the English colony, including bankers and merchants, were gathered on the left of the altar. Conspicuous among them were Governor Jewel, the American Minister; Lord Loftus, the English Minister; and the officers of the diplomatic corps. Many Englishmen in Scarlet uniforms were also present. Especially noticeable was the venerable Prince Gortschakoff, surrounded by the leading members of the Russian nobility. They gathered on the right side of the altar. The Episcopal chants were given by Russian chorister lads clad in long crimson dress. When the marriage procession entered the bride walked between her father and the bridegroom; Prince Arthur walked behind. The beautiful Anglican wedding service was impressively performed by Dean Stanly, the Prince and Princess responding according to the form enjoined in the Book of Common Prayer. The delivery of the final benediction, "God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost bless, preserve and keep you," was especially touching. The service being con-

cluded, Dean Stanly congratulated warmly the newly married couple.

Several Roman Catholic dignitaries were present. The bride looked earnest, sweet and fascinating, the bridegroom was grave and self-possessed. The Princess of Wales was lovely, pale and delicate; the German Crown Princess looked hearty, the image of her mother Queen Victoria. The Princess of Wales was apparently on excellent terms with the German Prince, and both looked extremely well. During the ceremony in the English chapel, the Empress of Russia, being a confirmed invalid, and much fatigued, sat down. She seemed overcome with emotion, holding a handkerchief to her eyes when the newly-married couple came to salute her. The ceremony being concluded the crowd dispersed. There was a frightful rush on the stair-ways. The whole formed a wonderful mass of color.

Old General Kaufmann, the Khivan hero, got entangled in the mass, but being recognized by the Crown Prince was instantly rescued. On coming into the street the police were found driving the crowd, and Cossack horsemen charging to and fro clearing the way for the distinguished personages. The magnificent bell in St Petersburg church kept pealing during the day; salvos of artillery of 100 guns were fired on the conclusion of the Greek service, all forming an extraordinary combination of ceremony, wealth pomp and splendor.

THE FISHERIES OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

The papers relating to Her Majesty's colonial possessions contain some interesting observations upon the fisheries which furnish the largest portion of the exports of Newfoundland, and the chief means of occupation for the population. The physical features of the country seem peculiarly adapted for the purpose. The bays which indent the whole of the line of coast are among the finest in the world. These bays are in turn indented by countless minor bays, inlets and harbours, which carry the great arms of the Atlantic, laden with the finny treasure, many miles into the interior, besides providing water communication of immense value. The cod fishery, which is the staple produce of Newfoundland, is prosecuted from June till October, and affords employment to the mass of the population, who carry on this fishery around the shores of the island and on the coast of Labrador, from whence one third of the annual catch is now, during a prosperous season, taken. The fishery on the banks is almost exclusively to the French and Americans. It is remarkable that the cod fishery shows no progress, the catch of fifty years ago being almost as great as that of the present time. Thus, while the population has more than doubled, there has been almost no increase in their chief means of support, which, as experience has proved, is somewhat variable and precarious. The manner in which the business is conducted between the merchant and the fisherman is for each of the former to supply food, clothing, boots, tackle, &c., to a number of the latter, to support them and their families, on the understanding that the fishermen, or, as they are called "dealers," sell to the merchant all the fish taken at the market price, the value of the goods supplied being, of course, deducted from the cost of the fish. It will thus be seen that a bad fishery brings no loss to the merchant, except for the quantity of goods given by him on credit to the fisherman; whereas a good voyage brings ample remuneration, as the prices charged for the supplies are exceedingly high, owing to the presumed risk of loss on the part of the merchant. In addition to the common cod oil exported, a quantity of cod liver oil is manufactured. The best kind is made without boiling by applying to the livers a slight degree of heat, and straining through thin flannel or similar texture. When carefully prepared it is quite pure, nearly inodorous and of a crystalline transparency.

The seal fishery, which ranks next in importance to that of the cod, commences about the 1st of March in each year, and terminates in May. Of late the seal fishery has greatly declined. Twenty years ago about 400 vessels were annually engaged in it; now not more than half that number. Within the last few years screw steamers have been employed with great success, and there can be little doubt that in this fishery steamers will ere long be almost exclusively employed. These steamers are very strongly built of wood, sheathed with iron at the bows, in order to contend with masses of floating field ice, through which they must frequently force a passage in order to reach the seals, which are generally found in the centre, and not on the edges of packs of ice. Thus the steamers have a considerable advantage over sailing vessels, the latter being obliged to grope through chance passages in the ice fields, or remain at the edges until a strong wind disperses the pack. Another advantage in respect to steamers consists in being able to come close to the spot where the men despatch the seals are frequently killed at some miles from the ship, thereby entailing great labor on the already hard-worked sealers, who are obliged to drag the carcasses along the ice to the respective ships. One-third of the value of the seals is divided among the crew of the steamers, and one-half of the value of the seals in respect to sailing vessels. The amount advanced to each man is deducted from each share. The merchants, as in the case of the cod fishery, supply each sealer with food, clothing, &c., in anticipation of being paid by a successful voyage. Some idea of the value of the fishery may be gathered from the fact that, in the spring of 1871, the steamship *Commodore* brought in seals to the number of 32,000 valued at about £24,000 sterling, one third of which, viz., £8,000, was divided among the sealers, viz., £200, giving to each man £40, a sum realized in six weeks. In addition to seal oil, a large quantity of seal skins are annually exported, the number in 1871 being nearly 500,000. There are four kinds of seal, viz., the harp seal, the most valuable of all; hooded seal, which has a hood it can draw over its head; the square flipper, and the bay seal.

In the month of June each year the shores of Newfoundland are visited by enormous shoals of caplin, for the purpose of spawning. The masses of them in the various bays and harbors are so great that two men with a small landing net will fill a boat in a couple of hours. So little account is made of this delicious fish that it largely employed in manuring the fields and gardens. Naturalists name the caplin *salmo arcticus*. The flavor of it, when fresh, is delicious, and its size is about that of a sardine. There is little doubt that, if properly cured, the caplin might compete with either sardines or anchovies which are so profitable to the fishermen of the Mediterranean. If merely pickled and dried, it would be worth more than a dollar a barrel; but no attention is paid to this little fish, the supply of which seems inexhaustible.

Herrings are found in large quantities, and of the finest quality, on many parts of the coast, while the Labrador herrings enjoy a wide spread reputation. The chief seats of this fishery are at St. George's Bay, Fortune Bay, Bay of Islands, and Donna Bay. In the Bay of Islands, during the winter, holes are cut in the ice, and the herrings taken in nets, the fishery lasts from December till April. The salmon fishery is abundant, and the fish of excellent quality. In certain localities this fishery is large and constantly increasing. The method of taking the fish is generally in nets. So plentiful is the supply of fresh salmon during the season in St. John's, that it is often sold at four or five cents per pound. Owing to the cupidity, selfishness and ignorance on the part of the fishermen, the salmon fishery, principally on the French shore, is slowly but surely becoming exterminated. In the bays fleets of nets are frequently laid down—sometimes twenty, forty, and even fifty at a time, and every inlet stopped; and if the fish should by any chance be able to escape the first barriers, the rivers are so obstructed by weirs, traps, dams and nets—the latter frequently stretched right across, and at close intervals—that it is a wonder that this fishery has not long since come to an end. Some of the river obstructions are generally removed before the anticipated arrival of a man of war, only to be replaced when she leaves the neighborhood, and it is highly desirable that some active measures should at once be taken by the Government to stop this deplorable state of affairs, before the salmon fishery of Newfoundland becomes a thing of the past. With reference to other fisheries, mackerel, halibut, turbot and lobsters are taken on the coast.—*British Trade Journal.*

A ROMANCE OF THE SEA.

Those who go down to the sea in ships, and do business upon the great waters, occasionally meet with strange experiences, and the crew of the *Eden*, late of London, have added a notable chapter to the literature based thereon. Since the time when the wedding it was stopped on his way to the feast, and was fain to listen to the tale of the Ancient Mariner, no story from the sea has excelled in dramatic weirdness that which these men brought with them to Liverpool the other day. It is a complete drama, but it is not greatly clogged with incident, and might be compressed within the limits of a single act. The *Eden*, a ship of over 500 tons burden, sailed from London on October 15 last, bound for Valparaiso. She was loaded with 15 tons of gunpowder, and—following the statement of the crew, as given in the *Liverpool Daily Post*—with a general cargo, in which a quantity of matches conveniently figured. The ship was making a good passage, and all was going well till she had been about twenty days out, when symptoms of insanity began to appear in the conduct of the captain. The symptoms rapidly increased in intensity, and presently manifested themselves in an exceedingly unmistakable manner. At midnight on November 7, the crew, sleeping in their berths, were aroused by shouting and the shuffling of feet, and rushing on deck they found their captain with loaded firearms in his hand, gesticulating, raving and threatening to shoot the watch. This was not a pleasant situation, to be at sea with a captain prone to turn out of his cabin in the dead of the night with loaded pistols, and an evident recklessness as to

where their contents might go. But the sailors seemed to have taken the matter very coolly, and soothing the madman in their kind but clumsy manner, they induced him to turn in again, he promising, like a child who had been naughty, to "go to sleep," and not make any fresh disturbance. Half an hour passed away, the ship meanwhile pursuing her course over the darkened sea, and the sailors all asleep again save the watch. Suddenly there was another alarm, and the crew crowded again on deck to find a sight more startling even than that of a madman armed with loaded pistols. The captain had, in accordance with his promise, gone down into his cabin and fastened the door, but so far from "going to sleep," he had set the place on fire, and, looking down through the skylight the horrified crew could see the flames through the lurid cloud of smoke that filled the room. With 150 tons of gunpowder in the hold, the case was plainly one that demanded instant treatment. The cabin door was shut, and so the men dashed in the skylight, and tried to get down through that. But this course was found to be impracticable, and the second mate and the carpenter volunteered to go down, break open the cabin door, and secure the madman, who, still armed to the teeth, was pacing round the cabin uttering shouts of demoniac glee. The two men succeeded in breaking down the door, and the second mate, entering, was shot in the head by the captain, and retreated, followed by the carpenter. The flames were spreading with a rapidity which presently led to the discovery that the captain had carefully prepared for the fearful scene by soaking parts of the vessel in paraffin oil. When the sailors learnt this, they gave up all hope of saving the ship, and a move was made for the boats. As the long boat was swung round ready to drop from the davits, the infuriated captain, having now added a bayonet to his armory, appeared on deck, and seeing the preparations for escape, rushed at the crew gathered around the boat, fired at the head of one, and stabbed another in the shoulder with the bayonet. A sailor, picking up a hand-spike, smote down the madman's arm, and the rest rushing upon him he was overpowered and disarmed. The crew then got into the boat, and, rowing round to the stern, implored the captain to leap over and join them. But he was not going to leave a spectacle which he had prepared with forethought and trouble, and waving the boat away he continued to walk up and down the deck, above which the flames were already beginning to leap. Should they leave him to the fate he had designed for them and gloried in for himself? He was a violent maniac, perhaps best out of the way, and moreover, the gentlewind that drove the almost deserted ship through the waves was slowly blowing sheets of fire over the hold in which were stored 150 tons of gunpowder and the convenient "quantity of matches." It was a situation in which men might well hesitate, and it seems from the story that at first the doubt was decided against the captain, and the boat's crew turned their back upon the ship, drifting "towards the Lino" with its fearful cargo and its solitary passenger. But on second thoughts the sailors decided, as is the general habit of English sailors, to do the thing that was right and manly at whatever cost; and so they pulled back, got the raving madman safely into the boat, and rowed away in time to view from a safe distance the sudden going up skyward of the good ship *Eden*, by the explosion of 150 tons of gunpowder. At day break the boat had the good fortune to be sighted by the *Juanita*, of Scarborough,

bound for Bahia, and all were got safely on board. The captain of the *Eden*, being still raving mad, was put in irons, where he remained for four days, after which period he "got an anchor loose," and, running to the side of the vessel, leaped overboard, and, weighted with his irons, went straight down in the sea, and was never more seen. As for the crew, they went on to Bahia, whence they were sent home in one of the Pacific Company's boats, and, arriving in Liverpool, were comfortably housed in the Sailors' Home.

How NUTMEGS GROW.—An old whaler tells, in the *American Grocer*, all about nutmegs. This spice, so much used in every family, is indigenous to the Moluccas, reaching its greatest perfection in Amboyna. This island belongs to the Dutch, who do not permit the cultivation of the nutmeg in the other islands under their control. The nutmeg tree is twenty five or thirty feet high when fully grown, with foliage of a rich dark green, and very plentiful. It reaches maturity, or full productiveness, at the fifteenth year from planting. From the blossom to the ripening of the fruit takes about seven months, but as the tree is a perennial bearer, there are always blossoms, green fruit and ripe on the tree. The yield is most plentiful in the last four months of the year. The average yield per annum of a healthy tree is 5 lbs. of nutmegs and 1½ lbs of mace. A plantation of one thousand trees requires the labor of seven coolies, fifty oxen and two plows, for cultivating and harvesting. The fruit is gathered by means of a hook attached to a long pole. It is shaped like a pear, about the size of a peach, and has a delicate "bloom." The nut has three coverings; the outside one is a thick, fleshy husk, having a strong flavor of nutmeg. This husk, preserved in syrup when young, is a favorite sweetmeat in the East Indies. Under this husk is the bright red mace, which is carefully flattened by hand and dried on mats in the sun. It loses its rich scarlet and becomes a dull orange color, and requires to be kept perfectly dry to preserve its flavor. After the mace is removed from the fruit, the nuts, in their brown shells, are placed on hurdles over a slow fire, which is kept constantly burning under them for two months. The nuts then rattle in the shells, which are cracked with a wooden mallet, the sound nuts are selected and packed in wooden cases and sprinkled over with dry, sifted lime and are then ready for market. The best nutmegs are dense, emit oil when pricked with a pin, and can always be known by their heavy weight. Poor ones are light and easily known.

A soiree has been given at the Lambeth Baths, London, for the purpose of publicly welcoming back from Canada Mr. Joseph Arch. Mr. Cox, of Belper, presided. After a congratulatory resolution had been passed, Mr. Arch rose, and was received with enthusiastic and continued applause. He said one of the great sins of the English Legislature was allowing farm labourers to walk about in idleness and poverty while so many thousand acres of land were lying waste. The gigantic forests of Canada were freely offered, and only labour was wanted to make them productive. He would rather face the winters of Canada with beef and fire in plenty than the English winters with nettle broth and bread and onions. He concluded with an appeal for the enfranchisement of agricultural labourers.