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The Volunteer Review AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

Journal Deboted to the Interests of the Military and Nabal Forces of the Flominion of Conad

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1875.

No. 6.

\mathbf{The} Volunteer Review

s published EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON KERR, Proprietor, to whom all Business Corres pondenceshould be addressed.

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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 Canad

VOL, IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1875.

No. 6.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Minister evidently mean to hurry through the business of the country with as little delay as possible. The Hon. Mr. Mackensie laid on the table the first day of the Session the Report of the Public Works Department, and on the following day the Public Accounts, the Report of the Minister of Inland Revenue and the Trade and Navigation returns were also laid on the table. The speech too was taken into consideration on Friday and passed.

The British Parliament was opened on the 5th. The Queen's Speech alludes, among other subjects, to the continuance of peace in Europe, the Brussels and St. Petersburg conference, the supression of the East African slave trade, the prosperity of the Colonies, and the trade of the country. Her Majesty recommends the repeal of the statutes touching the peace of Ireland and the enactment of various laws relating to sanitary affairs.

On Sunday the 31st ult., Stratford was visited by one of the most destructive conflagrations that has occurred for some time destroying property to the amount of \$150,000. •We regret to learn that our contemporaries the Statford Beacon and Hearld are among the sufferers, but are glad to learn that they will soon again make their appearance, like our contemporary the Believille Intelligencer, clothed in a new suit, which we hope they may be long spared to wear.

The provisions of the recent pestal convention between Canada and the United States, went into operation on the first of the present month. Letters to and from Canada and the United States, will, in future, pass at the uniform rate of three cents.

It is now reported that not less than twelve patients were burned to death in the fire at the Beauport asylum.

Mr. Robertson, Provincial Treasurer, in trodued his Budget in Quebec Legislative Assembly on the 2nd, in the course of which he announced that there was a surplus of \$325,000.

It has been decided to build a deck capable of containing a full sized iron clad at Esquimault, in British Columbia. The British Government has promised to pay \$250,000 toward the cost of its construction, and it is expected the Canadian Government will do the same.

Quiet is being restrored at Caraquet, N.B. The troops have been withdrawn and no further apprehension is felt. A battery of artillery still remains at the court house, and will stay until after the trial of the prisoners, which takes place at the end of the month.

An enterprising Canadian has created a good deal of jealousy among American contractors who are anxious to improve the Sault Ste Marie Canal, by underbidding them. The Oswego Times alludes the matter as follows: "An interesting question has been submitted to the Secretary of War. There are twenty seven American bidders for the stone contract for the improvement of Sault Ste Marie Canal. The amount of the appropriation is \$300,000. The Mable-head quarry near Toledo is the lowest American bidder, who has quarries near St. Catharines, Ont. who has slightly underbid all the American bidders. The point raised is whether the Secretary of War is to construe the words of the lowest bidder to comprehend foreigners. It is claimed that the law was designed to include only American bidders, and that it is not the purpose of Congress to compel American manufacturers and American workingmen to compete with Canadian and other foreigners for the material or labour on Government buildings. The Secretary of War has decided, preliminarily, that the term 'lowest bidders' includes foreigners. It would be a joke if the contract should be given to these foreigners and the Secretary given to these foreigners, and the Secretary of the Treasury should then 'construe a law' so that the duties on the stone would make it very discouraging."

As it is the habit in New York to deal with everything as if it were a sensation, it is not surprising to hear that bets are already being made there as to the result of the Tilton Beecher trial.

The American Secretary of State has furnished to the House of Representatives a detailed statement of the cost of the Modoc War. The total amount expended was a little over \$411,000, That sum was appropriated for the transportation purposes, the purchase of supplies, the equipment and payment of the men engaged in the cam-

The project for constructing a tunnel across the English Channel is assuming a practical shape. A Boulogne correspondent says: "The Perfect of the Pas de Calais has issued an arrete empowering M Michel Chevalier, his colleaugues and agents, to take possession of any lands in the commune of Ferques and three adjoining communes which they may require for carrying out the works. The arrete further provides, that any claims for indemnity which cannot be amicably settled between the owners of property and the company's agenta be referred to the Conseil de Perfecture for arbitratien."

Sir Edward Creasey, the historian, is about to resign the appointment of Chief Justice of Ceylon, which he has held for more than fourteen years. It is said that the precarious state of his health would render a return to Ceylon, in all likelihood, fatal,

A regular monthly line of steamers is to run henceforth from Liverpool to Portau-Prince, Jamaica, Vera Crus, and Brazos de Santiago, The four steamers with which the service will be conducted are new and of full power.

The auxiliary forces in the British Army are rapidly giving up their gray uniforms and adopting scarlet. When the volunteer movement began this was prohibited, but the War Office has since withdrawn the prohibition.

The British Admiralty have purchased for \$90,000 the steam whaler Bloodhound, with the view of sending her with the Arctic expedition.

The British Government has ordered one of the ships of the royal navy to re-survey the Suez canal.

Throughout the past year, the French troops have been largely exercised in night marching. A battalion would march at dusk to some distant point, and then, breaking up, find its way back to barracks in separate detachments, and by different routes.

The Czar has sent a note to the Prince of Montenegro, congratulating him on the amicable solution of the difficulty between his government and Turkey.

The Empress of China is reported to have committed suicide through grief at the death of her husband. The new sovereign is a child three years old.

There has been an intensely cold snap in Kansas. Twenty men were frozen to death, and it is feared that much suffering will be caused throughout the frontier counties of the State.

It would appear that there is some prospect of a compromise of the Louisiana difficulty, as the colored Lieutenant Governor, Antoine, is said to have expressed his willingness to resign in favour of Penn, the choice of the Conservatives. Kellog is to remain Governor, and the State officers will be divided among both parties.

The Spanish national troops are reported

The Spanish national troops are reported to have met with fresh successes, and the Carlists are proportionately demoralized.

Diplomacy is at work trying to discover the views of the Austrian Government as to the election of Cardinal Rauscher to the Papacy. The Government has, however, declined to interfere, fearing that it would be held responsible by Germany for the pelicy of the new Pope.

Standing Armies.

It is an indisputable fact, which all thoughtful observers cannot fail to note, that the surest falsifier of all doctrines is time. The theories which govern the political or social life of one generation are seldom sustained with equal vigour by that which succeeds it, and are often uncero moniously violated or abjured by its suc-cessors. The England of to-day, in whatever aspect it be regarded, is no more com-parable with the England of the past cen tury than the prevalent French "idea" is identical with that of 1789. It cannot be said that either civilisation or enlightenment is accountable for the shifting scenes of every age, inasmuch as in many senses we are 'overs rather than gainers by change and both those influences are currently believed to be favourable to absolute progress. The simple truth is that the governing principle of our existence consists in the accommodation of our theci es to the exigencies of the hour, and that those exigences are created by the varying phases of human thought and the restless impulses of human ambition. The current doctrine is that which subserves the current interest. The standard by which we judge men and things is with individuals rearly, and with nations never, that of an unbiassed judgment and hence it is that statesmen whose prescience is not one whit less keen than that of their predecessors, are to be found in every age, subordinating all abstract considerations of the highest good to the furtherance of projects which ambition may dictate or popular clamour may demand.

The statesmen who in thereign of William III. denounced standing armies as menace to the liberties of the pople, with a presis-tency of iteration which for a time secured its ends, have doubtless received more cred it for the sincerity of their professions than they could justly claim, seeing that their policy was fraught with danger to the coun try in succeeding wars. The tyrannical protensions of James II., to whom our permanent regular Army may be suid to owe its real origin, gave possibly, some colour to the system of repression, although it is well to remember that it was the standing Army, numbering in those days some 20,000 men all told, which hailed the acquittal of the Bishops, and in a true spirit of the highest patriotism declined to serve its Sovereign when he would have employed it as a nienns of aggression against popular liberities. This fact is so well known to all students of our annals, and to all who have traced the history of our Army up to the present date. that it needs no insistance. The attack upon the standing Army was promoted by the fit of jealousy of the Crown which supervened after the final fall of the Stuarts; but the doctrine propounded was destined to be speedily falsified, for the force which in the early days of the Hanoverian dynasty renewed its existence at a minimum of 17,000 mer. has attained its present ample proportions with out danger to the national liberties. The interested outcry against a standing Army raised by the Whig politicians which thronged the Court of William III., and largely echoed by the Tories, was, therefore, sup-ported by pleas which were controverted by the experience already obtained when the Army was absolutely under the Crown, and which have never received a shadow of evidence from succeeding events. The fact is that in England a standing Army, whatever may be its instincts, can never be a memore to popular liberty, because neither the Sovereign nor the Third Estate has absolute

and undivided control over it, and because beth those powers can never be allied against the people. An Army which draws its sustenance from the commons is naturally dependent for its very existence upon a Parliamentary vote, and this condition, united to its allegiance to its Sovereign, hinds it to both Crown and Parliament. Nothing can more stimulate the patriotism for which our troops are deservedly famed than this duality of direct and indirect allegiance, owing to the consciousness which it inspires of their complete identity with the people, and nothing, therefore, can be more conducive to its loyalty to the popular

There is a liberty, however, to which a standing Army, as the Europe of 1874 understands the designation, is disastrously inimical, but from which England has never been severed. Civil liberty is a cause which, in this country, is identified with many names that will not readily be forgotten, and, despite the contagious examples of surrounding nations, it is a cause which having dearly earned we shall not lightly abandon; yet complete civil liberty can never exist where a standing Army is the creation of anything but a voluntary sys tem. In these days contagion is so rapid in its flight, and the annexation of successful ideas so thoughtlessly indulged in, without regard to their adaptatility, that they are but indifferent patriots who neglect to caution the popular apprehensions against schemes whose sir licity is only equalled by their danger. There is a seductiveness about compulsory service which is apt to allure those who amidst the difficulties with which Army recruiting is surrounded, might tayor its adoption. We have said that the governing principle of existence consists in the accommodation of theories to the exigencies of the hour. Compulsory service, as the means to a standing Army of dimen. sions equal to the exigencies which ambition has created, is just such a theory. It is, nevertheless, not only a gigantic retrogressive but a pernicious elaboration of a sys tem long obsolete amongst ourselves, for when every man was liable to serve there was no standing Army, and whatever other causes may have operated to the infringement of civil liberty, the creation of a colos sal force, permanently disfranchised, so to speak, of half its rights without its own consent, was not amongst them. What ealight. enment long ago condemned, enlighten-ment (for no other term can be allowed) has revived, but the glamour which success has cast over it abroad must no blind us to its evils. A mun who is compelled to fight. whether he will or not, and to abandon his profession or trade for a term of service under the colours in violence to his predilections and interests, is not in the enjoy. ment of personal liberty. Similarly, a man who is violently subjected to laws other than those which govern civil life, is not in the possession of civil liberty. In England a man enters the army because he loves the profession. He his a free agent, and what ever he may surrender in exchange for that profession, he surrenders glady of his own choice, for in the army as elsewhere, no thing is esteemed a loss which is forfeited as the price of obtaining an object more dearly prized. It is very doubtful whether for purposes of aggression a standing Army, formed of reluctant elements, is an efficient instru-ment. All men will fight for their homes, It was the cry of French designs upon Germany which gave the necessary stimulus to the German invasion of France. It is the exceptional military instinct of the French enthusiast for reform is so eager to adroinis

people which enable them in former times to unite conscription and conquest. more remote times, the patriotism, or the promplings of cupidity, have always been found indispensable incentives to the exertions of armies constituted by means of enforced service. We feel wall assured that a system of compulsory service would not have produced the armies which carried the British colours from the Ganges to the Pun-jab, and from Vimiers to Waterloo; for it must be remembered that Englishmen are more intorlerant of compulsion than any people on the face of the globe,

The difficulty of recruiting our Army invests these considerations with peculiar interest, as it is in the expedient of a standing army formed after the continental system that doctringires amongst ourselves have pretended to discover the readlest solution. Much as it is the custom to speak slighting. ly of our Army, we make bold to affirm that, notwithstanding all obstacles, it is more than a respectable testimony to the efficiency of the voluntary sys-tem. There is a bad habit which is becoming common with Englishmen of ridiculing our own resources and absurdly over estimating those of our neighbors. To indulge in jeremiads over our incapacity to place fifty thousand men in line at any point of the empire, and to point at the same time to the masses of continental troops, is only to show, not the smillness of our army but rather our strength is dissipated over a frontier compared with which that of the largest military Power on the continent, Russia excepted, is pitiably circumscribed. Measured by the extent of the dominions it is raised to protect, it may be conceded that our Army is small, but nothing short of revolution would precede, either in England or elsewhere, compulsory enlistment for long foreign service of such's character as English troops are required to undertake. The numerical strength obtained by compulsion is therefore not to be compared with that created under a voluntary system which is exposed to different conditions; and, these circumstances considered, it must appear that, whilst compulsion as applied to foreign and tropical service would be wholly impracticable with us as with others, the voluntary principle produces an aggregate which, if below the colossal figures that have sprung into fashion within the last decade, is still formidable, and, as far as experience goes, adequate to our wants.

The abnormal growth of the armies of Europe, with the consequent depression of civil and personal liberty, has found many admirers in that very class of politicidas whose predecessors were the loudest in their clamour against the principle of standing armies at the beginning of the eighteenth century, not because the system has com-mended itself any more to their fastidious tastes, but because the results of the syst tem happen to have proved favourable to their views. From the fulsome adulation which has been offered to the most success. ful of modern armies has sprung the usual antitheses; and the British Army is now harried by two opposing parties, one of whom would improve it away altogther by the ap plication of empirical schemes of reform whereby, as they believe, it would attain the highest standard of efficiency, whilst the other would abolish it as a barrier to the millenium of universal peace. Between these extrames, as in every other oute, lies the mean of safety, though abolition itself were better than the nostrums which each

ter; but one thing is clear, that with the appearance of the compulsory system in the United Kingdom would appear also the inefficiency of our Army for all purposes of defence in the remoter bounds of the em-

Great Pair-Oared Race on the Tyne For £200

(From the London Standard, Dec. 22.)

The pair oared race for £200 a side between Thomas Winship and Robert Bagnall, of Newozatle, on the one part, and Robort Watson Boyd, of Gateshead, and William Lumsdeh of Blyth, on the other part, took place yesterday on the Tyne, over a course from the High Level Bridge to Scotswood Suspension Bridge, a distance of about three miles and a half, This event has been look e i forward to with much interest on Tyneside, and by many the challenging of old hands like Winship and Bagnall by young men like Boyd and Lumsden was looked upon with some surprise. The careers of Thomas Winship and Bagnall are well known. Few men have held such an honorable position among Tyneside oarsmen as Winship. Boyd and Lumsden have rowed in many races, but were not generally known until they pluckily entered into articles to row a double sculling race on the Thames, on October 15, against Thomas Green and Heury l'homas, of Hammersmith, for £200 a side, and which was won by the northern pair by four lengths. Soon after returning to their homes Boyd and Lumsden challenged Winship and Bagnall to row a pair oared or a double sculling match on the Tyne; and although the season for the match to be rowed in was not most suitable, the challenge was quickly accepted. Boyd and Lucasden had worked together a great deal in boats, and were qualified to row either kind of match; but Winship and Bagnall were not accustomed to row to-gether. Since the articles were signed all things have gone on satisfactorily. - I'me men have most carefully trained, and did all in their power to render themselves fit for the struggie: Mr. Wm. Oldham was appointed referee.

Owing to the upper part of the river being obstructed with ice it was agreed that the race should be rowed on the lower reaches of the river. The new course was from Bill Point to Howden Dock landing stage, which is about three miles and three quarters in length. The betting was at five to four on Boyd and Lumsden. Winship and Bagnall got away with a lead of half a length, but by the time fifty yards had been rowed, Boyd and his companion rowed up and took the lead. Boyd and Lumsden rowed with great strength, while their opponents made up in fine fowing what they lacked in strength. It was evident, however, that the great strength of Boyd and Lumsden were going to stand them in good need. A quarter of a mile from the start Boyd and Liumsden were leading by nearly two lengths, and by the time half a mile was got over Winship and Ragnall were receiving the backwash of U.eir opponents. The race was now virtually over, as the young pair were able to respond in splendid style to any efforts made by Bagnall and Winship. With case Boyd and Lumsden landed themselves winners by about six lengths. In the last quarter of a mile Boyd and Lumsden rowed as well and as fast as they did at the start.

The London "Telegraph" on The Colonies.

In its summary of the events of the year, the London Daily Telegraph has the follow ing in regard to the colonies :-

She Colonies—those healthy children of the Imperial Mother have been happy during 1874 in having little or no history; but a dusky daughter has been added to their number by adoption, and Fiji has become an integral portion of the British Empirp. This wise annexation, some credit for which must always attach to Lord Carner-von, was taken upon the 16th October; and while it adds to Her Majesty's dominions a group of 225 fertile islands, with an uncount ed swarm of Papuan subjects, it has replaced anarchy by civilization, rendered the sup pression of the infamous "black birding" easter, and given the Pacific Ocean over to Australian colonists, if they only know how to grow great. To Lord Carnarvon must also be awarded much merit for the reconcilia tich between Canada and British Columbia, which has most happily crowned the year. That patriotic and united Dominion—more extensive than all Europe, excluding Russia -has now no visible bairier to her growth as an elder sister in the grand family of British Colonies. To the spirit and the tact shown in these two notable messures, the Colonial Minister is understood to have added a doed of high justice, in the official despatch which has resulted from the mission of Bishop Colenso to these shores. Less popular, perhaps, than the annexation of Fiji or the settlement of the Canaddian diffi culty, the release of the Kaffir Chief Langa libalele will yet furnish, we think, the nobl est characteristic of our Colonial Government during 1874, for it will prove at Natal and throughout the world that the motto of her Majesty's Empire is, "Be just, and fear not," From the great Australian dependen cies and New Zealand almost all this year's tidings have been good.

Science an Idol Breaker.

We picked up a child's book the other day, a simple little volume of fairy lore, by that quainfest and sweetest of writers for children, Hans Christian Andersen. The dusk of a cloudy afternoon melted into twilight, and still we read on about the elves and the dream children, until the pages grew dark and our eyes strained and weary. As we laid the book aside and set musing, looking into the fire, it seemed as if the fitful shadows thrown by the flickering sea coal blaze might be the queer creatures of the story teller endowed with life; that down from those fiery caverns between the bars gnomes might peer out at us, and that the feeble ray of moonlight which struggled into our window through a rift in the driving clouds perhaps after all might bear some message to us from the sole inhabit-ant of the distant orb. For the moment, we lived in the supernatural world which the romance had conjured up; our boy belief in the fairies and cleves came back; and then the fall of the coal in the grate dispell ed our reverie, and as we struck a light we laughed to ourselves to think what the learned scientists, the grave protessors, the busy students, and the sternly practical workers who read the Scientific American would think if they but knew what we shatterers of false idols, whose mission it is to expose anything to the searching light of

moment, have realized the fenciful creations of a cunning storyteller.

And yet we half regretted that our impossible vagaries were more fantasy; and as we thought further, it seemed to us that that regret was the same which impels all mankind to cling to some frail idea on which it once has founded its futile theories. If before the world we bow to justice of Science in toppling over our favorite idols, do we not often return furtively and alone to gother up the fragments and weep over them? Somehow the question will obtrude itself of whether we are to sacrifice all our obscrished convictions because some bold delver into the secrets of Nature stamps them with a firt of denial Is truth, so-called, worthy of such immolation? Let the past answer for us first.

"It is impious to believe that valleys are scooped in the fair face of the moon," said one old Italian astronomer, "There are but seven planets, because there are seven mentals, seven days in the week, and seven holes in a man's head," cried a learned pro-tessor of Padua. "Formally heretical and anhthemal" thundered the Vatican, judging Galileo's theories. But "e pur si muove" moves for all that) muttered the sage as, robed in sackcloth, he arose from his kness after swearing never again to teach the earth's motion around the sun.

The project is vain and impossible," exclaimed the learned ecolesiastics of Spain to Columbus, as he unveiled his theories of the rotundity of the globe and of undiscovered regions. And neither they nor their generation would abandon their credence in the flatness of our sphere. Ponce de Leon clung to his belief in the fountain of youth, until death overtook him in the flowery land. where he had searched in vain. The toil of lives over the crucible failed to convince Paracelsus, or Bacon, or Lully, or scores of other alchemists, to the incidental products of whose labors the world owes some of its grandest discoveries, that the baser metals could not be transmuted into gold, nor the philosopher's stone found. But have not all these convictions disappeared before the light of truth?

There are thousands to-day who pursue as vain a fallacy, in the perpetual motion.
A "professor" hinted at its possibility from the rostram in this metropolis but recently. There is a goodly tome on our book shelves, in which, to the satisfaction of the writer, the circle is squared and Euclid driven to confession. An "unknow force" is even now exciting credulous interest and elicit. ing even pecuniary aid from mistaken be lievers. Science is shedding more and more light into the mental darkness of the present, but few of her beams indicate the path of the future. Is that radiance to be so bright as to wither the harmless self decep. tions of the emotions, as well as the hurtful fallacies of the reason? Will those thoughts which awaken the love for the refined and bueathul be dispelled, and is this the cost we must pay for knowledge and truth? Is the loveliness of the flower and spray only to be associated with effection beorption of colored rays and chlorophyll? Must we as sociate the field blossom with parthenogen-oils and bothrenchyma? Is music to affect only our understandings—not our hearts and are frigid criticisms on modulation and harmony always to replace the varying emotions now excited by melody and rhythm? Modern geology ranks the Biblical account of the Creation, and Adam and Eve, Eden, the screent, and the apple as much with allegorical tradition as the legend of Herhard, unflinching truth-should, even for a cules the hydra, and the golden fruit of the

Hosperides. Astrology is a dead science. Zadkiel and his horoscopes—the anxious Astrology is a dead science. scanning of the stars to decipher their portent, arousing hopes and fears unnumbered -are but a popular superstition, gone before the spectroscope and telescope. Even the thought that some other worlds than ours are populated beings such as ourselves, with whom some day we may communicate, is wrecked on the revelations of modern as tronomy. And ourselves: once, believed to be earth-

ly brothers of the angles, now, alas I according to the evolutionists, only relatives of the apes; once sentient beings possessing a soul, allied to Divinity itself. Leaders in scientific investigations, Tyndall, Huxley, and others, tell us now that we are but masses of atoms which, drawn together by resistless and inevitable forces, from conscious machines, which in the end must submit to annihila tion and appear in other shapes. We are told that we know not that we know; that we have no evidence of our own existence. Whither, in brief, are we drifting?

f. It is but the idle mind which allows itself to be thrown into a slough of despair by such considerations. The motto of Science is "upward and onward;" truth is the goal, and from its pursuit there can be no deviation. A great scientist has said that the more he learned the more he became convinced of the infinite littleness of his acquirements. But for all that, he did not relax an effort until struck down by death at his work. The span of our lives, or of those of thousands, is but infinitesimal be side the duration of the search for wider, better knowledge which the human mind unendingly prosecute. If, for the moment, we lose one favorite path, to find that another to which we confide ourself leads us into thickets of doubt, it is because, perhaps unwittingly, we have strayed from the single road to truth. The course is onsingle road to truth. The course is on-ward, strown as it may be behind us with discarded though regretted supports; there is no retracing of stops. As Science has dissipated the falsehoods of the past, so will she dispel those of the present. That in the end she will lead us to error or abandon us in the mists of doubt and despair, we need not fear .- Scientific American.

The Supply of Fish for Food.

There is scarcely any part of our wide empire where a pleasant and profitable occupation may not be found by turning to use the running streams, the bays of the lakes, and the ponds which Nature has so lavishly provided for us. A few old boxes will furnish and a week or two's labor will arrange the means, and a very trifling outlay will purchase the necessary material. Care and attention are the chief necessaries; capital is scarcely any advantage in this business. We speak of fish culture, as a rapidly developing industry which is capable of turning rivers into more prosperous sources of wealth than are the fields which give us their annual products of grain and vegetables.

Few persons have any idea of the extent to which fish may be raised from spawn. In the ocean the enemies of the small fish are, fortunately, numerous; for if the hundreds of thousands of eggs in the roe of each herring and cod came to maturity, the seas would become impassible. But this fecundi ty is all in favor of the fish cultivator. In a box of a few inches' capacity he can convey his thousands of salmon, trout, or shad to his own home, and let them hatch in a simple and easily constructed apparatus, turn- dangerous position, and had him co ing them out to furnish both sport and food. to his residence.—Acadian Recorder.

Professor Baird, in his report on this interesting and important subject just issued, shows the importance of distinguishing between the anadromous or up running fish, who spend part of their life in the ocean and part in the rivers, and the exclusively fresh water fish, such as the brook trout, the lake trout, the land locked salmon, the white fish, thick bass, and the like. In regard to the lacer, he shows that their culture must always be limited by the narrowor extent of their feeding grounds; so that if a river which has been deprived of these fish be supplied with them, they will, after a time destroy the natural sources of food and begin to prey upon one another, thus keeping up the balance of life which is always found in water untouched by men. Thus the supply of fish to a given river or lake will always be limited by the relation of subsistance to numbers in their own waters. Accordingly the effort to introduce brook trout or black bass into certain streams can never succeed beyond a given point. When the different forms of life are balanced in that particular stream, there

will be no surplus reproduction,

Whatever interferes with the spawning of a fish destroys millions of offspring. Accordingly the only thing necessary in our rivers, to preserve the enormous harvest of fish which the ocean offers to us, is not to interrupt the course of the fish towards their spawning grounds, and not to break up the breeding places. With this object in view, broading places. the different States are removing the obstacles in the rivers which prevented the progress of the up running fish, and are restocking rivers which were stripped of such One of the most remarkable experi ments is that made in restocking the Connecticut River with shad. In the spring of 1861, 63.000,000 eggs were artificially fertil ized in the river, and in 1872 the immense number of 93,000,000. The harvest of shad in the Connecticut has increased enormous ly, and many fishing stations which had been abandoned have been re-established. single haul is mentioned of 3,560 shad, which is the greatest that has ever been known; and last year these delicious fish were more numerous and cheaper than they have ever been known before along that river.

In New York, in 1870, about 2,500,000 young shad were introduced into the Hudson, and this number has been increased every year since. The effects of even this moderate supply bogan to be manifested during the last spring. Great efforts are also made to introduce the shad into the Mississippi and into the Northern lakes. Good sipply and the the Kotcher lakes. Good girdges confidently believe that we shall soon have a supply of shad both in the Mississippi Valley and in the rivers running into the great lakes which feed the St. Lawrence.—Scientific American.

A Norrow Escape .- About half past ten o'clock this morning Lieut, E. H. Walker, R.E., who resides at Dartmouth, came down to the ferry on that side, and saw that the boat was gone. He stood on the bridge a minute, and in some way slipped and fell overboard into the dock. The shock, of course, must have been very great, through being precipitated into the icy water; nevertheless, Lieut, Walker, with great presence of mind, managed to grasp the floats and sustained himself until his cries attracted the attention of Mr. Charles Munro, clerk in the ticket office, who, with the assissance of others, rescued Mr. Walker from his dangerous position, and had him conveyed

The Duke of Wellington on Waterloo. WHERSTED, Dec. 11.—I left on Thursday night last and got i ere on Friday morning. The Lievens, Worcester, Duke of Welling. ton, Neumann, and Montagu were here. The duke went away yestorday. We acted com-rades, which were very well done. Yester-day we went to shoot at Sir Philip Brooke's. As we went in the carriage, the Duke talk.
ed a great deal about the battle of Waterloo and different things relating to that camp aign. He said that he had 50,000 men at Waterloo. He began the campaign with 85,000 men, lost 5,000 men on the 16th, and had a corps of 20,000 men at Hal under Prince Frederick. He said that it was remarkable that nobody who had ever spoken of these operations had ever made mention of that corps, and Bonapate was certainly ignorant of it. In this corps were the best of the Dutch troops; it had been placed there because the duke expected the attack to be made on that side. He said that the French army was the best army that was ever seen, and that in the previous operations Bonaparte's march upon Belgium was the finest thing that ever was done-so rap id and so well combined. His object was to beat the armies in detail, and this object succeeded in so far as that he attacked them separately; but from the extraordinary cel erity with which the allied armies were got together he was not able to realize the advantages he had promised himself. The duke says that they certainty were not prepared for this attack, as the French had pre' viously broken up the roads by which their army advanced; but as it was in the sum' mer this did not render them impassable. He says that Bonaparte beat the Prussians in a most extraordinary way, as the battle was gained in less than four hours; but that it would probably have been more complete if he had brought a greater number of troops into action and not detached so large a body against the British corps. There were 40,-000 men opposed to the duke on the 16th. but he says that the attack was not so powerful as it ought to have been with such a force. The French had made a long march the day befor the battle, and had driven in the Prussian posts in the evening. I seked him if he thought Bonsparte had committed a fault in attacking him in the position of Waterloo; that his object ought to have been to remove him as far as possible from the Prussian army, and that he ought consequently to have moved upon Hal, and to have attempted to penetrate by the same road by which the Duke had himself advance ed. He had always calculated supon Bona. part's doing this, and for this purpose he had posted 20,000 men under Prince Frederick at Hal. He said that the position at Water loo was uncommonly strong, but that the strength of it consisted alone in the two farms of Hougoumont and Lay Have Sainte, both of hich were admirably situated and adapted for defence. In Hougoumont there were never more than from 300 to 500 men, who were reinforced as it was necessary; and although the French repeatedly attack. ed this point, and sometimes with not less than 20,000 men, they never could approach it. Had they obtained possession of it, they could not have maintained it, as it was open on one side to the whole fire of the English lines, whilst it was sheltered on the side towards the French. The duke said the farm of La Haye Sainte was till better than that of Hougoumont, and that it never would have been taken if the officer who was commanding there had not neglected to make an aperture through which ammun tion could be conveyed to the garrison. ()!, pp. 39-51.)—Mr. Greville's Journal.

A Russian Reconnaissance.

Krasnovodsk," says the Invalide Russe, "effected during the month of November a reconnaissance on the Transcaspian military section, in the localities about Attrek. The expedition was made under the direction of General Lomakine, commander of the district, at the head of two companies of infan try conveyed by sea from Krasnovodsk to Tchikischliar, and which then marched along the right bank of the Attrek. The Turcomans of the country showed no hostility to the Russian troops when they landed, and several Yomoudes even served them as, guides along the Attrek, and exeuted conscientiously commissions with which they were charged. General Lomakine arranged with Turcoman chiefs relative to the conditions under which these latter might encamp within the limits of the Transcaspian region. They submitted willingly to the terms proposed, which consisted in the tribes which shall come on to the Russian territory having chiefs regularly elected, responsible for the good conduct of the nomads, engaging to inform the authorities of the places chosen for the encampments, and to serve in general as intermediaries between the Russian officials and the people. In conformity with these conditions the Atabai and the Djafarbai have appointed two khans, whose election has been confirmed by the commander of the detachment. The Tèkiens who encamped near Kooria-Daria have also manifested the intention to live on good terms with the Russians. On a demand made to them the gave up thirty two Yomoude prisoners captured in a razzia made on a camp at thirty eight versls (about twenty four miles) from Krasnovodsk, and sent a trading caravan and three chiefs, promising to surrender the remaining prisoners at the end of December by a second caravan to Krasnovodsk. The detachment returned to that place from the banks of the Attrek on the 2nd December. The sanitary state of the troops was excellent, and there was but one man on the sick list."-Broad Arrow, Jan, 9th.

The Brave Sailor-Lad.

A few day out from New York a great ship was overtaken by a terrible storm, which lasted nearly a week.

One day, a the height of the tempest, the rigging at the mainmast head got trangled, and some one had to go up and straighten it, The mate called a boy belonging to the ship, and ordered him aloft.

The lad touched his cap, but hesitated a moment; cast one frightened glance up and down at the swaying mast and furious sea, and then rush across the deck and down into the forecastle. In about two minutes he appeared, and without a word seized the ratlines—the rope ladder of the vessel—and flew up the rigging like a squirrel. With dizzy eyes the weather beaten crew watched the poor boy at this fearful height. "He will never come down alive," they said to each other.

But in twenty minutes the perilous job was done, and the boy safely descended; and straightening himself up with a smile on his face, walked to the stern of the ship.

"What did you go below for when ordered aloft?" asked a passenger of the brave boy. "I went-to pray," replied the boy with a blush, and a quiver of the lip.—Selected, Mr. B. Gibson.

Parliament Square.

"A small detachment of troops from IMPROVEMENT OF THE GROUNDS-NEW DE-PARTMENTAL OFFICES.

> The following is from the annual report of the Hon, Minister of Public Works :-

> The fence or boundary wall on the line of Wellington street is finished. It extends from Dufferin Bridge to the new workshops. The iron railing is also complete. Designs for iron gates are prepared and approved. When the grounds are laid out they will be placed in position. Drawings have also been prepared for approach to the canal at or near Dufferin Bridge end of fence. It is proposed as an experiment to lay the sidewalk on Wellington street, from the gateway op-posite the main entrance of East Departmental Building to Dufferin Bridge, with wood blocks.

The design, furnished by Mr. Marshal Wood, for the adornment of the grounds as exhibited in a large model, having been submitted to the Department, it was decided that it should not be adopted. A plan srranged by Mr, Calvert Vaux, of New York, and myself, was submitted and approved, and is now being carried out.

The main avenue, parallel to the line of Wellington street, is being brought to a level; the original grade had a rise in its length from east to west of nearly seven feet. One of the advantages gained by lowering the ground will be, that the basement rooms of the West Block, now dark and gloomy, will on the lowering of the present road obtain uninterrupted light, and will be rendered suitable for offices, &c. The level line of to the road likewise will materially add to the appearance of the facade of the Central Buildings or Parliament House. The square is now being graded in accordance with the plan approved. When the alteration of grade to avenue was decided upon, extra drainage, new gas main and water pipes from the "City waterworks" were pipes from the "City waterworks" were provided for, so that connections can be made when required. Since the date of Confederation the various departments have ingreased in their wants and requirements to a very great extent, and staffs of the several Depart ments have been largely augmented. Hence the accommodation in the two Departmental blocks has been found insufficient even with the additional accomodation provided in the attics of each. It has accordingly been decided that an addition to the West Block should be made, the sketch plans for which have been prepared and approved. This proposed extension will be a continua tion of the westerly portion of the West Departmental Block, 245 feet in length, 60 feet in width, three stories in height with basement. The style of architecture in its external features will be in accordance with the present building, with improvements in internal arrangement suggested by experience, the whole is to be fire proof. Plans are now being prepared so that tenders can be obtained this year for the basement portion. This will expedite the work and give time for the consideration of the details required in the superstructure. The excavation is now being made by the contractor for this work at a schedule rate of prices. Cost is lessened and difficulty overcome by having one contractor only for both works.

Work done under the immediate superintendence of the Department.

Contractor for excavation and levelling,

REVIEWS.

Blackwood's Magazine for January, 1875, republished by The Leonard Scott Publishing Co, is now ready. The following is the table of contents :

- I. "Giannetto."
- II. "Idas: an Extravaganza."
- III. "Alice Lorraine." Part X.
- IV. "The Abode of Snow."
- V. "The Story of Valentine and his Brother." Part XIII.
- VI, "The Life of the Prince Consort,"
- VII. "The Great Problem: Can it be

The new story which begins the first volume of the new year is told in a very quiet atyle by an Englishman, who spent a winter at Nice with an invalid daughter, during which time he met with Gianuetto, an Italian fisherman. The interests is aroused and kept active by the mystery attached to this man, who suddenly received the power of speech and song when over twenty years of age, although he was born dumb. The story is to be continued,

"Idas : an Extravaganza," is an attempt to exhibit the tendencies of materialistic

theories in their extreme issues.

"It is the depravation of social and political morals consequent upon the materialistic theory, thus developed far beyond the contemplation of its modern sponsors—the wildest excesses springing generically from the confounding the things essentially distinct, which that theory is grounded upon—that we have to deal within the ensuing

pages."

'The Abode of Snow' begins with an account of the 'jhula," or bridges made of ropes of twisted birch twigs, which are neither safe nor pleasant to cross, but the greater part of the article is devoted to a description of the customs of the Thibe. tans, and especially the workings of poly.

andry.

A very entertaining article is the review of the first volume of Mr. Martin's "Life of the Prince Consort"—a book which "cannot fail to increase the admiration and reverence of the nation for the great and dutiful soul who lived a life obscured by its very greatness, in the midst of us, and who only now can be fully known.

G. R. Gleig- Chaplain-General -gives his views on the subject of religious belief in the paper entitled, "The Great Proble m Can it be Solved?" which the author says is written "exclusively for those in whom, unfortunately for themselves, the principle of faith has been shaken."

It is a clear and comprehensive article, that cannot fail to interest any thoughtful

The periodicals reprinted by THE LEONARD Scott Publishing Co. (41 Barclay Street, N. Y.) are as follows: The London Quarterly, Edinburgh, Westmin. ster, and British Quarterly Reviews, and Blackwood's Maga-zine. Price, \$4 a year for any one, or only \$15 for all.

Delmonico, the lion tamer, has been devoured at Berlin by one of his own lions.

It is reported that an unusually large con. ceutration of troops in Russian Polland has taken place.

A Madrid despatch reports that General Loma has destroyed several cannon foundaries of the Carlists in the Province of Qui-QUECOS.

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The Volunteer Review,

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw, Toguard the Mouarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1875.

ToConnessonorms—Letters addressed to either the Elitor or Publishor, as well as Communications intended for publication, inust, invari obje, be prespaid. Corréspondents will also bear us mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and at the corner the words. "Printer's Conv" written and a two or five cent stampface ording to the weight of the communication, when it thereon will my the positive. placed thereon will pay the postage.

JEUT. J. B. VINTER of Victoria, and Captain H. V. Educing of New Vestiniater, are our authorized Agents for British Columbia.

The London Spectator says :- "The Cal outta correspondent of the Times asserts that the Indian Government, with all its onor mous expenditure, could not place 30,000 troops in the field for a war in Afghanistan. The native army of Bengal is now officered from the Staff Corps, and that institution is so constructed that it now consists of 1 111 officers of whom 370 are lieutenant colonels, 191 majors, 341 captains, and 180 heutenants. and could not, in the event of war, furnish subalterns enough to make the regiment. The evil goes on increasing, until in a short time the whole corps will consist of nothing but field officers, and 'a heutenant will become an extinct species.' The efficiency of the army has, in fact, been sacrificed to the claims of the officers to lose nothing by the Mutiny, and reform is now arrested by the immense expense of getting rid of the useicas. It is reported that a thorough reform of the Native Army has been pressed by Lord Northbrooke upon the India office, but the moment it is sanctioned we shall have the House of Commons deciding, as they decided on Colonel Sykes' motion, that the officers' interest must be respected first of It will take a catastrophe, and a big one, to induce Parliament to give the Vice roy carte blanche, and thorough reform can-not be accomplished without it."

Tho state military organization in which the British regulararmy and its auxiliary force in Great Britain his been placed by Mr. SLADSTONE'S Government, has occupied

some considerable space in the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, for the cogent reason that in the event of a great European contest our own fortunes as Colonists and subjects of the British Crown are so identical with those of the parent state, that anything affecting its status in the comity of nations must tell on us with crushing effect. is all very well for political Charlatans of the Goldwin Smith School to put their crude theories on a possible change of allegiance before the world; but it is quite another matter for the owners of the soil, the manufacturers, commercial and financial communities to have to deal seriously with a question that cannot fail in any case to be temporarily if not permanently disastrous to their interests, and therefore it behaves the Statesmen as well as the members of the Fourth Estate (the latter in an especial degree) to keep this question of military organization and development continu ally before the people whom it most concerns.

The paragraph at the head of this article is taken from Broad Arrow and shows that mismanagement and ignorance was not confined:solely to the BritishArmy, but extended in an aggravated degree to that force which being organized for the defence of its greatest dependency should always have been the most efficient--the Indian Armya force occupying a country acquired by couquest, and which must be held against internal treason and outside intrigues, as well as open assault.

There is no need on our part to enter into a disquisition of British policy in Central Asia, or the immediate dangers from open attack by Russia, but holding by force as she does a restless and fanatical people ber great present danger is from Russian intrigue, and it is likely that will be exercised as a stepping stone towards the conquest of the Turkish Empire. The paragraph shows what preparations England is capable of making, and India adds sensibly to her weakness in the impending contest.

In a recent article we had occasion to no tice this question of military organization in reviewing the leading article of a contemporary on the same subject, and we could not help thinking how apparently the most inadequate measures were resorted to in order to remedy a known evil-while a wealth of material was ready at hand with comparative small expense for that pur-

In order to obtain recruits for an army of 27 000,000 (twent-seven millions) at least, a system of enquiry confined sololy to the officers of that force that had failed to attract soldiers to its stan jards, as to how those rocruits could be induced to serve; the men of whom the rank and and file of the said army should be composed being able to earn from three to four times the value of pay and allowance to the soldiers if they only he received without personal risk while

chose to work; and as the profits as well as immunity from danger has all on the side of the latter, it was only natural they should prefer being free men to being mere military machines.

To our minds this inquiry should have been made of the agricultural and manufacturing classes who employ the vast amount of the laboring population and whose interests are almost wholly bound up in the question of national prestige and defences, as far as they are material and not sentimental issues.

The military organization of any country must to a great extent conform to its social usuages and industrial interests. Officers of the Regular Army as a general rule know less about the connection between those interests and the general policy of the State than other men, simply because it is not in their way and because they are wisely excluded from politics; it therefore does appear like beginning at the wrong end to ask advice of those whose opportunit. ties are too limited to render it worth much.

The real value of a military force is primarily for defensive purposes—to enable the physically weak to cope with the strongto secure to every individual the right to possess in peace his life and the fruits of his industry: it follows as a necessary corollary that military service is an obligation binding on every individual in the State without exception, and in this condition must the basis for the organization of any army be found. Of all the military systems in existence our own approaches more nearly the natural laws which should govern a State in the organization of an army, and why the people of Great Britain have not tried such a simple and effective method can only be explained by the delusion that the complex machinery of a regular standing army was the proper basis of an organization of which it was merely the elaborated development.

With a simple militia system, based on the Shire or county organization with a volunteer system based on the population of the great industrial centres, the cities and large towns, England should find no difficul ty whatever for her outlay of £15,000,000, sterling per annum of having an available force in the British Isles of 270,000 menunder arms and a reserve of 1,500,000 to draw on in case of need. It surely could not be difficult to draw out of this force 60 or 70.000 of the best fighting material, the say 100,000 men in a country numbering natural soldiers of the population for the foreign service of the Empire composed of its most adventurous spirits, to whom service more solid inducement than mere bread and meat should be held out.

> The mistake made throughout is that the proletaire should be forced to defend with hiz life the landed proprietor and the trader at a less rate of remuneration than

making the profits, which constituted their wealth, and which is falsely called national Wealth.

The remedy is to compel this wealth to help in its ewn defence.

King Atronso XII. has been received with enthusiasm in Spain, and legitimate monarchy has displaced the anarchy introduced by PRIM and his associate followers and successors. It is to be hoped that permanent peace will settle down on the peninsula, and that this unlucky country which has been the shuttle cock of fortune so long will be allowed to rehabilitate itself amongst the nations of the world. The whole drama is a lesson which diplomatic and political intriguers would do well to regard. It is hardly a month ago since the astufe Bismarok took the lead in recognising Serrano's Republic as the Government of Spain, inducing Russia, Austria, Italy and France to follow his lead; it will be curious to know what he will do now when the Spanish people have repudiated his little arrangement. It would appear that Germany has two ironclads known as the Nanflicus and the Albatros, these have been ordered to Santander to protect German interest whatever that may mean, while Don Carlos still keeps alive his faction, and hope opportunity will not be wanting nor a pretext to meddle. Late despatches say that Branakok has motified the Spanish authorities that he will not recognize the new order of things except the restrictions placed on the "Protestant Press of Madrid" by his late proteges the Republicans is taken off. If the present Government have any spirit it will be easy to conceive what the reply must be, and it would not at all suprise us to learn that a row between Spain and Germany was the signal for the out. break of a general war. Blackwood for December in its article on the "Parliamen" tary recess," has the following: "In a military point of view the most striking circumstance of the recess has been the calling out of an additional force of about 175.000 men from the reserves of the German initiary organization in order to swell its effective army. The state of the continent is such that after all the Germans have achieved—having trampled over Denmark, crushed Austria, and for a time at least destroyed the power of France—they do not feel secure unless at a few weeks' notice they man muster in the field 1,800,000 men."

This was written before the sudden changes in Spanish affairs placed Alfonso on the throne and scattered the Republic to the winds. The ominous passage at the close of the speech of the German Emperor at the recent opening of Parliament is noteworthy: "I know myself to be free from all tempting thoughts to employ the united power of the Empire for other than defensive purposes. 16[.] (

my Government can afford to pass over in silence the suspicion cust upon their policy Not until the malice and party expression to whose attack we are exposed, passed from words to actions, shall weresent them. In such an event the whole nation and its Princes will join me in defending our honor and rights."

It is the old story of the Wolf and the Lamb, the pretext of "honor and rights" will be easily found-and then comes the catastrophe.

THE speech of H.R.H. the Commanderin-Chief of the British Army, at Taylor's Hall, has provoked considerable comment from the Press the more remarkable because he had simply communicated an incontestable trueism when he stated that the only alternative open to Great Britain for supporting a miliary force was "Conscription," or an increase of pay sufficient to bring the soldier's wages to a par with the current price of the labor market.

Amongst the many articles which this announcement has provoked, one from the Broad Arrow of 19th December is especially deserving of notice; because it is a military journal, and therefore supposed to know the full bearings of the professional subject on which it speaks, and also because it has declared the principle of voluntary service as that on which any military force raised in Great Britain must be founded.

This article will be found in another page under the title of "Standing Armies," and we reprint it in order to show our readers the value of our own system of organization, by contrasting it with the military despotisms of Europe, and the pecuniary considerations that complicate the British system. Historioally the writer alludes to a period—that of WILLIAM III. (or Great as he ought to be called) of England, who was the first whose capacious mind appreciated the true policy for the preservation of the independence and preponderance of the British Isles; in other words, he may be said to have invented the balance of power amongst European nations and fought England's battles in Flanders and Germany, instead of on the fields of Kent and Sussex. He understood thoroughly the method of keeping invasion at arms-length, and that was by finding constant employment for the would-be invaders in defend ing their own firesides. Since his time the world has progressed. Ignorant Churlatans unable to appreciate his policy has allowed it to be set aside, and as a consequence England to lay stands in the face of a menuce t langer of greater magnitude than any she has yet confronted -almost unarmed and entirely alone.

There can be no doubt that she has with in herself ample resources to meet all possible contingencies, but those require time for devolopment. The question is will that Conscious of the power at our own disposal time he granted, or will the docrinaries a construction when large charges are em-

whose handiwork has left her without an effective military organization be allowed time to make further experiments. It is as true now as it was in 1690 that the problem of immunity from invasion must be solved on the banks of the Rhine, the Sambre and the Meuse, and the British soldier must again face the enemies of his country on the his. toric battle fields rendered famous by the prowess of his forefathers. This question of military organization can only be solved by using compulsion; but it is on the monied class that the pressure should be brought to bear. English soldiers can be found to fight in England's cause without compulsion : but they must be paid, clothed and fed.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the "Seventh Annual Report" of the "Toronto Eye and Ear Infirmary" from the Superintendent, and are pleased to learn that this valuable Institution is in a flourishing condition.

It has already effected a great deal of good in cases the most painful, and as it aims at affording relief to parties unable to pay for the costly services of occulist or aurist and as those specialities are not to be found amongst the ordinary surgical or medical practitioners in the agricultural districts, this institution is not, as its directors point out, local in its operation, but belongs in a special manner to the whole Province.

Its financial statement shows that it is partly supported by an allowance of the small sum of \$500 per annum from the the Provincial Government, and chiefly by pri vate subscriptions and donations. Its whole income for the last year was \$2.862; during the year 535 patients had been treated, of which 420 were for diseases of the eye and 115 for diseases of the Ear. The Institution is nonsectarian and has adopted the common sense resolution of admitting the ministration of all denominations who chose to seek the poor and suffering of their various creeds within its walls. That it has claims for the most energetic public support is beyond a doubt, and we do not see why the Local Government should not extend a liberal patronage towards it.

The men who support and direct it deserve well of the country.

THE following paragraph gives extraordin. ary results from the trial of a model of a newly invented gun, the principle of which is the direct antithesis of that on which all modern artillery has been constructed.

Experiments with models, especially of artiflery are generally deceptive; but if this weapon is a success it will revolutionize the whole system of modern artillery. We are not at all taken with its leading recommendation-" soft and elastic" interior liningwith a rigid envelope. The laws of expansion are likely to tell with fearful effect on such ployed, and the very difficulty as tillary experts have now to contend with is the powerful combustion of the charge unlescontrollable conditions.

" The London News of Dec. 25 has the following: The preceding experiments with the Macumber gun at Portsmout, in the proof-room of her Majesty's ship Nettle, and at Fort Cumberland, have been reported from time to time in our military and naval intelligence. Two facts were established at the trial at Fort Cumberland on the 16th October, reported on Oct. 20. 1. There was no observable escape of gas. 2. A gun with a rifled tube of 1,2° inch diameter obtained with its shot a maximum penetration of 23 inches in a piece of unbload rolled iron plate 3 inches in thickness. The initial velocity of the shot had not, however been tested in England till last Wednesday. Application had been made by the inventor who is an American, to the authorities to test the gun at Shoeburyness, but the request was not acceded to, and resurt was then had to a private firm, Messrs. Curtis and Harvey, the powder makers, who use Boulenge's chronograph at their Hounslow mills for testing the velocity given to shot by their powder. In the result an extrior dinarily high rate of velocity was marked The gun is a breech loader, and it is so built that the largest charge of the chamber will hold the strongest powder that can be used in it without any strain to the gun. Tais great resistance of the arm is obtained by using soft and comparatively elastic westight iron welded together, and then he rolls the bar into a disk, having a hole in the mid llo The disk is "set" with steel punches, drive a by a steam hummer until the pressure of the punches begins to manifest itself by expanding the outer edge of the disk. The inventor asserts that the pressure exercised by the punches is much greater thanking which will afterward be applied by the charge, and he rejects such disks as cumot stand the strain. The disks laid side by side and jump welded together, make the gun, and the part which is the powder-chamber is further inclosed by great steel rings fixed over the disks at the breach by a powerful hydraulic press The arrangement of tough iron inside and rigid steel outside is designed to a malizthe strain, which is known to be much greater at the interior than at the exterior of tubes. The great rings of steel also serve to protect the lowling serow from injury by the enemy's shot. The gun is lon fed with powder amounting in weight to just half the weight of the shot, whatever that may be. When it has been loaded it is closed by two and a half turns of a three thread serew. The fire tube is forced by the screw into the centre of the charge; the base of the naw der chamber is closely surrounded with the steel blades of the gis chack which this prevent any escape of gas. The dienensions of the small specimen used on Wednesday are ad ted here to show the propertions which would obt in in large guns. The gun has an extreme length of 45 inches, and the instantaneous combustion of the powder which the strength of the breech allows has its influence in shortening the clase, which is only 24 inches in length. The len the grooving in the tube is 23 inches The length of powder chamber is 7.25 inches in length, with a diameter of 2.5 inches. The diameter of the grooved tube is 1.275 inches; length of forged breech with rings, 14.75 inches; dis-meter of breech, 10.10 inches; dismeter-over rings, 13 inches; number of rifed grooves, 7. The pitch of the grooves commences with one turn in 130 inches

and finishes with one turn in 93. The missile fired on Wednesday was a conical shot weighing three pounds, and the powder uset was one and a half pounds of Curtis and Harvey's sporting powder No. 3. Two shots were fired, but only one was registered. The report of Messrs. Cartis and Harveys's manager, Mr. Brown, who took the time by the ouroupgraph, is to the effect that the initial velocity attained was over 2,000ft, per second. I'mis is a higher velocity than any gun has vet achieved, and, of course, velocity regulates the range and penetration of a weapon. Velocity being determined, the range of the gun may be calculated. A practical experiment for a very long-range gun is diffioult or impossible to make in England, especially when the range actually claimed for this gan is the enormous distance of nine

WE understand that Colonel FLEGHER is to deliver a lacture on "The Defence of Canada," in connection with the Octional Literary and Scientific Society, on Tauraday evening, the 11th inst. The subject is a deeply interesting one, and in the hands of to able and talented a gentlemanus Colonal FLETCHER is universally admitted to be, together with his great experience in mittary matters, a large audience will unlobtedly be present on the occasion to great and listen to the talented lecturer.

The Hon. Colonel PANET of the 9th Batt., " Volcignars de Quabec," has been appoint ed Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence, n the place of M jor Furvoys, superannus ted. Colonel PANET while in command of the 9th Batt., was universally respected by the officers and men of his regiment, who will reg at his loss; but which will, nevertheless, be a desided gain to the whole Force. As we had ever advocated that the Minister's Deputy should be a practical military man, up in who is the real business part of the Department will, to a great extent, fall, we are therefore rejoiced at his appointment. It was on this ground we advocated the appointment of Colonal Magriceson, which is so ably an I satis actorily discharged the daties of the office in connection with that of his own from the time of the superannuation of Major Forvors to the appoint. mant of Colonel PANET.

We understand that Colonel Robertson Ress. late Adjutant General of the Militia of Canada, has received the Communication Brigade Depot in Yorkshire, England.

We are pleased to find in the London Canadian News the following:—"All gentlemen from Canada who may be staying in London, or passing through it, should understand that a recombine been specially fitted up for their convenience in the Canada Government offices, King street, Westminster. They may have their letters

addressed to them there, and make such temporary use of the library—which is supplied with directories, the Canadian papers, and the London daily journals which are daily filed as could only be enjoyed at a well-regulated club. No fees are charged; it is enough that the person desirous of such accommodation as is here provided be a Canadian to ensure a cordial welcome. A visitors' book is kept for names and addresses, and friends from the Dominion may thus always be able to trace or communicate with each other when they come to the old country or visit the metropolis."

OPENING OF PARLIAMMENT.

SPEECH PROM THE THRONE.

The second session of the Third Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, was opened on Thursday at 3 o'clock. A little before that hour the Ottawa Field Batter, under the command of Captain Stewart and Lieut. Billings, with about 55 men, fyled through Rideau Street, over Dufferin Bridge, and took up a position on Parliament Hill at the rear of the Western Rlock. Having placed their pieces in position, they awaited the coming of His Excellency and suits.

Shortly after the Governor General's Foot Guards put in an appearance, coming from the same direction. They were headed by the fine band of the corps, under the leader. ship of Bandmaster James Carter, and the fife and drum corps. The Guards were in full uniform, with overcoats, busbies and were about 135 strong. Captain Lee was in command of the Guard of Honor, and with him were, Lieut. Dunlevie, Captain Walsh, and Ensign Griffin. There were nine sergeants with Sergeant Keating, also the staff and colors. The Guards were drawn up in front of the main entrance, while the band and a squad of about 30 men were detached and took up a position in the interior.

Precisely at five minutes past 3, the Cavalry, made their appearance with His Excellency the Governor General accompanied by Colonel Fletcher, Lieut. Ward, R.N., and Lieut. Hamilton, A.D,C., in a sleigh drawn by four horses.

On the entrance of the Vice Regal party within the square leading to the Parliament buildings, the Field Battery thundered forth the Royal Salate of 19 guns. And at the entrance to the building the Guards presented arms, and on the Governor and his suit alighting the band struck up "God Save the Queen," the inner guard also saluting as His Excellency and party passed into the Senate Chamber.

The following officers in uniform composed the military staff:—Major Gen. Smythe, Lieutenant Miles Stapleton, A.D.C., Capt. Ward, R.E., Lieutenant Hamilton, Colonel Fletcher, Lieutenant Colonel Ross, G.G.F.G., Lieutenant Colonel Macpherson, Lieut. Col. Eagleson, Lieutenant Col. Aumond, Lt. Col Wily, Lieut. Colonel Stuart, Brigade Majer

Jackson, Major Whyte, Major Le Lievre Major Wicksteed, Captain Sparks, Captain Crombie, Adjutant Walsh, and Surgeon Malloch.

His Excellency being seated on the Throne the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent to the Commons Chamber to command the attandance of that body, and on their arrival at the bar of the Senate Chamber, His Excellency delivered the following Speech :-

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have much satisfaction in meeting you at this early and convenient season.

I have to congratulate you upon the or ganization of the North West Police Force, and the success of its operations. It has materially aided in the creation of confid. ence and good will among the Indian tribes; in the suppression of the liquor traffic; the establishment of legitimate duties; and, above all, in maintaining security for life and property within the Territory. Another effect of the presence of the Police in the North West has been to enable the Gov ernment to largely reduce the strength of the Military establishment in that coun-

The negotiation of a friendly Treaty with the Crees and Sauteux of the North West for the cession of territory may be regarded as a further guarantee for the continuation of amiacable relations with the Indian tribes

of that vast region.

During the past summer I had the pleasure and advantage of visiting a very large Portion of the Province of Ontario, including the whole coast of Georgian Bay and Lake Superior, This official tour enabled me te form a better idea of the great extent of the Comparatively well settled country and of that which is still almost wholly undeveloped. I was everywhere received with the kindest welcome, and was much gratified in Witnessing the enterprise, contentment, and loyalty manifested in every quarter.

Your attention will be invited to a measure for the creation of a Supreme Court, The necessity for such a measure has yearly become more and more apparent, aince the organization of the Dominion; it is essential to our system of jurisprudence and to the settlement of constitutional ques-

You will also be invited to consider a Bill relating to the important subject of In-

Measures will be submitted to you providing for the organization of the government of the North West and the consolidation of the laws relating to that country; for a general Insurance law; and on the subject of Copyright.

Gratifying progress has been made in the Survey of the Canada Pacific Railway route. Measures have been taken to secure the early construction of the Georgian Bay branch, and to provide a connection with the east ern railway system. The report of the sur Yeys of the road from Lake Superior to Fort Girry, which will be ready in a few days, will afford information upon which tenders may be invited for the construction of the eastern and western portions of that section, so as to reach the navigable waters of the interior.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of the past year will be laid before you. The estimates for the present financial year will also be submitted; they will, I believe, be found to have been framed with every regard to economy, consistentent with efficiency in the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentle. men of the House of Commons:

I am happy to believe that notwithstand. ing the general and widespread commercial depression which has prevailed over the continent, the trade of Canada is sound, and that the contraction we have experienced in some branches of industry for the past year has not been greater than might naturally have been anticipated

Papers will be submitted to you on the North-West troubles, and in reference to the negotiations between the Dominion Government and the Government of British Columbia on the subject of the Pacific

Railway.

Steps have been taken during the recess for a combination of effort on the part of the several Provinces and the Dominion, to promote immigration from Europe under the general direction of the Dominion officials. It is hoped that the effect will be increased efficiency and economy in this rane h of the public service.

I rely with confidence on your prudence and ability, and on your patriotic devotion to the great public interests entrusted to you; and I pray that the Divine blessing

may rest upon your labors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications address to the Volunteer Review

To the Editor of the Volunteer Review.

(BROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT,)

Quebec, Ist February, 1875.

WE have been on the "qui vive" for the past week expecting Major General Smyth to visit the old fortress and inspect our 8th Battalion Stadacona Rifles, who are at present going through their annual drill; and a finer, cleaner, active, or more intelligent set of men I have seldom seen; their officers too would do credit to any regular regiment of the line-smart, handsome, well dressed gentlemen, who know their work : indeed the gallant colonel (Jack Reeve of the 79th, as his intimate friends call him) is right when he says "I tell you my boy l am proud of them,"

But how comes it that the authorities at Ottawa reduce a crack corps like this down to 2 officers and 42 men per company, and allow but 5 companies to be raised, while they foster isolated country corps, many of which are composed of useless, dirty, unwashed old men and children, whose principal qualifications consist in being able to spit, smoke, and jabber politics, the officers undistinguishable from the men.

I hope our new Adjutant General will insist upon the Government adopting a better militia policy and make the force generally, something more than playing at soldiershe certainly should order out the whole force in each military district this coming season and inspect them personally—he them a bumper house.

will then see more than I or anyone else can tell him

We had another dreadful configration last week and loss of life, the Beauport Lunatic Asylum having been partially destroyed, and over four hundred wretched beings turned out of doors at this inclement season—the 8th Batt. were sent for by the Mayor and a detachment of over one hundred men were quickly upon the ground rendering most valuable assistance.

QUEBROER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Montreal, 6th Feb. 1875.

There is little to chronicle in the matter of Volunteer movements at the present time-that excellent Instructor of Infantry Tactics Lieut. Celonel Lebranche has opened a Military class or school in which it is understood 1st and 2nd class certificates will be given to candidates passing the necessary examinations. It is rumored that a Regiment of Zouaves one thousand strong is to be raised in this City under the command of an officer who served in the late PontificialGuards; the uniform and appointments to be similar to that worn by the force when first organized. This report does not however find much credit or favor amongst the Volunteers of British origin, inasmuch that they with some justice con. sider that the introduction of a Zouave corps amongst them of such a strength, and foreign system of drill, would not tend to benefit the Volunteer movement in the Dominion: moreover the Zouave uniform is expensive, certainly not calculated for a Canadian climate, and is now quite obsolete in the French army. A gentleman whose career has had but few parallels in the his. tory of Canadians—died here very suddenly on the 1st instant. I alluded to the late Colonel W. M. B. Hartly, who responded to Garabaldi's call for aid in his Italian struggle with despotism, and in 1855, was a constant companion and served in the personal staff of that great patriot. During the siege of Palermo, he slept with him in the trenches and in many a hotly contested field, Colonel Hartly fought side by side with the brave men of the foreign Legion. On leaving the service General Garabaldi presented this gallant officer with a very handsome sword. Deceased took a very active part in the late American civil war, his talents securing him may posts of importance and emolument. He afterwards travelled abroad for the United States Government disposing of arms and equipments used during the war. Colonel Hartly was a man of liberal culture, was master of four modern languages, three of the dead languages, and was a fellow of the Society of Arts. His untimely death is much felt and regretted by his fellow citizens and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

The Victoria Rifles are about giving an amateur performance at the Theatre Royal for the benefit of a public charity, the popularity of the Vics will doubtless ensure

"ONE ROOM AND A KITCHEN."

The following J'eux d'esprit is copied from the United States Army and Navy Journal is a good and humerous hit at the way Uncle Sam treats his defenders, and we are sorry to say he is not singular in that respect.—ED. Vol. Rev

Perhaps it is grand!
But I fail to see it,
To live at a post, as an officer's wife;
Unless you have rank above a lieutenant,
'Its one room and a kitchen
The rest of your life.

'Tis all very well,
To firt with brass-buttons;
But that's very different from being a wife;
With children annoying, Your comfort destroying, In one room and a kitchen, To drag out your life.

Now, girls! all take warning,
In life's early morning;
Don't marry at least till your twenty or more
Then try for th 'rank—
A major or colonel! For then you'll be sure Of three rooms or four!

I know "Uncle Sam"
Must be an old bachelor,
For heimade no provision for an officers wife;
And the very worst fate
That I ever can wish him,
Is one room and a kitchen
The rest of his life.

FORT SILL.

Great Britain and the Coming Struggle in Europe.

The gloomy vaticinations of the London Times, which have been sent by Cable, have set people a talking and thinking about the early possibility of war in Europe. There seems to be no reason why the situation should be considered as more critical now than it was several months ago, and it will probably be found when the full text of the Times' article comes to hand, and that it is simply a comment on a state of things which must lead to war some day, but whose potency to bring on an early quarrel is not asserted. The causes for alarm to be found in the relations of the leading powers of continental Europe are not far to seek. In a time of peace there are, at least, three millions of soldiers kept under arms, and a military organization and equipment are maintained en a scale sufficient to enable that number to be doubled in case of actual war. The warlike expenditures of continental Europe are considerably over five hundred millions of dollars a year; and the singular position of Great Britain does not save her from spending an unusually large sum on her army, while the continued secu rity of that position demands a naval expenditure nearly equal to that of all the other great powers.

It is tolerably obvious that the military nations of the continent cannot long per sist in their present policy of bloated arma ments without coming to blows. The very position of a highly finished and ingeniously constructed military machine involves a strong temptation to use it. And as to the relations between France and Germany, there is this additional reason to urge the latter to war, that while its own military development is in a high state of perfection, that of its neighbor is only gradually in course of improvement. The present unsettled condition of Europe lies undoubtedly at the door of France. She has declared in the most unmistakable terms, her resolve to enter upon a war of revenge when the opportunity favors, and Germany feels naturally desirous to have the struggle fought out before her vanquished foe has regained more than her former strength. But Germany cannot go to war without some de

that pretext unless she can make some powerful alliance. Hence, the combinations of European diplomacy are discussed with a perpetual reference to the bearing upon the next great war, and the conviction has become settled in the public mind that when the struggle comes, it will convert the continent into one vast battlefield.

In spite of the grumblers who talk about the decay of the milithry prestige of Great Britain, there can be no question that her position is such as to give her enormous weight in preserving the peace of Europe. There are a number of treaty guarantees to which Great Britain is a party, and which she could not see disregarded without making some strong protest. But the only two cases in which she would probably be forced into war, is the invasion of Belgium, and the attempt to seat a hostile power at Constantinople The one would shut to her the high way to the East, and the other would bring an enemy within easy sail of her eastern coast. Apart from the solenin obligatisns to which she stands committed in regard to these two extremities of Europe, her existence as an oriental power would be menaced by the wresting of Constantino-ple from the Turks, and her existence as a first class power under any form would be assailed by an unchallenged breach of the neu:rality of Belgium.

Unless in such extreme cases as the two to which we have referred, the position of Great Britain in any European conflict ought to, and would be, a purely mediatorial one She has neither territorial ambition to gratify, nor national humiliation to wipe out. All her interests lie in the direction of preserving peace, and the sincerity of her devotion to that end would be questioned by no class of combatants. Her army is hardly suffi cient for defensive operations in the event of any great disaster happening to her fleet. and though her citizen soldiery are numerous and well trained, they could not to any large extent replace her regular troops if thess were withdrawn for foreign service. It is conceiveable that Great Britain might be forced to emerge from this purely defensive position, but it would only be by the shock of such a struggle as would change the face of Europe, and give a new direction to the course of modern history. - Scottish American Journal.

The Soko.

THE CENTRAL ! FRICAN MAN MONKRY DESCRIB-ED BY DR. LIVINGSTONE.

[FromDr. Livingstones Diary]

The Soko, which Livingstone speaks of interchangeably with the gorilla, seems after all to be an entirely new species of chimpanzee, and as such is entitled to the distinction of having his portrait reproduced at length, just as the explorer graphically sketches it. In the Manyeuma country under date of Aug. 14, 1870, he writes:

"Four gorillas, or Sokos, were killed yesterday; an extensive grass burning forced them out of their usual haunts, and coming on the plain they were speared. They often go erect, but place the hand on the head as if to steady the body. When seen thus the soko is an ungunly beast. The most sentimental young lady would not call him a 'de or,' but a bandy legged, potbellied, low-looking villain, without a particle of the gentleman in him. Other anmals, especially the antelopes, are graceful and it is pleasant to see them, either at cent pretext, and Fance will not furnish rest or in motion; the natives, also are well one tries to seize the female of another he

made, lithe and comely to behold, but the oko, if large, would do well to stand for a picture of the devil. He takes away my appetite by his disgusting bestiality of ap-His light yellow face shows off pearance. his ugly whiskers and faint apology for a beard; the forehead villainously low, with ears, is well in the blackground of the great dog mouth; the teeth are slightly human, but the canines show the beast by their large development. The hands, or rather the fingers, are like those of the natives. The flesh of the feet is yellow, and the eagerness with which Manynema devours it leaves the impression that eating sokos was the first stage by which they arrived at being cannibals. They say the flesh is delicious.

The soko is represented by some to be ex-. tremely knowing, successfully stalking men and women while at their work, kidnapping children and running up trees with themhe seems to be amused by the sight of the young natives in his arms—but comes down when tempted by a bunch of bannas, and as he lifts that, drops the child. The young soko in such a case would cling closely to the armpit of the elder. One man was cutting out honey from a tree, and naked, when a soko suddenly appeared and caught him: then let him go. Another man was hunting and missed his attempt to stab a soko. It seized the spear and broke it, then grappled with the man, who called to his companions: "Soko has caught me." The soko bit off the ends of his fingers and escaped unharmed. Both men are now living at Bombarre. The soko is so cunning, and has such sharp eyes that no one can stalk him in front without being seen, hence, when shot, it is always in the back. When surrounded by men and nets, he is generally speared in the back, too. Otherwise he is not a very formidable beast. He is nothing as compared in power of damaging his assailant to a leopard or lion, but is more like a man unarmed, for it does not occur to him to use his canine teeth, which are long and formidable. Numbers of them come down in the forest, within a hundred yards of our camp, and would be unknown but for giving tongue like fox hounds. This is their nearest approach to speech. A man hoeing was stalked by a soko and seized. He roared out, but the soko giggled and grinned and left him, as if he had done it in play, A child caught up by a soko is often abused by being pinched and scratched and let fall.

The soko kills the leopard occasionally by seizing both paws and bitting them so as to disable them. He then goes up a tree, groans over his wounds and sometimes recovers, while the leopard dies. The lion kills him at once, and sometimes tears his limbs off, but does not eat him. The soko brings forth at times twins. A very large soko was seen by Mohamed's hunters sitting picking his nails. They tried to stalk him, but he vanished. Some Manynemas think that their buried dead rise up as sekos; and one was killed with holes in his ears as if he had been a man. He is very strong, and fears guns but not spears. He never catches women. He draws out a spear, but never uses it, and takes out some leaves and stuffs them into his wound to staunch the blood: he does not wish an encounter with an armed man. He sees women do him no harm, and never molests them; a man without a spear is nearly safe for him. They live in communicles of about ten, each having his own female, as an intruder from another comp is beaten off with their fists and loud vells.

is caught on the ground, and all unite in boxing and bitting the offender. A male often carries a child, especially if the pass from one patch of forest to another over a grassy patch; he then gives it to the mother."

Remarkable Case.

We have been made acquainted with a case, most remarkable for its rarity and the interest it has awakened amongst the medical profession of this city. It appears that on Monday last a young married lady, residing forty miles below Ottawa, died very suddenly. The body was carried by sleigh to Ottawa, and thence by rail to Toronto, and the funeral was arranged to take place on Friday from the house of the father of the lady, who lives at Yorkville. At the suggestion of some friends of the family, however, the interment was postponed on account of the appearance of vitality in the body. A number of medical men were summoned amongst others Drs. Hall, Fulton Berryman and Richardson, and at first sight they were of opinion that the lady was not dead. All the veins were full of blood, even to the tips of the fingers; the ears and cheeks were tinged with a light red; and the face was covered with apparently a light perspiration, and in every respect looked like that of a sleeping person. Of course to an unprofessional viewer the thought that the body was in a trance would most naturally suggest itself as explaining these appearances. Dr. Hall applied a galvanic battery, and instantly gave it as his unquified opinion that the lady was dead, as did also the other doctors. A piece of cotton was tied round one of the fingers and as no swelling was produced it showed conclusively that there was no circulation. In order that there might be no possible room for doubt on the part of the friends, the doctors, ordered the lid to remain off the ceffin, and the corpse to be exposed to warm air for twelve hours. If there remained any *park of life in the body, it would thus be fanned into further development, whereas, if life were extinct, decomposition would commence. On Saturday morning the latter showed itself. and before these external signs appeared the mouth was forced open. and on a pressure of the abdomen, there issued gas which clearly evinced internal decom-Position. The funeral will take place to day. It might be stated that the family of the deceased lady are in good circumstances, and that we have purposely refrained from publishing her name, in order not un necessarily to hurt the feelings of her friends. The deceased was immediately previous to her death believed to be in a state of convalescence, and on Monday morning while discussing the propriety of discontinuing her confinement to the house she suddenly put her hand to her side and exclaimed that she was dying. The friends mards, and it was not till the body was brought to Toronto that it was thought possible. sible that vitality still lingered in the firsh Medical men say that death was caused by a clot of blood in the heart, and was so sudden, quicker than can be conceived, that the blood was left in the veins precisely as if the body possessed life with this difference that it was congealed. It is even asserted that in all probability, death, in a legal or exact sense, took place before the exclamation was made by the lady that she was dying. This may seem an anomally and might furnish a theme for technical discussion. The cessation of the action of the heart was so instantaneous that the blood was petrifi.

ed, as it were, in the most minute vesse! and the organs remained in a life like position. A case occurred in London, Eng., similar to the above, but as far as can be learned, there is none in Canada on record.

— Mail.

The Alert, 5, steam sloop, 751 tons old measurement, which has been chosen to be the consort of the steam whaler Bloodhound in the forthcoming English Arccic Expedition, has been berthed at Portsmouth, preparatory to being docked and got ready for the great enterprise for which she has been chosen. The Royalist and the Icarus. two of the sloop class of screw steamers attached to the Chatham steam reserve, are to be immediately surveyed, in order to ascertain whether either or both are adapted for being employed in connection with the expedition. The Royalist is a three gun sloop of 861 tons, and machinery of 247 actual horse power. The Icarus, a sister vessel also mounts three guns, is of 861 tons, and machinery of 247 horse power. The forthcoming expedition is exciting intense interest in naval circles, and the volunteers for the service will, there is no doubt, be far in excess of the number required. Captain Nares, late of the Challenger, who has been appointed to the command, was expected to arrive in this country about the 23rd of last month. It is now definitely settled that the route followed by the expe dition shall be that by Smith's Sound. The Admiralty have addressed themselves to the Councils of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Society, and asked those bodies to furnish suggestions regarding the scientific questions that should be kept in view during the expedition. It is announced that a request has been made by the Foreign Olice that the Danish government will permit their agents at Disco, Proven, and Upanivik to collect hunters, dogs, and dog drivers for the Arctic Expedition. stated that the expedition will not leave till the end of June, it being considered a waste of labor and time to push across the north water till the ice has melted and drifted out of Smith's Sound. Active preparations are being made at the Royal Victoria Victualling Yard, Deptford, fer provisioning the ships which are to be engaged in the expedition. For this purpose 15,000 lb. of beef are being preserved in a peculiar manner. It is wholly lean, taken from the middle of the round, and cut into steaks, when it is put over a fire and dried, then packed into canisters holding about 6 lb. each, covered with boiled suct run in, and then hermetically sealed.

Progress of the Centennial.

The construction of the Centennial buildings at Philadelphia is making favorable progress. The heavy brickwork of the Art Gillery, of which we recently presented an engraving is nearly, completed, and the granite stabs are laid as high as the water tables. The foundations of the main building, of which an illustration also recently appeared in these columns, and which are to be of glass and iron are being placed in position. The ir m will be brought to the ground and the and glazing completed in the spring. The machinery hall, which will be of the same materials, is now complete in the plans, and the specifications will shortly be published. This structure will cover twenty acres. The designs for the conservatory are at about the same stage, so that all that now remains to be provided.

for are the plans of the agricultural implement building and of some minor edifices.

The estimated cost of the enterprise in its details has been published, and it appears that the the greater part of the required sum is already secured. This includes the means for the structures as follows: Main building. \$2,000,000; art gallery, \$1.500,000; machinery building. \$800,000, and conservatory, \$200,000. Total, \$4,500,000. The following expenditures have yet to be provided for: Agricultural machinery building \$250,000; water, gas, grading, railroad facilities, and sanitary arrangements, \$1,000,000; general administration, \$500,000; and an addition of 25 per cent for errors and contingencies, the whole amounting to \$2,625,000.

It is gratifying to learn that there is no reasonable doubt of this sum being obtained within the interval of time remaining, and reports show a largely increasing interest throughout the country in favor of the enterprise. The applications from American exhibitors for space are now in excess of the room provided, 180,000 square feet having been demanded, while the allotted share of the United States is but 123, 160 square feet. This will necessitate some cutting down of demands to meet this small excess, but it is probable that by the time the Fair is ready to open, there will be so many applications that a far larger and more vigorous pruning will be required.

The following is a correct schedule of the space allotted to the exhibitors of the thirty four nations and their colonies who will take part in the Exposition. It also shows the order of arrangement of the countries, and in the areas specified includes the total floor room, measuring twenty

SQARE FEET.

Siam	3,946
Persia	7,776
Egypt	7,776
Turkey	
Russia	
Sweden and Norway	
Austria	23.328
German Empire	27,264
Netherlands and Denmark	
Switzerland	6,156
Italy	11,664
Spain and colonies	15,552
France, Algeria and other col-	onies. 27,264
Great Britain, Canada, India	. Aus
tralia and other colonies	46,748
United States	
Reserved space	
Mexico	
Honduras	3 ,888
Guatemala	
San Salvador	4.536
Nicaragua	
Venzuela	
Ecuador:	3,888
United States of Columbia	7,776
Peru	11,664
Chili	9,744
Brazil	
Argentile Republic	15,552
Hayti	3,888
Sandwich Islands	3,888
Liberia	2 268
Japan	7,290
China	

The amount of space applied for by foreign nations cannot as yet be definitely stated. The plan of the floor is now being issued to the foreign commissioners.—Scientific American.

Rumors of Wars.

The Book of Genesis-Sir Wallace Scott's novels-what a chasm between these, having regard alone to dates and customs; yet while the whole of Europe at this moment illustrates some sad and solemn words which formed part of the closing utterances of the founder of Christianity to His discip les, there is on its map one little mountain spot, lying mid-way on the eastern shore of "the spouseless Adriatic whose inhabi tants hourly in life and custom illustrate, not only the early chapters of the sacred narrative, but the best known works of the great Scotchman; wherein patriarchal institutions and the highland clan live side by side, and a proud and hardy race, while flourishing under a rule in part priestly in part secular, think a border foray legitimate business, and keep up in their families the dire traditions of blood revenge. Nay, while we write all the great powers of the continent are transmitting messages to Constantinople and Montenegro, about a circumstance which would illustrate Byron's "Gisour," and has again directed attention to the positions of Turkey in large districts of Europe where they profess to be sovereign but cannot rule, although wearing a demeanour of stoical endurance, they seek not quite unsuccessfully, to "look the masters"—to use the words of one of our diplomatic agents in his report to the Foreign Office. The bravery of these men is untainted by the effeminacy of Constantinople; they hear with scorn that they are sick and dying out of the land; and they will not leave Europe without a struggle, though surely it is the destiny fate has in store for them; and the Montengrins and the Servians seem to be the restless advanced posts of as truggle which is always going forward, but which has been kept under by various forces and interests, moneyed and political.

The leading London journal mourned a few days ago over the fact that all Europe was arming, and that the dream of peace was gone. If anybody within recent-nay with. in twenty-years dreamed of anything like a permanent peace, he must have been a very innocent sleeper. But to think of European peace since the Franco German war is an absurdity. Apart entirely from the Turkish trouble France has been going forward with immense energy in the work of bringing her military establishments into a state of warlike efficiency, and Germany has asked for more men and more money tor military purposes, and the German Parliament has given Bismarck what he asked Russia, conscious that she can only do things on a large scale, if she acts at all, has been preparing for years for some great cour; and when the avalanche falls who shall say what shall be crushed in its course, and where and when its destructive impetus will be stayed? Austria has had to adopt the same policy, and, happily for her, since her expulsion from the German Bund the work of uniting her heterrogeneous peoples has been taken in hand with more statesmanship and success. But she is specially interested in quenching the first sparks of hostilities between Turkey and Montenegro. because Montenegro is under Russian pro tection, and Austria naturally is alarmed at everything which would give an excuse for Russian troops moving in that direction. Russia on the other hand, feels that her time has not come; and all the Powers have been unanimous in putting pressure on both parties—the restless Montenegrins, fond of adventure and war; the Turks,

eager to avenge their wounded pride and gratify their hate of Christians. "Who falls in battle against a Gisour is worthiest an immortal bower,"—and it is likely that for the present diplomatic negotiations have been successful. The Turks will punish the faithful who have massacred Christians at Podgoretza to which indeed they ought not to be disinclined, for under the circum. stances, such punishment is a pleasant thing all around. The faithful will meet death with a true Mussulman calmness supported by the confidence that they will be welcomed into Paradise by Houris waving green handkerchiefs. The Turkish Government will appease Montenegro and satisfy the European Governments. demand for the extradition of Montengrins engaged in the outrage was a subterfuge which they have been compelled to with-

Montenegro may be described as an independent principality in European Turkey Conquered by Solymao II. in 1526, early in the 18th century; its inhabitants rebelled and placed the government in the priestly family of Petrovitce Njegosch. This Gov ernment, though permitted, is not "recognized" by the Porte. Montenegro has an area of about 300 square miles and a popu lation of 120,000 and could put 30,000 men into the field. In 1851 the nephew of the Viadika Peter II,—of course in a hereditary princedem where the prince is also a celebrate priest; the heirs must be collateral, not direct-declined to assume the eccles. iastical function and declared himself a temporal prince, with the title of Daniel I., and began war with Turkey. Peace was made in 1853, after many indecisive encounters by which Omar Pacha did not win laurels; only, however, to be disturbed five years later, when the Turks were defeated at Grahovo. The tyrannical conduct of the Prince now caused trouble, and his subjects being a people unbroken to tyranny they assassinated him in 1860. He was succeed ed by his nephew, who is marred, and whase succession was followed by the invasion of Omar Pacha in 1863. Even from these meagre facts it is easy to gather some idea of the relations between Turkey and Montenegro. But much more light may he gained from a few additional particu-

Montenegro is an Italian word meaning Black Mountain, and the name was orignal. ly given on account of the dark forests that at one time clothed the heights. But this is no longer a characteristic, the prevailing trees being the oak, the beech, the pine, and the nut and sumach trees. The inhabitants are of the Sclave family and belong to the Greek Church; are strongly and even beautifully built; with proud, noble, though wild features; lithe and sure in their movements; inured to all hard-ships; with primitive manners; war like; rather wandering herdsmen like Lot and daring hunters, than tillers of the ground; having preserved within their mountain walls their original character with all its faults and virtues: untamed and wild and passionate : sly and cunning at once self reliant and revengeful ; loving strife and war; yet in high hearted nobleness, unbound love of liberty, frugality, contentment, simplicity of manners and purity of morals, unsurpassed; and mingling with the beauty of patriarchal institutions the turn for family feuds of a less idyllic life, and habits of plunder in which the loss sustained by their neighbours on the frontiers is not always confined to the cattle led away by some Montenegrin Rob Rey, It is easy to err on the side of judging the Turks too hardly in this affair at Podgorizza—as the word should be spelled—for, in addition to the obnoxiousness of the Montegrins as Christians, they are as troublesome to the Turks as the Highlanders of Scotland were a hundred and fifty years ago to their Lowland neighbors, and their own co-religionists did not treat them with great tenderness. But the fates are on the side of the Sclaves and against the Osmans, and we believe the sooner the Turks are out of Europe the better will it be for peace and civilization.

Ventilation of the House of Commons.

IMPROVEMENTS SINCE LAST SESSION.

Mr. Thomas Scott Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, reports as follows on the ventilation of the House of Commons : -- "The main air duckets have been thoroughly cleaned and lined internally with galvanized iron; new iron duckets, to which strapped air shoots are attached, have been introduced, also an exhaust fan to carry off the foul air. Arrangements have been made in the floor of the House for ventilation, all draught at the same time being avoided. The work performed, so far as can be judged from the experience of last session, is to a certain extent satisfactory. Nevertheless, I beg leave to draw your attention to the difficulty which arises among so many members of different tem-peraments and habits, of regulating the temperature to meet the approval of all-Moreover, the galleries at times are filled with spectators, to complicate the problem; this crowded condition of the chamber has often to be considered when the external atmosphere is below zero and in a brief period of time ascends above freezing point -a change of temperature which frequently takes place within a few hours."

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Un oun inst.:—
Dundas, O.—Capt. Wm. Ogg, to April, 1876.
Kingston, O.—Dr. J. H. Oliver, to Nov. 1874.
Stradford, O.—Major M. Stephenson, to 1876.
Compton, Q.—Lt. W. G. Murray, to Feb. 1875.
Montreal, Q.—Capt. Huddell, to April 1878.

" W. D. Dupont, to Jan. 75.
Sherbrooke, Q.—Capt. W. B. Boyd, to Feb. 76.
Quebec, Q.—Lieut. Arthur Athern, to 1875.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Friday, 15th day of January, 1875.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

WHEREASIE has been represented that large importations of Coal Oils are continually taking place at various ports in the Dominion, samples of many of which will not stand the fire test required by the Inland Rovenue Act, iso, and amendments thereto; also that large importations of certain products of Petroleum, sach as Gasoline, Benzine and Bonzole are being made, such articles being very explosive and dan erous at a very low temperature.

His Excellency, on the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs, and under the provisions of the 17th section of the Act passed in the session of the Parliament of Canada, beld in the 31st year of Hor Majesty's Reign, chaptered 50 and intituted: "An Act to increase " the Excise duty on spirits, to impose an excise " "duty on refined Petroleum, and to provide for-"the Inspection thereof," has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that with a view to the better regulation of the foreign Petroleum trade, and the security of the lives and property or Her Moiesty's subjects, the following regulations be and they are hereby adopted and established, that Is to say :-

- 1. From and after the date hereof, the officers appointed to guage and test spirituous liquors, wines, ac., at the respective ports of Toronto and Hamilton in Ontario; the Fort of Quebec, in Quebec; the Port of St. John, in New Brunswick; and the Port of Halifax, in Nova Scotia, shall be and they are hereby appointed Inspectors of Imported Refined Petroleum at those Ports respectively; and that the respective Collectors of Customs and Sub-collectors of Customs at all other ports and out-ports in Canada, shall be and they are hereby appointed Inspectors of imported Refined Petroleum at their respective ports and out-ports, with power to employ in the actual process of testing such oils any officer or officers under their respective surveys whom they shall consider competent for that purpose.
- 2. That the instrument to be used for testing all imported refined petroleum shall be the "Coal on Pyrometer," made by Charles Potter, Toronto, Ontario, and all such petroleum as will not stand the fire test of 105 degrees, as required by said Pyrameter, as required by section 2 of chapter 15 of 21 Victoria, when used according to the instructions accompanying the same, shall be dealt with as may be ordered by the Minister of Customs in each case.
- ? That every package of imported Refined Po troleum, inspected as before provided, shall bo legibly marked or stamped in such manner as the Minister of Customs may direct.
- 4. That no imported refined Petroleum, which will not riand the said Test, whether designated as "C al Oil," "Naphtha," "Bonzine," "Benzole," "Paraffine" or other oil or fluid, distilled, manufactured or produced by any process or treatment whatever, shall be admitted to entry for consumption or Warehouse in Canada, unless the Importer shall have produced a license from a Collect or or other proper Officer of Inland Revenue, authorizing him to import and keep the same on hand.

W. A. HIMSWORTH. Clerk, Privy Council.

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