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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1875.

No. 15.

### The Volunteer Review

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

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

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

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not be taken out of the Post Office.

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—o—

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—o—

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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1875.

No. 14.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Canadian House of Commons, will in all probability, be prorogued on Wednesday. The business of the lower Chamber was got through with on Saturday, it only remains for the upper Chamber to pass the bills sent up, which it is confidentially expected they will be enabled to do by Wednesday. On Friday, Mr. G. W. Ross' resolutions in regard to prohibition were adopted in Committee of the Whole and reported, as well as some other bills of a secondary character. The Civil Service bill, and the bill respecting Foreign Enlistment were laid over to next Session. The supplementary estimates were passed on Saturday which virtually closed the business of the Commons.

Major Cotton, of the Kingston School of Gunnery, and lately connected with the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, has been chosen by Lieut. Col. Gzowski as second officer in command of the Canadian Wimbledon Team for 1875.

The town of Pembroke has granted a bonus of \$75,000 in aid of the proposed extension of the Canada Central Railway to that town. It is held as a condition that the work shall be completed during the present year.

Mr. DeCosmos' resolution to create a court for the trial of divorce cases in each of the Provinces of the Dominion, was lost on a division, 134 to 5.

A staff of Engineers left Ottawa on Saturday for Manitoba, under the direction of the Public Works Department, to examine the west side of the Red River, with a view to its practicability as a route for the Pembina Branch Railway at Winnipeg.

The Ottawa and Rideau Forwarding Company, as soon as Navigation opens, will load several barges for New York. They will be the first Canadian barges that have ever passed through the American canals.

Harry Moody, formerly Secretary to the Lieut. Governor of New Brunswick, will succeed Col. Fletcher as Military Secretary to the Governor General.

Several members of Parliament propose to introduce an Act to encourage the planting of forest trees. A bounty of 25 cents is to be paid for every oak, white pine, hickory, maple or beech tree planted.

The trial of W. G. Graves and Dr. Sparham at Brockville for the murder of Sophie E. Burnham, has concluded by the prisoners being found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on the 23rd June.

His Excellency the Governor General will sail for England on the 1st of May. He will carry with him the good wishes of the whole Dominion for a pleasant voyage and a speedy return to Canada.

The Montreal ice dealers have stored away large quantities of ice impregnated with the city sewage. No wonder the complaint is officially made that Montreal is the most unhealthy city on this continent, the death rate largely exceeding that of New York, or even Calcutta.

The New Brunswickers are taken steps to have a Provincial Industrial Fair about the beginning of September next.

A party of surveyors will leave for British Columbia next week, to complete the Pacific Railway Survey.

Toronto intends to import 200 English sparrows this summer.

A despatch from Fort Garry announces that the Hon. A. G. Bannatyne has been returned to the Dominion Parliament for the County of Provencher, in the place of Louis Riel.

According to statistics obtained from Protestant sources 30,000 Spaniards have been converted to Protestantism since 1868. The Protestant chapels in Madrid, and elsewhere in the country continue open.

We observe in the London *Times* of the 2nd March that at the Royal Levee held at St. James' Palace on the 1st March, Colonel Robertson Ross, late Adjutant General of Militia, Canada, was presented by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, on the occasion of his recent appointment to the command of the 9th Brigade District in England.

Mr. Layard has presented his credentials to King Alfonso. According to the Madrid correspondent of the *Times*, Mr. Layard expressed Queen Victoria's hope that his Majesty's reign would be marked by a constitutional, enlightened, and tolerant policy. In the King's reply, which was very complimentary in other respects, there was no echo or notice of these sentiments. The same reticence was observed in the King's answer to the address of the German Minister. The semi-official journal *La Epoca* announces that the papal Nuncio is expected to arrive shortly at Madrid.

Spain has paid to Germany eleven thousand thalers of the indemnity for the Gustav outrage.

A motion made in the French National Assembly to reconstitute Paris the capital of France, was defeated by fifty nine votes.

The S. S. *Faraday* sails on Sunday, to finish the laying of the Direct Cable.

Wm. Thomas Henley, telegraph engineer and contractor, London, England, has failed. Liabilities, £2,500.

A movement is on foot to establish British public houses without intoxicating drink. At a public meeting in Glasgow on the 24th ult., a number of gentlemen were appointed a committee for the purpose of giving practical shape to the movement.

The *Manchester Guardian's* London correspondent states that "a very high authority in India" has written a letter in which he expresses the opinion that the native army in India at present is in every respect better than that which mutined. It is in every way more efficient, both as to drill, as to officers, and as to material, and the men individually take more pride in their respective corps.

John Martin, another of the Irish agitators, and member of Parliament for Meath, died on the 29th ult., aged 63 years.

The British Commissioners for the Philadelphia exhibition have sent circulars to three thousand persons who have taken part in exhibitions and agricultural shows in this country during the last seven years, and also to Chambers of Commerce and heads of municipalities throughout the British Isles. The answers already received indicate that Ireland and the North of England will be well represented at the Centennial exhibition.

Mr. George Smith informs the *Daily Telegraph* that some of the Assyrian tablets discovered by Mr. Smith and presented by the proprietors of the *Telegraph* to the British Museum, contain a much longer and fuller account of the creation and fall of man than the Book of Genesis. In particular, the fall of Satan, which in the Bible is only assumed, is in these records reported at length, and the description of this being is characterized by Mr. Smith as "really magnificent."

A special despatch to the *Times*, from Trieste, says great preparations are being made for the inauguration of the monument in memory of Maximilian. The ceremony takes place early in April. All the companions of the Emperor, in Mexico, have been invited to attend.

A special despatch to the *Post*, from Berlin, says a financial crisis is feared there. Settlements on the Bourse are effected with great difficulty. There have been twenty-eight failures, and two persons have committed suicide in consequence of financial reverses.

The German Crown Prince has, and is entitled to wear, fifty-eight stars and crosses. Bismarck's decorations amount to forty, and Gen. Moltke thirty nine.

The *Bombay Gazette* states that the man who personated Nana Sahib died at Gwalior a few days after he had been given back to Scindia.



	Officers	N. C. Officers and Men	Officers	N. C. Officers and Men
<b>CAVALRY.</b>				
Gov. General's Body Guard	3	30		
2d Regt. of Cavalry—7 Troops	27	260	30	263
<b>ARTILLERY.</b>				
<i>Field Batteries.</i>				
Toronto	0	71		
Hamilton	3	73		
Wolland	3		12	211
<i>Garrison Batteries.</i>				
St Catharino's (annual drill not performed 1st Decem-ber, 1874)				
Toronto	1	42		
Collingwood	3	36	4	78
<b>INFANTRY.</b>				
2nd Battalion Queen's Own Rifles, 10 companies	21	460		
10th Royals, not required to perform annual drill				
12th Battalion, York Rangers, 8 companies	21	365		
13th Battalion, Hamilton, 9 companies	15	273		
19th Battalion, Lincoln, 6 do	10	232		
23rd do, Halton, 7 do	23	260		
31st do, Grey, 7 do	22	290		
34th do, Ontario, 7 do	20	243		
35th do, Simcoe				
Foresters, 10 do	23	383		
26th Battalion, Peel, 9 do (No. 1 Company absent.)	18	206		
37th Batt., Haldimand, 7 do (Nos. 1, 4, 6 and 7 performed drill.)	0	145		
38th Battalion, Brant, 6 do (Nos. 5 and 6 Companies performed drill.)	8	71		
39th Battalion, Norfolk, 8 do	21	290		
41st do, Wolland, 8 do (Nos. 2 and 5 Companies absent.)	16	244		
77th Batt., Wentworth, 6 do	21	251		
11th Company, Sault Ste. Marie, 2 do	2	48		
Cavalry	30	229	203	3,777
Artillery	16	293		
Infantry	263	3,777		
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>1,368</b>		

The Rifle Company at the Sault Ste. Marie, under the command of Captain Wilson, was inspected by Lieut. Colonel Denison, Brigade Major, who reported arms, accoutrements and clothing in good order. Very useful company, is in possession of three four pounders, which the men handle uncommonly well.

The remaining corps were assembled in brigade camps.

The camp at Niagara was formed on the 23rd June last, under the General Order, for 12 days drill.

With reference thereto, I beg leave to refer to the report made by Lieut. Colonel Skinner, herewith endorsed, marked "A."

Having been in the camp several days with Lieut. Colonel Villiers, Brigade Major, who remained in camp during the drill rendering all the assistance in his power, I must say the camp was very orderly and well behaved.

The duties, both staff and regimental, well carried out; the rations were uncommonly good; no complaints.

Although the time is, I consider too short, I must bear testimony to the aptitude officers and men show in acquiring their drill and places; and when the brigade was inspected by me on the 2nd July, nine days only in camp, the general appearance of the force, all arms, their steadiness under arms, and the manner in which the brigade movements were performed, were most creditable to all connected with the force in camp.

The two Field Batteries, Hamilton and Wolland, well horsed, well commanded, deserve more than ordinary credit.

The 13th Battalion, from Hamilton, deserves mention; strong in numbers, steady and soldierlike under arms; their skirmishing when covering the brigade in the field, all show the regiment to be in good order.

**CAMP, HOLLAND LANDING.**

This camp was formed on the 29th September, (12 days drill) rather late which was unavoidable, owing to the Provincial Exhibition taking place at Toronto the week prior. It was composed of the following corps:—Nos. 2 and 3 Troops, 2nd Regiment of Cavalry; Toronto Field Battery; the 12th, 31st, 34th, 35th and 36th Battalions of Infantry—in all 121 officers, 1,630 non commissioned officers and men, 175 horses.

The camp was under my command.

Brigade Staff appointed temporarily—Superintendent of Drill, Lieutenant Colonel Denison; Brigade Major, Brigade Major Bligh, 35th Battalion; Supply Officer, Major Selby, 12th Battalion; Musketry Instructor, Captain White, 34th Battalion; Orderly Officer, Cornet Clarence Denison, Governor General's Body Guard, with five Staff Sergeants.

As a brigade camping ground, especially in the autumn, Holland Landing offers many favourable inducements, holding a central position in the brigade division. Good water easily obtained by sinking wells; dry sandy soil covered with sod, with some fifty acres adjoining the camp ground for drill and exercise; excellent rifle ranges, (9 in all) with sunken marker's butts, radiating from a common centre in different directions; ground free, with easy access; all go to show it to be a very good place. I must not omit to mention the obliging services rendered by Mr. B. Thorne, Township Reeve, who obtained the free use of the Township Park (or reserve) enclosed, as well as clearing and levelling the adjoining grounds for drill purposes, free of expense. Although the weather was very inclement, constant rain and cold, principally at night, fortunately,

the men turned out cheerfully and paraded three times a day. Squad and company drill for several days, before being put together as brigades, had a marked good effect, the weakest point being guard mounting and posting sentries, &c. Making all guards, brigade guards, and requiring all to parade every morning for the Brigade Major's inspection, had a very good effect.

The whole of the force was under canvas. I am happy to say, less average sickness than usual; no casualties worth mentioning; the men behaved well; the rations were well supplied and good. It gives me much pleasure to state that the attention, both on the part of the Brigade Staff, and Regimental Officers and men, to their drill and duties, was very satisfactory, resulting in a brigade field day on the 8th October, which would have reflected credit on much older troops.

Lieut. Colonel Denison, as Superintendent of Drill, performed his duties very much to my satisfaction, affording useful instruction whenever required.

Major Selby, 12th Battalion, as Supply Officer, Captain White, 34th Battalion, as Musketry Instructor, were most attentive in the discharge of their respective duties.

**Target Practice.**

I beg leave to forward the enclosed report of Ensign St. John, marked "B," 19th Battalion, a very efficient Musketry Instructor, showing the general average and working of the corps of Active Militia at the Niagara camp, by which it is satisfactory to find that there is a marked improvement this year, compared with that of 1872.

I glean the following from his report:—

	Figure of Merit.
Brigade figure of merit	15-31
Best shooting Com'y, No. 5 Company, 20th Battalion	25-63
Best shooting Troop of Cavalry, No. 4 Troop, Grimsby	20-81
Best shooting Battalion, 20th Regiment	18-64
Best shot in Brigade, Private David Stock, No. 2 Com'y, 77th Battalion, score	60 points.
From the report of the target practice, at the camp at Holland Landing, I received from Captain White, Musketry Instructor, marked "C," enclosed, it appears that the brigade figure of merit stood 14-75.	
	Figure of Merit.
Best shooting Company, No. 4 Com'y, 36th Battalion	20-56
Best shooting Battalion, 35th Regiment	16-19
Best shooting Troop, No. 2, Oak Ridges, 2 Regiments of Cavalry	16-00
Best shot in Brigade, Sergeant-Major Grigley, 12th Battalion, score	47 points.

The average shooting at the Niagara camp was evidently the best; the weather may have something to do with it.

**SCHOOLS OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.**

Number of cadets admitted during the year	75
Number of cadets who obtained 1st class certificates	7
Number of cadets who obtained 2nd class certificates	59
Withdrawn by permission	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

Of the above number, 20 were officers of the force, 20 non commissioned officers, 16 were privates, 10 were cadets not belonging to the force, some of whom have since received commissions.

exclusive of the officers and non commissioned officers employed on the staff of the brigade camp.

By reference to the above it will be seen, that the corps of all arms mustered well, most of the corps well up, some full—the 2nd Battalion Queen's Own Rifles over the required number, as laid down in the General Orders of the 3rd June last.

In the performance of the annual drill, the Governor General's Body Guard performed its drill at headquarters, as usual; paraded for inspection, clean and soldierlike; well mounted and drilled; well, officers and men.

Toronto and Collingwood Garrison Batteries performed their 12 days drill at their respective head quarters, in compliance with No. 7. General Orders, 3rd June; were inspected by Lt. Col. Denison, Brigade Major, who made a favorable report of their general appearance, and heavy gun drill.

**INFANTRY.**

The 2nd Battalion Queen's Own Rifles performed 12 days drill at headquarters, Toronto. The physical appearance of the men of the Battalion, when paraded for my inspection, was very good; officers and men appeared well up in their drill, principally company drill; arms and accoutrements in very good order; clothing somewhat deficient.

The four companies of the 37th Battalion, and the 39th Battalion Rifles, performed their drill at their respective headquarters, under canvas; were inspected by Lt. Colonel Villiers, Brigade Major, who made a very favourable report of both corps;—very steady under arms; battalion and skirmishing drill very fair; appearance of the men good.

Average number of days required to obtain a 1st class certificate 78.  
 Average number of days required to obtain a 2nd class certificate 65.  
 Adjutant, Lieut. Colonel Denison, Brigade Major.

Drill Instructor, Sergeant Major Cantlin.  
 The above school closed, at Toronto, on the 31st May last.

I cannot close this report without bringing specially forward the march made by the Toronto Field Battery, commanded by Captain Gray, from the Old Fort to the camp at Holland Landing, and also the return march, a distance of thirty eight miles, whose report marked "D," I beg leave to enclose, giving the details; it shows what a Field Battery of the force can do when commanded by a smart and intelligent officer.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
 Your most obedient servant,  
 W. S. DUNE, Lt.-Colonel,  
 Deputy Adjut. General,  
 Military District No. 2.

[A]  
 DONEL, BEACHVILLE,  
 13th July, 1874.

Sir,—I have the honor to submit the following report of the Brigade Camp assembled at Niagara under my command on the 23rd June last, in accordance with District Order of the 11th ult. The force was comprised of the following corps:—

Corps.	Officers.	N. C. Officers and men	Total.	Horses.
Staff.....	10	6	16	5
2nd Regiment Cavalry	19	197	216	217
Hamilton Field Battery	3	71	74	55
Welland Field Battery	3	72	75	67
13th Battalion.....	16	281	297	4
19th do .....	12	252	264	4
20th do .....	12	232	244	4
33rd do .....	15	82	97	4
38th do .....	15	94	109	4
44th do .....	19	262	281	4
77th do .....	15	262	277	4
Totals.....	139	1678	1817	351

The health of the several corps comprising the brigade was good, and neither accident nor cases of serious illness occurred during the continuance of the camp. Seven men had to be sent home, owing to illness contracted prior to marching from company headquarters, which was not discovered until the medical inspection to which every regiment was subjected the day after arrival. In this connection, and with a view to saving the country from unnecessary expenses, I would urgently recommend that commanding officers of corps be ordered to have all their men inspected by the medical officer of the battalion prior to marching out for active service or to camps of exercise.

The first six days after arrival was devoted to preliminary drill as follows:—

*Cavalry.*—Sword exercise, mounted and dismounted drill.

*Artillery.*—Foot drill and field battery movements.

*Infantry.*—Squad, company, skirmishing and battalion drill.

The hours for parade were—

Morning parade... from 6.30 to 7.30.

Forenoon " .... " 10.00 to 12.00.

Afternoon " .... " 3.00 to 5.00.

The different corps was also practised in guard mounting and dismounting, and posting sentries, a branch of their duty of which a great majority of the men were entirely ignorant, and for which the time at our disposal was insufficient to get them thoroughly posted.

On the 30th June I ordered the first brigade, parade and was much pleased at the

precision and promptitude with which the movements were performed, a large proportion of men having never taken part in a brigade parade before.

On the 1st July (Dominion Day) the brigade was paraded at eleven o'clock, and at noon a *fic de joie* was fired in honor of the day. In the afternoon I had purposed allowing the men half a holiday, as is customary on this day, but at the request of officers commanding corps I took the brigade for a march out in column of route, throwing out advanced and rear guards of cavalry.

On Thursday, the 2nd of July, the brigade was paraded for your inspection, and a very successful field day carried out under your direction.

I cannot conclude my remarks on drill without at least adverting to the inadequacy of the time in such short camps of exercise as those assembled for twelve days. The days occupied in assembling and returning with the intervening Sunday, cutting down the actual time spent in drill to nine days, and even less in the case of artillery. All this time should be spent in preliminary drill, and say five or six more in brigade exercises.

The target practice was carried out regimentally under the supervision of Ensign St. John, Brigade Musketry Instructor, and twenty rounds per man expended. For any efficient instruction in this important branch of a soldier's duty, I have to remark as above that the time allowed is altogether too short.

On Sunday, the 27th June, Devine service parades were ordered, and all the men marched to their several places of worship.

The Young Men's Christian Association opened and maintained a booth on the camp ground, where religious services were held in the evening, and the troops were supplied with newspapers, pens, ink, and paper free of charge.

The conduct of the men, with one or two exceptions, was excellent, and I learned with satisfaction from the residents of the town and neighbourhood that they considered the troops more than ordinarily well behaved.

In reference to the transport arrangements I heard no complaints, with the exception of the train which conveyed the 13th Battalion, which was delayed for five hours in the neighbourhood of Clifton, in a burning sun and without water. The natural advantages of the ordnance lands at Niagara for camp purposes is I think a fit subject for remark in this report. The climate is healthy, there is an abundance of excellent water, an expansive parade ground, capital shelter for cavalry and field battery horses, and rifle ranges not easily surpassed. Besides these natural advantages, there are many barrack buildings which can be utilized as hospitals, soldiers' quarters, mess and store houses, and prove invaluable to a camp of exercise. I would suggest that a small amount be expended annually to keep the buildings in repair, and would strongly urge that the ground and buildings be retained for military purposes.

In conclusion, I have to acknowledge the efficient manner in which the several members of my Brigade Staff performed their duties, especially mentioning Capt. Moore, Brigade Major, and Captain Boice, Supply Officer.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
 Your obedient servant,  
 J. A. SKINNER, Lieut. Col.,  
 Officer in Command of Brigade Camp  
 at Niagara.

The Depy. Adjut. General,  
 Military Dist. No. 2, Toronto.

[B.]

St. CATHARINE'S, 21st July, 1874.

Sir,—I have the honor to submit the nominal roll of those who made the highest scores in company and battalion of the Brigade Camp, Military District No. 2, assembled at Niagara for the annual drill of 1874-75.

The figure of merit of the brigade of 15-31; last camp it was 11.49; a very great improvement.

The best shooting company is No. 5 Company, 20th Battalion, with the average of 25.63, being slightly better than the highest company figure of merit (in the District) of last camp, which was 25.12, obtained by No. 5 Company, 38th Battalion.

The battalion having the highest figure of merit is the 20th Battalion, being 18.64; last year the best battalion of the Division obtained 17.62; a considerable increase. The best shot in the brigade is Private David Stock, of No. 2 Company, 77th Battalion, with the score of 60 points.

The figure of merit of the cavalry (2nd Regiment) is 17.77; the best shooting troop is the Grimsby Troop, with an average of 20.81; and the best shot in the regiment is Private W. Martindale, of the same troop, having scored 58 points.

The number of men who fired the required number of rounds is, Infantry, 1,183; Cavalry, 184.

Of the thirty seven making the highest scores, twenty one are non commissioned officers, being over 1/2 half.

I am glad to state that the suggestion of Major Dartnell, District Musketry Instructor for 1872, as to having but one marker in each butt, and having the markers permanently drawn from each battalion, was acted upon this year. I found it worked well, there being no complaints of inattention as during the previous camp.

The rules of firing were the same as those of last camp, and which seemed to give general satisfaction.

I approve of the "Hythe position" at 400 yards, notwithstanding it has been objected to in former reports, for skirmishers are often prevented from firing lying down by reason of the lowness of the ground, therefore are compelled to fire from the knee; consequently, in becoming accustomed to the Hythe position, it will not come amiss.

I am glad to state no accidents occurred. The weather was not wholly favorable to shooting, on account of the severe winds which prevailed.

Next camp at Niagara, I would advise the raising of targets Nos. 7 and 8.

In taking into consideration the marked improvement of the brigade shooting, it must be remembered that the 500 yards range was added to the ranges of last camp.

When it was definitely announced that there would be no prizes for those with the highest scores, I could not help but notice the disappointment expressed on the men's faces. If prizes are to be withheld, it will be found to have a prejudicial effect on the interest taken by the volunteers in rifle shooting.

I desire to here make mention of the valuable assistance rendered me by Staff Sergeant Dunford, of the Queen's Own Rifles.

I am, Sir,  
 Your obedient servant,  
 F. ST. JOHN, Ensign,  
 Musketry Instructor:

[C.]  
 CAMP, HOLLAND LANDING,  
 9th October, 1874.

Sir,—I have the honor to report that, as

Musketry Instructor to the Brigade, I have conducted the target practice according to the instructions received from you, and also that I found the ranges in the most convenient and satisfactory state, both as regards situation and safety.

Enclosed you will please find a tabulated return of each battalion, which I hope will give all the necessary information which you require.

In closing this report, I beg to call your attention to the fact that the course has been conducted without accident or hindrance to any person engaged. With the exception of the hinges on the trap doors in butts, which were too light, and occasioned a little delay while being fixed, in all other respects everything worked satisfactory.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH WHITE, Captain,

Bgde. Musketry Instructor.

Lieut. Col. DURIE,  
Depy. Adjt. General,  
Commanding Camp at Holland Landing.

[D.]

TORONTO, 2nd Nov, 1874.

Sir,—I have the honor to report that the Toronto Field Battery, under my command, assembled for annual drill on Tuesday, the 29th September, 1874.

On the same day at 10 a.m., the Battery commenced the annual ball practice.

The target was moored in Lake Ontario, at about one thousand yards from shore. The firing was high at first, in consequence of the common shell not been charged, as I had instructions not to use powder for that purpose.

Reducing the weight of the projectile by half a pound has a very great influence on its flight, and I would strongly recommend the propriety of not permitting artillery to engage in practice until they are deemed competent to use shell according to regulation.

Twenty eight rounds hit the target out of forty nine fired, the last round completely demolished the superstructure, leaving only the raft and anchor to be towed ashore.

The remainder of the ammunition I retained to be used on some future occasion. On Wednesday at noon the Battery started on the march for camp at Holland Landing.

A halt was made at Hogg's Hollow, eight miles from Toronto, to water and feed the horses; the men had dinner at the same time.

Arrived at Bond's Lake, twenty miles from Toronto, at seven o'clock p.m., watered and fed the horses, and cooked supper for the men.

Arrived at Holland Landing Camp at forty five minutes past three a.m., October 1st, performing a march of thirty eight miles in less than sixteen hours.

The Battery walked forty five minutes and trotted fifteen each hour on the march, trotting five minutes at a time.

The men and horses were in capital spirits the Battery going into camp on the trot. I reported to Lieutenant Colonel Denison, Brigade Major, who met the Battery and pointed out the position it was to occupy.

During the camp the Battery was under your immediate orders, and I trust and believe performed its duty to your satisfaction.

Major Irwin, the officer commanding the School of Gunnery, inspected the Battery on Thursday, the 8th October.

The Battery marched out of camp on Friday, the 9th October, at eleven o'clock a.m.

and moved rapidly over the road, as I was eager to make the most of a few hours' day light and fine weather.

A short halt, to feed and water horses, and to cook dinner for the men, was made at Aurora; I also halted the Battery five minutes during each hour, walked forty minutes and trotted fifteen; after dark I discontinued trotting.

I deemed it advisable not to halt for any length of time, as there was every indication of rain, the road already muddy and heavy to travel over, and a new coat of metal laid at intervals along the route.

The Battery arrived at the Old Fort, Toronto, at 11.45 p.m., Friday, accomplishing the march in thirteen hours, and proving beyond a doubt a Volunteer Field Battery can possess that faculty of nobility, without which it is a useless expense.

On Saturday the guns, arms, harness, and accoutrements were returned into store in a clean and proper manner.

The harness was placed in the harness room in a very creditable condition indeed, and this after continual wet weather, but this is owing no doubt to a couple of small prizes offered annually to the drivers by the officers of the Battery.

A prize also given to the smartest subdivision has the effect of keeping the guns at all times thoroughly clean.

I find encouragement better than punishment.

I cannot close this report without noticing the zeal and ability of the officers under my command, and their untiring energy in the interest of the corps, before, during and after the annual drill.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN GRAY, Captain,

Toronto Field Battery.

Lieut. Col. DURIE,  
Deputy Adjutant General,  
Military District, No. 2.  
(To be Continued.)

## REVIEWS.

*The Aldine* for April (No. 16 of the current series), certainly presents features of excellence entitling it to something more than the usual attention: a part of them, too, in a direction which would six months ago have been something of a surprise to those who had merely known it as an admirable exponent of art. In this issue, taking time by the forelock in a manner somewhat startling, it springs to the front, in topics and features connected with the Centennial, quite as much, without a doubt, to its own profit, as to the pleasure of its thousands of patriotic readers. There can not be other than a most assured sensation, in the "Historical and Centennial Romance of the Revolution," which it commences in this number, under the taking name of "The Spur of Monmouth," with the additional information that it is written by an "Ex-Pension Agent," and that the events to be portrayed have been preserved in the memories of eye-witnesses up to a certain period, and thence conveyed by one who listened to their narratives—the whole being, as the writer phrases it, "from personal relations and documents never before made public." Probably no greater pleasure could be imparted to the American people, at the present juncture, than is to be found in the knowledge that there is really a romance of the Revolution, of importance and interest, not yet published, and of which we are now to have the reading, in the clear type and on the fine paper of *The Aldine*. But the Cen-

tennial tendency of *The Aldine* does not end here: there is a full-page picture of the "Battle of Lexington," capably drawn by John S. Davis, and showing the salient features of that memorable conflict, in a manner equally blending force and judgment. The character of the country, the agricultural vocations of the patriots before they sprung to arms, the variety of ages in the combatants—all are shown with rare skill, the picture really conveying the feeling of the time to a degree which needs sight for appreciation.

In other art features this number of *The Aldine* is rich almost beyond the average. "The Path of Duty," a capital drawing by Davis, after Merle, engraved with admirable effect by T. Cole, some of whose exquisite work we have already noticed; three views in Southern Utah, the "Narrows," Valley of the Babbling Waters," and "Temple of the Virgin," all by Thomas Moran, convey the scenery of that wild region with great force and rare beauty; "Joan of Arc at the Siege of Paris," and "The Parisian Men of September," illustrate two very different yet equally striking scenes in French history; and a noble group of "Gnarled Gray Trunks," three fine views of Wells Cathedral, and a pair of splendid "Stag-Hounds," make up the pictorial treasures of what we must again designate as a remarkable number.

Literarily, the variety and the excellence are equal. In prose, besides the new novel already mentioned, we have another (and nearly the last) installment of "Lost Lillian Bracy," a sweet little bit called "Dream-Fairies," by X. B. Reaux; a tasteful, brief story, "Clochette," by Augusta Von Bubna; "A Gift from St. Petersburg," sparkling with diamonds, by A. K. Sulzer; a pleasant paper on the "Habits of Authors," by Amanda B. Harris; and "In the North Woods," having a mournful significance as the last printed utterances of the late artist, John A. Hows. In the direction of rhyme—we have a poem of heart-breaking sadness as well as beauty, "By the Dead," by Eben E. Rexford; a sadder, and if possible a sweeter one, "For Baby's Sake," by Sophy Langdon; a sparkling "Little Jack Frost," by Chas. Sangster, (the Canadian poet); "Ice Jewelry," by W. W. Bailey; and "Lord Ronald's Stag Hounds," by John Hay Furness. Once more, and finally—a marked number; let who will assert to the contrary.

The Aldine Company have established an Art Union, similar to the well known Art Union in England, and are distributing their works of art, both sculpture and paintings, which are constantly collecting, among their subscribers. Art premiums, valued at \$2,500, are distributed among each series of 5,000 subscribers. Subscription tickets, at \$6.00 each, entitle the holder to *The Aldine* for a year, to the new chromo and to a ticket in the distribution of art premiums. The Aldine Company, publishers, No. 58 Maiden Lane, New York City.

Major General Smyth on Tuesday last, requested Colonels Bowell, Skinner, Brown, Kirkpatrick, and Higginbotham to meet him at his office, which they did. He stated that he wished to consult them with reference to militia clothing, drill, etc. The officers entered fully into these subjects, and the General expressed himself desirous of meeting their wishes and the wishes of the force, as far as practicable. Concerning the style of head-gear, Col. Higginbotham recommended the broad-brimmed felt hat, looped up at the side, such as was worn by the cavalry during the Southern war. This idea was approved of, and it was decided to give it a trial.



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## The Volunteer Review,

AND

### MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1875.

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

LIEUT. J. B. VINTER, of Victoria, and Captain H. V. EDMONDS of New Westminster, are our authorized Agents for British Columbia.

The state of disorganisation in which Mr. GLADSTONE'S administration left the British Army does not yet appear to be in a fair way of being remedied. The impossibility of keeping up a regular force of a little over 100,000 men in a country of thirty millions of inhabitants, with a large surplus population, is one of those anomalies which are the more startling from the apparent practical contradictions involved. It is notorious that within a given period to be measured by the service of an ordinary soldier, say fifteen years, one half of the force would be changed by desertion alone at the yearly rate of the following exhibit:

"The effective strength of the British army on Jan. 1, 1875, was 178,276. During the year which had just elapsed the army received 20,640 recruits, besides 2,052 who deserted, and 613 absentees from other causes, making in all an addition of 23,305. The aggregate loss to the strength during the year was 23,364 men, which are thus accounted for: Deaths, 2,011; discharges with pension, 1,854; invalid cases, 3,996; discharges by purchase, 4,753; various causes, 3,662; desertion, 5,572; discharges from militia, etc., for desertion, 558; for misconduct, 214; transfers to army reserve, 744; net decrease, 59. The total number of horses employed on home service on Jan. 1 was 14,827, of which number 1,532 were

added during 1874. The decrease in the same period was 1,591. Of this number 313 died, 1,018 were cast, 33 were sold to officers, 227 and were got rid of in other ways."

We shall not stop to enquire as to the details, but simply place the whole cause of all this to what is its true account—*want of organization*—nor does there appear to be a plan yet laid before the British people, capable of supplying that want; although projects by the hundred have been broached and advocated, each distinguished in an eminent degree for its complications alone—and the worst of all are those emanating from Officers of the Regular Service, men who confessedly are unable to keep the recruits, such as they are, placed in their hands to their colours. So hopeless, indeed, is the outlook in the direction of creating anything like a respectable force that the leading journal throws down the subject in despair. Drawing attention to the enormous armaments now covering the face of Europe, the *London Times* says:

"All that our army is equal to is to garrison our forts, to guard our coasts, and to instruct our volunteers and reserves. We cannot people remote continents and isles and have our men at home. We cannot have them working day and night at factories and learning at the same time the arts of offence and defence. The navy is our one arm in the scale of Continental war. Here we are beyond rivalry, and have only to remember that we have little else but ships, and must make the best of our single defence. Continental writers taunt us with the low condition of our military armament, and tell us it is nothing less than our duty to make ourselves a valuable and trustworthy ally. They are ashamed of the meagre display we make, even when we seem to be putting out our strength. But as we are an island, a circumstance not without its disadvantages, we may as well take the natural advantage of that accident. We are, or should be, one great port for ironclads, sufficiently strong and well equipped to maintain the mastery of the seas, not only in our own narrow straits, but wherever the British flag marks the path of commerce, emigration, or discovery. We cannot allow jealous rivals or scarcely concealed foes to dictate to us the element or the exact form and manner in which we shall play our part in the great work of the world. We have only to do what we can, and if we cannot resort to conscription, or make voluntary recruiting do the work as well, we may remember that we were a great sea Power and held a high place in European politics when we had no standing army at all. The navy is our strong point, and navies, it must be remembered, have often given the command of the land as well as of the sea. They are costly, it is true, and what is more, they are no sooner made than superseded by some improved form and construction. But they spare our flesh and blood, the dearest commodity in these Isles. They make wood and iron do the duty of frail mortal frames."

This is certainly a very slim look out for the future of Great Britain. It is all very well to be bounceable and talk big; but while Peru or Chili can build an exceptional vessel, we would like to know where was this Naval Supremacy the *Times* talks so loudly about preserving? It is true that

alliances may be formed which would give her the balance of power on the Seas, and a proper use of her Mercantile Marine would probably insure her supremacy; but she must be prepared to back it up with a heavy land force, or all her efforts will only prolong the final agony. It will not take other powers a long time to find out that the richest country the world has ever seen is defenceless, and then comes the end.

Legislative meddling has made her military Officers the slaves of routine, and choked them with Red Tape, nor does her military training leave a hope that this state of things will be remedied as long as her system, such as it is, remains centralised and employs ten civilians for every three soldiers; and yet, it would seem, as if she could get from under the night-mare of her cumbrous machinery, there is nothing to prevent the organization of the finest military force physically, as well as morally, the world has ever seen. It would be simply a return to the old militia system from which the regular army could be recruited by an easy and obvious method in which there would be no room for force or oppression—for the instincts of the British people revolt, and has always done so, at the idea of compulsory service with its consequent military despotism and civil tyranny. Even the scientific corps in the British service fail to give that satisfaction which their training leads the people to expect, as the following paragraph will show:

The *London Standard* has a very poor idea of the British engineer. In a recent article it says: "Packing and unpacking cases at South Kensington, mending doors and windows in barracks, working the telegraph, conducting surveys all over the world, making plans of streets, superintending prisons, making roads, governing colonies, acting as clerks at the War Office, or engaged in the discharge of a courtier's functions, these are the ways in which the bulk of the Royal Engineers are occupied. But a very small minority are engaged in the performance of real military engineering work. Indeed, so thoroughly is it recognized by the authorities that the engineers are rather a civil than a military corps that officers requesting, after many years' service, to be allowed to brush up their knowledge by a course of instruction at Chatham, are told that they can only be once instructed. Naturally, under such circumstances, the Royal Engineers, with a few brilliant exceptions, are not soldiers save as regards their dress and titles. Yet, with a curious inconsistency, the authorities allow them to influence military policy and organization more than any other branch of the service."

Such strictures point out the drift of public opinion, and the uneasiness felt at the very precarious position of the British Army. We do not thoroughly coincide with the *Standard* that the training of Engineer Officers should be confined to military works alone—their work is essentially a part, and a very small one too, of what is known in modern days as the science of Civil Engineering, and the failure of the service to effect anything beyond what it has pointed

out, is due to the restriction of the students of the Military Colleges to absolute systems and absurd specialities. The lessons learned during the Crimean War appears to have been wholly lost on the people of Great Britain; yet it is well known that the works constructed before that Fortress by the Military Engineers of France and England were failures, and that the latter power had to supplement them with an improvised corps of Civil Engineers who, while doing what the others failed to perform, were refused the privilege of wearing the distinctive uniforms of their country in whose service they were perilling life and limb.

Our neighbours across the lines are wiser, their Engineer Officers from the moment they receive their first commission are employed on all the great Public Works of the country—surveys, construction of railways, canals, harbours, the navigation of rivers, bridge building, and every conceivable work within the province of the Civil Engineer—besides these necessary works of fortification and defence of which every Engineering Student worthy the name, understands the theory; as a consequence, there is probably the most efficient scientific corps in the world at the disposal of the United States, and the History of their Labours during the late civil conflict shows the magnitude of their labours to be far beyond that of the corresponding corps of any other army in ancient or modern days. If Great Britain wants to make her Engineer Corps effective she will employ them in a similar manner, and take into her service on an equal footing as volunteers the Civil Engineers now employed on her various Public Works—if she wishes to train Governors for her small dependencies it would be as well to distinguish the corps by some other name; but if either her scientific or fighting corps are to be raised out of the slough of despond in which they are now wallowing a total change of systems and abolition of routine is necessary.

The following letter addressed to the Editor of the *Globe* has been written by an officer who has served for some time in the Prussian Army, and who has distinguished himself by a pamphlet on "War," which was republished in the sixth volume of the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW*.

Our readers are aware that the fundamental laws of the Swiss Federal Republic forbid the maintenance of a standing army, and therefore the military organization referred to is similar to our own. It appears the principle of universal service by the 18th article of the constitution of 1874, which enacts that "Every Swiss is liable to serve in the defence of his country;" and article the 19th enacts, "The Federal army consists of all men liable to military service, and both the army and the war material are at the disposal of the confederation. In cases of emergency the confederation has also the exclusive and undivided right of

disposing of the men who do not belong to the Federal Army, and of all other military forces of the Cantons. The Cantons dispose of the defensive force of their respective Territories in so far as their power to do so is not limited by the constitutional or legal regulations of the Confederation."

Article 20 empowers the Confederation to enact all laws relative to the army and watch-over their due execution—it also provides for the education of the troops, and bears the cost of all military expenditure which is not provided for by the Legislatures of the Cantons.

To provide for the defence of the country, every citizen has to bear arms in the *management of which the children are instructed at school, from the age of eight, passing annual exercises and reviews.*

Such military instruction is voluntary on the part of the children, but is participated in by the greater number of pupils at the upper and middle class schools. The troops of the Republic are divided into three classes as follows:

1. The *Bundes-auszug*, or Federal Army, consisting of all men able to bear arms from the age of 20 to 30. All Cantons are obliged to furnish at least 3 per cent. of their population to fill the ranks of this force.

2. The army of Reserve consisting of all men who have served in the Federal Army from the age of 31 to 40—the numbers are calculated to amount to 1½ per cent. of the population.

3. The *Landwehr*, or militia, comprising all men from the 41st to the completed 44th year.

At the end of September, 1874 the strength of the armed forces of Switzerland was a total of 201,257 of all ranks, and arms as follows: Staff 841; *Bundes-auszug* (all arms) 84,269; *Reserve* (all arms) 50,069; *Landwehr* (all arms) 65,981.

Of this force the Riflemen (*Scharfschützen*) in three classes numbers 13,918, and is altogether an unique corps—being composed of the *marksmen par excellence* of the whole force. The Infantry numbers 160,061; Cavalry, 4,570; Artillery, 18,255; Engineers, 3,047, and Administrative Corps, 502.

Every citizen not disabled by bodily defect is liable for military service at the age of 20. Before being placed on the rolls of the *Bundes-auszug* he has to undergo a training of from 28 to 35 days according to his entering the ranks of either the Infantry or the *Scharfschützen*, or picked riflemen, the cavalry or artillery.

Both the men of the *Bundes-auszug* and the Reserve are called together in their respective Cantons for *annual exercises*, extending over a week for the Infantry, and over two weeks for the Cavalry and Artillery; while periodically, once or twice a year, the troops of a number of Cantons assemble for a general muster.

The military instruction of the Federal Army is given to Officers not permanently

appointed or paid, but who must have undergone a course of education and passed an examination at one of the training establishments set apart for that purpose.

The centre of those is the Military Academy at Thun, near Berne, maintained by the Federal Government, and which supplies the army both with the highest class of Officers and with teachers to instruct the lower grades. Besides this Academy, there are special training schools for the various branches of the service, especially the Artillery and the *Scharfschützen*.

The expenditure on this force is about £112,632 sterling, equal to \$561,160 per annum. The total population of Switzerland was at the census in 1870, about 2,669,147 souls, of whom 1,304,833 were males; the area of the country was 15,233 square miles, and population 175 persons to each square mile; and its military force absorbs nearly 16 per cent. of the male population.

From the above sketch it will be seen that the Swiss system is closely allied to our own—the difference of geographical position is in reality the only circumstance that causes a difference of organization—as that country is more exposed to hostile aggression and more easily accessible than our own—consequently, a livelier interest is felt in military development and the compulsory element is introduced.

Six.—The following are some of the provisions of the new Swiss Military Law of the 13th November, 1874. They may be of interest to some of your readers.

Every Swiss is bound to serve from the age of twenty up to the age of forty-four. The Cantons see that the young boys, from the age of ten years up to the time of their leaving the primary school, whether they attend it or not, receive a course of gymnastics preparatory to the military service. As a rule these courses are given by the school-teachers, who receive, in the schools for recruits of the Confederation, and in the Normal Schools of the Cantons, the instruction necessary to give these lessons. All the young men must follow these courses of gymnastics from the time they leave school to the age of twenty. In the two last years the Confederation may add rifle practice. At the Federal Polytechnic School are given special courses for teaching the general military science (tactics, strategy, history of war, &c.) The Confederation favours and supports the introduction of the military courses in the establishments of superior instruction of the Cantons.

*Cavalry*.—The instruction of the recruits of guides and dragoons lasts sixty days. Besides the recruits there are called the cadres, necessary of sous-officiers, and the officers newly named who are obliged to follow this instruction. The courses of repetition of cavalry take place each year, and last ten days. The cadres commence their service four days before the troop. These courses are followed in turn by one or more squadrons or companies, either alone or with other arms. Every year there is a school of cadres of six weeks, for the brigadiers and sous-officiers recently named, and for the first lieutenants proposed as captains. The preparatory schools for officers of dragoons and of guides last sixty days. The sous-officiers proposed as officers take part during the second half. This school is

hold every year. The course of repetition for the dragoons and guides takes place separately. The personnel of instruction is the same for the dragoons and guides, and is composed of an instructor-in-chief with the necessary number of instructors of the first and second class, and assistant instructors.

**Artillery.**—The instruction of the recruits of artillery lasts 55 days, that of the recruits of companies of artificers and of the battalions of the train 42 days. Besides the recruits the following are called to the school to form the cadres:—The lieutenants proposed as captains, the lieutenants recently named, sous-officiers and officers, sous-officiers, workmen, drummers, and trumpeters necessary. The course of repetition of the artillery is held every two years; those of the field batteries last eighteen days, those of the battalions of the train fourteen days, and those of the other *unites* last sixteen days. These courses are held in regular turn, and are followed by one or several *unites* of troops or joined with the course of repetition of other arms. The schools for sous-officiers, which take place every year last five weeks. They are followed by the *appointés* and by the sous-officiers proposed for promotion. Special schools are held for sergeants. The necessary number of officers must also attend these schools. The preparatory school for officers is held every year, and is divided into two parts—the first lasting six weeks, and the second nine weeks. Sous-officiers proposed for officers must be called to the second part of the school. Besides the regular annual schools, special courses may be organized. The personnel of instruction of the artillery is composed of an instructor-in-chief, and of the necessary number of instructors of the first and second class and assistants.

**Infantry.**—The instruction of the infantry and of the carabinieri is given in eight *arrondissements*, in such a manner that all the infantry of each of the divisions of the army are taught in the same *arrondissement*. At the head of the corps of instruction is placed an instructor-in-chief of the infantry who controls the personnel. He superintends the central schools, and may also be charged with other branches of instruction. There is besides a special instructor for shooting practice. There is named for each *arrondissement* and Instructor of *Arrondissement*, to whom is joined the necessary number of instructors of first and second class, as well as the assistants for the special branches. Every year in each *arrondissement* there are the necessary number of schools for recruits, lasting forty-five days. Eight days before the opening of the schools for recruits there is called for all this time a sufficient cadre, composed of the officers and corporals recently named, and the non-commissioned officers who have been promoted. Every two years there are courses of repetition during sixteen days, in which take part the battalions of infantry and carabinieri of each *arrondissement*. The battalions, regiments, brigades, and divisions will each in their turn be called to them. These exercises are superintended by the commandants of the respective troops, with whom are joined the necessary staffs. Corps of troops of other arms can also be joined to them.

At the time of the manoeuvres of division, the special arms which form part must attend. In the years where they have no other military service, the officers of company, the non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of infantry and carabinieri of *élite* are obliged to take part in the firing exercises. The *écoles de tir* (schools for shooting) for the officers and non-commissioned officers of infantry and of carabinieri are held every

year, and last four weeks. Officers and sous-officiers of other arms may be called to them. Every year in each *arrondissement*, there is a preparatory school for officers, lasting 6 weeks.

**Genie.**—The instruction of the recruits of sappers, pontonniers, and pioneers lasts fifty days. To these schools are called the necessary cadres, and first:—The first lieutenants proposed as captains, the lieutenants recently named, the sergeants, sergeants-major, and *fourriers* newly named. The courses of repetition of sappers, pontonniers, and pioneers are held every two years, and last sixteen days. The preparatory schools for officers are held every year, and last nine weeks. The sous-officiers proposed as officers are also called to these schools. The officers of *genie* attached to the staffs, as well as those charged with the technical works of defence, receive their instruction in a special technical military course, and are called besides to the school of the general staff. The personnel of instruction of the *genie* is composed the same as that of the artillery.

**Sanitary Troops.**—The schools for the recruits of sanitary troops (*infirmiers* and letter-carriers) lasts five weeks. The recruits receive previously, in a school of infantry recruits, the necessary preparatory military instruction. Besides, the *infirmiers* follow after the school of recruits, a course of three weeks in an hospital, to learn the practice. The sous-officiers of *infirmiers* and letter-carriers follow, during the time of their service in the *élite*, a course of sanitary instruction of three weeks. There are every year courses of four weeks for the physicians and druggists proposed as medical officers. All the military physicians are bound to follow, during their time of service, at least one course of sanitary repetition of fourteen days. At the time of the courses of repetition of great corps of troops (manoeuvres of division, of brigade, &c.,) there is called to the service a detachment of sanitary troops, which is taught by an officer of the sanitary staff. The special instruction of the sanitary personnel is directed by an instructor-in-chief, with whom are joined instructors of first and second class. Particular instructors teach the veterinary officers the special branches.

**Troupes d'Administration.**—The non-commissioned officers and soldiers proposed as *fourriers* of the *unites* of troops, and as non-commissioned officers of the companies *d'administration*, attend a school for twenty-one days at least. The preparatory school for the officers lasts thirty-five days. The superior officers of this service (from the grade of captain) receive their instruction in the schools for officers, lasting forty-two days, and in the course of repetition of twenty-eight days.

**Central Schools.**—Every year there is a course of instruction of six weeks for the subaltern officers of all the arms. The adjutants attend this school. The captains of infantry and carabinieri recently named attend the second central school held every year, and lasting six weeks. Every four years there is a course of instruction of fourteen days for the commandants of battalions of infantry and carabinieri, (third central school.) The lieutenant colonels newly named receive in the fourth central school, which is held when required, an instruction of six weeks. The officers of other arms, of corresponding grades, may also be called to the second, third, and fourth central schools.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
H. S. DE ST. HENRI D'EXTRAIGUES,  
Major in H. M. Reserve Forces, Canada.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *U. S. Army and Navy Journal* of March 15, and as we have published in a recent issue General Fitz-Joux Porter's appeal—we now give our readers the reply thereto of General Pope. The whole case appears to be very much complicated:

SIR,—Fitz John Porter has published another appeal for a rehearing. In it he accuses General Pope of using his influence to prevent a rehearing. This charge is sufficiently answered by a letter from Pope to the President, written nearly a year ago, which appeared in the *Commercial*.

Porter cannot keep still. He is like a man in a quicksand, he can't help struggling, though every effort sinks him deeper. The more his case is examined the plainer his crime appears. The transaction is too recent to be misrepresented. There are too many men still living in Ohio and Wisconsin who may remember how indignantly they chafed at being held back from the field where their comrades were vainly struggling with overwhelming numbers.

General Jackson, by his dashing advance, got to a point where, by a rapid concentration, he could be crushed before Lee's army could come up to his rescue. The first day of the second battle of Bull Run was fought between Pope and Jackson on the 29th of August, 1862. Porter and McDowell, under orders from Pope to march to his aid, moved out on the morning of that day. At noon, Porter having marched three or four miles, halted. McDowell passed by, and following up the sound of the contending guns, took his place in the battle that was raging.

Porter lay on the road all the afternoon. He heard the sound of the battle. His corps comprised one third of the forces under Pope's command. It contained nearly all the Infantry and Artillery of the Regular Army. His men were fresh, they had marched little more than six miles in two days. He lay in careless disobedience, amusing himself with sending back to Alexandria insubordinate letters abusing his commander, listlessly hearing the battle going on, and finally writing to McDowell and King that our Army seemed, from the sounds of the guns, to be retreating, and he would retreat by another road. He received another peremptory order from Pope to advance, and thereupon retreated by a road which led him further from his suffering comrades.

That is the whole story, no statement of which is denied by Porter. He says, and that is all he says, there was a force in his front which Pope was not aware of, and he would have been hurt if he had moved forward and encountered it.

It happened several times in the war, as it must happen in every war, that a part of the Army was sent to a position where it must be crushed, but where its engagement enabled the Army as a whole to win victory. This is a matter for the commander to judge of. Success is impossible if a subordinate can say the part assigned to him in a battle is too hazardous, and he will keep out of the way, leaving the rest to fight it out.

But, by the captured records, we know now just what was the force in Porter's front. Porter reports he saw the dust of a heavy column, and exchanged some shots with their batteries. That supposed heavy column was, in fact, sixty Stuart's cavalry. General Stuart says in his official report to Lee, that on seeing Porter's column in the road, he kept detachments of Cavalry dragging brush down the road from the

direction of Gainesville, so as to deceive the enemy, a ruse which Porter's report shows was successful;" obtained a reinforcement of three brigades of infantry and some guns, with which he fired a few shots, when the enemy (Porter) withdrew toward Manassas.

It was to save his corps from a perilous encounter with a few troops dragging brush over a dusty road, that Fitz John Porter admits he violated express orders, and left his commander to struggle unaided till forces coming up in the night crushed him next day.

Treason is a crime against the law. A man may be a traitor under the law without consciously soiling his personal honor. But treachery, the treachery of a soldier on the field of battle, is personal baseness. When an officer is guilty of that, the greatest boon he can ask is to be forgotten.

GENERAL PORTER'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, April 18, 1874.

General U. S. Grant, President of the United States:

MR. PRESIDENT: It is no doubt known to you that General Fitz John Porter claims to have procured evidence since his trial, not attainable at the time, which would either acquit him of the crime of which he stands convicted or greatly modify the findings and sentence of the Court-martial before which he was tried, and that he has embodied in a printed pamphlet the kind and character of this evidence, and what he expects to establish by it, together with an appeal for a re-hearing of his case. It is widely asserted by those who sympathise with him, and probably believed by many who have no personal interest in his case, that influences hostile to him have restrained you from examining this statement of his case, and have thus worked great injustice by preventing the Executive from considering statements or evidence which might vindicate his character. It is needless to say to you that I have never used any influence with you, personal or other, to prevent the investigation of his statements, nor even intimated to you in any manner that I objected to any action you might think proper to take in the matter.

Nevertheless, as I do not wish even to seem to consent to any additional misconceptions concerning me or my action in this case, I beg (if you have not already done so) that you will yourself, Mr. President, examine as fully into the question as you think justice or mercy demands, or that you will order a board of competent officers of high rank, unconnected with the armies or transactions involved, to investigate fully the statements of this new evidence made by General Porter, and report to you what, if any, bearing it would have upon the finding and sentence of his Court-martial, even if it could be fully established.

I am, sir, etc.,  
JOHN PORTER,  
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—I will endeavour to answer as far as practicable to your correspondent "Fixed Bayonets's" queries in your issue of 23rd inst., and trust that my replies may be of service to him.

No. 1. Soldiers are at all times to salute any person they know to be an officer, whether in uniform or not.

No. 2. The Sergeant Major only draws his sword when "Trooping Colors" and then when with the "Escort" for he salutes the Color on taking it from the Color Sergt. to hand it to the Lieut. to carry it, (vide par. VII, of Drill Book 1870. Sec. 12. "The Sergeant Major will move in quick time, by the left flank, to the front, receive the Color, and return towards the Escort; the Ensign will move out four paces in front of the Lieutenant, passing by his right, and having saluted and returned his sword, will receive the Color from the Sergeant Major, place it in his belt and turn about; the Escort will then be ordered to present arms, the Sergeant Major saluting" &c., &c.

No. 3. No: the men do not shoulder. A company always "falls in" a. the order and are supposed to be standing in that position on the command "Fix Bayonets" being given—and upon receiving "open order" go back without "shouldering" for the book says after "open order." "The inspecting officer will pass down the ranks to see that the accoutrements, clothing, &c., are clean, and in good order." The commands given afterwards are—"unfix bayonets" and "shoulder arms"—hence I say they do not "shoulder" before taking "open order"—Am I right?

The omission of "shouldering arms" in page 101, is not, I should say, accidental but purposely done, there's no occasion to shoulder in Inspecting the Company.

No. 4. Your correspondent is wrong because the colors have always in former days been carried "by the two Senior Ensigns." Now the colours are carried by "two Lieutenants" because there are no Ensigns. The formerly so called "Ensigns" now being "Sub-Lieutenants." "This rule likewise applies to ordinary parades, route marching and the like"!

No. 5. The Sergeant Major's place in a Rifle Regiment—when in Line—would be in rear of Right of the "Left half Battalion"—in "Column of Companies" it is on the same flank as the Adjutant but six paces in rear of him—in "Column of Double Companies" if formed from right Half Battalion, his place is in rear of the right centre company and if from the Left Half Battalion in rear of the Right centre company—covering the fourth file from the centre of the Battalion. As to a "column of fours" it depends,—if on the march he would be in rear of the commanding officer—if any other movement in the place he would be when the Battalion "formed fours" from "line" or "column." The Sergeant Major parades, at all times when the regiment parades guards mount or dismount &c. I would advise your correspondent to look up the duties of a sergeant major. In "Dixon's manual for the Militia"—which I have used on "Service" and in camp and have always found it, a ready compendium

and a valuable assistant to me in my duties as Adjutant of my Battalion.

No. 6. Queries Regulations of 1874. Section 3. Paragraph 19, says that—"The standard of Cavalry, or the Queen's Color of Regiments of Infantry is to be lowered to the Sovereign, members of the Royal Family, and Vice Roys only." Again "Field Exercises of 1870," in section 2 par. 5 says. "The reviewing General will be saluted without opening ranks; the men presenting arms, the officer saluting, the colours flying or being lowered, according to regulation and bands playing." Now I presume the "being lowered according to regulation" refers to paragraph 19 of section 3 of "Queen's regulations" 1874, above quoted—does it not?

I have now I think tried my best to give what information I can to assist "Fixed Bayonets," and I hope I may be right. I am pleased to see some persons starting this mode of questioning his conferees through your wide spread columns—for I think its a good way to open up a feeling long wanted in the force.

I am your obedt. Servant,  
IXION.

P.S.—I notice in part 7 section 21 of Field Exercises 1870—that in Presentation of colors, it is not the two Senior Ensigns who receive the new colors, for it reads—"The Ensigns of the Color party—who should not be the two Seniors &c"—from which I presume the two Seniors are carrying the old colors—Am I right?

The rifle Exercises of 1870, page 65, section 3 (London Edition) says "when ordered to trail on the march, the rear will step short two paces," it does not say "about two paces, as the Toronto Edition does. As to the latter part of "Fix Bayonets" postscriptum, I should certainly say the rear rank would have to "step out" the forty eight inches, it is the only way I see it can be done.

IXION.

Montreal, March 27th, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—From the frequent articles I see in your columns upon recruiting for the British Army, I infer that your correspondents are not aware, that a certain proportion of the Army is still enlisted for long service, i.e., for twelve years with the colors VI 3. The Household Cavalry, all; the Cavalry of the Line, 25 per cent; Brigade of Guards, optional; Army Service Corps, 50 per cent; Army Hospital corps, all; Colonial corps, all. All soldiers thus enlisted have the same privilege as they formerly possessed to re-engage for a further period, so as to complete twenty one years service with the colours, entitling them to pensions.

"INTELLIGENCE BRANCH."

WIMBLEDON TEAM.—The Executive Committee of the Dominion Rifle Association have decided that the Wimbledon Team will sail from Quebec for England on Saturday, the 19th June next.

## MONTERO'S FLIGHT.

We were fighting for Don Carlos—the cause of God and Spain,  
As in days of Don Pelayo, the mountain 'gainst the plain.  
The Republic sat triumphant on Don Pelayo's throne;  
And, brave among the bravest, old La Concha led them on.  
We held our proud position on Monte Muro's height;  
And all around Abarzuza their movements were in sight.  
He climbed the village steeple, and bade the assault begin;  
And they rushed up like a tempest, our vantage post to win;  
Cavalry and footmen, up the rugged mountain track,  
They kept their steady progress, and not a man looked back.  
Then we poured from our intrenchments, like a rain-swelled river course;  
And they stood against the torrent, like the dam that stops its force.  
That living way, yielding, their strength was giving way,—  
Then he hurried down exclaiming, "I die or win to-day!"  
My horse, my horse, Montero!" and drew his trusty brand.—  
His foot was in the stirrup, but the sword fell from his hand.  
A shot of ours had struck him right on his gallant breast;  
It struck as strikes the lightning an old oak's honoured crest.  
He fell; his bright eye darkened, as the sun's light in eclipse,  
With "Death from the Guerillas!" and "God's mercy!" on his lips.  
But time was none for thinking, our advance was near the force;  
And quick as light, Montero placed the old man on his horse;  
And leaping up behind him, and clasping him round tight,  
Plunged spurs up to the rowels and darted off in flight.  
Oh! glorious more than victory that flight, when, as a shield,  
The gallant young Montero bore his chieftain from the field!  
His back a mark for bullets, but none were shot, I ween;  
Or, if shot, they were averted by our Lady, Heaven's Queen.  
But men are men, and press on, like hounds upon the chase;  
And on we spurred, and never o'ertook him in the race;  
But the three or four that followed him turn'd round we stood at bay;  
And along the broken path still Montero held his way.  
Now and then he stumbled, but firm with word and rein,  
He checked up the brown charger, and all was speed again.  
He knew the good steed knew it, the race was for the life.  
Of the dear and noble master, sore wounded in the strife,  
["No quarter," was the watchword, "Give quarter," had been his;  
Few men were we, and desperate but we never thought of this!"]  
They drew rein in Abarzuza, and from the panting horse  
Tenderly they lowered him—was it life still, or a corpse?  
He breathed but a few seconds, he pressed Montero's hand;  
And every eye was moistened, for our hearts were all unmanned.  
A priest quick did his office, his sins were all forgiven;  
St. Manuel pass him quickly through purgatory to heaven!  
Slowly we retreated; but while this was going on,  
Their rout had been accomplished, and the bloody day was won.  
But the glory not with us, but Montero must remain,  
And we grudge it not our foemen—they, too, are sons of Spain;  
Nor never since the Cid's days, Ruy Diaz of Bivar,  
Did knight or squire win honor by a nobler deed of war;  
We are brothers, we are brothers, oh! when will discord cease?  
St. Michael give us victory! St. Mary give us peace.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

MUSIC HALL.—An influential meeting was held in Toronto on Wednesday, 30th ult., in Mr. Gzowski's office, at which it was proposed to build a Music Hall capable of accommodating an audience of 1,500 and a chorus of 500, at a cost of \$70,000, the money to be raised by the issue of \$10 shares.

## THE GREAT DOMINION.

An address by Edward Jenkins, Esq., M. P., Agent General for Canada, to the Manchester Reform Club.

(Continued from page 156.)

Thus we have surveyed from end to end this domain, which we love to look upon as but a vast suburb of Great Britain. I have shown that from Newfoundland to the north of Lake Superior there is yet room for an enormous additional population, and that soil remains untilled, promising industries are neglected, and mines of wealth lie unregarded alike by the capitalist and the labourer. In Great Britain the movements which are going on in society around us need cause us less anxiety when we see such an outlet for ill paid or discontented labourers, such a field for superabundant capital. If, for instance, the wages of labourers in some of the agricultural districts prove that two men are looking after one man's work, it is not enough that economists should tell us that it would be possible by financial and economic reforms—which it would take probably a century to effect—to mitigate the unhappy lot of a struggling population; or if looking at the disputes which have taken place during the last two years in the coal and iron trades, we see from the fact that, while for so great a length of time great bodies of men ceased to be productive, nevertheless prices are falling and wages are decreased, it is a mathematical demonstration that in that market also there exists at this moment a surplus of labour. Is this surplus to continue to introduce its disturbing elements into the social crucible, or is it to be turned into the wider and more elastic moulds which British colonies afford? Or, again, it is not improbable that amongst the results of the great movement in the agricultural districts, one of the most important will be that the small farmers will find it impossible to hold their ground. They have some capital, they have energy, they have knowledge and experience, and many of them have families, to aid them. For such people as these, driven from the land in which they and their fathers for generations, perhaps, have settled, what better alternative can be offered than large tracts of rich land at moderate prices in a Dominion governed by British laws, without the restraint and obstructions of vested interests and social prejudices, amongst neighbours and friends who are at once brothers and compatriots. This is the nearest colony to Great Britain; this is the colony in which the climate is best suited to the vigorous and active energies of the natives of Great Britain. This is the country, which, lying alongside of one great nation, in which there is a daily increasing demand for its agricultural products, and within so easy a reach of the other great nation to which, it is akin, is the most ready hold for British emigration. With laws like our own, under the same sovereign, with a people who in race are our brethren and in characteristics our competitors, is it a foolish fancy to look forward to the time when this shall be the greatest suburb to the metropolitan centre of the British Empire? Let us now take a comprehensive glance at the Dominion in regard to some of its general characteristics. The superficial area of Canada, including Newfoundland, is over 3,500,000 square miles, or about 150,000 square miles less than the whole of Europe, in the latitude of the greater part of which it lies. The whole of the United States, including Alaska, is only 3,390,000 square miles, or 110,000 less

than Canada; and, as we have repeatedly to recognize, Canada has a larger territory fit for population than the United States.

In a few sentences I may disabuse your minds of erroneous ideas regarding the Canadian climate, which are very prevalent. For the production of cereals the climate of the greater part of Canada is superior to that of the United States, and is equal to that of the best grain growing countries of Europe. Over the latter it has the advantage of higher summer temperature, and more summer rain—this is the secret of its superiority over the Republic. The western half of the United States from the 100th meridian is desert—scorched by similar hot summer winds to those which, commencing on the West Coast of Africa, blow across the vast eastern continent, creating a band of death and desolation. "It is questionable whether there is an acre of what a Canadian or English farmer would call good land for wheat and cultivable grasses between the Mississippi and Pacific slope." Now, grain and grasses ripen best in a summer of 60 to 70 degrees. The summers of a vast region across the centre of the Dominion are in this fertile range, with a summer rainfall shown by tables to be ample. The summers of such States as Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, whither too many English farmers and labourers have gone, are 10 degrees to 15 degrees higher than those of the best grain and grass districts, and 10 degrees too high for wheat, barley, &c., and the cultivable grasses. Facts are confirmative of these theories. "The three decennial censuses of Canada show that she produces more abundant and surer crops of cereals, grains, grasses, and roots, and of better quality, than any of the States of the Republic." The Canadian census of 1851 showed that even then Canada produced one sixth as much wheat as all the thirty one States and four Territories, half as much peas, over one seventh as much oats; one quarter as much barley, and nearly one-eighth as much hay. In 1860 and 1861 she had one sixth in wheat, between a quarter and one fifth in oats, in barley one third, and in peas nearly equal to 34 States and Territories. Consider the positions of Canada and the United States relatively to Europe, and you will readily understand this. The parts of Europe north of latitude 45 degrees embrace the British Islands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Prussia, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, Lombardy, part of Sardinia, and most of France and Russia. The chief grain and grazing portions of Europe are in the higher parts of the temperate zone, and so they will be on the American continent. The whole of the United States east of the lakes, except Maine, is south of 45 degrees. The enormous water system of Canada tends to improve its climate for agriculture, and the shores of British Columbia are made temperate by a warm ocean current, resembling the Gulf Stream.

It is stated that there are in the Dominion 1,500 lakes and rivers. In its extreme breadth from ocean to ocean, from the 49th parallel of north latitude, it stretches for 3,066 geographical miles. In its greatest depth it is 2,150 geographical miles. The basin of the St. Lawrence and its estuary comprises an area of about 530,000 square miles. The great lakes cover about 130,000 square miles of this vast cistern. Passing up beyond this, Lake Winnipeg is 500 miles in length, and through it and its sister lakes, the Manitoba and the Winnipegosis, we communicate with the Saskatchewan, which runs for 900 miles from the Rocky Mountains. The Dominion is sur-

rounded by more than 11,000 miles of sea-coast. Of course, a vast portion of this, towards the Arctic region, is not only uninhabitable, but cannot be reached for fishing purposes. Still there are left along the coast of Labrador, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in Hudson's Bay, and on the Pacific coast inconceivable quantities of marketable fish. But these supplies are not confined to the sea coast; the great lakes of the interior, and the still great, though lesser waters of Ontario and the North-west territories, abound with fish, which is a favourite food with the inhabitants. The fisheries of the Dominion produced, in 1870, \$6,577,392; in 1871, \$9,570,116. In financial position Canada occupies a very proud and healthy elevation. Her debt does not exceed \$120,000,000, or, taking the population at 4,000,000, about £6 3s. 3d sterling per head. Few of the colonies can exhibit such a balance-sheet, and none such resources. More than half of this debt is represented by public works, canals, harbours, light-houses, river improvements, railways, &c., and over \$40,000,000 by railway and provincial securities. In four years—namely, from 1869 to 1873—the trade of the Dominion leaped up from \$128,000,000 to \$217,304,516, an increase of nearly 89½ millions. The total value of the exports from the Dominion for the fiscal year ending June, 1873, was \$90,610,573, and of the imports \$126,586,523. The banking statistics of Canada show a steady growth, combined with a strength of position her Republican neighbours might well envy. The panic of 1873 in the United States affected Canada little. Her banks stood firm, and it will be shown by the statistics of 1874 how superior her people were to their neighbours in caution and resource. The paid up capital in Canadian banks for the year 1872-3 amounted to \$55,102,939; circulation, \$29,516,046.

From June, 1870, the banking capital rose from \$29,801,000 to \$55,102,000 in 1873.

In one year, 1872-3, the capital rose from \$44,742,000 to \$55,102,000, an increase of 22.08 per cent.

The joint circulation of Government and banks for 1872-3 was 33 to 40 million dollars per month.

The circulation and deposits of Ontario and Quebec for 1864 and 1874 were:—

	1864.	1874.	Increase.
Circulation	\$9,748,000	\$33,188,000	340 p ct.
Deposits	24,575,000	76,090,000	310 p ct.

Nothing perhaps more signally illustrates the different characters of Canada and the Republic than their municipal, provincial, and Dominion affairs of finance. Instead of reckless and corrupt public expenditure, or wild, immoral, and private speculation, even the worst days of Canadian political finance have shown no such wholesale rottenness as seems to have entered into the very veins of Republican administration and society; her private monetary adventures have been generally free from the mad indifference to consequences which sometimes appears to possess that mercurial people, and from time to time involve so many of them in disastrous ruin—a ruin which their temperament enables them to face with equanimity.

I do not wish to institute a comparison with other colonies, but I venture to say before a company of Manchester merchants that for safe investment there is no field now open to British Capital superior to Canada. There have been, it is true, some slight indications of speculative epidemics in railways and in town lands—a natural im-

pulse, no doubt, from the marvellous development of the new Confederation. But it will not find congenial soil. The people as a rule are cautious and steady; their modes of business are more British than Yankee. It ought to be known that money can be safely invested to pry from 7 to 10 per cent. of mortgage of town or agricultural lands, with most ample margin, in Ontario and Quebec; that judicious investments at superior rates of interest can constantly be made in the securities of railways (managed and financed on the spot and not by able boards of ignoramuses in London) in steamboat companies, and in municipal and financial debentures of good security. Among the mines of Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Lake Superior, it must be that before long English capitalists will fall upon fortunes that will realize Dr. Johnson's aphorism of the "potentiality of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice."

This, then, in the baldest outline, is the Dominion of confederate colonies, upon the political constitution and the natural and commercial resources of which I was asked to night to give a disquisition. It is clear enough from the time it has taken to draft this mere outline, that to perform the task in any adequate degree was simply impossible. No single camera can take in the view; no single canvas would contain the picture. You must be content with but a few side glimpses of its national life.

One of the commonest errors among the ignorant classes in Great Britain is to confound Canada with the United States. That error has been assiduously cultivated by the agents of American railway and land companies, and has seriously injured the colony with the emigrating population. It is almost as frequent an error of better cultivated people to confound Canadians with Yankees, and to conceive that there is little in the politics, the social life, the tone and manner of the Canadian people, distinctive from those of the United States. If in some unfortunate instances of Canadian travellers and Canadian newspapers there may appear to be just grounds for this confusion, it is nevertheless, as regards Canada, a serious blunder. With many of the characteristics of a new community, developing its strength with a rapidity and freedom unobstructed by old rules, habits, and customs, and privileges, the Canadian Government and people are, nevertheless, markedly different from the Government and people of the United States. In the one you have universal suffrage, in the other property qualification; in the one institutions purely democratic, in the other ample popular freedom without the liberalism of a Republic Government; in the one you have a society bent upon the reduction of every individual to one level, in the other a judicious, without a bigoted and tyrannical, recognition of the diversities of human ability and position; in the one you have a quaint commingling of habits and manners, half continental half English, in the other you have more of the sodateness and perhaps more of the rough but solid capacity of the British character; in the one you have the relation of the executive to the country constantly involving political difficulty and danger, in the other order is established on a footing as secure as the throne of Great Britain. The difference is remarkable. You notice it as soon as you have passed the line. It runs through all society and it modifies every relation of life.

Another remarkable feature of these new communities is the freedom and elasticity of their politics, their legislation, and even

their administration. To begin with the latter, it would probably strike an English official aghast to visit Ottawa and view the Ministry and officials in harness. There is red-tape in Canada, as there is I suppose in every official community, but they manage to run very little of it off the reel. The office of the Premier is protected from the public by a small ante-room, where the messengers intercept visitors of every class and station, who come on the smallest occasions for a personal interview. If it is a matter which can be settled by a few words to another minister he will put on his hat accompany his visitor to that Minister's room. Notes or memoranda save many despatches, and instead of posting acres of correspondence about the public buildings the Minister will make a call or send a message. But this accessibility and freedom, according to my observation, is essentially different from that of the United States. It is not based on the "I'm-as-good-as-you" and "you're my servant" principle, which draws out of American society that best and stiffest fibre of all society, the recognition of relative rights, but it is the curtness, the facility of business men who always in their bluntest moments strive to make it understood that they rest upon the amenities of life. When you get a Canadian imbued with the Yankee notions of equality you get what Artemus Ward would term the "cussedest of cusses;" but thank God, such creatures are the exception in Canadian experience.

What I have called "the freedom and elasticity of politics and legislation" has been evinced a hundred times in the experience of the Canadian provinces. Could I to-night review the history of constitutional reforms, of educational, ecclesiastical, or social measures in the maritime provinces and in Quebec with their Catholic population, in Ontario with its many elements of fiery political disturbance, it would, with all its untoward incidents, be an astonishing, and to us who live in England an almost incredible, tale of mutual forbearance for the general interest.

Take an instance in which religious or merely class passions are little, if at all, involved—the reform of local Government. In England this has been a task Herculean, at which man of power after man of power has tried his strength and either wholly failed or produced but puny remedies. Boundaries of municipalities, bounds of constituencies, bounds of counties, parishes, and unions, and then of local Government districts, and boards of health, there they lie, each of them defended by a Garrison; and who dare try to readjust them? But here before me is a masterly drawn Act of 515 sections, passed in one session of the Ontario Legislature, and intitled, "The Municipal Institutions Act," which collects, codifies, and amends the laws regulating the municipal Government in all its branches for that province. It is preceded, with unique judgment, by a synopsis and analytical index in thirty two closely printed pages. In the act is set forth the law regulating the model municipal constitution of Ontario, with its grades of counties or united counties, townships, cities, towns, and villages. Representative councils in each case manage the affairs of their special jurisdiction. In the counties the council consists of the reeve or deputy reeve of those townships and villages within the county which have not withdrawn from county jurisdiction, as they may by certain formalities. Cities have mayors and aldermen, towns mayors and councillors, with a reeve and deputy reeve in certain cases.

A village or township council consists of a reeve and four councillors, with additions in certain cases. This vast system is worked out with the greatest simplicity and ease. It is elastic and facile in its movement. Provision is made for the occupation of new territory, the addition of fresh municipalities, and the gradual absorption into the municipal system of the country. One looks at this piece of legal art from amidst the rough and intractable arrangements of England, with an envy at its superiority, which is scarcely tinged with a hope of ever being able to rival it. What is the reason of the difference in the treatment of such questions there and here? They are impelled by the general necessities of progress; we are obstructed by long-crystallized privileges and deeply-rooted institutions. There is bigotry in Canada, a bigotry of many sects and of many phases of thought, and it does complicate, nay sometimes obstruct, legislation; but it has not that immovable spirit, that conservative stupidity, which neither admits the inevitable nor looks for solutions. What is the reason of this? First, I think it is the fact that the whole body social and politic is in motion—nothing can stop its progress. Even Quebec, with ancient traditions and an old organization, is compelled to move on. The spirit of progress rushes into it, and every man feels the impulse. The whole Dominion is instinct with life and the growth of life. I am no materialist, but I do believe in the awakening influences of material prosperity. Secondly, there is its distribution. In proportion as that prosperity is fairly distributed throughout a community will the community wake up and live. Restrict it to a few, surround it with privilege, vest it in fractions of society, not it round with complicated exclusive laws and customs, leave the great balance of society outside its benefits, and your material prosperity will only intensify the disintegrating influences just as it exaggerates the disproportion. In Great Britain we boast of our material prosperity, but we look with terror on its concomitant conditions. Economists may swear that it reaches and blesses the whole community, but a stroll in the slums of a city, or along the byways of a country district, gives the lie to the statement. If you want to know what material prosperity means in a life-giving sense to the whole community, you must go to American and Colonial States, and see how generally distributed wealth improves the conditions of social harmony and human co-operation. Then will you best understand how great philanthropists, as well as eminent statesmen, have been those men who have striven by political reforms in Great Britain to equalise, and to improve in equalising, the political status of the people, or by economic legislation to distribute more equably the blessings of material prosperity.

I think I have now incidentally answered most of the questions that would naturally have occurred to the majority of my audience, unless perhaps on one or two points of political importance, with regard, however, to which it might not be in place for me, considering my official relations, to express an opinion. But on the face of such facts as I have adduced, disquisitions on Government and politics seem to dwindle in importance. As I have said, progress and material prosperity loom up first into view, and from these Government and politics take much of their shape and direction. I have presumed to night that you did not desire from me a constitutional dissertation. The form of the Government of the

Dominion was written upon our status book in the Act of 1867, and appears to be more intelligently understood by Englishmen than are the circumstances of the country which was thereby legislated upon. What you desire to know is how the Governmental machine works, and my answer is that the results appear in the marvellous development of the Dominion since the confederation in 1867. You are probably aware that the confederation of the British provinces was hastened by the alarming and significant hints from time to time thrown out by British statesmen. It was supposed to be, and in effect it actually was, the theory of the school of politicians which took its name from Manchester, that colonies were but a burden and useless expense to Great Britain; and Mr. Goldwin Smith was then a prominent advocate of views which possibly at this moment he would not be prepared to propound. Mr. Roebuck, who had at one time represented the colony in this country with, his characteristic wrongheadedness, was amongst the most noteworthy of those who expressed the view that the sooner Canada was separated from Great Britain the better for her and for us. Opinion has grown. Facts have fought for the Imperialist dogma. I cannot conceive that to night there will be many in the Reform Club who will be prepared, after what they have heard, to get up and endorse that opinion. An additional incentive to confederation was no doubt the anomaly of the position of the North American Provinces. Responsible government had been conceded to each of them; they had popular representatives; taxation by representative bodies; their officials were appointed by local governments, and only the Governor was nominated by the Crown. Like the Province of Australia, they were isolated, their tariffs were different, each province was foreign to the other. The custom houses on the frontiers interposed between States under the same Imperial Government. Each province had its distinct postal regulations. There was no harmony of action, as there was no unity or sympathy in government. In these different communities the consciousness of their anomalous position no doubt gave opportunity and strength to that party—never a very large one, but occasionally a very active one—which was in favour of annexation to the United States. Independence then was of course a dream. But when it was suggested that Canada should be left to its fate by the Government and the Empire of which she was one of the brightest jewels, men's minds turned by general consent to the question whether nothing could be done to unite her into a nation capable of supporting itself should it be obliged to become independent, or, in the hoped-for continuity of its relations to the British Empire, able to insist upon and maintain those relations on a more equitable basis. For ten years, from 1854 to 1864, here and there men of some eminence in the various provinces propounded ideas of confederation, but their speeches led to no practical results. The solution was brought about by a dead-lock in the Legislature of Canada, which then embraced the existing provinces of Ontario and Quebec. I might have cited this great confederate scheme as one of the instances of the flexibility of Canadian politics. So soon as it was seen that union was a necessity, all things gave way to it. It was settled by a convention in six months, and after considerable discussions, both at home and in the colony, the Act passed the Imperial Legislature in 1867. The with which this important measure has

been accomplished, especially considering the different interests and various populations, the diverse races and religions, whose status was intimately involved, would seem to show that after all, if public opinion throughout the empire were once to begin to turn in that direction, the diversities of position, the differences of Government, the varieties of social life, might really all be adjusted in harmony with a system of Imperial Government for Imperial purposes, and of local Government for each locality. The action of this great measure was immediately to give a national impulse and stability to the Canadian provinces, which now find themselves bound together by fiscal, postal, railway and canal, and military arrangements. The people are beginning to acquire that national sentiment which alone can enable them to put their country in the position to treat upon an equality with Great Britain as a member of the British Empire. This is a necessary precedent to Imperial federation if ever it is to be accomplished.

(To be Continued.)

**COAL AT CHESTER.**—We learn from a gentleman who has just returned from Lunenburg county, that considerable excitement exists in the vicinity of Chester over the discovery of unmistakable indications of prolific coal fields. The Common, near that place, has been delved into, and at a depth of only six feet, veins of the black diamond of excellent quality have been discovered. Grants have been taken out, and a company formed for the purpose of working the new leads, in shares of \$20 each, \$2 of which are paid up at present. The Lordly's Whitford's, and other principal inhabitants of Chester, are taking an active part in the enterprise, which they feel sanguine offers a rich prospect. A boring auger of suitable proportions is now being manufactured at the Truro foundry, and when that is ready, in a few days, the result of further explorations will be known. Who knows but that Lunenburg will soon take its place with Pictou and the C. B. counties, as a great coal-producing section.—*Acadian Recorder*, March 22nd.

**ENGLISH SPARROWS.**—In the locality of Courtenay Bay, during the past week, large flock of small brown birds have been observed, bearing close resemblance in chirp, form and color to the English sparrow. They frequent the cribwork of the railroad track, and, in spite of being barrassed with stones by the boys of the neighborhood, remain in the locality. A gentleman who has seen the English sparrows imported into Boston, believes that these birds must have migrated thence to St. John.—*St. John Telegraph*.

The sword of the sixteenth century in the Séchan collection is (says *Galignani*) a scimitar, fitted with a pistol, with a lock in the handle, a Venetian work and of extreme rarity. This weapon, of an extraordinary degree of finish, and richly damascened in silver, had been brought by Séchan from Constantinople, where he purchased it for 250*l.*, when he was engaged on the decoration of the Sultan's palace. Put up at 15,000*l.*, it was bought by Baron Rothschild for the great amount of 50,000*l.*

The conference of the Roman Catholic Bishops at Fulda is held with closed doors. The object of the meeting is to discuss and issue a pastoral letter concerning the bill before the Prussian Diet withdrawing the State grant from the Church.

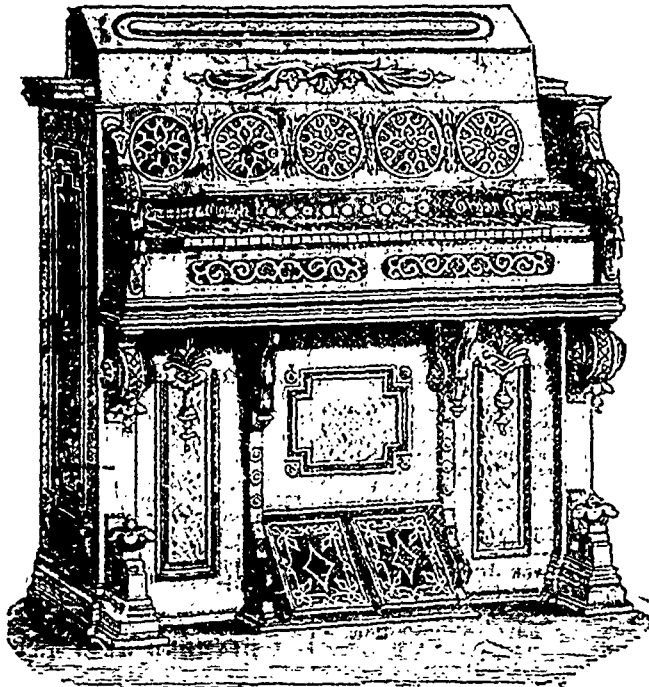
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