

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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Comment and Criticism.

IT will be remembered that when the tariff changes were announced in the House last session the words "Canadian Militia" were found to have been omitted from the list of those entitled to import military goods duty free. Protests came in from all quarters, only ceasing when after a few weeks, as further changes in the tariff were being announced, the Finance Minister explained that an omission had been made by a clerical error, which had since been rectified. Believing in the disposition of the government to act generously in the matter, the force at once came to the conclusion, without scrutiny of the correction, that it was the omission against which protests had been made which had been dealt with. But this turns out not to have been the case, as those who have since made importations have found to their cost, they having being charged the duty, which has been paid under protest, awaiting the return of the Minister of Customs. What was done in the House was as follows, as stated by Sir Charles Tupper (we quote from *Hansard*):—

"Add at end of the item (135) the words 'including the following articles when imported by the said government or through any of the departments thereof for the use of the Canadian militia:—arms, military clothing, musical instruments for bands, military stores and munitions of war.' That puts the Militia Department on the same footing as before, giving the same advantages as the army and navy enjoy. It was left out by a clerical error."

That is, the Militia Department may import duty free, but the force must pay the tax. Every officer who buys a uniform; every regiment which equips its band with new instruments; every man who has to purchase a rifle with which to compete in the matches—for the government issue are so old as to severely handicap their users—has to pay a tax of nearly one-third the purchase value. An attempt has been made to evade the unjust imposition by urging the militia department to nominally become the importers; but it will readily be seen that, however anxious the department may be to assist the force in the matter, it could not without endless trouble and expense, set up as a wholesale importing establishment through which the orders of the militia might be filled.

WITHOUT making an exact calculation, we believe that the duty sought to be imposed would amount to about \$100 on each officer's complete equipment, a very serious matter indeed. As a very large portion of the supplies cannot be procured except by importation, Canadian dealers being themselves importers, it will be seen that no development of home industry results from this tax, the only effect of

which is to swell the revenue by an amount of utter insignificance to the country, while those from whose pockets it is drawn can ill afford it, and in any case have a right to expect better treatment from a country which a couple of years ago was in such ecstasies over the performances of the force when suddenly called upon active service, and whose parliament was so generous in proclaiming its admiration to the world. It is to be hoped that steps will at once be taken to have the obnoxious duty removed.

ONE hundred men, the complement required, have volunteered from "A" and "B" batteries for service with "C," the new battery to be stationed in British Columbia. Of these forty-five were from "A" Battery and fifty-five from "B." Barrack accommodation is now being provided and as soon as the quarters are in readiness the men will proceed to the Pacific province. As an inducement to volunteer for this service the government offered ten cents per day in addition to the regular service and good conduct pay now received by the batteries, the additional ten cents to be held in reserve until the end of the three years term of enlistment. This extra pay has been granted in consideration of the higher rate of wages prevailing in British Columbia as compared with Eastern Canada, and the reserve held by the government will have a tendency to weaken the inclination to desert, which gold mining or other such prospects might lead a man to do in a moment of rashness. Lt.-Col. Holmes, the D. A. G. of the district, will be in command of "C" battery. The three other officers will go from the east. Of these it is understood two have been decided upon, Capt. Peters of "B" battery, and Lieut. Benson of "A" battery.

THE effort to recruit the new battery from the ranks of the British naval pensioners failed mainly on account of the stipulation that only unmarried men would be accepted. Had the department chosen to accept married men the volunteers would have been numerous, but this could not be done. Not only would the cost of transportation of the wives and families have been very great, but continuous heavy expense would have resulted by reason of the extra barrack accommodation required, and the increased ration issue. However, when the pensioners refused, the difficulty was very simply solved by calling upon the old batteries. A large number of civilians apparently anxious to secure a free passage to the Pacific applied for enlistment, but were in each case referred to the Kingston and Quebec batteries, which will need recruits to take the place of the out-going volunteers.

VALUABLE service has been performed by the Mounted Police during the past few months in the Kootenay district, British Columbia, where a marked improvement in the conduct of a certain portion of the community has been noticeable. It had at first been intended to withdraw the police this fall, but it is now stated to be likely that they will remain in the district all winter. It is probable that British Columbia will be called upon to pay the cost of the service, as the province is beyond the proper territory of the force. Concerning the matter of cost, it is gratifying to note that the per capita expense of maintenance

of the police has of late been very largely reduced, being now only about \$750 per man in place of over \$1,000 a few years ago, before the opening of the C. P. R. Of course the large increase in the strength of the force helped a little to reduce the per capita cost. The figure is now very much below the cost per head of maintaining the cavalrymen on service in the Northwestern States, which is something like twelve hundred dollars per annum.

WE commend attention to the article on the "British Empire as a Military Power," the first portion of which appears in another place in this issue. The remainder of the paper will be published next week. Now that the shooting season is drawing to a close and our very limited space has ceased to be monopolised by the long strings of scores,—very important in themselves, but perhaps rather dry reading to those not keenly interested in the rifle—we hope to give our readers the pleasure of perusing more entertaining literature, for which we will draw upon the leading British military periodicals. The selections will include excerpts from a very valuable series of papers on "Modern Tactics," by Capt. R. H. Gall, late 5th Fusiliers, now being published in the *Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine*, a publication, it may be here remarked, which no military man would regret subscribing for, its contributors being amongst the best writers of the day on the subjects with which they deal.

WHAT a short time it takes the illustrious writers in Europe, who furnish the cable reports for this side the water, to ascertain general public feeling upon any public question! A French dragoon and his attendant "beater" were fired upon the other day while hunting near the German frontier, by a German game-keeper who mistook them for poachers, and who says they refused to obey his injunction to halt. Immediately the mishap is made known in Paris, war rumours begin to fill the air. The cable tells us of "exhaustions of popular patience" and "explosions of public wrath" *ad lib.* Dynamite is bad enough, but when the French commence setting off "public wrath" those Germans had better stand from under. In the meantime a Cabinet conference has been held at Paris, at which it has been decided to send a note to Berlin requesting the German Government in the interest of "the continuance of friendly relations, "to institute an enquiry into the affair without delay. The Frontier Incident is what all the papers call the affair, and it has quite put in the background for the time all the other possible causes of war between the European nations.

Obituary.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

NO stronger expression of the universally high esteem in which Toronto held the late Capt. Thomas Brown could be possible than the immense gathering that the announcement of his funeral called together Saturday afternoon at his late residence, 66 St. Mary street. The body lay in a rich French burl casket, silver mounted, bearing the inscription: "Capt. Thomas Brown, Q.O.R., Died Sept. 21st, 1887, in his 38th year." Among the many floral decorations were a maple leaf inscribed, "Our Brother Officer" from the officers of the "Queen's Own;" an open book from the bookbinders' department, Brown Bros.; pillows of flowers from the Northwest contingent and F company, Q.O.R.; cross swords and crown from A company, Q.O.R.; lacrosse stick from the old Ontario lacrosse club; lyre from D company, Q.O.R.; wreaths from the sergeants' mess and Maple Leaf Lodge R. A.; anchor from D company, Q.O.R. and other devices from clerks in the employment of Messrs. Brown Bros. and from many other friends and relatives. A brief service was conducted at the house by Revs. D. G. Sutherland, of Elm street Methodist church, and S. J. Shorey, Sherbourne Street Methodist church, of which deceased was a member, after which his comrades comrades passed through the room viewing the remains as they lay in the embowered coffin. The casket was then borne to the empty gun carriage by the six senior captains of the Q.O.R.—Capts. Bennett, Hughes, Mutton, Pellatt, Mason and Thompson, when the procession moved

slowly off to the solemn strains of the "Dead March Farewell" (Quinn). The band afterwards played the "Dead March Depart" by Hecker. The "Queen's Own" were out in exceptional strength, commanded by Col. Allan, together with an escort of one hundred men under Capt. Sankey, who fired the usual three rounds over the grave. C School was represented by a squad under Lieut. Wadmore, Col. Otter, D.A.G., and Dr. Strange, who attended the deceased. A detachment of the Grenadiers was present under the charge of Capt. Manley, adjt., and Capts. Bruce, Mason and Eliot, and Lieut. Gooderham. The gun party T.F.B., was commanded by Sergt.-Major Goodman; some hundred ex-members of the Q.O.R., were mustered in order by Col. Miller and Lieut. Fahey. Ex-Col. Gilmore was in the procession. The 12th "York Rangers" and the 24th (Kent) were represented by several officers each. The members of the Ontario Lacrosse Club of 1874 were present to do honor to a valued member and admired captain in the deceased. About 200 members of the Royal Arcanum were in line of march. An immense array of citizens, on foot and in carriages, followed the remains, so large as to cause almost a cessation of traffic on Yonge street for upwards of half an hour.

The late Capt. Brown had been in the employ of Brown Bros. for the past fifteen years. He joined the Queen's Own in 1866, at the age of 18, and had his first experience in quelling an active riot of G. T. R. strikers at Belleville, but had much more serious work to do with Col. Otter at Cut Knife Creek during the late Northwest rebellion. At the time of his death he was the much-loved and respected captain of company "A," Q.O.R., and one of the best officers in the regiment. He was taken ill early in June, being affected at first with insomnia, which soon ran into blood-poisoning, largely caused, relatives assert, by defective plumbing in his residence. A wife, a widowed mother and five children—four girls and one boy—are left to mourn him.

Contents of Our Contemporaries.

THE *Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine* for September is as usual brimful of interesting reading matter, profusely and artistically illustrated. The frontispiece is a pretty colored plate showing the insignia of the order of St. Michael and St. George, published in connection with a descriptive article from the pen of Major J. H. Lawrence-Archer, which will be read with interest in Canada, so many of whose public men have had the order conferred upon them. Other articles, all illustrated, are as follows: The French Cuirassiers—Part I; Letters from a French Dragoon to an English Journalist; The Italians on the Red Sea; "Orient and Occident"—Notes of a journey from Lahore to Liverpool via China, Japan and America (continued); Impressions of the great Naval Review of 1887; Modern Tactics—Chap. IX; General Boulanger—Chap. III and IV; A sub-marine search-light; Jubilee Ode; and Naval and Military notes and queries.

Probably the most interesting article in *Colburn's United Service Magazine* for September is that by Col. W. W. Knollys on the subject of "Field artillery for home defence." Other subjects dealt with in the number are: The Naval Manœuvres, by D'Arcy George Vincent; A winter cruise in the Antilles, by Lieut.-Col. P. D. Trotter; Anniversaries of British victories, by Capt. E. O'Callaghan; Sketches of Service; Wraiths and Ghaists; and Recollections of Irish sporting celebrities.

With the number for October, the *American Magazine*, one of the most entertaining of the illustrated periodicals, completes its sixth volume. Among the articles of peculiar interest to the readers of this paper is one by Charles Ledyard Norton, in which duck shooting and warlike reminiscences are mingled in a lively account of a canoe trip to Penrose Ferry, near Philadelphia, where he found a "Pot-Hunter's Paradise," as well as traces of the gallant defence of Fort Mifflin in 1777. The building of the National Washington Monument, the loftiest structure ever raised by man, is described in detail by Oscar Foote. Although authorized by Congress in 1799, the work was not actually begun until 1847, when a society was organized for that purpose, with the philanthropist W. W. Corcoran as vice-president. This article is fully illustrated with plans and pictures of the monument, and a portrait of Mr. Corcoran serves as frontispiece. The number is strong in poems, notably those by Hamlin Garland, Kate Putnam Osgood, George Edgar Montgomery, Laura F. Hinsdale and Maurice Thompson; the last named contributing an address to the Grand Army of the Republic, that will stir the blood of patriots, whether they once wore the blue or the gray.

The Minister of Militia, Sir A. P. Caron, was one of the passengers on the Canada Atlantic train from Ottawa to Montreal wrecked on Monday evening. All the coaches were overturned and burned, but the brakes having been applied before the cars left the track there was no telescoping and the passengers all escaped serious injury.

The British Empire as a Military Power.

BY A STAFF OFFICER.—From Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine.

THE article by Mr. Arnold Forster in the September number of the *Nineteenth Century* on "Our Superstition about Constantinople," has aroused considerable interest, not only on account of the views it enunciates with regard to the Eastern Question, but also, more especially, because it suggests the necessity, at the present juncture, when our colonies are beginning to assert their right to a voice in Imperial affairs, of devoting some time to the review of our policy with regard to the other great nations of the world. Upon the result of such a review many important issues depend, one of which I propose to consider here.

With the main contention of Mr. Arnold Forster, that we have no vital interest in the final solution of the Eastern Question, and that our traditional policy with regard to it is a serious bar to the closer union of Great Britain with her colonies, I have no immediate concern. Whatever may be thought of the views of the writer, every patriotic Englishman will sympathize with his aims, and will receive with all due respect opinions advanced under the authority of a name which has contributed so much to the Federal union of the British Empire. In the course, however, of his arguments, Mr. Arnold Forster asserts one thing and assumes another, which involve matters of so great moment to the empire, that they cannot be accepted without examining the grounds upon which they stand. He asserts that Great Britain is no longer a military power, and he goes on to assume that, once we cease to meddle with European politics, we shall be free from the obligation of maintaining a considerable military force. Such and similar statements have been made from time to time, and are so readily accepted, without question, by the public, that it is very desirable to consider how far they are justified by facts and political conditions. I propose, therefore, to seek for an answer to the two following questions:—

1st. Are we a military power at the present time; and 2nd, supposing that we cease to meddle with European politics—except, of course, in so far as our interests are most directly concerned—is there any necessity that we should be a military power?

Commencing, for convenience sake, with the second question, I shall consider first how far we, as a power possessing colonies and dependencies in every quarter of the globe, are liable to be brought into hostile contact with the other great nations of the world.

So long as national morality remains at the same level as it stands at to-day, war is a contingency which two nations must always be prepared to meet, (1) when they have a common frontier, (2) when they have strong interests in the same localities, (3) when they have naval or commercial ports, or insular positions in the same waters, (4) when one nation is striving to gain a footing in a locality where the power of the other has hitherto been paramount, (5) and, generally, when one nation has some possession which is coveted by the other. By applying these conditions to ourselves it will be seen that we are liable to be drawn into war with the following powers:—

(1.) With *France*, on account of divergence of interests (a) in Egypt, (b) in China, where we both have possessions and commercial interests, (c) in Lower India, (d) in the Red Sea, (e) in the Mediterranean, where the interests of both nations are very important, (f) in the South Pacific, where both have possessions, (g) in West Africa, where our possessions on the Gambia and at Sierra Leone have many interests conflicting with those of the French on the Senegal and Upper Niger, (h) in East Africa, where both have possessions and interests, (i) in the West Indies, where both have possessions, (k) in South America, where the territories of British and French Guiana are in close proximity to each other, (l) in Canada, where the French have sentimental interests.

(2.) With *Germany*, on account of differences (a) in South Africa, where the territories protected by both nations are contiguous, and where the actual possessions will probably soon join, (b) in East Africa (Zanzibar), where both countries have interests, (c) in West Africa, where we have interests in the German possessions, and protectorates in close proximity, (d) in New Guinea, where our protectorates join, (e) in the South Pacific, where we both have possessions and interests, and where spheres of action have been agreed upon, (f) in China, where the Germans are developing strong interests, (g) in Europe, concerning Heligoland, which occupies a very important position at the mouth of two great water-ways.

(3.) With *Italy*, concerning questions (a) in the Mediterranean, (b) in the Red Sea, East Soudan and Abyssinia, (c) in Malta, (d) in Egypt.

(4.) With *Russia*, on account of questions affecting (a) India, (b) Persia, (c) China and the North Pacific. No stress is laid here upon our mutual interests in Asia Minor and East Europe, as these are due entirely to the superstition about Constantinople, which we are invited to cast off.

(5.) With *Turkey*, on account of (a) Egypt and the Soudan, (b) Cyprus, (c) questions affecting the Mussulman power.

(6.) With *Spain*, on account of (a) Gibraltar, (b) the West Indies, (c) the North Pacific.

(7.) With *Portugal*, about (a) Madeira, where we have interests, (b) South-east Africa, where our frontiers will probably eventually join, (c) South America, where British Guiana joins Brazil.

(8.) With *Holland*, on account of differences (a) in New Guinea, where our protectorates join, (b) in Borneo where our protectorate joins Dutch possessions, and in the Eastern Archipelago, where we both have interests and possessions, (c) in South America, where we have a common frontier joining British and Dutch Guiana, (d) in the West Indies.

We are liable also to wars with the following non-European countries:

(1.) *The United States of America*, about (a) Canada and Canadian matters, (b) questions concerning the Panama Canal, (c) affairs in the South Pacific, where we have common interests, (d) West Indian questions.

(2.) With *Mexico*, about matters affecting British Honduras.

(3.) With the Republic of *Guatemala*, about the same dependency.

(4.) With *Venezuela*, about (a) questions concerning Trinidad, (b) British Guiana.

(5.) With *Brazil*, about British Guiana.

(6.) With the *Transvaal* and *Orange Free State*, about South African questions.

(7.) With *China*, where we have possessions and commercial interests, and with whom we have common frontiers.

(8.) With *Persia*, where we have important interests.

It is not to be pretended, of course, that there is a reasonable probability of our becoming involved with each of these countries in the near future, or even that it is essential for us to be prepared to undertake hostilities with them all. With several of them, however, there is more than a reasonable probability of our having serious diplomatic differences, and it will most likely be found that, if we are prepared to meet probable contingencies, we shall be in a position to deal with those questions also which may possibly come up for settlement. The cases mentioned, however, by no means exhaust the list of our liabilities. To a nation having great interests in every part of the world it is impossible to foresee the direction in which difficulties may next arise, or the questions which may give occasion to them. Our commercial interests, for example, are so strong, and anything affecting them gives rise to so much excitement in this country, that it is quite possible that we may find ourselves involved in war in quarters where we have no actual possessions. Lastly may be mentioned the question of an occupation of Holland or Belgium by a great power. Such an eventuality would almost necessarily drive us from our attitude of neutrality with regard to European affairs, not only on account of our treaty engagements, but also in the interests of our own security.

Withdrawal, therefore, from questions of European policy, it is abundantly clear, will not relieve us from political connections and complications with foreign nations, nor will a policy of promoting the interests and furthering the wishes of the different parts of the empire usher in for us a reign of universal peace. On the contrary, the stronger the voice of the Colonies in our foreign policy, the greater will be the chance of differences with those powers (and they are not few) whose interests are opposed to ours. As evidence of this it is hardly necessary to quote such recent cases as those of Angra Pequena, Port Durnford and Zululand, in South Africa; New Guinea, the Samoa Islands and the New Hebrides, in the South Pacific; and the Canadian fisheries in the West. It will probably be found, indeed, when the colonies have a voice in foreign affairs, that the pigeon-holes of the foreign and colonial offices are full of similar questions, which have hitherto been kept carefully out of sight of the English public.

But if our liability to become involved in war with European and non-European powers be admitted, we have yet to consider whether in case of necessity our interests can be upheld by naval forces only. To do this it is necessary to examine briefly the ends which a nation proposes to itself in undertaking a war, and the means which it adopts in order to secure these ends.

War between civilized nations is resorted to when one nation or both have some object to gain, which the other will not concede willingly. The side which commences the war does so because it believes itself able to take by force what it cannot gain by diplomacy. When war is declared, the object of each belligerent is to make its opponent yield to the terms which it seeks to impose. This applies just as much to a non-aggressive as to an aggressive power; for when a nation is forced into war against its will, it must endeavor to wrest from its opponent such advantages as will guarantee it from being molested in the future.

To procure the submission of its adversary a belligerent power attempts to destroy his moral force by defeating his troops, and by occupying his capital or some part of his territory, and administering the government; or it seeks so to injure his trade by living upon the country and throwing into confusion all commercial affairs, that a continuance of war becomes intolerable. In the latter part of the question a most important factor is the enormous loss which modern war entails upon civilized nations, both on account of the large number of combatants employed, and the extraordinary costliness of war material, and also because of the injury which the commerce of both combatants necessarily suffer. A nation which acts by naval means only can bring these to bear upon an enemy in the following ways: it can destroy his fleet; it can sever his water communications with the distant parts of his empire; it can stop his maritime trade; it can blockade his coasts, bombard, or extort indemnities from undefended ports, and attack and capture his coast defences.

As a naval power, therefore, we could deal with an enemy (1) by destroying his fleet, supposing ours to be decidedly superior. But a necessary preliminary condition is that the enemy should consent to meet us at sea, a most unlikely thing, if our superiority was undoubted. (2) We could sever his water communication with the outlying parts of his empire. To do this, however, we must not only be superior at sea generally, but superior in every quarter of the globe, which argues an enormous total preponderance of naval power, and, at the same time, a great dispersion of ships. (3) We could destroy his maritime trade. But whatever enemy we might be engaged with it is certain that we should have five or six times as many trading vessels exposed to attack as he had; and in whatever proportion our armed cruisers out-numbered his, our unprotected ships would out-number his in a still far greater proportion. (4) We could

blockade his coasts. A blockade, however, except when favored by exceptional geographical conditions, is a very difficult operation, and it cannot be attempted without a great superiority of naval force. The blockading force, moreover, is neutralized, and is not available for other operations. Further, a blockade is too slow in producing an effect to satisfy the conditions of modern war. It has also the serious disadvantage that it injures neutrals as much, or almost as much, as the enemy, and it thus excites a strong feeling of animosity against the nation which adopts such a plan. (5) We could bombard or extort indemnities from an enemy's undefended ports. If, however, we examine the map, we shall find that our opportunities in this respect are very limited, whilst we ourselves offer to a naval power an almost incredible number of unprotected points of great commercial importance. (6) We could attack and destroy his coast fortifications. This, indeed, might be done, but the attack of sea-ports is at best a costly operation, and the result, in this day of torpedoes and submarine mines, must always be very uncertain.

Our powers of injuring an enemy by naval means alone are, indeed, very limited, and it is impossible to see how in this way we could force him to yield to terms disadvantageous to himself. It is, in fact, very doubtful whether, with all our naval superiority, we should not suffer in a war with a naval power more than the enemy. Contemporary history gives ample proof of the impossibility of achieving great results by sea. In the Crimean war how much did the superiority of the allied fleets contribute to the treaty of 1856? In the American war of secession the conditions were exceptionally favorable for the employment of naval forces. The federal party had an overwhelming superiority at sea, and yet their navy contributed comparatively little to the subjection of the Confederates, except in so far as it acted in co-operation with the land armies. The achievements of the Austrian fleet in 1866, of the French in 1870 and of the Turks in 1887, had absolutely no effect upon the issue of these wars.

On the other hand, the superiority at sea, backed by an efficient land force, places an insular power such as Great Britain, in a position of extraordinary advantage. It enables us, while resting secure from invasion, to attack an enemy in his own territory, and thus inflict upon him all the hardships and loss of war. There is with us, of course, no question of marching upon Paris, Berlin or St. Petersburg; that, from the nature of our circumstances, is not to be thought of. Supposing, however, that we were possessed of an efficient army, we could, if forced into war with a European power, and acting with an ally, despatch a force which would have an important influence upon the result of a campaign, not only on account of its actual strength, but also because, assisted by a fleet, it would enable us to shift our base according as the coast-line offered facilities, and so to put the enemy to considerable disadvantage. If acting without allies, we could land troops on the extremities of the enemy's territory and move them from point to point by sea. By threatening an invasion at different points, we could keep a relatively large force employed in watching our movements, and if an enemy had reason to fear anything from another European power he would be placed in a position of great perplexity. But out of the continent of Europe we should be irresistible, especially against European powers, whose possessions would be at our mercy. In fact, to an insular power with a superior navy an efficient army is indispensable. It is the complement of the naval force, the barbed head to the spear. The very essence of the advantage of our naval superiority is the power to despatch troops into an enemy's territory without the risk of being invaded ourselves. Without an army this advantage is taken from us; and an enemy has this strong inducement to make war upon us that, however much he may attack us, his own possessions are secure from molestation.

But there are some wars which it is our duty to be prepared for, which would necessarily involve us in military operations by land on a more or less extensive scale. Of such the most threatening is the case of an invasion of India by Russia, or of a war with Russia in Afghanistan. If any one sits down calmly, and counts the cost of such an undertaking—considering first the force which would undoubtedly be collected at a base of operations at no great distance from our frontiers, connected by rail with Europe, and, secondly the measures which must be taken to defeat the attempt—I venture to say that he cannot escape the conclusion that a force of no less than 200,000 men must be put into the field, in addition to the troops required to preserve order in the interior of the country. It will be incumbent upon us in such a case not only to have a strong army to guard the threatened frontier, but to concentrate also a still stronger force to operate beyond our borders, and to strike at the enemy's possessions; or his line of advance. Standing by itself, this question is sufficient to impose upon us the necessity of being a military power. It is only as a military power that we can hold India. If these views are placed side by side with those of foreign writers, it will be seen that they are on the side of economy, not on that of prudence.

Second in importance comes the question of a war between Canada and the United States. Happily such a war is in the present state of our relations with the States, a most unlikely contingency; nevertheless, it cannot be left altogether out of account. It is hardly possible to over-estimate the force we should require to guard such an immense frontier-line as that between Canada and the States, and to meet the forces which would be deployed against us.

Thirdly may be mentioned the case of a war in Egypt with a Mediterranean power, or with Turkey, when we were not able to prevent the transport of troops into Egypt; or, possibly when, at the commencement of hostilities, the troops of a foreign power were occupying Egypt, as in 1801. It is needless to say that such a war would tax our military resources to the utmost. As, however, the question of Egypt is intimately connected with that of Constantinople, which by hypothesis is excluded from the present discussion, too much importance need not be attached to it here.

Next comes the case of an invasion of Holland or Belgium by a continental power. In such a case we should be called upon to meet the military nations of the continent in their own element, and this would demand from us a combined naval and military operation on the largest scale.

Such contingencies, also, as wars in South Africa, with the Transvaal and Orange Free State; in China, as in 1860; in Persia, as in 1857; in South or Central America, or New Zealand, must be taken into consideration. These wars might not strain our resources as to numbers, to the utmost, but they would impose upon us the necessity of despatching to the most distant parts of the world, and of maintaining in the field for some time, forces of considerable strength, and in case of complications with other nations we should be seriously weakened.

Last to be mentioned is the case of an invasion of Great Britain. If this should ever be attempted, and, an enemy's army should ever actually reach our shores, the only thing, under present conditions, which could stand between us and annihilation is a powerful field force.

In considering these cases of wars which may possibly be forced upon us, each case has been taken singly. It is hardly necessary to add that there is no reason in the world that they should come singly, if they come at all. We may be attacked by a combination of enemies, or we may have to despatch expeditions to operate against enemies in different parts of the world at the same time. Of such operations we have had, in recent years, plenty of experience. In 1879-80 we had expeditionary forces in Afghanistan and South Africa; while in 1884-85, we had on hand, at one time, campaigns in Egypt, South Africa and Canada, and at the same time were on the very verge of war with Russia. It is most probable, indeed, that if a great power wished to attack us, it would select a moment when we were engaged with enemies far away from home.

If these cases be considered on their merits, it is hard to see what ground there can be for the allegation that we need no longer attempt to be a military power. The bond which unites the different parts of an empire or commonwealth is the obligation to unite in the defence of the interests of each part against aggression. The secret of Imperial federation is the adoption of a means of applying the united power of the empire to promote the interests of each colony. It is, indeed, impossible for us to inaugurate our union with the colonies by divesting ourselves of the responsibilities and sacrifices which devolve upon an empire. Such a course would inevitably lead to separation and disintegration.

But some qualification for these deductions may be sought for from the definition of the term "military power." What sort of a military power is it incumbent upon us to be? It may be conceded at once that we cannot be a military power in the sense that the term is understood on the Continent of Europe, nor is there any necessity that we should attempt it. Our interests lie beyond the Continent of Europe, in the main, although, it is well to bear in mind, it may be necessary for us to defend our non-European interests in Europe. We must, however, be able to defend any of our possessions against invasion, and we must have a pointed head to the spear of our naval supremacy. If we take as the minimum of our requirements the conditions that our possessions must be secure from attack by land, we shall probably find that this will cover the other condition of providing us with a sufficiently powerful force to take full advantage of our naval supremacy, and to intervene with an ally in Europe in case our interests should require it. If these conditions are fulfilled, we shall undoubtedly be entitled to call ourselves a military power.

[To be continued.]

Regimental Intelligence.

A handsome monument to the memory of the late Colonel Mackeand, bearing the 90th coat of arms, and the swordbelt, etc., of an officer, has been erected in St. John's cemetery, Winnipeg, near the graves of the volunteers.

The anniversary of the relief of Lucknow was celebrated at Toronto on Sunday, by the veterans residing in that city, by attendance at service at St. Andrew's Church, where the preacher was Rev. G. M. Milligan the pastor. About thirty veterans were present.

The non-com. officers of C company, R.S.I., held their annual supper in the sergeants' mess on Friday evening last. In the absence of Sergt.-Major Munroe the chair was ably filled by Quartermaster Sergt. Swanson. Lt.-Cols. Otter and Alger and the officers of C Company were present as guests. Among the many toasts proposed were "The Commandant and Officers of C Co., R. S. I." responded to by Lt.-Col. Otter and Lieut. Wadmore. Col. Otter eulogised the n.c.o. for their zeal and good conduct, and complimented them upon the excellence of their mess establishment, which he believed was second to none in Canada. Lieut. Wadmore reminded those present of the absence of their late captain, Lt.-Col. Smith, whose loss all deplored. In response to the toast of the "Sergeants' Mess," Quartermaster-Sergt. Swanson stated that the mess was entirely free from debt, and that \$1,800 had already been spent in improvements to the premises.

One of the most successful social events in Montreal for some time past was the "at home" given by the officers of the local militia on Friday evening last, in the Victoria rifles' armory, in honor of the officers of H.M.S. Tourmaline, who attended in a body. Six hundred invitations had been issued, and more than half the number invited were present. The ball was opened by a quadrille participated in by the following: Capt. Byles (Tourmaline) and Mrs. Frank Bond; ex-Mayor Beaugrand and Mrs. Caverhill, Lieut. Walker, R.N., and Mrs. Beaugrand; Lt.-Col. Oswald and Mrs. McShane; Lt.-Col. Bond and Mrs. Warrington; Lt.-Col. Caverhill and Mrs. McDougall; Lt.-Col. Massey and Miss McPherson; Lt.-Col. Henshaw and Mrs. Crawford; Lt.-Col. Stevenson and Mrs. Schwob; Mr. H. V. Meredith and Mrs. Massey.

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Gzowski Shifting Ordnance Competition of the D.A.A.

THE official returns from field batteries taking part in this year's shifting ordnance competition of the Dominion Artillery Association, for the Gzowski challenge cup and other prizes, have just been made up, and are given in full below. The competitions took place during the annual drill in camp, under conditions as published in our issue of the 16th Jnnè. They were this year a more thorough test of the efficiency of the batteries, as the result was to be determined, not by the time of a picked sub-division as last year, but by the average time of four sub-divisions from each battery. Five seconds was added to the time of each sub-division for each picket struck during the competition.

The Gzowski cup, as will be seen below, has been this year won by the Ottawa battery, which was exceedingly close pressed by Durham for first place, the difference in time being only one-fifth of a second, while the Hamilton battery, which takes third prize, was only $8\frac{1}{4}$ seconds behind the leader. The following are the official scores:—

BATTERY.	Sub-Division.	Actual Time.	Added.	Corrected Time.	Average.
1. Gzowski Challenge Cup and \$50—Ottawa...	1	2 23	10	2 33	
	2	1 57	20	2 17	
	3	2 00	15	2 15	
	4	2 16	10	2 26	
2. \$50—Durham	1	2 16 4.5	5	2 21 4.5	2 22.75
	2	2 07	5	2 12	
	3	2 17	15	2 32	
	4	2 26		2 26	
3. \$10—Hamilton	1	2 13	5	2 18	2 31
	2	2 21 3.5	10	2 31 3.5	
	3	2 35 3.5	5	2 40 3.5	
	4	2 23 4.5	10	2 33 4.5	
The scores of other competing batteries were as follows:—					
Newcastle	1	2 25	20	2 45	2 42
	2	2 42	15	2 57	
	3	2 14	30	2 44	
	4	2 07	15	2 22	
Quebec	1	2 40	20	3 00	2 43.25
	2	2 15	5	2 20	
	3	2 37	5	2 42	
	4	2 41	10	2 51	
1st Brigade, No. 2 Battery	1	2 37	5	2 42	2 54.2
	2	3 13	10	3 23	
	3	2 32 2.5	10	2 42 2.5	
	4	2 38	15	2 53	
Gananoque	1	3 10 4.5	20	3 30 4.5	2 57.2
	2	2 05	25	2 30	
	3	2 31	15	2 46	
	4	2 32	30	3 02	
Toronto	1	2 43 3.5	20	3 03 3.5	3 02.35
	2	3 00	25	3 25	
	3	2 45 2.5	10	2 55 2.5	
	4	2 30 2.5	15	2 45 2.5	
1st Brigade, No. 1 Battery	1	3 26	10	3 36	3 13.8
	2	3 20	5	3 25	
	3	3 38 2.5	5	2 43 2.5	
	4	3 11		3 11	
Montreal	1	2 44	5	2 49	3 13.25
	2	3 13	5	3 18	
	3	2 53	10	3 03	
	4	3 38	5	3 43	
Welland Canal	1	2 59	10	3 09	3 15.6
	2	2 52	20	3 12	
	3	2 45	15	3 00	
	4	3 26 2.5	15	3 41 2.5	
London	1	3 38 1.5	15	3 53 1.5	3 29.7
	2	3 00 2.5	20	3 20 2.5	
	3	3 17	30	3 47	
	4	2 48 1.5	10	2 58 1.5	
Kingston	1	3 47	20	4 07	3 49.35
	2	3 27	5	3 32	
	3	3 52	15	4 07	
	4	3 21 2.5	10	3 31 2.5	

Winnipeg, Richmond, Shefford and Woodstock did not compete.

As the Gzowski cup has to be won two years in succession in order to secure final possession, this has not yet been determined, the Durham battery having been the winner last year.

At the late camp of the 1st Lanark Rifles, at Douglas, Eng., K company is said to have piled arms in $4\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, from the word "pile arms" to the word "stand clear." The quickest army time is 6 seconds.

Correspondence.

The Editor desires it distinctly understood that he does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

OFFICERS IN RIFLE MATCHES—WELCOME IF THEY BRING THEIR MEN.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—I have read with great interest the correspondence and editorial remarks thereon which have lately appeared in your paper concerning the participation of officers in the competitions for money prizes at Dominion and Provincial rifle matches, and I am sorry that more of those interested have not let the rest of us know, through the columns of your valuable little paper, what their opinions are upon the subject. I don't remember to have seen my own idea advocated. If it is a chestnut pray forgive me, but here it is: I would bar out all the officers, staff-sergeants and other non-combatants who annually appear upon the ranges in command of themselves only, thereby likening the Canadian militia in the eyes of the uninformed public, to the popular idea of Uncle Sam's army and navy,—all officers and no men. But welcome with open arms the officers of quite another class, who come year after year at the head of a formidable squad of shooting men, men who have put in their drills, are in every way efficient, and to whom their proud officers are ready and anxious to impart on the rifle range all they themselves have picked up about shooting—to teach them that which the government apparently supposes may be learned by firing twenty rounds at random at each annual camp, but which can't, all the same. To my mind it would be an easy matter to settle the vexed question. Make a company officer ineligible unless he can parade a company team, and make a battalion officer bring forth his battalion team. Those who cannot do this might well be spared from the rifle meetings. Now don't you think so?

24th September, 1887.

MAGPIE.

Notes of Current Events.

Prince Bismarck has absolutely refused to mediate between Russia and Bulgaria on the ground that the German government does not desire in view of the European situation to increase its labors or divide its strength.

The British war office is seeking tenders for the construction of six-inch breech-loading guns of the latest pattern for the defence of Esquimalt Harbor, the importance of which as a coaling station is recognised by the home government. The guns will probably be manufactured at Armstrong's or Whitworth's.

The conquest of Great Britain by France and the dismemberment of the British empire are described in a clever political pamphlet which recently appeared in France, called "Plus d'Angleterre"—"No more England." The pamphlet has no serious significance, but seems to be merely the result of temporary ill-feeling and of a desire to boom Gen. Boulanger.

The despatch of heavy artillery from England along the Pacific railway to Esquimalt has produced a profound impression on Russia, and the *Army and Navy Gazette* tell us every effort will be made to recover the naval superiority in the North Pacific she established in 1879 by maintaining a large fleet there, and developing Vladivostok, but which, in her opinion, has been shattered by the completion of the Canadian Pacific railway.

Toronto *World*: "The announcement that England has granted a subsidy of £45,000 to the Canadian Pacific railway's new highway will undoubtedly chagrin the annexationists, who would prefer to see a grant to the Northern Pacific. The *World* announces with the utmost satisfaction that Canada is just now taking another step forward as one of the nations of the earth. Her enterprise is recognised by the nations abroad."

Sergeant-Major Paul, of the first Gloucestershire Artillery Volunteers, the winner in the 10-inch competition at Shoeburyness this year, and, for the third time, of the Corporation of London and City Companies' Challenge Cup, also shot in this competition in 1881, 1882, 1883 and 1886. This year, out of the 15 rounds, he made eleven direct hits, two ricochets, and two misses.

Advices from Samoa state that the commander of the German squadron recently demanded a heavy fine from King Malietoa for robberies committed on German plantations, and that the commander landed 500 men and declared Malietoa's rival, Tamasese, King of Samoa. Malietoa resisted. The British and American consuls issued a proclamation advising submission in the meantime, but declaring that their governments would not recognise Tamasese. The Germans guarantee the neutrality of Apia if their troops are not molested.

Lieut.-Col. Percy G. B. Lake, late of the 54th regiment, but now a resident of the Canadian North-West, writes as follows to the *Broad Arrow* from Wimmerleigh Grange, near Grenfell, Assiniboia, in advocacy of the adoption of the Canadian Pacific railway as a military route: "In your issue of 2nd July you call attention to the deaths from heat apoplexy amongst the troops passing through the Red Sea in the month of June, and recommending the alternative route by the Cape. Would not the route by the Canadian Pacific railway be even better? 'Tea trains' are already passing—merchants are not long in taking advantage of the shortest route. The emigrant cars are fitted with beds and every convenience for a soldier, whilst the palace Pullman cars of the C. P. R. offer every luxury to the most fastidious civilian. We old soldier-settlers are anxiously looking out for the first train of red-coats, and only wondering how long it will take government to show Russia that England now has an alternative route which renders the Suez Canal only a secondary consideration in case of need."

The Target.

Ottawa.—The rifle club spoon competition, the fourteenth of the season, on Saturday afternoon last, was fired with the Martini rifle, at Queen's ranges. An additional prize was offered this week, a silver tablespoon presented by Mr. F. W. Smith, and which was placed as first prize. The scores were as follows:

Capt. Wright (table spoon).....	31 28 28 87	Capt. Sherwood.....	28 25 25 78
Capt. Cox (dessert spoon).....	26 32 27 85	N. Morrison.....	29 25 23 77
E. D. Sutherland (tea spoon).....	30 26 27 83	Lieut. Rogers.....	20 31 25 76
A. Pink.....	29 26 27 82	F. W. Smith.....	31 26 19 76
T. McJanet.....	28 25 28 81	Lieut. Gray.....	27 27 19 73
G. H. Duncan.....	27 24 29 80	J. H. Fairweather.....	25 22 25 72
Major Anderson.....	28 23 24 80	W. A. Jamieson.....	30 21 20 71
J. P. Nutting.....	29 25 25 79	R. H. Brown (Snider).....	28 30 13 71
J. H. Ellis.....	24 32 23 79	T. Carroll.....	22 23 22 68

Arnprior.—The fifth annual prize meeting of the Arnprior Rifle Association will be held at Arnprior on Tuesday and Wednesday next, the 4th and 5th inst. This live association as usual presents an excellent prize list. There are six matches in all, three regular, with grand aggregate, extra series and consolation. All are open to the world, and with one exception may be fired with any breech-loading rifle.

Halifax.—In a return match fired at Bedford range last week in a rain storm, a team from the 63rd Halifax Rifles again defeated one from H. M. S. Bellerophon. The scores were as below. The ranges were 200, 500 and 600 yards, rifles Martinis:

63RD HALIFAX RIFLES.				H. M. S. BELLEROPHON.			
Bandsman Defreytas.....	30	30	33 93	—Farley, petty officer.....	31	29	26 86
Sergt. Mumford.....	29	31	31 91	—Alpine, A.B.....	30	25	25 80
Staff-Sergt. Corbin.....	30	28	29 87	—Cole, gunners mate.....	28	29	22 79
Sergt. Dixon.....	27	31	27 84	Pte. Everard.....	25	23	23 71
Sergt. Myers.....	28	22	33 83	Rev. Mr. Todd.....	23	26	22 71
Corpl. Taylor.....	30	26	26 82	Qr.-Mr. Darton.....	28	21	20 69
Staff-Sergt. Power.....	29	20	30 79	—Barter.....	24	23	19 66
Pte. Longueil.....	28	25	25 78	Burford, lead seaman.....	24	29	12 65
Pte. Wilson.....	29	28	15 72	Capt. Primrose.....	22	17	20 59
Pte. Flowers.....	28	26	13 67	Sergt. Mills.....	22	15	20 57
Totals.....	288	267	261 817	Totals.....	257	227	209 703

EIGHTY-FIFTH BATTALION MATCHES.

There was a good attendance of competitors at the annual prize meeting of the Eighty-Fifth battalion rifle association, held at Point St. Charles, on Saturday afternoon. The following were the prize scores:—

1. BATTALION MATCH.

Open to members of the battalion. 200, 400 and 500 yards, 7 shots. Snider rifle. First prize, cup, presented by Lieut.-Col. Brosseau; remaining prizes in kind.

Sergt. Johnson.....	72	Capt. Patterson.....	67
Capt. Sylvestre.....	69	Capt. Letourneux.....	58

2.—ASSOCIATION MATCH.

Open to members of the association. 400 and 500 yards, ten shots. Snider rifles.

Sergt. Johnson.....	49	Capt. Patterson.....	41
Capt. Letourneux.....	41		

3.—OPEN MATCH, 500 AND 600 YARDS; 7 SHOTS.

Team Prizes.—Open to teams of five previously named members of any rifle association; Martini-Henry rifles.

\$10 00 Victoria Rifles, first team.....	260	Prince of Wales Rifles.....	235
7 50 Grand Trunk Rifle Association.....	260	Victoria Rifles, second team.....	225
5 00 Sixth Fusiliers.....	259	Fifth Royal Scots, second team.....	224
Fifth Royal Scots, first team.....	243		

Individual Prizes.

Rifles, Snider or Martini-Henry.

\$8 Pte. Waters, Sixth Fusiliers.....	62	\$2 Sergt. Marks, Sixth Fusiliers.....	54
6 Pte. Thomson, Victoria Rifles.....	59	2 Colbr.-Sergt. Dalrymple, Royal Scots.....	54
4 Color-Sergt. Pitt, Royal Scots.....	57	1 Sergt. Johnson, 85th Batt.....	53
3 Staff-Sergt. McAdam, Victoria Rifles.....	56	1 Sergt. Kincaid, 6th Cavalry.....	53
3 Color-Sergt. McCrae, 1st P.W.R.....	56	1 Corpl. Currie, Royal Scots.....	52
2 Corp. Tabb, Victoria Rifles.....	55	1 Sergt. McFarlane, Victoria Rifles.....	52
2 Sergt. Pratt, Montreal Engineers.....	55	1 Capt. Hood, Royal Scots.....	52
2 Mr. Rogers, M.R.A.....	55		

EXTRA SERIES.

500 yards, open to all. Rifles, Snider or Martini.

\$6 Pte. R. McAfee, P.W.R.....	25	\$2 Mr. Galbraith, M.R.A.....	23
4 Corp. A. Shaw, Victoria Rifles.....	24	4 Capt. Letourneux, 85th Batt.....	23
3 Capt. Sylvestre, 85th Batt.....	23		

AGGREGATE.

For best scores in matches 1, 2 and 3.

D.C.R.A. medal Sergt. Johnson.....	174	Prize in kind Capt. Sylvestre.....	142
P.Q.R.A. " Capt. Patterson.....	150	" " Capt. Letourneux.....	140

The officers of the 85th battalion association are: President, Lieut.-Col. J. Brosseau; first vice-president, Major A. D. Aubry; second vice-president, Major P. Jackson; secretary-treasurer, Capt. C. Letourneux; executive committee, Capts. DeMontigny, Chagnon, Sylvestre, Bisailon, Trudeau, Patterson and Dunn; executive officer, Major Aubry.

Gleanings.

The Newfoundland fishermen are agitating to secure protection from the competition of the French in the herring fishery.

The Toronto new drill shed scheme has been blocked again by strenuous opposition on the part of the owners of the property in St. John's Ward to have been expropriated for the site. In consequence of this it is thought that a new location will have to be chosen.


A London firm, with the idea of adapting the bicycle for military purposes, attach to the handles of an ordinary safety a couple of small bags which when inflated, as they become after being blown into for about half a mintue, suffice to float the machine across any stream of water which the cyclist can swim.

The mobilization experiment necessitated the raising of the French Seventeenth army corps from 10,000 to 36,759 men fully clothed, armed and equipped. The members of the reserve are of fine physique. The cavalry have a good pace but the men lack a firm seat, many having been thrown. The officers were somewhat bothered in

handling larger bodies of men than they were accustomed to. The artillery movements were sluggish. Altogether, however, the experiment inspires confidence in the army, the southern corps not being regarded as the best. At the conclusion of the sham fight Gen. Ferron conferred upon Gen. Clement the decoration of Commander of the Legion of Honor.

The British army reorganization scheme announced proposes sweeping changes. It practically makes General Lord Wolseley secretary of state for war without parliamentary responsibility. It leaves the present secretary with financial control of the whole war office, divided into civil and war departments. The former has the entire control of the army organization, while the latter will simply check the account system. This, it is considered, means increased efficiency, as the principle of individual responsibility thoroughly enforced will likely lead to a division between the military and civil departments. The army will be in the hands of five great heads of departments, against whom the secretary for war and the financial secretary will have to struggle for economy.

Newfoundland is clamoring for a representative on the fishery commission. The *Mercury* says: "That Canadian interests will be well watched over by Canada's ablest statesmen cannot be doubted; but the question presents itself, should not Newfoundland have a representative on this commission? Our vital interests are at stake. Who is to furnish information regarding our fisheries, our trade relations with the United States and Canada, the value of supplies of bait to American fishermen; the fishery products for which we seek a market in the United States? Should any of the provisions in the forthcoming treaty have an injurious bearing on our fishing industries, or should any of our interests be sacrificed without due compensation, will not the people of this colony feel justly aggrieved that there was no representative on that commission to guard our rights and protest against any injustice which, from ignorance, might be inflicted on the country? In the last commission of fisheries which sat in Halifax, had we been left without a representative would we have obtained a million of dollars? Our most important interests are likely to be seriously affected by the approaching negotiations. For anything we know, our shore fisheries may be thrown open to American fishermen, or they may be permitted to draw supplies of bait from our shores, on certain conditions. Arrangements may be made which will involve the sale of our fishery products in American markets. On all such matters, a self-governing colony has a right to be consulted, and to have a voice in the settlement of its own vital interests."



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Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
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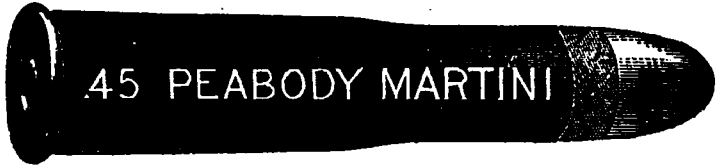
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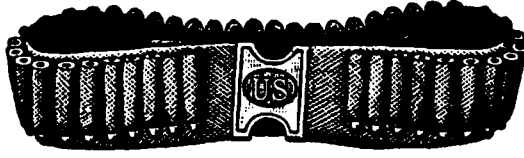
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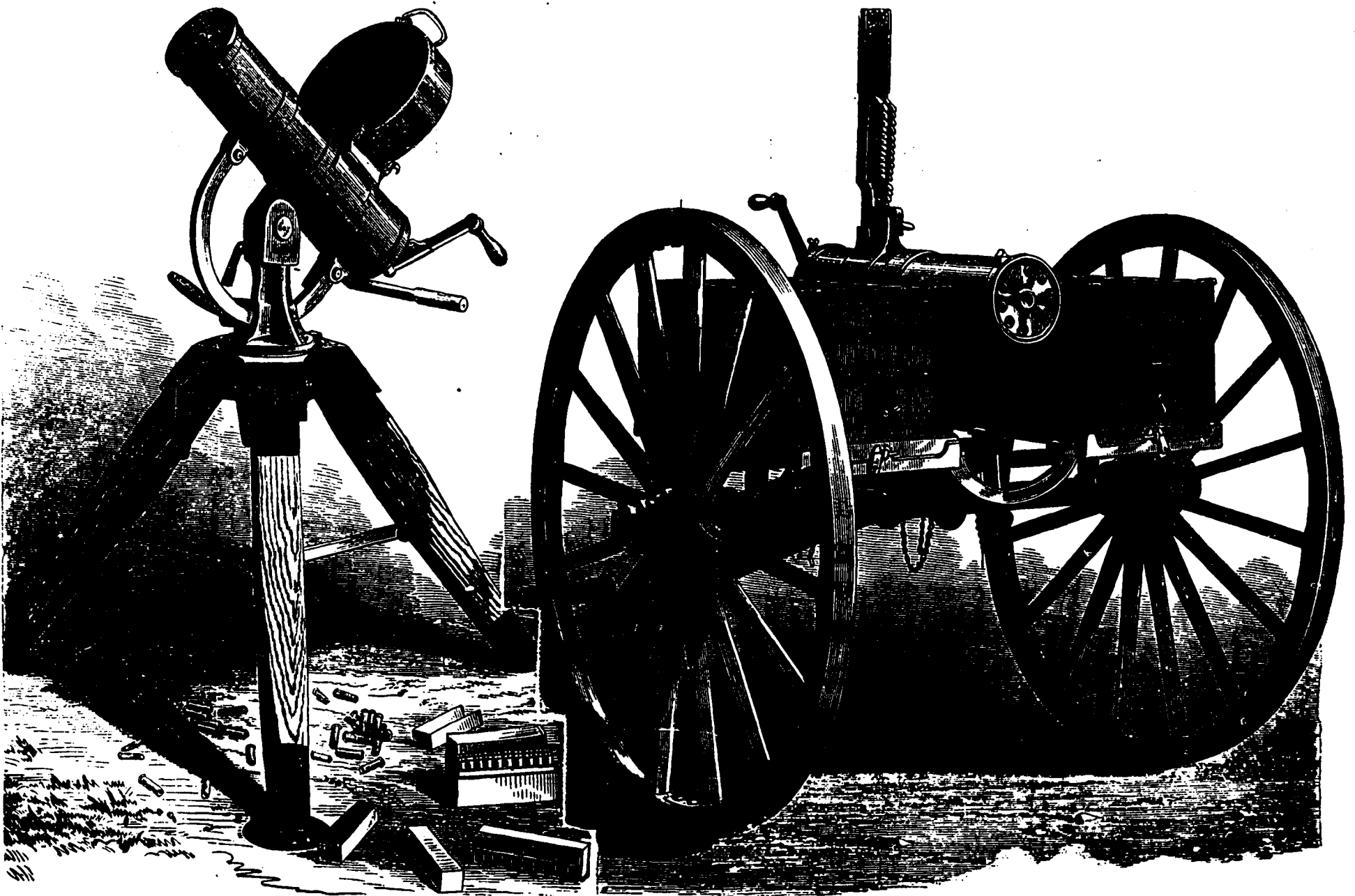
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