

The Improved Art of War.

Among the many arts which the conceptions of genius are constantly combining to perfect and develop is the art of war. Every succeeding generation seems to introduce among us still more powerful and efficient agencies for accomplishing the destruction of our fellow men. A correspondent of the *Cincinnati Gazette*, writing from England, gives an interesting description of a few of the warlike engines which it is supposed will contribute materially to the successful termination of hostilities in the Great European struggle which is probably about to occur.

One of the most terrible of these machines, he says, is the Wagner's gun—which is simply a long congreve gun, designed to be propelled along the surface of the water in a straight line, on the principle of the rocket, until it strikes the vessel at which it is directed, when it thrusts into its sides its iron head, containing two pounds of fulminating powder of mercury. When the fire reaches this reservoir, the powder explodes, blowing a hole in the vessel, ten or twelve feet in diameter—so large that it cannot be closed by any ordinary method. This machine, says the writer, has been a long time maturing in the Woolwich arsenals, and is now completed and ready to go forth on its mission of destruction. It can be made available at a distance far beyond the reach of any other gun, and it is thought will be of service in attacking the Russian fleets when anchored under the unapproachable fortresses of Sebastopol and Cronstadt.

The correspondent of the *Gazette* also says that submarine boats have been so perfected that they can attach a burner to any enemy's ship without incurring the least danger to those who manage them. Large numbers of explosive balls have been embarked on board the English fleets, of such a nature as invariably to explode when they strike the side of any enemy's ship, scattering on every side devastation, death and flames. Experiments are also being made with an asphyxiating ball, which does not kill, but paralyzes an entire crew for several hours, or until they are made prisoners.

Two small boats are building, designed to carry each two enormous phalanx guns. These vessels are built in the strongest manner, with oaken walls six feet thick, covered with a mattress of cotton, one and a half feet in thickness, and this again covered with a sheeting of iron and lead. The roof or upper deck is covered the same way, so as to allow the bombs of the enemy to glance into the sea without damage. They are designed to be bullet proof, ball proof and bomb proof. These ships are to be sent, at the proper time, into the midst of the enemy's fleet, where they will attack the vessels around them, fire and aft, with bombs thrown between wind and water, at the same time sprinkling them with showers of Greek fire. It is believed that one of these little vessels, operated with the labors of a few determined men, might, under favorable circumstances destroy an entire fleet of ships.

The English fleet is also largely provided with balloons, intended to carry inflammable materials to scatter over towns, villages and fleets, when the wind favors such operations; and it is said that another invention whose results will be more terrible than any of the above, but of which the construction has not yet been made known, is also about to be sent out to destroy the Russians.—*Boston Journal*.

The *Yankee Blade* says, all these things show that England, in her sea-armaments, possesses mighty power of destruction, and warn us of what we may expect, here in Boston, in New York or at New Orleans, should our quarrel with the Government of Cuba draw us into a war with Spain and her formidable allies. A "Wagner gun" would be no joke in the midst of our shipping, and a few of those asphyxiating bombs, dexterously thrown into the newspaper offices, would run the risk of smothering our able editors at their desks, and thus involving the general public in a wild ignorance of all course of passing events, for an indefinite period.

A second division of the Baltic fleet was to be sent immediately, and would sail as soon as required by the flag of Rear Admiral Chads, for or against the total British force in the North control of the Institute, use forty-four ships, of which one Denomination of the line. They will mount exclusion of all others, 22,000 men, and propelled the Public endowment, 1,000 horses.

Who could read that, fearing to the probable operation collected from all denoted by this stupendous force, have his feelings aroused, of which the first division distance stirring up in his on Saturday, will consist down and submitting to his, including three three-the people belonging to one of battle ships in the war.—The Address consist of guns being 2,200, of Against the unreasonable power, 16,000.

as the screws, by the assistance of the paddle fleet and the whole will form the most powerful armament that ever left the shores of England. They will soon be joined by 2,900-gun screw ships, the *Algiers* and *Hannibal*, while the state of activity perceptible in all the dockyards, would seem to indicate that a more overwhelming strength will shortly be added. There is much speculation, of course, in naval services as to the probable plan of operations. The more ardent of the gossips speak boldly of the bombardment of Cronstadt, and point to the large quantity of Moorsom's shells shipped as a proof that serious mischief is meant. It appears that the construction and materials of this terrible projectile is a government secret, and so important is it deemed, that each ship's supply is numbered and registered in a book; and whenever one is used, the why, the when, and the place is carefully noted down, and the details forwarded to the Admiralty. This, it is said, looks like bombardment; but the more cautious shake their heads, and say that to attack Cronstadt with its eight hundred guns would be sheer madness. Others again speak of blockade, and a third hint at the capture and occupation of the Island of Aland as commanding the Gulf of Finland, and at once settling the doubtful neutrality of Sweden. In support of this hypothesis, it is alleged that sappers and miners go out, and that the ships take out a supply of scaling ladders and other siege accessories. A few months will put to rest all these speculations, and perhaps add another to professor Creasy's list of decisive battles of the world.

Speaking of the destination of the fleet, the *London News* of the 15th inst., says:—Sir Charles Napier's fleet is bound first for Wingo Sound on the coast of Sweden, where the ships will anchor for a time. In that position the fleet would guard the outlet of the Cattegat, and enjoy the advantages of being near a great town like Gothenburgh, with its population of nearly 50,000 souls. The next step would be to pass the Sound or the Great Belt, and enter the Baltic.

COMMERCIAL VIEW OF THE WAR.—The *London Chronicle* of the 10th of March, has the following:—There is a long article in the *Pays* of Paris on the Eastern question. The object is to show that in the approaching war the commerce of France and England have very little to dread: whilst that of Russia, if the war should be of long duration, must be ruined. The *Pays* observes, that every article now supplied by Russia to the great Western Powers can be obtained by them from other countries. This is quite true. The colonies, when once they shall find that the markets of Europe will take their produce, will raise corn in sufficient abundance to supply all possible wants; and even Mr. Cobden, who has raised a lament about the interruption in the supply of tallow, without which, he says, the steam-engines in England cannot be kept going, will find that from South America more tallow can be obtained, and at a cheaper rate, than from Russia, or than he could have hoped to see thrown into the English market. Hides, hemp, flax, and every other production, the sale of which has enriched the nobles of Russia, may be grown to any extent in other countries, and the seas will be open for the transport to Europe, whilst the Russian merchants will be unable to send out their vessels even for the supply of markets which the war will not close against them. All this, it is true, will be the work of time; it will require many years to effect an entire change, but if the war should last only one year, it will be sufficient to inflict a dreadful blow upon the trade of Russia, and will have laid the foundation of a state of things from which it will suffer in the future.

INDIAN NARCOTICS.

Bayard Taylor recently delivered an interesting lecture in New York on Arabians, in the course of which he had occasion to mention the habit among a certain narcotic drug, which he calls among this people, and described its effects in some experiments he had made upon himself. His description was as follows:—

While in Arabia, I had one very remarkable experience. There is a drug in the East, whose effect is opium, like that which is prepared from the Indian hemp. It was much used by the Saracenic warriors, when about to enter a battle, as a stimulant. It produces on the imagination a double consciousness; one part of the mind seems to study while the other part looks on. From motives of curiosity, I was persuaded to try the effects of it on my own system. I was in Damascus at that time. Soon after taking the drug, the effects began to appear. I saw the furniture in the room, talked with the company, and yet I seemed to be near the pyramid of Cheops, whose blocks of stone appeared to me as the pyramids of Virginia tobacco.

in a boat made of the mother of pearl. The sand seemed to be grains of lustrous gold, through which my boat ran as easily as on waves of the sea; the air seemed filled with harmonies of the sweetest music; the atmosphere was filled with light, with odors and music. Before me there seemed to be a constant series of arcades and rainbows, through which for fifteen years I seemed to glide. The finer scenes were developed, and all gratification was single harmonious sensation. Hence we easily conceive the origin of the Arabian Nights. My companion, a huge Kentuckian, tried the drug with an amusing effect. After looking at me awhile, he suddenly started up with the exclamation, "I'm a locomotive," and began to cut off his words like the puff of an engine, and to work his arm like the moving of the wheels.—At last he seized the jug for a drink, but sat it down with a yell, "How can I take water into my boiler, when I'm letting off steam!"

Communications.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.

SIR,—By giving insertion to the following Obituary you will confer a favor on many of your subscribers in this section of the Country:—

Died at Grand Lake, on Thursday, Dec. 18th, of Asthma, Mr. PETER WHITE, aged 68 years.

Mr. White was attacked by an Asthmatic Affection about 28 years ago. The last 20 years of his life was spent without his ever laying himself on a bed—his only enjoyment in rest was the hard floor. Such was the distressing nature of his complaint, that any attempt to lie down brought on a suffocating paroxysm; at times the only ease he could get was standing between two chairs, his hands resting on their backs,—in this posture I have seen him stand the whole night gasping for breath. It is impossible to describe his sufferings; day and night his breathing was accompanied by such great physical exertions as to render life a burthen. Towards the close of his sufferings his legs swelled to an unusual size. During all his trials he manifested a spirit indicative of inward peace, and which enabled him to triumph over the suffering of the body. Shortly after he had been stricken down by disease, the spirit of the Eternal applied the truth to his mind—he had often felt the need of a Saviour—and he now began to realize that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save Sinners," and through faith in the great atonement, he was enabled to feel that "his God was reconciled." Our Saviour's words are, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but cannot tell whence it cometh and whether it goeth, so is every one that is born of the Spirit." No clearer illustration of this passage of scripture was ever given than in the case of Mr. W., the more marked, as there was no Ministry established in the place, through which the doctrine of the "Second Birth" was taught, and only during the occasional visits of a Wesleyan Missionary did the people hear enforced in a spirited sense the language of the great teacher, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." In the case of Mr. W. this "Passing from death into life" was the chief feature of his religious experience. He never found peace by the Law, but in a constant ment felt unutterable peace and joy by resting in the Saviour. Throughout his life his faith continued very strong; he retained his senses until the last hour of his end, and his words were I till the last hour of his end, and his words were I shall soon be with my Lord, in him is all my trust, &c.—and what is more striking and remarkable—showing that his ship and brotherly love which exists among the Free Masons, was about one hour before he took his last farewell, and turning to go away, Mr. W. raised his eyes towards him, and said, "Brother Gillis we cannot let thee go," showing until the last ebb of life that fraternal union existing between the brethren of that high order.

Mr. W. died sitting in his chair; throughout his whole illness he never experienced any pain until the last half hour of his life, it was then so excruciating that people in the room could not witness the struggle when the soul left its shattered tenement of clay, and soared to the pure realms of everlasting bliss. But his troubles have ceased. Sweetly he sleeps in Jesus. Oh! that we might die the death of the righteous and our last end be like his.

E. H. WHITE.

Cambridge, Queen's County, March 30th, 1854.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.

SIR,—I read in the *Sentinel* of the 1st of April, a communication, signed "A. O." and dated "Cambridge, Queen's County, March 30th, 1854," but as yet he had not heard a single re-

matter. If the individual who wrote that article will come out over his own proper name, I will reply, and will show him up as an utterer of falsehood, so far as I am concerned. The Bye Road Commissioners are doubtless able to take care of themselves.

Yours, &c.,

JAMES BUCKANNEN.

Presquile, April 11th, 1854.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.

SIR,—In the person of Mr. E. R. Watson, the late Trustees for this Parish, have at last found an individual who has courage enough to subscribe his name to some of the calumnies and misrepresentations, which others destitute of one good quality which he possesses, have through your columns inflicted upon the public.

When a man openly and fairly declares his thoughts and views—he is entitled to some respect even from those who entirely dissent in opinion from him. Let all due respect therefore be paid to Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson has been induced to muster the force necessary, (and toilsome if I am not mistaken was the task of the dastardly gang who have made him their tool,) to drive him to put his signature to a letter which is a peculiar specimen of the painful results of indulging the irritable disposition of temper which attends the imbecile efforts of envy, ignorance and folly.

If Mr. Watson had as fairly as he has openly attacked the Trustees, he would have shown more respect for himself and deserved more from others. I sincerely hope that he was misguided and misinformed when he wrote some of the statements which I shall now prove to be groundless.

Mr. Watson in his communication which appeared in your last number, gives what he is pleased to term the circumstances under which the Trustees improperly retained money collected for School purposes. It is with pain that I have to observe that he most incorrectly states many of the most important circumstances. In one paragraph I notice for instance the following misstatements: 1st. That the Trustees said they would select a Teacher.

2ndly. That they ordered £30 to be collected for the purpose of building a School House.

3rdly. That I promised to pay the amount demanded by Miss De Beck if required to do so by a majority of the people.

4thly. That I gave as a reason for not paying the said amount "that there was so much newspaper talk." All of these statements are utterly untrue. Mr. Watson intimates that he can prove the correctness of one of these assertions by a gentleman in Woodstock. I tell him, that knowing certainly that they are untrue, I will assert them to be so even should 1 or 10 thousand gentlemen or more of any class, choose to contradict me.

The facts connected with the case to which Mr. Watson refers, are as far as I recollect, then as follows:—

Some 12 months since the inhabitants of the Lower Woodstock District, at a public meeting which the Trustees attended, resolved that their District should be assessed in the sum of £30 for the support of a 1st Class School Teacher. Such a Teacher they requested the Trustees to select for them: but the Trustees did not, as intimated for them: Mr. Watson, either usurp the right to make this selection, nor did they pledge themselves to make any such selections. They simply promised to recommend a suitable person as a Teacher, if they happened to meet with one.

Not succeeding in obtaining a 1st Class Teacher, the people of the district referred to employed a 3rd Class Teacher, and after she had taught a School for some 6 months called upon me to pay this Teacher a portion of the money collected for School purposes in the District in which the School was situated. I declined paying the money for the reasons then stated by me, which was, that I could not pay it to a 3rd Class Teacher without violating the plain duty imposed upon me as Trustee by Law. The language of the Law under which I was bound to act is clear and unequivocal—it directly states that all monies collected under an assessment for school purposes shall be "expended in strict accordance with the desire of the majority voting at a meeting for School purposes as expressed by their written resolutions." By their written resolutions, the inhabitants of the Lower Woodstock District had expressed their intentions to be taxed for the support of a 1st Class Teacher—for that purpose they were taxed, and for that purpose part of the money collected was handed to me in trust. It is obvious, that without committing a most flagrant breach of a clear and explicit Law I could not have paid over the money thus assessed to a 3rd Class Teacher, and of course I declined taking the responsibility of doing so. I fully explained the matter to the Trustees, but at all events it had cost the Province £300 for every student, and they were the