

**A LIST OF CAPTAIN NORTON'S  
PROJECTILES, AND HIS OTHER  
NAVAL AND MILITARY  
INVENTIONS; WITH ORIGINAL  
CORRESPONDENCE**

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A List of Captain Norton's Projectiles, and His Other Naval and Military Inventions; With Original Correspondence by John Norton

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**JOHN NORTON**

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*Dedicated*  
*To the Volunteers of the*  
*British Dominions.*

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# Paper read by Captain Norton

AT THE

U. S. INSTITUTION,

On the Night of the 17th of MAY, 1858,

Vice-Admiral SIR THOMAS HERBERT, K. C. B.

IN THE CHAIR.

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The principle of the rifle and its *elongated shot*, has been so ably and eloquently explained in Colonel Beamish's letter to the Editor of "The United Service Magazine," August, 1852; and recently by Mr. Boucher's two lectures at this Institution, that I will not trespass on your valuable time by adverting to the subject further than is necessary in explaining some of the rifle projectiles now under consideration.

From much practice in my youth, with the sling, the bow, and the spear, I observed the greater penetration of the arrow and spear over that of a leaden ball projected from a sling, obtained by what I may call direct continuity of momentum; I concluded from these results, that an *elongated* form was the best also for a fire arm shot, provided it could be made to fly *point-foremost*, and after numerous experiments, I found that a rifled barrel was the only means for obtaining that end, which I discovered in 1821, when serving in South India; but I reserved my discovery till I should return to England, which was in the summer of 1823.—Colonel Jacob, of the Bombay Artillery, who was educated at the Honorable Company's Military Seminary, Addiscombe, *after* I had made known practically in the spring of 1826, at Addiscombe, the efficiency of my rifle percussion shell, has since proved that from his rifle, using my shell, an ammunition waggon can be blown up at the distance of *eighteen hundred yards*.