

Victorian Artillery



7-inch R.B.L.

The 7-inch Rifled Breech Loading gun was introduced into the service in 1861 as the 110-pounder gun. Primarily developed for sea-service it was found to be unsuitable for naval use and was then used by the Land forts for flank defence. It fired a common shell weighing 98lbs to a range of 4,000 yards.

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64pr R.M.L.

The 64 prs were first introduced into the Navy but became obsolete by the 1870s and were then employed in the land front forts. Those of the Portsdown Hill line received the 71 cwt. version on no.18 platforms for main armament. The 64pr. fired a common shell to a distance of 4,000 yards using a charge of 8¼ lbs at an elevation of 11 degrees.

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13-inch Mortar

Firing at a fixed angle of 45 degrees from purpose built mortar batteries, this large calibre weapon was able to fire a shell weighing 200lbs a distance of 2,900 yards with a full service charge of 9lbs of black powder. It was essentially a weapon for countering enemy siege works as it could put plunging shot behind breastworks and entrenchments to reach troops that were otherwise protected from fire.

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Moncrieff Carriage

Invented by Col. Moncrieff this type of mounting allowed the gun to recoil beneath the parapet for loading and it was then run up to the firing position by releasing a counterweight on the front of the carriage. Guns mounted using this system were the 64pr R.M.L. the 7-inch R.B.L. the 7-inch of 7-tons and the 9-inch of 12 tons

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