

## FOREIGN MILITARY NEWS.

Prussia is about to supply the Grand Duchy of Hesse with 10,000 needle guns.

A GRAND review of 20,000 Volunteers of the English Midland Counties is fixed for the 29th of July.

The National Rifle Association (Eng.) have decided on granting a sum equal to 5000 francs, in prize, to be shot for by the Belgian Volunteers at Wimbledon.

It is understood that not fewer than 1000 of the Belgian riflemen will respond to the invitation of the Volunteers, and visit London during the Wimbledon meeting.

The London 'Gazette' of the 14th May contains the following changes in the 23rd Foot, Montreal:—Ensign G. H. Hutton to be Lieut. by purchase, vice J. J. Mahon, who retires; A. T. Boddam, gent., to be Ensign by purchase, vice Hutton.

ORDERS have been received at the United States Armory in Springfield for a large and immediate increase in the production of the breech-loaders of the latest model. The force of workman will be greatly enlarged, and old muskets remodelled at the rate of 500 or 600 per day.

The wonderful French cannon, the construction of which is supposed to be a profound secret, can be fired, it is said, 40 or 50 times a minute. It carries with accuracy 2,000 yards, and a single discharge would destroy the whole front of a battalion. It is so light that two men can easily lift it.

ACCORDING to the new Dutch navy organisation law, twelve new screw corvettes, with sixteen guns each, ten ironclads, each carrying two 300-pounders, and fourteen monitors, are to be added to the Dutch navy. 94,000 Snider rifles have also been ordered for the Dutch army.

A RIFLE match between the ten best marksmen of Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment and ten picked men of Capt. Howitt's Company of Volunteers took place at Frederickton (New Brunswick) on the Queen's Birthday. The distances fired from were 200, 300, and 400 yards, and five shots at each range. After some excellent shooting it was found that the Volunteers had beat the Regulars by 83 points.

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—The regulations for conducting the firing at the next Wimbledon meeting have just been published by the National Rifle Association. The only changes of consequence from the regulations of last year are that Volunteer competitors may fire lying down at the first-class ranges, and that the price of sighting shots for the St. George's Challenge Vase and Queen's Prize has been reduced from 1s to 6d.

THE firing of the Chassepot rifle has astonished the Emperor of the French by its destructiveness. In two minutes, a battalion of 5,000 men, at 600 yards from the mark, had fired 8,000 balls, of which 1,992 had struck the line of aim. The ground in front of the mark was so cut up that not a blade of grass could be seen; and the Emperor—perhaps having in his mind's eye 5000 Prussians standing in that dangerous spot—is reported to have exclaimed, "It is frightful! It is a massacre!"

THE following changes occurring in the regiments serving in Canada are announced in the last 'Gazette':—7th Foot: Staff Assistant Surgeon, C. A. Atkins; to be Assistant Surgeon, vice T. McSheedy, M.D., promoted on the staff. 16th Foot: Lieut. B. C. Westby, to be Captain by purchase, vice G. P. Lockwood, who retires; Ensign O. N. Rivett to be Lieut. by purchase, vice Westby; E. H. Wickham, gent., to be Ensign by purchase, vice A. S. Lingwood, who retires; I. W. T. S. Smytho, gent., to be Ensign by purchase, vice Rivett.

THE SNIDER RIFLE IN THE ARMY.—It is with the greatest satisfaction that we are enabled to state that the whole of the infantry in the army of the United Kingdom are at this moment supplied with the Snider rifle, which there is an abundance of ammunition ready for their use. All the difficulties to which overcome, and the reports from all districts announce a perfect satisfaction with the arm as a practical weapon. A considerable quantity of converted arms are in store ready to be served to regiments on their return from foreign service. It is intended immediately to issue these arms to the army abroad, commencing with Gibraltar and Malta. Application has been made by the Volunteers of Canada for the supply of the arm to that force. A short rifle has been adapted for the use of the Irish constabulary. The country may therefore rest content that, pending the experiments that are to be conducted by the Committee on Small-Arms, prolonged as they must be, our military forces are, in the respect of breech-loading rifled arms, in an advanced and satisfactory position as can be desired.—[Owl.]

AN unusual occurrence took place at Bristol on the 11th inst., the drumming a rifleman out of the regiment for insubordination whilst under arms. The volunteer rifles marched to the Down for parade, under the command of Col. Taylor, and whilst the men were performing battalion drill Private Stellanoff (a Russian by birth), of No. 2 Company, used insolent language towards his superior officer. The offence was duly reported to the commanding officer, and Stellanoff was taken prisoner on a charge of insubordination, and escorted back to the headquarters at the drill Hall. On the return of the regiment, a drumhead court-martial was held in the drill hall, under the presidency of Col. Taylor. The officer to whom the insolence was used having given evidence against the prisoner, he admitted having used several objectionable expressions, and was then willing to make a public apology, but it would not be accepted. The decision of the Court was that they were under the painful necessity of dismissing him from the regiment. He was then stripped of his accoutrements and turned outside the gates by Serjt.-Major Campion. As he was being led out by the Serjt.-Major the whole of the corps hissed him, and he himself seemed to feel the disgrace that had come upon him.—[English paper.]

THE English 'Volunteer Service Gazette' contains the following respecting a Canadian team for the Wimbledon meeting.—A few weeks ago, we expressed our conviction that if a squad of Canadian Volunteers were to appear at Wimbledon to compete in the International match, they would be made very welcome. Our contemporary, the Canadian Volunteer Review, published at Ottawa, reproduces our paragraph, in order, as it says, to show the spirit in which a team of Canadian Volunteers would be received at the great trial of skill. The Review thinks, and we need hardly say that we fully agree with it, that no greater incentive could be given to Canadian Volunteering, nor a better means adopted to induce the members of the Canadian Volunteer force to perfect themselves in the use of their weapons, than affording twenty of the best shots the opportunity of an annual trip to Wimbledon. Our contemporary thinks that the Canadian public, if properly appealed to, would willingly provide for the expenses of the team, arguing that as the Canadian people is ready enough to undertake the expense of sending minerals and manufactures to the exhibitions of the world held in Europe, it can hardly withhold the trifling sum necessary to prove to the same world the sterling stuff of which the defenders of the country are composed. We trust the idea will be acted upon."

NOVEL GUNBOATS.—The 'Pall Mall Gazette' draws attention to the latest inventions of Ericsson, the builder of the Monitor. The deck of one of the new vessels is four feet

thick, two feet of which is above water. The deck projects on each side four feet beyond the hull, and is protected on the outer or broadside by one foot of iron, with a teak backing of one six inches. The hull is not plated, Ericsson being of opinion that, if a shot should pass the submerged angle which is formed by the broadside and underside of the projecting deck, it would glance off harmless from the rounded hull. The screw and rudder are guarded in a similar way, for the deck projects twenty-five feet beyond them. The engines are of 150 horse-power, and were also designed by Ericsson. He has also made a suggestion which, but for his genius and skill, would appear to be sheer insanity in this age of steam power. He has proposed the construction of a fleet of gunboats worked not by engines, but by manual power. The boat designed for this purpose by Ericsson, and already constructed at Motata, in Sweden, is ironclad, and is smaller than gunboats usually are. The deck is completely below the water level, and is strongly protected with plating. A sort of oval tube or sheath, open at one end, rises above the deck higher than the water. From this a 15-inch gun, which does not train, but moves according to the position given to the boat by a rudder constructed as to turn the bow in the wished-for direction. The motive power is applied by the arms of thirty-two men, who act by a simple but effective mechanism on a screw with four flanges. The power thus obtained is said to be 30 or 50 per cent. greater than when applied to oars. The supposed advantages of this gun boat are summed up in cheapness of cost both in construction and maintenance (for of course no fuel is required), readiness of application, freedom from disordered or injured mechanism, and adaptability for the transport of men or ammunition. The cost of this novelty is a little over £4,000.

## MILITARY ITEMS.

A COMPANY of the 53rd regiment is now stationed in Stratford.

A LARGE shipment of Snider Enfields is expected to arrive at Quebec from England shortly.

It is said that the 78th Highlanders will shortly come out and relieve the 7th Fusiliers now stationed at Brantford.

It is estimated that there are over one hundred drill sheds in the Province of Ontario. Every county and nearly every large town has one.

THE NAVY OF CANADA.—'La Canadienne,' under commander Fortin, left Quebec last week on a cruise.

A MAN named Doty, of Hamilton, has discharged ten young men from his employment because they are volunteers. Doty is said to be a Yankee citizen.

THE officers and non-commissioned of the 10th Royals, Toronto, have organised themselves into a drill class, and meet in St. Lawrence Hall every Wednesday and Friday evenings.

THE person, Wm. Hamilton, founder, Toronto has been "handed round" in an unenviable way by the Press for discharging a volunteer from his employ because he attended drill regularly.

DESERTERS.—The sentences on the three men who were lately tried for desertion from the 100th Regiment at Ottawa, were read out on parade on Friday week. One man received 3 years, and the other two men 18 months each.

IN St. John N.B., the other day, a soldier of the 15th Regt., walked from the Barrack Square to the Three Mile House and back, a distance of about seven miles and a half, in one hour and two minutes, on a wager of £3 stg.