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### THE AUTUMNAL MANOUVRES OF THE BRITISH ARMY.—NO. III.

(From the *Brouil Arrow*.)

The Transport Service is managed in the field by the Deputy Controllers of the divisions, who have each under them five commissaries. To each company of the Transport Branch of the Army Service Corps are attached forty-five hired wagons, making the total of hired transport sent out with the two divisions last Friday, 270 wagons. In the Transport Branch, there are bad officers as well as good: some of the former showed a plentiful lack of forethought and capacity, and are accountable for the straggling, the late breakfasts, &c., while the zealous exertions of the latter made the success of the march. The Troop of the Royal Artillery Auxiliary Transport Service attached to each division transported eight steam ovens, five travelling bakeries, three general-service wagons with field ovens, three general service wagons with scales, &c., eight bread wagons, three general-service wagons with preserved meat, eight water carts, and one spare general-service wagon. The 3rd Troop of this corps has been organized into a small-arm ammunition train, directed by the Control Department, and divided into three parts, each carrying the whole reserve ammunition of one division.

The field telegraph is again out of order, probably cut, between Hartford Bridge and Aldershot. It was an oversight not to have made some provision for its safety in the Military Manœuvres Bill. At present there is a doubt whether the person cutting it can be convicted under any graver charge than that of the willful destruction of property. A couple of months imprisonment, or better still, a couple of dozen lashes, would have stayed his hand.

The correspondent of the *Times* remarks that the divisional manœuvre executed to-day before His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and a numerous Staff (the visitors including General Blumenthal), was not all that could be wished. The Duke himself had occasion to find fault both with the infantry and artillery for the old fault—not making the most of broken ground. It is very unsatisfactory to learn that so palpable an error has not yet been corrected. Nor did the reserve troops show to advantage in their advances and changes of front. Let us hope that there may be rapid improvement, and that the faults most wisely pointed out by the Duke to-day may never again appear during the autumn manœuvres.

The invitations of Her Majesty's Govern-

ment, conveyed through the British representatives at the various Courts of Europe, have been accepted generally, and several officers have already arrived. The Government desire to spare no expense in the treatment of their distinguished guests, but the Queen's Hotel is not an extensive establishment, nor can a camp furnish the luxuries of a great city. Captain Keith Fraser, however, assisted by Captain Brydges, R. A., is doing his best to provide a fair table, and cabs, chargers, horses and orderlies are to be had by all that need them. The first officer who arrived was Baron von der Smissen, Colonel of the Regiment of the Guards of the King of Belgium—an officer who commanded the Belgium contingent in Mexico, and who has seen service in Africa and elsewhere. Next came Brigadier General the Marquis of Bassecourt (Artillery), and Baron de Renzis, of Montanaro (Cavalry) from Italy. Saturday night, Lieutenant-Colonel the Baron de Berge (Artillery), Lieutenant-Colonel de Mauray (Infantry), and the Baron de Grancy (Cavalry) arrived to represent the French Republic. Major Sumner of the 5th United States Cavalry, also came informally on the part of the Republic of North America, and the Army of the United States will send a distinguished member of the Ordnance Corps, Major General Barnard to attend the manœuvres. Austria will be represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Weikard and Major Von Kodolitsch, who was attached to headquarters in Abyssinia; Baron Preobrajenski (bearer of a famous natak), and Colonel Lanz will come from Russia. Turkey is to send Colonel Riza Bey and Hursury Bey; Spain accredits Colonel Martin Lopez and Don Noeli y Upto; and last, but certainly not least, Lieutenant-General von Blumenthal is expected to-night along with Major von Alten, to whom will be added Major Roerdanz, to represent the armies of the German Empire. The hospitalities of the camp are large and generous. On Saturday night Sir Hope Grant and several members of his Staff—Colonel Lord Abinger, Colonel Fletcher; Mr. Robinson, Controller; Mr. Crookshank, Assistant Controller; Captain Hozier, Col. Reilly, and others, dined at the Queen's Hotel to meet the foreign officers who have already arrived; and a party was asked to meet General von Blumenthal and other distinguished guests of the country on Sunday evening. There is a meeting of the nations there at the North camp, not altogether realizing the *beau idéal* of the Peace Society or the realisms of the International; and strange uniforms perplex the British soldier, who is, however, ready with his sa-

lute, and whose respectful demeanor has so far, favourably impressed the visitors who wear them.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH.

The whole of the forces are now in the field, the First Division under the command of Sir H. Grant, having left Aldershot this morning for Chobham ridge, moving as a force in retreat towards London. This had become a strategical necessity in consequence of the "enemy" having, since Friday, established themselves at Woolmer and Hartford Bridge Flats. The special correspondent of the *Times* says, "Look at the map, mark Staveley's Division at Woolmer, as A, and Carey's at Hartford Bridge, as B, and you will see that Sir Hope Grant's Division at Aldershot (C) would have a very poor chance against the enemy, for if he moved to attack either he would expose his flank and his standing camp to the other. He is not strong enough to be sure of beating whichever force he attacks. Napoleon would certainly make such an attempt. He made more than one like it in his greatest campaign, when he tried to prevent the junction of the allied armies, and to save Paris before his abdication. But the programme required that Sir Hope Grant should move from his camp and occupy Chobham, as the preliminary to the manœuvres which are to end in the salvation of the capital—or, at all events in the security of its south-western approaches. March Sir Hope Grant did accordingly (the corps moving in three columns) and for once the gallant officer had to command a retreating though not beaten Army. The two corps doing duty now as separated—and widely separated—divisions of an enemy did nothing to molest his retreat, but the movement was executed as if a force had actually got so near Aldershot as to press Sir Hope Grant severely and to bring to bay at least one brigade of his division again and again on the road.

"A spectator on the Farnborough Road, would have been struck by the immense amount of baggage which belonged to the division, and yet it was in fact very small indeed with the usual allowances—not more than 150 wagons, all told perhaps. The contractors' carts proved their excellence as a rule by exceptional breakdowns, which delayed the whole column. The last of the wagons had however passed Church Road before eight o'clock. While the Household Cavalry were moving off in beautiful order, Tod Brown's guns, covered by a squadron, protected their left flank; Lysons being strengthened by Lukin's Battery, A Battery 11th Brigade. Once on the road, it might have been remarked that there was no off