

appears that Santa Anna has been brought up from Campeachy to Vera Cruz in a Mexican man-of-war, and is to be tried for conspiracy against the Government. It is probable that as Santa Anna's available funds are beyond the reach of the Mexican Government, his life has been spared in order to fleece him of a heavy ransom. In this view of his case we guess there is a chance that his life may be spared. If Santa Anna is not sacrificed to the vomito at Vera Cruz, we guess that he will find the key that will unlock his prison doors, especially as nothing will be gained by shooting him."

THE ALLEGED MIRACULOUS CURES BY A ZOUAVE IN PARIS.—For the last fortnight the Paris papers have contained silly accounts of miraculous cures performed by a private soldier of the Zouaves, named Jacob. The public are asked to believe that this man, by merely looking at a patient for a moment, knows at once what is the matter with him, and as instantaneously cures him by no other means than the force of his will. For a long time the public naturally would not believe this, and classed the paragraphs on the subject with those multiform advertisements of charlatans which when they promise absolute miracles capable of being submitted to a test, constitute only a nine days' wonder. The fame of Jacob, however, got an enormous fillip from a letter published by a Captain Count de Chateauevillard, about whom the *Express's* Paris correspondent says he should like to know something more. This Count certifies that, being paralysed and exceedingly ill, he went to see Jacob at 80 Rue de la Roquette, that he was lifted out of his carriage by his valet and a strong working man, and by them carried up a long dirty court to a room in a house where Jacob was surrounded by a crowd of poor people—blind, palsied, and to all appearance dying; that Jacob told him to arise and walk, and he at once did so without difficulty, returning unassisted to the carriage from which a few minutes before he had been lifted, and passing along a court so badly paved that a young and active man would have been very likely to have sprained his ankle in it. His wife, who was with him, and who had been long extremely ill—he does not say what her malady was—also came out quite well. He further certifies that all the poor people through whom he with difficulty made his way to the healer Jacob were there and then cured of their divers diseases. Jacob, who, it is said, is believed in by his own regiment, has obtained a month's leave of absence to practice his cures in Paris. He takes no money, and as he administers no drug can scarcely be liable to prosecution for the illegal practice of medicine. The last story of him is that he has cured Marshal Forey of a hemiplegia, which had compelled him to resign his command. Last Saturday the approaches to the house in the Rue de la Roquette presented an extraordinary scene. There was almost as great a crowd of carriages and foot people as may be seen in the same neighbourhood when a criminal is to be guillotined. As many as 20 sergeants de ville were on duty to keep order. As the cured came out they were greeted with frantic cheers by the spectators, many of whom climbed up to the tops of the houses to get a near view. Count de Chateauevillard has offered Jacob a part of his house in case he finds his present premises too small to receive his patients. There is, writes the Paris correspon-

dent of the *Express*, very perfect machinery in operation for preventing the inquisitive scrutiny of witnesses wanting in faith. I would, he adds, go myself to see the cures, but should be told that none but the sick could be admitted, or if I alleged myself to be sick I should get number two thousand and something for my turn for an audience, and could not make use of the ticket without losing several days.

TRAVELLING ACCOMMODATION IN CANADA.—An order has been issued by the home authorities which leaves it optional with Government passengers on board the Montreal Ocean Steam Packet Company's boats, to proceed on their journey on arriving at Quebec either by boat or rail, when bound for Montreal and the Upper Province. The river steamer has hitherto been the means of conveyance. If the above order were extended to the wives and families of soldiers when accompanying their regiments, it would be a great boon. There is scarcely a regiment or draft despatched to the Upper Province but great complaints are made of the wretched accommodation afforded by these steamers. The hardships, as usual, fall the most severely upon the women and children. It takes sometimes four days to reach Toronto from Quebec, and during this period the women and children have to lie about on the lower deck, mixed up with the men. Their treatment is always very bad, but it becomes much worse during the Canadian travelling season, when the boats are crowded with tourists and parties of pleasure. Ordinary accommodation is out of the question; there is not so much as a seat to be had. A case in point is the 13th Hussars. The women and children of this regiment were shown the greatest kindness on board the ocean steamers, but on being transferred to the river boats the treatment was simply barbarous. They were kept on the bare deck night and day during the voyage to Toronto, not even a blanket given them for a covering. — *United Service Gazette*.

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES—"QUEEN'S OWN."

(From our own Correspondent.)

On Thursday, as I mentioned before, His Excellency, General Stisted, C. B., distributed the prizes to the successful competitors in the "Queen's Own" annual match.

They amounted in value to about \$400, (quite a large sum for one regiment to compete for) and were more numerous than appropriate, comprising fire extinguishers, ton of coal, pair of boots, cord of wood, caddy of tobacco, room paper, etc., down to a box of sweetmeats.

The highest score throughout, Lieut. Gibson's, was very good, composed as follows. 200 yds, 15; 300, 18; 400, 16; 500, 13; total, 62—an average of more than centres. In firing they make use of a wind screen here, an advantage I have never noticed in rifle matches elsewhere.

By eight o'clock the large summer house was crowded, the occupants having their impatience restrained by the soothing influ-

ence of the band of H. M. 7th Regiment, who at this time, if anything, excelled themselves. I could notice a good improvement in this band, since their arrival in Canada. Their renderings of some parts of *Trovatore* and *Maritani* were long and loudly encored.

Shortly before nine o'clock the General, accompanied by his lady and suite, arrived, being received with "Present arms" by a guard of honor at the gate. Surrounding the dais—whereon the Band and a table on which the numerous prizes (ton of coal, and such like excepted) were exhibited—members of the picturesque Highland (No 9 Queen's Own) Company were posted on duty.

Having admired the prizes, which included those for the athletic games, the General, in a brief speech, complimented the men on their prosperous state, the splendid prize list, their good scores, and last, but not least, spoke of the beautiful weapon they were now possessed of, urging them to continue to improve in their knowledge of it, as "one good shot was worth a hundred bad ones." It was evident from his speech that the General is a man of deeds more than words. He was, however, listened to as attentively, and cheered as lustily (such is one's feelings towards a good soldier) as ever D'Arcy was on concluding a most eloquent address.

With all due deference to the Queen's Own, I could not help remarking the peculiar styles of salute. After the splendid example of Gunner Kiernan, R. A.—the first to receive a prize—I had expected something good; but to see a rifleman, with a rifle, salute by touching his cap, is a little too much. One of them even went so far as to take off his cap, amidst roars of laughter, which speedily caused him to replace it, this time reversed. This, however, was better than others who never saluted at all. Among the latter I do not include the bugler boy, who received such a large box of sweetmeats that his two hands were barely sufficient to hold them, and his only acknowledgment was a nod. Possibly the "H. E. General and "C. B.," etc., were too much for some of their weak nerves.

Mail just closing, so adieu pro tem.

APERTURE: SIGHT.

P. S.—The gallant Volunteers are generally more ready to practice and become perfect in the non-military salute—*presenting arms* to a lady, when, as "Punch" naively remarks, *muzzle stoppers* are not allowed. This usually takes place before a *shootable* (suitable) match, beginning by the Hylthe (kneeling) position, and not at 17½ yards, for "a miss is as good as a mile."

OXFORD.

Captain Bridge-water delivered a most interesting lecture in the Town Hall, Woodstock, on Monday evening, his subject being "Life in India," with concluding remarks on Canada's defenses. It was listened to