

and the gradual advance in civilization proclaimed by their contents. It is probable that the Turanians, who were dwellers in caves, were the first discoverers of metals, and the appearance of the Serpent Symbol in all places where metal implements are found is interestingly commented on. The supposed case of the "warrior chieftain, armed with spear and arrows of flint, and a great stone hammer, attracted by a glittering yellow lump lying in some hollow of a cave into which, perhaps, he has pursued some deadly serpent," is ingenious, but we cannot help thinking that his thought, "Surely this stone, so curiously malleable," etc., sounds unlike the utterance of an untutored savage.

The contents of *Blackwood* are as follows:—

- I. "Giannetto."
- II. "The Payment of the Five Millions."
- III. "The Story of Valentine; and his Brother."
- IV. "The Abode of Snow."
- V. "Alicé Lorraine," Part XI.
- VI. "Politics at Home and Abroad."

Two of the continued stories are concluded in this number—"Giannetto," which was commenced last month, which ends rather suddenly, and with less mystery than the first part led us to expect; and "Valentine; and his Brother," which has seemed like a series of water color pictures, fresh and pretty, but lacking the decided character of Mrs. Oliphant's former works.

The paper on the "Abode of Snow" gives a description of the "Shigri; or, Glacier Valley," a fearful place to travel over. A very interesting comparison is drawn between this region and the Swiss Alps, and the wonderful performances of the Spiti ponies are described. The travellers seems to have a mania for collecting savage dogs, and it is to be feared that he will be looked upon as a nuisance when he arrives among his friends if he indulges it much more.

We wish to call particular attention to the article on "The Payment of the Five Millions." It is a condensed account of the report of M. Léon Say, with explanations that render it perfectly intelligible to English readers; and those who do not understand how France managed the payment of £200,000,000 in two years and three months, will find the whole matter placed clearly before them.

"Politics at Home and Abroad." "Politics at Home" are so quiet that there is very little to be said about them, but "Abroad" it is quite different. And England, looking out on the cares and troubles of her neighbors, congratulates herself on the calm and prosperous condition of her own affairs.

"Alicé Lorraine" is not very happy just now. We hope the new-comer will help to straighten out her affairs.

We have received from the Household Publishing Company, 41, Park Row, New York, the *Illustrated Household Magazine* for March. It is a very fine number indeed. The Pilgrims; or, the adventures of the Gad Club is continued, a humorous and interesting story; Under the Mistletoe, just the thing for young lovers; Julia Louise; or, the sad effects of Fortune Telling should be a warning to those anxious to know what awaits them in the future; The Man of '95, by Solitaire, is continued, and increases in interest as the story progresses. The other articles are equally good—so also is the Poetry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR—I think the "Wimbledon team" for 1875 has been chosen injudiciously,—you are aware that the Marksmen in Ontario and Nova Scotia, in the test for Wimbledon, fired lying down at the two hundred yard range, while New Brunswick had to stand. How then are they to be chosen fairly under those circumstances? Ontario commanding New Brunswick to stand at a range that she (Ontario) lies down at. Do you (Mr. Editor) call this equal rights? Is there not partiality shown somewhere? Or do the Ontario Marksmen fear equal rights? I say, if New Brunswick had the chance that has been accorded to the other Provinces, the team would have been made up of superior stuff. And am also proud to say that New Brunswick stands first on the team, notwithstanding her disadvantage. I was told not long since that Quebec fired under the old regulation. How are they to be chosen? Trusting (Mr. Editor) that you will find room for these few lines, I shall sign myself,

GARIBALDI.

Fredericton, March 1st, 1875.

Halifax, N. S., March, 1875.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Although the use of the Field Exercise 1874, has not yet been authorized by our military authorities, I suppose the order for its adoption, will not be long making its appearance. In looking over this last edition, one is struck with the few improvements made in squad and company drill. Many alterations are made in Battalion drill, and particularly in column movements and formation of column and square from line. As I do not wish to trespass on your space, will you kindly allow me at present to mention one movement which the compilers have not seen fit to improve upon. I allude to a Battalion in line forming column on a central company, in which the companies in fours, pass left arm to left arm. This movement has always been perplexing to the markers taking up covering and distance for their companies, and might have been improved in a very simple manner, by the companies of the Half Battalion to which the named company belongs forming immediately in rear of the company. For instance suppose a Battalion of six companies in line is ordered to form column in No. 3. Why may not Nos. 2 and 1 form in rear of No. 3. and Nos. 4, 5, and 6 in rear of all. Or if the formation is on No. 4, then Nos. 5 and 6 in rear of No. 4. and Nos. 3, 2 and 1, rear of all. This in my humble opinion would be much more simple, and not tend to confuse the markers, as they now have to take time to consider what No. their companies will be

in the new formation; and by my method no more time will be occupied in the completion of it. There are some other column formations which have been altered although not for the better, but of which I defer making any remarks until some future time, my object being to provoke discussion among our military friends as to the merits or demerits of the present Field Exercise of 1874.

Yours truly, Quo Fas.

DEATHS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.—The deaths of the following officers were officially reported at the War Office in the course of the last month:—Major General M. S. H. Lloyd, major unattached; Colonels Thomas Walter Milward, C. B., Lieut. Colonel Royal Artillery Aide de Camp to the Queen; James Watson, Lieut. Colonel, retired full pay, 14th Regt.; Lieut. Col. Hay Foster, Major 95th Regt.; Major Archibald H. Roberts, Royal (Madras) Artillery; John Sweeny, Capt. 1st Brigade Royal Artillery, and Edmund Ward, 107th Regiment; Captains John Fisker Halket, 4th Dragoon Guards; Algernon E. S. Preston, 14th Hussars; Albert S. B. Van de Weyer, Grenadier Guards; Robert Burns, 16th Regiment; and Conroy Fabie, 20th Regiment; Lieutenants Robert T. Bruce and Emilio W. Selby, Royal Artillery; Frederick S. K. Lushington, 64th Regiment, Edward H. B. O. Geran, 80th Regiment, and Daniel Tighe Bunbury, half-pay, Grenadier Guards; Sub-Lieutenants Thomas H. Shettle, 13th Regiments, and Martin M. Hill, 14th Regt.; Ensign John Stuart Ridge, half pay, 6th West Indian Regiment; Quartermasters J. Payne (captain), half pay, Grenadier Guards, and Edward Joyce (captain), half pay, 63rd Regiment; Assistant Controller Wm. Tyler Stuart; Surgeon-Major John Duff, M. D.; Surgeon R. J. Cole, M. D., half-pay, 1st West India Regiment; and Assistant Surgeon M. Kenny, M. D., half pay, Royal Artillery.

Major-General Warre, C. B. (who are addressed by the *Belfast News* letter) has left Belfast, after lengthened service in command of the Northern District. We regret very much (says our contemporary) the departure of the gallant general from this command, as he had taken such a deep interest in all that concerns the peace and good order of the town. Having been here during, and some time before, the riots in 1872, he was very well acquainted with various parts of the town and also of the people, and the consequence was that he was able to render valuable service in support of the local authorities, having been invested with the commission of the peace for the borough. In that capacity, when called on by the magistrates he greatly assisted them. He held a high position in his own profession as a gallant soldier. His aide-de-camp, Captain Clarke, was an efficient officer, and was much respected. We (*Broad Arrow*) have already notified that Major General Elrington succeeds Major-General Warre in command.

In consequence of the last encyclical of the Pope, the Government has introduced into the Prussian Chamber of Deputies a bill withdrawing the State endowments from the Catholic clergy, and providing for their restoration only to those bishops who will bind themselves by a formal document to obey the law.

Difficulties in the formation of a new cabinet have arisen. The Left will not consent to a representative of the moderate Right entering. If the negotiations fail, President MacMahon will form a ministry without further consultation with parties in the Assembly.