

attack and fire to bear on the Mamelon, while it was secured against any effort on the part of the enemy to turn its flanks by supports, consisting of infantry, cavalry, and artillery extending in echelon outwards from its rear. Finding his fighting line out of ammunition, the colonel of the 16th had to order up the supporting half battalion in relief, thus, if not weakening the fighting line, at all events temporarily being forced to forego the potentiality of strengthening it should occasion demand. But, as it happened, just at the moment of the issue of this order there came another order to rein force skirmishers. Under the circumstances what was the chief of the 16th to do? By exercising his discretion he would spoil the symmetry of the movement. On the other hand, if he conformed to the order, he would be sending forward into denser fire men practically unarmed, because destitute of any means of offence. The colonel chose the latter alternative; correctly in a technical sense, since he strictly obeyed his order; erroneously in a broad military sense, had the combat been a real one men would have been sacrificed while destitute of offensive power. In successive waves of half battalions the Mamelon was at length carried, when, to the surprise of every one concerned, it was found occupied already by a battery of artillery belonging to the attacking force accompanied by its escort. This friend, then, not an imaginary enemy, had been the recipient of the concentric fire of the attack. The field-day, so far as concerned the 2nd Division, came to a close about one p.m. The arrivals in the course of the day were the 2nd Tower Hamlets Militia, and the Scots Greys, the latter regiment having made a double march all the way from Marden Down.

On Sunday morning the Duke of Cambridge, with Sir Charles Staveley, and their respective staffs, attended Divine service at the first divisional camp (Yannaton) at eleven, and afterwards, accompanied by Sir Massey Lopes, and the duke's staff, on Sunday paid an unexpected visit to the convict establishment at Princetown, and attended service at the prison chapel, inspecting also such of the proposed sites for evolutions during the ensuing week as lay in that direction. Being then in the heart of the moor, and for the first time in the presence of the quiet grandeur of its solitudes, His Royal Highness expressed himself greatly pleased, not only at the scenery, but at the adaptability of such a wide stretch of moorland country for military operations. At 10.30 on Monday the troops paraded on Ringmoor Down, and went through a sham fight. Four cavalry regiments, nineteen battalions, thirty-six guns, in all 8351, were on parade, constituted as follows:—156 officers, 544 non-commissioned officers, 253 trumpeters and drummers, 7078 rank-and-file, 1316 horses, 36 guns, 63 wagons. This is the total available strength, and represents pretty accurately the force with which Sir Charles Staveley will have to deal throughout the manoeuvres.

SHAM FIGHT ON MONDAY.

The force named above, on Monday morning, about the time stated, was deployed on Ringmoor Down, and the Commander-in-Chief, attended by Sir Charles Staveley and a very large staff, rode down the lines, and, taking up a position on the crest of one of the minor hills in the locality, the march past commenced. By this time a multitude of spectators, probably 2000 in number, had arrived on the ground in conveyances of every conceivable description, from the four-in-hand and neat wagonette down to the humblest donkey-cart. The latter species,

however, was rare, for the terribly steep and rough roads, even where roads were, defied the approach of any but strong and well-accustomed cattle. The spectators were well-accustomed for their arduous pains. The sight on that beautiful summer's morning is one which will not readily be forgotten. The infantry regiments, in long drawn out array, of various shades of scarlet, black, green and grey, the cavalry on their dashing chargers, the very horses seeming to snuff with delight the keen mountain air; the artillery, with horses of immense power and guns of formidable range; and, last, the ambulances and other wagons—all these passed in review before the duke and his staff, around whom, other distinguished visitors in civilian costume, where Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe and Sir Massey Lopes. After a short interval the fighting commenced. On the summit some two miles distant were discerned a few black specks, which the use of field glasses showed to be field-guns and riflemen. These had to be dislodged, and the 2nd Division was first to attempt the task. A line of light cavalry skirmishers were first thrown out, and, feeling their way cautiously until within range, opened fire with their carbines, a proceeding which elicited a return fire from the riflemen on the hill, and as the horsemen were quite without cover they would speedily have been picked off had they been left without supports; but three or four regiments of infantry, among them the Tower Hamlets Militia, were close upon them, and soon the artillery on both sides opened fire, the guns being posted on hills at least a mile and a half away. A general advance of the 1st Division upon the enemy was then ordered. Aides-de-camp galloped to and fro. Firing was continuous from guns and rifles, all along the line, which extended at least two miles, and a grand charge of infantry was made as rapidly as the unevenness and steepness of the ground would permit, covered by the fire of a score of field guns; backed up by cavalry, which however, did not venture upon a charge of the steepest of the hills. The task of the volunteers was an easy one, and within half an hour from the time that fire was opened the enemy's riflemen on the hill were supplanted by the red coats of the victorious assailants. For a few minutes firing ceased, the enemy had retreated, and, according to the previously-sketched outline of the operations, should have made a renewed stand on some other point of vantage; but the post they had left was so speedily occupied by the artillery of the main body and the post to which they were supposed to be driven was so completely commanded by these guns, that no judicious commander would have ventured to have made a stand upon it. Wheeling round to the left, therefore, the enemy, under shelter of a small wood and lane and some outhouses made for shepherds, sought the rocky mountain 1600 feet in height, but accessible even for cannon on one side. Up this the enemy climbed, and perhaps, had they been equally matched in numbers, might have made good their position, but the whole of the 1st Division was in reserve, and at once started in pursuit. The 9th Regiment took the less precipitous route, but the Highlanders dashed up the hill at the double, as if they had been on the moor all their lives, and a sanguinary encounter would have ensued amid boulders and rocks, on sheep tracks and goat paths, but for the inopportune sounding of the retreat. Dinner-hour had long passed, the Duke of Cambridge, as he himself expressed it, had been more than satisfied, and so the battle came to an abrupt conclusion, much to the wonderment and

disappointment of the spectators. The whole force was then marched back by different, and in some cases devious, routes to their respective camps, and the day's proceedings, interesting and effective as they had been, came to a close. Military critics profess themselves dissatisfied with the vulnerable points left unguarded, but civilian spectators had evidently reason to be abundantly satisfied. In the evening the Commander-in-Chief left Plymouth for London.

On Tuesday the troops which had been reviewed and manoeuvred under the eyes of the Commander-in-Chief the day before, were granted an entire holiday. The officers availed themselves of the opportunity to obtain leave in considerable numbers in order to visit Plymouth; and the men had arranged a series of athletic sports on the moor. But the best laid plans may fail when outdoor amusements are opposed by fickleness of the elements, and the programme for the day had to be abandoned in consequence of a dense fog having settled down over the manoeuvring ground. This was one of those peculiarly damp and disagreeable visitations to which Dartmoor is frequently subject in winter, but which are seldom known in the height of summer. The fog was so dense that one might stand around the tents and not see half-a-dozen of them; and had even the most simple evolutions been arranged for the day, it would have been impossible to carry them out.

In the evening, the following general order was promulgated:—

“His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief wishes to express to Major-General Sir Charles Staveley and the troops under his command his approval of the manner in which they performed their duties on the field to-day. The parade movements were carried out with steadiness and precision, and His Royal Highness was perfectly satisfied with the manner in which the officers commanding divisions, brigades, and regiments moved the troops under their command on the field. He was much pleased with the order and regularity shown in the camp, and to find that the Medical and Control Departments have been most satisfactory. The health of the troops appears to be excellent, and the admirable condition of the horses reflects credit on the officers commanding the mounted branches of the Service.”

“C. H. ELIOT, Q.M.G.
“Dartmoor, August 4, 1873.”

A correspondent remarks, that although the duke speaks of the excellence of the health of the troops, it is not quite so satisfactory as could be wished. The sick statement showed that there were eighty-three remaining in hospital in camp, that 21 had been admitted and 11 discharged to duty; that 18 had been sent to the stationary reception hospital at Bickleigh, 17 to the base hospital at Devonport, and that 58 remained in camp. Adding to 58 the 98 who have been sent to the base hospital, the total sick-list is shown to be 156. There was one death to-day, the second that has taken place at the camp. The deceased was a young fellow belonging to the Engineers of the First Division, and he died suddenly. The cause of his death was aneurism of the heart.

[To be concluded in our next.]

It is not often that a powder mill is blown up by lightning, but an accident of that kind recently occurred at the Black Beck works near Ulverston, England. In the course of a violent storm a bolt struck the coming horse, and exploded causing great havoc, but fortunately no loss of life—all work having ceased for the day and the men having left the factory.

Mr Provencher, Indian Commissioner, has been proving the bounty money to the Indians of Manitoba.