

found in our advertising columns, and for these we bespeak the custom of the force.

The youth who last week succeeded to the throne of the German Empire rules over twenty-six kingdoms or states, comprising 38,000,000 people. The Empire can now put 3,400,000 men under arms.

Major Gzowski, Welsh Regiment, who took part in the repulse of the incursion of Fenians into Canada in 1870, is about to retire from the army.

Captain H. Streatfield, Grenadier Guards, Military Secretary, Lieutenant the Hon. H. J. Anson, Highland Light Infantry, and Lieutenant H. A. Pakenham, Grenadier Guards, Aides-de-Camp, revert to their regiments on the return of the Marquis of Lansdowne from Canada.

Late advices from Jersey show that the militia of that tight little island have completed all arrangements for representation at Wimbledon this year. About twenty three members will take part in the N. R. A. meeting, out of whom will be chosen the Kalopore eight. Major P. Robin, East Regiment, will be their camp commandant, and captain of the Kolapore team.

The Wimbledon team assembled yesterday at Quebec, and sails to-day on the *Sarmatian* for Liverpool. It is constituted as last announced, the whole twenty men having duly reported. Lt.-Col. Frank Bond, P.W.R., goes in command, and Capt. Wright, 43rd Rifles is adjutant. Lt.-Col. Bacon, Secretary, D.R.A., went to Quebec on Tuesday to make the final arrangements and to see the team off.

Drill and Fire Discipline.

IN the revised Field Exercise it is expected that there will appear many radical changes besides those noted in the Imperial Army Order published in our issue of the 17th inst., and adopted in Canada. In anticipation of the publication the Lieutenant-General commanding the Aldershot Division has issued a memorandum to the Volunteers for their guidance in drill during the present season, in which the following points are laid down, with the intimation that all that is new in them will become part of the Field Exercise of the future:

Attack.—After troops have extended for the Attack, the advance in the 1st stage up to 600 yards will be in a general line, preceded by scouts keeping up a dropping fire. Except by the scouts, fire should not, as a rule, be opened at greater distances than about 600 yards, except at large objects, such as artillery, bodies of cavalry, or masses of infantry. On broken or enclosed ground, fire may be reserved to a still shorter distance. It should be borne in mind that the object of the Attack formation is to get to close quarters as soon as possible, and that ammunition expended without visible effect is not only a waste of so many rounds, but also of valuable time.

After battalions are formed for Attack, buglers and drummers of the reserve should be formed in rear of the centre of the main body, so that they are ready concentrated when required.

When fire is opened, it should be by section volleys, and the fire of portions of the line may frequently be concentrated with advantage on certain parts of the defending line. This should be done by order of the officers commanding the front line, and the section commanders should then, when necessary, give the commands to their sections, "Half right," or "Half left, fire a volley," etc.

Volley-firing will be employed during all stages of the Attack.

In the 2nd stage—from 600 to about 400 yards—the scouts having awaited the arrival of the fighting line) the advance will be by alternate half companies (30 yards rushes).

The supports will reinforce at the conclusion of this stage. From the time the supports join the fighting line the fire of that line should be delivered kneeling, not lying down.

When (as is usually the case) half companies are extended to cover the front of the battalion, the unextended portions of such companies forming the supports, the reinforcing by the supports will be carried out as follows:—

During the last rush in this stage each half company extended in the fighting line will, by word of command, close on its centre from two paces to one pace per man. This will exactly give room on the outer flanks of each half company for the two sections of the support to come up, one on each flank.

In the 3rd stage—400 to 150 yards—the rushes will be by alternate companies.

When the fighting line has arrived at about 150 yards from the

enemy's position it will deliver rapid volleys kneeling, and continue to do so until the main body has formed a rear rank to it.

The main body, by the time the fighting line begins these rapid volleys, should have closed up to within 100 yards of the latter, and be in rank entire with fixed bayonets.

It will now come up at the double under cover of the rapid volleys of the fighting line, form a rear rank to that line, and immediately (by order of its commander) fire one volley standing, under cover of which the front rank (fighting line) will fix bayonets.

Directly the rear rank (main body) has fired its volley, the buglers will, by order of the battalion commander, sound the "Advance." The whole will then slope arms and advance.

Immediately all are on the move, the buglers will sound and the drums beat the "Charge." The men will then quicken their pace and cheer. When within 100 paces of the position the bugles will sound the "Halt," and the charge is on no account to be continued beyond this point.

It is to be distinctly understood (see Field Exercise, part iii, sec. 43) that in manœuvres between two bodies of troops, bayonets will not be fixed, and the charge will not be carried out, the contending forces not approaching closer than 100 paces from each other.

Range-Finding.—Range-takers should always be employed during the attack of a position. The employment of a range-finder is most essential at the longer ranges, when it can be successfully brought into operation.

Defence.—Troops acting on the defensive may open fire by section volleys at longer distances than those mentioned above, with the object of delaying the advance and forcing the attack to respond, and, generally speaking, volley fire may be maintained till the attacking force is within 200 yards, when independent firing should be resorted to with the fixed 200 yards sight.

In the desultory skirmishes which frequently take place with opposing forces, where neither side is acting strictly either on the aggressive or defensive, volley fire will be employed even at comparatively short ranges.

Section Commanders.—Section commanders are during the extension of a company to be (as laid down in sec. 22, para. 2, Field Exercise of 1884) three paces in rear of their sections, and when the extension is completed to take up such positions in rear of their commands as will best enable them to superintend their men.

There is a tendency on the part of section commanders to get up too close to their men, where they can exercise but little effective control over their sections. Unless they can see every man in their section the volley firing cannot be well carried out.

Attention should be given to the training of section commanders, as laid down on page 130, *g* and *h*, Musketry Regulations, 1887.

Ammunition.—The serving out of ammunition from the battalion reserve should always be practised as far as possible.

Division and Brigade Drill.—For the sake of uniformity at drill (not manœuvre) the Lieutenant-General desires that—

1. When a brigade is in line of quarter columns, and a change of front at right angles is made by throwing back a brigade or division on a flank, the battalions retiring in order to execute the movement will move on their outer base points (see Field Exercise, part iv., sec. 5 (2), page 265).

2. When a brigade or division is deployed in line and a change of front is ordered on a central company of any named battalion, the named battalion and the battalions next to it will make the change by fours, the remainder by quarter column.

3. If the change of front is ordered on a flank company of a battalion, both the named battalion and the battalion next to the flank company of formation will make the change of front by fours, the remainder by quarter column (see Field Exercise, part iv., sec. 16, page 274).

If victory attended upon numbers the Russian army ought to be invincible as compared to the forces aligned by other states. The young soldiers who have had to draw lots this year make up the formidable total of 831,000 men, of whom 249,000 were selected for immediate embodiment. Only 4,708 recruits of the latter multitude have obtained reductions in the period of service with the flag, on the strength of their possession of diplomas for legal, medical, clerical, and scientific attainments. The latter system of partial escape from duty is somewhat similar to the French one-year's *voluntariat*, with the difference that the Russian government does not exact a money contribution or tax for the concession or indulgence.

It is reported that in connection with the new rifle the English will discard the old-fashioned pointed long bayonet for one somewhat similar to the German pattern, about 18 in. long, and sharpened for two-thirds of the way on both edges, like a Roman sword.