

no way retard our growth, but it would seriously lessen the greatness of Britain. It would shock our feelings and rob us of our birthright, that inborn sentiment which we hold so dear. But even this could be gotten over in time and in the proud labour of erecting a newer Britain along the gigantic rivers and over the endless plains of the west. No, the loss would not be ours. Let British statesmen and the British people look to it.

The recent Field Manœuvres of the Prussian army, conducted by the Crown Prince in person under the supervision of the King, have attracted a large share of the attention of military circles in Europe. A number of distinguished officers belonging to other nations were present, and all reports convey an exalted idea of the state of discipline and efficiency of the Prussian forces. Of the forty-nine officers present twenty four were from Great Britain, six from Bavaria, four from Wurtemberg, four from Sweden, three from Italy, three from France, two from Russia, one from Austria, and one from Baden. The review of the 2nd Corps de Armée, to which we refer, took place near the small town of Stargard in Pomerania. The *London Times* gives a long and highly interesting account of the proceedings of the day from which we take the following extracts:—

"The Second Corps was drawn up, with the Crown Prince at its head. Along the front rank ran a long line of massed battalions, standing out clear in blue coats and white pantaloons against the sandy soil; behind them glittered the bright steel-clad horsemen of Pomerania, the lances of two regiments of Uhlans, and the sparkling swords and helmets of the Dragoons of the corps, flanked by sixteen batteries of artillery, heavy pontoon trains, field telegraph waggons, and all the train which supplies an army with its wants in war. As the King approached, a few short, sharp words of command were heard, then all stood rigid and motionless, save where the breeze faintly stirred the plumes of the soldiers or the colors. The sword of the Crown Prince suddenly fell to the salute, and in an instant every musket sprang to the "present," every swordblade was lowered, and over thirty military bands, with one accord, struck up the National Anthem. As the last notes of the music died away, the King galloped to the right of the line, and then slowly rode along the front of the soldiers; passing the infantry, he turned to his left, and moved along the cavalry, remarking in his course the men who were distinguished for former acts of gallantry in the field. On a rising knoll he then took up his position, and the troops began to file before him.

"First came the Regiment of King Frederick William IV., distinguished by wearing black horsehair plumes in their helmets. In unbending lines the companies swept past the spot where the King stood with the Crown Prince beside him.

"Behind the regiment of the King marched the 5th Pomeranian Infantry Regiment, equally steady, equally compact, while strangers audibly expressed their wonder how such troops could be formed in such a short period of service as three years. This corps was followed by the 3rd Pomeranian

Regiment, and this again by the 7th Pomeranians. Each regiment consisted of three battalions, each battalion of four companies. With measured step and in exquisitely cadenced time they moved, but not better, for nothing could be better, than the next, the celebrated Regiment of Colberg, which proudly bore its standards, shattered to ribbons by thousands of bullets in many fights. All eyes turned eagerly to where Count Moltke, the chief of the staff, the strategist of 1866, marched past at the head of the regiment of which he is colonel. Altogether eight regiments of infantry of the line were present. These were followed by a battalion of Pomeranian Jagers, recruited entirely from the woodmen and gamekeepers of the province, all trained sharpshooters, and so skilled as marksmen that in war they are said to account for an enemy with every bullet in their pouches. Behind them came the battalion of Pioneers, or, as we should call them, engineers belonging to the corps. Then came the cavalry in column of troops, led by the Queen's Cuirassiers. The uniform of these big horsemen is certainly striking; their long boots, bright cuirasses, and low-set helmets, recall to mind the pictures of Cromwell's troopers, and although in some armies the cuirassier is looked upon as an obsolete man-at-arms, of little more practical use than the halberdier or arquebuser, the Prussians more correctly judge that men so armed and well mounted enough to move as quickly as light cavalry, are not only of great value, but display a moral force in the field of battle which it is difficult to encounter, while in the close on slough of contending squadrons their mighty weight and impenetrable harness bear down all before them. And these men are well mounted, for although they ride horses which, to the English eye, seem void of strength, these animals have a high look of breeding, and the present manœuvres have shown that they can traverse distances which some cavalry would have hesitated to encounter. Behind them followed the 3rd Regiment of Neumarkisch Dragoons, which suffered so fearfully at Koniggratz, where they lost one-third of their numbers when they rushed on, as it were, to certain destruction, and left hundreds of dead or dying comrades in the field. In rear of these followed the rest of the cavalry, and all were astonished that the officers were so well mounted and that the men had such good horses.

"In the evening the King gave a dinner in the Castle, to which all the English officers were invited, and where the King himself, the Crown Prince, the Crown Princess, and Prince Frederick Charles, spoke to each Englishman individually. After the banquet a gala performance was given in the theatre, and places were given in the best parts of the house to all the British officers.

"On the following morning the manœuvres commenced in earnest. Very early the Crown Prince and Crown Princess left Stettin for Stargard by a special train, and about 8 o'clock were followed by another train, by which the King travelled, and in which the foreign officers were also conveyed. On arrival at Stargard, carriages were waiting, and all drove a distance of about two miles from the town, where they found horses provided for them. A short ride brought the party to a small hill rising abruptly from the plain, and on crowning this the greater portion of the Pomeranian Corps was discovered drawn up in close column of squadrons and battalions behind it. At its head was the advanced guard, formed of the crimson-clad Hussars of Pomerania, six battalions of infantry, a battalion of Jagers, and two bat-

teries of artillery. Close behind them stood in heavy masses the remainder of the corps. The main body consisted of the 6th Brigade of Pomeranian Infantry, which includes the 54th and 14th Regiments, the 5th Brigade, formed by the 42nd and 2nd Regiments, four field batteries, and the 11th Dragoons; while further to the rear was the reserve, composed of the 2nd Queen's Cuirassiers, the 3rd Neumark Dragoons, the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Pomeranian Uhlans, with a battery of horse artillery, besides two regiments of infantry, two detached batteries of horse, and four of foot artillery. The whole was under the command of the Crown Prince. Lieutenant-General Weyhern commanded the advanced guard, Lieutenant-General Werder the main body, Major-General Nidda the cavalry, and Major-General Kettler the infantry of the reserve. The manœuvres were to be conducted according to a general idea given by the King. It was supposed that a strong division of a hostile army had landed on the Pomeranian coast, near Rugenwalda, and after blockading the fortress of Colberg with a detachment, had pushed on beyond Stargard, in the direction of Pyritz—in fact, along the direct road towards Berlin. A Prussian division, coming from Berlin, was supposed to have crossed the Oder at Schwedensend, to be directed upon Stargard, with the design of opposing the enemy's invasion. The Prussian division coming from Berlin was represented by the corps of the Crown Prince drawn up behind the hill above alluded to, named the Sundberg, and so skilfully concealed that, although it mustered over 20,000 combatants, not a symptom of its presence could be discovered until the hill was surmounted, when it lay at one's feet, packed close in a glittering mass of sabres and bayonets. The enemy was represented in skeleton by a detached force under Colonel Kleist, consisting of three battalions of infantry, four squadrons of cavalry, and three batteries of artillery, but as each squadron and company was supposed to represent a regiment, and each gun a whole battery, and were so considered by the umpires, Colonel Kleist was hardly inferior in numbers to the Crown Prince. He was also posted in a remarkably strong position along a range of low but steep hills, the whole of which he could easily occupy with the force at his command. His right rested on a thick fir wood; his centre and right were similarly supported; a second position, a few hundred yards in rear of the first, resting on woods and villages, offered a secure position in case it might be necessary to abandon the first; and on another range of hills some little distance still further in rear three large redoubts had been constructed as a final standing-place in case of disaster.

Shortly after the arrival of the King, the Crown Prince commenced his movements.

The advanced guard, led by the skirmishers of the crimson Hussars, was pushed straight over the Sundberg into the plain beyond, covered with close-cropped stubble. Over the cavalry, occasionally enveloped in dense clouds of dust, pushed briskly, followed by the strong men of the Pomeranian Infantry, who, spreading out a long double line of skirmishers in front of their columns strode swiftly forward. From the far right of the Crown Prince's first position ran a turnpike-road, lined with tall popular trees, which, skirting the outermost spur of the Langenberg, on which Kleist's left rested, passed partly along the rear of his position, affording him his best and surest retreat. Towards the point where this road impinged upon his enemy's left the Crown prince directed his advanced guard, supporting it on