

parent in all this stern preparation to confront danger, and it shows the value of the system created by the Militia Law to find such a force face to face with the enemy in the short space of two days. The amount of work done in the Adjutant-General's Department must have been very great and it has been executed without display or excitement of any kind. Canada has to thank the energy, ability, and rare administrative powers of Col. P. Robertson Ross for all this and for the measures which save her soil from insult. The Militia Law only needed an administrative officer that understood its provisions to make it a success and the country has found that in the Adjutant-General.

CONSTITUTIONAL government in Southern Europe is occasionally administered after a strange fashion. The *Edinburgh Review* for April contains a splendid article on a book lately published by the Rev. A. C. Smith, M.A., entitled "A Spring Tour in Portugal," in which the present condition of that country, the great change which has occurred since the Peninsular War, and its future improving prospects are traced to its liberal government. Our telegraphic despatches will show the way in which a Ministry is served that has lost the confidence of the people. The Administration of the Duke de Soule had fallen into disfavor with the good people of Lisbon. The King wished to leave it by appointing the Duke de Saldanha to the War Department. This was resisted by the Administration, on which it appears the Duke got up a conspiracy amongst the troops in the garrison and attacked the Castle of St. George, the royal residence, which was carried after some shots being exchanged. The troops fraternising with the victorious mob entered the palace shouting "Long live the King," "Long live the Army and Saldanha," "Down with the Ministry," the latter, utterly defeated, laid down their portfolios, and Saldanha was directed to form a new Cabinet. What the result will be is hard to say, but the dismissal of a ministry by force is a game which can be repeated, and with what results Spain can testify. It is said that much discontent prevails in the Provinces where the deposed administration had a strong party. In the game for power the people are entirely ignored and their interests made subservient to the personal ambition or worse motives, which brought about this revolution.

QUEBEC has been again visited by one of those dreadful visitations which have become periodical. On Tuesday the 24th inst. a fearful fire devastated the suburbs of St. Roch's, burning about 424 houses and two ships on the stocks in Baldwin's shipyard. Insurance losses estimated at \$250,000; but the actual loss will be over \$600,000. The district destroyed extends from Crown Street and Bridge Street, and Queen and Joseph Street. This is the third great fire which has devastated St. Roch's within a period of twelve years—the last in 1866.

REVIEWS.

THE 29th No. of the *Canadian Illustrated News* is, as usual, full of splendid illustrations. The "Carnival at the Skating Rink" is particularly fine.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the *Edinburgh Review* for April—it is, as usual, full of interesting matter. Also the *Westminster Review* for April from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company. The *Edinburgh Review* contains a critique on Renan's *Life of St. Paul*, and the *Westminster* one on the "English Parliament and Irish Land," both exceedingly interesting and decidedly the leading articles of 1870.

THE *New Dominion Monthly* for June contains the following choice articles: "Up the Nile," "Ancient Civilization in America," "An Hour with Wild Flowers," "Marguerite," "Waiting for Me," "A True Story," "The Gift of Flowers," "The Troubles of a Deaf Mute Emigrant," "A Trip to Anticosti," "Some Odd Livings," "Health of Ministers," "The Home of the Locusts," "Vigils," with the paragraphs. Fashions, fashion plate, and illustrations.

"OUR Volunteers in Belgium (September, 1869), with Random Notes and Jottings," by Captain Wm. A. Harris, 80th Lancashire Rifle Volunteers. This little volume of 144 pages, Gmo., with its modest title and unpretentious appearance is at once the best written, most amusing, and clearly descriptive brochures we have met for a good while. The subject is the visit of the English Volunteers to Leige, on the occasion of the Tir National and the celebration of the 39th anniversary of the independence of Belgium. But the author, in addition to spirit stirring descriptions of the reception at the Hotel de Ville, the distribution of commemorative medals, the march of the different bodies of troops, and the appearance of the city has managed to carry along with all this such a wonderful power of word painting that the surroundings stand out before the reader as vividly as the pictures in the stereoscope, with all the minuteness of detail and charm of real life. From the female scavengers to the fair demoiselles who distributed the medals, from the commissioner to the King of the Belgians, no rank escapes the descriptive powers of the gallant Captain. While his landscapes, bathed in sunshine or clouded with rain, are touched off in that interesting style which enhances the attention of the reader. To acquire a thorough knowledge of the country about Ostend, Leige, Antwerp, Brussels, the field of Waterloo and other interesting particulars connected with the localities, the perusal of this book will well repay the time spent thereon. It is a book which may be read with a cigar in your mouth, while pleasure and profit will be easily combined in the operation. The description of the military movements does the writer credit, as well as the details of the matches furnished in the Appendix.

The narrative is completed by the address of the English Volunteer Officers to His Majesty the King of the Belgians at Buckingham Palace in November, 1869. The service to which Captain Harris belongs may well be proud of an officer of his talent and ability, whose professional knowledge of the science of arms is evidently not inferior to his literary attainments. As a guide book this little volume is valuable, and as a record of a most important and interesting event it reflects great credit on the energy of its author. We would recommend its perusal to every one desirous of making themselves acquainted with the nature of procedure in the most extensive international rifle match on record, and hope that Captain Harris or some gentleman equally gifted will write the history of the next Wimbledon meeting, for it is evident such occasions will exercise great influences on the tone of military life in the future, as well in a national as individual point of view; and therefore a readable record of all the incidents connected therewith, as contained in Captain Harris's memoir, will be invaluable as precedents for the future. We hope to have the pleasure of reviewing the gallant Captain again.

ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the council of the association at the office of the Secretary, present—Mr. C. S. Gzowski, President, Capt. Boustead, President Toronto Rifle Club; Lieut. Col. Gilmour, Q.O.R.; Lt.-Col. Skinner, 13th Battalion; Judge Macdonald, Guelph; Capt. Werner, 14th Battalion; Capt. McCleneghan, 22nd Battalion; Lt.-Col. Boulton and Major Boulton, Cobourg, it was resolved,—"That in view of present events it is considered advisable to postpone the next annual prize meeting of the Association until Monday the 19th of September, in order to allow affiliated Associations to hold their local matches, the returns for such matches to be sent into the Secretary by the 1st September, affiliations to be received until that date." The committee of arrangements for the match was selected, consisting of Capt. McCleneghan, Woodstock; Lieut.-Col. Boulton, Cobourg; Judge Macdonald, Guelph; Capt. Werner, Kingston; Lieut.-Col. Skinner, Hamilton; Lieut.-Col. Forrest, Ottawa; Major Croft, Toronto; W. J. Morris, Perth, and Lieut.-Col. Gilmour, Toronto. Major T. C. Scoble, Secretary. The first meeting of this committee will take place at the Secretary's office on the 22nd June, immediately after the annual meeting of the association, which also takes place upon that day. The President, Mr. Gzowski, who proceeds to England on the 24th inst., has been empowered by the association to make such arrangements as will admit of the association being represented at Wimbledon next year, and also to procure twenty Martini-Henry rifles, with ammunition, to be distributed as prizes at the ensuing prize meeting. He will also attend the meeting at Wimbledon with a view to obtain the latest information regarding the conduct and arrangements of that great national rifle match, by which knowledge no doubt the Ontario Rifle Association will benefit considerably.