

lery contained simply this request, and was sent to its destination about noon on the 27th. The order to Colonel de Girels was, however, differently worded. After requesting that the regiments should send their flags to the arsenal, it continues:—"I request you (Colonel de Girels) to receive the flags and preserve them. They will form part of the inventory of the military material which will be taken by a commission of French and Prussian officers." The report states that the flags would be destroyed; and there is no doubt that had this not been the case, the regiments would themselves have burnt their flags. At two o'clock in the afternoon of the 27th, there was a meeting of artillery generals, when Gen. Soeille formally and positively declared that the flags sent to the arsenal would be destroyed. At that very moment, however, he held in his hand the order to Colonel de Girels, stating that the flags were to be preserved. The report points out that the soldiers had already begun to destroy the flags, and only stopped in consequence of the declaration of the marshal that they would not be surrendered. The execution of the order of the 27th was postponed until the 28th, when the marshal was no longer master of the situation. The enemy then settled the question, and once the flags were in his hands it could no longer be ascertained whether he had received them from the arsenal guard or taken them on the battle-field. However, several flags were ordered to be destroyed by some commanders, among whom were Generals de Laveaucoupet and Lapasset. The report praises highly the conduct of those generals in ordering the flags, which are the symbols of the country, to be destroyed, rather than be given up to the enemy, and the reading was then brought to a close.

The passages which attracted the greatest attention were those relative to the despatches and letters, alleged to have been suppressed, bearing upon the negotiations carried on between the marshal and Prince Frederick Charles, as well as the story of the flags which were not burnt. The paragraphs of the report relating to the capitulation created a profound impression. The marshal preserved his usual impassive demeanour during the reading of the report.

(To be continued.)

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

(From the Army and Navy Gazette.)

When the yellow flag with the double-headed eagle of Russia in the centre flies from the flagstaff of the Kremlin Palace, it announces to Moscow that Alexander the Emancipator is in the ancient capital of his vast dominions. Constitutional sovereigns lie on a bed of roses compared to the Autocrat of Russia. From him everything hinges in the country that contains eight millions of square miles; with him moves the entire machinery of State, and always on the move His Majesty is obliged to be. Trained in the severe school of the Emperor Nicholas, Alexander II. never allows himself a moment's relaxation. It is known what a passionate soldier the Emperor of Germany is, how he will even attend the drills of a single company. The Emperor of Russia, though, goes from review to review, from field-days of 50,000 men to field-days of special arms, from the target practice of a few non-commissioned officers to a manoeuvre of the fleet. Now in Poland, now at Tsarskoe Selo, now at Cronstadt, now in the Caucasus, and all at once in the Crimea. Always soldiers, soldiers, soldiers! He himself is never out of uniform, and none of the ministers ever

discard their epaulettes. The Imperial suite is, of course, enormous. But to-day His Majesty is at Moscow: to-night he proceeds to the Crimea. In the train the Minister of the Interior will probably see him with innumerable papers for signature; the Minister of Finance, of Justice, or of Foreign Affairs will disturb the Imperial rest. Such is it to be an Emperor; and how many there are who would give a whole lifetime for five minutes in such a position! For five minutes it may be pleasant, but it is questionable whether a longer experience would not bring about a change of feeling.

On Thursday, the 28th, the Czar, as the Emperor of Russia is called far more often abroad than in his own country, arrived in this quaint city. Russian loyalty is exuberant in the way of flags and illuminations, the latter being repeated every night of the Imperial sojourn. The first duty of the crowned head on entering Moscow has been from time immemorial to make obeisance at the central chapel. Thither then the Emperor at once repaired, and descending from his *calèche* kissed the figure of the Blessed Virgin. Then a visit to the Cathedral of the Assumption, the morning sun shining brightly on its many gilded domes, and in a neighboring monastery occupies an hour, when the Emperor gallops off in his carriage to see his faithful soldiers. In the exercise field in the Petroffsky park some 20,000 men wish their master good health as he canters down their front. The rain, which has now been giving us more of its presence than is agreeable to man or beast, soon puts an end to the field-day. Need we follow all the manoeuvres that were executed? Shall we travel over the ground with the batteries, squadrons, and companies; count the distance that separates them, and the number of rounds they fire? It would be more agreeable to arrange it all in imagination. A review is a review all the world over. A *marca* past is executed with more or less exactitude, and in one of two or three formations. A sham fight must always be the greater or less perfect repetition of a lesson previously delivered. We will then leave the soldiers to go home and change their dripping linen trousers, if they have a change, and if not, to get rheumatism, and follow the Emperor to the Palace. There a great military dinner, to which all the principal officers of the district have been invited, and, judging by the number of country *calèches* with three or four horses abreast that are in waiting, there must be goodly assemblage. A visit to two theatres completes His Majesty's first day's task. The morning, though, brings another review in the park, the afternoon an inspection of cadets, the evening another play, and so on day after day. We do not envy the Emperor; but who can help joining in the Russian veneration for one so devoted to his duty, who gives his life to the people?

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS' CAVALRY.

The 1st Provisional Regiment of Eastern Townships, Cavalry, under the command of Major J. H. Taylor, C.S., went into camp at Cookshire on the 3rd instant, and were inspected by Lieut. Colonel King, Brigade Major, 5th Mill District, on Thursday, the 9th. The four troops (told off as squadrons) were formed in line, at order, and received the inspecting officer with swords drawn and trumpet flourish; after which they marched and trotted past by troops, and ranked past by fours, reforming on the parade line, and were put through the sword exercise by the Acting-Adjutant and Cavalry Instructor, Lieut.-Colonel R. Lovelace, late H. M. regu-

lar service, &c., &c. A number of regimental movements were performed with great precision and steadiness, including the linking of horses, and skirmishing on foot with blank cartridge. At the conclusion of the field day, the regiment formed in close column of squadrons, right in front, and Col. King briefly expressed his entire satisfaction of the day's proceedings, intimating that he should make a most favorable report to Headquarters of the very creditable appearance of the men and horses, notwithstanding the continued wet weather they had experienced in camp for the two days previous.

The Hon. Captain Aylmer, late H. M. 7th Fusiliers, District Paymaster, made the usual muster of men and horses, and has given much satisfaction to the officers and men of the volunteer force, for the efficient, prompt, and correct manner in which he discharged the duties of his department.

The Regiment is composed as follows:—Major J. H. Taylor, Commander; Lieut.-Col. R. Lovelace, Acting Adjutant; Paymaster, Capt. A. Taylor; Quartermaster, Lieut. S. Osgood; Acting Surgeon, James McNece, M. D.; 1st or Cookshire Troop: Captain, C. French; Lieut. H. Chaddock; 2nd or Sherbrooke Troop, Capt. W. Reed; 3rd or Stanstead Troop, Capt. D. Wood, Lieut. Mansard, Cornet Moulton; 4th or Compton Troop, Capt. F. Stinson, Lieut. Murray. As yet this Reg. is only provisional, but it is expected that it will soon be numbered amongst the V. Regiments of the Dominion Cavalry, and the recently raised troops from Stanstead and Compton, made up to their full strength, as is the case with the older Troops, Cookshire and Suerbrooke. Four squadrons of 48 files each are quite enough to handle even when squadron leaders are smart in repeating the words of command. All the troops of the Eastern Townships invariably drill in squadron, and like to keep their own respective individuality; hence it would never answer to form them into right and left troops, for the officers and men would not work so well together as when each troop, as at present, forms a squadron in itself.

Major Taylor, the commanding officer of the above mentioned provisional regiment, is a young officer of considerable military talent, cool and collected under all circumstances. He is well fitted for the appointment he now holds as commandant of a fine body of young, active and well-mounted men, able to hold their own when or where required.

Captains French, Reed, Wood and Stimson take much interest in their respective commands; and are well supported by their subaltern officers. The Staff officers of the corps have all proved themselves well up to their work, and it may be fairly considered that the Cookshire encampment of Cavalry has turned out, despite "wind or weather," very satisfactory to all concerned.

On the day of the inspection Lieut.-Col. Cooke, of the 58th Battalion, gave a sumptuous lunch at his residence to the inspecting officer and officers of the Cavalry, and in the evening of the same day an amateur performance and concert took place in the hall of Leonard's hotel, the Eaton Band being in attendance; Colonel Lovelace, Capt. Stimson, and many of the N. C. officers and troopers proving themselves as efficient on the stage as in the saddle.

On Saturday the 11th, tents were struck, and each troop, previous to marching off to their respective headquarters, gave three hearty and willing cheers for Queen Victoria, Colonels King, Lovelace, Major Taylor, and the other officers present.—*Montreal Gazette.*