

machine struck the man, pitching him with a thump on his back. On seeing this one of his comrades was about to take hold of the driver, but George, lifting the dog-art key, gave No. 2 such a dig that he went reeling to the dyke-side. The third man then made a bolt for his life, but George, key in hand, made after him in hot haste, and was just about repeating the dose, when, in desperation, the fellow leapt over a hedge and vanished in the darkness, no doubt grateful to his pair of legs, and possibly resolved not to play the robber again.

COAL OIL AS STEAM FUEL.—Preparations on a large scale for a final trial of oil and coal as steam fuel are now being made at Woolwich Dockyard. A common service boiler, belonging to the 'Teazer' gunboat, is first to be tried with coal, at the common rate of combustion, and then forced consumption to get the greatest amount of evaporation the boiler is capable of. The coal grates are then to be taken out and oil grates substituted. The process is to be carried out to its fullest extent, high superheated steam and hot air being introduced. Coal and oil will thus be tried for the first time in exactly equal conditions, and the results are looked forward to with great interest, more especially by those who are engaged in coal-mining and in the manufacture of oil.

DISTRIBUTION OF OUR NAVAL FORCES.—It appears by a Parliamentary return, issued lately, that on the 1st of March, 20 English vessels of war, of 31,617 tons and a complement of 5313 officers and men, were in the Mediterranean; 29 vessels, of 34,827 tons and a complement of 5488 men, in North America and the West Indies; 9 vessels, of 7641 tons and 115 men on the Southeast Coast of America; 7 vessels, of 7590 tons and 1275 men, at the East Indies; 3 vessels, of 3078 tons and 446 men, at the Cape of Good Hope; 19 vessels, of 15,179 tons and 1894 men, on the West Coast of Africa station; 11 vessels, of 19,342 tons and 3321 men, in the Pacific; 40 vessels, of 30,246 tons and 4628 men, on the China station; 6 vessels, of 6793 tons and 1367 men, in Australia; 1 surveying vessel, with 90 men detached, in the Straits of Magellan.

MILITARY ITEMS.

H. M. Ship 'Wolverine,' a large iron steamer, arrived at Montreal on Saturday week. Hundreds went to see her.

The right wing of the 100 Regiment, now stationed in Ottawa, will leave for Montreal on the 10th prox.

The Civil Service Rifles turned out for drill again yesterday afternoon at four o'clock. The several companies looked well, though the muster was not as large as we have seen on some days. Their steadiness, &c., is rapidly improving, and they will soon count for appearance as one of the finest corps in the country.—[Ottawa Citizen, May 14th.]

Our friends of elocution and the drama will be glad to learn that the amateurs of the 100th Regiment, in Ottawa, intend giving two grand variety entertainments in Her Majesty's theatre on the 21st and 22nd inst. The particulars of the evenings' amusement are not yet set forth, but among them we know will be several readings by our Canadian Poet, Carrol Ryan. We can safely promise our friends a bumping house on both nights.

FORTIFICATIONS AT COLLINGWOOD.—We learn by the Collingwood 'Enterprise' that Col. Hiasard and Lieut. Ghele, of the Royal Engineers, lately paid a visit to that town, to fix on a site for a fortification; and that they recommend that five 68-pounder Armstrong guns be at once placed in position there, with suitable breastworks, the latter to be provided by the Northern Railway.

A large portion of the Montreal Volunteer Relief Fund was returned to the subscribers, and has been by them sent to the treasurer, to be applied towards the purchase of horses for the Montreal Field Battery of Artillery.

Two officers left Quebec on Friday last for River du Loup, for the purpose of providing quarters in the various stopping-places for the batteries of artillery which are to march from New Brunswick, to replace the batteries at Toronto, now under orders for St. John's, New Brunswick.

At a meeting of the officers of the 23rd Battalion at headquarters, and of the officers of Sandwich Infantry Company, held on Thursday last, it was decided that a Rifle Tournament be held at the headquarters of the battalion on the Queen's birthday. Capt. D. Shield was appointed President and Adjut. Guillot Secretary and Treasurer.—[Windsor Record.]

The Woodstock 'Times' says: "We are pleased to notice that drill has been commenced by the Volunteers having their headquarters at Woodstock. The arrangement contemplates a fusion of the men of the two companies for the present, at least, or until such times as each company will supply strength enough for separate command. The accession of new men to the force makes it imperative that drill should be practised on all possible occasions, for certainly nothing is so disheartening to officers and to old soldiers as inefficiency on the part of two or three in the ranks. Men who have the interests of their company at heart will not begrudge the time necessary for drill; and it is possible that a reasonable rivalry will spring up by the plan adopted that will do good to both organizations. We expect to see on each night of drill a disposition to exhibit, as a feature of each company, both numbers and efficiency; and with the services of so able an instructor, there is no reason why the Woodstock companies should not present as soldierly an appearance and muster in as great force as any in the country."

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—We are surprised that some action has not already been taken to secure a proper demonstration in Brantford on the birthday of our Sovereign. The time is rapidly drawing nigh, and an unaccountable apathy exists in making the necessary preparations. There is a regiment of regulars in our midst, and if the 38th Battalion of Volunteers could be mustered so as to turn out for a field day in conjunction with the regulars, we might have a demonstration in every way befitting the occasion and the place, and the like of which has never been witnessed in Brantford. The Drumbo and Princeton companies of Volunteers would require to come by rail, and it is necessary they should reach here on the morning of the 23rd inst., and it is also necessary, if all are to take part in the celebration, that some provision should be made for accommodating them during their stay. The Council owe it to the good name of the town to render whatever assistance they can, so as to have the day pass off with proper eclat. No doubt a fair sum can be raised through private subscription, and we suppose that liberal arrangements could be made with the hotel proprietors for the accommodation of the Volunteers from a distance: let some united action be at once taken to secure a grand field day for the coming 24th.—[Brantford Courier.]

CONCERT OF THE CECILIAN GLEE CLUB.—The fourth concert of the season, by the popular musical society, occurred at Mechanics' Hall, on Friday evening week, in aid of the band fund of the 13th battalion, and was one of the most successful entertainments given in the city during the year. The hall was crowded with a select audience, and the brilliant display of

fashionable toilettes, heightened by a praiseworthy admixture of the glowing scarlet of the gallant Thirteenth, presented a spectacle before the curtain more dazzling than any of the Greek-fire tableaux enacted in the travelling edition of the "Black Crook." The band appeared in their new uniforms, which were greatly admired, and contributed much to the entertainment by the performance of several fine selections, under the direction of their leader, Mr. A. Grossman. The Glee Club "mustered" a strong chorus, and as usual were received with strong expressions of appreciation. The pieces for the evening, generally of the heroic order, and evidently appropriate to the occasion, we did not admire so highly as the selections presented by the club at some of their previous entertainments, and the one of two 'encores' given were received with much more favour than the regular programme. The famous Mendelssohn chorus of 'Love and Wine' was an exception, and the Cecilians drew forth a thunder of applause, as they invariably do in this piece. Mr. James Egan gave two of his solos with his usual power and good taste, and was loudly applauded. The grand hit of the evening was perhaps the duet of "Excelsior," music by Balle, which was sung by Messrs. Young and Power, which charming effect. The piece elicited a determined encore, to which the gentlemen responded. We presume the Cecilians will not favor us again until after their contemplated visit to the grand "sacrefest," at Philadelphia, during the month of June, for which they are now preparing.—[Hamilton Times.]

SOLDIERS, BEWARE!—Since the Royal Fusiliers have been stationed here a large number of the privates have secured their discharge by purchase, and we understand that a vast number of applications have been sent in by those who desire to leave the Regiment. Where there is a possibility of bettering their condition, they are perfectly justifiable in endeavoring to effect a change. But we doubt very much whether many of those who appear so anxious to get free from military life have properly considered their future position in a new country—unaccustomed as they are to its ways and requirements. To a man who has a trade, and is a good mechanic, there can be no better field for this labor, nor can he find a country where he will be better compensated. These are advantages which will be an inducement to the class of men we have designated to try and remain here, and to them the prospect is good. But to the day laborer no such advantages are held out. There are only certain seasons of the year when the laborer can obtain employment, and when such is the case his subsistence becomes very precarious. Unlike the artisan, his wages are comparatively small, and he cannot as a rule obtain permanent employment; hence, at the end of the year he has made no advances in bettering his position. For this very reason we would warn the soldier who has to depend on his unskilled labour against being too rash in leaving the service where he is well fed, clothed and housed, and has a comparatively easy life, and run the great risk he must in this country of doing any better. The kind of laborers required in Canada are those who have been accustomed to agriculture, and to such this Province holds out great inducements, and the emigrant direct from the farm is the person of all others who should come here. The soldier from his habits and training is unfitted for agricultural life, and to think of settling down in a town for his support is to throw away his existence. The warning we have given above would have been unnecessary, were it not that we are led to believe a great number are leaving the Fusiliers who will have sincere cause to regret their so doing.—[Brantford Courier.]