

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS.

(From the Broad Arrow)

(Continued from Page 28.)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH.

For the march past to-day, the whole of the forces on the ground were formed up in line of contiguous columns—the 1st Division on the right flank, and the Cavalry brigades in rear of their respective divisions. The number of foreign uniforms mingled with the staff made a brilliant display. It was near one o'clock when the march began. The van was led by the Southern Army, owing to the fact of its *corps d'armée* being composed of the 1st and 2nd Divisions. The report of the *Daily News* shall tell the story for us:—“There peals out a flourish of trumpets and of kettle-drums, and the Cavalry Brigade of the 1st Division, wheel, front, and halt opposite the saluting point. Sir John Michel has already passed an ranged himself by the side of the Commander-in-chief; Colonel Baker rides gallantly by on his beautiful white Arab, and is followed by the battery of Horse Artillery attached to his brigade. So exact is the dressing of the detachments both of the men and of the guns, that no wonder the spectators clap their hands in applause. Trim and servicable are the 7th Hussars, their horses apparently in as good condition as on the day they left barracks, with lance pennons waving and red plumes dancing. On the Lancers come jauntily. The gallant 12th, perhaps the best horsed regiment in the British Service, comes rolling up the long line of crowd, and the band changes to “God Save the Prince of Wales.” The 4th Hussars has left the saluting point, and is riding by at the head of his own regiment, the 10th Hussars. Not for nothing, it is clear, are the 10th commended by one who is reputed the smartest light cavalry officer in the Service. Their dressing is the excellent, the men knee to knee, and the horses, if rather worn and fine drawn, show their breed in their wiriness. It is rather late in the day now for any one to occupy space in heaping superfluous praise on the “Grey battery” of the Field Artillery; all that need be said is that it passes quite in its own form. And now we have the infantry, led by a company of the Royal Engineers, whom the ‘higher branches’ do not seduce to forget how to march past. Here come the British Grenadiers, to the tune which is their namesake. It makes one angry to think that there is such a thing as breech-loading fire, and that the line formation is doomed, when we look at the living wall of strapping men moving as if one impulse governed every muscle in the two strong companies. There is the majesty of strength and suture methodised, not reduced, by training and discipline. Broaden the scope of the training, and by virtue of the faculties already firm in them, the Guards will be found as apt pupils as any. The tune changes to ‘The Highland Laddie,’ a memory of the time when the regiment was in reality ‘Scots Fusiliers,’ and the guard regiment of that name, goes past followed by the Coldstreams. The 16th which follows, proves that a line regiment can challenge popular applause with the Guards and the grey battalion of Volunteers, that possess, among their accomplishments, besides camping and skirmishing, very creditable marching past. On the right of their third line are seen the

bonnets, kilts, and bare knees of the London Scottish detachment, and to judge from their applause, the people of Wiltshire rather admire the costume. Presently comes the Gloucester Militia, a regiment the men of which are of very good *physique*, and have obtained a composure and steadiness which enable them to march past as well as a Line regiment. Then comes Glyn's battalion of the Rifle Brigade, trim and happy in front ranks strong in medalled men. The 1st Division has passed, and now General Brownrigg comes on at the head of the 2nd, with Sir Thomas Macmahon behind him leading his heavy brigade. The Bays lead. “That fine steady old corps” is the comment on them of an old cavalry man at my elbow. They are followed by the Carabiniers, who still cling to the blue uniform they assumed on going to India, and of whose appearance Colonel Napier may well feel proud. Nor has Colonel Tower any reason to be ashamed of his regiment—the 3rd Dragoon Guards. The strong eight-horse teams move as if they were children's toys. Humphey's massive 16 pounders. Right well move the Royal Fusiliers, and not less well the 23rd Royal Welsh, with their goat at their head, his horns gilded in honour of the day, and who after to-day shall reproach the Kilkenny Militia for making bulls in their marching as well as in their speech. They march as well as the West York Militia, and that is doing a great deal. The public appear to have a great admiration for the pontoon train which brings up the rear of the Army-Corps. Now comes General Walpole's *corps d'armée*, with its chief at its head. After the battery of Horse Artillery move forward very stately the Household Cavalry, in excellent condition after their campaign. The Life Guards for the first time wear their white lambkins and the cuirasses glitter as if damp bivouacs had never been. Prince Arthur is noticed as he goes by with General Page. The 22nd wear oak-leaves in their shakoes and garlands of oak-leaves on their colours—a regimental custom and privilege in commemoration of the Battle of Meenae, of which today is the anniversary, and which the regiment helped materially to win. No better marching was seen to-day than that of the 100th Royal Canadian Regiment, and the style in which the 49th Middlesex Volunteers followed. Colonel Du Plat Taylor showed that they can march well without their honorary colonel at their head. Mightily applauded, and with good reason, were Aberdeenshire Militia, who passed, albeit the familiar wailing of their bagpipes was hushed, with an accuracy of dressing not excelled by the best Line regiment on the ground. Here is Lord Mark Kerr, with his feet in his stirrups, and his division: “Behind him gallantly ride the 9th Lancers, and not less gallantly the 13th Hussars; The 19th Hussars conspicuously do the best they can. Infantry regiment follows after infantry regiment till all are past, and then there is a short pause by the music. With a rattle and jingle and at a quick brisk pace the cavalry and artillery of the two armies go by at a trot. How the heaviest powder along! Fancy the impact of their charge in full career! Opposite the saluting point the cavalry then form two long lines, the regiments of the First Army being in the first line, those of the Second in the next. The trumpets sound, and the first line moves forward at a walk; then the ‘Trot’ sounds, and the pace gathers way, till the ‘Gallop’ rings shrilly out. The sight was such that not many who saw it will see again its equal. On galloped the long line with perfect dressing, although with growing speed, till within 100 yards of the spectators and then at the trumpet sound of ‘Halt,’

the six regiments were struck into immobility. The second line followed, the ground trembling under the massive tread of the Household Cavalry. This beautiful evolution completed, the whole force formed its regiments into a line of columns of double companies, and advanced majestically in parade order, the bands playing the royal salute at the halt. And so appropriately and worthily terminated the pageant of the day and the Autumn Manœuvres of 1872. The parade lasted from noon until about three o'clock.”

The following memorandum has been issued, stating the arrangements for the withdrawal of the forces from Salisbury Plain:—

“It is to be clearly understood that after the march past at Beacon Hill, on Thursday the 12th of September, the troops are to occupy such camps as they may then take up, until orders are received from the Deputy Quartermaster General, Headquarters, Salisbury, for their movement; and this order is to apply equally to individual soldiers of every description whatsoever, as well as to the departmental corps; and it must be borne in mind that the information contained in this memorandum is only given with a view of affording a general idea of the arrangements for the departure of the troops. The application for any routes that may be required for with is to be sent to Salisbury by a mounted orderly, when it will receive immediate attention.

“Orders will be issued in due course from the Quartermaster General's office, Headquarters, Salisbury, for the departure of the forces, as far as possible, in accordance with the following arrangements, but it must be understood that no departures are to take place until the routes are actually received, as it may be necessary to make other arrangements at the last moment.

“FRIDAY, SEPT. 13.—The 1st and 2nd Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards will march as a brigade, en route to London and Windsor, encamping each night, as follows:—13th, September, Wilton (near Great Bedwyn); 14th, Greenham; 15th, halt; 16th, Ramhill.

“1st and 2nd Life Guards.—September 17, Chobham Common; September 18, Regent's Park and Hyde Park Barracks.

“Royal Horse Guards.—Windsor Barracks.

“The undermentioned corps will also proceed on the march as follows:—Royal Horse Artillery.—B Brigade A Battery, en route to Christchurch; B Battery, Bakenhead for Ireland; C Brigade G Battery, Dorchester 3rd Dragoon Guards, Midstone and Shorncliffe. 5th Lancers.—York; Royal Artillery 1st Brigade D. Battery, Dilsea; F Battery, Sheerness.

“The following battalions will also proceed by railway, on this day, by special trains, viz.:—Grenadier Guards, 3rd Battalion, from Grateley Station to Waterloo Station, for Wellington Barracks; 22nd Foot, 2nd Battalion (H.M.S. *Jumna*) from Salisbury to Portsmouth, for Fermoy; 23rd Foot and Battalion (H.M.S. *Tamar*), from Salisbury to Portsmouth, for Mullingar; Rifle Brigade, 2nd Battalion (H.M.S. *Orontes*), from Salisbury to Portsmouth, for Burr; Royal Aberdeenshire Highlanders, for Salisbury to Aberdeen; 3rd Royal Lancashire Militia, from Salisbury to Preston; 1st West York Rifles, from Salisbury to Pontefract.

“Orders also will be issued for the departure on this day of the Engineer and Rifle Volunteers serving with both armies, and the men of the Army Reserve Force will