

of the plan of not paying the bounty to Militia regiments, stating that immediately it was so the number enlisted became nil, and that therefore a counter order soon followed to continue its payment, which showed the need of consultation with proper authorities on such matters.

Major Wethered, R.A., stated that in the Royal Artillery during the same period that 3179 men were passed into the Service; 1744 left the Service, of which 1353 were deserters. He thought it was a great mistake to have given us long service, which, besides compulsory service, would be the only way to maintain an efficient army in this country. How could a man be expected to lay by a sufficient sum to start him in a trade when he only received 7d. or 8d. a day, and instead of improving a man's condition, he is rendered much worse by his military service, being drafted into the reserve unfit for any employment, and without a sufficient allowance to keep himself. The class of recruits could be estimated from the fact that the recruiting sergeant was invariably only found at the door of public-houses.

Colonel Lyons stated that he considered the question of popularising the army was wholly one of pounds, shillings, and pence, and Captain Colomb and Mr. Hill also confirmed the statements and opinions that had already been expressed.

As many other officers had also requested to take part in the discussion, owing to the lateness of the hour the meeting was adjourned to Monday evening last, when Colonel Stevenson took the chair, and called upon Colonel Ewart, R.E., who thought that the short service system had not been in operation long enough for an opinion to be formed in respect to the Reserve. He also suggested that the Militia would, when the Regular troops were embarked, be able to replace them, and be soon ready to be drafted after them if necessary. Captain Rogers spoke very highly in favour of Irishmen as soldiers, but said that the allurements held out by the Americans would go far to prevent enlistment; in order to check which he recommended the Militia training depots for men too young to be properly enlisted should be established, from which they could, if afterwards found to be fit, be drafted into the Regular army. He also suggested that instead of money being paid to the recruiting sergeant for obtaining men, payment should be made to recruits themselves after they had been partially trained and found advantageous for service with the colours; and that there was no stronger power of persuasion for enlistment than the receipt of a pension on discharge.

Colonel Aikman, V.C., commanding the East London Militia, expressed his belief that the failure attending the present army regulations was owing to the abolition of pension, by which means also soldiers would be satisfied with a lower rate of pay. He pointed out that by the short-service system the soldier would leave the ranks at the very time he would prove most useful to his country, and by becoming a civilian the expense of his careful education and training would be utterly thrown away. On one day no less than forty eight men who had been enlisted into his corps, after having been provided at the Government expense with a kit worth £5, decamped, and although the police were immediately informed, only a few were caught; but as these men are usually able to obtain about £2 5s. for the stolen property, and become the gamblers by more than £1. Although the Act was not a good one, he thought that competent officers might be able to make it into a better form. General Schomberg, C.B., strongly

advised that deserters should be branded, and saw no reason why so much delicacy should be considered in the matter when the detriment of the army was at stake. The military force, he advocated, should only consist of two divisions—the Line and the Militia; and these two should recruit each other. Colonel St. Leger Alcock suggested that what could not be effected by pecuniary means might be by social influence, that is, by strictly carrying out the county and depot system. Captain Housason referred to a statement which had been made that each soldier cost £100, but as this included transport, barrack accommodation, and other items, he was afraid it had caused some misapprehension, whereas each individual soldier on the average only cost £30. In order to get good men they must give good pay, and he added that although boys might be entered into the army, they should not be sent out of the country before their constitution was formed. Dr. Cameron drew attention to the great increase of the soldier's expense for his kit in the time of peace in comparison to former times, owing to the autumn and field manoeuvres, and stated that the non-commissioned officers were under paid. As an equivalent for the loss of pensions, he suggested that old soldiers should be ensured appointments as postmen, railway servants, and other positions. General Sir W. Codrington said that so long as we did not pay up to the labour market we could not get men of good physique, or so long as we withheld even the pension of 1s., which was able to keep a man from starvation. He was convinced there were plenty of excellent material in the country. Major Wethered said he looked on the man who had been eleven years with the colours as a real good soldier, and therefore raised a question about dismissing him, especially with a lump sum, when, being able to get no employment in England he would be off to America, and his services would be lost to the country. He also recommended that they should not be liable to pay a man twice, and that therefore it would be advisable to brand him. Dr. Adams, in answering a few questions, thought that the stamina of the people had not been reduced, but that some immediate steps for improvement should be taken in our army system, and

Colonel Stevenson, having expressed his opinion that the chief bearing of the arguments urged proved that the most successful reform consisted in re-establishing a system of pension, the meeting closed with the usual thanks to the lecturer and the chairman.

CORRECTION.—On page 115, in the article on the Frontier Rifle Association, the word *Battalion* is used instead of *Brigade*. The error is an important one, hence the necessity for correcting it.

REVIEWS

We have received from Messrs. Duttie and Son of this city, the reprints of the *Edinburgh Review* for January; and of *Blackwood* for February, from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton St., New York.

The following is a summary of the contents of the *Edinburgh Review*: Literature, Ancient and Modern; Memoirs and Letters of Sara Coleridge; The Diplomatic Service; Autobiography of John Stuart Mill; Ninth Census of the United States; Heer's Primeval Life in Switzerland; Life and Correspondence of the First Earl of Minto; Results of the Education Act; The Doctrine of the Sacred Heart; and Dis-

racci's Glasgow Speeches. The articles are all written in a vigorous and pleasing style.

Blackwood contains a greater proportion of story and narrative than usual, an order of literature in which the magazine has earned well deserved distinction. The story of "Valentine and his Brother" is continued; so also is the series of papers, "International Vanities," under which hitherto we are presented with a survey of those gilded toys, *Tittes*, from the time of Menes to our own day. "There is not a King in Christianity, not a Pacha in Africa or Asia, not a naked Chief of Negroes, who does not call himself by an accumulated variety of ornamental denominations." We shall be glad to be better acquainted with "The Two Speransky." The whole article is pleasant reading, and the letters from Siberia give an interesting picture of manners little known to Europeans. In "Scepticism and Modern Poetry," the writer endeavors to show the effects of scepticism on poetic genius, illustrating the writings of Shelley, Goethe, and Arthur Hugh Clough.

The other articles are "The Book of Calaveras," "The Philosopher's Baby," "The Minor King of Mysore," an interesting sketch of how the young sovereign is being educated; and a review of "Fables in Song," by Lord Lytton, with some charming quotations, especially those from "The Thistle."

New Dominion Monthly for March contains the second instalment of the "Review of the Times" which more than fulfils the expectations arising from the February instalment. An article entitled "Canada's Early Marine," contributed by Mr. J. B. A. Kingston contains much information not generally known concerning the rise and progress of shipbuilding and shipping in the Dominion, and must contribute towards the strengthening of that love of country so necessary for the welfare of any nation. Among other things in this number worthy of note is a hymn entitled, "Come I to Thee," the music by Rev. R. A. Temple, and the words by Bonar. The illustration for the month is a well executed engraving of Edward Jenkins, M. P. for Rundle, Scotland, author of "Gin's Baby," and other works.

The *Phrenological Journal and Life Illustrated* for March is also received. It is devoted to Science, Literature, and general Intelligence especially to Phrenology, Ethnology, Physiology, Physiognomy, Psychology, Health, Education, and to all those progressive measures calculated to reform, elevate, and improve mankind. Subscription price, \$3.00 per year. Samuel R. Wells, 359 Broadway New York.

We have also received from the same publisher *The Illustrated Annual Phrenology Physiognomy* for 1874. It contains eighty large octavo pages, with more than fifty engravings, representing Heads, Faces, Mouths, Noses, good and bad with signs of character, &c. &c.—On the whole it is the best annual ever issued.

Ward's Household Magazine for March is a capital number. Contents: The Guilding Hand; Experience in the City; Waiting; My Prayer; Louis Agassiz; The Fortune Teller; To Yourself; My First Mystery; The Weekly Diabolical; The Capture of Andre; Where we Are; The Kaiser Frederick; Misery Jippenau; True Blessedness; Old Growler; Chirpy's Bough; Design for School House. The Magazine contains six illustrations, including a fine design for a Country School House. Terms only one dollar a year—with chromo Yosemite \$14.