

THE IRISH WIFE.

BY THE LATE T. D'ARCY M'GRH.

I would not give my Irish wife
For all the dames of Saxon land—
I would not give my Irish wife
For the Queen of France's hand.
For she to me is dearer
Than castles strong, or lands, or life—
In death I would be near her
And rise beside my Irish wife.

Oh, what would be this home of mine—
A ruined, hermit-haunted place—
But for the light that nightly shines,
Upon its walls from Kathleen's face?
What comfort is a mine of gold—
What pleasure in a royal life—
If the heart within lay dead and cold,
If I could not wed my Irish wife?

I know the law forbid the bans—
I know my king abhor'd her race,
Who never bent before their clans,
Must bow before their ladies' grace.
Take all my forfeited domain—
I can not wage with kinsmen strife—
Take knightly gear and noble name,
And I will keep my Irish wife.

My Irish wife has clear blue eyes,
My heaven by day, my stars by night;
And twain-like truth and fondness lie
Within her swelling bosom white;
My Irish wife has golden hair—
Apollo's harp had once such strings—
Apollo's self might pause to hear
Her bird-like carol when she sings.

RIFLE MATCHES.

RIFLE MATCH.—The return match between the Bayfield and Exeter volunteer companies took place in Bayfield, on the 17th ult. The weather unfortunately turned out most unpropitious, blowing a gale during the time, sometimes in gusts. Good shooting was out of the question—Exeter won by seven points.

RIFLE MATCH. The first match between the Sarnia Artillery and Sarnia Infantry Companies took place at the Point Edward range on the 17th ult. The day was fine, but a cold wind blew in stray gusts almost directly across the range, which is in a very exposed position. The highest score was made by Mr Chas. Fisher, the Battalion Sergeant Major, who fired with the Infantry squad.

The Volunteer review held at Portsmouth on Easter Monday was the grandest display of the kind which has yet occurred. There were 15 Brigades of Volunteer Infantry, amounting to upwards of 30,000 men, and a force of Regular Cavalry, Infantry and Artillery, numbering about 10,000 men; so that in all an army of about 40,000 was brought into the field. Twenty or thirty gunboats participated in the sham fight.

RIFLE MATCH.—A competition took place on Friday afternoon at the Ranges of the Victoria Rifle Club, between twenty members of the Independent Infantry Companies, and a like number of picked men belonging to the 29th Regiment. It will be remembered that two matches came off last summer between the same opponents, on both occasions the Independents coming off victorious. The tables were turned yesterday, however, the Regulars firing splendidly and winning the match. Several good shots belonging to the Independents, unaccustomed

ably made very low scores. We understand that a return match will shortly be held. Alderman Murison made the highest score, and not Alderman Chisholm as reported in the *Times*.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

CANADIAN ITEMS.

Her Majesty's transport ship *Himalaya* sailed on the 25th ultimo for Halifax and Quebec with detachments for the different regiments serving in this part of the Empire.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CONFEDERATION.—It is stated that negotiations for the admission of British Columbia into the Confederation are in a forward state, and that it is probable the Government will introduce a measure before the end of the session to provide for its admission, and for the representation of the Province in the Dominion Parliament.

The funeral of the late Michael Murphy took place in Toronto on the 14th instant, and was attended by about 300 people on foot, and 33 cabs and private conveyances. Everything was conducted in a quiet and orderly manner. The body was taken to St. Michael's cathedral, where religious services took place, and from thence to the Roman Catholic burying ground near Yorkville. A squad of police, with an officer, were in attendance.

We understand that it is proposed to hold a meeting of the Volunteer Officers of this County at Carleton Place, on Friday, the 1st day of May next, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of deciding the best time and place for competing for the two Peabody Rifles presented by the Hon. Wm. McDougall and Alexander Morris, Esq. M. P., to the Volunteers of Lanark. Also, to consider the propriety of applying to the Minister of Militia for the organization of a Volunteer Battalion for Lanark; and also, to take steps for the organization of a County Rifle Association in connection with the Dominion Association; and to consider other matters of importance to the Volunteers of this County. In order to give effect to the movement, it is necessary that every Officer should make it a point to be present, and they are earnestly requested to attend.—*Almonte Gazette*.

THE WIMBLEDON TEAM.—The *Halifax Express* of the 30th has the following:—"We see it stated that an effort will be made this year to send some of the Canadian marksmen to Wimbledon, and that the Dominion Government are disposed to view the matter favorably. If the subject is taken in hands by the government, we hope they will not confine the selection to Canada. The firing of Bedford last year, compared with the Wimbledon shooting at the same ranges, is vastly in favor of our marksmen, and we doubt much if some of the scores of our Militia and Volunteers, have ever been beaten. In the eighth competition, the silver service was won by Color-Sergeant T. J. Walsh, of the "Halifax Rifles," who, in three rounds, at the 500 yards' range, scored 12—three bulls-eyes—the highest number obtainable; while Sergeant Wm. Metzler, of the 1st Brigade Halifax Militia Artillery, in the competition for the ladies' cup, carried off the prize by the handsome score of 53, closely followed by Lieutenant P. Archibald, making 51 points out of 60. We hope the Provincial Rifle Association will bring

the claims of Nova Scotia prominently before the government, in the event of competitors from the Dominion going to Wimbledon."

NAVAL SCHOOLS.—Captain P. Fortin, formerly commander of the Government steamer for the protection of the fisheries, now representative for Gaspé, has brought before parliament the subject of establishing schools for the instruction of young men who desire to adopt a seafaring life. We translate the principle parts of his plan:—"Government would engage ship captains able to give sufficient instruction in the several branches of the art of navigation. They would be distributed among the principal ports of the Dominion, and, during the long winter months, they would open classes which, under certain regulations, could be followed without cost by all the young men in this country who are already engaged in, or who intend to follow, maritime occupations. Each of these schools would not cost more than \$2,000, including salary of professor and every expense. Now, supposing that we have four of these schools in each province, or sixteen in all, it would cost only \$32,000, an insignificant sum when compared to what is spent for education in other sciences and military instruction. Our pilots and coasters would receive there much useful knowledge, and in a very few years we would obtain a good and very effective class of mariners. In connection with these schools of navigation, I would suggest the establishment of a practical naval school on board a vessel; one of those employed by Government for the protection of the revenue or of the fisheries." Mr. Fortin cites in support of his proposition the examples of England, France, Austria, Prussia, Sweden and Norway, where much trouble is taken to secure good instruction for the seamen.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Owl* says that Sir John Pakington is to be made minister of Education, and that General Peel will take his place at the War office.

NAPOLEON'S NEW GUN.—The *Nouveliste de Rouen* thus describes the Mitrailleuse, a new instrument of war, partly invented by the Emperor Napoleon:—"Imagine a coffee mill half a yard in height, with an opening at the top half a yard in diameter. Into this the cartouches are shovelled, and by means of a wheel, turned by a handle, the soldier who works the instrument lets a single cartouche fall into each of the eight barrels of the 'mitrailleuse.' These barrels are about a yard in length. As the trigger falls on the cap it closes the barrels, the shots are fired, and the wheel in turning re-opens the barrels, relocks the trigger, and lets other cartouches assume the places of those discharged. This instrument worked by a single soldier, discharges from fifty to fifty-five shots a minute, and is effective at one thousand seven hundred yards."

"We have been furnished," says the *Journal de Paris*, "with some curious details relative to the inhabitants of the Hotel des Invalides. That asylum contains ordinarily a population of 13,000 old soldiers, the great minority of whom at this moment belong to