

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. D'Israeli has been elected Lord Rector of the Glasgow University.

Scott Russell has published a letter defending and explaining the alliance of the Peers and workingmen; he says if the late lamented Prince Albert was alive he would have headed the movement; all true gentlemen and Christians will well believe that.

Large deputations from Paris waited on the Empress Eugenie on her birthday (15th Nov.) with addresses; the officers and men of the late Imperial Guard sent bouquets and other presents.

Mr. Gladstone assured his constituents at Greenwich that England was at peace with the world and repeated the sentiment at the Lord Mayor's banquet on 9th Nov. The inference to be drawn is that a stiff contest is imminent.

The Royal Warrant re-organizing the army has been issued; it is very voluminous, not very revolutionary, but its promoters say it is a mere provisional measure.

It is reported that the British Government is about to purchase the Atlantic Telegraph Cable.

Pigott, editor of the Dublin *Irishman*, has been convicted of libelling the Chief Justice, and sentenced to six months hard labor.

Hundreds of persons attended the fete of the Madeline in Paris, on 15th Nov., in expectation of participating in the celebration of the mass for the health of the Empress Eugenie; for some reason not given it was not celebrated.

The trial of Blanqui had commenced before the court martial.

It is said the Pope is about to proclaim himself King of Rome and to take up his residence at Paris.

The appointment of French Ministers has been made, Guizot to England, Duc de Brogli to Austria, Picard to Belgium, Fleury to the United States, and Goulard to Italy.

President Thiers proposes at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly next month to end the Provisional Government and establish a definite Republic. Take care M. le President, December is an Imperial month, has seen *coup d'Etat* before 1871, and the star of the Bonapartist is generally in the ascendant.

The Moscow *Gazette* counsels Russia to demand the restoration of Northern Schleswig to Denmark as a means of neutralizing Prussian power on the Baltic.

The arbitrators under the Washington Treaty have met and organized.

In the United States public attention has been aroused to the doings of the Tammany ring, the Klu Klux Klan in the Southern States and the Mormons at Salt Lake.

The new Attorney General of the State of New York intends to prosecute the authors of the New York frauds and President Grant is said to be determined to put down the other nuisances. Great disappointment is felt at the non-arrival of the Russian fleet.

Sir John A. Macdonald is recovering from his illness.

A great dinner was given to the Hon. Mr. Pope at Sherbrooke and it is reported that the Hon. Dr. Tupper is about to exchange offices with the Hon. H. L. Langevin.

Affairs are quiet in Manitoba; the reinforcement is expected to get through easily.

RIFLE MATCHES.

RETURN RIFLE MATCH - HALTON VS. GUELPH.

The return match between the Halton and Guelph Rifle Clubs came off at Stewarttown on the 9th inst., 8 men a side, 200, 400 and 500 yards, 5 rounds to each range. The day was an exceedingly beautiful one and very favourable to marksmen. The Halton marksmen were anxious to retrieve the laurels lost by them at the match in Guelph and felt pretty confident of being able to do so. As will be seen from the score, however, the keen eyes and steady nerves of the Guelphs were again too much for them, the result being 345 to 313. After the match the competitors sat down to a first-class dinner at Mr. Duncan Stewart's hotel, where the men of Guelph proved themselves as adept at the use of the knife and fork as they are known to be in handling the rifle. The following is the score.

	GUELPH.		
	200 yds	400 yds	500 yds
George A. Bruce	15	14	10
John Stewart	12	11	14
John C. Evans	15	18	15
Alfred Strowger	14	14	14
James Stirton	15	18	15
James Hazelton	13	17	15
Martin Deadly	14	13	13
H. L. Walker	15	18	13
Totals	113	123	109 345
	HALTON.		
	200 yds	400 yds	500 yds
Captain Johnson	15	16	11
Ensign Cooper	11	15	15
H. Tost	14	15	10
Sergt. H. Spiers	13	17	14
Thos. Boll	16	12	9
W. Barnes	13	17	7
D. McKerlie	11	10	8
Walter McKay	11	19	14
Totals	104	121	88 330

THE GUELPH RIFLE CLUB AND RIFLE SHOOTING.

To the Editor of the *Mercury*.

DEAR SIR.—The "Sharp shooters" of the Town of Guelph have again maintained their reputation as marksmen, having won every challenged match this year, beating the men of Elora, Fergus, Galt, and Halton, and defeating all opposition whether on their own range, or the ranges of their opponents!

The Guelph Rifle Club is well aware that this noble Dominion of ours must be protected by our citizen soldiers, and our brave volunteers.

They are also well aware that Napoleon First always feared the deadly aim of the Tyrolean Rifle-men, for he said, they gave him more trouble than all the rest of the Austrian army. They know too, that Montenegro, with a population of only one hundred thousand, maintained its independence

in spite of that warlike nation the Turks, who conquered and possessed all the surrounding country. In the year A. D. 1796 the Turks invaded Montenegro with this manifesto, "Unconditional surrender or extermination," but the brave mountaineers with rifle in hand, obeyed the summons by making each Turkish heart a bull's-eye, until thirty thousand Turks lay dead on the mountains, peaks and ridges of the land they had invaded, and those who escaped retreated in great disorder till they were completely out of range of the ever after dreaded and feared Montenegro Riflemen.

Yours &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Guelph Nov. 6th, 1871.

—Guelph Mercury.

CONCLUDING REMARKS ON THE AUTUMN MANOEUVRES.

(From the *Saturday Review*.)

A desire to preserve due logical sequence in our criticism of the autumn manoeuvres has led us to abstain hitherto from taking up several loose threads which however important in themselves, were not necessary to our immediate purpose. We shall now notice briefly some of these. For instance, one of the great features of the recent campaign has been the topographical ignorance it has disclosed. The ignorance has been exhibited both by the Staff and by those who have assumed the task of censuring, correcting, and educating them. Not only quartermasters-general, but their friends, philosophers, and guides, the Special Correspondents, have been at fault in this respect. For about a month all the newspapers were crowded with letters headed "The Hampshire Campaign." The public may therefore be somewhat surprised to learn that only a very small and the least important of the operations took place in that country.

The War office authorities seem to have profited little on this head by the experience of the French, and to have almost ignored the importance of providing an army with good maps. They did, it is true, issue maps, but these were on too small a scale to be very useful, and were moreover obsolete. It is not, however, to be expected that large-scale detailed maps of an enemy's country should always be available, and it is part of the duty of the Quartermaster-General's Department to cause supplementary sketches to be executed before the commencement of operations. During the recent manoeuvres but little field-sketching seems to have been attempted, save by a few students of the Staff College, who were chiefly employed on reconnaissances performed only a few hours before an action. The result was that columns occasionally became involved in what, without the aid of good maps, constituted a labyrinth of roads, and that frequently distances were so miscalculated that large bodies of troops arrived too late to execute the task assigned to them. Indeed, the opportunities of obtaining an intimate topographical knowledge of the district seem to have been terribly wasted, except perhaps in the case of the Prussian officers, who, we may be sure, did not fail to gather and arrange information which they may hope to turn some day to practical account. We are inclined to think that, though all officers should be taught to execute rough, and Staff officers comparatively finished, sketches, yes, on the principle of a division of labour, there should in every army in the field be a regular topographical corps to which should also be assigned the duty of collecting statistics.