The Hamilton Times.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1899.

COMPOSITION OF THE BRITISH MILITIA.

A good deal of misunderstanding exists as to Great Britain's military. The militia of Great Britain is a force maintained for the purpose of augmenting the standing army in case of immediate national danger. It may be "embodied"-that is to say, placed in active military service within the confines of the United Kingdom-by royal proclamation. The occasion for the embodiment of the militia must first be communicated to Parliament if that body shall be in session; if not. Parliament must be convened within ten days after the issue of the royal proclamation. British militis officers are appointed and promoted by the sovereign, but obtain their final appointment on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenants of the various countles. The rank and file is ordinarily recruited by voluntary enlist ment for a period of six years; but if the quota of any county shall not be maintained it must be made up by a "ballot" (that is, draft) for the militia in the parishes of the counties thus deficient. In order that the force may be kept in a condition of mill. deficient. In order that the force may be kept in a condition of milltary efficiency the officers and men are subjected to an initiatory period of training not exceeding six months (the usual period is two months), and further annual training periods not exceeding fifty-six (usually twenty-

The infantry of the militia is organized in battallons, which are attached to the regiment of the regular army having its home depots in the inty from which the militia recruits may be drawn. Thus the pathy or support to England that he Royal Highlanders (the famous Black Watch), whose depot is at Perth, gerous fool by the name of Cham cotland, consists of two battalions fregulars, the first battalion (the Forty-second Infantry) being stationed Uat Subatha, in the Punjab, while the second battalion (the Seventy-third second battalion (the Seventy-third Infantry) is with General Methuen in South Africa. The third battalion consists of the Perth militia. Two and even three battalions of militia in a populous county may form part of the local or territorial regiment of the line. The uniforms of the militia battalions are identical with those of the line regiments to which they are attached, and the ordinary business of the battalions when not engaged in the annual muster and drill is conducted by a permanent staff consisting of an adjutant and a small bedy of non-commissioned officers. It will be seen, therefore, that the Brithsh militia is really a part of the regular army; but it is not intended to be employed beyond the boundto be employed beyond the boundaries of the United Kingdom. The volunteer forces of Great Bri-

tain cannot be required to serve in foreign parts, nor under any but their own chosen officers. The exist-Ing volunteer organizations of Great Britain had their origin in the scare 1859, when the regular army battalions at home depots had dwindled quence of the drafts made on them to quell the Indian mutiny, and when complications with France and the United States seemed imminent. The gineers and rifle corps, some few of the latter being mounted. The training of the volunteers, includes gun and rifle practice, encampments and marches. The volunteer rifle corps are inspected by and placed under the gen-Pral supervision of the regular army colonel in command of their regimental district, and together with the active army and militia battalions An effort is and the army reserves of the distriet the volunteers form a brigade.

The yeomanry, or volunteer cavalry, originated in the Napoleonic era-While the British standing army was being employed in the Peninbeing employed in the Lennis sular and other wars on the Continent of Europe it became necessary to provide other forces for the defence of the United Kingdom. A volunteer army was created

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The London News has been thinking over the boasts of the "slumps" from the Liberal ranks in certain cities, and the reasons given therefor by the gainers. It is not prepared to concede that these turnovers are "due to the superior facilities which town voters undoubtedly have over rural voters for keeping posted on political topics by means of the daily papers."On the contrary, it hints that it is altogether contrary, it hints that it is altogether in the political complexions of the centres of population are more often due to less creditable causes." It reasons

thus:

Some Ontario Tory, who is sure that his party has a corner on loy-alty, ought to take a turn through the Eastern Townships, where Mr-Charles Thibault, a prominent Con-servative stumper from Waterloo-has been denouncing the Government for sending a contingent to South Af. pearing in both calendars." war of England against the Boers was a criminal one. He warned any Canadian who would give any symwas furthering the scheme of a danberlain, and of a thief by the name of Rhodes. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had no right to ship a thousand Canadian and the smooth of the contingent and shameful for comparatively small area. Contain for comparatively small area contain the provide of comparative which wish to believe up stocks and augment, the synchology of the contingent and this must be paid by the Cama and augment the provide of comparative which wish to belater up stocks and augment the provide of comparative which wish to belate up stocks and augment the provide of comparative which wish to belate up stocks and augment the provided of the contained the provided of the contingent to the provided of the contained to the provided of the subjects to participate in that war, and for that, if for no other reason.

the world in which it is noon at that time. Other lines represent the other hours, and in this way it is

An effort is being made by Poles tucky and contiguous States. to have Chopin's remains transferred from Paris to Cracow, where they are to be placed in the royal vault on the Wawel hill, where for-mer kings of Poland and other great men lie buried. Chopin has given 2,000 florins toward the expenses, and the rest is to be raised among Poles, the plan being to make the occasion a great

card to the caller. It consists of a long slip of paper with the owner's name painted on one side in black ink.

In a recent lecture of the paper with the owner's name it fell upon him, and the painted on one side in black ink.

An interesting anniversary is to be celebrated soon in London, the jubilee of the Coal Exchange. It recalls the fact that in the fourteenth century the burning of coal was prohibited, and in the early days of Lord Mayor Whittington a man was actually hanged for indulging in a coal fire. The law has never been repealed.

A doctor of Lucke, in Germany, ancity amounting to one in thirty, and an average of one in fifty, that he has made a special series of observa-tions to endeavor to discover the cause of this high percentage. ways that some houses are veritable pest holes of cancer germs, and that his twenty-five years of research has traced the primary source of these germs to the roots of the cab bage, on which they breed.

It is announced that the Russian Astronomical Society has finally given up its attempt to revise the Julian calendar, and so the Muscovites still stand with Greece in clinging to the system of the first Caesar and against all Europe, defying the rec-

erect a large temple in Louisville, Ky. It will be used not only as a place of worship, but also as the central point from which missionaries will be sent

The British battleship Magnificent has four 12-inch, or 50-ton, guns, twelve 6-inch rapid firing guns, 16 12-pounders and magnificent at the Grand on Saturday weenings and Saturday might. where for and other pounders, and numerous machine guns FLAT EARTH PEOPLE.

Frederick of the Hotchkiss, Maxim, and Norden-TheBoers Think The Earth a Fixed feldt types, together with torpedo tubes, four of which are submerged. tubes, four of which are submerged.
Her guns weigh 4,000 tons. The batfleships Illustrious, Jupiter, Majestic
and Mars are very little behind the
compatible for his kenorance. His

backward, bruising Dr. Playfair as

In a recent lecture delivered at Liverpool Dr. William Carter pointed out that the deaths directly attributed to intemperance in 1896 were 91 per 1,000,000 among males and 52 per 1,000,000 among females; the rate is constantly increasing and that the deaths are increasing among women far more rapidly and in a far greater ratio than among men.

AT THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Theatrical Attractions of To-day and

There will be two performances of "The Three Musketeers" at the Grand to-day, matinee and night, and the The Three aussetters at the Grand to-day, mathine and night, and the theutre should be crowded at each, as this is one of the best holiday attractions theatregoers of Hamilton have had the good fortune to witness. The company, which is headed by Mr. Harry Glazier, is said to be an excellent one, while special attention has been given to the scenle effects. To give an idea of the magnitude of modern stage setting, it might be mentioned that over 70,000 square feet of canvas are used in the scenery. Among the scenic gems are the court-yard of the inn at Meung in the first act, and the ruins of Fort St. Leon, on the outskirts of Paris, in the second. The interior of the ship's cabin in act 5 is a reproduction from an old cut. The throne room of Louis XIII. In net 6 is taken from an old painting in the is taken from an old painting in the Louvre DEVIL'S ISLAND.

against all Europe, defying the rectification of Pope Gregory XIII. The reason assigned for its failure is given out by the Astronomical Society as the "impossibility of establishing an agreement between the dates of the religious festivals appearing in both calendars."

The Rev. Charles G. Ames, of the Church of Disciples, of Boston, who has been a minister fifty years, says: "I have been cheered at every stage"

Louvre

DevIL'S ISLAND.

Vera De Noie's production of "Devil's Island," founded on the Dreyfus case, by Vera De Noie and Arthur D. Hall, is to be given at the Grand to morrow night, and should draw well. The story of the play follows closely the career of Dreyfus. The first act opens in the grounds of Gen. Regaud's Parisian residence, at which a reception to the offeign legations is being given. Capt. De La Tour (Dreyfus) is the husband of Pauline, a niece of Gen. Regaud's. De La Tour is a Jew, and has inhas been a minister fifty years, says:
"I have been cheered at every stage
by very precious companionships. It
is a great thing to have touched the
hands of Garrison, Phillips, Greeley
and Lincoln; of Bryant, Emerson,
Whittier and Holmes; to have known
Hedge, Clarke, Furness, Lucretia Mott
and Frances Willard, with many
others."

of Pauline, a niece of Gen. Regaud's.
De La Tour is a Jew, and has in current of the hatted of Prince Orloft
(Esterhazy), who is a Rus ian spy in
the pay of Germany. Countess Nina
Fetrovsky, known as "La Petite
biable," is a woman of the Camille
stamp, in love with De La Tour. On
his declaration that he loves only his
wife, Nina enters into a pot with
Orloff to ruin the man who has
spurned her. The second act show the
general's headquarters in the Palais

NOTES.
The sale of seats for the Broad-hurst comedy, "Why Smith Left Home," will open Wednesday morn-ing. The great comedy will pe pre-sented of the Grand pays. Fisiday from which missionaries will be sent to various cities and towns in Ken tucky and contiguous States.

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THE RIGHT HOUSE

THE RIGHT HOUSE

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Same to You.

To-day all the world makes merry. For it's Christmas, the olliest day in all the year.

This store wishes for its thousands of friends and patrons the erriest kind of a Christmas, and many happy returns of the day.

We thank you, too, for having made our Christmas trade so ecessful this season-the biggest this store has known. We surassed ourselves in getting ready for it—made greater preparations han ever before, and it's gratifying to have received such generous upport from you. Very encouraging. Thank you!

It's likely that many people bought Christmas things at this ore who don't always come here. If you're one of them-you'll find this just as good an every-day store as a Christmas store. You can't do better than come here all the time. Good habit to get into: buying here always. There's never any lack of interest at The Right House, Christmas times or other times.

To-morrow this store will be open and ready for business as sual. If you've any friends staying with you for the Holidays remember that a visit to Hamilton isn't complete without seeing through The Right House-Hamilton's leading store and one of

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Why not let your present be a pair of Fancy Slippers? We can give you some rare good good the prettlest Slippers shounds are produce. These are a few of our prices: \$2.50 dies Extra Fine Fatent Calf Slippers, price \$3.50. BARCAIN IN LADIES' BOOTS. Ladies' Extra Choice Box Calf Boots, price \$3.00, Christmas price Ladies' Vici Kid Button Boots, new toe, price \$2.75, MEN'S FANCY SLIPPERS.

Over 20 styles of Menis American and Canadian Slippers to select from the Vici Kid Slippers, in lawyer or black, the Vici Kid Slippers, in lawyer or black, 20,0, now Menis Dongola Romeo Slippers, price \$1.75, now Menis Fancy Embroidered Plush Slippers \$1,0, now Menis Fancy Embroide

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gate the probabilities of the disease spreading to the rest of Europe. Two

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