

## FOREIGN MILITARY ITEMS.

The British Volunteer Force now musters 180,000 men of all arms and ranks.

The distribution of the Banda and Kirwee prize money in England will commence on the 24th inst.

The maintenance of the English troops employed in the Abyssinian expedition is to be provided for out of the revenues of India.

The O'Donoghue has subscribed to the fund which is being raised in Dublin for the defence of Allen and his fellow prisoners.—*Daily News*.

The New York Church Union, in a vigorous and high-toned editorial, proposes Frederick Douglas, the famous colored orator, as the next President of the United States.

**THE FRENCH ARMY.**—A decree of the 7th instant reduces the minimum standard of height for the French cavalry by 2 centimetres (4.5ths of an inch) to 1 m, 70 c., or 5 feet 7 inches English.

All reliable information seems to intimate that there is a close understanding between Russia and Persia. Russia persistently advances, and it is thought will immediately intervene in the affairs of Cabul. Bokhara is virtually a feudatory of the Czar. There is really nothing strong now or independent, between Russia on the Oxus and the British at Peshawar.

The Abyssinian correspondent of the *Standard*, writing from Alexandria on the 7th says:—The purchasing of horses and beasts of burden for the Abyssinian expedition progresses very slowly at present, at least so far as Egypt is concerned. None have yet been sent down to Suez; indeed, it is a current joke among the resident Alexandrians that one mule has been at present purchased, and contracts entered into for forage for it.

**UNREQUESTED SERVICES.**—Sir James Simpson, in closing his address at the British Social Science Congress, said:—"The lance of Jenner has saved more lives than the sword of Napoleon destroyed. If a man slaughtered 50,000 of his fellow-creatures, he was made a Marquis; if 100,000, a Duke; and for saving 30,000,000 every twenty five years, Jenner was rewarded with £30,000. He had, no doubt, had a statue erected to him in Trafalgar-square, but it had been taken down to make way for a statue of one of the fighting Napiers. Where it was now, he (Sir James Simpson) did not know, but he hoped that the Reformed Parliament would do justice to his name."

**A BIT OF SAD ROMANCE.**—A young soldier of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry, known by the name of Charles G. Sachow, died in New Orleans on the 20th ult. He was a sergeant-major in the U. S. service during the war, and afterwards re-enlisted in the cavalry service, and was detailed as clerk at General Mower's headquarters. In his delirium, Sachow often called for his mother, and sometimes uttered with tenderness the name of "Rosa." Since his death, it has been revealed that "Sachow" was an assumed name; that he was really a son of the celebrated

Count Von Moltke, chief of the staff of the King of Prussia; and that he was a young man of superior talents, fine education, and the pride of his family; but, led away by dissipated habits, he had broken from his father and had been an unknown wanderer for six years.

**THE FRENCH ARMAMENTS.** Great activity has been displayed with the improved armaments of the French forces, and those of the artillery, comprising a number of new pieces destined for the military conscriptions, have just been despatched from the arsenals. Improvements in cavalry arms are also a subject of increasing attention. As to the New Chassepot Gun, a very considerable number of these arms have been turned out, either transformed from the old model or entirely new. It is stated that in less than two months from this time no fewer than 600,000 of these weapons will have been delivered to the troops.

**HARD ON THE FENIANS.**—Most of General Grant's good qualities have had a hearty recognition, but we are afraid the people have not yet appreciated his fine sense of humor. It seems that Andrew Johnson got frightened the other day because two or three hundred colored men in Washington had organized themselves into a volunteer militia regiment, and General Grant was ordered to disband them as 'unauthorized by law.' The General thereupon issued an order disbanding all military organizations in the District, which were unauthorized by law, and the blow Andrew aimed at the freedmen has spread havoc in the camps of his own friends. The Fenians and the Schutzen corps have to give up their guns and in trying to damage the negroes, the President has roused the ire of the men whom he specially delights to honor.—[N. Y. Tribune.

About a fortnight since a proprietor of Campagna was seized by a band of brigands, who cut off an ear and sent it to his father, with a demand for 1000 ducats. Instead of the money, the Guards were sent, who found the body of the poor fellow shot and tied with a cord. Another gentleman, a Baron Risis, received a letter from a brigand chief containing a demand for the modest sum of 500 ducats, under menace of death or damage to his property. The baron set the chief at defiance, but he made his appearance at the country house of the Baron and compelled the workpeople to put a quantity of straw in one of the rooms, which was lit, and the villa destroyed with the loss of 30,000 lire. Four of the workmen were carried off hostages. From this place the band went to the house of a Signor Paleopoli and shot 15 cows.

**A WONDERFUL WOMAN.**—About half past nine o'clock on Wednesday evening last a lady named Mary Annod died at her residence in Brooklyn at the age of 110 years. Her death was occasioned from injuries sustained by a fall some three weeks since. She was born in Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1757. Her parents died when she was about two years of age, and she lived to see the closing of the revolutionary war, of 1812, the Mexican war, and the war of the rebellion. She was one of that band of women who, during the war of 1812, assisted in throwing up the fortifications on Fort Green. Her habits were very regular throughout her life; she was always active, and seldom in ill-health. She had five children living, the eldest being 70 years of age and the

youngest 55. Her descendants number 160, reaching to the fifth generation.—*New York World*.

The Russian *Military Magazine* publishes an official statement relative to the Russian army. It says that at the beginning of 1866 the army consists of 30,507 general, staff, and other officers, and 798,151 sub-officers and men. Of the latter, 626,004, or 78 per cent, were infantry; 68,673, or 9 per cent, cavalry; 84,392, or 11 per cent, artillery, and 19,082, or 2 per cent, engineers. The total number of troops ready to take the field was 575,413, including 466,415 infantry; 48,005 cavalry. During the present year the only regiment that was placed on the war footing was the 37th Infantry, which had been sent out to reinforce the troops at Oranburgh. It is also officially stated that since last year the Russian army has been diminished by two generals 547 officers, 150 civil employes, 98,063 sub-officers and men, and 6,863 horses. The district where the smallest military force is kept, is that of Riga, where 18 battalions of infantry are stationed, with 12 guns. At St. Petersburg there are 72 battalions of infantry, 48 squadrons of cavalry, and 88 guns; at Moscow, 104 battalions of infantry, 36 squadrons of cavalry, and 96 guns; and at Warsaw, 128 battalions of infantry, 32 squadrons of cavalry, 66 sotnias of Cossacks, and 243 guns.

In writing about the inauguration of a statue to Prince Schwartzemberg, who commanded the allied continental armies in 1813, the correspondent of the *London Times* contrasts the soldiers of Austria then with those he saw before him. "They looked as smart as ever," says he, "but how different from what they had been in the time of coats, monstrous shakos and flintlocks. There are still the white uniforms and the white crossbelts, both of them looking so well, but giving so much trouble; but the coats have become smart tunics, the stocks have been replaced by neckties, the shako has become small, the heavy musket a breech-loader, the rigid ponderous infantry soldier a light rifleman, in whose swinging active step you would hardly recognize the successor of the clumsy, heavy Austrian soldier of old. Nor does the change stop there; it is as if the race of the Austrian infantry soldier had changed. Formerly, he was a strong, well-seasoned man, and his officers were mostly young. Now the soldiers are mere boys, and their officers—above all the superior ones—decidedly old." This change, he says, has been going on since 1848, when the old practice of buying out commissions up to captaincies, was changed for a strict system of seniority. The rigor with which the new plan had been enforced is now relaxing, and commissions are again to be bought.

**THE SHOEBURNESS GUNNERY EXPERIMENTS.**—The first of the Hercules guns, 400 pounders, on the Fraser plan, was fired for range and accuracy on Thursday at Shoeburness, and appears likely to prove a strong gun and a good shooter. The elevation was only one degree, and the charges were 60 lbs, or 64 lbs. of the large grain of the new pellet powder. The average range of seven shots was 855 yards, and the deflection, although there was a strong wind, was in no case more than a yard. The Dyer fuzes, improved by the Elswick Company, were also tried, and the modification answered perfectly the end aimed at, namely, the prevention of premature explosions.—*Standard*.