

## THE AUTUMN MANOEUVRES.

## THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS.

(From the Broad Arrow, Sept. 7.  
(Continued from Page 569.)

TUESDAY, AUG. 29

We hear Col. Baker is taking the greatest pains to exercise both officers and men in that most important of all cavalry duty, outpost work. Non-commissioned officers and men have to send in reports, and, if possible, sketches of the ground over which they have worked, information concerning the enemy's movements, and in short all the manifold details which, when worked into a whole, are, as the late war has conclusively shown, of the highest possible value to an army in the field. Whilst on the subject, says a correspondent, it might be well to ask whether some better weapon than the old horse pistol, which they still carry might not be served out to our Lancers. A Hussar on outpost duty is not only of double efficiency thanks to his carbine against an enemy's outpost, but he is evidently much less likely to be attacked by villagers, than a man like a Lancer, who has practically no firearms at all, and may be shot at with the greatest impunity. Of course it is impossible to give Lancers a Snider carbine; they carry quite enough in all conscience, as it is; but a serviceable Colt revolver does not probably weigh more than, if it weighs as much as, the stupid service pistol, which, though an excellent thing to throw at a man's head, is of little use to shoot with. A clever trick was performed by some men of the Rifle Brigade yesterday. Having been lucky enough by stealing down hedges to stalk and capture a Dragoon vilette, they marched off with their prisoner and stationed him behind a hedge over which his polished brass helmet could be distinctly seen by his comrades. They then placed themselves by in ambush leaving a guard over their prisoner. The decoy was most successful, for two files of the prisoner's regiment seeing the glint of their brother troopers helmet in the sun, cantered confidently down, unsuspecting of danger, and were captured by the Rifle-men."

The following foreign officers came across from Salisbury today, to the camp of the southern army namely—General Count Pralossoff Backmetieff, Adjutant General to the Emperor of Russia, commanding the Chevalier Guards; Col. E. Ovander, of the Russian Artillery; Col. Kuttassoff, Russian Military Attaché in England, and Captain Von Koch, of the Royal Swedish Horse Guards. They were received by Sir John Michel, who at once took measures for showing them all there was to be seen in camp. Unfortunately it came on to rain heavily soon after their arrival. Thereupon the pleasantest way of escape was to act on the invitation of Mr. Gerard Sturt, M. P. and drive over to luncheon at Critche, where everything was done to make the afternoon pass agreeably. At Critche the Duke of Teck and the Princess Mary arrived in the evening. Lord Shaftesbury prints the following testimonial to the conduct of the southern army encamped on Blandford Down, near his lordship's residence, St. Giles's House:—

"Much alarm had been excited by the announcement of their intended arrival, and letters were addressed to me from that district, full of apprehensions. But on Friday last, some time after their occupation of the ground, I was assured, by the very persons who had entertained fears of licence and disorder, that not a single case of complaint

had occurred, and that, on the contrary, the troops had behaved themselves in a manner the most praiseworthy and becoming. This has been confirmed to me by my friend Lord Portman, whose great experience as a magistrate renders his opinion of high value. On the next day I was startled by the information at an early hour that some 10,000 of these men had taken possession of my Downs. I was delighted to hear it, and joined them as soon as possible. The day was sultry and oppressive, and yet these gallant fellows, after a march of fourteen miles were standing out under a broiling sun, unwilling without permission to go into the woods, which were all around them, for shelter. In a few minutes, however, hundreds of them were first asleep under the shade of the trees. The 1st division under Sir A. Horsford, remained three days; and I am only speaking the sentiments of every one in the neighborhood, when I say that for order, discipline, and civility, nothing could have surpassed them. After service on Sunday, hundreds, I may say thousands bathed in the river, and walked and strolled about my garden; and I am assured that not a leaf is missing not a flower bed trampled on. The farmers and peasantry have received them with open arms, and I hear nothing but expressions of delight and wonder at such quietness and sobriety. Of course, I cannot presume to give any military opinions, but, apart from military considerations, I will venture to assert that to train men to such order, self-restraint and liberal obedience, cannot fail to have the very noblest results of a moral character. I am very much disposed to think that the army will, under the new regulations of Mr. Cardwell, whom I heartily congratulate, form one of the best schools of adult education. I cannot but recommend these facts, and facts they are, to the consideration of those gentlemen who pronounce the English soldier to be among the most disorderly and immoral of mankind. The 1st Division was replaced by the 2nd Division under General Brownrigg, and I heartily repeat on their behalf, what I said in respect of that under Sir A. Horsford; and I firmly believe that a finer set of fellows, both officers and men, for intelligence, activity, zeal, discipline and good humor were never brought together in defence of their country."

SATURDAY, AUG. 31st.

*Northern Army.*—The 3rd and 4th Divisions, with the headquarters of the northern army, resumed their march this morning from Hungerford, Froxfield and other parts of the country lying between Hungerford and Pewsey, over which the troops were quartered upon ground rough in some places and wet and dirty everywhere. The rain ceased late in the afternoon, and a sunny morning favored the last stage of the week's march from Aldershot to Pewsey. The three regiments of Household Cavalry made a halt in Saverwake forest, and the officers and troopers enjoyed the hospitality of the Marquis of Aylesbury, whose regiment of Wiltshire Cavalry will be quartered near the Life Guards. The Pewsey people are very demonstrative—lustily cheering the two brigades as they marched through the streets of that town to the splendid camping ground on the borders of Salisbury plain. The postal telegraph station here, is now in direct communication with the metropolis by two circuits. The detour made by the Household Cavalry at Saverwake considerably delayed their arrival on the camping ground.

"It may be said at once," the correspondent of the *Daily News* wrote, "that a confu-

sion amounting to absolute chaos characterized most of the day's proceedings. There were two elements of confusion, the arrival of troops by rail, and the arrival of others by road. A considerable portion of the baggage, owing to the defects of the transport arrangements still remain at the railway station. The knapsacks of the staff sergeants are missing, and men have found themselves forced to camp upon mud without the waterproof sheet and the blankets which the regulations prescribe for each. The Aberdeenshire Militia, for instance, were three hours on their camping ground before a scrap of their baggage reached them from the railway station, and they only got it then through the neighborly kindness of one of the regular regiments of the brigade to which they belong, which sent its regimental transport wagon for the purpose. An effort is being made to prevail on the Militia regiment which it had been promised would be furnished by the Control Department; at least in the meantime, to have their supplies conveyed for them by casual Army Service Corps vehicles, and the regimental wagons belonging to the regiments with which they may be brigaded. Strong representations against this have been made and it is certain that the work cannot be well done unless the compact entered into by the published regulations is carried out. As yet there is at least one Militia regiment which has not had assigned to it so much as a water cart. It is true that a water cart is a superfluity to day, but it may be sultry tomorrow, although it must be confessed it does not look much like it now. One Militia regiment—the 2nd Stafford—which belongs to the 1st General Parke's brigade marched from the railway station at about half past two. At five o'clock the regiment was still standing in the rain partly sheltering under the lee of some haystacks close by the road which dissects the camp of Anderson's and Parke's brigades. The men were waiting with a cheery patience, which did them immense credit, for their tents, to pitch which they had sent forward an advance party. The tents had been pitched and that, too, on the spot where it had been arranged that the regiment should encamp with its brigade at Woodbridge. The arrangement sanctioned by the general commanding the division was that one brigade that of Anderson, should encamp at Woodbridge, and that the other two should go to Pewsey. The matter was, on the face of it, an intra-divisional one, and it is a principle in every way conducive to the success of military operations, that divisional details should be interfered with as little as may be by any authority outside the division. No doubt the general commanding the army considered that there existed sufficient reasons for disregarding this wholesome axiom, when he gave orders on the ground that the 1st Brigade should not proceed to Woodbridge along with the 3rd, but should camp at Pewsey along with the 2nd. This somewhat abrupt alteration had its inconveniences. There was a long block in the narrow road traversing the village of Pewsey, while the new direction was left to the baggage of the 1st Brigade. The tents of the Stafford Militia having been pitched at Woodbridge, it was necessary, since the regiment forms part of the 1st Brigade, that they should be struck, conveyed to Pewsey and repitched there; and it was while this operation was being performed that the regiment had to stand some two hours in the rain. It was in the supreme moment of chaos, as luck would have it, that a party of the foreign officers who are to attend the manoeuvres in an official capacity rode