

man officers in contradistinction to the French, as far as I have seen. Cavalry horses were of uniform size, color, and with tails "banged" to even lengths. They were evidently carefully trained as in the case of mounted bands of fifty and sixty men, and in the artillery they wheeled at the command without other apparent guidance though it may have been that of a spur.

The tactics in the manual differ greatly from ours, and are executed with most rapid motions—probably at the rate of 180 per minute. In many movements a regard is obviously had to the saving of time, such as coming from a "right shoulder shift" to an "order," to a "fix bayonets." By the way, at a right or "left shoulder shift," (which latter is the position of the piece when passing in review, the guards rests squarely on the shoulder; the band of the piece uppermost, the toe of the butt on the breast and the heel vertically above it. This gives ease to him who carries the musket and insures a perfect rake to all at an angle which cannot be conveniently varied.

In Austria, I noticed the pieces were generally "toted" with the right shoulder in the sling supporting the weight while the hand was useful merely in steadying the stock. This is a perfect index of the comparative laxity and deficiency inherent in the Austrian and Hungarian troops. Plank movements are combined with units of four in the Prussian tactics, and battalion movements are as easy and rapid as necessity might seem to require. In the review the troops passed twice before the king, being the second time in close column. Afterwards he was reformed and the king and staff passed in inspection from right to left only. At the same time the bands played simultaneously and until he had quitted the field, while as he approached, each regiment at command gave a short but loud acclamation. The discord was indescribable, but the noise, with the steadiness of the troops, made it not unimpressive.

At Potsdam, I saw the drilling of a large battalion, which is made up of constantly changing details from different barracks, which are thus combined in order to insure uniformity of drill. I never saw such execution, particularly in the manual, and yet I have always been proud enough of a few soldiers in New York to claim they couldn't be beaten. I should judge these unlucky fellows were practiced ten minutes in direct marching in squads, on the point which provides that the toe must strike the ground first.

Target practice is regularly and carefully maintained, and Potsdam echoed with sounds that rung like 22nd Regiment bull's eyes at Creedmoor. The troops have a bit of leather with a strap covering the front sight, means of which they are enabled to stack with bayonets unaxed. The bayonets are of the sword pattern, and bandsmen carry short swords.

I have had nothing to lead me into prejudice favorable to undue praise of these Germans; but I was speedily brought to see the secret of their strength and the reason why they so soon overpowered poor France; and I am satisfied they are invincible against the arms of any single nation, unless it be the overflowing hosts of Russia. The old heroic spirit and unrelenting discipline of the Romans seem to dwell in present force under the "coal scuttle" helmets of the *Deutsche*, and the laws of the kingdom enforce thoroughly the greatest necessity and best qualifications for all day fighters—an intelligent and educated mind. With such mechanical

perfection, such numerous and complete organization, such moral courage and trained reasoning faculties in such able leaders, who shall prevail against them?

J. W. C.

Lucerne, May 1, 1874.

REVIEWS.

Blackwood for May has the following articles:—The Story of Valentino and his Brother—Part V.; Hercules; Convivium Templare; Alice Lorraine, Part III; International Varieties, No V.; Dates and Dates; The Budget and the Income Tax; A Knight of Rhineland; Our Fair Wind. The Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 41 Barclay Street New York.

We have also received from the same firm the *London Quarterly* for April, the contents of which are as follows:—The War between Prussia and Rome; Samuel Wilberforce; The Medical Charities of London; Russian Advances in Central Asia; The alleged Apostasy of Wentworth (Lord Stratford); Political Caricatures; Gillray and his Successors; Irish Home Rule in the Eighteenth Century; Discoveries at Troy; The Fall of the Liberal Party.

The *Phrelogical Journal* for July contains a list of topics, which it would be difficult to improve, for the entertainment and instruction of its many readers. The matter is at once fresh, reasonable, crisp, and earnest. Witness the following: F. V. Hayden, the Geologist, with a fine portrait; The Dean of Chester England, with portrait; Vice and Crime—a clear consideration of man's negligence as the natural law; The Primeval Race Double Sexed—a curious essay, yet founded on some not unsound premises; Eyes: their difference and Significations—an elaborate and fascinating paper—thirty illustrations; Angus Worth, a story which ladies will appreciate; A Summer's Vacation, which tells how a party of thirty enjoyed themselves in the Rocky Mountains, and gives numerous off hand portraits; The Real Lady—a good pen-portrait of a noble character; How to Govern and Train Children—shall we Whip?—valuable suggestions to Parents; Prof. David Swing, with portrait—shows up that Chicago divine; Portrait and Sketch of J. Edgar Thomson. A humorous cartoon, hitting a certain fashion, closes the number pleasantly. Price, 30 cents; \$3 a year. Address S. R. WELLS, 389 Broadway, New York.

According to the last German army list the German army numbers now 1,324,910 men with 2,740 cannons. The field forces number 705,700, the field reserve forces 243,540, and the garrison troops 371,700 men.

Saturday the 25th was the 37th anniversary of Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, and was observed in various parts of England by the ringing of bells, firing salutes and the usual demonstration.

THE RECENT MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

We are inclined to believe that those who are charged with the administration of the Department of Militia and Defence are as a rule well pleased to receive from officers and others, who are interested in the Volunteer Force, hints or suggestions pointing to the attainment of a desirable improvement and efficiency. Militia officers are entitled to make representations of the kind we have indicated. In that direction they can indulge their dispositions for complaint, criticism, or advice. But a wholesome rule, of discipline closes to them the avenues of public discussion open to ordinary citizens. We find officers, and officers in command airing their grievances and indulging in criticism, not we should say of the most temperate kind either, through the medium of the public press, thus placing themselves in open conflict with the discipline to which they are understood to be subject, and which it is their duty to enforce in their command. We need not stigmatise the conduct of those who thus assume a freedom that they ought to know is not permitted to them, further than to say that it is grossly insubordinate and must be dealt with in that character. It is quite evident that no indulgence can be granted in a license that is so liable to be abused and to result in damaging consequences. We find an example of the kind of transgression of which we complain in the *Globe* of Monday last, in the form of a letter signed "Lieutenant Colonel," and which, we were pleased to see, received a well merited rebuke from the paper in which it appeared. The correspondent must scarcely have been impressed with the chances of his violent and, from him, highly improper communication finding favour even with those whose sympathies lay in *his* with his sentiments, much less with those who could form their position give early effect to suggestions properly conveyed.

Respecting the recent Militia General Orders, we still adhere to the opinion we expressed a few days ago. There may be, however, as intimated by the *Globe*, a few exceptional cases in which previous good character and perhaps active service establish claims to recognition superior to those of the average delinquents. These, it is not improbable, may yet be dealt with in a manner that will not impose upon them the reproach of having secured by favouritism a status to which, by the standard of their actual efficiency they were not entitled. Of the force coming within the scope of the General Order of the 2nd June, it is altogether probable that there may be some companies, perhaps battalions that may not be in a position to turn out. Such offences were not unknown in former years, and we have reason to believe that applications have already been made to the Department, in view of the approaching drill, by some corps that are sensible of their inability to meet the requirements of the Service. Should such prove to be the case there needs be no doubt that the Acting Adjutant General will select the more deserving of those who have come short of the standard fixed by the general order, the number requisite to replace those who will have declined to come forward. It will be highly satisfactory if a remedy for apparent grievances can be found in this unobjectionable way. There will be universal agreement with the *Globe* in its expressions of confidence in Lieut. Colonel Powell.—*Ottawa Times*.