

TORONTO RIFLE MATCH.

The weather was all that could be desired. Though the sun shone brightly from the sky, a dry, fresh breeze blowing from the south-east preserved a temperature most agreeable for outdoor work. It was neither too hot nor too cold, but as everybody who was there said, "just right." Shortly before eleven o'clock, the hour at which the contest commenced, the common presence of an animated appearance. A goodly number of the red-coats were present, mixed with the volunteers of the Active Force, and civilians of all sorts and conditions, all sizes and shapes, fat and thin, short and tall, genteel and shabby, and shabby genteel. There were groups listening to what some celebrated riflemen—the historians of his own exploits and to both history and prophecy they gave equal credence. There were men who were praising their own particular rifles; as beyond compare superior to all others; making assertions which were sure to cause controversy, only to be decided at the target itself. The men of the 30th were enthusiastic, as it was right they should be. They all appeared to agree that more or less of the prizes would be taken by some of their red-coated companions, but they by no means agreed in settling upon any particular man in the regiment as being most likely to win. On the contrary as appeared from their conversation, there was a very lively rivalry between the different companies, which leads to the most active discussions of the relative merits of their principal marksmen. And thus, in controversy and in bragging, in aiming at the targets and in sniping off of percussion caps, the time passed away until the hour for commencing the match had arrived.

While Lieut. Col Jarvis is calling over the names of the men who have entered to compete for the first prize offered, it may be well to examine the arrangements made for the firing, and to give such an explanation of the signals as will enable those visitors who may be upon the ground to-day fully to understand them. It is very dry and uninteresting to look at the men firing their rifles and to know nothing more. Of such business people soon weary. But when, by understanding the signals, spectators are able to compare the chances of rival marksmen, the sport becomes enjoyable, and, to many highly exciting.

About five hundred yards west of the new garrison the men of Her Majesty's 30th regiment have thrown up a large rifle "butt," an oblong mound of earth, running north and south. The eastern face of the mound is flat and well tilled. Opposite each end of the "butt," at a distance of between thirty and forty yards, is a conical mound, in each of which, on the side nearest the "butt," a cavity has been made large enough to hold two or three men, and opposite the centre of the "butt," at about double the distance, is a third mound of similar construction. These mounds are used as signal houses. Two targets are provided. They are of cast-iron, and can be increased or decreased in size at pleasure. When after being fired at for a time the bullet marks become numerous as to render it difficult to record the hitting correctly, a coat of paint is speedily spread over the surface, and there is of course no necessity for waiting to allow it to dry, practice may be immediately resumed. A target is placed near each end of the "butt," and stakes driven in the ground every fifty yards mark the distance from the target to the centre of the butt. The men with the signal flags are in the mounds, those on the right signalling the hits on the left hand target. If the bull's eye be struck, a red and white flag is shown, and three marks scored to the rifleman. If he space between the bull's eye and the outer ring be struck, a white flag is hoisted and one mark scored. If the target be missed altogether, no flag is shown. Sometimes the men at the signal mounds are in doubt as to the precise spot the bullet has struck, and require to make a close examination. They then hoist a red flag, which is repeated from the mound at the opposite end of the butt, and again repeated from the third mound opposite the centre of the butt. The firing is then immediately stopped, the buglers who stand near the rifleman "blow their horns," the sound whereof reached the men in the mounds, they are at liberty to leave their hiding places and examine the target. When they have returned to their holes, the bugles are again sounded as a signal that the firing is about to recommence, and unless the red flag be again hoisted, re-commence it does at once. These regulations apply to practice made at three hundred yards and less; when at a greater distance a little alteration has to be made. At three hundred and fifty or four hundred yards the outer ring around the bull's eye becomes indistinct. A large black spot two feet six inches in diameter is painted on the target instead. If hit, a blue flag is strewn and two marks are scored; if the target be struck outside the spot a white flag is hoisted and one scored, so that the most that can be made at one shot in firing at a distance of over three hundred yards is two marks. It will be necessary to keep this fact in mind in comparing the second table with the first published below.

The number of entries for the first prize was forty-three. After much ado they were got together, then divided into two "squads," and marched over to the right hand target under Captain Macdonald, Musketry Inspector of the Active Force; and one to the left, under Capt. Jarvis, of the 30th. The division was to enable the two squads to fire at the same time, so that the matter might be the sooner finished. This opening prize was a sweepstake of \$1 entrance, with \$20 added by the Association. Each candidate had to fire three shots at a target of 150, 200, 250, and 300 yards, the winner to receive one half of the prize; the second best shot, three-fifths of the prize, and the third best, two-fifths. All comers were invited, and any sort of rifle was allowed, with the proviso that neither globes nor magnifying sights, artificial rears, or hair triggers should be used. It was also stipulated that the prize triggers for rifles of a military pattern should not be less than six pounds, and of all other rifles not less than three. The size of the target fired at was four feet wide by six feet high; the diameter of the bull's eye eight inches, and of the ring three feet. By the subjoined score it will be seen that the contest at first appeared likely to be between Mr. F. Shepherd and Mr. John Perry. The latter hit the bull's eye twice in succession, and the ring (i. e., between the bull's eye and the centre) at the third shot, scoring eight; he used a double barreled rifle, made by Marton, of Toronto, carrying a solid conical bullet, with a ring upon it for the purpose of entering the grooves, but without any plug or cup. Mr. Perry, who is a well known shot, used an Enfield rifle. Both men in the registered convention. Mr. Jas. Miscomp, the winner of the first prize, used a heavy rifle made by Michael Baras, of Barrie. At one time the contest got very exciting. Ensign McLean (Bontary) scored sixteen up to 250 yards; but when about to load for the 300 he accidentally dropped a bullet into his rifle before he had put the powder. In order to get the lead out the piece was sent to the armourer. In the meantime Mr. Miscomp had scored his nineteenth mark; and it rested with McLean to wrest the laurels from him or be deprived of them himself. His own rifle not coming he borrowed an

SOME FACTS ABOUT TOBACCO.

WHICH THOSE WHO USE IT WILL READ AND FORGET.

Reef Cyclopædia says a drop or two of the oil, placed on the tongue of a cat, produces convulsions and death in the space of a minute.

A college of physicians has said that not less than twenty thousand in our land, annually die by the use of this poison.

Dr. Shaw names some eighty diseases, and says they may be attributed to tobacco.

Governor Sullivan says, "My brother, General Sullivan, used snuff, and his snuff lodged him prematurely in the grave."

Bosma, of Belgium, was murdered in two minutes and a half by a little nicotine, or alkali of tobacco.

Dr. Twitcheell believed that sudden deaths and tobacco among men were usually found together, and he sustained this opinion by an array of facts altogether conclusive.

Three young men formed a smoking club, and they all died within two years from the time they formed it. The doctor was asked what they died of. He said they were smoked to death.

A youth of sixteen fell dead, with a cigar in his mouth, in a dram-shop. What caused his death? The coroner's inquest said that "it was a mysterious case of God."

The minister, at the funeral, consoled the friends by saying much the same thing. Physicians said it was heart disease and said nothing of the cause of the disease. A sensible woman knowing the boy's habits, said, "Tobacco killed him." It deranged the action of the heart; it ceased to beat, and the victim fell.

To HOLD A HAND-HEADED HORSE.—I wish, through the medium of your common sense paper, to describe a simple method of holding a fiery, hard-kitted, or runaway horse. Put the buckle or snap of the rein through the bit ring, and fasten it to some part of the bridle between the ears and the poll of the horse.

The advantage of this is, that the rider can easily and quickly make arrangement in two-fold: 1st, it draws the bit directly into the corners of the mouth, whatever be the position of the horse's head; 2nd, the force exerted on the bit in this manner by the same power at the end of the rein though not quite double, is very much greater than when the rein is attached simply to the snaffle.

By this means I have seen the most ungovernable animal converted into a serviceable plow horse, while my easy limbs and shoulders gave direct testimony in favor of the diminished labor of managing a team.

The arrangement is also convenient in driving an ill-matched team, one horse being a fast and the other a moderate traveler. Arrange the reins as directed on the fast horse, leaving the other in the common way.

THE ARMY OF EUROPE.

In the course of the season concluded a lecture on "The Armed Forces of Europe" was delivered, at the United Service Institution, by Captain Petrie, of Her Majesty's 14th regiment, employed on the Topographical Staff.

The subject is one of so full of interest, and so constantly discussed, that we willingly avail ourselves of Captain Petrie's great carefulness and research for the means of supplying our readers with information which they would otherwise find it difficult to obtain at all, if it were obtained, it would fall to possess such a character of authenticity as obviously distinguished the statements which we now reproduce.

AUSTRIA.—The war establishment of the Austrian army, according to the organization that came into force in April, 1861, is as follows:—300 battalions of infantry, 437,694 men; 14 regiments of cavalry, 60,110 men; 1036 batteries of artillery, 27,167 men; 1,088 guns; two regiments of engineers, 7,460 men; six regiments of pioneers, 6,985; 24 squadrons of train, 18,204; ten companies Sanitary Corps, 2,850; Staff Corps, corps of adjutants, and general staff, 3,869; total regular army, 564,211. Volunteer corps organized in 1859, 30,000; depots and reserves of all arms, 103,751; Gendarmes, police, veterans, &c., 40,382. Grand total of forces, 738,344 men, 1,088 guns.

Prussia.—Infantry—Guard, nine regiments, 23,674 Line, 72 regiments, 229,292; Jäger, 10 battalions, 10,480; total, 268,556. Cavalry—48 regiments, 36,768; Field Jäger and staff, 902; total, 37,670. Artillery—Nine regiments, 41,292 men, 1,228 guns; pioneers, train, &c., 11,971 men; total field troops, 169,479. Depots, 216 guns; Landwehr and militia troops, &c., 261,126 men. Grand total of forces, 719,092 men, 1,444 guns.

Russia.—The army of Russia is so complicated in its organization that there would be considerable difficulty in making an exact analysis of it; but the numbers have been ascertained with sufficient accuracy to be on the present reduced establishment about 850,000 men. Of these the active army numbers 520,523 men, and 1,160 guns; the rest are composed of disciplined Cossacks and of irregular troops.

FRANCE.—The infantry consists of 130 regiments of the line each having three active battalions and one depot battalion; 20 battalions of Chasseurs, three regiments of Zouaves, two regiments of foreign infantry, two battalions of African Light Infantry, three regiments of Tirailleurs Algériens. The artillery includes—Four regiments of Horse Artillery, with 192 guns; 10 regiments of Mounted Artillery, with 600 guns; one regiment of Pontoniers, with 24 guns; 174 guns in the depot; 67,954 horses, 852 guns. This is in addition to 15,000 men, garrison artillery, and the depots, artificers, &c. The total number of guns that can be brought into the field, including the Imperial Guard, is 942, all of which are of brass, and rifled. The Imperial Guard, a complete corps of 38,000 men, 13,447 horses, and 90 guns, is divided into three parts, as follows:—1st, the Grenadiers, seven regiments of Grenadiers and Voltigeurs, one regiment of Chasseurs, one squadron of Gendarmes-à-cheval, six regiments of cavalry, 15 batteries of artillery, two companies of pontoniers, two companies of engineers four for three months, and three for six months; 2nd, the Imperial Guard, 13,447 men, 13,447 horses, and 90 guns; 3rd, the Imperial Guard, 13,447 men, 13,447 horses, and 90 guns.

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WRINKLES OF LIFE.

The gorgeous days of autumn are now on in all their exuberant beauty, and the forest foliage is now glowing in crimson and gold, the rich warm tints of maturity, in all their shades, from the deep blood color of the soft maple to the pale yellow of the birch; every springing thing is giving the warning beacon of coming winter. The placid lake at noontide glistens like molten silver, and the air is balmy and rich with the autumnal haze which renders this season of the year so attractive to southern travellers.

Nature's vegetable domain has ripened previous to decay, and the year is fast descending into the past; the night sky is a colder blue, and the constellations of the North glimmer and sparkle with a brighter phosphorescent light. Sportsmen who have been cooped up in their places of business during the long, sultry, summer days, have hurried up their faculties and their shooting irons at the same time, and with hound and horn betaken themselves to the woods and river banks, where the antlered monarch is cunningly shrouded in his deep, cool covert, warily listening to the distant baying of his foes, which is wafted to him at intervals on the morning breeze. How they are to be envied, those who have the spirit of the chase inherent; what a throwing off of the trammels of hypocritical civilization and every-day chicane and smallness; and what a renewing of the lease of life by inhaling health at every breath by the gurgling, dashing streamlet's banks; how the flagging energies are rejuvenated and strengthened by a sojourn in the unsurveyed forests of Canada can only be told by those who have tried it in a Canadian October. This is emphatically the season to enjoy one's self; if an individual wishes to enjoy the better side of life, now is the time.

In the cities, amusements are at their height, and hotels reap a golden harvest, speculative Americans drift into the commercial metropolis, and country merchants from all parts of the Province, out at aristocratic for a time, and saunter at evenings in the reading rooms of Hogan's, Colman's and Browning's. Reader, have you not paused to show that Mr. Rankin had violated the statute. The case was adjourned, until the 10th, in order that additional evidence could be brought from Essex. Some strange features were brought out in the examination of witnesses; in the evidence of Mr. Frederick Robinson, late deputy chief of police, it was elicited that Mr. Robinson had been offered several commissions by the Federal Government. In this matter of Rankin's the Toronto Globe attempts to justify the supposed infringement of the neutrality laws, by the member for Essex, by pointing out the historical precedents of Lord Dundonald and Sir De Laey Evans, and the Papal bribe which was raised in Ireland for the service of the Pope, but in the present dispute in the United States, strict neutrality has been commanded by the British Sovereign, and proclaimed throughout the British dominions, and no historical precedents of past years can for a moment affect our Sovereign injunction. However, a stop will be put to the Colonel's filibustering career, and the lesson may be useful to other embryonic Canadian Garibaldies.

THE ARREST OF COL. RANKIN.

The dullness of Canadian politics have been slightly enlivened by the arrest of Col. Rankin, Member for the County of Essex. For a few weeks past, rumors had obtained credence in the journals of the United States and Canada, that Col. Rankin had received a commission to raise a regiment of Lancers, which he was to command in the service of the Federal Government of the States, and in accordance with what was supposed to be accurate information, he was arrested on Sabbath the 6th instant, at the Rossin House in Toronto, by a policeman, on the complaint of one John Wilson, for a breach of the neutrality laws, inasmuch that he had taken or was about to accept a military commission in the service of the United States, without the licence of our sovereign. Accordingly, the case was investigated before the Police Magistrate on the Tuesday following, and a number of witnesses examined, but the evidence was not very conclusive against Mr. Rankin, although the Prosecutor for the Crown, stated there was sufficient evidence to show that Mr. Rankin had violated the statute. The case was adjourned, until the 10th, in order that additional evidence could be brought from Essex. Some strange features were brought out in the examination of witnesses; in the evidence of Mr. Frederick Robinson, late deputy chief of police, it was elicited that Mr. Robinson had been offered several commissions by the Federal Government. In this matter of Rankin's the Toronto Globe attempts to justify the supposed infringement of the neutrality laws, by the member for Essex, by pointing out the historical precedents of Lord Dundonald and Sir De Laey Evans, and the Papal bribe which was raised in Ireland for the service of the Pope, but in the present dispute in the United States, strict neutrality has been commanded by the British Sovereign, and proclaimed throughout the British dominions, and no historical precedents of past years can for a moment affect our Sovereign injunction. However, a stop will be put to the Colonel's filibustering career, and the lesson may be useful to other embryonic Canadian Garibaldies.

Some time ago, it was reported in the public prints that Spain was making preparations for the invasion of Mexico. It appears now that a treaty has been formed between England, France and Spain, for immediate intervention in the affairs of that ill-governed country, for the purpose of obtaining redress for outrages committed on the subjects of those powers. A combined fleet will occupy the principal ports of the Gulf, in order to sequester the Customs revenue. The fear of becoming embroiled with the United States by interference in Mexican affairs, has heretofore deterred those powers from seeking justice from that misgoverned and distracted country, but now that the dictatorial power of the American continent—the neighboring republic—has an escapement valve for her superabundant gas, and military ardour, it has been seized upon as a proper time to settle the long-standing scores. In this matter, Spain has taken the lead, and appears once more to be rising in the scale of nations. That this action on the part of the European powers will rouse the jealousy of the United States, there can be no doubt, but with their own colossal trouble festering in their midst, it is unlikely that they will interfere at present, but leave Mexico to its fate.

On the stoppage of the Public works in Ottawa, a deputation of sixteen proceeded to Quebec, and had an interview with the Commissioner of Public Works, when they received assurances that every precaution would be taken to prevent the winter weather from injuring the partially finished buildings.

The best understanding appears to exist at present between the British and Prussian people. A large number of military men from England were at a review in Prussia lately, where they were treated with the greatest consideration.

We observe by the Brockville Recorder, that the man named Whalen, tried and acquitted in Brockville for the murder of Mrs. and Mr. Thomson, has been arrested and is now in gaol in Watertown, N. Y., charged with the crime of murder in that State.

It is reported that the Government are about to negotiate with the Indians occupying the Manitoulin Island to cede it for the purposes of settlement.

It is stated that the Private Secretary and Provincial Aid, of the present Governor has been retained by Viscount Monck in their official capacity.

Another comet has been discovered. It is fast approaching the earth, and will soon be visible to the naked eye.

The Semi-annual Fair in Egawille will be held on Wednesday, the 30th of October for this year.

Mr. F. W. Cram will lecture in the School-house in this village, on Friday evening next, Subject—Societies.

PAKENHAM FALL FAIR.

Was held on Thursday last, although the roads were rendered almost impassable from the late frequent rains, the fair was well attended by buyers and sellers; a good many cows were sold at prices from \$20 to \$25; steers, \$30 to \$36; oxen \$40 to \$50. A good many Horses were offered, but unless in trading, very little actual business was done.

While the legitimate business of the day engaged the attention of those more immediately concerned, the apple waggon and McMillan's book stand had attractions for some, not forgetting to mention a cute Yankee who vended his wares—soap and brass jewelry to the music of a fiddle, and pocketing the quarters from the crowd, who seemed to have more money than common sense. During the day, here and there a man the worse of liquor might have been seen, but towards night the usual quiet of the village was broken by the wildest tumult and discord, occasioned by whiskey; a melancholy sight indeed, it was to see young and old reeling, shouting, and quarrelling, while at one of the taverns a scene of the utmost degradation that beggars all description was going on: some stupefied with drink, others excited to madness, fighting and uttering the most horrid imprecations; blood flowed freely from the wounds inflicted by decanters, jugs and fists, and the disgraceful medley was only brought to a close by the most boisterous being taken to the lock-up.—Com.

PAKENHAM FAIR.

Was held on Thursday last, when a large show of Stock was exhibited for sale, and good beef creatures exchanged hands at current prices. The fair on the whole was considered the best that has ever been held in Pakenham. Formerly, higher prices were paid in Pakenham for Stock than in any other part of the Province, on account of the demand for lumbering operations, hence purchasers from cities ceased to attend, but since the lumber business is all but done, farmers find it necessary to submit to current prices, hence Pakenham Fair will become one of the best in the Province, as soon as the railway is extended so far.

On Thursday last, a young lad, thirteen years of age, a son of Michael Parkers of the Township of Pakenham, was attending Pot Ash boiling, when by some accident he fell into the Potash Kettle, and when found, nothing but his bones could be recovered, and the part of his shirt that was composed of cotton. It could not have been more than 15 minutes until the accident was discovered.

GOVERNMENT LAND SALE.

On Thursday there was a great deal of land sold in Perth, at prices ranging from 30 cents up to 100 per acre, the greater portion at the former price. For two days previous to the sale, Mr. Sprague, the government agent was kept busy in arranging with squatters and others who had paid instalments on land purchased from the local agent. It is said a number of irregularities came up in the investigation.

SPORTING EXTRAORDINARY.—A short time since, an individual domiciled in the village of Arnprior, who pretends to be a very Nimrod in the chase, was