

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Cobourg 'Star' says:—At a meeting of the Somerville Township Council, on the 2nd inst., the following resolution was adopted: Moved by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. McKinstry, that the Bæve be instructed to purchase ten yards of blue Cobourg, not exceeding 50 cents a yard, and the same to be presented to the wife of every Volunteer who is a ratepayer in the Township at this date.

TRANSLATORS OF VIRGIL.—Dr. Nicholas Brady, ever to be remembered for his share in the rhyming of the Psalms, attempted Virgil also; but happily his version of the heathen poet has never been recommended by authority for general use. Dr. Trapp, the Oxford professor of poetry, published a translation in blank verse, which has been ridiculed more severely than it deserved. It is, perhaps, best remembered now by the epigram of a contemporary wit, on being told that a certain nobleman wrote verses which were better than Virgil:—

Better than Virgil? Yes—perhaps—
But then, by Jove, 'tis Dr. Trapp's.

SURRATT THE ASSASSIN.—A correspondent of the New York 'Herald' writing from Rome says that Surrott's comrades in the Papal Zouaves represent him as a reserved and unobtrusive person. He passed his days on guard in writing on the wall phrases decipherable by none but himself. When in barracks he would write on paper by the hour, and then tear up the manuscript. He read little, talked less, but evinced much partiality for wrestling, at which practice he was an adept. Sometimes he was seized with fits of nervous frenzy, when he would attack the person next him, and desist as suddenly and with as little cause as he began the assault. He proved himself very active and zealous on several occasions when in pursuit of brigands, and gained the credit of being a determined, energetic lawless dare-devil, a character which his previous career certainly shows he richly deserved. A rebel woman from the United States procured him his position in the Papal service. He was much made of by some secession visitors, from his country, who used to entertain him, and supply him with funds.

UNHAPPY POLAND.—A St. Petersburg telegram of January 5, says:—Three ukases concerning Poland and bearing date the 19th December, have been issued to-day. The first introduces the Russian system into the financial administration of Poland, and publishes a provisional financial direction at Warsaw under the control of the finance minister at St. Petersburg. The definitive constitution of this office as a permanent finance direction is reserved. The second ukase regulates the postal administration of Poland and subordinates it to the Russian ministry of posts and telegraphs. The third decree simplifies the general Polish administration. It orders that from the 13th of January, Poland shall be divided into five instead of ten provincial governments, and eighty-five districts, but that offices for the payment of the taxes shall be established on that day by the governments and districts according to the new division of the new kingdom. It also grants fuller powers to the governors, and orders the formation of local bodies of guards. The sentences passed upon the Polish exiles who took part in the revolt in Siberia, having been confirmed by the Emperor, have been carried into effect. Of the seven condemned to death four have been shot, and the remainder sent off to be kept at hard labor together with those who were sentenced to the latter punishment. Corporal punishment has been remitted in all cases.

The monument to Tyndale, the Biblical translator, erected on the top of Knibley Knoll, in Gloucestershire, England, is a high square tower, built of stone quarried in the neighborhood.

A FEMALE CAVALRYMAN.—A Mrs. Frances F. Sigel is now in Washington applying at the pay department for remuneration for services rendered in the western armies as a cavalryman. She says she enlisted in 1861, with her husband (as John Clepton) in the 13th Missouri cavalry, and fought for two years as such in the American army. She fought under Grant, Sheridan and Rosecrans. She was in the battles of Shiloh or Pittsburgh Landing, and Stone River, and at the latter battle her husband was killed and she severely wounded. Her sex became known and she was discharged the service. She has married since, and is now endeavoring to get the pay due her when discharged, but there is no law that would authorize the payment, females not being recognized by any as soldiers. Mrs. Sigel's appearance and manners cannot be said to be very prepossessing. She has evidently seen hard service in the camp or elsewhere, and has contracted all the rude airs, attitudes and manners of a man. She wears a Scotch cap cocked on one side of her head, chews tobacco, smokes and swears like a trooper, as she claims to be. She is accompanied by her present husband. Both are very poor, and have been compelled to sleep in the station-house every night they have been in Washington. Altogether Mrs. Sigel, who bears traces of having once been in a better condition—once even good-looking—presents a sad illustration of the effects of a woman stepping out of her natural sphere to enter upon a career entirely foreign to her vocation. A friend asks: "Would she not be a valuable subject for the study of the advocate of what is called woman's rights?"

MILITARY ITEMS.

GUNBOATS.—It is said that a gunboat will be stationed at Kingston in the spring, as owing to the number of Fenians that will be in the Penitentiary, the government think it prudent to keep a gunboat stationed off the building. There is also one expected to be stationed permanently on the Niagara river.

The Volunteers of Ayr have been enjoying themselves lately. The 'Observer' says: The Military Ball passed off very successfully, there being upwards of seventy couple present. Excellent music was furnished by Redd & Kay's Quadrille Band. Altogether it was rather a pleasant affair, and the supper first-class.

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.—The 'Victoria War-der' says:—On Monday evening last, Brigade Major Patterson inspected Captain Smith's Company of Volunteers in the large lecture room of the School House. After the men had gone through the various exercises in a very creditable manner, under the command of their officers, the Brigade-Major briefly addressed the volunteers, and said that after the last inspection he held up this company as a pattern for every new company in this District, but that it had not improved so rapidly during the last three months as it had the quarter previous to the November Inspector; this he attributed to not having a proper place to drill. However, he said that the company was a credit to the town, and ought to receive every encouragement at the hands of the citizens of Lindsay. The Mayor also addressed the company in a few appropriate remarks. At the close three cheers were given for the Queen, three for the Mayor

and Council, three for the Brigade-Major, when the company became demoralized and bolted for town.

PENSIONS AND COMPENSATION TO VOLUNTEERS.—The Government has taken prompt action in considering the several claims for pensions and gratuities resulting from the Fenian raids in June last. The total number of claims submitted, and upon which action has been taken, is ninety-six. Pensions have been granted to the widows and children, and, in some instances, to the mothers of volunteers who were killed in action, or who died from disease contracted in the service. Pensions have also been granted to those volunteers who are incapacitated from attending to their ordinary occupation, in consequence of wounds or sickness contracted while on service, the whole according to a fixed and more liberal graduated scale than that followed in the imperial service. In other cases of wounds, injury or sickness, compensation has been awarded by gratuities, measured by the extent of the loss of time resulting from such wounds, injury or sickness. This act of justice to those who, in response to the call of their country, have had suffering entailed upon them, will be hailed with satisfaction. It is understood that this will be published for general information.

RIFLE MATCH.—The first match of the Toronto Rifle Club was held on Saturday at the Don ranges. Six prizes were competed for, and were won by very fair scores, considering the inclemency of the weather, and the fact that competitors had to stand in a foot of snow the whole time. The ranges were 200, 300, and 500 yards, the eight-inch bull's-eye being used at 200 and 300 yards; and at 500 yards the four feet target had to be used on account of the wings being frozen in the snow. The match was open to any rifle, with any sight, among which were the Marston, Kerr, Grainger, Thom, Henry, Enfield and Lee rifles. A Marston carried off the first prize, as will be seen by the subjoined list of winners.

	RIFLE.	PRIZE.	SCORE.
J. Morrison	Marston	1st	45
J. Bailey	Short Enfield	2d	44
C. Sheppard	Marston	3d	42
C. Thom	Thom	4th	42
T. McLean	Kerr	5th	41
J. Hamilton	Grainger	5th	39

The prizes consist of a silver claret jug, four cups and a gold scarf-pin.

TARGET PRACTICE.—We learn from the Colborne 'Express' that a few men of the Volunteer Company of that village turned out for target practice last week, under command of Ensign Campbell. It says: "It is with much pleasure we perceive the marked improvement shown on every occasion of this kind. A large number of the volunteers, previous to joining the company, had seldom, and some never fired out of a rifle; therefore, we feel justified in stating, considering the slight practice they have had, they could compete with any other company in the Province. We would call the attention of volunteers generally to the following score:

	200 yds.	Total.
Ensign Campbell	2 2 2 0 2	8
Privates—Chas. Carr	0 0 3 2 0	5
H. Casey	2 0 2 0 0	4
E. Tuttle	0 2 3 2 2	9
A. Wells	0 3 4 0 0	7
O. Miracle	2 4 2 3 2	13
J. Paisley	2 0 3 2 0	7
W. Carter	3 2 2 2 2	11
W. Kinsman	0 3 0 0 4	6
Geo. Warren	4 3 3 4 3	17
J. Dailey	0 0 2 2 3	7
J. A. Boyce	0 0 2 0 2	4

Grand total..... 1106
Average..... 8 points.