

### Military News.

**NEW DRUM.**—An order has been issued for the introduction into the Prussian army of a new kind of drum, with metal drumsticks, invented by Herr Bertram, of Rendsburg.

**MEDALS.**—It is intended to issue a medal to mark the services rendered by officers and men in the late Kaffir war. The medal will be the same as that issued for previous wars at the Cape.

**BARRACK DAMAGE.**—A regiment on leave

for barrack damage. Considering that the huts are utterly rotten, this treatment is hazardous.

AFGHAN.—The most able military critics are decidedly of opinion that the morale of the

Afghans is broken down, and that we shall meet with no more resistance in the open except Russian assistance is unexpected and forthcoming. The same view prevails at India Office.

**FOUNDER.**—The experience of the Austro-Government with regard to muzzie as a force for horses is that the saving in the cost of feed does not compensate for the loss of power and speed, but that it does well for horses that are not required to move beyond a walking pace, and would probably answer well for cart and dray horses.

**ROBERT PASHA.**—Robert Pasha and Enver Pasha appear to be making considerable progress with the duties entrusted to them by the Turkish Government—the first in remodeling the Turkish Navy, and the latter in fortifying the lines for the defence of Constantinople. The scheme of reform recommended by Robert Pasha is said to have the warm support of the Minister of Marine.

**THE LEADER OF THE AFGHAN EXPERIENCE.**—General Browne is one of the best leaders of an expedition to be found in India, and in addition to this quality, he has a most intimate knowledge of the natives. No man can better than he how for a native army

trusted and by the natives General Z. Browne is feared and respected. It has to be latterly remarked alarmingly that the General never goes about thoroughly armed; perhaps not, as he has lost one arm.

**VOLUNTEERS.**—Unemployed young men acquired the "penny dreadnails," and who had gained a taste for freebooting, might have their appetite satiated if they went over to Transvaal, where they are advertising for recruits in the following terms:—"V.R. Volunteers for the Front, and Grand Attack on Coenecio's Town. Loot and Booty First. Better Prospect than Bhambwank Digging. Same Ratios as a General."

**EIGHTH KING'S ROYAL IRISH HUSSARS.**—8th King's Royal Irish Hussars are preparing for departure for India. The regiment, on the ordinary course, would have left Southampton for embarkation at Portsmouth six days after Christmas, but the authorities, believing, intend, despatching the regiment somewhat earlier. Lieut.-Colonel Messingham, one of the survivors of the Light Cavalry charge at Balaklava, takes the regiment to India, where it will relieve the Queen's Own Hussars.

**NEW GUNPOWDER.**—Another new description of gunpowder, prepared at the Government factory at Waltham Abbey specially for 80-ton gun, was tried on Thursday and day at the proof butts in the Government Marshes, adjoining the Royal Arsenal, W. which, and achieved results in advance of

previously accomplished. With a charge  
425 lbs. of this powder, the 80-ton ex-  
perimental gun, with the cracked tube, firing  
ordinary projectile, weighing 1,760 lbs.,  
coted the high velocity of 1,584 feet  
second, while the pressure on the bore  
under 21 tons to the inch. These results  
better even than those produced with the  
German prismatic powder recently tried,  
heavier charges of the new explosive are  
fired.

**Domestic Reading.**

If the best man's faults were written, as  
forehead he would draw his hat over his eyes.

Duty though set about by thorns, may

Greatness upon a precipice, and prosper unbalanced by moral sun-shin, carry a man so little beyond his poise. They overbear, dash him to pieces.

St. Andrew, who suffered so terrible agony, is the special patron against sudden death. Ask him to be with you in your hour, and to bring Jesus and Mary to your aid.

A man who can give up dreaming and get his daily realities; who can smother down his heart, its love or woe, and take to the work of his hand; who defies fate; and, if must die, dies fighting to the last—that man

The various names of tea have their own peculiar meaning. Congoi is simply a corruption of Kungfu which signifies "Labor." So chong means "Little Sprouts," Pekoe, "White down." The Wuhei Hills on which Bohoe produced gives its name. Oolong signifies "Black Dragon." Hungnooy, "Red Plum," Hyson, "Fair Spring," and Twanky, "Beauteous Arook." Young Hyson is called by the Chinese "Yutsoon" or "Before the Rains."

MARVELS OF MEMORY.—At one period of life Seneca could repeat 2,000 words precisely as they had been pronounced, Gassendi acquired by heart 6,000 Latin verses, and whole of Lucretius's poem, "De Rerum Natura." In order to give his memory sufficient exercise, he was in the habit of reciting verses from different languages. Saunders, another mathematician, was able to repeat Horace's odes and a great part of other Latin authors. La Crose, after listening to 12 verses in many languages, could not only repeat them in the order in which he had heard them, he could also transpose them. Pope had an

amused themselves by looking through his writings and pointings out how often he had brought it into play. He was able to turn out with great readiness to the place in a book where he had seen any passage that had struck him. John Leyden had a very peculiar faculty for getting things by rote, and he could repeat correctly any long dry document, such as a deed or Act of Parliament, after having been told it read; but if he wanted any single paragraph he was obliged to begin at the commencement and proceed with his recital until he came to what he required. There was a French novelist, who, being, like our Richardson, a printer, composed a volume in types, and thus the book was printed without having been written. Bishop Warburton had a prodigious memory which he taxed to an extraordinary degree. His "Divine Legation" would lead one to suppose that he had indefatigably collected and noted down the innumerable facts and quotations there introduced; but the fact is that his only note book was an old almanac, in which he occasionally jotted down a thought. When Liger obtained so perfect an acquaintance with one Latin book that he offered to repeat any passage with a dagger at his breast, to be used against him in case of a failure of memory.