

Gleanings.

On the Continent of Europe the soldiers of Germany have the longest legs. At any rate, their pace on the march is longer than that of the soldiers of any other Continental army. It is 80 centimetres; the pace of the soldiers of France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland and Sweden being 75 centimetres; while that of the Russian soldier is only 71 centimetres. Taking 30 centimetres to equal a foot, it makes the German step to be fully 2 3-5 feet; the French, etc., to be 2 1/2, and the Russian to be only about 2 3-10. The German Ministry of War, having gathered information on the subject, has just made it public.

The annual returns relating to the British army have been issued from the War Office, and show that the average strength of the fighting service last year was 209,574. Of this number 19,358 were cavalrymen, 34,734 artillerymen, 6,508 engineers, and 148,974 infantry. Something like one-half of the men are retained for home duties, 4,738 are still in Egypt, 25,848 are in the Colonies, and 72,345 are in India. The reserve and auxiliary forces include 55,000 men from the regular army, 121,411 militiamen, 11,267 yeomanry, and 223,038 volunteers. Taking the ages of our citizen soldiers, it is seen that the men between 20 and 21 are the most numerous, and that by far the larger number are under 30. There are, however, over 20,000 men between 30 and 35, 13,000 between 35 and 40, 8,340 between 40 and 45, 5,590 between 45 and 50, and 2,558 who are above 50.

In the December number of the *Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine* Lieut. Low's "Historical Sketch of the Russian Navy," interesting in itself, is rendered much more so by the valour shown by the English, Scotch and Irish officers who crowded into the Russian Service in the latter half of the last century. "Naval and Military Notes and Queries" contains a good summary of the Engineering Departments of France, Germany, Austria, Italy and Russia. Mr. Irving Montague gives us a continuation of his experiences in the Carlist war in Spain. Colonel Spalding, in concluding his memoir of Suvoroff, claims for him a share of the credit of having broken through the "theory of the age," or "cordon system," which ruled so many military minds up to the end of the last century. "The Story of a British Occupation," a short paper by Lieut. the Hon. H. N. Shore, R.N., gives a graphic account of the results of our occupation of Tientsin in the Chinese war.

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OF

The Militia Gazette for 1886-7

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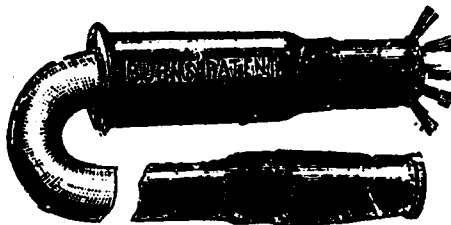
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THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF the Ontario Artillery Association for consideration of Annual Reports and transaction of General Business will be held at the ROSSIN HOUSE, at TORONTO, on TUESDAY, the 5th day of FEBRUARY, 1889, at 11 o'clock a.m.

L. HOMFRAY IRVING,

SECRETARY

Toronto, 15th December, 1888.

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