

his command would not make war upon women and children, nor be permitted to plunder peaceable inhabitants, but would conduct their war in the manner approved among civilised nations." We can well conceive the surprise, if not indignation, of Colonel Chamberlin at such a message borne by the officer of a State whose immediate duty it was to disperse and apprehend those marauders and would be assassins, and while he told him that he could hold no terms with pirates and marauders, we are somewhat disappointed that he did not lay hold of and retain their emissary in custody; but as they are speaking, the Fenians advance, Colonel Chamberlin calls General Foster's attention to the fact, who only acknowledged, "I thought they intended to attack you soon, but not so soon as this," when this precious Fenian envoy drove away in the direction of and past the Fenian party. General Foster, we are aware, took charge of "General" O'Neil after his defeat. It would have been better the two "Generals" had made the acquaintance before the failure of the outrage on the Canadians. The incident is a curious one, and may well be termed a "singular circumstance" by the Deputy Adjutant General.

This episode aside, we again repeat that the Canadian Blue-book contains matter of the most notable description to those interested in home defence, and calls attention to the very valuable nature of a properly organised, equipped, and commanded citizen army. The Canadian system is no more that of Prussia than it is that of France. It is purely British, and neither more nor less than the keeping in operation of the Militia laws common to the Colony and the Mother Country. In Canada every county or district is responsible for a certain amount of military force for national defence, and this force is leviable by the ballot as the county forces are in this country. However, it is provided, as it also is in this country, that Volunteers are not amenable to be drawn by ballot, but have certain privileges instead. The result of the Volunteer spirit in Canada has provided, in excess of the quota, the Government by law has the power to demand; and, therefore, the purely Volunteer system has swallowed up the purely Militia system. The Volunteers, however, are better organised than they are at home, and are paid when on duty and in training. After three years' service they are transferred to the Reserve, and can only again be called upon after the active force has been exhausted. We have further seen that two battalions were raised for permanent service in the North-western frontier; and if the Dominion is left to its own military resources, it is by this means that a standing force, if indispensable, can easily be arrived at. We see no reason why the Canadian system should not be examined, and, if found what it seems to us to be, applied to our home local Reserve. Undoubtedly, the subject must receive greater attention in Great Britain than it has done. We have the law already existing for calling into being a defensive force as pliable and as effective as that in Canada has proved itself to be, and probably better adapted to British institutions than the equally ready and proved omnipotence of that of Prussia. We believe that the ballot must be resorted to, and our Militia and Volunteers better organised than they at present are, or our defensive system must remain on a very unsatisfactory basis.

Bronze statuary in Paris has been melted up to supply the besieged with cannon.

The following troops of the Russian army have been echeloned along the Prussian frontier during the past three weeks: Two divisions of the infantry of the guard under General Baron Moeller Sakonelsky; three divisions of the Grenadier Guards under Lt. Gen. Prince Ionkhow Monvaroff; one division of the cavalry of the guard under General Prince Galitzine; twelve divisions of infantry of the line under General Von Egger; five divisions of cavalry of the line under General Count Von Ketz; two parks of infantry and twelve parks of artillery under Lieut.-General Kuyscheff. It is announced that a force of a hundred and fifty thousand Cossacks, the most terrible light troops of the world, has been called under arms, and that a squadron of the Baltic is ready for active service. These statements are made in the Government circles, and they are accompanied with still more alarming intimation that the Russian Minister, De Ombril, at the Court of Berlin, has been instructed by Prince Gortohakoff to present a formal demand to Prussia for full explanations of her purposes and policy in pursuing the war with France. In this demand it is stated that the Government of the Czar declares it to be quite impossible that Russia can regard it as a question solely to be decided between Germany and France what the limits of either power shall be; that the future of Russia not less than the past makes it the duty of the Russian Government to protest against, and if necessary to prevent, any change in the equilibrium of Europe which would embarrass the freedom of action of the Russian government, and particularly that Russia will never suffer the fixed boundaries of European States to be disturbed in obedience to the subversive and preverse doctrine of nationalities as it is so called. These rumours are confirmed, and their ominous significance deepened by the appearance in the *St. Petersburg Gazette de la Bourse* of an article printed in a form which gives it the air of a semi-official manifesto, which uses this threatening and explicit language:—"Prussia with her frontier on the side of France guaranteed, and neutralized Austria to protect her with her eastern flank, will be in a position so to dispose of all her strength as to check and easily to paralyze the action of Russia. In the presence of so grave an eventuality Russia must and will provide at once against any possible future."

The *Olos* of Moscow says also the Eastern question can wait. There is no pressing necessity for a solution in that quarter. It is on the Rhine to day the knot of the Eastern question waits to be cut at one decisive blow.

Marshal McMahon is likely to recover. He is carefully attended on by French and Prussian surgeons, and the Crown Prince in person called upon him, asking to be allowed to do anything he might require for his comfort.

GRAND TRUNK VOLUNTEERS.

RIFLE MATCH.

The members of the Third Battalion of the Grand Trunk Volunteers at Brantford held a rifle match at the practice grounds on Wednesday last. The shooting was excellent on the part of the Battalion, and they enjoyed the sport, the whole day having been occupied, from morning until 7 o'clock in the evening. The day was beautiful, which induced a large number of our townspeople to give their attendance.

FIRST MATCH.

Open to members of the Association only. Distance—200, 400 and 600 yards; five shots at each range. Entrance fee, 15c.—Thirteen prizes offered by citizens, as follows:

- No. 1. Minnie Rifle, presented by A. Cleg-horn, Esq.
- " 2. Otter Cap and Gauntlets, by Glassco & Son.
- " 3. Ten pounds of Tea, by R. Turner.
- " 4. Ten dollars cash, by H. Yates, Esq.
- " 5. Six bottles of brandy, by F. Walsh.
- " 6. Five dollars cash, by Hon. E. B. Wood.
- " 7. Five dollars cash, by J. H. Stratford, Esq.
- " 8. Electro plate Cup, by Messrs. Mor-ton & Co.
- " 9. Box of soap, by Jackson Ford.
- " 10. Two Flannel Shirts by Mr. Scarfe.
- " 11. Pair of Boots, by Adams & Brophy.
- " 12. Album, by Mr. Gilbert.
- " 13. Album, by Mr. Whitham.

Sixty-six competitors entered for this match. The following is the score of the winners of the prizes:

	200	400	600	Tl.
Pte Kennedy	13	18	15	46
Sgt. Whitaker	17	17	12	46
Pte. T. James	16	14	14	44
" E. May	11	17	14	42
" McMaster	15	15	11	41
Corp. Cron	14	14	12	40
Pte. Cook	19	15	6	40
" Kerr	17	16	6	39
" Usher	17	13	8	38
" G. James	14	10	13	37
" Broadbent	15	18	4	37
" Paxton	17	12	7	36
" P. Holmes	15	9	11	35

SECOND MATCH.

For all comers. Distance—200 and 400 yards; five shots at each range. Entrance, 25 cts. Thirteen prizes, as follows:

- No. 1. Ten dollars cash presented by Water-ous & Co.
- " 2. One barrel of Beer, by T. Spencer.
- " 3. Electro-plate Cup, by Mr. Fawkes.
- " 4. Pair of Pistols, by Dr. Digby.
- " 5. Pair of pants, by Thomas McLean.
- " 6. Bust of Shakespeare, by J. Edgar.
- " 7. A Hat, by J. B. King.
- " 8. Box of Cigars, by Leeming & Patter-son.
- " 9. Gent's Travelling Bag, by S. McLean.
- " 10. Set of Glassware, by W. C. Holt.
- " 11. A Call Bell, by B. Hunn.
- " 12. *Courier* paper for one year, by H. Lemmon.
- " 13. One copy of Holy Grail, by A. Hud-son.

Eighty-eight competitors entered for this match. The following is the score, the names of the winners following in rotation. All numbers under 13 are excluded:

Pte. Usher	17	17	34
T. Osborne	16	17	33
Corp. Callis	17	16	31
Pte. Russell	17	14	30
Pte. Kennedy	13	17	30
Capt. Jones	14	16	29
Pte. Kerr	12	17	29
" Temple	13	16	29
" P. Holmes	14	15	29
Capt. Hardman	15	14	28
Pte. Dawson	12	16	28
" G. James	13	14	27
" T. James	16	11	27

THIRD MATCH.

The following match took place between Nos. 1 and 3 Companies of the above Batt. took place at the rifle range, Brantford, on