

afternoons an innovation has been made by mounting the band, who come in at the head of the rides, and, after parading, retire behind the hurdles, at the end, where they play during the ride. The same precision and skill in executing the various movements are noticed as formerly, and the musical ride has still the same attractions for those who interest themselves in the higher branches of the art of riding.

Another old feat is the trotting and galloping by teams of artillery. A couple of mishaps served to add a little unwonted excitement to the exhibition. Possibly with a view of showing how smartly things could be done, there was no slackening of speed at the turns; nor had the team gone quite as near to the barrier as they could have done after passing through the first pair of gate posts. In consequence of thus taxing skill, the near wheeler fell heavily at the top turn, and was dragged for some distance, the driver coming in for a shaking, though he was able to remount and finish the turn. When the next team came in the near leader came down near the same spot. His driver had a still more narrow escape, as he was not only stepped upon by his own horse, but also by the one behind, who overran him. There was a tangled mass of man, horses, and traces, and it was no small consolation to hear Capt. Dann announce that no one was hurt.

The cavalry displays are both more numerous and more elaborate than last year. The 1st Dragoons represent the action of a small party detached from a squadron, and operating against a hostile battery, attended by a cavalry escort. The detached party are detailed to engage the escort and attract their attention, so as to give the squadron time to make a detour, and take the battery, with its escort, in flank. On discovering the enemy they retire and seek cover in the immediate rear by dismounting and making their horses lie down, firing at the same time a succession of volleys, one man from each section remaining mounted to conduct the horses to the rear, which involves jumping the fences with four horses in charge. After this the enemy's patrol is supposed to be reinforced, whereupon the horses are brought up to the dismounted men and they retire.

The 3rd Hussars have already shown themselves to be adepts in arranging this species of entertainment. This year they have a very well-arranged programme. A reconnoitring party proceed to bivouac for the night. Rugs are unstrapped from saddles; jointed rods are produced from inside the rugs, and in a trice a couple of very comfortable tents are rigged up. In these four men compose themselves. At daybreak the scouts signal the approach of the enemy; the bivouacing comes to an end as quickly as it begun, and real business commences. Horses lie down (we are glad to notice that this year the cutting whip, which would scarcely be carried on service, is dispensed with), firing takes place; one man takes three horses, besides his own, over the fences, and a couple of men whose horses have been shot find safety by jumping up behind their comrades, and the horses, thus carrying about 21 stone, jump two fences. The scene of the display of the 5th Lancers takes place in the mimosa bush, whereof a fine specimen springs up at the bidding of Sergt.-Major Clarke, in the shape of the gorsed hurdles that have already done such good service. After a certain amount of warfare, the gallant 5th pursue the retreating Arabs into the bush, and one man is severely wounded. Here let us note a difference between the afternoon and the evening audience. The wounded man's groan and writhings on the tan call forth the sympathy of those who have not yet dined, and who see depicted before them some of the horrors of war. After tea each fresh contortion calls forth loud laughter, and he who was an hour or two previously looked upon as a victim, is later on regarded as the comic man of the company. But to resume the thread of the story. After the disaster three men keep the enemy at bay, while two others, turning their jackets inside out, run a couple of lances down the sleeves, and so construct an excellent extempore litter. On this the wounded man is placed; but, before bearing him off the field, one of the bearers having apparently satisfied himself that the victim is in a moribund condition, wipes the latter's face with a let-me-kiss-him-for-his-mother air, and then, having placed the handkerchief over his pallid features, proceeds, together with his comrade, to carry the dying one to the rear, which, by the way, happens to be in the direction of the refreshment counter. The *dramatis personæ* play their parts exceedingly well, and it is only a sign of the interest taken in these representations that nearly every day sees the addition of some fresh piece of "business." Jumping, firing, and the conducting of several horses over the fences by one man, play an important part in the display of the 10th Hussars. It is certainly a triumph of horse breaking that the men can make their horses lie down, and remain still while the riders rush forward to the mimosa bush—now called "an obstacle,"—to fire. In actual warfare, however, this might be a trifle risky. Some sudden impulse might seize the horses, and they might gallop away, in which event it might truly be said that the last state of the men would be worse than the first. The key to the whole display is a gun which, in the words of the programme, "is giving a great deal of trouble" to the 10th; so with characteristic pluck they resolve to capture it. A good deal

of powder is burned in the attempt; but at length the supreme moment arrives at which a charge is made. At this formidable "demonstration" the single artillerymen, who has been working the gun with such signal success, wisely retires, and mingles with the crowd at the entrance gate. The British army, however, is nothing if not well provided for every contingency. Up gallop the 10th, who providentially have about them a few cannon balls and the requisite amount of gunpowder. With this in their favor, they slew round the gun, which the departed attendant has left laid just right, and at once proceed to pepper so vigorously that, time and distance being taken into account, the unhappy gunner should be reduced to the proverbial smithereens. Having placed the foe *hors de combat*, the gallant 10th add yet another to their long list of famous deeds by attaching four lassoes to the gun, and galloping away with it amid, it is superfluous to add, the plaudits of the spectators. The 13th Hussars' display takes the form of tent pegging in a somewhat novel style. Four pegs are driven into the ground in a line, and four men—two with lances and two with swords—ride in one behind the other and attempt to take them. That accomplished, the pegs are driven in two abreast, and the men, galloping by half sections, take them again. Then the pegs are driven in all four abreast, and the men, galloping by sections, take them first with lances and then with swords.

The *finale*, the combined display of all arms, is really quite a drama, and far exceeds anything attempted in the days when the siege or capture of Delhi at Astley's was regarded as the *beau idéal* of realism. A force of all arms on the march halts and pitches a camp by the side of a river, which, together with its banks, is brought in at the bidding of Capt. Dann. A signalling party of the Grenadiers appears with heliograph and signal flags. Some of the men, who have made their way across the water, are at once made prisoners by the enemy's cavalry. Then the Engineers arrive, and with marvellous speed proceed to construct a bridge over the river. Their operations are for a moment checked by a Nordenfeldt gun, which deals slaughter on all sides, and affords opportunity for the Volunteer Medical Staff corps to show how they succour the helpless. To silence the Nordenfeldt gun, the mountain mule train with screw gun appears. This weapon makes very little noise, but is well deserving of attention. The barrel is in two parts, each part being carried by a mule. The two portions are screwed together, the gun carriage comes from the back of a third mule, and the wheels from a fourth, the whole being fitted together in a twinkling. The operations of the weapon are assisted by the Gardiner gun on the banks of the river, and the foe is eventually repulsed, the whole force, including a gun drawn by six horses, crosses a bridge, and the infantry swarm up the fortress at the end, to the strains of "See the Conquering Hero Comes," and "Rule Britannia." Nothing could be better than the "stage management" of this display, which reflects the greatest credit upon Lieut.-Col. Onslow, Inspector of Gymnasia of Great Britain. Where all have worked so well it may be invidious to particularize; but we cannot refrain from alluding to the manner in which Capt. Dann, R.H.A., has performed his arduous duties.

Common Sense on Parade, or Drill without Stays.

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL THE RIGHT HON. J. H. A. MACDONALD, M.P.

(Commandant the Queen's Edinburgh R. V. Brigade.)

(Continued from page 516.)

The same national characteristics which gave in Bugeaud's time the power to maintain an immovable front in face of a shouting foe, will enable British troops now to maintain self-control and calmness, when the enemy is excited and consequently shaky, if the system of training is adapted to produce the engrained habit in the soldier of being cool and steady in the modern long open advance, as he formerly was in the serried ranks. The shouting is now all from the mouths of the rifles. Men who were not highly disciplined in former days, encouraged one another, and tried to terrify their opponents, by shouts and yells. Those who could remain silent till ordered to charge, and then charged with a ringing cheer, overcame the ill-disciplined shouters. Now, the voice counts for nothing during the greater part of the struggle, and steadiness does not consist in rigidity. The ill-disciplined soldiers fire loosely and ineffectively, encouraging themselves, and hoping to cow the enemy by the din of explosions, just as they did formerly by cries of "à la baïonnette," &c. "It is but human nature that a soldier should derive some comfort from the noise made by his own gun when it goes off" (*Von Kraft Prinz zu Hohenlohe-Ingelfingen*). The same qualities which enabled us to acquire the old discipline in higher degree than others, give us the power to acquire the new in similar degree. There need be no fear that the modern developments of warfare will deprive us of our advantages. There is one way, and one way only, in which we can fail