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## Naval and Military Calendar

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SWITZERLAND.—*Reorganisation of Field Artillery.*—As is known, at the same time that the Swiss Field Artillery will be provided with a new Q.F. 7.5-cm. gun, it will also have its 56 batteries of six guns each transformed into 72 batteries, consisting of four guns each. It is of interest to note the situation of the *personnel* and horses as regards this reorganisation. The following information on the subject is borrowed from the *Allgemeine Schweizerische Militär-Zeitschrift*.

The present *personnel* of officers suffices, at the cost of a few promotions, which will cause no inconvenience, to ensure the officering of the 72 new instead of the 56 old batteries, in spite of the necessity of having to create 16 new posts of captains-commandant; as a matter of fact, there is no dearth of qualified candidates for this rank, and the organisation of the School of Recruits will allow for a larger number of appointments of battery commanders to be made each year than is done at the present time. The *personnel* of non-commissioned officers is, in a general way, sufficient; the *personnel* of gunners will be so too, which is not surprising, for in spite of the increase in the number of units, the old 52 batteries of six guns made up a total of 312 guns, whilst the 72 new ones of four guns each represent in all 288 guns, that is to say, altogether 24 guns less. Under these conditions it would even be possible to allot nine gunners to each gun, which would suffice to fill vacancies occurring in the *personnel* either of the battery itself or of the ammunition wagons. The requirement of horses remains the same, in spite of the decrease in the number of guns, on account of the increase in the number of ammunition wagons. When all are in use there will be no horse reserve. At the same time, the annual contingent of drivers will have to be increased. The transition period until the new *matériel* is brought completely into use, and the new organisation is in thorough working order, will suffice to ensure the satisfactory recruiting of drivers. There was a question, in consequence of considerations regarding artillery training, of making the field artillery a body exclusively under the Federal authorities, and to transfer the administration of the 48 batteries, which are at present local troops, entirely from under the authority of the Cantons. To avoid increasing the difficulties during the transition period, this question has been provisionally left in suspense, and will be settled later.

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## NAVAL AND MILITARY CALENDAR.

DECEMBER, 1903.

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- 2nd (W.) H.M.S. "Monmouth" commissioned at Devonport for Cruiser Squadron.
- 3rd (Th.) H.M.S. "Bonaventure" commissioned at Devonport for Pacific.
- " " H.M.S. "Furious" commissioned at Chatham for Mediterranean.
- " " 40th Co. R.G.A. arrived in England from Sierra Leone in the "Biafra."
- 4th (F.) H.M.S. "Pioneer" paid off at Chatham from Mediterranean.
- " " An additional list of South African War honours was published.
- " " 3rd Bn. Royal Fusiliers } Arrived at Bermuda from Egypt
- " " 95th Co. R.G.A. } and Malta in the "Dunera."
- 5th (Sat.) H.M.S. "Pioneer" recommissioned for Mediterranean and left for her station same day.
- " " H.M.S. "Euryalus" commissioned at Devonport for Australia.
- " " 4th Bn. Worcestershire Regiment left Bermuda for the West Indies in the "Dunera."

- 6th (S.) Announced that Abdullah Sheri had been captured by the Italians and that the Mullah had occupied Mudug, in Somaliland.
- 7th (M.) Reported that Colonel Mahon had suppressed the El Obeid rising and hanged the Mahdi.
- 9th (W.) H.M.S. "Berwick" commissioned at Portsmouth for service with Cruiser Squadron.
- " " New colours were presented to the 1st Bn. West India Regiment by the Governor of Jamaica.
- " " Advanced post of the Mullah's riflemen were turned out of Damot, Somaliland, by British Illaloes, the enemy losing heavily.
- 10th (Th.) H.M.S. "Repulse" arrived at Plymouth from Mediterranean.
- 12th (Sat.) Russia's reply to Japanese note was communicated and considered unsatisfactory.
- 16th (W.) H.M.S. "Furious" left Sheerness for Mediterranean.
- 17th (Th.) Launch of first-class battle-ship "Patrie" from La Seyne Yard, Toulon, for French Navy.
- 19th (Sat.) 4th Bn. Worcestershire Regiment arrived in the West Indies from Bermuda in the "Dunera."
- 21st (M.) 3rd Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers left the West Indies for South Africa in the "Dunera."
- " " Japan's reply to Russia was handed to the latter Power's representative.
- 22nd (T.) H.M.S. "King Alfred" commissioned at Portsmouth.
- 23rd (W.) 1st Brigade R.H.A. } Left England for South Africa in  
" " 16th Brigade R.F.A. } the "Assaye."
- 24th (Th.) Major-General Sir C. Egerton, K.C.B., reported the defeat of 2,000 dervishes near Badwein, Somaliland.
- 25th (F.) The British troops arrived at Phari, Thibet, which was found to be evacuated.
- 27th (S.) Announced that a general insurrection had broken out in Damaraland among the Bondelzwarts.
- 28th (M.) 83rd Co. R.G.A. left Esquimalt, viâ Vancouver, for Hong-Kong in the "Empress of India."
- " " The Japanese Government was given unlimited credit for war purposes.
- 30th (W.) A rising took place amongst the Akapoto tribe in Nigeria, the British resident being killed.

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## FOREIGN PERIODICALS.

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### NAVAL.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—*Boletín del Centro Naval*. Buenos Aires: October, 1903.—"The Cruise of the 'Uruguay.'" "Proposed New Regulations for Promotion and Retirement." "Our Whale Fisheries: Enumeration and Classification of the Various Species." "Abbreviated Report on the Question of the Malvino Islands" (*concluded*). "International Regulation of Sea Fisheries." "Foreign Naval Notes."

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—*Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete des Seewesens*. No. 1. Pola: January, 1904.—"Columbus and the Discovery of Northmen in North America." "The Education of the Naval Officer." "The Tactical Value of Ships' Guns." "The Importance of Auxiliary Ships in Naval Warfare." "Rear-Admiral Børresen's Torpedo-Virator." "The French Naval Estimates for 1904." "Foreign Naval Notes."