

THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA.

By W. H. CROMIE.

IV.—BULGARIA.

THE principality of Bulgaria does not appear to have made such progress in the way of national development as its puissant northern protector hoped for on the establishment of autonomy. The Bulgars are dissatisfied with their prince, with the Russians to a certain extent, and especially dissatisfied with their army. Of course, it is not to be expected that a sufficient staff of trained officers and non-commissioned officers can be manufactured by an act of the legislature, still the rate of progress towards independence of Russian aid in this matter is disappointing, for as long as the majority of the officers of the Bulgarian army remain Russians, the country will be unable to emerge from complete subservience to the will of the Muscovite Government.

Up to the termination of the Russo-Turkish War, there had never been any regularly constituted army in Bulgaria, and in April, 1878, the first conscription took place under Russian direction. A second conscription was enforced in August of the same year, and a third in May, 1879. On the withdrawal of the Russian army of occupation, the newly-raised Bulgarian troops, comprised three levies, the oldest of which had only a little over one year's service, and in November, 1880, the government considered it

advisable to enrol a new contingent, which was much larger than those preceding it, and consisted of 9,000 men, of whom 3,000 were Mussulmans.

The acceptance of Mussulmans was a decided reversal of the military policy of the government. In 1878, when the "Temporary Regulations" were drawn up under the direction of a committee of Russian officers, the bases of the organisation was the territorial system in its fullest development, and as an inducement to the Bulgars to accept service willingly, it was decreed, than on ordinary occasions no man was to be called to leave his own native district. It was soon found that the dangers anticipated from the antagonism of the Mussulman population were more imaginary than real, and on extending military service to citizens of all creeds, the purely local service system was abandoned, and a modification of the regimental distribution introduced, according to which the troops drawn from Mussulman districts, *i.e.*, where the Mussulman population is the majority, are transferred to districts where Christians predominate, and *vice versâ*. The adoption of this precautionary measure, which at the time was considered imperative, lessens the danger of concerted action, in case of a Mussulman rising, but so far things have gone on quite smoothly, and do not seem to warrant any distinctive treatment of the non-Christian population.

The Bulgarian military forces are divided into the standing army and the militia, (*opoltchenie*), the former including the active troops and reserve.

Military service is obligatory on all citizens of the state, without regard to creed or former nationality, and commences on the completion of the twentieth year. Substitution is not permitted, and exemption

is only obtainable, on account of physical incapacity for service, and under certain family conditions, those of the latter category being liable, however, in case the number of young men of the required age falls short of the prescribed contingent. Clergy of all denominations are exempted.

A levy takes place annually, the number required and time of incorporation being decided by the Ministerial Council, and promulgated by a decree. Volunteering is permitted, and a drawing takes place if the number of men presenting themselves exceeds that required for the annual contingent. Indulgence is granted in the following circumstances; men who appear of slightly inferior physique may have their entrance to the service postponed for one year: men studying at the intermediate or higher educational establishments are not called upon to serve until they have completed the science course, and are then included in the following contingent irrespective of age, and their period of service is shortened, as will be seen further on.

The full period of service is ten years, of which two years are spent with the colours, and eight years in the reserve. An exception to this rule occurs in the case of the Cavalry, Engineers, and the Sanitary and Veterinary Corps, for which the period is three years with the colours, but by way of compensation, they are only required to serve for five years in the reserve. Men who have gone through the full course in the intermediate schools have their service reduced to one year, and those who have passed through the higher educational establishments, to six months; the period of reserve service in both cases being until attaining thirty years of age. In case of war the period of service for all arms may be prolonged

indefinitely, and, on the other hand, men may be sent into the reserve before completing the regulated period with the colours.

The number of men called out each year differs according to requirements, but in an average it may be taken at 9,000, which was the figure demanded by the military authorities in 1880, when the first normal levy took place. This number suffices to keep the establishment of the active army up to its present effective, so that until a larger annual budget* is placed at the disposal of the military authorities, there is no probability of its being exceeded. The strength of the Bulgarian army in 1889, when the organisation attains its full development, may be taken approximately at :—

Active Army	17,000
Reserve	70,000
Militia (opoltchenie)	70,000
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Total	157,000
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Of the above more than one-half will have received at least two years' training, while the militia will have a knowledge of at least the rudiments of military work, being called out for drill from time to time.

For military administrative and recruiting purposes the whole of the Bulgarian principality is divided into Military Divisions, and further into circles or arrondissements. The "Temporary Regulations" of 1879, decreed the formation of two, the Western and Eastern Divisions, which were afterwards increased to three, by the addition of the Sofia Division. The Infantry battalions were to be recruited by circles,

* At present 11,000,000 francs or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total budget.

and the cavalry, artillery, and other special services by provinces; and in conformity with this plan a distribution of the forces was laid down in which the battalions, &c., were permanently localized in their respective recruiting grounds, and placed under the chief command of the division commandants. In consequence of the troubles occasioned by the partial outbreak of the Mussulman population in the early part of the independent existence of the principality, and after the withdrawal of the Russian army, the majority of the troops belonging to the Western Division were transferred to the Eastern, thus causing a considerable amount of friction in the working of the military system, necessarily at that time in an imperfect condition. Further, in the Eastern Division, the Mussulman population largely predominates, and the number of Christians is too small to satisfy the demands of the military authorities. The consequence of these important draw-backs, which might have been easily foreseen, was the alteration of the regulations concerning the localization of the forces and the enrolment of Mussulmans. The *normal* distribution has since been abrogated, and the number of divisions has reverted to that originally proposed, with some slight modification in their territorial limits. The staff of each military division consists of the commandant and two aides-de-camp.

The supply of experienced officers and non-commissioned officers is likely to be attended with considerable difficulty for some years to come. On the formation of the Bulgarian army in 1878, the whole of the officers and senior non-commissioned officers were drawn from the Russian army, but it is useless to expect this abnormal state of things to exist

indefinitely, as the Russians, like other nations, are being daily forced to offer higher premiums to retain their own non-commissioned officers in the service beyond the obligatory period, and this source of supply cannot be relied on much longer by the Bulgarian military authorities. On the other hand, it is only natural that the Bulgars should prefer to be commanded by officers of Bulgarian nationality, in which they will be cordially seconded by the government, as the Russians can only be obtained at a high figure, a proof of which may be seen in the comparatively enormous military budget. The popularity of service with the Bulgarian army among Russian officers is vouched for by the official notice which has appeared more than once in the *Russki Invalid* to the effect that no more applications for service in Bulgaria can be received, the number of officers whose names have already been noted far exceeding the number of probable vacancies.

The Active Army is composed of, (a) Direction of Artillery; (b) Direction of the Military Engineers; (c) Military Circle Commands; (d) Infantry, twenty-four battalions of four companies; (e) Cavalry, five squadrons; (f) Artillery, nine batteries and one fortress company; (g) Engineers, one half battalion of two companies; (h) Train; (i) Educational Establishment.

(a) At the head of the Direction of Artillery is the commanding officer of the arm, who is in direct communication with the War Ministry. He is assisted by a special staff consisting of a deputy director, his assistant, and a field officer, superintendent of ordnance, and exercises direct control over all batteries and Artillery establishments in the principality.

(b) The Director is a field officer of the Engineers

of tried ability in matters pertaining to this branch of the service. In addition to the command of the Sappers, he directs and controls the instruction of the army in field fortification, and superintends the construction of barracks and military buildings generally.

The personnel of the Direction consists of one Deputy-Director, one field officer and two surveyors. The Director is immediately subordinate to the War Ministry.

(c) In each of the (21) military circles there is a commandant, with the rank of colonel, who is responsible for the administration of recruiting, the enrolment and assembly of the reserves, and further, in accordance with the militia law, acts as district instructor and administrator for the *opoltschenie*.

(d) The Infantry unit is the *drujina* which corresponds to a battalion. The effective was first laid down at 1,000 of all ranks, but subsequently reduced to 608. There is no higher tactical combination of the Infantry than the battalion, as the organization in brigades and divisions still remains in abeyance.

The total number of *drujinas* is 24 of which 13 are localized in the Western and 11 in the Eastern Division.

On the peace footing, the *drujina* consists of four companies, 21 officers, and 608 non-commissioned officers and men, of whom 16 are non-combatant. The number of companies remains the same on the war footing, and the total effective may be taken at about 1,000.

The *drujina* are numbered consecutively and bear in addition the local appellation of their head-quarter town thus—Varna No. 20 Infantry *drujina*. The 1st Sofia and 17th Tirnova *drujinas* are further designated by the names of their honorary colonels.

(e) The cavalry consists of one regiment of 4 sotnias or squadrons, and an independent sotnia which forms the body-guard of the prince. Each sotnia is composed of 5 officers, 154 non-commissioned officers and men (6 non-combatants) and 144 troop horses. The system of numeration is the same as that employed in the Infantry.

(f) The Artillery is represented by two field regiments and one fortress company. Each field regiment should consist of six eight gun batteries, but the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth batteries, and the second fortress company, have not yet been formed. The field batteries, which were formerly armed with 9-pounder and 4-pounder Russian guns, have been supplied with long range steel guns taken from the Turks in the late war, the number of charges for each gun being made up to 500 from Krupp's establishment. The number of horses per gun is six, and the waggons are of the Russian two-wheeled pattern.

The total strength of the two regiments is 11 field officers, 19 captains and subalterns, 99 non-commissioned officers, 17 trumpeters, 1,026 gunners and drivers, and 78 non-combatants ; total 30 officers, 1,220 ranks, 9 batteries, and 72 guns.

Among the Artillery local establishments are included :—

The fortress company, consisting of 4 officers and 108 lower ranks. This company, which was formerly a mitrailleuse detachment, still retains those weapons, and a certain number of men are specially instructed in their use.

The local artillery park, to which are attached 3 officers, 100 non-commissioned officers and men, the Artillery laboratory, small arms factory at Razgrad, and the arsenal at Rushtchuk, comprising the armoury,

foundries, forges, harness, and painting works. The whole of the machinery employed has been purchased in Belgium, and the skilled workmen have been brought from Russia.

(g) The Engineers consist of only two companies, Sofia No. 1, and Rushtchuk No. 2. The composition of each is, both companies being almost identical, 10 officers, 28 non-commissioned officers, 8 drummers and signallers, 196 rank and file, and 22 non-combatants, or 10 officers and 254 other ranks.

A telegraph park with material for the construction of a line of 22 miles (33 versts) is attached to the Rushtchuk company. At present there is no regularly constituted railway division, but for the instruction of the troops in railway work, a small and variable number of men are being trained on the Rushtchuk-Varna line.

(h) The train service is carried out on the regimental system, the proportion of waggons to each unit being :—

Infantry drujina	3 2-horse waggon	16 horses.
Cavalry sotnia	2 " "	2 "
Battery	4 4-horse "	13 "
Engineer company.	3 2-horse "	10 "

This service, although sufficient for all purposes during peace, is not capable of the development necessary in time of war. The desirability of having a large number of pack animals and experienced drivers, especially necessary in a country like Bulgaria, seems to have been overlooked.

The usual "break-down of the commissariat department" may, therefore, be confidently looked for in case the Bulgarians should be compelled to take the field with their existing transport arrangements.

(i) The Sofia Military School is the only technical instructional establishment for Bulgarian officers. This school was instituted during the Russian occupation in the summer of 1878, and was for a few months at Philippopolis, being transferred to Sofia in November of that year. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to practically test the utility of the establishment; but it may be said that, considering the disadvantageous conditions obtaining during the first years of its existence, officers being necessarily hurried through the school at an abnormal rate, the results have been fairly satisfactory.

Candidates, who must be seventeen years of age, are obliged to undergo an entrance examination, or furnish proof of having attended the complete course at an intermediate educational establishment; soldiers in actual service are permitted to attend the examination, on similar conditions, irrespective of age. The normal strength of the cadet company is 200, and it is expected that 60 officers will be supplied annually when the establishment attains full development. All officers are obtained from this school, those of the cavalry, artillery, and engineers being taught the technical portion of their duties by the Russian officers attached to the regular troops.

It was originally intended to divide the cadets into two classes, the general and technical; but the backward state of ordinary education in the principality induced the authorities to increase the term of study and form a third class, the school thus becoming a combination of a high-class educational establishment and a technical military school.

The course of study embraces, in the general subjects—Theology, Russian, Bulgarian, French, German, mathematics, elements of physics and chemistry

geography, history, and the rudiments of anatomy and hygiene; in the military subjects—Tactics, fortification, artillery, military topography and topographical drawing, military administration, and hygiene. The whole of the military subjects are taught through the medium of the Russian language, the course of study being the same as for Russian cadets, and the handbooks made use of are those officially sanctioned for the military schools of Russia.

Cadets who have gone through the former two-year course at the Sofia Military School are obliged to serve two years with the troops for each year's tuition received, while those now going through the three-year course are only obliged to serve one year with the troops for each year spent at the school.

Reserve.—The regulations for this branch of the service have not been definitely formulated, and up to the present the provisions of the "Temporary Regulations" of 1879, and the recruiting law, have been the sole guiding authorities. It is expected that the reserve *drujinas* will be constituted in the course of the year 1884, and will be in the proportion of one to each recruiting district, or circle.

Infantry and artillerymen remain in the reserve for eight years, and men of other corps for five years; while those who have had their period of service with the colours shortened under special conditions, must remain in the reserve until the completion of the full period of ten years' military service.

Officers who have been educated at the Military School, and have served with the active troops for the obligatory number of years, are permitted to retire, should they wish to do so, by joining the reserve, in which they remain until the completion of ten years' total service.

The reserve is liable to be called out, wholly or in part, in order to increase the number of active troops according to necessity, and during peace the men may be collected in their respective districts for annual training for a period not exceeding four weeks.

With the exception of the above general principle, nothing definite is laid down by the law on the subject of the administration of the reserve. The Temporary Regulations have, it is true, imposed upon the commandants of divisions and military circles the duty of administering the affairs of the portion of the reserve in their district; but have failed to indicate to what extent they should be assisted in their duties by the civil authorities. It is, therefore, difficult to form a correct estimate of the number of reserve men actually and readily available, as, although the number yearly liberated from service is precisely known, it is impossible, without the co-operation of the civil authorities, to form any idea of the losses occasioned by death, change of abode from one district to another, or by leaving the principality.

Taking the official returns of men liberated from active service, and allowing a large margin for losses, the figure would be approximately 27,000 at the present time; and by the end of the decade, from the inauguration of the system, may attain 70,000 men, of whom the majority will have had at least two years' service with the colours.

Opoltchenie.—In December, 1880, a new law was promulgated with reference to the *opoltchenie*, the substance of which is given below.

The whole of the principality will, with regard to the administration of this service, be divided into military circles, coinciding with the civil division of the territory. All citizens not belonging to the active

troops or reserve will, up to the age of forty, be enrolled with the opoltchenie, and, in case of need, will assemble at the head-quarters of their respective districts in independent sotnias, termed locally *tchets*. Each *tchet* will have its commander (*tchetnik*), officers (*podtchetniki*), and sergeants (*desiatniki-decurions*), who will be chosen from the opoltchenie, and its instructors, taken from among the non-commissioned officers of the reserve army.

In each district a "District Committee" is established, consisting of six members selected from the *tchetniks* or company commanders of the opoltchenie, and a district instructor is appointed—who must be an officer of the regular army—*ex officio*, a member of the committee, and ranking during tenure of the appointment with the company commanders. The general administration of this branch of the service is in the hands of the Central Committee, which consists of a president, vice-president, and six members, the two former being appointed by the Prince and the members of the National Assembly.

The opoltchenie is called out yearly for military instruction, at the discretion of the district committees, subject to the conditions that each period does not exceed seven days, and the aggregate of each year fifty days. The arms and ammunition are supplied by Government, the men having otherwise to provide for themselves during the instructional periods.

Armament.—The rifle at first adopted by the Bulgarian military authorities was the *krinka*; but in the commencement of 1880 the Berdan system was introduced, 16,000 rifles and 8,000,000 cartridges being purchased; so that the whole of the infantry of the active troops is furnished with this weapon. In addition, there are 50,000 *krinkas* and 15,000,000

cartridges in possession of the Government. The cavalry, which is formed on the Cossack model, carry the sabre and Berdan carbine; the non-commissioned officers and trumpeters having revolvers instead of the carbine. The artillery gunners are armed with sabres, Russian pattern, and revolvers, and officers of all arms carry the Tcherkess sabre. The proportion of cartridges to each fire-arm is:—Infantry rifle, 100; cavalry carabine, 70; and revolver, 30.



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V.—MONTENEGRO.

THE principality of Montenegro is one of the very few European states whose military organisation is not founded on the German system, as although an innovation in that direction was contemplated in the early part of 1881, popular feeling in favour of the traditional system, and the peculiarities of social life, have, for a time at least, postponed its adoption. It is, therefore, with a feeling of relief we turn from the interminable repetition of the main features of the German plan, to the consideration of a military system which is unique in its simplicity, has stood the test of four centuries almost uninterrupted hostilities against a powerful foe, and has preserved the Montenegrins from the foreign yoke, except in name, while other more powerful peoples have been forced to succumb. On the other hand, the application of the German system to a country the size of Corsica, and with a population of 286,000 would be utterly useless, the main elements of security in the possession of the Montenegrins being their inaccessible mountains, innate bravery and warlike instinct, and that inordinate love of country and freedom which is a natural and highly-developed characteristic of every "highland" people.

From time immemorial Montenegro has possessed

no regular standing army worthy of the name, the military force requisite for carrying on hostilities, which have chiefly been of a defensive nature, being supplied by a *levée en masse* of all men fit for service between seventeen and fifty years of age, and in some cases mere boys, and even women, have been known to take part in the defence of the mountain passes. Under ordinary circumstances this force would be simply an armed rabble, but the particularly rugged nature of the "black mountain," added to the fact that almost every man in the country is an experienced rifle shot, and therefore admirably adapted for guerilla warfare, has hitherto enabled the Montenegrin army to honourably uphold the country's cause against superior numbers. The whole of the frontier is constantly watched by experienced signalmen, which is almost the sole military duty performed during peace. As a further precautionary measure the majority of the houses in the frontier defiles are built of stone and strongly fortified, in order to be able to cause a temporary check in the advance of an invading army, and thus give the authorities sufficient time to collect the men belonging to the army.

With the present population it is reckoned that the number of men fit to bear arms between seventeen and fifty years of age would be about 80,000, of whom 25,000 are enrolled in the army. For military administration, as well as for civil purposes, the whole of the territory is divided into districts, called *nahia*, each of which is presided over by a *voievode*, who assumes command of the men of his district in case of war. The *nahia* comprises several *plemeni*, which are similar to the Scottish clans, each furnishing a *tchet*, or company, of 100 men. The military hierarchy is rather peculiar, and presents as nearly as possible the

undermentioned similarity to that ordinarily obtaining in European armies :—

OFFICERS.

Voievode . . .	equivalent to Brigadier-General.
Komander . . .	„ Colonel.
Pod-Komander .	„ Lieut.-Colonel.
Offitzer or Stoyinar	„ Captain.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN.

Desiatchir . . .	equivalent to Sergeant.
Vodnik . . .	„ Corporal.
Voinik . . .	„ Private.

The above-named functionaries, from the voievode to the desiatchir, in addition to their purely military duties, act as administrative officials, judges, and in other civil capacities.

The army is divided into infantry and artillery, and besides there is a small force of gendarmerie (*perjanik*), which being composed of trained soldiers may be looked upon as military, and the Prince's body-guard. The infantry consists of thirty battalions, each of from six to ten companies, the average being, however, seven companies. Thus the total nominal strength of the arm is 21,000 men. The artillery consists of a single brigade, under the command of a colonel, and numbering 300 of all ranks. This brigade, which is horsed only in war time, comprises six Krupp 4-pounders, and four Russian bronze breech-loading guns, two 9-pounders, and two 4-pounders. There are further six Krupp 12-pounders which were captured from the Turks in the late war, along with several Whitworth mountain pieces, and a number of old pattern muzzle-loading iron and bronze guns. One of the latter has since been broken up and cast

into medals commemorating the war and the independence of the principality. The total number of guns of various systems and calibres at the disposal of Montenegro is about 100.

In connection with the scientific arm there are the gunpowder factory at Cettinge and the armoury at Rieka, which was established with assistance from Russia; and each *plemen*, or clan, has its particular ammunition depôt, thus rendering the state independent in the matter of the supply of war *matériel*, which in itself is an amelioration of considerable importance.

The armament of the infantry is yet more varied than that of the artillery. The weapon in the hands of the majority is the Ventseli, but there are also a considerable number of the Henri-Martini-Peabody, Krinka, Winchester magazine, and Mauser systems. As the worth of these rifles is very unequal, an attempt has been made to apportion the number of each system throughout the different battalions, and each man is supplied by Government with a considerable number of cartridges to suit the weapon he holds. In addition to his rifle, the Montenegrin usually has a pair of pistols stuck in his belt, or a revolver, which is generally of Le Fauchaux pattern. These, with a yatagan and long Albanian cheferdar, give the wearer quite an imposing appearance.

The gendarmerie (*perianiki*) consists of 300 men selected from the best conducted soldiers, subject to the approval of the Prince before final appointment, and in addition to police duties, furnishes the body-guard of the sovereign and renders other personal services. One-third of the company is employed at a time, the tour of duty being one month in attendance on the Prince and other eminent personages; the remaining

two-thirds being at home on leave. From the 300 the Prince personally selects 32 men as a special body-guard, of whom 12 at a time are employed at the palace and in attendance on the Prince on the occasion of state ceremonies. In this case the tour of duty is also monthly, so that all the perianiki are only called upon to render four months' service during the year.

Cavalry, engineers, and commissariat are all wanting, and the sanitary service is represented by a detachment of 100 trained hospital attendants. The troops wear the national costume, and retain their arms and accoutrements during peace. In the fortresses a large quantity of powder, intrenching tools, cartridges, rifles and ordnance ammunition, taken from the Turks during the late campaign, is stored ready to be issued in case of need.

The amount of attention paid to military instruction is very limited, as the troops only meet from time to time to be put through the manual exercise and a few simple evolutions. Musketry instruction is ignored, as the people are excellent marksmen from constant practice with the rifle in hunting, and ammunition used in imparting technical instruction would be practically wasted. The Montenegrins do not pose as a military people, their warlike aspirations being confined to possessing the means of resisting foreign invasion; more attention is, therefore, paid to instruction in the traditional tactics of the nation, which consist in enticing the enemy into the depths of a ravine and cutting off solitary individuals by large bodies lying in ambush, or on the other hand picking them off piece-meal from the high rocks and mountain peaks. It is only necessary to point to Laing's Nek as an illustration of the powerful moral effect of a

well-directed fire of the latter description upon masses of even the very best disciplined troops.

A battalion of Montenegrins on the march is a sight well worth seeing. In the first place there is scarcely a decent road in the country, and if there were, the Montenegrin being accustomed to rocks and precipices would disdain to use it, so all goes well until the first winding part of the route is reached, when the battalion seems to melt away and become completely disintegrated; little groups being scattered over the whole country along the line of march. In addition, the Montenegrin evinces a very decided partiality for his big white umbrella, which he makes use of to protect him from sun and rain indifferently. This article of equipment is, if unusual, rather picturesque, and when viewed from an eminence the battalion resembles nothing in the world more than a large number of gigantic mushrooms moving along in a disorderly manner.

VI.—EASTERN ROUMELIA.

The military forces of Eastern Roumelia comprise the local militia and gendarmerie. The local militia forms a territorial, sedentary military force, composed entirely of natives and naturalised citizens, and can only be mobilised by the Governor-General of the Province, in his capacity of delegate of the Sultan. During peace the militia may be called upon to assist the gendarmerie in the preservation of public order.

As a component part of the armed forces of the Ottoman Empire, the Roumelian militia is obliged to second the defensive action of the Imperial army in case of an invasion of the province, or of hostilities on the frontiers; and provided that the Ottoman Govern-

ment fulfil the obligations imposed upon it at the time when autonomy was granted, the militia may be employed, on the demand of the Sublime Porte, to reinforce the Turkish Army in any part of the European territory of the empire. In any case, the Roumelian contingent constitutes a separate auxiliary corps under the command of its own officers. The expenses connected with mobilisation are chargeable to the imperial exchequer.

With the usual exemptions and indulgences, service is obligatory on all able-bodied males, and substitution is not permitted. The period of service is twelve years, of which four are passed in the first *ban* of the militia, four in the second *ban*, and four in the reserve. The age for entering the militia is ordinarily twenty, but in cases of national danger all men fit for service between eighteen and fifty may be called out. The first *ban* is composed of the men belonging to the four youngest classes of conscripts, and includes men serving voluntarily, and the permanent cadres of the militia. The second *ban* comprises the fifth to eighth classes, and the remaining four classes belong to the reserve.

For administrative purposes the whole of the territory is divided into six departments, which are further sub-divided into twelve districts, the head-quarters of which are in the under-mentioned towns:—Nos. 1 and 2, Philippopolis; No. 3, Tatar-Bazarjyk; No. 4, Carlova; No. 5, Kazantiek; No. 6, Eski-Zagra; No. 7, Slivna; No. 8, Yamboli; No. 9, Hermanli; No. 10, Haskeui; No. 11, Aidos; and No. 12, Bourgas.

Each district furnishes one battalion of the first *ban*, one battalion of the second *ban*, and one *depôt* company. Thus on mobilisation, before appealing to the reserve or the *levée en masse*, the authorities could

dispose of a force of twenty-four battalions. Recruiting is carried out locally, each district furnishing annually a sufficient number of men to bring the battalion up to one-quarter of its war strength, drawing by lot taking place when a sufficient number of volunteers is not forthcoming. The military year begins on the 1st October, when the incorporation of the annual contingent commences. This is carried out by the division of the contingent into four groups, each of which remains two months with the colours, so that by the 31st of May of the following year the preliminary recruits' course is terminated. The following three months, June, July, and August, are devoted to the instruction of the officers and non-commissioned officers of the non-permanent cadres, who are called out in successive batches for periods of fifteen days. Exemption from this training may be granted by the commandant of militia to those officers and non-commissioned who may desire it, on condition that they come up for training every alternate year. The month of September is taken up by the general manœuvres, when the whole of the first ban, with the exception of the youngest class, is required to be present, and when the financial condition of the province permits, it is intended to call out the men of the second ban for a period of fifteen days annually.

During peace each battalion of the first ban is represented by a permanent staff and one company, called the active company, consisting of at least fifty men in addition to the cadre, to which are attached for instruction the recruits of the annual contingent. The normal effective of this company is 238, but the number was reduced in 1881 to 160, from economical motives. In addition to these skeleton battalions there is the school of instruction, or battalion-school, to

which non-commissioned officers and officers are attached for instruction before promotion. This battalion comprises two companies of infantry, one squadron of cavalry, one half-battery of artillery, one company of artificers, and one company of engineers. Besides being utilised for instructional purposes, this battalion is destined to form the nucleus of the special arms requisite on placing the militia on a war footing.

The present peace effective of the Roumelian militia consists of eighteen companies of infantry (the battalions at Philippopolis, Haskein, and Bourgas have two companies in addition to the normal "active company"), and the battalion-school, with a general total of 4,500 officers and men. Adding the 1,400 men of the gendarmerie, who serve under military discipline, and are administered by military officials, the figure is brought up to 5,900 men. The war strength is 21,000 men, and the total number attainable with the actual organisation, cannot far exceed 30,000 men.

VII.—ROUMANIA.

The military forces of Roumania comprise—(1) the permanent army and its reserve, (2) the territorial army and its reserve, (3) the militia, and (4) the urban guard in towns, and the *levée en masse* in rural districts. The permanent and territorial armies, with their reserves, form the active army, or army of the first line.

Obligatory military service commences at twenty-one years of age, and continues until the age of forty-six. The period is thus divided:—

From twenty-one to twenty-nine in the permanent or territorial army. In the former, men serve three years with the colours and five years in the reserve,

those belonging to the infantry of the territorial army serve five years on the active list and three years in the reserve, while in the cavalry arm of the same branch of the service, the time is four years on the active list and four in the reserve.

The period of active service may, however, be reduced to two years in the permanent, and three years in the territorial army, for all men belonging to rural districts who are able to pass an educational examination, the scope of which is limited to the fourth class subjects in primary schools.

The men of the permanent and territorial armies pass into the militia on attaining twenty-nine years of age, for a further period of eight years, *i.e.*, until thirty-seven years old. In addition the militia receives the remaining portion of each annual contingent, after the requirements of the active army have been provided for, and also all men exempted from active service; these classes pass the full period of sixteen years in the militia.

The urban guard comprises all men dwelling in towns between thirty-seven and forty-six; and the *levée en masse*, all inhabitants of rural districts between thirty-seven and forty-seven years of age.

The annual contingent numbers, after deducting the men unfit for service and exempt, about 30,000; the whole of this number has, since 1878, been incorporated with the permanent and territorial armies, before that time the number annually incorporated was from 15,000 to 18,000, the remainder of the contingent passing direct into the militia, the distribution of the recruits among the three branches of the army being decided by lot.

When the organisation attains its fullest development, the number of men belonging to the active army

and its reserves will be about 235,000. Of this number there were in 1882 on the lists of the two active branches, 165,000 men, comprising 136,000 infantry, 14,500 cavalry, 10,000 artillery, and 4,500 engineers, train, and accessory services.

The whole of the territory is divided into four districts, furnishing four army-corps, and having their head-quarters at (1) Craiova, (2) Bucharest, (3) Galatz, and (4) Jassy. Each district is further sub-divided into divisional, brigade, regimental, battalion, and squadron recruiting districts, which, however, have not yet been brought into full working order. When all conditions have been fulfilled, the Roumanian active army will, it is hoped by the authorities, consist of:—thirty-two infantry regiments of three battalions each, and eight rifle battalions; twenty regiments of cavalry, of five or six squadrons each; eight regiments of artillery, each of from six to nine batteries—fifty-six batteries of six guns; four battalions of engineers, and the necessary proportion of the auxiliary services.

The Permanent Army comprises infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, administrative departments, and gendarmerie.

The infantry actually comprises eight regiments of the line, and four battalions of rifles. Each line regiment is composed of a regimental staff, depôt company, and two battalions. The rifle battalions form separate corps, and consist of the battalion, staff, and depôt section. There are four service companies to the battalion.

The cavalry consists of two regiments of *rossiori* (red hussars) each comprising a regimental staff, depôt section, and four squadrons.

The artillery consists of five regiments and three

companies of artificers. Each regiment is composed of a regimental staff, depôt section, and six batteries of six guns—one horse and five field batteries.

Each of the two battalions of engineers comprises a battalion staff, depôt section, and five companies, of which the first is composed of telegraphists; the second, railway artificers; the third and fourth, sappers and miners; and the fifth, pontoniers.

The accessory services comprise four squadrons of transport, ordnance artificers, four sanitary companies, and the veterinary department.

The gendarmerie is composed of a mounted regiment, quartered in the Dobruscha, two independent squadrons, and two companies.

The Territorial Army comprises infantry (*dorobantsi*), cavalry (*calarashi*), and artillery.

The *dorobantsi* numbers thirty active and thirty reserve regiments, each consisting of two battalions and a depôt section. The *calarashi* forms eleven regiments, each of four squadrons and a depôt section. There are fourteen territorial artillery batteries, and four depôt sections.

The regiments of the territorial army are divided into two quite distinct classes; the first, comprising the whole of the officers and a certain number of non-commissioned and men, constitutes the permanent staff of the regiments, the second is formed of a variable number of non-commissioned officers and men, which depends upon the vote of the annual budget. This second class is divided into several series called *schimba*, of which there must be not less than four. The *schimba* serve in turns, the tour of duty commencing on Sunday, and lasting for a week, so that the men of the second class of the territorial army pass, alternatively, one week under arms, and at least three in their homes.

During peace the men of the territorial artillery are employed as firemen.

On the 1st (13th) January, 1881, an instructional battalion for the dorobantsi, was created in Bucharest, and on the 1st (13th) May, an instructional squadron for the calarashi. The military school, which was founded in 1847, and re-organised in 1872, was changed on the 19th April (1st May, 1881), into a school for infantry and cavalry officers, the artillery and engineers receiving their technical education abroad. By a decree of the same date, the establishment of a School of Application for artillery and engineers was ordered, and, in addition, the creation of a Military Academy in Bucharest, is proposed. The autumn manœuvres usually commence in the middle of August, and end with a grand review about the middle of November. The troops and reserves of the territorial army are liable to be called together at their own head-quarters for instruction in combined movements of the higher tactical units.

The Militia comprises all men who have passed the regulated period in the permanent and territorial armies, and also all men who have been exempted from service in the active army and "disposable" recruits, of which, however, there has been no supply since 1878, the whole of the annual contingents being absorbed by the active army.

Militiamen are divided into three classes, (a) men not married, or widowed, without children; (b) married men without children; and (c) married men and widowers with children. Transfer from the militia to *schimba* of the dorobantsi and calarashi, and *vice versa*, may be authorized in the interests of the service, or on account of special private reasons.

The force will in due time exactly correspond with

the active army in number and organisation, but at present consists of sixty battalions of infantry, with an approximate total of 50,000 men. For so far the cavalry arm is unrepresented, as there are no horses available.

The Urban Guard only has been organized, and comprises fourteen legions of from two to four battalions each, a total of thirty-four battalions, fourteen independent battalions and six companies. The organisation of the *levée en masse* will form the subject of future legislation.

The total effective of the Roumanian permanent army is about 19,000 of all ranks. The effective on a war footing, when the military organisation attains its full development, will be approximately :

<i>Army of the 1st Line :—</i>	
Active Army (comprising the permanent and territorial armies, with their reserves)	. 235,000
 <i>Army of the 2nd Line :—</i>	
Militia (for defensive operations only)	. . 235,000
	—
Grand Total	. . 470,000
	—

The Urban Guard and *levée en masse* have not been included in this recapitulation, as in their broader acceptation they mean the *whole* of the male population up to the age of forty-seven, which should not, properly speaking, come under the head of the available military forces of a country.