

at the very time when they have leisure to advance themselves, facilities are not afforded them on account of the overcrowded state of the schools already in operation. Now, were there a school established at Ottawa, this difficulty, so far as these districts are concerned, would vanish, the militia would become more popular, its standard would be elevated and an ardor and enthusiasm would be imparted sufficient to keep the battalions of our districts up to their full quota of men.

We hope, in view of the above arguments and the fact of Ottawa being the civil and military capital of the Dominion, that the Hon. the Minister of Militia will give the matter his earnest consideration.

I hope to be favored with the opinion of the MILITIA GAZETTE, or of some of the officers of the Midland Districts on the subject.

Gananoque, Ont., 18th Jan., 1886.

VOLUNTEER.

### QUERIES AND REPLIES.

Q.—What can I do with a major in a rifle regiment who owes for his undress uniform since October, 1882? He makes the excuse that his pay is not sufficient to cover his expenses while in Niagara camp.—ONTARIO.

A.—Sue him, or if he is not worth it, post him as a dead beat. You can do nothing to him in his military capacity, though in the regular service a commanding officer would put the screws on pretty tightly and probably drive out such a disgrace to his corps. He knew when he took office that his pay would not provide him with uniform, and if a major cannot afford to pay what must be the case with all the second lieutenants who do pay?—ED.

Will "Poco Tempo," Sussex Vale, N. B., please send his name in conformity with our regulations.

Q.—§70. Canadian Militia Regulations.—"Commissions of officers in the Militia shall be granted by Her Majesty during pleasure, and *all n. c. o.* in the Militia shall be appointed by the officer commanding the corps or battalion to which they belong, and shall hold their rank during pleasure." Will you kindly let us know through the medium of your paper during whose pleasure does a *n. c. o.* hold rank.—A SUBSCRIBER, Toronto, 22nd Jan., 1886.

A.—Her Majesty's pleasure. A commanding officer has the power to order acting and lance non-commissioned officers to revert to their permanent grades (Queen's Reg. Sec. VI, para. 44, also Sec. VII, para. 115) but "when a non-commissioned officer commits an offence, which, in the opinion of the commanding officer, requires the cancelling of the appointment of such non-commissioned officer, or of his reduction, the case must be referred to headquarters." (R. & O. 1883, para. 260.) From this it will be seen that a commanding officer has no power to reduce a permanently appointed *n. c. o.*—ED.

### REGIMENTAL NOTES.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

HAMILTON F. BAT. ARTILLERY.—The following members have obtained certificates at the Royal School of Artillery, Kingston: Corps. Geo. Mariott, Robert Trumbull, R. Provan and Gunner Ormand, 1st class short course, grade B. Gunners J. H. Brum, J. H. McKenzie and C. Hutcheson, 2nd class short course, grade B.

C. Co'y I. S. C.—In our issue of the 12th it was mentioned that Private E. Cameron, of C. Company, Infantry School Corps, who was lately reduced to the ranks by a court-martial, had been arrested at the instance of H. W. Hirschberg and charged with forging the name of Major Smith to a certificate of service in the North-west. When the case came before the Toronto Police Magistrate on the 11th instant the prisoner was defended by Mr. E. Langtry, barrister, a color sergeant in the Q. O. R., who proved by three witnesses that Cameron was in the County of Halton at the time when Hirschberg swore he called at his office, 4 King street, Toronto. Cameron's acquittal caused quite a burst of applause from the spectators, and will be gladly learnt by all the friends of the gallant corps to which he belongs.

MIDLAND PROV. BATTALION.—Bugler Christian Hormel, of E. Company, has received from the Government a gratuity of \$153 for disability on account of rheumatism contracted on active service.

Color-Sergeant Thomas Wrighton, of this corps died suddenly on Saturday. He had been slightly indisposed for a week or more, but none thought him seriously afflicted. In the night he awakened his wife, told her he was dying, and immediately expired. The deceased has been care-taker of the Young Men's Conservative Club rooms since the rebellion. He served for twenty-one years in the English army, seen service in India and passing through the Afghan war. He was methodical and unassuming in his ways, but every inch a soldier.

The funeral, under the direction of "A" Company of the Midland Battalion, will be held from the residence on Coleman street, near the Baptist Church, to the cemetery this Tuesday afternoon.

Sergeant Wrighton was in a group with Sergt. Christie, Lieutenant Laidlaw and Sergt-Major Sproule, also of the Midland, when entering Batoche upon the day of the charge, when one volley hit the three first named, Wrighton and Christie in their arms and Mr. Laidlaw in the leg.

ROYAL SCOTS—This fine regiment is considering the possibility of a trip to England to share in the celebration of the Queen's jubilee. The probable expense has been figured down to about \$50 a man, and there is not the slightest doubt but that if the regiment decided to go it could start with full ranks.

VICTORIA RIFLES are talking of building an armory up town instead of using the government drill shed, which is inconveniently far from the residences of most of the members. The *Star* explains that at present the "Vics" occupy as an armory, jointly with the Montreal Field Battery, the lower storey of the old high school building on University street, but it is expected that the Fraser Institute will require the vacation of this property shortly, as they intend to use

it as an addition to their free library maintained in the upper storey. The proposition is to organize a joint stock company on the understanding that a certain annual revenue should be granted the shareholders. Some \$40,000, it is estimated will be required, and no difficulty is anticipated in raising this capital, as several gentlemen have already offered to subscribe for stock, provided they are guaranteed five per cent. annually. This, it is thought, can be managed, as the members of the corps were enthusiastic in their support of the old armory and company rooms. It is proposed to establish messes in connection with the armory, as the members of the regiment would thus enjoy all the privileges of a first-class club, besides the advantage of a convenient armory. The annual pay of the corps would about cover the guaranteed interest to the shareholders and the plan, if carried out, would not entail much, if any, additional expense on the members of the regiment, as the annual pay is now placed to the credit of the regimental and company funds.

QUEBEC CAVALRY.—The following letter from "a lover of the old squadron" in the *Quebec Chronicle*, will prove interesting. The Queen's Own Canadian Hussars have been organized no less than thirty years, and it seems from this letter that they were not the first cavalry of the ancient capital:

"DEAR MR. EDITOR,—It will be gratifying to the men of the Quebec Cavalry School to read the following clippings from our Orderly Book dated Headquarters, Quebec, 24th April, 1824, showing how highly the cavalry of that day, were appreciated. "The formation, and appearance, of the troop in garrison yesterday in honor of His Majesty's birthday, call upon the commander of the forces to express in general orders his unqualified approbation to all officers commanding. His Excellency feels it incumbent upon him to notice in a particular manner the volunteer troop of Quebec Cavalry, commanded by Major Bell,—the Artillery commanded by Lieut. Cringer,—the Rifle Company by Capt. Duan,—the Grenadiers and Light Infantry of the Third Battalion,—their appearance in line with His Majesty's troops, completely drilled, and admirably appointed, during the last three months bore ample testimony of their zeal and spirit. The Governor-in-Chief is delighted to see such corps formed in the cities of this province. They do honor to the country, they do honor to those who have stepped forward and shown the good example to young men,—they unite all classes of society, and lead to general happiness. These are the motives of the Governor-in-Chief in promoting and encouraging the volunteer corps,—and His Excellency has peculiar pleasure in offering the record of his approbation, and thanks to the officers above named."

"While on the topic of the above named corps, I am given to understand that the Quebec Cavalry had colors presented to them. Why do not the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars adopt these colors, or some suitable emblems similar to the old ones?"

"Perhaps Colonel Turnbull, now in command of the Cavalry School Corps, and who is well known to take the greatest interest in cavalry matters, will relieve our minds, as I feel sure he has the warmest feelings towards the old and esteemed corps, formerly Quebec's pride.

"I should esteem it a favor if he would give information on the following points:—

1st. Who commanded "B" Troop of Cavalry during the Fenian raids of June, 1866, and May, 1870?

2nd. Was this troop then quartered out of Quebec?

3rd. Was it engaged at "Eccles Hill," with the Victoria Rifles of Montreal, or elsewhere?

4th. Who was the commanding officer of the squadron at that time?

5th. Does the distinguishing letter "F" attached to the names of certain officers in the Militia List, signify that they were out under fire during the Fenian raids; or does it mean that they were attached to the Intelligence Department of the Imperial Service, under the leadership of Sir Patrick McDougall?

"I should be glad if the distinguished and gallant colonel would answer these questions, as I wish to preserve a correct record of an old and much valued corps, and add one page more to my military "portfolio."

P. E. I. PROV. BRIGADE GAR. ARTILLERY.—Eight men each from Nos. 1 and 2 Batteries met for target competition at Fort Edward on the 14th. The weather, though somewhat cold, was favorable, and the shooting, which was from 32-pounder guns, was very good indeed. The detachment from Capt. Moore's Co., No. 2, scored 187 points, of which Gunner McLeod contributed 30. We have been unable to secure the score of Capt. Passmore's Co., No. 1, in time for to-day's issue, but will publish it as soon as possible.

### AMUSEMENTS.

(If the active organizers of regimental games, company clubs, and similar winter occupations for the militia will forward us accounts of their doings we will gladly publish them. This, we hope, will have the good result of encouraging the organization of similar clubs where there are none at present.)

HAMILTON.—G. Company of the 13th propose entertaining the citizens with an assault-at-arms next week, and promise the most elaborate programme ever presented in Hamilton. The commanders of the School of Infantry, Royal Grenadiers and Dufferin Rifles, amongst others, have promised to attend.

TORONTO.—The non-commissioned officers and men of the Governor-General's Body Guards gave a ball at the Pavilion Music Hall on the 15th, in aid of the widow and children of the late Sergeant-Major Smith, who died last year. The Committee, composed of Sergeant-Major Granger, chairman; Sergeant Donaldson, treasurer; Trooper Bell, secretary; Troopers O'Connell, McMillan, Granger and Klein are to be congratulated on the result of their labors. The stage wore a decidedly martial appearance, the camp of the Body Guards at Humboldt being represented. A marquee was pitched in the middle, and from the top of the centre tent pole floated a union jack which did duty during the rebellion. To the left was the telegraph office, and a representation of the one house of which Humboldt is the proud possessor. Wires stretched across the stage added reality to the supposititious despatch office. Stands of arms were piled