

with the subjects of arrest and trial, power of commanding officer, prisoner's preparation for defence, courts martial, procedure at trial, friend of prisoner and counsel, evidence, finding and sentence, confirmation and revision, penal reductions from pay, imprisonment, courts of inquiry, &c. The last chapter consists of a short compilation of the law of evidence, and presents in a compact form the rules which should govern at all trials.

We are aware that Major Macpherson's book has been ready for the printer for some time past, but being anxious to secure official endorsement he decided not to publish it until he had placed it before Major-General Sir Frederick Middleton. That officer, than whom there is probably no one in the British army more capable of expressing an opinion upon the subject, and who is as painstaking and conscientious as he is able, declined the sanction of his name until he had made a thorough examination of the work. He has recently been able to spare the time necessary to do this, and has intimated to Major Macpherson that he has found his statements of the law to be perfectly correct. This endorsement from the Officer commanding the Militia will at once give the book a standing, and we hope to see a copy of it in the hands of every officer of the force. It will be invaluable to those attending the military schools, preparing for examinations, &c.

The book is to be printed at Messrs. Lovell's Montreal publishing house, which is a sufficient guarantee that the work will be well done.

### PERSONAL.

Col. Powell, A.G., was able to resume his office duties yesterday.

Major Gordon, Captain of the "A" School of Infantry, has been appointed an aide-de-camp to Sir Leonard Tilley, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick.

Capt. Peters' handsome face adorns a late number of the *Amateur Photographer*, as the first taker of photographs under fire. It will be remembered that Capt. Peters, while in command of "A" Battery in the North-west, succeeded in securing views of the engagements in which that corps participated, and the number contains some interesting reproductions from there. We hope to say something further on this subject later.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE TUQUE FOR WINTER.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—In your issue of the 17th inst. I notice an editorial note on the head-dress for our winter climate. You suggest the "tuque" as being more adapted to the comfort of the wearer than the ordinary clumsy wedge. The suggestion is a good one and should certainly be given a trial.

When I was in the North-west during the late rebellion I was quartered for a day at Qu'Appelle station, or Troy, en route for the north, and whilst waiting there I paid a visit to the camp of the 91st Regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Scott, M.P. They were forming up prior to marching off to a church parade, and as it was cold (for it was then the second week in April) the men wore the "tuque" instead of the ordinary "glengarry." I noticed that each company had different colors, such as scarlet, brown, and dark blue. If the whole battalion had had the same color it would have looked much better; still the effect was very good, and in my estimation looked much better than if they had worn the clumsy wedge. I was so much pleased with the "tuque" that I purchased one for myself, which I found exceedingly comfortable during the remainder of the campaign when the nights were cold.

One of the Ottawa contingent to the North-west.

OTTAWA, Nov. 20th, 1885.

#### "HONORS FOR THOSE WHO WERE AT THE FRONT."

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—In your issue of Nov. 17th, I notice a letter written and signed by "The Odd File."

Now, sir, both he and "Volunteer" must be possessed of a very acute sense of hearing, as they seem to have detected a "growl" that has been rumbling through the ranks of those who were at the front.

It would seem by this last statement that both he and "Volunteer" think that only those who were fortunate enough to be at Batoche, are to be considered as having been to the "front."

The "Odd File" wants a different pattern of medal, or a different colored ribbon to distinguish "we who were at Batoche" from the rest of the volunteers.

Might we not suggest a special issue of tunics to "Volunteer," "Odd File," and the rest of their grumbling friends, with the word Batoche painted across the breasts in white. We would not be in the least jealous.

It is rather a sweeping assertion to accuse those who were at Batoche of growling, as I am sure the Royal Grenadiers, and the 90th Battalion, and A Battery, R.C.A., do not begrudge us poor mortals who were at Fish Creek, Cut Knife, or Frenchman's Butte, wearing the same decorations as themselves.

I think it would be better taste to say the least of it, if the "Odd File" would remain silent on a subject which perhaps older, and possibly wiser, heads than his must have fully discussed.

"CUT KNIFE."

#### A NEW SERVICE ARM REQUIRED.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—Now that our Snider rifles are getting played out I would suggest to the authorities to have a good rifle of their own and not purchase cheaply the worn out Martini-Henry, discarded by the British Government. The new Martini-Enfield, 40 gauge, has been proved a splendid weapon from having met a low trajectory. I would say take its barrel and put on it a Snider action, which is not so costly as the Martini breech action, and use the same 40 gauge ammunition which would obviate all mistakes of mixed ammunition on the field. The Snider was proved in the North-west to be a very good rifle, from its breech action being safe, simple, easily worked, easily repaired when out of order, and standing well all the vicissitudes of our climate. Mind I say nothing of its shooting qualities. We want a truer shooting rifle than the Snider, but with its simple breech action. If the above combination is possible, and there is no reason why it should not be so, we would then have as good a rifle as that used in the British service at a smaller cost.

FORTY GAUGE SNIDER.

### 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, would have the good result of encouraging the organization of similar clubs where there are none at present.)

OTTAWA.—A football match, Rugby rules, was played on Thanksgiving day between teams of the 43rd O. and C. Rifles and the P. L. Dragoon Guards, which proved most entertaining to the spectators, as the ground was very slippery and only a few on each side were in practice, and some, notably Dr. Coleman P.L.D.G., were laboring under the misapprehension that football was a game in which kicking still had a prominent place. Two half hours were played, and, when time was called the score stood, Rifles 22 points, including two goals; Dragoons, nothing. Capt. Evans captained the Rifles' team, in which good play was shown by Bray, Kerr, McCormack, Pratt and Clendinning; while Lieut. Humfrey, Captain of the Dragoons' team, was ably seconded by Bolard and Martin. It should be said in explanation of the one-sided score that the Rifles had a much more numerous list to select from than the Dragoons.

"A" company, G.G.F.G., has for many years past taken an annual fall tramp to Aylmer, nine miles from the drill hall, where they take dinner, have a good time generally, and return in the wee sma' hours by train or some other conveyance less susceptible to weariness than their own legs. This year they started at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon. There was a good turn out, numbering nearly sixty, including fifteen of the band under Bandmaster Bonner. Owing to the fine afternoon a great many people were out of doors, and the trim and soldier-like appearance of the volunteers as they passed through the principal streets won many expressions of admiration from the onlookers. In Ottawa and Hull the mud on the streets was too deep for pleasant walking, but the Aylmer road was found dry and smooth, and good time was made to Aylmer. Holt's hotel was found as hospitable-looking as ever, gaily illuminated, with a great display of bunting. The sound of the approaching band had caused a large gathering of Aylmerites in front of the hotel, who gave a hearty welcoming cheer as the redcoats arrived. During the interval between the time of arrival and the dinner bugle, the company held a brief business meeting, when it was decided to join with the Ladies' Aid Association in erecting a brass tablet in the Drill Hall to the memory of Rogers and Osgood. At last the welcome call was heard, and all fled into the dining-room, which was found gaily decorated in honour of the occasion. Amongst other greetings the words "Welcome to Major Todd's Company on their return from the North-west" were conspicuous. Major Todd took the head of the table, with Mr. Cormier, Mayor of Aylmer and Warden of Ottawa County, who was once again present to extend the freedom of the town to the visitors. Mr. McConnell of Aylmer, Assistant Surgeon Grant, and Bandmaster Bonner on his right. On the chairman's left were Lieut. Shannon, Lieut. Humfrey, P.L.D.G., and Pte. L. Brophy, of B Co., Guards, the last two having been invited to dine once more with the Sharpshooters whose pot luck they had shared in the North-west. Another welcome visitor present was Pte. French, of the Montreal Vics., formerly an exceedingly popular member of Major Todd's company. The vice-chairs were occupied by Color-Serjants Deslauriers and Winter. The dinner served up gave every satisfaction. In this connection the elaborately prepared "bills of fare" deserve mention; they reflect great credit on the decorative skill of the executant. They abounded in figures of military men of various ranks disporting themselves in divers manners, and the exhibition of hilarity there apparent seemed to have quite an enlivening effect upon the company. Dinner and the usual toasts over the tables were cleared away and the company spent the evening in singing and dancing, and also in promenading outside listening to the fine playing of the band, which, from the balcony of the hotel, treated the Aylmer folks to a number of selections. At about 10 o'clock a corporal's guard started to march back to Ottawa, and some time later the rest of the company started in busses on the return journey, all highly satisfied with the pleasant proceedings of the long-looked-forward-to annual dinner.

### REGIMENTAL NOTES.

#### STRAY SHOTS FROM MONTREAL.

The Royal Scots have secured the Academy of Music for an entertainment to be given on the 18th Dec. The 65th Batt. band have been engaged and will play some of their choicest selections.

Their "Tug of War" team thinks they can pull a team from any other battalion in the Dominion.

The officers have adopted a new style of winter head-dress and have forwarded a pattern to the Militia Department for approval.