

pany of Boston a well printed little book containing the "Cycle Infantry Drill Regulations," prepared by Brigadier General Albert Ordway. The drill is based upon the United States system of course, but the book must nevertheless be of great interest to any of our militiamen interested in this subject. In introducing the chapter on "General Principles" the author lays down the following rules: "The cycle company will be treated as a company of mounted infantry. The cycle being simply the means of transportation, the company will be dismounted on reaching the point at which it is to be used, and formed as a company of infantry. To facilitate the change from dismounted to mounted formation, the formation dismounted as infantry will be in single rank. By reason of bad roads, it is not probable that cycle infantry, in organized bodies, can be used in field service in this country (the United States), though they would undoubtedly form a valuable auxiliary force to an army in the field for use individually, or in small detachments, for courier and signal service. As organized bodies they would be of inestimable value in the defence of long lines of fortifications and, in cases of riots in cities, by reason of the rapidity with which they could be moved to any threatened point." Here is food for reflection for our militia authorities.

* * *

This is rather late to print notices of rifle score registers, but on the principle that it is during the autumn and winter months that marksmen should prepare themselves for their summer campaign it is just the time. We owe an apology at any rate to Mr. R. McVittie, the well known veteran shot, now of Toronto, for delaying so long to notice the really splendid score register which he brought out during the summer. It is as near perfection as anything one could imagine in the way of a score book. The method of recording shots certainly affords to the competitor a ready means of ascertaining at a glance the exact amount of change, on the vernier and wind gauge required to correct any error, whatever may be the position or value of the last shot. Instead of the miserable little microscopic diagram which does duty as the diagram of the two hundred yards targets in most score books the 200 yards target in this fine book is drawn to a larger scale than the 500 and 600 yards targets for the purpose of giving sufficient space to record seven shots. Each target has a dial of its own for noting the direction of the wind, which may be different at each range. An important addition to each sheet is a space provided for recording the amount of normal error of the sighting of the rifle to the right or left. Following the brief preface is a chapter of advice on rifle shooting, which when its source is considered is well worth the price of the book. Every Canadian militiaman should put down this score register among his memoranda of requirements for the next shooting season.

* * *

Outing, although not exactly a milita-

ry magazine, has invariably much in its columns of special interest to military men. It is just the magazine for the ante room of the officers' mess. Outing for October is full of seasonable, healthful, outdoor sport and pastime. The stout apostle of pure hearts, clean minds and honest muscle for human kind has deservedly attained a proud position among monthly publications. The illustrations are numerous and beautiful. The contents are as follows: "Sketching Among the Sioux;" "Miss Gwynne's Burglar," by Violet E. Mitchell; "An Adirondack Idyl," by Charles Nott, Jr.; "Boars and Boar Hunting," by G. A. Stockwell; "Antaenus," by Frank M. Bicknell; "A Mixed Bag," by Ed. W. Sandys; "Ouananiche Fishing," by Eugene McCarthy; "A Week in the Wildcat," by E. Pauline Johnson; "A Class-Day Madonna," by Jno. Corbin; "Lenz's World Tour Awheel;" "A Century Ride," by Grace E. Denison; "A Deer-Hunt in Old Virginia," by Alex. Hunter; "The Great Football Match," by James B. Kerr; "The National Guard of Pennsylvania," by Capt. C. A. Booth, and the usual editorials, records, etc.

* * *

We have not heard of any Canadian militiamen having undertaken any practical experiments in ballooning but undoubtedly many of them take an interest in the subject for the balloon is rapidly becoming more and more of a practical factor in military operations throughout the world. Many of our officers, we imagine, are anxious to keep posted on this subject and they have an opportunity of doing so now for a new magazine entitled "Aeronautics," and devoted to that subject has made its appearance in New York. It is published by the American Engineer and Railroad Journal, and Mr. M. M. Formey, 47 Cedar Street, is the editor. It is a very interesting publication and well got up.

* * *

The story of a soldier's life written by a soldier. That is what one of the most interesting books printed in Montreal of recent years is. The title page describes it as "The Life of James O'Malley, late Corporal 17th. Leicestershire Regiment, 'Royal Bengal Tigers,' edited by himself." Any one interested in soldiering naturally takes up such a book expecting to find in it much of real practical interest to him and he will not be disappointed. O'Malley, whom every one who has ever spent several days in Montreal knows, was through the Crimean campaign, and the chapters of his book describes the incidents of that struggle of heroes are probably its most interesting feature. Great historians have given us criticisms of the tactics and strategy of the campaign by the library full, and faith they are still at it; but notwithstanding this immense amount of literature produced about this historic event we have to depend upon the narratives of the rank and file for much information as to what the men did and how they fared.

Of course private soldiers are not always taken into the full confidence of the general officers directing campaigns, and oftener than not they are the very worst judges of the exact significance of the operations in which they are engaged. The discriminating reader will not then peruse this modest book with any idea of posting himself on the great operations of the Crimean campaign, but to find out how it all appeared to the men. They will not be disappointed for the author was not only a typical British soldier but a keen; observer and a concise if not exactly orate writer. The descriptions of the operations in which the author's corps participated are very entertainingly told, and the story of life under canvass and in the trenches is quite an interesting contribution to Crimean literature. One thing there is about the book under review which cannot fail to excite the admiration of every man who has had the honor of wearing Her Majesty's uniform: the fine old soldier's love for his old regiment. Then there runs all through it a true soldierly loyalty to the Queen and all in authority under her which will at once commend it to the members of the Canadian Militia.

* * *

"Tales of a Garrison Town" is the title of a book which has a peculiar, local interest for Canadians for the town in question is our own garrison town, Halifax. The book contains fourteen as interesting short stories as one would wish to find, and to make them all the more interesting to military readers, they are every one of them stories of garrison life at Halifax. The authors are Authur Wentworth Eaton and Craven Lanstroth Bett who if possible have added to their enviable reputation as writers of short stories by this book. D. D. Merrill and Company of New York are the publishers.

SMOKELESS POWDER.

The Report of Powder Trials, issued early in 1892 by the Smokeless Powder Company, Limited, was regarded by experts as giving indisputable evidence of the excellence of Rifleite .303 and S R .450, showing that these powders contained all the qualities expected in Smokeless Military Powder. The shooting in 1893 confirms still more emphatically the belief that these Powders are neither surpassed nor equalled—the important fact having also been demonstrated that they are not only smokeless by day but flameless by night. An interesting test took place on the occasion of the army meeting at Aldershot on July 6. It appears that it is a feature of these powders that that they are not only smokeless by day but also flameless by night. The shooting began at 9.30 p.m., and finished about one o'clock in the morning. The rifles were the .303 Lee-Metford, and the ammunition loaded with 40 grains of Rifleite smokeless powder. Not only was the target, at an unknown distance, but the teams