

resistance of the air to the wad withdraws the wire and allows the shot to spread, consequently good close patterns can be made at 120 yards or more, which gives of course a great increase in the effective range of fowling pieces. Someone lately suggested buckshot as the best projectile for magazine rifles, in repelling the final rush in battle; perhaps the shrapnell principle might be successfully adapted to military as well as sporting use.

WE have been advised by Messrs. Maynard, Harris & Co., whose advertisement appears in our columns, that they have again sent a representative of the firm to Canada to exhibit samples and take orders. Mr. Baxter will be in Quebec till the 6th inst., Sherbrooke till the 8th, Montreal till the 12th, Ottawa till the 19th, Kingston till the 23rd, Toronto till the 29th, Hamilton till May 2nd, Port Arthur till the 5th, Winnipeg till the 10th, and Regina till the 12th. We are sure the many customers in Canada of the above firm will be pleased at the opportunity thus afforded of ordering uniforms, &c.

WE publish this week, as promised, a tabulated synopsis of the new militia list, with a recapitulation, in which the state of the several districts as regards numbers and qualifications of officers is compared with last year. We have drawn special attention to vacancies and irregularities in the appointment of field officers and adjutants, but the whole list deserves the most careful study, in that it shows the relative efficiency of the several districts, and the general efficiency of the whole active force. On the whole we find surprisingly little change from the totals of last year; there is just about the same proportion of vacancies, and the same proportion of unqualified officers. Indeed, if the Algoma battalion, the 91st and 95th, which were not in last year's list, were omitted from this year's reckoning, the totals would be almost identical. The facts most strongly emphasized are that there are too many vacancies, especially amongst field officers, who require the highest qualifications, and that the seven schools of instruction are not able, with their present facilities, to do anything towards increasing the proportion of qualified officers. They have been utilized to their utmost capacity throughout the past year, yet neither the proportion nor absolute number of unqualified officers has in the least diminished. All the old officers which the active force is losing are men holding some qualification, and they are disappearing apparently quite as rapidly as newly certificated men are filling their places.

Personal.

Commissioner L. W. Herchmer, of the Mounted Police, has been in town for some days on duty connected with his command.

Capt. Anstruther, of Portage la Prairie, who was recently promoted to a majority in the Suffolk regiment, left Manitoba for England last week to attend the annual drill. He will be absent about three months.

We learn that Lieut.-Col. Crawford has resigned the command of the 3rd Victoria Rifles after a service in that position of only three years. He will be succeeded by Major C. P. Davidson, the well-known advocate.

Major S. W. Ray, commander of the newly organized Algoma battalion, was in town early this week, after having successfully passed at the Toronto school for a first class certificate. We will be greatly disappointed if Major Ray does not make a splendid success out of his command.

The Province of Quebec Rifle Association have decided to increase the allowance to their secretary from one hundred to two hundred and fifty dollars a year. All those who know how energetic and efficient Major Blaiklock has always been will be glad to hear of this mark of appreciation, which is certainly no more than his valuable services deserve.

Captain W. E. Russell, late 8th R.R., has lately taken a good deal of interest in the training of carrier pigeons, and now owns an efficient roost of trained birds, their loft being situated over the Quebec Music Hall. Last year Captain Russell flew birds successfully from beyond Three Rivers, which is ninety miles distant from Quebec.

There will probably soon be several vacancies in the list of officers of the Ninetieth. Major Forrest, at present senior major of the regiment, it is expected will retire in May, retaining rank, and Capt. Worsnop and Wilkes intend leaving, the latter to return to Brantford, Ont., where he will practice his profession. He is now commander of C company.

Captain Clark writes sympathetically from England respecting Col. Mackeand's sad and unexpected death, and recalls an incident when he himself was lying wounded on the Saskatchewan, "when he came quietly and kindly into the tent after the 24th at Fish Creek, and lying down beside me wrote to my wife, to my dictation, adding his own cheering comments and giving her the hope—providentially realized—that I should live. I love to recall this, with the more melancholy pleasure, now that he has gone." He adds, "it was meet that he should be laid beside the men who fell under his command on those well-fought fields. In any expression of sympathy from his officers or regiment to his sorrowing wife and family, you know, though absent, I claim my share."

Contents of our Contemporaries.

The Rifle for April comes to us still further enlarged and improved, and we foresee for it a brilliant future. It is devoting a good deal of space to revolver shooting. Its first article this month is a record of Ira Paine's performances as a revolver shot; the following will also prove interesting to our readers: The Bullard Rifle Match, in which it is shown that the Canadian club, originally credited with first place, fired off the knee instead of standing; Articles on Telescope Sights; A New Hammerless Revolver; Rifle Practice in European Armies; and Franc Tireur's regular English Letter.

The *Army and Navy Journal* (N.Y.) for 2nd April is received and is full, as usual, of short and interesting news items. An editorial on armor is the only long article likely to interest Canadian readers.

Forest and Stream for the 31st March is also here, and contains an editorial on European arms and the record of a muzzle vs. breech match, besides the usual load of interesting sporting news and stories. You can always depend on finding good yarns, well told in every issue. We would specially commend Sam Lovell's Thanksgiving, by Rowland E. Robinson, which appeared in the issue of 17th Feb. as being the most exquisite piece of description and dialect, and the strongest appeal to one's natural sympathies that we have read in many years.

The English weeklies for March 26th are to hand, and the following are among the principal articles of interest contained in them:—

The Broad Arrow.—The Brennan Torpedo; The Present and Future of the Volunteers; The Strategical Outlook on the North-West Frontier of India; The Black Watch (2nd Batt.); Convoys: Are they any longer possible? Burmah; Correspondence; Editorial Notes and Comments; Naval and Military Intelligence.

United Service Gazette.—The Bones of our Waterloo Heroes; The German Emperor's Ninetieth Birthday; The Physique of Recruits; Horse Artillery Reductions; Convoys: Are they any longer possible? Foreign Service Gossip; Reviews; Naval and Military Intelligence; Gazettes and Editorial Notes.

Volunteer Service Gazette.—The Easter Manœuvres; The Queen's Jubilee at Edinburgh; Notices of Books; Notes of the Week; The Jubilee and the Volunteers; The Jubilee Reviews; The Volunteer Capital Grant; Correspondence; Reconnaissance, a lecture by Captain Bloomfield.

The Volunteer Record.—Biographical Sketch of Major-General Sir Charles Warren, G.C.M.G.; The Easter Manœuvres; Regimental Orders; Editorial Notes; Gossip; Roughing it (continued), by Dr. Rae.

Recent Deaths.

Of Dr. D. D. Harrington, whose untimely end we announced a couple of weeks ago, a friend writes us:—

"During the North-West campaign the doctor was a general favorite, both with the officers and men, and at Saskatchewan Landing, where he was medical officer with Major Walsh's detachment of the Halifax battalion, his services were constantly being called upon; sprains, cuts and bruises being easily acquired with the heavy fatigue work done at that place. His kindness in looking after the welfare of those under his charge will long be remembered by those who served with him there. His many friends in Winnipeg, Toronto and Sarnia will also hear of his sudden death with deep regret."

About two months ago there was an early morning fire in the premises on Hollis street where his office and sleeping apartments were located. He was just recovering from an attack of typhoid fever, and the exposure consequent on the fire still further affected his health and finally resulted in his death. The immediate cause of death was paralysis of the throat.