

out, as every available man will be paraded. This is the night the corporal's guard is resorted to, and the delinquent brought down from a pleasant seat at home or in the club to answer his name and help draw six good dollars for his regiment. In fact, it would be better if this means were adopted at all times rather than the remedy provided by the Militia Act, as it has a moral influence on the men which is altogether wanting in the Police Court.

MUCH interest centres in the drill of the ambulance corps. The regularity of their drill and the preciseness with which every movement is done is marvelous, and one wonders, if in actual use, if they would be so particular as to how a certain strap was placed before they would carry off a wounded comrade, or if they would wait until they had gathered sufficient to fill all the stretchers and then move off together at the carry. The corps which claims the biggest men have the smallest and apparently the weakest men in their ambulance corps, and many have wished to see if they would be equal to the task of carrying a six-footer. This has not yet been proved, but if these people are around on Thanksgiving Day an opportunity will no doubt be given of satisfying themselves on all these points.

OF all attachments to a battalion the hardest to keep in hand are the pioneers. In times of trouble these men are invaluable and absolutely necessary, but in times of peace there is nothing for them to do save act as a kind of police and pose for admiration. One would think that until active service does come they could stand in abeyance, and thus diminish by one the number of appendages which make the real working part of a regiment so small.

MANY are the questions asked as to when the new rifles are to be issued to the corps, and rightly so, for it would be well if it were done as soon after fall drill as possible, so that the men may become acquainted with them before spring drill commences, and instructors may get up the new drill applicable to them. Now that drill is practically over, there is a need of something to keep the men in hand during the winter, and what better than a few practical lessons in the mechanism of the new arm, which, we understand, is delicate, and needs to be handled with care. It would pay the Government and the corps themselves to have a practical man come and give instructions in this respect to the various companies by taking the rifle apart and allowing everyone to see just what he has got to handle and the points which need special attention.

THIS day week will mark the fifth anniversary of the coming into existence of the 48th Highlanders and the appointment of Lieut.-Col. Davidson as their commanding officer. The regiment deserves credit for the way in which it has progressed from nothing to about one hundred over strength. The road has not been an easy one for these gay laddies, and when it is remembered that they are practically out of debt, and have an equipment in the way of uniform equal to that of Highlanders in the regular army, one must admire the enthusiasm, pluck and sticktoitiveness which they have shown. That element of the Scottish character, which I am told, predominates in the corps (notwithstanding what is said otherwise), is responsible for some part of their success, but the commanding officer is deserving of a great deal of it, as on him the responsibilities mainly fell, and to him would have been imputed the fault if it had not been successful.

NOW that the rifle question is settled, the busy-body is stirring up an agitation about equipment for the field, and when one looks into an armory and sees those old knapsacks, which ought to wear many medals (it is said they were used in the Crimea) one does not wonder. In fact, it would be difficult for any person to devise a more outlandish way for the soldier to carry his necessaries, other than a bundle slung on his rifle. The Venezuela scare was the means of providing new rifles, and it is to be hoped that the other

requisites of the soldier, and those which tend to his comfort, will be looked after before the militia authorities have finished. They are not wanted at present, but no one knows when they will be and it is best always to be prepared, so we are told. "In pace paratus" is a good motto, but it does not apply if these knapsacks are taken into account.

OFFICERS of Toronto companies are wishing that they could see some of those arms and armories in Montreal, which, according to the efficiency returns, must be perfect, as full marks indicate. No such thing is known here, as never were full marks obtained for such in this district, and they think that they are about as good at cleaning up and having things right as anyone else. Every company in Montreal received full marks, and truly they must be a wonderful lot. The same remarks apply to books and records, and yet Toronto boasts of the best educational system in America. What a striking sameness there must be about those companies when on parade! All with an equal number of dirty buttons, badges and buckles, or all in an equal state of uncleanness. No person can judge from the returns as published from the various districts what regiment is entitled to first place in Canada. Of course this information is not proposed to be given or to be obtainable, for returns are to be issued from the District Office, but still it would be a good thing if it were possible to give it. Probably no regiment in this district will receive as high as 139.12, the mark reached by the 3rd Vics, and some of the corps think they are about as good.

SOME objections have been made to my remarks about the benefits of paid instructors, but I cannot see yet that my ideas on the subject are incorrect, and I think that when the efficiency returns are handed out it will be found that the one officer in the corps mentioned, who employed only himself to instruct his N.C.O.'s and men, heads the list with his company.

MAJOR MACDONALD, of the Highlanders, is on leave for six weeks. He has gone to the West Indies on business. Capt. Adams, of the same corps, is out in Rosslands looking for a site to erect a Q.M.S.

THE GAZETTE is in receipt of a letter from Lieut. C. A. H. Maclean (Pennycross), 93rd Highlanders, late of the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, asking for a copy of the daily paper which published a notice of his death. Mr. Maclean has just arrived home in England, and is at present recuperating in Kent. He was five months in hospital in Central India with fever. Another well-known officer, invalided home on same steamer with Mr. Maclean, was Capt. Laurie, who was stationed with his regiment at Malta.

MULVANEY.

GENERAL NOTES.

About 200 non-commissioned officers and men under the command of Major St. J. J. Leger, of the Leinster Regiment, will leave Tipperary to reinforce the 2nd Batt. at Bermuda.

In the Warren Challenge Shield, presented by Major-Gen. Sir Charles Warren, open to teams of six men of any rank, at 200 and 500 yards (rapid) and 600 yards, 23 teams competed, and the trophy was won by the 34th Co., Royal Engineers, commanded by Capt. Ridout, R.E., who is a graduate from the Royal Military College, Kingston.

Gen. Cavaye, the oldest general in the British army, died in Edinburgh the other day, aged 95.

Mr. L. G. Grant Duff gave two illustrated lectures on the subject of "Smokeless Powder: its Appliances, Practices and Purposes," at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn street, W., on the evenings of the 28th Oct. and 4th Nov. The lectures were given under the auspices of the Institute of Secretaries.