

June 1st. It is understood that the mission has been most successful, and Col. Lake deserves the thanks of the militia for the tact and celerity he has displayed in purchasing for Canada the latest modern guns and ammunition advised by British experts.

In view of the complications existing for Great Britain in both Egypt and South Africa, and the pressure put upon the arsenals in England in preparing for the former expedition, it may be expected that some delay will occur in the supply of the new rifles and field guns, but there are great hopes that sufficient numbers of rifles will be landed in this country to be in time for the autumn trainings—if they take place this year.

When the rifles arrive the ammunition will accompany each consignment, a point which, though it appeals to common sense, has not always been kept in view by Government Departments.

It is likely that the first consignments of artillery will be in Canada before the end of the year. These consist of three new 12-pdr. breech-loading guns firing cordite ammunition

Talking of the infantry rifle, the Lee-Enfield, we understand that this is the rifle now definitely adopted by the English army, superseding the Lee-Metford. It is practically the same rifle—a magazine rifle—but with an improved rifling that gives both greater accuracy and a longer life to the rifle. Every rifle being made for the British army is now being made of this pattern.

The 12-pdr. breech-loading field gun is also of the most modern pattern. The gun itself is the new gun now being issued for the British horse artillery, and embodies all the improvements that have been suggested by the experience of the last ten years in the British service.

On the vexed question of cordite, it is understood that the testimony of regimental officers in the British service is almost unanimous in favor of cordite, and although not pretending that it is a perfect explosive, the general opinion is that for military purposes it is far ahead of all other powders in the market at the present time, and the fact that it has been definitely adopted by the Indian Government appears to point to the same conclusion.

In conclusion, field artillerymen will be glad to hear that the new 12-pdr. gun is fitted for poledraught, shaftdraught having at last been abandoned in the Imperial service, under the irresistible pressure of the requirements of mobilization for war. A supply of harness for the new batteries is also understood to have been ordered.

It is now said that Capt. Bowie, K.C.D., will not resign but will exchange with an officer in the police.

C.J.S.

THE VICS.' INSPECTION.

MONTREAL, June 5.—The dangerous condition of Cote St. Luc ranges, about which notice was taken in these columns, has now been remedied. The top of the butts, which had become exposed by the tearing up of the earth by shooting, has been filled again and sodded, and the danger to the marksman has been removed.

On Thursday evening the officers of the 65th Battalion celebrated the 11th anniversary of that regiment's engagement with Big Bear at Butte aux Francais. Lieut.-Col. Prevost presided. A number of the other city corps were represented by Capt. McDougall, R.R.C.I., acting brigade major; Lieut.-Cols. Starke, Burland, Major Busteed, Major Blaiklock, Major Ibbotson, Capt. Cameron, Lieut. Smith, etc., etc. A most enjoyable evening was spent and the 65th officers made excellent hosts.

The general orders contain the following with regard to Montreal corps:

6th Duke of Connaught's Royal Canadian Hussars.—A Troop.—To be captain, from the 22nd April, 1896: Second lieutenant, Frederick Whitley, vice Clerk, deceased.

3rd Montreal Field Battery.—To be lieutenant—Francis Bertram Wilson, from the reserve of officers, vice Costigan, promoted. To be second lieutenant, provisionally: Donald Alexander Smith, gentleman, vice Benyon, transferred.

3rd Battalion Victoria Rifles of Canada.—Asst.-Surgeon Charles J. C. Wilson, left the limits. To be surgeon: Herbert Stanley Birkett, M.D., vice Campbell, retired. To be second lieutenant, provisionally: Henry Bruce Stuart, to complete establishment.

65th Battalion Mount Royal Rifles.—Quartermaster Alfred La Rocque is granted the honorary rank of major. To be second lieutenant provisionally: Joseph Arthur Alban German, gentleman, to complete establishment.

On Sunday, June 7th, the 65th Batt. will form a guard of honor for the Holy Sacrament in the Corpus Christi procession.

Final arrangements have now been made by the 65th for the holding of a regimental excursion after their inspection on the 27th. A steamer has been chartered to take them to Three Rivers after the inspection. A church parade will be held at that place on Sunday morning, and in the afternoon an excursion and concert on board will be given for the benefit of the people of that place. The regiment expect to return on Monday morning.

The city teams firing in the second match in connection with the Canadian Military League enjoyed fairly good weather at the Cote St. Luc ranges last Saturday. The light was good, but a fairly stiff steady breeze was experienced until the 600-yards range was

reached, when it fell away. There were about 200 men shooting. Owing to the inspection of the Victoria Rifles taking place on Saturday, the team from that regiment were allowed to shoot the Saturday previous. The first place in the city teams was won by the first team of the P.W.R. with a score of 834 points. The Vics' first team came second with 808, closely followed by the Royal Scots' first team with 807. The top score of 93 was made by Pte. Morrice, 5th Royal Scots; Staff-Sergt. Bangs, of the P.W.R., followed with 92. Lieut.-Col. Massey was executive officer of the day.

Next Saturday a novel shooting match will take place. The two contesting teams comprise one drawn from the M.G.A., and the other from the Bermuda Volunteer Regiment, Bermuda, West Indies. The shoot must be done over Queen's Ranges, and each team will telegraph its score, to be afterwards verified by the score sheets.

Sergt.-Major Butcher, at present attached to the temporary school for officers here, is drilling the squad of firemen who leave Saturday next to take part in the London Tournament.

Lieut. Oliver, of "C" Company, Royal Scots, has been attached to "D" Company, in room of Lieut. Burns, now in Ottawa.

The G.A. are putting in much time in preparation for their inspection, which comes off on the 20th. On Monday, the 13th, the C.O. will inspect the battalion; on Tuesday, the inspecting officer will examine the officers and non-commissioned officers on questions; for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 companies will be inspected in company and gun drill, respectively; on Saturday, the whole battalion will be inspected by Lieut.-Col. C. E. Montzambert, inspector of artillery, and commandant of R.S.A., Quebec.

The examination of the officers at present attending the temporary school here will take place, it is expected, about the 8th June.

The school has been very seriously handicapped by the various battalions using the drill shed at the same time as the classes are going on, and also by the difficulty in procuring men to form battalion.

The annual inspection of the Victoria Rifles took place on Saturday. For some time past the regiment has been working hard to uphold its prestige of former years. Their work on Saturday was a fitting close to a season of constant and arduous work. It has been claimed that never have the Vics. shown to better advantage. It was the first inspection of the season, and they have given the other city corps a lead that will be difficult to overtake. The appearance of the men was good, and their marching had a vim which some of the other regiments would do well to imitate. There was a strong muster, 367 being on parade, an in-