

must be won twice by the same person before becoming his property. (Winner in 187, Capt. H. H. Gray, G.G.F.G.; 1888, Col. Sgt. James Fairbairn, 43rd Batt.; in 1889, Major J. Wright, 43rd Batt.; in 1890, Pte. T. McJanet, 43rd Batt.; in 1891, Pte. J. E. Hutcheson, 43rd Batt.; in 1892, J. H. Ellis, G.G.F.G.) Temporary possession to be given at the discretion of the managing committee.

9. Snider extra series, 500 yards, 5 shots. Open to all comers. Entries unlimited, 25 cents each. Total, 16 prizes, value \$43.

10. The optional, 600 yards, 5 shots. Open to all comers. Entries unlimited, 25 cents each. Either Snider or Martini rifles may be used. Competitors using the Martini may fire two tickets in succession. Total, 16 prizes, value \$43.

## CANADIAN MILITARY HISTORY.

The Citizen applauds with both hands the appointment of "The poet of the Lakes" to the charge of the Records branch of the Department of Militia and Defence. The work to be undertaken being chiefly of a literary character, it was meet and proper that it should be given to a literary man, more especially, when, as in the present case, the person selected to fill the post, is one so eminently well qualified, both by previous experience and in taste and temperament, as is Mr. Wilfrid Campbell. Such an appointment has long been needed. Indeed it is matter for wonderment that no step had previously been taken to arrange, assort and put in some part of order, easy for reference, the miscellaneous records having to do with the history of the Canadian militia—a history embellished with many illustrations names and which is in every way so creditable to the patriotic defenders of their country. We have no doubt Mr. Campbell will be able to give a good account of his stewardship by providing periodically for the public information the result of his researches and investigation. The foundation should be immediately laid for a history of the Canadian militia; and as a first preliminary to that important undertaking a Militia List compiled, giving the names of all militia corps, with lists of officers, if possible, from Lord Dorchester's time down to the present. Already Mr. John A. MacDonnell, O.C. in his admirable "History of Glengarry"—a work whose value and interest as an historical record daily increases—has done much, as regards his own section of country, to smooth the way for any one with a more ambitious and comprehensive project, such as we have suggested. There is also no lack of material in the various histories of Canada, and in the reports annually furnished to Parliament by the Archives branch off the department of Agriculture; but it is to the official records appearing to the Canadian War Office, and now in Mr. Campbell's charge, that he, or whoever may undertake to speak with au-

thority of the past achievements of the Canadian Militia, would have to rely for his principal facts and data. We congratulate the country on the wisdom and discernment which has dictated the present appointment.—Ottawa Citizen.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### MARCHING.

#### The importance of proper footwear and thorough training.

The Army and Navy Gazette is doing good work for the Imperial service by its discussion of the question of marching. A recent editorial in that paper on this subject says:

We have more than once lately referred to the subject of marching, a quality in which the British infantry soldier does not excel, it is to be feared. Mr. Poultney Bigelow, who knows the German army well, has an article in this month's Harper, entitled "Sidelights of the German Soldier," which we can strongly recommend to notice. In this entertaining paper Mr. Bigelow touches, among other matters, on marching. It may be interesting to readers abroad who do not see Harper to know what Mr. Bigelow has to say on the all important question as it affects the German infantry. "The secret of this uniform excellence, as regard marching powers, lies in the training which the men receive. When they enter their company as recruits in October, the first thing that is impressed upon their minds is the importance of the shoes and the musket. No pains are spared in giving the men at the start comfortable foot gear, and they are expected to look after this with as much interest as if it were a chronometer. In the spring following, when the snow is off the ground, marches are undertaken, and they are regulated as carefully as are the strokes and the courses of the college crew under the hands of the coxswain. Each day the men march half a mile or so further than the day before; each day they carry on their backs an ounce or two more; each day the speed they are able to maintain is carefully noted; in fact, the record of a company's marching from day to day until late in the summer, when they move into the open country, is kept as minutely as if it were a single picked company training for a march or competition drill. The German soldier is educated and trained for the purpose of fighting, and to have a man fall out before he reaches the fire line is looked upon as quite as much a disaster as if he had been shot and wounded by the enemy. The art of war as practised in Germany is very much the art of getting there, and it is the general who posts himself most advantageously at the critical moment that may be assumed to have won the battle. The marching of German troops is something quite extraordinary, not in the performance of any individual man or company or regiment, but in the fact that the Commander-in-

Chief can count upon all parts of his command accomplishing a very high average of collective work, each part doing substantially as much as the other." When shall we be able to train our soldiers on similar lines?

A letter signed "Foot Soldier" in the same paper says: I think a few weeks ago you made some remarks on the "ammunition boot," to the effect that the cause of the inability of troops at home to march was due to a great extent to the then faulty foot gear. I agree with you that the service boot as issued to the men is not good. I maintain, though, that if the ammunition boot is well greased, it requires no improvement. My own feet are of peculiar shape, and I never at home found ready-made boots comfortable. For the two last years, though I have worn only ammunition boots when shooting and on manoeuvres, and have walked hundreds of miles on many a shooting trip, I have never been footsore. Of course a well greased boot will not take blacking, so the question resolves itself into one of efficiency versus smartness. Dubbin, if thoroughly applied in several dressings to soldiers' boots, so as to make the leather quite soft and pliable, not only makes them comfortable to march in, but also makes them wear much longer. Boots so treated are waterproof, and, what is more important, if they become wetted, they do not become hard when dried. If a regiment with ungreased boots on waded a stream in the evening just before arriving at their camping ground, the next day's march would lame many men. I should suggest that commanding officers should have all their men's second pair of boots well greased, to wear on musketry and military training parades, manoeuvres, and in wet weather. The men would then have one blacked pair for ordinary parades and walking out. Dubbin to be provided out of regimental funds. It is necessary too for efficiency in marching to have a good sock. The kind issued in this country have seams so roughly finished off that they might be guaranteed to cause sore heels. The seamless army sock made in the north of Ireland is splendid.

#### The Progress and Present position of Artillery.

Messrs. Griffin, of Portsmouth, publishers of "Brassey's Naval Annual" and kindred works, issued on Tuesday an interesting volume on "The Progress and Present Position of Artillery," from the pens of Messrs. E. W. Lloyd and A. G. Haddock. The work is profusely illustrated, and the authors have separated purely scientific detail from general information. In the opening chapters it is declared that in all matters connected with the progress of warlike material, whether ships, guns, or torpedoes, England stands second to no power. In connection with progress in the manufacture of artillery, the very primitive efforts of early days are described, and reference is made to the fact that the use of cannon by Edward the Third at the siege of Calais is beyond doubt. In comparison with ancient guns