

The British government have determined, so it has just been announced, to manufacture fifty-five thousand Martini-Enfields, notwithstanding the adverse criticism that arm has received on many hands. A letter of Mr. C. F. Lowe to the *Volunteer Service Gazette* will give an idea of some of the points brought forward against it. He objects to introducing another calibre of cartridge, in consequence of the additional liability to confusion; thinks the sights could be greatly improved by embodying wind and elevation gauges, without destroying the simplicity of the sights from a military point of view, although he personally would advocate an aperture back sight and removable barley corn to the fore sight, that could be easily replaced if injured; and finally he advocates the abolition of everything that would be liable to glitter about rifle or bayonet. He also advocates longer stocks with more crook to them than previous rifles, and in this, as in most of his other suggestions, he will receive the hearty support of the majority of shots.

The city daily papers reported that A and B batteries had returned from the North-west. The origin of the canard was the fact that thirty-one men of A battery and eleven of B, whose time had expired, or who had purchased their discharge, were seen returning in charge of Mr. Rivers.

The government has definitely decided not to engrave the recipients' names on the medals, and their issue has already been begun. It seems that no ceremony will attend their presentation, unless such should be arranged regimentally.

PERSONALS.

Lieut. T. W. Chalmers, appointed to an inspectorship in the Mounted Police force on Saturday, is a graduate of the R. M. C. class of 1883.

The following members of the Maritime Province militia have entered for a three month's course at the Fredericton School of Infantry: Capt. J. W. Baird, 74th. Batt. Sussex; Capt. A. Fullerton, 93rd, Chatham; Lieut. J. D. Perkins, 71st, Fredericton; Lieut. Foley, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Sergt. M. Sears, 74th, Sussex; Sergt. G. P. Rider, 71st, Fredericton; Sergt. N. R. Mackenzie, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Corp. D. T. Mackinnon, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Lee-Corp. H. Johnston, 71st, Fredericton; Pte. J. T. Kay, 71st, Fredericton, Bugler H. Hazen, 71st, Fredericton; Bugler J. Lawlor, 73rd, Chatham.

The following Canadians were presented at a levee, lately held at St. James' Palace, by the Prince of Wales, acting for Her Majesty.

Major-General Laurie, on return from active service, by H. R. H., the field marshal commanding-in-chief; Lieut. J. H. Laurie, King's Own Lincolnshire regiment, by his father, Major-general Laurie, and several other Canadian officers, who, as students at the Royal Military college, Kingston, have obtained commissions in the Imperial army. Amongst them, Lieut. K. B. Cameron, 2nd Battalion, Argyll, and Sutherland Highlanders, presented by the Marquis of Lorne, and Lieut. P. du Perron Casgrain and Lieut. H. C. Nanton, both of the Royal Engineers, presented by the inspector general of fortifications.

The Members of F Troop, Princess Louise New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry, will be pleased to learn that their popular young lieutenant, A. J. Markham, who has been up to the calvary school at Quebec for a short course, has reported himself to his troop-commander having obtained a second-class certificate.—*Moncton Times*.

Capt. F. S. Moore, who commanded No. 2 Battery of Gar. Art., Charlottetown, which has come out so well in the D. A. A. competitions, formerly held the rank of Captain in the Militia of P. E. I. At confederation he retired retaining rank. In 1882 he organized No. 2 battery Gar. Art. and has commanded the battery ever since. In 1883 the battery competed for the first time for the prizes offered by the Governor-General, for general efficiency and for shifting ordnance, and took second place in each competition. In 1884 and 1885 the battery stood at the head of the garrison artillery force of the Dominion, taking the prize for general efficiency each year. Captain Moore has acted as sole instructor for his battery for the past three years, and to his instruction and efficiency the battery is largely indebted for the splendid record it has

attained. He holds a first-class artillery certificate. On the outbreak in the North-west this battery was among the first to volunteer (unanimously) for active service.

Respecting Lieut.-Col. Bremner, who has lately retired from the command of the 66th battalion, he has long been so well known as an enthusiastic active volunteer that he needs no eulogy at our hands; but we have collected some facts respecting his service which will doubtless prove interesting. When the Scottish volunteer rifle company was first formed, away back in the fifties, he joined it as a private, and served successively as corporal and sergeant, from which he was gazetted to a second lieutenancy in the 1st Halifax Regiment of Militia on 6th May, 1854, and eight years later got command of his company. On the 6th July, 1865, he was gazetted lieutenant-colonel commanding, passing over the heads of the two majors, and retained command of the regiment until confederation, turning out with it and remaining on duty for some time during the threatened Fenian invasion. In 1869 Col. Bremner raised the 66th battalion of Canadian Militia, with nearly all the same officers as served in the old battalion. On the landing of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne at Halifax, the battalion formed the guard of honor, and being the first to receive Her Royal Highness in Canada, was permitted to adopt the designation "The Princess Louise Fusiliers." Later the regiment took part at Sussex, N.B., in the review in honor of the visit of the Princess Louise and the Governor-General, and at the review and sham fight held at Halifax on their visit there, Col. Bremner took command of a brigade consisting partly of Imperial troops. During last year's active service Col. Bremner went to the North-west in command of the Halifax Provisional battalion, and was frequently in command of other corps besides his own there, being the senior officer commanding a corps in the field force. It will thus be seen that militia matters have formed quite an important item in the pleasures and toils of Col. Bremner's life, for he has put in thirty-two year's service as a militia officer, twenty-one of them being as Lieutenant-Colonel commanding a battalion, and during that long period has received numerous tokens of kindly esteem from the officers under his command, especially a handsome and costly dress sword.

OBITUARY.

Less than a month ago we announced that Lieut. Russell of the 71st battalion had gone to Kingston to complete a course of military study; now we have to record his death, which occurred at Kingston last week most unexpectedly, of brain fever, and which has cast a gloom over both the Kingston and Fredericton schools as well as his own battalion and native city. Mr. Russell was by profession a lawyer, but his partiality for athletic sports and his natural activity led him towards a military life, and, having obtained a second class military school certificate in 1877 or '78 he joined Captain Cropley in 1882 in organizing No. 7 company, 71st battalion as its lieutenant, and continued to the day of his death a zealous, painstaking and efficient officer.

Finding in the military life, says the *Capital*, his true sphere of labor, he dissolved his legal partnership, so as to devote his time and attention more completely to the study of the profession of arms. He attached himself to the infantry school for a short course, and so well did he improve his time that he was authorized to enter for the longer course of twelve months.

In order to still farther qualify himself, he determined to go to the Royal Military College, Kingston, and on the morning of the 10th March, after being tendered a banquet by all the representative men of the community, he bade good-bye to his friends in Fredericton with a bright and hopeful smile. Now, in a few short weeks, we hear of his death, and are summoned to the same platform that saw him jauntily depart, to receive all that is left of Lieut. William Eder Russell.

In all the relations of his life he won the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. His perseverance under the most trying difficulties, his industry, sobriety, and above all, his strong affection for his family, won for him the admiration and respect of all who knew him.

His remains were escorted to the Kingston station by all the troops in garrison there, and were met at the Fredericton station by the School Corps and 71st Batt., and escorted to his late residence on the 7th, whence he was buried next day with full military honors.

Mr. C. S. Seyton, formerly a stockbroker in New York, celebrated all fool's day in London, England, in a singular manner. He was examining an electric gun of American make, which he was to introduce into the English market, when it fired accidentally, putting a bullet through Seyton's heart and killing him instantly. Only the Friday before the accident Mr. Seyton lectured before the United Service Institute on the merits of the invention.