

per allowance will have been attained. Very often too little allowance is made for wind, for the reason that a feeling exists against aiming away from the bull; and it is sometimes impossible to convince some persons that to hit it they must aim at another point. A writer in alluding to this habit, if it may be called such, says:—"There is unquestionably a strong natural tendency to project a missile on all occasions straight at the mark. Inexperienced shots, and indeed many who are accustomed to the use of fire arms, are very apt at the moment of firing to cheat themselves with the idea that a direct shot must strike correctly, although common sense shows the occasional fallacy of the supposition; to such the act is involuntary. A knowledge then of the amount of allowance to be made and faith in the results are qualifications on which success materially depends and experience alone can master."

Many men still adhere to the V and "cant" for wind. None but experienced shots can engage in using it thus, nor can its practice be commended, as the use of the "bar" is judged to be the safest in all weathers.

With the bar it is now customary to mark on it a white line, the position of which has been judged by the shooter, will give the proper allowance to be made for the wind blowing, say just before engaging in a match. This side line proves to be rather an embarrassing guide when the wind happens to be "fish tail," or unsteady, and new allowances have to be made for every shot fired, as the eye is apt to wander back to the line as a fixed and tangible point. It is suggested that only a white *centre* line should be drawn on the bar as a guide, and that the shooter should accustom himself to judge at the time of firing the proper allowance to be made on the bar, and be thus able to change at every shot if required to do so. Some practice is necessary to obtain proficiency in this, but once obtained the shooter is freed for all time from the worry and bother of arranging a wind line on his bar.

*To be Continued.*

### MILITARY CAMPS.

From the *Victoria Warder*.

During this month brigade camps will be held at various places in Canada, that for our district, the 3rd, being located near Kingston. The question has time and again presented itself to politicians and statesmen, what is the use of this annual drill; of these camps; and of volunteers at all? To those familiar with them the answer is obvious. For several years our brave volunteers have had to contend with obstacles, both social and political. At home they were looked on as duds and bummers, and, being treated as such tended to drive some of them to be the same. \* \* \* Last spring, however, the facility with which our gallant fellows fell into line and did the work assigned them as well as and even better than the best regulars could have performed it, showed clearly that for the defence of a country the yeomanry are the men to call on. Regular troops are all right for police purposes in time of peace, and for training schools; but beyond that they are an injury to a nation.

The late American civil war showed to the world that boys from farms and offices can become as good soldiers as the best; fight their country's battles and again return to their ordinary avocations. Volunteer discipline prevailed among the 90th and the "A" and "C" companies, Midlanders, in the late campaign, and no better work was done than these corps performed.

In Victoria and Durham counties, and the same will hold true of others, many of the most prominent citizens have been connected with the force at one time or other. There are many men in this district now who have witnessed the stormy times of 1837-8, the Trent affair, the Fenian raid of '66, the Fenian raid of '70, the Riel rebellion of 1869-70 and Riel rebellion of '85. A few still survive who fought at Queenston Heights and Lundy's Lane. In each of the above instances the Canadian volunteers did the work. In the Fenian raid of 1866, the Red River expedition, the Fenian raid of 1870, and the last campaign, in all of these the benefit of a volunteer force was felt. Nay more, last April, when troops were being despatched to the North-west there were grave fears of another Fenian invasion. One was undoubtedly planned; but the spies in Ontario saw that the volunteers sent to the North-west were only a mere cipher compared with what could be turned out on 24 hours' notice; and they reported that an invasion of Canada was impossible.

We hope occasions for the service of our brave volunteers may never arise again; but all know that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Therefore we recommend every young farmer over 18 years of age, not already a volunteer, to try to become one. There

is no danger of a gentlemanly fellow being led astray in camp. Those who go wrong there were rotten at the core before becoming volunteers. Officers, too, should put a premium on enlisting, viz., they should make it a compliment to a person to enter a volunteer company. The standard of admission to every company should be manly honesty, decency, pluck, intelligence, self-control and respect.

The 46th East Durham battalion is ordered to camp at Kingston on Tuesday next, 15th inst. Let the young men of Manvers and Cavan turn out and fill every uniform. They have instances in their own county where men, once privates, have volunteered for a lifetime, and have remained honored and respected. The late colonel was one, Captain Preston, of Lifford, is another. He fought when a young man at Windmill Point, Prescott, and has been a volunteer ever since. Col. Cubitt, of the 45th, was also out in '37 and '38, as well as in '62, '66 and '70.

Further, a volunteer system is by all odds the cheapest and best a country can have. Let the prominent young men of the country take that view of it and each do his best by offering himself a volunteer. Another opportunity of testing the force may not be far distant.

### THE TACTICAL EXAMINATION.

The following are the papers on Tactics set at the Examination held lately in England for the volunteer force of that country: For the first paper, headed "Lieutenants," officers of all ranks of the Auxiliary Forces were allowed to enter, and those who pass will have the letters t or T affixed to their names in the *Army List*, according as they have gained 50 or 75 per cent. of full marks. The second paper, headed "Captains," was only to be entered for by Captains and Field Officers of the Auxiliary Forces. Those who satisfy the Examiners will be distinguished by the letter T in a circle, thus (T). The papers we should mention, are those in tactics, set in the course of the examinations for promotion for Lieutenants and Captains respectively of the Regular Army.

#### LIEUTENANTS.

1. What is the object of outposts? How is this object attained in the case of a force on the march?
  2. What considerations regulate—
    - (a) The strength of a picquet?
    - (b) The distance between any two picquets?
  3. You are in sight of a column of the enemy, consisting of all arms. What points would you note?
  4. You are in command of—
    - (a) A half-troop of Cavalry,
    - (b) A half-company of Infantry,
 with orders to patrol to the front. Show the formation in which you would march either of these forces.
  5. What should be the character of the action of the advanced guard of a pursuing force—and why?
  6. How is it that a rear guard, which is far weaker than the main force, has power to delay the advance of a victorious enemy? Upon what does this power depend?
- N.B.—*The following six questions are alternative, and of them only three are to be answered:*
7. You are in command of a battery which is ordered to open fire on a village, the latter being surrounded by shelter-trenches on a radius of about 200 yards. State the shortest range at which you would come into action, what projectiles you would use, and at what targets?
  8. An Infantry battalion consists of eight companies of 100 men each. What number of men must be *hors-de-combat* when it is found that the original front of attack of the battalion exactly contains the remainder in single rank?
  9. What points are essential, and what desirable, to ensure success in a charge of Cavalry against Infantry?
  10. A Cavalry brigade (war strength) marches from A to B, a distance of 19 miles, at the rate of 4.5 miles per hour. The road is 20 feet in width. It starts at 6 a.m. At what hour will it arrive at B?
  11. Enumerate the principal characteristics which tend to make a position strong for defence.
  12. If you belong to the Infantry or Artillery, describe the several stages of action of your arm in the attack of a position.
- If you belong to the Cavalry, state what, in your opinion, will be the probable action of Cavalry in future battles.
- In each case modern European war is to be taken as the type.