

tance by one mile, nor in any way facilitate the commercial operation of the trade so rapidly developing in our North-west provinces. In order to make this proposed canal at all beneficial to Canada the navigation of the Ottawa and French rivers must be improved, as this will place Port Arthur within 875 miles of Montreal, while by existing navigation it is 1280—a difference in distance which decides the value of the shorter route in such a manner as to leave no chance of rivalry. It is not open to competition and it gives Canada a second line of defence. In case of any trouble arising the frontier canals would become white elephants which could not be defended and dare not be abandoned.

Commercial men will look at this as a very small matter, but they ought to remember that they cannot sleep in peace without the policeman at the door, and carry the lesson out to its full extent.

It is very evident to us that the trade in agricultural produce of the North-west will develop at the rate of thousands of tons annually, that this open prairie of 1870, whose farmers and hunters had been starving the previous year from the failure of buffalo diverted to the south side of 49° by the United States Indians, has become the richest agricultural country in the world, whose chief problem now is how this traffic is to find egress from the valley of the Red River.

(To be Continued.)

### A Budget from Toronto.

THE DRILL SHED SITE—Q. O. R. EX-MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION—A NEW RANGE FOR THE ARTILLERYMEN—PROJECTED MILITARY TOURNAMENTS—GENERAL NOTES.

ON the 6th instant, the question of expropriating certain lands for a drill shed site was again brought up before the Executive Committee of the Toronto City Council. Two delegates were present—one, mostly of the fair sex, objecting to their homes being taken from them; the other, the militia element. Capt. Mason, Royal Grenadiers, and Major Hamilton, Queen's Own, made effective speeches in favor of the St. John's Ward site. Col. G. T. Denison, speaking in his tripple capacity as a cavalry officer, a tax payer and a police commissioner, inclined towards a site at the old fort. Ald. Irwin's motion that the matter lie over a month for the purpose of ascertaining whether the government would grant a site on the garrison commons was lost, only one other alderman voting with him. This brought the matter back to the council, which at a meeting on the 10th decided to adhere to the site chosen.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of ex-members of the Queen's Own Rifles was held in the armory on the 6th instant, when the veteran corps was re-organized under the title of the "Ex-Members' Association, Queens' Own Rifles." Several amendments to the constitution were made, and the following officers were elected: Hon. presidents, Lieut.-Col. Otter and Lieut.-Col. Gillmor; President, Major Dixon; Vice-President, Lieut.-Col. Miller; Treasurer, Major Harris; Secretary, Lieut. Fahey. Sub-committees representing each company were appointed to increase the membership and a large meeting is looked for on October 25th. The annual dinner will be held about the close of the year. Ex-members living outside the city are requested to send their names to the secretary, 34 Toronto street.

Sir Alex. Campbell, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, has signified his intention of accepting the position of patron to the Ontario Artillery Association.

The Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers are busy getting into shape preparatory to their inspection.

The Toronto Garrison Battery will carry out their annual gun practice at the Woodbine on the 17th November.

As the Ontario batteries are desirous of performing their practice at the same place and time, Col. A. H. Macdonald, 1st brigade F. A.; Col. Gray, T. F. B., and other artillery officers inspected a new artillery range near the Woodbine. They express themselves as being much in favor of it.

On the 24th October, the n.c.o's. and men of the Queen's Own will hold their second annual military tournament, under the patronage of the Lieut.-Gov. of Ontario and Miss Campbell. The events, which are all open to bona fide members of the active militia of three months' standing, comprise quarter mile race, mile race, a marching order race, animated wheelbarrow race, potato race, relief race, sack, bicycle race and tugs of war. Col.-Sergt. World is the secretary. Last year's meeting was a great success and no doubt this will be equally as good.

Some energetic officers are organizing a grand militia tournament to be held in Toronto some time next autumn. It is modelled on the same lines as the military tournament at Agricultural Hall, Islington. Besides assault-at-arms, driving competitions for field batteries, &c., &c., a grand military display will take place. The organizers so far have met with great success, \$5,000 having already been subscribed for prizes.

The rumor that the government has filled the vacancies in "C" battery with officers from the present staff of "A" and "B" batteries gives general satisfaction to all unbiassed militia officers.

LINCH-PIN.

### Regimental Intelligence.

The leader of the 15th Batt. (Belleville) Band has gone to Boston for a winter's instruction in band music and organization. He expects to have one of the finest military bands in the province next year.

There is already some talk among the volunteers of extending an invitation to visit Montreal to the large detachment of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of London which is expected to visit Boston next summer.

At a meeting of No. 1 company, G.G.F.G., last week \$50 was voted out of the drill pay towards the Sharpshooters memorial fund. It was decided to accept No. 2 company's challenge to a rifle match, twenty men on each side, for a dinner at Aylmer.

The Minister of Militia informed a deputation of Montreal officers who waited upon him, that the government was prepared to rent a rifle range for two years but would not purchase the land or negotiate for a long lease. This practically amounts to saying that the Montreal brigade shall have no rifle range if it be left to the government, as the desired site at Cote St. Paul can only be secured by purchase or on a lengthy lease. The volunteers will now take other means to bring the matter to the attention of the government.

The grand jury empanelled for the Toronto assizes just concluded embodied the following in their presentment: "Nothing is more gratifying to your jurors than to witness the steps being taken to provide a suitable and commodious drill shed and armory for our brave volunteers, who merit all encouragement that the citizens and government can give. They approve of the site selected, as it is central and will be convenient for the large majority of the men, and they express a hope that the work will be speedily prosecuted." It is understood that the militia department, which is well satisfied with the St. John's ward site, will not countenance the counter proposal to have the new drill hall built on Garrison Common.

The officers of the 84th St. Hyacinthe Battalion held a meeting on the 29th ult., Lieut.-Col. Denis, commanding, in the chair. Resolutions of regret were passed at the circumstances which caused Lieut.-Col. Bruce F. Campbell to resign the command of the 84th Battalion; also, thanking him for his zeal and devotedness to the interests of the battalion; which would always be grateful, never forgetting the urbanity and courteousness which always distinguished Lieut.-Colonel Campbell's relations with the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the battalion. The Montreal Star hints that there is something yet to be told in connection with Col. Campbell's resignation—a grievance which if attended to in time might have led him to withdraw it.

Thomas Lambkin, a Crimean veteran, and a respected ex-member of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, died at Ottawa on Friday last, and was buried on Sunday, with Masonic honors. Having just passed through the trying Crimea campaign, the deceased came to Canada at the time of the Trent affair, with the 17th Lancashire regiment, in which he held the rank of color-sergeant. Having been appointed orderly to the Governor-General, Sir Edmund Head, the deceased remained in Canada when the regiment was recalled, and on the removal of the seat of Government to Ottawa he came hither. When the Foot Guards were organized in 1872, he was appointed drum-major, which position failing health compelled him to relinquish in 1875.

The Victoria rifles propose purchasing a supply of Morris tubes, fitting up a range in their new quarters and continuing their target practice during the winter. The Morris tube is a small rifled tube to be inserted inside the ordinary Martini Henry or Snider rifle, reducing the bore to a twenty-two calibre. Small cartridges to fit this are made and the army rifles are rendered serviceable for indoor practice. The difference between the velocity of the tube bullet and the service one has been calculated to a nicety. A few feet from the tube corresponds to a hundred yards range with ordinary ammunition, and so on in proportion. With this tube, which is greatly in use in the old country, marksmen are as well able to perfect themselves in details pertaining to elevation, and holding as if using the rifle in the ordinary way. Of course, this indoor practice is of no service so far as windage and the variations of light are concerned. Its principal utility would appear to lie in nursing up young shots, although it is calculated to keep old marksmen in trim during the months when the ranges are not available. Some of the other Montreal regiments had thought of equipping tube galleries in their quarters in the new drill hall but the contractors do not appear inclined to give the volunteers a chance to occupy the new armouries this winter. Some interesting matches will be fired with the tubes this winter.

### Militia General Orders (No. 16) of 6th October, 1887.

#### No. 1.—PERMANENT CORPS.

##### Regiment of Canadian Artillery.—"C" Battery.

Authority having issued for the organization of "C" Battery of Artillery, to be stationed in British Columbia, the 100 non-commissioned officers and gunners required to form that battery will be furnished by "A" and "B" Batteries of Artillery, from men who have had not less than three months' service, and who are of good character.

The men will be re-enlisted by the Commandants of the respective batteries they are leaving, for three years' service in "C" Battery. They will be given Regimental numbers in "C" Battery from one upwards, and will thereafter cease to be designated by the numbers they now have in "A" and "B" Batteries. They will not be allowed to purchase their discharge until after they have served 18 months in "C" Battery.

Not more than 15 non-commissioned officers and gunners of the total strength, are to be married men, but quarters cannot be guaranteed at present for the wives and children of any, except Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants.

The service of the men who re-enlist in "C" Battery will be considered as continuous as to issues of clothing and kits, and good conduct pay earned under existing enlistments. They will receive their daily pay to date they embark for British Columbia, from the Battery they are leaving, and will thereafter be included in the pay lists of "C" Battery.

In addition to their daily and good conduct pay, a gratuity at the rate of ten cents per diem will be paid to each non-commissioned officer and gunner on completion of his three years' service, or on discharge as medically unfit, if the disability is contracted on service subsequent to re-enlistment in "C" Battery, or in the case of death on service to surviving wife or family.