

Queries and Replies.

Q. In the *Canada Gazette* of 23rd October last, I find the following promotions in the staff of the Royal Military College:—

"The assistant instructor in mathematics and the assistant instructor in surveying, to have respectively the rank of captain in the militia from the 30th June, 1885."
Please inform me why these commissions take rank in the militia from the above date.

A. The manifest answer, and the only one which could be got if the authorities were asked for one, is that such was His Excellency the Governor-General's pleasure. It does not however, seem difficult to read between the lines. On that date both gentlemen promoted had held the rank of lieutenant in the militia for five years and had been constantly actively engaged in a military employment. There was no prospect of promotion for them otherwise than by the pleasure of the executive, and it was very fitting that it should have been exercised. We said something last week about the lack of opportunity for promotion.—*Ed.*

Regimental Notes.

We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

Port Arthur.—There has been no chance for the company here, now No. 1 of the Algoma provisional battalion, to drill since winter set in, as they have no drill shed. Major S. W. Ray, their late captain, now promoted to command the battalion, took a special course at the Toronto military school last term and intends returning on the 12th inst for a further course to qualify him for field rank. Color-Sergt. A. L. Friedman of this company passed through the same school last term, and Sergts. J. Dunston and J. Clark left here on the 2nd to attend this term.

The first annual prize meeting of the Port Arthur rifle association began on the 18th November with a capital programme, but the weather was so inclement with snow, cold and high winds drifting that it dragged most lamentably, not being closed till the 22nd. There was a good attendance, but the average shooting was poor in consequence of the above drawbacks. Sergt. John Woodside won the principal association match and with it the D.R.A. medal. Wm. Murdoch, Esq., president of the association, the well known engineer, asserted his perennial youth by winning the all-comers' match with a Martini, 5 shots at 300 and 400 yards, with a score of 47 out of 50. The association have determined to profit by their experience this year, and to hold their next matches about the end of July so as to be able to select a team for the D. R. A. meeting.

Toronto.—The Queen's Own are waiting anxiously for an answer to a letter sent to the government asking permission to go to England to take part in the Queen's Jubilee in June next. It is to be hoped that the government will see their way clear to grant their request, as the members are most anxious to go, and they want to get started at drill at once if the answer is satisfactory.

The annual meeting of the sergeants' mess of the Queen's Own Rifles was held in their mess rooms on Monday evening, Sergt.-Major Crean in the chair. There was a large attendance of the members. After the reports of the president and treasurer were read and adopted, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: president, Color-Sergt. McKell; vice-president, bugle-major Swift; treasurer, Staff-Sergt. Strachan; secretary, Staff-Sergt. Williams; board of management, Col.-Sergt. Worlds, Sergts. Robertson and Higinbotham. The financial standing of the mess is most satisfactory, and the coming year promises to be a very successful one.

Montreal.—Major Davidson, of the Victoria Rifles, is preparing a little work on Military Law and the duties of magistrates in times of riot. It will likely be issued shortly.

All the corps are re-organizing in preparation for the coming season's drill.

There have lately been numerous changes in and additions to the list of officers of the Victoria Rifles, and the corps now has its complement with the exception of surgeon and assistant-surgeon. Out of the 24 officers, 20 have risen from the ranks; seventeen hold certificates, two are staff officers and do not require them, and the other five expect to obtain their certificates shortly.

The non-commissioned officers' class conducted by the adjutant of the Vics. will soon have finished its course. Recruit drill by the sergeant-major will commence on the 15th.

Work upon the Vics. new armoury has been resumed, and will go on uninterruptedly until the building is finished. The corps expect to take possession in May.

Great excitement prevailed amongst military men last week when the story of the contemplated removal of the popular D.A.G. was spread about. General satisfaction was expressed when subsequently it was found to be a *canard*.

Sault Ste. Marie.—The Half Mountain battery here was last summer reorganized and has been much improved by the enlistment of a number of smart, active young men. One of the N. C. officers has gone for a short course of instruction to the royal school of artillery, Kingston.

Arnprior.—Col. J. W. Lewis, brigade major of the Ottawa district, inspected the new rifle company organized in connection with the 43rd Rifles on the 3rd, and the armory of the corps the next day. He expressed himself highly pleased at the smart and soldierlike appearance of the men, and the excellent manner in which their arms and accoutrements were kept.

Ottawa.—Monday night was "president's night" with the Rifles' snowshoe club, and, as is always the case, the turnout was the largest of the season, there being on hand nearly sixty of the seventy-five members constituting the club. Among the officers of the 43rd Batt. present, besides Captain and Adjutant Evans, the highly popular president of the club, were Lt.-Col. White, Major Walsh, Capt. Sherwood and Lieut. Rogers. After an hour's good tramping across country, which seemed to some of the snowshoers to have more than its fair share of fences and hills, the club arrived at the Taché Hill tobogganing slide, which the president, Mr. Taché, had courteously placed at their disposal for the occasion. Shoes being unstrapped, nearly an hour was spent in the delightful pastime of tobogganing, and this and the previous exercise had put all in fine form for enjoying the excellent supper which had been provided for them at the residence of Capt. Evans on Daly Avenue. After supper a programme of songs, speeches and selections from the club orchestra made the time pass very pleasantly until about midnight, when the company dispersed, having heartily cheered their hospitable host.

The Princess Louise Dragoon Guards' snowshoe club had an outing last evening, winding up at the Coffee House.

On Monday, the second evening of the course of lectures to be given by the officers of the G.G.F.G., papers were read by Lt. Shannon, on the duties of the regimental orderly sergeant and corporal; Lt. Bowie on the duties of the company orderly sergeant and corporal; and Lt. Gishorne on the duties of non-commissioned officers on canteen duty, cook house orderlies, and other such duties. There was a good attendance of officers and the non-commissioned officers' class having expressed a desire to hear the lecture were present also. The officers yet to read papers this month are Captain and Adjutant Hodgins, on Monday next; Lts. Thompson, Hodgins and Côté on the 24th, and Capt. Toller on the 31st.

Recruit drill will be commenced very shortly. The squads will be in charge of Col.-Sergt. Davis. Sergt.-Instructor McIntyre, who a few weeks ago received a paralytic stroke which it was feared would permanently disable him, is happily in not such a critical condition. He is now able to rise from his bed at the hospital, and his physicians think he will soon be about again as usual.

A couple of stoves have been placed in the drill hall, which, being without heating apparatus except in the armories, has up to the present been too cold to be comfortable in the winter time. Two or three more would be required to bring up the degree of warmth.

Six members of the G. G. F. G., all that could be admitted, have gone to the infantry schools to take three months courses there. Bugler James went to "C" School, Toronto, and Corpl. Cole, Ptes. MacCraken, Stroulger, Shea and Adams to "B" School, St. John's, P.Q. When they paraded at the drill hall just before their departure they made an excellent appearance, every man exceedingly neat and soldierlike, and they may be trusted to do credit to their corps at the schools.

This evening the annual military dinner takes place at Government House. All officers of the local corps receive invitations.

The Sharpshooters' Memorial Fund Committee held a meeting in the City Hall on Monday evening, when there were present Mayor McDougal (chairman), Colonel Powell, W.H. Rowley, F. Newby and Major Todd, the secretary. A communication from Mr. Percy Wood, the sculptor, was read requesting the committee to state definitely whether or not they would accept his design for the monument, as on account of the press of work coming to him in connection with Her Majesty's jubilee, he would not be able to give his services to the committee unless speedily notified. After consideration it was resolved to delay answering for a short time as the requisite funds are not yet on hand. The treasurer, Mr. W.H. Rowley, reported that \$2,138 had been received, and that a good deal more yet uncollected had been promised. \$5,000 is the sum proposed to be raised. It was decided to apply to the corporation of Ottawa city and Carleton county for grants.

The Ottawa field battery have resolved to subscribe \$100 to the monument fund.

Militia General Orders, No. 1, of 5th January, 1887.

No. 1.—ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

Annual Examination for Candidates, 1887.

SUBJECTS AND BOOKS.

The annual examination to be held in the present year, for candidates desiring to be admitted as cadets to the Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, will commence at the District Staff Office, at the headquarters of the several military districts in which candidates reside, on Tuesday the 14th day of June,—the medical examinations to be held the day previous. The subjects and books in which candidates will be examined are as follows:—

OBLIGATORY OR PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

(1) Mathematics:

	Marks.
(a) Arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions, simple and compound proportions, simple and compound interest, partnership, profit and loss	500
(b) Algebra, including simple equations	500
(c) Geometry, first book of Euclid, or its equivalent	500

If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.

(2) (a) Grammar, English or French. Writing English or French correctly, and in good legible hand from dictation	500
(b) Composition, as tested by the powers of writing an essay, precis, or letter, in English or French	500
(3) Geography, general and descriptive	500
(4) History, British and Canadian, general	500
* (5) French: grammar and translation from the language	500
(6) Latin: grammar and simple translation from the language into either English or French as may be preferred by the candidate	500
(7) Elements of freehand drawing, viz.: simple copies from the flat; outline only	300

* French will, for the present, be optional, and may therefore be omitted by a candidate.

No candidate will be considered qualified for a cadetship or be allowed to count marks in the "further examination" unless he obtains a minimum of one-third of the total number of marks in each of the subjects; 1 (a, b, c, together) 2 (a and b, together) 3, 4, 6 and 7.

VOLUNTARY OR FURTHER EXAMINATION.

(1) Mathematics:	Marks.
(a) Algebra—Up to and including quadratic equations	1000
(b) Geometry—Up to and including third book of Euclid, or its equivalent	1000

If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.