

Musketry Instructors when up in this western province used to permit Volunteers twisting their arms round their ramrods to steady their aim—so possibly if one is allowable the other is? Yours truly,

A. B. C.

[Such a position in firing is altogether unknown in the "Musketry Regulations." If the match was fired according to those "Regulations" it should not have been allowed. Neither should the twisting of ramrods.—Ed. Vol. Rev.]

FROM TORONTO.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Public interest in Whelan's case has considerably increased since his arrival. It is shocking to see how nimbly he takes his place before the judges. He has an almost unlimited faith in the ability of the Hon. J. H. Cameron, to quash the verdict, but God forbid that the claims of Justice should be defeated by a legal quibble.

The Toronto Lacrosse Club wound up this season's programme by a splendid supper last Wednesday, when their unusual success, both pecuniary and otherwise, was referred to by the Secretary.

I shall carefully peruse the estimates for 1869, which are to be submitted to the House to-night to see whether any grant is proposed for our Provincial Rifle Association.

Mr. Boyd, M.P.P., for Prescott advocated in the Assembly last evening, the extension of the franchise to all who though not having a direct interest in the soil (*sine qua non* at present) were drawing an annual salary of \$500—claiming that none but those of zeal and integrity enjoyed such a salary and were quite as likely to make good voters for representatives to Parliament as many possessing a smaller value in real estate. This he claimed would give extended privileges to class from which the ranks of the Volunteer Force, whose patriotism none could doubt, were filled.

Settlers on Free Grants in Ontario are to be allowed at the discretion of the Government to occupy 200 instead of 100 acres as formerly.

Another squad, which General Stisted complimented on being the best he had the pleasure of examining, passed the School of Gunnery last Monday.

By the by it has been rumored here that Lieut.-Colonel Forrest of the Ottawa Brigade of Artillery is to be appointed Deputy Adjutant General of that branch of the Service. Col. Forrest has long been known as an upright experienced and indefatigable officer, and having adopted Artillery as his hobby would undoubtedly be the right man for an officer, the want of which has been so long a serious drawback on the most important and necessary arm for the defence of Canada. Artillery is a special study. Infantry inspecting officers must find it rather difficult to report on the efficiency of the Artillery and Cavalry corps in their respective divisions.

FROM MONTREAL.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

I could at this moment undertake better a letter *à la Police Gazette*, than to discuss any movements in Volunteer matters, which will, at least till after Christmas, be very quiet, and consequently news in this quarter will be dull, stale and unprofitable till that time.

The past six days, we have had as many burglaries, and numerous petty robberies, all cleverly and neatly done, showing us that we have a stock of "professionals" in our midst, whose power and skill we must respect, by looking well after our premises. The police are on the look out for the gentlemen, and we may soon hear of their arrest, at least it is to be hoped so, as with the expertness they have shown and the daring of their undertakings, no one can feel exactly safe while these worries are about.

Lt. Col. James Ferrier, an officer who has done much to advance Volunteer interests, and who enjoys the fullest confidence and respect of his men, the Montreal Garrison Artillery, assembled them at the Victoria Armory last Friday and re-enrolled some two hundred amid great enthusiasm, the provisions of the act being previously read to them.

The Garrison Artillery is a body of efficient men whose services the country could ill afford to lose, being as they are as fine a trained and efficient Artillery as could be found in the Dominion. The men have had the advantage of long and constant drill, and under Col. Ferrier thorough discipline is exacted.

The officers of this gallant corps are all men of position and means and fully competent and zealous in their duties. I have often watched with extreme pleasure a turn out of this brigade, the precision and accuracy of their movements are so noticeable, and they always turn out in force. The band of the Brigade is in good order, and plays very well under the leadership of Mr. Henry Prince; a little more practice and they will make an excellent band.

Col. Ferrier in his speech, knew well how to touch the hearts of his men, when he alluded to their patriotism and Saxon blood; he also urged them to continued drill, and showed them that without discipline, valour and courage are of small avail.

The following are his remarks, as given by the *Daily News*.

"MY MEN:

"I am glad to find myself in the midst of forage caps again, and your attendance here is a proof that you have not forgotten the old corps.

"As a fitting commencement of the work to be got through to-night, I shall read Lord Monck's farewell to the Militia of Canada. Col. Ferrier here read the General order in the "Gazette" of November 14. I am sure it is gratifying to all of you to hear how highly your past services are appreciated by those high in power.

"Now to our work. You are aware of the object of to-night's parade—aware that you form part of a new power—and aware that an Act, respecting the militia, has been lately passed by the rulers of this new Dominion. You are mustered here,

in obedience to section 7 of this Act—the Colonel read the section. By this, you see, it will be for the interest, regarding no higher motive, of every man to re-enroll; since, by doing so, he gets the benefit of all previous service, which would, if he was drafted, go for naught; he serves at an age and period when the duty is a pleasant one; he obtains his discharge—the from of which, by the way, is to be handsome, an ornament to any person's wall,—and becomes a free man in most cases for life.

"Furthermore, you must keep in mind one clause of the address I have just read, viz: His Excellency, therefore, trust that the officers and men of the volunteer force, while not withdrawing themselves from their civil avocations, will esteem it a sacred duty which they owe to their country, to maintain their organization, and to keep up that discipline, without which the largest force of men is useless for military purposes. Colonel Ferrier then read those parts of the Act which specially interested those present, viz: sects. 4, 5, 16, 17, 19.

"Section 45 provides that any man can leave the country on certain easy conditions. Section 62, that no man shall serve in the field more than one year.

"The period of drill, as regards the volunteers, is left to the discretion of the officers—not so in the drafted militia—and in this connection I may state that, should we wish to camp out for a summer's week, camp equipage will be provided equal to that belonging to any European army.

"As to drill, that bug bear of volunteer soldiers, I would tell you that, without discipline, the most heroic valour, the purest devotion, the most stubborn courage, are of small avail; and that you must submit to a little patient training, to a few hours' drill for a few days, to learn a few simple rules, to know how to act in concert; in a word to know something—and very little will do—of real soldiering, before your great physical and moral qualities can be turned to their proper account in the service of your country.

"In conclusion, Gunners, you have only this month to enroll in; if no enrollment by the first of January, this corps, and all your previous service, is wiped out of the Militia Rolls, and clean forgotten.

"We are not the first to take the step. Will your Saxon blood permit you to be outstripped by your French brethren in this race for honor? We want all our batteries completed by volunteering and not by drafts. You have patriotism sufficient to render a resort to the draft for filling your ranks unnecessary. I know you have, and that I will be enabled to offer 300 stout hearts as a New Year's gift to the new Governor."

This address was received with enthusiasm, and the rolls of the different batteries as eagerly signed by veterans and recruits, as were its muster rolls in 1812, when Hampton's \$,000 were repulsed by 300 Canadian militia under Chateauguay. "Semper paratus" seems to be the motto of the Garrison Artillery, and past events have shown, that as regards the spirit exhibited by all ranks of the brigade it has been found equal, if not superior, in alacrity to the other arm, to answer the calls for its services to the utmost of its ability. Its excellent organization and undoubted high soldierly efficiency will, we are convinced, be fully available at the first moment of alarm.

We must not forget the Brass Band of the Brigade, which, under the able and painstaking leadership of Mr. Prince, performed in excellent style during the evening.

The following is a list of the officers attached to the corps:

Lieut. Col. J. Ferrier; Majors H. McKay, W. Hobbs; 1st Captains G. Dowker, F. R. Cole, H. C. Hooper, F. Kingston, G. S. Brusto; 2nd Captains W. F. Kay, W. Phillips, C. D. Rose, E. E. Stuart; 1st Lieuts. C. D. Tylee, E. H. Baynes, G. A. Baynes, R. A. Ramsay, G. W. Hamilton, T. M. Doucet; 2nd Lieuts. S. Hatt, E. R. Tylee, Reid Taylor, R. J. Wickseed; Staff: Capt G. Sulham, Paymaster; Capt. D. T. Frazer, Adjutant; Lieut. C. Heely, Quartermaster; J. Reddoy, M. D., Surgeon; John Bell, M. D., Assistant Surgeon.

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