

need scarcely have anticipated criticism, so much as a hearty appreciation of his efforts from every Volunteer officer who, discerning what drill must come to, is anxious to hasten the inevitable simplification, the more so that Col. Brunel, so far as we are aware, has dealt worthily with those principles on which there can scarcely remain a doubt in the mind of a candid enquirer.

And here permit me slightly to differ with you as to the word of command, Right about Front, I confess it does not strike me in quite the light in which you appear to regard it. I have understood the principle of the new drill to be that the Front is whichever way the men are facing. If so, and it is desired to change the front of a column to the rear by facing about, it certainly seems to me that the command would absolutely indicate the direction of the new front in a very plain manner.

I had written thus far when I received the Review of the 26th and read therein Colonel Brunel's letter of the 20th. I must say I think Col. Brunel's vindication of his word of command, applied to a change of front at the halt, is unanswerable; but it does not seem quite so clear as to the movement on the march, inasmuch as it would appear (unless there be some slight oversight in the explanation) that whether a retirement were intended to be temporary or a change of front, the word of command would be in both cases the same, i.e., Right about turn.

However in the present dearth of information on the subject of non-pivot drill the publication of Col. Brunel's Mem: will be a boon to the Force in general, if, as I do not doubt, it will prove that such portions of the F. E. as secs: 23 of Company, and 18 of Batt. Drill can and ought to be dispensed with.

However much Col. Brunel may disagree with me as to the formation of fours, I imagine that our ideas are much alike as to the more extended movements.

It is very probable that I may not, as Col. B. says, have hit upon the best method of simplifying the formation of fours, and I trust that neither he nor any other officer of the Force will erroneously imagine that because a man is bold enough to publish his ideas he must needs be so conceited as not cordially to welcome better. When I first wrote on the subject it was more with a view to stimulate discussion than with any overweening confidence in the soundness of my views, though I have since received from the Adjutant General the expression of his general concurrence in them; and if I have been in any degree instrumental in inducing Col. Brunel to favor us with an account of the system he has brought to the test of practice, I shall not have written in vain.

My first ideas, as will generally be the case in considering an alteration of an existing system, have even now suffered some modification; and I may here observe that, if it be a merit to disclaim originality, I also

may lay claim to that merit, as there is scarcely a point of originality in what I have advocated. For the idea of telling off in sections of four I am indebted to Captain Dartnell's *plans* of the new American Drill, and for facings in one motion to what I have actually seen done by American soldiers, and, although I am no lover of Americans, I do not forget that Rome did not disdain to learn from Carthage how to attain the supremacy of the seas, and from Pyrrhus many lessons which tended to her future invincibility.

I have been also mainly influenced in advocating these points by considerations which peculiarly affect rural companies, and which doubtless do not tell home so forcibly as I feel them, to Col. Brunel, who has the advantage of commanding a fine City Battalion, far more easily concentrated, and, I have little doubt, with a far larger staff of efficient sergeants, than most rural Battalions.

I will not now enter into any analysis, but I will venture to express my belief that, supposing subdivisions and sections to remain as at present, and that two companies of raw recruits be placed in the hands of two equally competent instructors, one to instruct according to the present system, and the other to teach facing in one motion, and the formation of fours by the wheel of sections of four, the latter company would so far soonest acquire efficient precision of movement.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours obediently,
G. W.

RIFLE MATCH.—On Saturday last a rifle match between the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Civil Service Rifle Regiment came off at the Rideau Range. The contest was decided by a team of five men on each side. The firing took place at 200, 300, and 400 yard ranges—five rounds at each range—and resulted in favor of the non-commissioned officers, who scored 160 points out of a possible 300 to their opponents 149. The following is the score.

OFFICERS	200 yds	300 yds	400 yds	Total
Capt. White,	12	7	13	32
Major Anderson,	12	7	17	36
Capt. Langton,	7	6	11	24
Lieut. Bosse,	12	4	8	24
Ensign Rowan,	13	6	14	33
Total				149
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS	200 yds	300 yds	400 yds	Total
L. C. Yeomans,	12	8	26	36
L. C. Deslauriers,	11	9	8	28
Corp. Morgan,	11	14	15	40
Sgt. Harvey,	13	8	8	29
Sgt. De Boucherville,	7	6	14	27
Total				158

The non-commissioned officers then fired off among themselves—five rounds at the longest range—to decide to whom the prize should go with. The following was the result:

L. Corp. Yeoman,	3
do do Deslaurier,	5
Corp. Morgan,	11
Sgt. Harvey,	11
do do Boucherville,	2

The ties were then fired off by Corporal Morgan and Sergt. Harvey, the former scoring an outer and the latter making a miss, which gave Corporal Morgan the prize. Before the conclusion of the match it had been decided that the winner should give \$4 to be fired for by the rest of the team, three shots at 400 yards, the winner of that to give \$2 to be fired for by the remaining three, 3 shots at 300 yards standing, and the winner of that to give \$1 for competition among the remaining two, 3 shots at 200 yards. The successive victors, in this match, were Lance Corp. Yeoman, Lance Corp. Deslaurier and Sergt. Harvey.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

COLONEL WILY'S MEDAL.—It will be remembered that a little more than two years ago a silver medal was given by Col. Wily, to be shot for by ten competitors from each of the Cadet Corps. It was won by the Ottawa. A match is held every year to decide which member of that corps is to wear it until the next competition. The third annual match came off yesterday, and Sergeant H. Armstrong was the winner. His predecessors were: in 1866, Sergeant J. Holt; in 1867, Private W. Langton. The following were the best scores, five rounds at 200 yards:—

	TOTAL.
Sergeant H. Armstrong,	43334 17
do W. Cousens,	23333 14
Corporal W. Cassels,	32433 15
Private F. Simpson,	22433 14
do H. Wicksteed,	02222 8

Corporal Cassels winning a prize of twenty rounds of ammunition given by Colonel Wily for the second highest score.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

No 1 RIFLES.—The annual match of No. 1 Company of the Ottawa Provisional Battalion of Rifles came off on Thursday last at the Rideau Range. The number of entries was very large, over four-fifths of the Company being present. The day however was very cold, and though the men kept fires going on the ground, they hardly came up to their usual mark in the shooting. The match for the Company prizes took place at the 200 and 400 yard ranges, five shots at each; and that for the special prize, presented by the Quartermaster, at the 300 yards range, three shots, in addition to the scores at the other ranges. The prizes were: 1st, a large size Smith and Wesson's Revolver; 2nd, a pair of fine trousers, presented by Lt. Mowat; 3rd, an electro plated basket; 4th, a handsome gold scarf pin; 5th, a silver mounted meerschau pipe, presented by Lt. Brown; 6th, \$1. The following is a list of the prizemen and their scores:—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	300 yds.	Total
Private Besserer,	16	6	10	32
do A. H. Cassidy,	7	13	7	27
do A. Leggo,	12	7	2	21
do J. Stewart,	15	3	0	18
Sgt. J. R. Esmonde,	8	10	8	26
Lt. Corp'l C. Hoy,	12	5	5	22

From the above it will be seen that Private Besserer also won the Quartermaster's special prize as well as the first Company prize.

For a Consolation match, which came off after the other contest, two prizes were offered. 1st, a paper and pencil case; 2nd, a pair of silver salts, and a special prize, presented by Lieut. Bosse, of No. 5 Company Civil Service Rifles. The firing for them was carried on at 200 yards; three shots.

The following men and score took them.

	200 yds. Total.
Private R. Stewart,	9...9
do Binks,	9...9
do Carrier,	7...7