

THE CANADIAN  
MILITARY GAZETTE

(Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)

ESTABLISHED 1885.

PUBLISHED AT TORONTO

ON THE

1st and 15th of each Month.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE MILITARY  
FORCES OF CANADA.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

Canada and the United States, per annum.	\$2.00
Great Britain, Ireland and Postal Union Countries .....	10s. 6d. stg.
Single Copies .....	10 cents

Subscriptions are in every instance payable in advance, and the publishers request the favor of prompt remittance.

Remittances should be made by post office order or registered letter.

The date when the subscription expires is on the address label of each paper, the change of which to a subsequent date becomes a receipt for remittance. No other receipt is sent unless requested.

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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2179, Montreal.

MONTREAL-TORONTO, JUNE 6, 1896.

**TOO MUCH SHOW.**

SINCE the earliest days of the volunteers they have been subject to criticism either of a laudatory nature or the reverse. Patriotism has, in a great measure, upheld the force from crumbling down before, in many cases, the unjust treatment meted out to them by those of the public who look upon the volunteers not as a defence of their country, but as a body who would be of no earthly use if called to the front. Then, again, they have had to contend with a Government that begrudges every little item that would go to make them anyways complete. It is pretty hard just to draw the line as to where volunteers should really take their stand.

They cannot be expected to be pitted against the regulars, but they should at least show that they have a full grasp of the rudimentary training of a soldier.

To acquire such much more attention should be paid to the real work of a soldier than is done by many corps. The most of them are all pretty well up in manual exercises, etc., but very few of them get much, if any, instruction in route march, etc., which goes in a great measure to the inuring of the men to real work. Too much time is occupied for display and show. The half of the time spent at that could be well dispensed with. It would be far better if the officers, instead of taking up such time, would lay aside so

much time in the course of a season for work that would stand them in good stead in the day of trouble. By their smartness in manual exercises, etc., they gain the appreciation of the public, but if they were buckling right down to taking part in the hardships of what would be expected of them they would present a still better appearance than they do.

**A LIBERAL MINISTER.**

IT is generally conceded that Wm. Mullock, ex-M.P., the present candidate in North York, will be the Minister of Militia in the event of the Liberals being successful this month. Some say he would prefer Agriculture, in which he takes much interest, for he has one of the best farms in the country.

Military men, though they may not agree with him in politics, admit that he would make a good Minister of Militia. He is one of the most honest and upright men in Parliament. He has been found fault with by his party because he would do what he thought was right regardless of its effect on them. He has announced himself as opposed to the appointment of the ward heelers to public offices, though his Liberal friends in Ontario are as great if not greater sinners in this respect than the Conservatives at Ottawa. He says a man's qualifications should be considered before his politics. As he is a man who is noted for adhering to his principles through thick and thin, such a man at the head of this Department would be a decided acquisition.

The curse of the militia to-day is political interference, and any one who will bring about a new order of things will be heartily welcomed by the force.

**HANDLING A MOB.**

SOME Montreal commanding officers complain that the mob interferes with their work on the Champ de Mars. Let them put their pioneers in charge of the ground. Instruct them to deal politely with the crowd, and on no account to quarrel with them. Leave that to the police. THE GAZETTE has never yet seen a crowd that, if handled properly, would not assist the military authorities to preserve the parade ground. It is a great mistake to quarrel with them or for an officer to lose his temper and swear at them. Then they are apt to give trouble.

Jolly them along. Make them believe they are welcome.

**THE MAY OUTINGS.**

FROM reports which have reached us the Queen's Birthday celebrations in every part of Canada were a great success. At Kingston, Hamilton, Berlin, Montreal, etc., where the various arms were augmented by visiting corps, the public got an insight into the appearance and physique of our citizen soldiers. This is as it should be. The country keeps up our force, although not to the state of proficiency it should, and it should have an opportunity of judging how matters stand with them. The massing of the troops at the principal centres of the country goes a great way to the keeping up of a spirit of military enthusiasm. It gives the probable recruit an insight into the work a soldier is called upon to undergo, while at the same time it is a reminder to the public that the equipping and keeping of the force in a state of efficiency should not be lost sight of. The large attendance of the men should also be an object lesson to the many who seek to give the affairs of the militia only a second place when the apportioning of the emoluments which go to keep it together comes up for consideration. It is only when two or three battalions are massed together that they have an opportunity of learning what would be expected of them if called upon to defend the country. In one or two of the centres where they were massed a mimic war was taken part in, and the several battalions engaged gave a good account of themselves, and were fairly well handled by their commanding officers. Field days are of great assistance to all ranks, for they give an experience and training which cannot be got elsewhere. We have pointed out before that too much time was taken up with "show." Take, for instance, the review at Montreal. Certainly no harsh word can be passed on the way the men acquitted themselves, but it would have been of much more lasting benefit to all concerned if the day had been spent in some such work as was engaged in at Hamilton. Such events give the officers and men material for much thought, and broaden their views on matters military, and lead them out of the rut of the usual parade night routine. Such displays as were witnessed last Monday all over Canada cannot come too often. Not only are they of benefit to the force generally, but they also are the means of arousing the martial spirit in our youths, who feel that they are out of it, and are not long in joining, to be in it.