

families. There is no deficiency of pluck in the force I have the honour to command, and when necessary and advisable I have no doubt the same dash will be found as formerly."

ENFIELD revolvers and Winchester carbines are the arms carried by the Mounted Policemen. The revolvers give satisfaction, but with the carbines the case is different, as shown by the following quotation: "The Winchester carbine, so long the favourite arm with western prairie men, is not giving good satisfaction in the force; the ease with which it gets out of order and its liability to break off at the stock are serious drawbacks to its efficiency. The advantages of the magazine in this carbine are quite neutralised by the difficulty experienced in keeping it in order, and the great temptation it offers, especially to young recruits, to waste their fire. For a military weapon the trajectory is very much too high. A good many of the first issues are gradually wearing out, and I would suggest as soon as it can be settled which is the best carbine now made, one division be supplied with it; when, if satisfactory, it can be issued to the rest of the force."

Militia General Orders (No. 5), of 23rd March, 1888.

No. 1.—ORIGINAL COLOURS OF THE Tenth FOOT,
Now the 1st Battalion of the Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians).

The original Colours of the 1st Battalion of "The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)" having been received from the officer commanding that battalion, through the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State for Canada, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has selected the Library of Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, at Ottawa, as the final resting place of these Colours which form so interesting a link in the historical connection between Her Majesty's army and this portion of the Empire; and it is directed that a copy of the letter from Lieut.-Col. Collum, accompanying the transmission of the Colours, be published, as follows, for general information, more especially of the Militia Force of the Dominion:—

"From Lieut.-Col. L. J. Collum, 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment, to the High Commissioner, 9 Victoria Chambers, London, S. W.

"BELLEVUE, ENNISKILLEN, IRELAND,
"3rd September, 1887.

SIR,—On behalf of Lieut.-Col. D. W. Mackinnon, commanding, and the officers, non commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment (The Prince of Wales' Royal Canadians), I have the honour to hand to you the original Colours of the Corps for the acceptance of the Dominion Government.

"These Colours were presented to the regiment at Shorncliffe, in 1858, by H. R. II. the Prince of Wales, being his first public act. This honour was conferred on the corps in consideration of the loyalty of the Dominion of Canada to Her Majesty the Queen and the mother country in their hour of need arising from the Indian mutiny, in raising and equipping the corps at the expense of the Dominion and presenting it to Her Most Gracious Majesty, whose jubilee we this year celebrate.

"We hope that in the acceptance of these our first Colours, the inhabitants of the Dominion of Canada will feel that our attachment to the country of our origin is unabated, and that we should always feel it an honour were the ties of our connection bound closer by the renewal of the recruiting and domiciling of one of our battalions permanently in Canada, on the linked battalion system, where some portion of the regular army is always required; were it consistent with the views of the War Office of this country and that of the Dominion of Canada; it would probably be of no small advantage to the military strength of the Dominion in having a constant supply of trained officers, non-commissioned officers and men to pass to the militia and volunteer battalions, and under the present short service system would afford a popular field to her adventurous sons, many of whom now pass as officers to other battalions which have no connection with the Dominion.

"The honour of handing to you these first Colours devolves upon me by the desire of Lieut.-Col. D. A. Mackinnon and the officers and men of the battalion, whose representative I am, being the senior officer who served with the corps prior to its being linked with the then tenth Regiment.

"The Colours will be duly handed to you by Messrs. Wolff and Harris, in whose care they are. Please acknowledge their receipt and also this letter.

"LUCIUS J. COLLUM, Lieut.-Col.,
"1st Leinster Regiment."

No. 2.—COMMISSIONS IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY TO ACTIVE MILITIA OFFICERS.

The following amended regulations, on the subject of the six commissions in the cavalry or infantry of the line which the Imperial Government agree to grant annually to officers of the active militia of Canada, are hereby substituted for those published in No. 5 of General Orders (21), 23rd December, 1887, viz.:—

1. Commissions in the cavalry or infantry of the line will be granted to officers (who are bona fide colonists) of the local military force of certain colonies, to be specified from time to time, under the conditions hereinafter prescribed as to age, physical and moral fitness, length of service in the Colonial forces, literary and military qualifications, and a general eligibility for the position of an officer in Her Majesty's regular forces.

2. A candidate will be required to have served at least 15 months as an officer in the local military force of the colony from which he is nominated, and must have attended two annual trainings, or have seen active service in the field. A certificate to this effect from his commanding officer must be attached to the candidate's papers.

3. The candidate must be within the ages of 19 and 22 on the 1st January of the year in which he is allowed to present himself for the examination hereinafter specified. A certificate of birth, or a declaration of his exact age, made by the candidate's parents or guardian before a magistrate, must be attached to his papers when forwarded to the War Office.

4. He will be required to undergo an inspection by a medical board, to be convened by the Governor of the colony, or other proper authority, and will not be allowed to proceed further with his candidature unless certified by such board to be physically qualified, in all respects, for a commission in the army.

5. An intending candidate must apply for a nomination to the Governor, through his commanding officer, or such other channel as the Governor may prescribe, in sufficient time to allow of arrangements being made for his undergoing the military examination before he has exceeded the limit of age specified in para. 3.

6. A candidate will not be allowed to enter upon his examination until he has satisfied the Governor of the colony, in which he is serving, that he is of good moral character, and, in all other respects, a fit and proper person to hold a commission in Her Majesty's army. A certificate from the Governor to this effect must be attached to the candidate's papers when they are forwarded to the War Office.

7. The candidate will be required to undergo a qualifying literary examination in the following subjects:

- (1.) Mathematics—viz.: (a) arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions, proportion, and simple interest; (b) Euclid, Book I.; (c) algebra, up to and including simple equations.
- (2.) French, German, or some other modern language; the examination being limited to translation from the language, and grammatical questions.
- (3.) Writing English correctly, and in a good legible hand, from dictation. English composition, tested by the power of writing an essay, letter or précis.
- (4.) The elements of geometrical drawing; including the construction of scales, and the use of simple mathematical instruments.
- (5.) Geography.

In addition to the foregoing, the candidate will be required to select and qualify in two, and not more than two, of the following subjects:

- (a.) Mathematics—viz., algebra, up to and including the binomial theorem; the theory and use of logarithms; Euclid, Books I to IV and VI.; plane trigonometry, up to and including the solution of triangles; and mensuration.
- (b.) Classics (Latin or Greek).
- (c.) English history:—General.
- (d.) Freehand drawing.

8. The candidate will be exempted from the above examination, except in geometrical drawing, if he can produce a certificate from the proper University authority that he has taken his degree in Arts, or has passed the examination for the degree of B.A. or M.A., at one of the following Universities, viz.: Oxford, Edinburgh, Cambridge, St. Andrews, Durham, Glasgow, London, Aberdeen, Dublin, the Royal University, Ireland, or from one of the chartered Colonial Universities; or if he has passed one of the University examinations specified below, viz.: Oxford, "Moderations"; Cambridge, "the Previous Examination"; Dublin, "the Final Examination of the Senior Freshman Year," or, "the Final Examination of the School of Engineering"; Durham, "the First Year's Examination"; The Royal University Ireland, "the Second University Examination in Arts or the second professional Examination in Engineering"; Scotch Universities, "the Examination for Candidates for the Army"; London University, the "First Examination" for the degree of B.A., LL.B., or M.B.; or if he has passed some other test which is accepted by the University as exempting from the above examinations. An equivalent examination at one of the chartered Universities will likewise be accepted as a sufficient ground for exemption.

9. The subjects of the military examination and the maximum marks obtainable in each subject will be as follows:

	Marks.
1. The Elements of Field Fortification.....	600
2. Military Topography.....	600
3. The Elements of Tactics.....	600
4. Military Law.....	600

In order to qualify for a commission, a candidate will be required to obtain 25 of the marks in each subject, and 75 of the aggregate.

The scope will be that embraced by the synopsis of the course of instruction (in the subjects specified in paragraph 9) at the Royal Military College. There will, however, be no practical out-of-door examination in any subject. The text books will be those in use at the time of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, which, for the present, are as follows:

- 1. The Elements of Field Fortification. { Phillips' Course of Artillery and Fortification.
- 2. Military Topography..... { Official Text Books of Military Topography.
- 3. The Elements of Tactics..... { Field Exercises.
Clery's Minor Tactics.
- 4. Military Law..... { Army Act.
Queen's Regulations.
Elements of Military Administration and Law (Boughey).

10. Sets of papers for the examination in both the literary and military subjects will be forwarded in due course, in sealed envelopes, to the Governors of the respective colonies, who will convene boards, the duty of which will be to see that the papers are fairly worked by the candidates. The papers will then be returned without delay to the Director-General of Military Education, War Office, London, for adjudication.

The Governor of the colony will notify to the War Office, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as early as possible in each year, whether he has any duly qualified candidates to nominate, and will, at the same time, state how many sets of papers he will be likely to require for their examination.

The literary examination will be held in the month of July.
11. In the event of the number of candidates nominated by the Governor in a colony at any time exceeding the allotted number of commissions, the selection will be decided by competition in the military portion of the prescribed examination.

No. 3.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1887

Organization—Officers.—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 54 of Regulations and Orders, 1887:

"(2) When an officer is permitted to retire retaining rank it is to be understood that it is the rank then held by him, provided he has had sufficient service therein; a step of rank on retirement will not be granted."

Stores.—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 761., Regulations and Orders, 1887: