

# The Canadian Militia Gazette

THE POPULAR ORGAN OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

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## CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

In Parliament.....	137
Commanding officers.....	137
The Bisley team.....	137
League entries.....	137
Death of Von Moltke.....	137
General Herbert speaks of the militia.....	138

### CORRESPONDENCE.

An appeal against the shooting of pigeons— <i>J. Gairdner, Jr.</i> .....	138
Pay of District Staff— <i>M.</i> .....	138

### QUERIES AND REPLIES.....

### REGIMENTAL.....

### MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.....

### QUEEN'S OWN REVOLVER ASSOCIATION.....

## FIXTURES.

Dominion Rifle Assn.—annual business meeting.....	May 20
Dominion Artillery Assn.—annual business meeting.....	May 21
National Rifle Assn. meeting opens (Bisley).....	July 13
C. M. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, July 11, 25, August 8
Inter-City Telegraphic Match.....	June 13
N. W. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, June 13, 22, July 11, 25, [Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19]

## NOTE AND COMMENT.

It will be good news to the militia to learn that the military members of parliament propose to continue this session missionary work amongst their colleagues in the House with a view to converting them to the principle of granting a sufficient appropriation annually to permit of drilling the whole force every year. Emphasis is laid upon the fact that the extra amount required, \$150,000 or \$200,000, could be provided without any appreciable increase in the taxation, and being distributed throughout every province, and all spent in the country, would speedily return to the national treasury. In any event the expenditure would be one of the most profitable that could be made, the physical advantages alone resulting from the encouragement of military drill being sufficient to warrant the cost of encouraging volunteering, even though the strictly military training were never put into practical use. It is conceded that arrangements can hardly be made in time to permit of any other than the ordinary camps being held in June, but several commanding officers of rural corps agree that it would be quite convenient to have the camp in September instead. It is altogether likely that a deputation of the members will wait upon the Minister of Militia shortly for the purpose of discussing with him the position of the force.

It is rather rough on a commanding officer who has worked hard to build up a regiment, to have it hinted to him that after a very short spell of office he should resign "to give promotion" to his subordinates. Of course the more successful a C. O. is, the more aspirants there will be for the high positions in his regiment. This subject is brought to our attention at this time by a paragraph appearing in a Toronto paper suggesting that Col. Dawson should resign the command of the Grenadiers in order to make promotion, but rather ludicrously the paper in question names as his successor, not the next senior, but a gentleman having had no connection with this corps or any other in the militia. About the business affairs of the Grenadiers we do not wish to speak, not professing any knowledge of them, but as Col. Dawson has been only two years in his present position it seems rather too soon to expect him to resign to make way for his juniors. Perhaps it would be well if there was a fixed limit of time for commands to be held, then promotion would be certain and continuous.

THE Bisley team has been completed, with only three refusals, but as there are yet two months to pass before the time for sailing it will not be surprising if some of those who have accepted find themselves unable to go. It would be well, therefore, for any ambitious men on the waiting list to be prepared to fill vacancies at short notice.

WE would remind intending competitors in the Military Rifle League that entries close on the 10th May, and any captain who finds his team excluded from the competition because of neglect to send in the entry fees in time should not complain.

Field Marshal Count Von Moltke died suddenly at Berlin last Friday, in his 91st year. To "Father Moltke" (Vater Moltke), as he was familiarly termed in the German army, and his brilliant strategy are ascribed the splendid victories of the German arms in the Franco-German war. He was the commander-in-chief. The whole plan of the campaign was due to him. In recognition of his unrivalled services, Moltke, who was already a baron, was created a count October 28th, 1870, made the Chief Marshal of the German Empire, September, 1871, and again received a national donation. The illustrious Marshal, who was generally regarded as the first strategist of the day, received from the Czar the Order of