

Royal Engineers. I hear on all hands utmost satisfaction expressed with all cadets from Kingston whether they have become sappers or gunners. Their practical training enables the authorities to dispense with a portion of the practical course which is necessary in the case of cadets coming from the 'shop' as the Woolwich Military Academy is called, and I hear there has never yet been complaint of ill conduct about one of the Kingston graduates, though the change from Canadian to English life is no small trial. Their endurance is greatly commended and their brightness, while they are popular with the men. Three out of this batch of seven have names as thoroughly French as though they had just passed into the army which obeys M. De Freycinet."

Personal.

Sir Fred Middleton goes to Toronto to-day in response to an invitation to attend the St. Andrew's ball.

Lord Lansdowne has appointed Captain Streatfeild, Grenadier Guards, who was his Aide-de-Camp in Canada, as his acting Private Secretary.

Lieut.-General Sir John Ross, commander of the Imperial Forces in B. N. A., who has been on a visit at Government House here, left on Saturday evening for the Pacific coast.

Capt. J. W. G. Watson, just promoted to that rank in the 13th Battalion, Hamilton, has been transferred by the Bank of Montreal, in whose service he is, to the Brockville branch.

Whether Prince Adolphus of Teck, serving in India as a second lieutenant in the 17th Lancers, should be treated as an ordinary subaltern or as a Prince, is matter now agitating certain English papers, which allege that an order was issued that the Prince should not be treated as an ordinary subaltern.

Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the militia.]

THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE PERMANENT CORPS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR: As the contemplated establishment of another cavalry school in Toronto will complete the complement of schools of all arms, cavalry, artillery and infantry, the time seems opportune to consider whether a change for the better might not be made in the designation of these corps. "Cavalry School Corps" and "Infantry School Corps" seems insufficient to convey the proper idea of what these corps are. As the artillery corps is called the "Regiment of Canadian Artillery," why not call the cavalry school corps the "Regiment of Canadian Cavalry," and the infantry school corps the "Regiment of Canadian Infantry"? Thus the permanent militia force in Canada would consist of a regiment each of cavalry, artillery and infantry, each regiment retaining its designation of Royal School for school purposes, as at present. I well remember with what horror many in England (and doubtless elsewhere also) read the brief newspaper despatches that the "Schools" had been ordered to the Northwest to suppress the recent rebellion, labouring under the impression they were boys from the public schools formed into corps. Then again, officers and men away from the garrison towns are not quite understood when they say they belong to a "School Corps." This change would, I believe, also raise their *esprit de corps*.

FORESIGHT.

Nov. 20, 1888.

Queries and Replies.

POSITION IN RIDING.

Q. Would you kindly state in your paper if the seat and manner of holding the reins as taught the private soldier in a cavalry regiment is the correct thing for infantry field officers, and in fact all mounted soldiers, and if not, what is? and very much oblige—SABRETACHE.

A. It is the correct thing. The style is the same for all ranks.—ED.

The *Avenir Militaire*, while congratulating the army upon the adoption of the Lebel rifle, points out that as the new arm causes scarcely any smoke and gives a very slight report, it will be necessary for the safety of outposts, etc., to make immediate changes in the regulations or to take new dispositions altogether.

The Naval and Military Resources of the Colonies.

[By Robert O'Byrne, F.R.G.S., in A. & H. G. Gazette.]

(Continued from page 516.)

On a former occasion we addressed ourselves on this important subject to Victoria. We now proceed to New South Wales.

Much has been done in recent years towards perfecting the military defences which have been established for the protection of the Colony of New South Wales, but a report which has comparatively recently been made to the local Government by Major-Gen. Shaw, a British officer of experience and distinction, who lately visited New South Wales, shows that a great deal remains to be accomplished before the colony can deem itself secure from the attack of a hostile invading force. To meet contingencies which may some day arise, there have been established three lines of defence. The first consists of men-of-war vessels, or armed cruisers, to guard the sea approaches and defeat the landing of an enemy; the second includes coast batteries and torpedo defences for the defence of points on which a descent might be made in the event of vessels of war escaping the cruisers; and the third embraces a field force of all arms, intended to battle with the enemy should troops be landed. Sydney being the headquarters of the British squadron in those waters, it has not been incumbent on the local Government to give so much attention to naval defence as Victorian Ministries have been compelled to do.

The New South Wales fleet, if it can so be called, consists of the *Wolverene*, a wooden steam corvette, 2,500 tons, 2,100-horse power, a steam hopper barge, and two torpedo boats. The *Wolverene*, with stores and armament complete, was handed over as a present to the colony by the British authorities in 1882. She was intended for the use of the Naval Brigade, but for some reason or other she has not been fully utilised. The ship was laid up in ordinary by the last Government and her guns have been taken out of her and placed in Forts Denison and Macquarie. The *Neptune*, a steam hopper barge belonging to the Harbours and Rivers Department, is manned by the Naval Artillery. She is vessel of 300 tons and 250-horse power, and has one 64-pdr. M.L. converted rifle gun. The *Acheron* and *Avernus*, twin torpedo boats, fitted with improved Whitehead torpedoes, make up the fleet. They are under the command of the Colonel commanding the Torpedo and Signalling Corps. Both boats were made in the colony. They are 80 feet long, with 10 foot beam, and have an indicated horse-power of 300. They are in good order and in good condition.

The Naval Brigade—a partially paid force—was formed in 1863 to man H.M.S. *Brunswick*, a ship offered to the New South Wales Government by the Admiralty, on condition that she should be sheathed with iron at a cost of £60,000. The undertaking was considered to be too expensive, so the offer was refused, and the Naval Brigade undertook the duties of seamen when they landed from a ship, and the manning of forts and batteries. The brigade, on its first appearance, mustered twenty officers and men, but it rapidly increased in numbers until, in 1885, it had a strength of 640 of all ranks. In January last, the local Government, with the object of lessening the naval and military expenses, reduced the strength of the force, and the brigade now numbers 328 officers and men. The principal officers are Capt. Commanding Francis Hixson, Comdr. G. S. Lindeman, H. Cross, and A.L. Lewington. The Naval Artillery Volunteer Force was enrolled in November, 1882. The corps was formed to work the guns on every man-of-war or gunboat that might belong to the colony. The men are thoroughly efficient, probably the best trained of any of the Service. They have been drilled regularly on board the *Wolverene*, and the exigencies of the Services have compelled them to undertake the duties appertaining to A. B.'s in the Navy. They also act as landing parties and carry out boat practice and manning and arming boats. For that purpose they possess one launch mounting 9-pdr. boat-gun, one cutter mounting 7-pdr. boat-gun, one cutter mounting Hale's war-rocket tubes, two whalers and one galley. The force, which is under the control of Comdr. Lee, is about 200 strong. The officers and men provide their own uniform, the Government allowing arms and an annual grant for providing instruction and incidental expenses incurred in working the corps. The important department of repairs and outfit has not been neglected.

Some time ago the local Government handed over to the British authorities Gordon Island—one of the largest islands in Port Jackson—for the construction of a naval depot, and everything has been done that has been declared necessary by the Imperial representatives to make the depot complete. It will render the British Navy independent of outside assistance, and will complete the unity of the general scheme of Australian naval defence. The largest vessels in the Royal Navy will be able to moor alongside the wharf, and the buildings will be replete with appliances for all kinds of repairs. A new graving dock, said to be one of the largest in the world, is being built at Cockatoo Island, and when finished it will afford facilities for docking the largest ships of war that