

## Canadian Military (and Literary) Review.

### TO ADVERTISERS.

In commencing another year with the publication of the *Canadian Military Review* we wish to return our sincere thanks to our friends for their support we have received, and beg respectfully to solicit their patronage for another year. No effort on our part will be omitted to make the paper a greater success than the last year.

We wish to draw the attention of the public generally, especially those firms supplying military uniform accoutrements and appointments, to our advertising medium. Viz: a circulation of over 70,000 extending from P. E. I. to British Columbia, also East India and London England. Among our London subscribers are several West India and other mercantile houses, and the fact that our circulation extends over such a vast space offers a good opportunity for advertising we therefore respectfully solicit a share of the patronage of our general public.

TERMS.	
Subscription to C. M. R. 1 year payable in advance	\$1 00
Column including 1 copy of the paper for 1 year	\$ 6 00
Half column	10 00
Whole column	18 00

In forwarding remittances procure a Post Office order if possible if not register the letter. The former is much better as it protects us as well as the sender.

All letters and communications relative to English part of C. M. R. to be addressed to

Staff Sergeant G. STEWART, R. S. G.  
Kingston Ont.

## The Canadian Military Review,

JULY 1st. 1881.

### Short Tactical Lessons for all arms at the Ontario Gunnery School.

"B" Battery, Royal School of Gunnery, Kingston.

#### FIELD ARTILLERY FIGHTING TACTICS IN CONNECTION WITH OTHER ARMS.

Field artillery tactics may be considered under four heads:

1st. *Tentative*, or trying the strength of the enemy, in connection with the advanced cavalry of an army, or with the advanced guard.

2nd. *Divisional*, or supporting the infantry or cavalry division, paving the way for its advance or covering its retreat.

3rd. *Army corps or reserve*, or acting and striking en masse on the key of a position, in obedience to the will of a master mind.

4th. *The rear guard*, or covering defeat

#### TENTATIVE.

The cavalry may find and feel the enemy, but they cannot probe him, force him to unmask, touch his masses or reserves, nor compel him to delay his advance by deploying his masses; this the advanced artillery, when judiciously handled, can effectively do, but no general should allow his whole army to be committed to attack by a couple of advanced guns, as General Burrows appears to have done at the battle of Maiwand.

If it is necessary to force the enemy's hand by the forward advance of a few guns, when they have done their business and cannot be supported by the troops accompanying them, they must retire, and may be lost, but it must be remembered that guns may be lost with honor, though this should seldom be in an advance.

On the other hand, great advantages may be gained by the judicious handling of a few guns with the advanced cavalry. The strength of cavalry does not lie in fire. Fire from the saddle is useless, and in dismounting to fire, the number of horse-holders necessary, seriously diminishes the effective fire.

When a mass of horses, except under unusual circumstances, are exposed to the enemy's fire, the loss of horses would abso-

lutely cripple the cavalry, and horses taught to lie down under cover has not yet become a part of cavalry instruction.

Artillery is the fire complement necessary to cavalry against infantry attack, or superior cavalry attack, while for the offensive a few guns would in a few minutes drive an enemy out of a village, no matter how numerously posted without artillery. The cavalry and guns could then occupy it.

In a similar manner, a bridge may be seized and held by a handful of cavalry and a couple of guns. In the same manner the re-entering angle of a river, with a ford or where it is intended to construct a bridge for the passage of an army, may be held by sweeping the opposite projecting angle of the shore with guns converging on it from the opposite side of the river.

A few guns with the advanced cavalry by opening fire, will delay very much the enemy's advance, by obliging him to deploy, and so give time to send back word to the advance guard or main body.

Artillery opening fire in the advance will tend to make an enemy over-estimate the force opposed to him, and proportionately waste time in more extended deployment for attack on what he considers likely to be obstinately held, by the mere fact of the presence of artillery, with what would be otherwise an insignificant force.

#### DIVISIONAL, SUPPORTING THE INFANTRY OR CAVALRY DIVISION.

In the Prussian Army four field batteries are attached to each division of infantry, and two horse artillery batteries to each cavalry division, but half the above might be sufficient in a wooded country with bad roads.

The order of march of artillery with reference to other arms is regulated by the order in which they may be required for fighting, as the artillery is wanted first to cover the deployment of the infantry division to which he is attached. Of course this rule would be reversed in the event of passing through a wood, or wherever the fire of artillery would be useless. It is moreover, desirable for artillery not to be made to march in rear of infantry when it can be avoided. Horses in draught walk quicker than men, and if continually checked, halted, and again thrown into the collar, they become galled and quickly exhausted.

On arriving at a river, bridges have to be examined to see if they will bear the strain of artillery, and to strengthen the bridge by props of timber gives a much greater increase of strength than would be imagined, and with Canadian axemen would take less time than might be supposed.

The trestle bridges common for railways in this country exemplify the great weight that can be supported by apparently slight structures of timber.

The re-entering angle of a river is generally chosen for the passage, if there is a bridge, the artillery do not cross first, but being deployed on either side of the bridge to protect it, and sweep the ground on the opposite bank, the same with reference to a ford—the infantry are allowed to pass first, otherwise the gun wheels would cut it up and deepen it.

In any advance or reconnaissance, the Lieut. Colonel commanding the divisional Artillery should, as a rule, accompany the divisional general, with whom he ought to be en rapport, and transmit orders to his battery commanders by his field aides, the divisional Artillery Adjutant and Quartermaster, keeping a trumpeter with him. Army signalling by laquer escorts has not yet been tried for directing concentration of fire in the field.

As soon as the Artillery fight is to commence, the Lieut. Colonel in command, after ascertaining the intentions of the divisional General, places himself at the head of two or more batteries of divisional artillery, and works them as one powerful battery under his own supervision; or he may consider it preferable to detach a battery to each flank, and so obtain a cross-fire or concentration from widely separated batteries. A battery on each flank is more convenient, also, to cover a deployment or change of front, during which, it must be remem-