

green and black, with poor quality braid which fades during a single camp, and as many rows, and drop loops, and eyes as the wearer fancies; large badges of rank and small ones, and so on. The writer has seen officers on parade with sky-blue patrols, and men's tunics with a little common tinsel for lace, and it is no uncommon thing to see officers wearing men's serge trousers, and, badly as many of these fit, the appearance of tunics is made infinitely worse by wearing vests under them. And shirt collars we must not forget, for while many claim that they improve the appearance of a patrol, it is against regulation to wear them, but bad as it is to wear a shirt collar with a patrol, what shall be said of an officer who wears one with a tunic, as many do at balls, etc.? O! ye gods! words fail if we attempt to describe our feelings when we behold such a sight; but why should not infantry officers be allowed to wear a false or inside collar with undress as well as cavalry, engineers, or artillery? There are many more articles of uniform yet to be touched on, which will be reserved for another number of the GAZETTE.

GRENADE.

#### NOTIONS OF A NOODLE.—VIII.

"MY DEAR MISTY,—By this time you must be heartily tired of the rank and file, and I must say we have pretty well sifted his apparel, refraining, for delicate reasons, from touching on his underclothes, but, in this respect, as far as my observations have gone, the Canadian militiaman is pretty well fixed; I feel that the present, however, is a good opportunity to open a mild discussion on the 'set-up' of an officer, doomed to undertake a campaign in regimentals. It will be only humane to give this unfortunate person a word or two, and endeavor, if we can, to show up his condition, for really on service the poor fellow is so taken up with engineering and improvising schemes in order to counteract the helpless condition of his men, equipped according to regulation, that he positively has no time to speak for himself, and so his woes pass unnoticed.

"First, of course, he has the same forage cap to retain on his head as the unpretending private; a broken chin strap to him, alas, means the same miserable future; the gold lace that in his place is the substitute for braid, fails to prove any more of a protection from wind, cold or sunshine than the less gaudy material of the inferior, while the indiscriminating mosquito plies his bloody trade with the same vigor under a band of gold lace, as he does beneath the shabby braid of a 'trumpeter' saturated with chrome yellow (not the trumpeter). In fact, now that I remember, much more vigorously, for this terrible insect hates chrome yellow like poison.

"Well, most of our young officers, no matter how virtuous and exemplary in character, are generally found, when suddenly summoned to arms, 'tight.' This is the general condition of the majority of our city corps at all events, owing, I suppose, to the evil effects of fashion, which, as a rule, exercises a great influence over the habits of most young men in our crowded cities. Now and then we come across a 'loose' one, but as far as appearances go he does not prove as desirable as the other, even in his questionable condition.

"As stated above, most of our officers find themselves suddenly called upon to take the field in garments 'tight,' that are made for the purposes of parade, full dress balls, or some other military occupation, for which the same garments are eminently suited, but are as applicable for a campaign as the canvas jumper is convenient for a ball room. The tunic is terrible, one glance at a man in one about any encampment is quite enough, while the feelings of the wearer can be imagined when he fails to find even a pocket for his handkerchief, much less for all the little odds and ends necessary for his very existence on a campaign. One glance is quite enough as I said before; there he stands in the glaring scarlet, green or blue tunic, buttoned up to his chin, 'tight' but not happy. No pockets, no breathing room, no comfort. He can't unbutton when the perspiration flows from every pore. Why? because he has a cross-belt, a great broad strip of leather, that flashes and glares in the sun, binds up the shoulders and prevents free action of the body. In some cases, with rifle regiments and others, it is hung over and glitters with silver ornaments, very pretty, but very heavy. This strap holds up a pouch, a most useful and necessary article for every officer, for it will contain three, and in some cases six cigarettes. The rifles have a 'whistle.' Now, that is a very bright idea, and should never be discarded in Canada, nor should the pouch, as long as cigarettes are necessary to life, and issued for field service. Then again, we come to his waist-belt, firmly gripping the body; and dangling so fiercely, helplessly and dangerously (to himself) by his side is his sword. If a bayonet is out of place with a private, what a long way out of place is the sword by the side of an officer.

"Can anything be more ridiculous in these days of revolvers and fire arms than this silly weapon. And the trouble and annoyance of carrying the horrible thing, is tremendous. You can't carry it always in one hand, you can't carry it at all in the other. It won't drag for 30 miles a day, but it will prey upon a man's feelings, and break his heart quicker than any discomfort heaped upon him. Those who carry the sword alone should, however, be silent and contented, they have no sabretache.' Why in the world intelligent people can go on as we do, is more than you or I, Misty, can answer. We teach our young officers to carry a sword; it appears to be recognized that its utility is played out, for little or no instruction is given in its use, because it is a weapon of the past, it is only intended for ballast. Then, when trouble comes, each young man rushes for a revolver, if he is allowed to put it on, but it is not a recognized arm, and officers are not expected to be in any way conversant with its action or effect; nor are they, for note the result: they buy a big revolver, and with the novelty and delight of possessing so strange a weapon, they 'load her up,' and 'bang' away she goes into the 'broad basket' of some brother officer. Several extremely narrow escapes occurred in General Middleton's column, and he himself had to disarm several officers, enthusiastic to a degree, but, unsuited for hair triggers.

"In olden times the art of using the sword was taught in the army. Now, alas, it is not, because it is useless, but we still carry it, and the commanding officer who does not sit on his juniors with 'where's your sword, sir,' is not considered worthy of the name. It is not the C.O.'s fault, however, he, poor man, runs in a groove like us all, and wears his sword *sometimes*. And if he did take upon himself to vary the thing with a smattering of common sense, what a saving lunatic our conservative ideas would make him if he accosted his youngest subaltern with the novel demand—'Where is your revolver, sir?—try a shot at that hay-stack and aim low.' I am glad to say that in the militia we have none such, and let us hope that none of our gallant officers in command will ever show such a disregard for the customs of the service as to fall into so reprehensible a habit, or encourage others in shooting at 'hay-stacks.' Let us rather patiently bear our sword, resting assured that when the time does come for seizing the revolver, if we do not succeed in shooting the enemy, we may safely calculate upon obtaining practice and experience upon some of our friends, who, unsuspecting and at close ranges, afford natural and easy targets for the most uncertain marksman."

#### SYLLABUS FOR THE MILITARY SCHOOLS.—Continued.

##### Infantry Subjects—Short Course.

The following is a syllabus of subjects which will be taught in the Schools, and in which those attending for instructional purposes will be examined.

##### Grade A.—1st Class.

(For Field Officers and Adjutants.)

The same subjects as for 2nd Class, applying them to a Battalion in detail and Brigade generally, with the addition of all Courts Martial.

##### Grade B.—1st Class.

(For Staff Sergeants and Lieutenants.)

The same subjects as for 2nd Class, Grade B., as applying to a Battalion, with the addition of Regimental Courts Martial; administration of discipline; Courts of inquiry and Boards; disposal of prisoners.

##### Grade A.—2nd Class.

(For Company Officers.)

*Drill and Exercises.*—Squad, Company in Battalion; advance and rear guards; rifle, bayonet and shelter trench exercises; instructions of recruits in drill and practice of musketry. Sword exercise.

*Discipline and Law.*—Administration of discipline; Courts of Inquiry and Boards; disposal of prisoners; Military and Militia Law respecting minor crimes and punishments; Regimental Courts Martial.

*Interior Economy.*—Officers and non-commissioned officers; system of payment; messing; supply of necessaries; books and returns; correspondence; transfer and discharge of a Company.

*Duties.*—Of a Company in garrison and field; honours and salutes; guards and sentries; funerals, and aid to the Civil Power.

##### Grade B.—2nd Class.

(For Company Non-Commissioned officers.)

*Drill and Exercises.*—Squad, Company, Company in Battalion; advance and rear guards; rifle, bayonet and shelter trench exercises; instruction in position and aiming drill.