

rations per day. Since that date they receive 75 per cent. of the pay of their rank (salary and increase). From March 2, 1827, to July 15, 1870, the commanding officer of a company was allowed \$10 a month extra for responsibility for arms, clothing, etc. From 1783 to 1865 inclusive, the rates of pay of officers include pay proper, servants' pay and clothing, and commutation of subsistence and forage.

We commence in this issue the reproduction of an able pamphlet by Surgeon-Major Evatt of the Army Medical Staff dealing with the important subject of organizing the English Volunteer Medical Service, in order to make it dovetail with the army medical service, so that it may be a practical entity, ready for use as a powerful aid to British arms in time of war, and yet distinctly a volunteer system, not costly in time of peace. Much of it is of course inapplicable to the Dominion, but it will be read, no doubt, with interest as coming from an able source and dealing with a most important subject. There is a great deal in it, moreover, that may well be pondered over by our authorities here, especially if, as was hinted last spring, we are to organize a medical staff corps in Canada. We incline strongly to the opinion that the regimental system, as it now exists here, is the one that best fulfils our needs, and that, with our scattered battalions, any attempt to abolish it would be most unwise, yet the establishment of a medical staff corps in each district to harmonize the whole, and to keep the machinery in order, seems quite feasible, and we cannot but believe would be productive of much good.

We understand that Major Macpherson's book on Military Law will be placed in the hands of the booksellers during the coming week. The price has been put at \$1 in order to bring it within the reach of everyone. It will be for sale in the principal cities and towns, and where the local booksellers are not supplied, copies can be obtained on application to the author. Large numbers of orders have already been sent in, some of the subscribers asking for the book in sheets before being bound. In Montreal thirty orders were taken in one day, and letters of enquiry have been received from all parts of the Dominion. The reception with which this effort to simplify a most difficult subject has been met must be most gratifying, and evinces a most commendable spirit on the part of the officers of the force to post themselves on a very important part of their duties.

IN PARLIAMENT.

From week to week we propose, under this heading, to give a short synopsis of any proceedings in the Dominion Parliament having reference in any way to the militia force, and it is probable that during the present session this will be an important part of our paper, for the whole North-west expedition will, doubtless, be discussed, and a large vote has to be made for expenditures in connection therewith. So far the House has scarcely settled down to work, and we have only to notice the references made to military topics in the Governor-General's speech. Alluding to the advisability of precaution for the future he said, "Since the suppression of the insurrection in the North-west Territories peace and order have been restored and now prevail. After so serious an outbreak some disquiet and apprehension of the recurrence of those disorders may naturally be expected to linger, and it will be the duty of my Government to make such precautionary arrangements as will assure the present inhabitants, as well as intending settlers, of efficient protection against all disturbance." Referring to supplies, His Excellency stated that the estimate of receipts had been fully realized, but that the outbreak in the North-west had added largely to the expenditure of the country, which is an euphemistic way of declaring a deficit.

COL. GARDNER'S RECORD.

By the retirement of Lieut.-Col. Gardner the Sixth Fusiliers have lost an able and popular commander, and the active force an officer who has long taken a lively interest in all militia matters, his connection with it dating back to 4th May, 1866, when he was gazetted to an ensigncy in his old regiment. In November of the same year he was made lieutenant, and got his company in April, 1867. During the Fenian raid of 1870 he went to the front in command of the 6th, and was publicly complimented by Lord Alexander Russel after the Pigeon Hill fight. He was also in command of the battalion in the summer camps in 1871-2-3, getting his brevet majority in that year, his lieutenant-colonelcy in 1878, and substantive rank in these grades in 1875 and 1881 respectively, although he was, as has been indicated, frequently in command of the regiment for some years previously, owing to the repeated absences, in Europe and the North-west, of the former commander.

During Col. Gardner's connection with the regiment he raised and organized two new companies, as well as pioneer, signal and ambulance corps, and brass and fife and drum bands. The many events in which this fine battalion has participated during late years are almost too well known to need mention, and in all of them Col. Gardner was on hand when wanted. They have responded to every call for aid to the civil power and have taken part in brigade parades and sham-fights at Quebec, Toronto, Niagara Falls, St. John's, and Cornwall, and have even invaded the United States on a friendly mission, winning golden opinions wherever they went.

Col Gardner was particularly proud of the high state of discipline in the regiment evidenced by the fact that during his long connection with it no casualty of any kind had taken place. He also cherishes letters and photographs of the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise, forwarded him after they inspected the regiment in October, 1883, just before leaving Canada, when Her Royal Highness presented the 6th team, the first winners, with the handsome British challenge shield captured by them at the D. R. A. matches here. A full illustrated account of the ceremony appeared in the *Canadian Illustrated News* of that time.

Col. Gardner has retired partly in consequence of the pressure of his business as a manufacturing engineer, and partly, with self-denial sufficiently rare, to give his juniors a chance. He carries with him the good wishes, not only of the Montreal corps, but of all who have watched the progress of the regiment in which he took and continues, we are sure, to feel so much pride.

COMMON SENSE ON PARADE, OR DRILL WITHOUT STAYS.

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL THE RIGHT HON. J. H. A. MACDONALD, M.P.

(Commandant the Queen's Edinburgh R. V. Brigade.)

3. *Severe strain on the bodily powers from the enormous increase of the distance to be traversed under fire from both artillery and rifles, and the consequent necessity of covering it at speed.*

There is no phase of the combat in which so great a change has taken place as in this. In former times this was a matter that scarcely required to be allowed for by a General who had succeeded in bringing his troops into position for the combat in good condition. If troops had recovered the severity of the march and were fit to be launched into the fight, it could be said that "the duration of tactical acts is shorter, therefore the small effects of exertion and privation on the troops can come but little into consideration," as, "owing to the insignificance of distances in tactics, the movements of one army in battle takes place almost in sight of the other." (*Von Clausewitz.*) At Waterloo the combatants formed up so near one another, before engaging, that Napoleon could practically review his troops in presence of the allied forces, before the commencement of the action. Yet, we learn from Saxe how important it was considered even in the last century to "tonir les troupes en haleine," and what attention was paid to this much earlier. Even in the times of the Romans history tells, although their battles were conducted in such close and methodical style, that Josephus, in his *De Bello Judaico*, could relate how they kept such regular order in fighting that battles could only be distinguished from exercises by the flow of blood. How different must it be now, when troops have to be pushed over two miles, or a distance not much short of this, in spite of every difficulty of ground, and in the face of artillery and small-arm fire, the former effective for the whole distance, the latter effective for a large proportion of the distance, and both much more destructive than formerly from rapidity of fire, excellence of the arms, improvements in the projectiles, and superiority in the artillery and musketry training.