

I run the risk of having "Rats," "Chestnuts," etc., called at this extract, but it is nevertheless true that the state of these 7 prs. was reported on time and time again with the result that in the hour of need they failed.

I had intended to keep field and garrison equipments separate, but cannot resist the opportunity of giving another example of artillery matériel. In 1884, there was issued to the Collingwood Garrison Battery an 18 pr. S. B. gun mounted on a travelling carriage. The gun itself, cast in 1814 (therefore 73 years of age) is obsolete, it is one of the same stamp as Lord Raglan ordered up at Inkerman to overmatch the fire from the Russian guns; the carriage was made in 1859, and is as rotten as can be. Col. Hogg has described its condition in the *GAZETTE*, and I have seen the identical carriage myself previous to and after its collapse. Later on I shall have it photographed. One day after target practice one of the wheels gave way, but that is not the only defect in it. The inspecting officer says of it: "The carriage was in bad condition, and on bringing it back to the drillshed it broke down completely." This breaking down of the carriage and a good deal of indifference on the part of the authorities led no doubt to the breaking up of the Collingwood Garrison Battery.

I trust that the infantry and cavalry will not think that I am going to overlook them. As soon as I have trotted the field batteries off parade I will take the other branches in hand.

LINCH-PIN.

Montreal.

THE officers of St. John's Military School last week entertained the officers of the 65th Battalion, Mount Royal Rifles. The Mayor of St. John's, Mr. Justice Charland and other prominent men were also invited. Col. D'Orsonnens occupied the chair. A special programme of music was prepared for the occasion. The visiting guests report having spent one of the most enjoyable evenings in the history of the battalion. The 65th will visit St. John's next summer.

The first drawing for shares in the Victoria Rifles Armoury sweepstakes took place on Friday last under the superintendence of Lt.-Cols. Oswald, B.G.A., Caverhill, Royal Scots, and Massey, Sixth Fusiliers. The following is the official list of the drawing: W. D. Taylor, of Winnipeg, in trust, 16 shares; W. A. Harper, 15 shares; W. R. Samuel, 10 shares; J. Thompson, 6 shares; Lieut. Hooper, F.B., 5 shares; J. Morrison, 3 shares, and the following 1 share each: J. Stanford, Lieut. E. W. Parker, Vics.; H. Ross, W. Alex. Caldwell, A. W. Hooper, Capt. A. S. Henshaw, P.W.R., Lt.-Col. Henshaw, in trust, Geo. H. Wood, Lt.-Col. Bond, H. W. Garth and John Coates.

The *Star*, commenting on the effort being made to have Major Hughes of the 65th Battalion, appointed Chief of Police of Montreal, strenuously opposes such appointment, because Major Hughes refused to allow his house to remain placarded during the small pox plague of a few years ago.

Halifax.

WITH the meeting held in the Y.M.C.A. hall on Thursday evening, the Second Scottish closes a history of nine years, of which both the active and the retired members have every reason to be proud. The company has always claimed to be ready for duty and has proved equal to the claim whenever tested. During the Langan riot in March, 1883, the Second Scottish furnished 23 of the rifle company ordered for duty, and in the Riel rebellion had 32 of its members in the Halifax regiment, a larger contingent, as the *Mail* reported at the time, than any other company in the city brigade. The annual reports for 1887 show the company to be sound financially and otherwise. Four of the rank and file have accepted commissions during the year: Sergt. Woolrich in the company; R. Blackmore, jr., in No. 4, and C. R. Reynolds and H. Flowers, jr., in the H.G.A. In addition to the above the company has lost several other valuable members, S. H. Romans and Chas. Munro who are in Victoria, B.C.; H. Blackwood in the Western States, and others. Still this company is never at a loss for members and is now nearly full. The "boys" can congratulate themselves upon their record with the rifle this year, for beside individual prizes they have captured the battalion silver bugle, the Laurie silver bugle, open to the province, and also defeated the First Scottish in an inter-company match—an unbroken record of victories for the year. The company decided upon holding its sleigh drive and appointed a committee to make all arrangements. Capt. Cunningham was re-elected treasurer and Sergt. Dixon, secretary, and the committee of management of 1887, Lieuts. McKie and Woolrich, Sergt. Dixon, Lance-Corpl. Shaw and Pte. McLeod, were also continued in office.—*Halifax Mail*, 24th.

New Brunswick.

THE death of Lieut.-Col. Foster, who for more than half a century had been a militia officer in this province, makes it opportune to pass in review his services and those of the corps with which he has been connected. Col. Foster was on a visit to Ottawa at the time of his death. His body was removed to St. John, N.B., where the interment took place on Thursday last, the 22nd inst. The following is from the *St. John Sun*:—

"The late Lieut.-Col. Stephen Kent Foster was born 8th March, 1811. Early in life he took an active interest in military affairs, and on 22nd November, 1833, at the age of 22 years, he received his commission as second lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion St. John City Militia, Lieut.-Col. Charles Ward commanding. Besides this battalion there were at this time the 1st Battalion St. John City Militia and the St. John County Regiment, the latter commanded by Lieut.-Col. Charles Simonds. To each of the latter corps an artillery company was attached, uniformed and drilled to a greater extent than the remaining companies.

"By a militia general order, 26th April, 1834, Col. Ward was directed to form an artillery company from his battalion. To this company the following officers were appointed: Wm. R. Ranney, captain; Wm. Hughson, Newton W. Wallop, Frederick A. Wiggins and the subject of this sketch, lieutenants.

"Shortly after this the battalion was known as the St. John City Rifle Battalion—the artillery company retaining its distinctive uniform. In addition to the three companies of artillery already referred to, other like companies were in existence and became organized in different parts of the province. On February 28, 1838, all of these companies were formed into one organization, under the name of 'The New Brunswick Regiment of Artillery,' to the command of which Captain Richard Hayne, late of the Royal Artillery, father-in-law of Major W. C. Drury, was appointed, with the rank and title of lieutenant-colonel commandant. This corps consisted of ten companies distributed as follows: Fredericton and St. John, each two; St. Andrews, St. Stephen, Woodstock, Richibucto, Westmorland and Northumberland, one each.

"On 31st March, 1841, Lieut. Foster was promoted captain, vice W. P. Ranney resigned, and on August 14th, 1848, he received his majority, vice Major Thomas L. Nicholson deceased. He was appointed to the rank of lieutenant-colonel December 6th, 1859, with command of the corps, Lieut.-Col. Hayne having been previously appointed adjutant general of New Brunswick militia.

The corps continued under the designation of regiment after Confederation, and

until May 28th, 1869, when the name was changed to what it now bears, viz: 'The New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery,' nearly all the batteries and officers remaining as before the change.

"Early in 1884 Col. Foster resigned, having been in command for nearly 24 years and having held a commission in the corps for within a month or two of half a century. During this period the corps, or a part of it, was on various occasions placed under arms, for example at the time of the Papineau rebellion, the Aroostook war, the Trent affair, St. Andrew's railway riots, Fenian scare, labour riots, the Orange troubles and after the great fire of 1877.

"Many and varied were the occasions on which the guns were brought out for the more peaceful purpose of firing salutes. Among these may be enumerated the Queen's accession 1837, laying of the cornerstone of the Lunatic Asylum ten years later, the Prince of Wales' visit in 1860, and again at the state dinner given at Reid's castle by the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne on the occasion of their visit here.

"During the half century of Col. Foster's service in the artillery many of the residents of the province and particularly of St. John were connected with him, some as gunners others as officers. Many of these have passed away. Those who survive him will learn of his death with sincere regret. No one took a greater pride in his corps than he, no one a more active interest in its members. Of commanding appearance, dignified manner and a kind yet firm disposition he was well fitted for the position he so long held and so well and faithfully filled, and his name will always be inseparably and honourably connected with the history of the New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery."

Reveille.

THE day star shines upon the hill,
The valleys in the shadows sleep;
In wood and thicket dark and still,
My comrades lie in slumber deep.
Far in the east a phantom gray
Steals slowly up the night's black pall,
And, herald of the coming day,
The distant bugle's soft notes call—

"I can't get 'em up,
I can't get 'em up,
I can't get 'em up in the morning;
I can't get 'em up,
I can't get 'em up at all!"

A thought of motion at the sound—
As though the forest caught its breath,
And belted sleepers on the ground
More restless, like life in death
And slumbering echoes, here and there,
Awaken as the challenge floats
And louder on the morning air
Ring out the cheery bugle notes—

"I can't get 'em up in the morning!
I can't get 'em up in the morning!
I can't get 'em up in the morning—
I can't get 'em up at all!"

And as the shrilling strains prolong,
Flames into rose and gold the day,
And springing up, with shout and song,
Each soldier welcomes march or fray,
Through wooded vale, or wind swept hill,
Where camp fires gleam and shadows fall,
Louder and clearer, cheerily still,
Rings out the merry bugle call—

"I can't get 'em up,
I can't get 'em up—
I can't get 'em up in the morning!
I can't get 'em up,
I can't get 'em up—
I can't get 'em up at all!"

—ROBERT J. BURDETTE in Brooklyn Eagle.

Contents of the Service Magazines.

In the *Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine* for December the series of papers descriptive of the orders of chivalry is continued, there being presented a brief history of the Order of St. Patrick, illustrated by a coloured frontispiece, showing the star, collar and badge of. Capt. Gall's admirable papers on Tactics come to a close; so do Gen. Mitford's pleasant reminiscences of his travels from Orient to Occident. Col. S. Rivett Carnac gives a description, with illustrations, of Lieut. Zalinski's wonderful dynamite torpedo gun, destined, he thinks, to create a revolution in artillery. An article on the Transcaucasian Railway contains much useful information and some interesting sketches. All of the many other articles are profusely illustrated. One of the features of this periodical has always been the description, with copious diagrams and plans of scientific inventions of a military character. This month there is a full account, with drawings, of the Schuloff magazine rifle, and of Kynoch's revolver.

Col. Paske brings to a close, in *Colburn's United Service Magazine* for December, his instructive article on Afghanistan and the Boundary Commission. Colonel Knollys commences what gives indication of being a highly valuable paper on "The Defensive," which position, as compared with the offensive, he considers has received too little attention in the past, on the part of instructors in military tactics. Captain O'Callaghan continues his narratives of noted British victories, the scene being laid this month in New England, and the engagement chiefly described being the storming of the stronghold of the Narragansetts, in 1675. These are but a few of the articles contained in the number, the matter of which as usual combines instruction with interest.