

memorandum to which you refer is prefaced you would have discovered that I aimed at no more than framing instructions based upon the papers on "Simplified Drill" published by Lt Col MacDonald of Edinburgh, and on a memorandum issued by Lord Elcho for the guidance of his Regiment. I have attempted nothing original. I sought and obtained, from competent authority, permission to adopt the improvements suggested by those officers because I believe them to be a great step in advance, but I have not set myself up as a projector of new or improved Infantry Drill.

Apparently you imagine that I have published a Book, and challenged the criticism of the public. I have only issued a regimental order, for which I first obtained the sanction of the Adjutant-General. For convenience I caused it to be printed. Had I been aware before doing so that Lt Colonel MacDonald had printed his system of Drill for private distribution I should have availed myself of his kind offer to send a copy to any Volunteer officer applying for it. When I receive the copy for which I have applied I shall not be surprised if I discover that he has understood the details of his system better than I have been able to do from a perusal of the outlines of it which he published in the *Volunteer Service Gazette*.

I may add that my memorandum has received the approval of the Adjutant-General and that it was printed for the use of the Regiment only, but I shall be obliged if you, or your correspondents, will point out the obscurities to which you refer, and on their existence becoming evident, I will endeavor to remove them. Not that I can hope to act upon all, or nearly all, the brilliant and original ideas on the subject of Drill and tactics which have been, and doubtless will continue to be, contributed to your columns by your correspondents, but being content to work in a humble way for the simplification of the Drill taught to our Volunteers, I shall thankfully gather such crumbs of information as are applicable to that purpose wherever they may be found.

And now a word as to the necessity you say there is for "an Explanation of my Explanations." Every movement referred to in my memorandum was practised by this Regiment while performing our drill last June. The explanations were given by myself as nearly as I could remember them in the words of the memorandum as now printed. The several formations were effected without difficulty and with as little hesitation as any of the formations in which the regiment has been exercised during the last six years. The practice then has fully convinced me, that the system is a great improvement on that contained in the *Red Book*. I do not expect that this will be conceded by men who have been drilled into the old system until it has become a part of their nature, nor by those who hav-

ing learned or partly learned one system are too indolent to enquire fairly into the merits, or demerits, of any other. Such men as these stood out stoutly for the retention of the old smooth bore musket, until the Rifle was forced into their reluctant hands by pressure from civilians. I am old enough to remember the time when men of the same sort stood just as stanchly by the flint lock until every civilian in Britain who owned a firearm had caused it to be adapted to the percussion principle. There are always plenty of such people—in high places too—to resist every innovation. We are fortunate in having an officer at the head of the service who is unfettered by such narrow sentiments, and who advocated principles of drill very similar to those now introduced with his sanction in one of the earliest books he published.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most ob'dt servant,
A. BRUNEL, Lt. Col.

FROM QUEBEC.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

QUEBEC, 8th October, 1868.

The Rifle Match of the Levis Association took place on the range of the Royal Engineers on Thursday and Friday, the 1st and 2nd inst. There was a very fair attendance from Quebec and the neighbourhood, and a great number of competitors from the regiments working on the fortifications. The shooting in most of the matches was very good, and the arrangements for marking, changing targets &c. were admirably attended to by markers from the 60th Rifles. The 8th Battalion, as usual, walked off with the Battalion prize, a silver cup valued at \$40.

The camp at the Levis fortifications was broken up on Monday last, the right wing of the 78th Highlanders leaving that evening on the Montreal boat, followed on Tuesday by the whole of the 60th. It is understood however that the work on one of the forts will be continued during the Winter by the civil contractors. The left wing of the 78th marched into the Jesuit barracks on Wednesday, and will remain in Quebec for the Winter.

The *Royal Alfred* and *Baracouta* sailed on Wednesday the 30th ult. for Halifax.

The comments of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW on the management of the late Rifle Match at Laprairie are universally approved of by the Volunteers from Quebec who were present. The Montreal papers bestowed the most elaborate praise on the match, and published scores which were ridiculously incorrect, thereby showing how little they knew about the matter. If there is no probability of better management in future they had better give up the idea of repeating the Dominion Match next year.

COUNTY OF LEVIS RIFLE ASSOCIATION MATCHES.

Match No. 1—Open to all-comers; ranges 200 and 400 yards; 3 shots at each; entrance

50 cents; members 25 cents; 75 entries; 71 competitors. 1st prize, \$10, Sergt. Norris, 8th Batt. V. R., 22 points. 2nd prize, \$5, Sergt. Major Hawkins, Quebec Garrison Artillery, 22 points. 3rd prize, \$2, Dr. Parke, 8th Batt. V. R., 21 points.

Match No. 2—Battalion Match—To be competed for by six officers, non-commissioned officers or men from each battalion of Volunteers or Regulars, or Quebec Rifle Club; ranges 300, 500 and 600 yards; 3 shots at each; entrance \$6 per battalion; 7 entries. 1st prize, a cup, value \$40. Highest individual score, \$5.

Battalion,	300 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	T'l.
8th Stadacona Rifles.....	35	51	35	121
60th Royal Rifles.....	44	39	28	111
Royal Engineers.....	41	29	16	86
53rd Regiment.....				84
78th Highland Regt.....				73
Rifle Club.....				69
17th Levis Battalion.....				55

The highest individual score, 23 points, made by Dr. Parke, Stadacona Rifles, entitled him to \$5.

Match No. 3—Open to members of the Association only; ranges 300 and 400 yards; Government rifles; 3 shots at each; entrance 25 cents; 58 entries; 53 competitors. 1st prize, \$12, Sergt. Tointon, 60th Rifles, 21 points. 2nd prize, \$6, Capt. Malcolm, R.E., 19 points. 3rd prize, \$2, Corpl. Jamieson, R. E., 18 points.

The firing for the prizes of the Levis Rifle Association terminated on Friday evening. The weather was all that could be desired, and the matches were fired without interruption.

Match No 4.

Open to all comers.

1st prize.....	\$8 00
2nd ".....	4 00
3rd ".....	2 00

Range—300 yards, 5 shots, Government Rifles. Entrance 50 cts.; Members 25 cts.

RESULT.

70 entries, 59 competitors.

	Points.
1st prize, Sergt. Newby, R. E.....	17
2nd do Sergt. Major Hawkins, V.G.A. 16	
3rd do Sergt. J. Ferguson, V.G.A....	16

Match No. 5.

Open to Volunteers of Nos. 2 & 3, M. D., P. Q., and No. 6 Company, G. T. R. Rifles. 1st prize, presented by Lt.-Col. Blanchet.....

chet.....	\$20 00
2nd do Major J. Patton, sr.....	10 00
3rd do Brigade Major Duchesnay.....	5 00

Ranges—200 and 400 yards, 3 shots at each, Government Rifles. Entrance 25 cts. 24 competitors.

RESULT.

1st prize, Lt. Harder, No. 6, G.T.R. Rifles..	20
2nd do Private G. Haws, No. 7, 17 Batt.	
St. Sylvester.....	19
3rd do Sergt. M. Begin, Co. 2, 17 Batt....	18

The first prize in the above match was presented by Col. Blanchet, 17th Battalion; Major Patton, and Col. Duchesnay, Brigade Major of the 2nd and 3rd Military District.

Match No. 6.

Open to all comers.

1st prize.....	\$10 00
2nd ".....	5 00
3rd ".....	2 00

Ranges—300 and 500 yards, 3 shots at each, Government Rifles. Entrance 50 cts.; Members 25 cts.

24 entries, 18 competitors.

RESULT.

1st, Sergt. Newby, R. E.....	19
2nd, Capt. Worsley, 60th.....	19
3rd, Sergt. Ferguson, V. G. A.....	18