

### AMBULANCE CLASSES FOR THE FORCE.

**A** MATTER of great importance to the military force of Canada is the institution of ambulance classes. At the present time only the ambulance corps attached to each regiment have the benefit of such an instruction. With such a state of things the surgeon has to be continually teaching new men as the old ones drop out. Why should not the ambulance class be open to the whole regiment? During the winter season, when there is no drill, would be a good time for such a class. It would be the means of always keeping that indispensable corps of a regiment up to a full state of proficiency. The ambulance corps could then be recruited from this class instead of as at present from recruits who put in a few nights' drill in the general class and then are drafted into the ambulance corps. Drawing their supply from the main body would be the means of filling up the corps with well-trained soldiers.

In all the Old Country volunteer regiments such a class is open to the several regiments during the winter months, and is taught by the senior surgeon. At the end of the session proficiency certificates are granted to those who pass an examination in ambulance work. Such a proceeding in our militia force would be a great boon, as in the event of an accident occurring any one of the men could apply his knowledge to a sufferer that might be the means of preventing a serious complication.

### THE TORONTO HORSE SHOW AND THE ARMORIES.

**I**T is to be hoped that the Armories of the Toronto Garrison have seen the last of the Horse Show, at any rate during the drill season.

The granting of the drill hall for outside purposes was in the first place an imposition on the officers and men who have their headquarters there. The Toronto corps have waited for years for a suitable building in which a reasonable amount of comfort and convenience might be expected. For years the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers were compelled to practise battalion and company movements on side streets or squares poorly lighted; the 48th Highlanders since their inception have had to do the same.

It is to be hoped that in future the commanding officers will not allow outside influences to overrule their better judg-

ment. The Horse Show is a good thing and deserving of every encouragement, and its management is obliging and liberal, but it must not expect the use of the Armories another season. Other outsiders may as well accept this as a notice to quit and have it engraved on the tablets of their memory. One of the C. O's. who held out as long as he could against granting the use of the Armories for the Show which has just closed states positively that he will not agree to any such privileges being granted in the future.

### GOING TO STUDY ABROAD.

Deputy Surgeon-General Ryerson, of Toronto, who has not been in the best of health this winter, thanks to the grippe, left for New York on his way abroad last Wednesday. He sails on the Werra for Gibraltar, whence he proposes to go via Seville, Cordova, Madrid and Burgos to Bayonne and Bordeaux to Paris, thence to London. On arriving at London he proposes to go through the course of instruction in the Volunteer School of Ambulance Instruction, and afterwards proceed to Aldershot for a short time. He will also devote some attention to the working of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps and St. John Ambulance Brigade in London. He intends to return some time in June or early July.

### CIVILIAN DRESS ON PARADE.

**T**HE various city corps are now parading about their full strength. Whether the dark uniform of the Rifles or the scarlet tunics of the infantry, they present a picturesque sight from the gallery. When going through the various battalion movements they appear to advantage, but in most of the corps there is to be seen at intervals in the ranks some volunteer in plain clothes. This is not as it should be. One man so dressed spoils the otherwise nice effect. The company officers should put a finish to those parading thus. No doubt, the officers commanding companies are anxious to parade as strong as possible, but they should not put this before military etiquette. It presents a very unsoldierly appearance, not to say slovenly, for no matter how smart a man, if he is so dressed he lacks the carriage and vim of one in uniform. It gives rise to unkind criticism on the part of the spectators. It is to be hoped that C.O.s will look into this and see that only men in uniform parade, even although at some cost to the strength of the regiment.

### IT CAN BE PROVEN.

An officer in high rank in the militia states that he does not believe the statement made in these columns that drunkenness prevailed among the cadets at the military college. *THE GAZETTE* still holds to the statements made in its columns and is prepared to stand by them, too. Let an investigation be instituted and the present cadets be examined. It will then be found that *THE GAZETTE* has made no rash statement, but rather the reverse. It would, perhaps, be better that a public investigation was made so that the "foggy" atmosphere around the college may be cleared away.

### ANOTHER COUNTY HEARD FROM.

Editor *MILITARY GAZETTE*—

SIR,—In your issue of April 1st under the heading "Municipal Grants to the Militia," mention is made of the grant by the County Council of the County of Halton, and that you are not aware that any county in the other provinces does as much.

I do not know about the other provinces, but the county of Wellington and city of Guelph in this province set the example many years ago, to my knowledge. The city and county have been giving 25c. per day to each man who attended the annual drills in addition to his Government pay for the last fifteen years, and how much longer I do not know, besides subscribing liberally to the Rifle Association. The citizens always contribute well towards the prize lists, and at the last meeting of the County Council of the County of Wellington the amount was raised from 25c. to 40c. per day, so that the gunners and riflemen will draw 90c. per day while at camp. I think old Wellington and the city of Guelph have always led in showing their appreciation of the boys in blue and green, viz., the 1st Brigade Field Artillery and the 30th Battalion Wellington Rifles.

Kindly insert this so that others may follow suit.

Yours, etc.,

FRICION TUBE.

Guelph, April 8th, 1896.

[What Wellington has done other counties can also do. Somebody whispered that Grey County has also been very liberal in its treatment of her boys in red. Perhaps the C.O. of the 31st will enlighten the readers of *THE GAZETTE* on this point.

ED. *MILITARY GAZETTE*.]

Col. Ruttan, Winnipeg, states that the 19th Battalion will commence drill this month, the exact date not having yet been fixed.