

operation. To unload and mount the guns for firing five minutes will suffice, the limbers if not required for rapid movement, may remain on the sledges. An ammunition waggon may be similarly disposed of. On ordinary ground two or three horses can draw a sledge thus loaded. Of course, the ordinary team could thus draw a gun and its limber. For the transport of forage waggons or provision carts the use of smaller sledges linked in pairs is recommended.

Queries and Replies.

"LIEUTENANT SMITH" OR "MR. SMITH."

Q. Is it correct at any time to address a letter to a lieutenant as, "Lieut. A. E. Smith?" A lieutenant has received notice from one of the schools that he is allowed to join, and the notice and envelope are both addressed as above. Is it not a mistake?

A. Such an address is quite proper. While he would be verbally addressed as "Mr." Smith, this practice is not supposed to extend to written communications.

DESIGNATION OF ARTILLERY OFFICERS.

Q. Has an artillery officer in the active militia of Canada, not on the permanent corps, the right to use the words, "Canadian Artillery" after his name on a visiting card? I claim he has, as the officers of "A," "B" and "C" batteries have the distinctive qualification, "Regimental Canadian Artillery." X. POUNDER.

A. We think not; these words would be understood to mean the regiment of that name. If the particular corps to which the officer belonged were specified then "Canadian Artillery" might properly follow, if more explicit definition were thought necessary.

A MATTER OF SOCIAL PRECEDENCE.

Q. It is rumoured that there will be shortly a large number of C. M. G.'s. created—officers who had served during the North-West Rebellion. I therefore, would like, through your columns, to ask a question—and that question is, what is the social precedence of the following, wives included:—a county judge, a consul, a lieut.-colonel commanding a district, a surgeon-general, a major but a C. M. G., a barrister, a major, a younger son of a baronet, the eldest son of a K. C. M. G., a lieutenant, son of a K. C. M. G., a lieutenant, a captain, and a vice-consul? As Ottawa is a place at which I am told social precedence is carefully looked after, perhaps some of your readers can tell me. CIVILIAN.

The German Government has decided to make a radical change in the transport of the ammunition in war time. Each company is to receive a light ammunition waggon and so heavy battalion waggons are to be abolished.

Five years ago a European could have set out from Suakim and have journeyed across the desert to Berber, or in any other direction, without meeting the smallest trouble from the Arab tribes; to-day, neither European nor Egyptian could venture out on half a day's journey without an army at his back. Such is the result of British rule in Egypt.

The defence of Constantinople is engaging the attention of the military advisers of the Sultan. Workmen have been for some time past occupied in rising fortifications at Tschataldscha, and delving lines of entrenchments between Bara-Burum on the Black Sea, and the borders of Silistria. German officers are also studying a plan which will necessitate the demolition of much of the existing system of defence, and the erection of three large armoured forts is involved in this change.

According to a Munich letter the German grand headquarters staff has quite abandoned the intention of substituting the Mauser by the reduced calibre rifle. The Amberg small arms factory, which for twelve months past has been turning out the large bore weapon, but where the manufacture, by order, had been stopped since August, has now commenced working full time, as 35,000 Mausers will have to be delivered by the middle of February.

The preamble of the new German Military Service Bill says: "The German Army is composed of men whose liability to serve in the active army extends over 12 years, whereas in the Russian Army the period is 15 and in the French Army 20 years. Besides this, it has to be considered that the geographical position of Germany exposes her to attacks from powerful armies on two fronts simultaneously. In face of this threatening danger, Germany lacks a firm foundation for her existence and development.

Many desertions continue to take place from the French army in Tonkin. All the deserters who are recaptured are shot without compunction. Lately 18 soldiers of the Foreign Legion ran away from Southay with a lot of arms and accoutrements. They were caught in the mountain defiles after a chase which lasted a considerable time, and the 18 were condemned to be shot at once. It is said that when the men were drawn up in single file in front of their graves, the adjutant who was in charge of the firing party cried out with an oath, on seeing some of the doomed men fall out of their alignment, "Can't you fellows keep your dressing better than that? Eyes right! Dress!" No sooner was the command given than the prisoners with parade-like punctuality straightened themselves up and obeyed as if they were on the drill ground or at a review. Then the fatal command was given, and the 18 went down before the terrible volley. The adjutant's words—if they were ever uttered, and it is probable that they were—show that an iron discipline still prevails in the French Foreign Legion.—*London Telegraph*.

In the Spanish Chamber of Deputies, Feb. 6, Senor Romero censured the government for permitting military interference at Rio Tinto and for the resulting bloodshed. Upon hearing that Senor Romero had virtually accused the military officers of murder Gen. Cassola, the Minister of War, hastened to the Chamber and addressing Senor Romero, said: "You have insulted the Spanish Army and are shielding yourself under Parliamentary impunity." Senor Romero replied: "I adhere to what I have said both inside and outside of Parliament." Gen. Cassola responded: "You shall give me reparation for the insult."

THE MILITARY SCHOOLS.

INTERESTING REPORTS ON THEM AND THE PERMANENT CORPS.

MANY IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS.

LIEUT.-COL. J. F. TURNBULL, the commandant of the Royal School of Cavalry, Quebec, reports that the attendance at that institution during the past year has been much reduced by reason of the interruption caused by the fire at the barracks. There were 13 officers, 20 n.c.o. and 35 privates—or a total of 68—attached for instruction. Of these 5 officers and 15 n.c.o. and men joined for equitation only.

The changes in the personnel of the corps were: Recruits enlisted, 16; re-enlisted, 8; discharged—on completion of service, 5; by purchase, 2; as unserviceable, 2; deserted, 1. This return the commandant considers eminently satisfactory. The fact that only one man deserted and only two others purchased their discharge, he attributes to the *esprit de corps* which exists, and the care taken in refusing all who cannot give reference as to character and sobriety. "The total amount of fines for drunkenness," says the report, "is only \$11, or, to be more exact, £2 5s. sterling, for the whole twelve months, received from but two men, one of whom (who contributed the greater part of this) has now become a teetotaler."

An important part of a cavalry soldier's knowledge being some familiarity with veterinary science, arrangements are being made for a course of lectures to be delivered shortly on this subject, at the Veterinary College of Laval University.

Increased attention has been given to musketry instruction, with satisfactory results. The Winchester carbine in possession of the corps it is recommended should be replaced by the Martini-Henry for reasons already given by me in previous annual reports, and particularly as there is no Winchester ammunition in store and the new carbine buckets received are made for the Martini-Henry carbine.

The R. & O. directing that "gymnastic exercises will be encouraged in all the schools," the Commandant has recently obtained from England and enlisted a valuable non-commissioned officer in Sergt.-Major Elliott (late gymnastic and fencing instructor to the 9th Lancers), and now that the corps are to have permanent barracks he hopes before long to be able to establish a gymnasium, in accordance with the regulations.

Particulars of the demand for toll from men on service, referred to in General Middleton's report, are given as follows: "The Quebec Turnpike Trust Commissioners having demanded the payment for tolls upon their roads I caused a test case to be tried before the Courts of Justice and duly forwarded the full text of the judge's decision, which was to the effect that the Army Act, 1881, has never been put into force in Canada by the Dominion Parliament and that the Consolidated Militia Act, while it places the Canadian Militia under the Army Act for all the penalties it contains, gives none of its exemptions or privileges to the force, and, therefore, all Canadian troops, whether "on duty or on the line of march" must pay toll. This decision affects the status and interests of the permanent corps in so many other ways that serious difficulties are certain to arise unless the Dominion act be amended, so that the permanent corps, at least, be placed on an equal footing with the British army."

Col. Turnbull strongly urges that the cavalry school should be put on the same footing, as regards the establishment, as the other military schools of the country, and that Lieut. Heward should be gazetted captain commanding the troop.

The Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

IN presenting the annual report of Regiment of Canadian Artillery, the Commandant, Lieut.-Col. Irwin, says: "As shown by the Commandant R.S.A., Kingston, the number of officers, n.c.o. and men of field batteries attending that school for instruction is out of all proportion to those of garrison batteries. Similarly, on reference to certificates granted at the Quebec school this year, it has been ascertained that forty-one were for garrison and only twelve for field artillery. It would therefore appear to be very desirable were the field artillery establishment at Kingston increased to the extent recommended by Lt.-Col. Cotton so as to enable practical instruction to be given in all the details of the management of a field battery."

Statistics given show that the present state of the batteries in