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MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

No. 17 of 16th November (concluded.)
No. 18 of 23rd November.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Topics of the Week.

The Militia General Orders of the 23rd inst, which we publish to-day, are not unlikely to be the last of the year, as an endeavour is being made to have the Militia List issued early in the new year, and changes in the lists of officers intended to appear in the revised issue have had to be hurried on. And it would be impossible to continue making alterations up to the end of the year without long delaying the list for 1889.

It will be seen that the troubles in the 91st Winnipeg Battalion of Light Infantry have culminated in the disbandment of the corps. This battalion, indeed, does not appear to have been a particular necessity since the suppression of the rebellion of 1885, in connection with which it was organized. The vacancy created by the death of the late Lieutenant Colonel commanding had never been filled, Major Thibaudeau being in command without promotion. He retires retaining rank, and so also do the adjutant, Capt. Hurst, and Capt. C. Graburn. For the other fifteen officers whose military positions have been taken away, no provision appears to have been made.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards have also been relieved of their difficulties, but in a different manner. Lieut.-Col. J.P. Macpherson having long had trouble with his officers—who appeared likely to resign in a body—has settled the matter by relinquishing the command, and his senior major has now become Lieut.-Col. Tilton. In Col. Macpherson the Guards lose a smart and thoroughly capable officer, who has served with the regiment since its organization, and who by his skill with the rifle has won quite a number of honours for the corps. His successor, Col. Tilton, has held the rank of Major since 1881, previous to which he commanded No. 2 Company of the regiment.

Another corps at the Capital has also received a new commanding officer, this being the 43rd Ottawa and Carleton Rifles, in which Major W. P. Anderson has been promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel commanding, in place of Lieut.-Col. Wm. White, who organized the battalion in 1881, and has ever since commanded it. Major John Walsh was the next senior officer, but not caring to take the command he too has retired from the regiment. Col. Anderson's promotion ought to be of special interest to the readers of the MILITIA GAZETTE, for it was he who was mainly instrumental in establishing the paper, and piloted it

through the many difficulties incidental to a new enterprise of this character. Pressure of other business some time ago caused him to cease official connection with the paper, but we are happy to be able to state that Col. Anderson is still numbered amongst its best friends.

A portion of the grounds allotted to the forthcoming Paris International Exhibition, namely, the Esplanade of the Invalides, will, according to the *Moniteur de l'Armee*, be reserved for an ancient and modern military exhibition. The building will cover an area of 3,000 square metres, and will consist of one floor besides the ground floor. General Gervais, chairman of the committee of the military exhibition, has been promised the support of numerous museums and private collectors. The War Minister has authorized the exhibition of the national manufactures of Saint-Etienne, Tulle, and Chatellerault; and these small-arm factories will send samples of the latest patterns of rifles for the army, such as the Gras, Kropatchek, Lebel, etc. A public workshop will also be erected for the manufacture of these weapons on the premises.

An English service paper, the *Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette*, has an editorial paragraph on the Manitoba railway trouble and the calling out of the troops, in which the terms of the Canadian Pacific railway charter are cited as the cause of the trouble. This is quite wrong; the C. P. R. charter has nothing to do with it. An act of the Dominion Parliament says that no railway shall cross the C. P. R., or certain other lines named, unless such crossing line be chartered by that parliament. The government of the Province of Manitoba, however, set themselves above Dominion law, and announced that they would build a line crossing the C. P. R. without anybody's permission. The C. P. R. forcibly prevented this unlawful procedure, and a case covering the point at issue has since been submitted to the Supreme Court to get a decision of the highest tribunal in the land on the point at issue.

The cable scheme promoted by that distinguished Canadian, Mr. Sandford Fleming, is thus boomed by the *A. and H. G. Gazette*: "The cables connecting New Zealand and Tasmania with Great Britain are again broken, which shows how easily communication with some of our colonies and dependencies may be suspended, as was the case last time—when the breakage was by some colonists credited to the exasperated Chinese—for many days together. Certainly the necessity for the new line of cable, via Canada, to Vancouver and Australia, so strongly urged in these columns, seems to be established by these repeated stoppages of communication, which might prove of serious inconvenience in time of war. Looking at the vast efforts which both Germany and Russia are making to increase their armaments, the additional Australian cruisers for strengthening our squadron in the Pacific will not be completed at all too soon for colonial requirements."

This, from a London cable letter to the *New York Times* is a sweet morsel for Canadians: "Seven young gentlemen from the Canadian Military College were three days since gazetted to commissions in the