

we should advise each individual member who has any ideas to propound to write to one of the members of Council for his province and ask him to bring the matter to the attention of the general meeting, or of the meeting of Council which usually follows it.

The cartridge commission has been summoned to reassemble in Kingston on Friday next, the locality having been decided mainly because Prof. Bayne has been experimenting there on the powder used in the Dominion made cartridges, and it is probable that before separating on this occasion the commission will prepare a final report for submission to the Militia Department. It is satisfactory to learn that a definite conclusion is being arrived at, for the commission has been silent so long that there was some apprehension that it had sunk into oblivion, while the time is rapidly drawing near when something definite must be done. If we are to use Dominion made ammunition, there is no time to spare in securing the proper brand of powder, for certainly our marksmen will not be satisfied with such ammunition as was served out to them last year.

The encouragement of rifle practice by the militia force in general is a problem deserving of the best attention of all the militia authorities, and we direct attention to "an old rifleman's" remarks on the subject, which should be taken in connection with his letter in No. 37, and our comment thereon. We should be glad to receive and to publish the views of others upon this most important subject, as something might be brought up that would commend itself to the authorities, while the D.R.A. meeting would furnish a suitable opportunity for giving publicity to any good points.

We devote considerable space this week to affairs in the Sudan, partly because it is refreshing to read of a thoroughly successful attack, in which all the subordinates seem to have won golden opinions from their commander; partly because Canada should be interested in Lient. Hewett's success, as, six months before commanding a company of regulars in the engagement, he was a cadet in our Royal Military College. The letter from him which we print gives a graphic account, not only of the fight, but of the feelings of a youngster in his first engagement, and demonstrates anew the value of the institution which prepared him for the army.

The 40th Northumberland Battalion are in somewhat of a dilemma, as will be seen by consulting our regimental notes of this and last week. They inherited a set of colors from a defunct volunteer corps, which were transferred to them under certain conditions. These conditions, it seems, have been violated, and now the donors re-claim the colors. The lesson to be learned from this little dispute is twofold and obvious, first that a battalion should have not only a nominal headquarters but also a substantial building at that headquarters in which all regimental property would be secure, so as to obviate the necessity of a commanding officer carrying it home for safe keeping; and secondly, that nothing should be accepted hampered by conditions, as differences of opinion are sure to arise sooner or later which may be the means of breeding endless harm. In this particular case we sincerely hope that a pacific solution of the difficulty may be reached.

The officers who were at the front will certainly experience no difficulty in procuring miniature medals. We have already informed them of two channels through which they might be secured, and now we have received the following letter from Messrs. John Martin & Co., military outfitters, of 457 St. Paul street, Montreal, which we have

much pleasure in publishing. If it were any advantage to Messrs. Martin, we should advise our subscribers to patronize the Canadian firm; as, however, they are not going into the matter for profit, we dare say it will be unnecessary for us to say anything: "Sir,—We notice in your issue of February 2nd reference to the supplying of miniature medals (North-west campaign) and in this connection we might state that it is our intention to supply the medals at cost. We have already written to many of our friends intimating the above, but as the convenience of procuring medals, clasps and ribbons in Canada may be of more general importance, perhaps you may care to notice this matter in your next issue. P.S.—Enclosed please find sample of the medal ribbon."

The ribbon in question is very pretty, and will show up well, especially on dark uniforms. It is of corded silk, $1\frac{3}{16}$ inches wide, of a color that we have not satisfactorily decided, even with the help of our lady friends; some describing it as peacock blue, others as slaty blue, with a strip of cardinal a quarter of an inch wide, beginning a sixteenth of an inch inside each edge.

General Luard's many Canadian friends will be glad to read the following from the *Army and Navy Gazette*:—A distinguished-service pension of £100 has been granted to Lieutenant-General R. G. A. Luard, lately commanding the Canadian Militia. General Luard entered the Army as Ensign in the 51st Foot in 1845, and, passing through the successive grades, became Colonel, August 4, 1864; Major-General, January 11, 1870; and Lieutenant-General, December 1, 1884. He has filled many positions on the Staff, including Assistant-Inspector of Volunteers, 1860-65; Assistant Military Secretary, Nova Scotia, 1873-75; Assistant-Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, Manchester, 1875-77; and Major-General commanding a brigade at Aldershot. General Luard served in the Crimea with the 77th Regiment, from March, 1855, and on the Staff as Brigade-Major to General Straubenzee, and Deputy Assistant Adjutant General at headquarters, from June, 1855, including the siege and fall of Sebastopol (medal with clasp, brevet of Major, Sardinian and Turkish medals, and Fifth Class of the Medjidie); served in China as Brigade-Major, 2nd Brigade, in 1857-58; and mentioned in despatches as being the first person on the walls of Canton (brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, medal with clasp).

COL. WYNDHAM'S MILITARY COLONIZATION SCHEME.

Lient.-Col. Wyndham, 12th York Rangers, is urging upon the Government a scheme for establishing a Military Colony in the North-west which certainly, if it were carried out, would be the best arrangement yet devised for creating a permanent military force in that district. The proposition, submitted to the Minister of the Interior reads as follows:

"I offer to raise from four to eight hundred men, to form a military colony. The men to receive from the Government a grant of land, and a military outfit, and to be placed with their families on the land with suitable provision. The men to serve from seven to ten years, doing one month's drill in each year, half in camp, half in garrison, a small garrison to be always in charge of stores, to keep their own ponies, to be drilled as mounted infantry and scouts, to have their own transport arrangements, and to be able to move at a few hours' notice, any distance at the rate of fifty miles a day. The Government to give them when called out to active service the same pay allowances as the other militia, but when doing their month's drill only to receive rations, a paid staff always on duty. These could do other duties, give out Indian supplies, act as magistrates and do any service the Government might require.

"The Government would thus have at their disposal a force that would cost little to keep up when not employed, that would soon have a complete knowledge of the country and people, could be made just as