

General Arbuthnot, chief of the Enfield factory, stating that since 1882 they had been trying to convert Martini-Henry rifles into repeating rifles and had found it utterly impossible. Captain Harston, who has always taken a deep interest in such matters, and who, although not a professional, has made them a study, worked the question out while in the cars, and at the end of his journey, wrote to Lord Wolseley stating that he could make the desired change, in three different ways. Several communications with the War Office followed, and he was given to understand, that if he would succeed the improved rifle would be accepted. From December, 1886, to August 1887, there were letters passed in which the War Office asked him to do this at his own expense, which the Captain refused, saying that if it was not worth paying for by the Government, it was not worth doing. On Aug. 10th, 1887, Captain Harston was notified by the War Office to go to England, and four days later he started. On his arrival there he commenced work at the Blenheim works, at Hoxton, North London.

"First," said the Captain, "I made and finished in November, 1887, a model, which was rejected as being imperfect. Then I designed another, which I finished in February, 1888; this was also rejected. Then I went on another tack, being under the military department of the War Office, and I produced what was wanted. Of this the first official report of June, 1888, says:

This difficulty appears to have been got over by Major C. Harston, of the Canadian Army, who has succeeded in fitting a magazine in the left side of the action, which feeds the cartridges into the chamber in a most satisfactory manner, and so far as can be judged, the invention promises to be one of much value, as if it ultimately turns out to be thoroughly sound and practical, the whole stock of existing Martini-Henry's could be converted into magazine arms, at a trifling cost."

"There were many official trials and tests made, and the best friend I had," said Capt. Harston, "was the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief of the British army. The old Duke was delighted with it, and at one of the trials was most anxious that all there should test the rifle. We used it against the new small bore, and the Duke fired 28 shots out of my rifle against 11 of the other. Recently in Ottawa Gen. Middleton tried it and was most highly delighted." As the matter stands now it is this: The last official report has not been made public, but from two of the committee which has the matter under consideration, it is understood that the scheme of Capt. Harston is recommended and that 500,000 Martini-Henrys are to be converted into magazine rifles. There are in the British service no less than 1,250,000 Martini-Henrys, and of these 500,000 have never been used, which latter number it is proposed to convert into repeating rifles. It will take 10 years to arm the whole force with small bore rifles, which fire 3,000 yards or 300 yards point black. But it remains with the finance department of the War Office as to whether the change will be made even after it is recommended.

Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, says that Canada has 12,000 Martini-Henrys which may be changed. The Australian colony of Victoria will likely convert 60,000 of their arms on Captain Harston's plan, while the Turkish and Roumanian governments have decided to convert their Peabody rifles, which are almost Martini-Henrys, into magazine rifles on the plan proposed.

It is proposed that instead of a big gathering at Easter, the officers and men of Metropolitan regiments should consent to operate, under their respective brigadiers, on the ground which they would severally occupy should an attack be threatened on London.

When all the cruisers of over 14 knots speed that are completed or in various stages of building by different powers are reckoned the account will stand thus: England, 52, including Australasian fleet; France 47, Germany 18, Italy 16, Russia 12, Austria 6. This does not include Spain or the United States. France is to build at once two armoured cruisers with an armament of two 1½ in. guns and six 5½ in. guns, besides quick firing and machine weapons and four torpedo tubes. They are to have a minimum speed of 18 knots with natural draught, and a maximum draught of 19½ ft. Their protective steel decks are to be 2¼ in. and their belts 4½ in. thick. They are to be able to steam 3,000 miles at 12 knots, and to have a complement of 375.

"The instructions that I have received from my government are to advise your majesty to be armed for 1889." These are the words that the German Ambassador is reported to have addressed to the Sultan a year or two ago, and upon which Turkey has been acting ever since, to the best of her practical ability. German officers have been instructing the Turkish troops, the uniforms have been remodelled, and now bear a German aspect, and the drilling is entirely German. The infantry are well armed with revolvers, sword bayonets, and Martini-Peabody, Remington and Spencer rifles, and now the Mauser rifle, of which several cases have already arrived, is to be supplied to them; but the men get no practice in shooting.

MILITARY HANDBOOKS published by Messrs. Wm. Clowes & Sons, (Ltd.) 13 Charing Cross, London, S.W., England.

We have much pleasure in directing attention to the following handbooks, published by the well known firm of Wm. Clowes & Sons, London. They are intended for infantry officers, and the text is in accordance with the new Infantry Drill, 1889. We commend them to all militia officers desiring to perfect themselves in the new system of drill. They are of a handy size, and can be carried in the pocket of the patrol jacket or tunic, and will be found a convenient reference book during the coming drill season in camps of exercise. Copies of the books will be sent, post free, on receipt of a remittance, by addressing Messrs. Clowes & Sons, as above.



## TENDERS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Indian Supplies," will be received at this office up to noon of THURSDAY, 9th May, 1889, for the delivery of Indian supplies during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1890, consisting of Flour, Bacon, Groceries, Ammunition, Twine, Oxen, Cows, Bulls, Agricultural Implements, Tools, &c., duty paid, at various points in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

Forms of tender containing full particulars relative to the supplies required, dates of delivery, &c., may be had by applying to the undersigned, or to the Indian Commissioner at Regina, or to the Indian Office, Winnipeg.

Parties may tender for each description of goods (or for any portion of each description of goods) separately or for all the goods called for in the schedules, and the Department reserves to itself the right to reject the whole or any part of a tender.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque in favor of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs on a Canadian Bank, for at least five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into a contract based on such tender when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned.

Each tender must, in addition to the signature of the tenderer, be signed by two sureties acceptable to the Department for the proper performance of the contract.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

This advertisement is not to be inserted by any newspaper without the authority of the Queen's Printer, and no claim for payment by any newspaper not having had such authority will be admitted.

L. VANKOUGHNET,  
Deputy Superintendent-General  
of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, April, 1889.



## Mail Contract.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon on FRIDAY, 31st May, 1889, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week each way, between Metcalfe and Ottawa, from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Metcalfe, Leirrim, South Gloucester, Greely, Billings' Bridge, Ottawa, and at this office.

T. P. FRENCH,  
Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,  
Ottawa, 27th March, 1889.



## Mail Contract.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on FRIDAY, 31st May, 1889, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week each way, between Russell and North Branch, from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Russell, Marvelville, Kenmore, North Branch, and at this office.

T. P. FRENCH,  
Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,  
Ottawa, 29th March, 1889.

## Outing.

THE MAGAZINE OF SPORT

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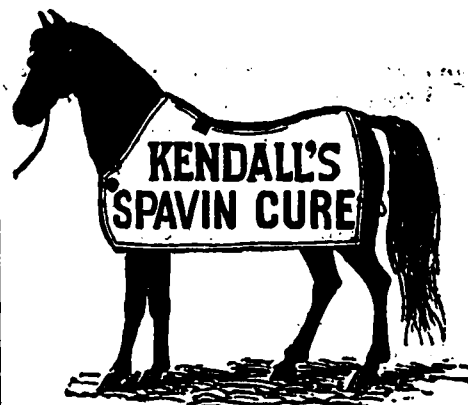
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