

to their native land, and are ready to make sacrifices on her behalf. We do not believe war to be imminent either with Germany or the United States, but it is well to be ready for any emergency.

So we urge our young men to join the Fifteenth, and help, not alone to add to its numbers and efficiency, but also help to maintain a healthy military spirit in the community."

### Kingston.

KINGSTON, Jan. 24.—Major Edward B. Wilson, one of the pioneers of Kingston, a man loved and honored by all who knew him, departed this life on the 8th inst., at the age of 71 years. Deceased joined a line regiment at Chatham, England, as ensign, at the age of 17. In 1848 he was stationed in Newfoundland, with the Newfoundland regiment. When the Royal Canadian Rifles were formed he joined the corps, and retired with the rank of major when the corps was disbanded, having served with it in various parts of Canada. He gave up his hopes of further military life sooner than leave Canada where he had made his home. During his military career he was the bosom friend of such men as Capt. Hammond and Henry Villiers.

"A" Field Battery R. C. A., is now equipped with the necessary complement of ammunition-wagons, a new one having been received from England a few days ago

The officers of the 47th batt., held their annual regimental meeting last week, Lt.-Col. Hunter presiding. The accounts were audited and were found to be in a very satisfactory condition, there being a band fund surplus alone of \$350. The question of the regiment's going into training in Fort Henry, this winter, was discussed, and was enthusiastically endorsed by the officers. The intention is to have the corps trained either as a unit, or two companies at a time, and have instructors from the permanent force on the same basis as the school of instruction at Quebec. It was hoped that the reconstruction of the cabinet will make no difference in the arrangements.

The formation of a city company was also favorably discussed, and the project will be carried out. The different regimental committees were appointed and the meeting adjourned.

The officers of "A" Field Battery, entertained the male members of the Julia Stuart dramatic company, at dinner, after the presentation of one of the company's pieces here last week. On Tuesday evening last, Miss Stuart produced Robertson's English military play, "Ours," at a benefit tendered to the versatile young actress, by Major Drury, and the officers of the battery. The affair was a success, and the audience went wildly enthusiastic, over the scene in which "Ours" returns victorious, to the British lines in the Crimea, after defeating the Russians in an engagement.

A. G. Barker who, a few years ago, was

a sergoant in "A" battery band, is now sergeant in the military band at Sackett's Harbor.

Gr. Donovan, who escaped from the cells in "A" battery barracks, about two years ago and joined the American army at Sackett's Harbor, being raised to the rank of sergeant, has been dismissed from the service.

Lieut March, of the 4th Hussars, now doing duty with "A" Field Battery R. C. A., will this season inspect the cavalry stores in military district No. 3. He inspected the 4th Hussars stores on the 23rd inst. It is reported that Lieut. March will be appointed to the vacancy in "A" Battery caused by the appointment of Capt. Gaudet, to the position of superintendent of the Dominion cartridge factory, Quebec.

C. A. Smylie, of the 12th Reg't, New York National Guard, was introduced at the 14th club a few days ago.

Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Macpherson, of Ottawa, are in the city, called here by the death of Dr. K. N. Fenwick, their son-in-law.

Capt. Bruce Carruthers left for Quebec on Saturday to attend the winter carnival, and while in the Ancient Capital, he will be the guest of Major and Mrs. Rutherford, the citadel.

VEDETTE.

### Cookshire, P. Q.

The annual meeting of the officers of the 58th (Compton) Battalion was held here on the 9th inst., to discuss matters in connection with the internal interests of the Batt. Application was also made to the Adgt-General and the Minister of Militia to re-arm this Batt. with the Lee-Metford, or such improved arm as may be selected as best for the force. Being a border Batt. the officers considered it would be only right and positively necessary that the corps should be armed with the best possible rifle. It may not be generally known that this battalion covers the line between Canada and Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, all which states could enter Canada by wagon routes or railroads; for this reason especially was the application made.

### Ottawa.

The whole country has been discussing the rifle with which the militia is to be re-armed in the near future, and the military authorities have been flooded with advice on the subject from all quarters. Considerable difference of opinion exists as to the best arm to be chosen, the majority being about evenly divided between the Lee-Metford magazine rifle and the Martini-Enfield—which has the Martin breech action but Enfield barrel and 303 calibre, and would take the same ammunition as the Lee-Metford.

In Ottawa it has been thought that the authorities were in favor of the Martini-Enfield on account of its greater simplicity, lightness, and lesser cost, but it is

now announced that Col. Lake has been instructed to examine all modern military rifles and report on the most suitable. The ammunition question is also to be looked into by the Quartermaster General.

It is estimated that the militia establishment of the entire country could be re-armed and supplied with ammunition, including a sufficient reserve for a second levy of men, for something like two million and a half dollars. The present establishment could be supplied with ammunition for immediate needs and new weapons, without reserves, for about a million dollars.

It is expected that in the near future other cartridge factories will be erected to supplement the Quebec factory, as it is said its output could not suffice for the demand in case of need, one in Ontario and another in the west, probably at or near Winnipeg.

Our artillery, it has been stated, is badly handicapped with the present muzzle loaders, but the official view is that the breech-loading guns, after a fair trial, have not been found satisfactory, and the muzzle-loader will likely remain until something far better than anything at present in use anywhere is brought forward.

In case of war, said a well-known militia official, Canada could put in the field 100,000 men to-day as well armed as we could desire, that is, if we should get the forty thousand Martini-Enfields. We have already in the country 60,000 Sniders, 1,600 Lee-Metfords, and 7,000 Martini-Henris.

The fortifications at Esquimaux are rapidly progressing, and when completed will be to the Pacific what Halifax is to the Atlantic. There is also there a splendid harbor and dry dock, and not very far away are situated the coal mines, which could supply cruisers in case they should be shut off from their usual supplies. This coal would only be used in case of emergency, as it yields a very black smoke which is not desirable for a cruiser. With the equipment which we hope to have in the near future, Canada would be well able to defend herself until Imperial troops should arrive.

Lieut.-Col. Hon. M. Aylmer, A.A.G., from the present outlook, seems likely to secure the appointment as Adjutant-General in the place of Col. Walker Powell, superannuated. The other aspirants for this office are Lieut.-Colonel Mansell, of No. 8 District, who was in town a short while ago to urge his claims to the position, and who is receiving the strong support of the local members; and Lieut.-Col. H. Smith, of London, Ont., who is backed by the Minister of Agriculture, and who is giving Lieut.-Colonel Aylmer a close run for the vacancy. Lieut.-Col. Aylmer was recommended for the post by Hon. Mr. Dickey, late Minister of Militia, and this fact will be much in his favor.

On Monday, Jan. 27th, Minister of Militia Desjardins had a call from a large deputation of Russell County men, who