

have spent considerable attention to the adaptation of cycles for military purposes.

One of the leading features at this year's Royal Military Tournament will be a grand pageant in which the Indian and Colonial troops will take part, along with representatives from the Home forces. The arrangements for the tournament are all but complete, and the Executive have arranged a programme in keeping with the past history of the exhibition.

There are 77 British officers on full pay seconded for service with the Khedive's Egyptian army.

It is believed that the pressure brought to bear against the War Office in their proposal to do away with the Scots Greys has

other opportunities of coming together, this summer.

The regulations for the new sword have created some discussion as to the wearing of brass scabbards for officers of infantry, as the wording is rather ambiguous, but this is now set at rest in the last issue of *The Broad Arrow*, which states that infantry field officers can wear brass scabbards at levees, etc.; so from this it will be seen that when brass spurs are worn, scabbards will be in accordance. I notice in the same paper that, in future, infantry sergeants' sashes will be worn over the haversack in marching order. Is it not about time we had a proper set of dress regulations for the Canadian militia? It is very hard to find out what to wear, not only for officers, who can try to fol-

ing privates' greatcoats. This, too, should be stopped. It brings much discredit on an officer, and the corps to which he belongs.

So at last the authorities have limited the term of commanding officers to at most 8 years. This is as it should be, but why did they apply only to those who are gazetted after July 1st? The order in fact should be retrospective, and C.O.'s who have already been 8 years in command, should be given two years more at most to serve. A glance at the militia list will show that there are some in command of corps who have been there for from 10 to 25 years, many of whom should have retired long ago. It is a pity that in cases where the lieut.-colonels are young men when retired, and popular with the corps, they should not be allowed to act as honorary colonels for a period of 5 years. This would give them close connection with their old regiments, while at the same time the corps would benefit by having such an officer in close touch with it.

What about drill for 1896-97? Are we to have summer camps? Are city corps to drill? It is time we knew about these matters without having to ask.

THOMAS ATKINS.

NOTES.

"B" Battery R.C.A. will in future have a veterinary surgeon on its strength.

There will be special courses of instruction at Kingston from May 5 to 8, and from May 12 to 15 inclusive, for instruction in fire discipline, field manoeuvres and range firing of field artillery officers.

It is said that Major Sam Hughes, M.P., will be made Deputy Minister of Militia. He has been an ardent fighter in Parliament for the interests of the force, and if he does as well in his new position, it will be the most popular militia appointment ever made.

Lieut.-Col. H. Dibblee, Woodstock, N.B., who was so seriously injured by an explosion some weeks ago, returned from Montreal on Friday last, where he had been under treatment for his eyes. The W.F.B. and band turned out to meet him. Col. Dibblee still suffers from one of his eyes, but he expects to get better in time.

Only two soldiers in the immense German army have died from smallpox since 1873 owing to the strictness with which vaccination is enforced. During the Franco-German war the Germans had only a loss of 300, compared with a French loss of 23,400 men from smallpox.

Lieut.-Col. Lindsay, of the 7th Battalion, has issued orders that all members of the corps must attend 75 per cent. of the Battalion and 50 per cent. of the company drills.



THE STORMING OF BADAJOZ, 1812.

been the means of staying their hand, and the Greys will now remain as formerly.

R.M.C.

DRESS REGULATIONS.

ST. JOHN, N.B., May 1.—The St. John Rifle Company have the honor this year of opening the drill season, having commenced their drill this week. The company is in very fair strength, very few recruits being wanted. Capt. Smith looks for a very favorable year for his corps both in drill and shooting. The Fusiliers will begin their annual drill probably about the middle of May, and the artillery about the same time. The 62nd have received new uniforms, much to the satisfaction of all ranks, and as the four days' pay withheld last year has been granted, our city brigade should start in with enthusiasm. It is hoped that the brigade will follow up the practice of last year and have brigade church parades, or

low the Imperial dress regulations, but there are dozens of little matters which affect N.C.O.'s and men which should be laid down. At present no two corps turn out their non-coms. alike. We can follow the permanent corps to a certain extent, but in Rifles, Fusiliers, Grenadiers, etc., there are many undecided questions as to dress. One of your correspondents called attention in the last issue of *THE GAZETTE* to the fact of officers appearing in public with civilian greatcoats, etc. These remarks are very timely, and might well form the subject of a special general order. As a rule, commanding officers are apt to overlook these matters, but it will be noticed that in a corps where officers are lax in appearance the non-coms. and men are sure to be. Military greatcoats and waterproofs do not cost much, and should be regarded as part of a fit-out, and a very important part, too. The writer regrets to say that he has seen officers wear-