

always at peace all round; whereas if the Old Country should get into hot water with European powers, Canada would have to defend herself on the Atlantic and Pacific shores. Americans well understand the necessity of a militia force for Canada, ruled in an almost absolute manner by the Canadian Government, as compared with their handsome State forces." Those Canadians who would decrease our militia expenditure will find food for timely reflection in the concluding lines of the above quotation.

ARTILLERY friends tell us that there seems to be no disposition on the part of the Government to grant money sufficient to enable the Dominion Artillery Association to offer prizes for a competition at the Island of Orleans next year, and that therefore it will not be advisable to further press the old country volunteer artillery teams who proposed to pay a visit to Canada. These great central competitions are to the artillery what the Dominion Rifle Association annual prize gatherings are to the infantry branch of the service. They serve to keep the artillerymen keenly interested in their work, as a rule of a very arduous nature, and have become almost a necessity. Hitherto private subscription has defrayed to a considerable extent the cost of these artillery prize competitions, but their utility having been demonstrated the country should not further sponge upon private individuals. It can well afford to maintain annual artillery prize meetings, just as it can those of the riflemen.

BEFORE the Chamber of Commerce at London last week Baron Brassey lectured on the inadequate defences of coaling stations. The Duke of Cambridge endorsed his views, stating that the prosperity of the Empire depended upon its power to keep commerce free from alarm, and that preparation for contingencies was the truest economy. While formerly there was time to prepare, now warning came one day and action the next. Lord Beresford also gave an address. He explained that he resigned the office of a Junior Lord of the Admiralty because the interests of the military and naval forces had been subordinated to political exigencies. Anybody who knew anything regarding British fortifications concurred with him in the opinion that they were inadequate, and he considered it better to have no guns in the forts than to have those of ancient pattern. Lord Beresford's speech might have appropriately been made by a Canadian minister respecting the armament of the forts of this country.

A SITE has been determined upon for the new rifle range required for the Montreal brigade, the spot chosen being at Cote St. Luc, a western suburb of the city, and handily reached by the Canadian Pacific Railway. In fact the track runs within a few yards of the firing points. It is stated that the Militia Department does not intend to buy the property but will merely lease it for a term of years—fifteen, probably, with option of renewal. As the growth of Montreal towards Cote St. Luc is very rapid, this will mean that at the termination of the lease either an exceedingly high figure will have to be paid for the property or the expense of procuring another site and adapting it for shooting purposes will have to be again incurred. If a business man had use for such a piece of land, and were in position to raise the money for the purchase, he would assuredly prefer to buy. The Department should act upon the same principle. It would be much more satisfactory to the rifle associations and volunteers generally were the proposed site at Cote St. Luc purchased instead of leased. Then, upon the advent of the millenium, or if from any other cause proficiency in rifle shooting should cease to be a desideratum, the property would have so improved in value that it might be sold at a figure which would make the investment exceedingly profitable for the Department.

## Canada.

[By A. B. C., in *Toronto Empire*.]

N EATH sunlit skies her lakes extending wide,  
Her forests towering in primeval pride,  
Her verdant plains, like gently heaving sea,  
Roll east and west in boundless majesty;  
And rivers broad, their crystal waters flowing,  
Like ancient Nile their royal gifts bestowing.

Italian skies not more intensely blue,  
No fairer scenes the old world ever knew,  
Valleys and hills, and mountain bulwarks hoar  
Where eagle pinion may not dare to soar,  
Their ice crowned peaks to heaven in reverence lifting,  
On which the clouds in shadowy mists are drifting.

Luxurious nature with a bounteous hand  
Scatters her blessings o'er the fruitful land;  
Resources vast, her prairies garnered grain,  
Might all the peoples of the world sustain.  
Did earth her yield to other lands deny  
Canadian stores could every want supply.

Around her shores the grand old ocean smiles,  
Her fisheries spread for many thousand miles.  
And her highway, o'er mountain, gorge and stream,  
Binds with its iron horse each far extreme.  
While mineral treasures long unreamed of hidden  
Unfold before the wondering gaze unbidden.

What though her winter wind blows keen and chill!  
When every breath with life and vigour thrills,  
For energy, for might, for length of years,  
The sturdy Northmen have no southern peers;  
The record runs till time the struggle ends,  
To Gibeon's curse no northern nation bends.

Long as the annals of our race are told,  
Strong as the laws that shall that race uphold,  
Firm as the rocks that gird our tide-washed shore,  
Till race, and rocks, and tide shall be no more;  
Fair Canada shall never cease to be:  
Home of the Brave, Dominion of the Free.

## Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the militia.]

MORE INFORMATION FOR "SASKAT."

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—I have noticed "Canada First's" letter and your "Note" in this week's GAZETTE just received and would beg to say that I make it a point to keep my stock as a "military tailor and outfitter" complete, and am ready and in a position to furnish the officers of our force with anything they may require from an inch of medal ribbon to a complete outfit.

Toronto, 27th January, 1888.

JOHN F. CREAN.

"LINCH-PIN": ATTENTION!

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—"Linch-pin" is out in one particular point he seeks to make against the permanent corps. In his batch of gossip last week, he says it passed a Brigade Major without noticing him, although he had "his war paint on." Perhaps in your next issue L.-P. will give the section and paragraph in the Queen's Regulations where the prescribed compliment is laid down. As he likes to poke fun at the militia, he may not object to a return poke: Perhaps he will kindly accept the advice given by Davy Crockett—"Be sure you are right, then go ahead." "MILISH."

THE TITLES OF CANADIAN CORPS.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—Noticing in your issue of the 12th inst. a letter asking the proper title of the Infantry School Corps, has brought to my mind an error, or rather series of errors, of the Militia Department, in the full and abbreviated titles of the different corps in Canada. It is generally supposed that we follow as closely as possible the British army in customs and regulations, but in the instances I will quote this is certainly not done:

Firstly—The abbreviation "Batt." is used to designate a Battalion, whereas in England these letters generally stand for "Battery," and "Bn" is the official abbreviation for "Battalion."

Secondly—In General Orders and the Militia List the names of certain corps are stated, as for instance, "3rd Battalion Victoria Rifles," "10th Battalion Royal Grenadiers," "66th Battalion Princess Louise Fusiliers." Now I maintain that this is entirely wrong, and I have seen the error perpetuated by many officers of like corps. Any battalion with a title such as Rifles, Fusiliers or Light Infantry, etc., is called by such only, and in support of my assertion I can quote a London Gazette or Army List, of date prior to the change to the territorial system, where we find the regiments officially styled, say "23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers," "88th Connaught Rangers," or "93rd Gordon Highlanders." The word "Regiment" was never applied, and I take it that a battalion in Canada occupies the same position as a regiment in Great Britain. Under the present territorial system the same custom obtains, the word is not used unless it forms part of the title, as "Royal West Kent Regiment" or "The Norfolk Regiment." Why cannot the authorities pay more attention to such matters, and do things properly?

Perhaps "Linch-pin" will add this to his already large list of existing grievances, for which we all owe him special thanks. If I am wrong in my ideas, or if any reason can be given for so calling such battalions of Canadian militia, I shall be pleased to be corrected or informed.

Jan. 26, 1888.

GRENADE.

The Council of the United Service Institution of India have announced their intention of bestowing their next gold medal upon the author of the best essay upon "Infantry Tactics of the Future, and changes involved by the introduction of Repeating or Magazine Rifles and Machine Guns."