

officer who is not called upon to use one in action, because it is impossible to predict what contingency might arise necessitating a change of arms (indeed the officers of the first Red River expedition were provided with light rifles, and some at least of the company officers used them effectually in the late actions, and it is probable that this use will be extended, in future, especially to meet the conditions of border fighting), and because a man must know how to do a thing himself before he can teach another to do it. Who does not know the moral influence which the example of an officer who can make a big score has upon a batch of recruits, and the increased attention which they will bestow upon his instruction when the end to be attained is to equal his performance?

If testimony were wanting to the great popularity of the late Lieut.-Col. Arthur Williams, the spontaneous manner in which the press of the whole country has spoken of his melancholy death would surely furnish it. Appropriate means will undoubtedly be taken by the Militia of mid-Ontario to mark permanently their sense of the loss they have sustained; meantime, the action of Deputy Adjut.-Gen. Villiers, in making the request contained in the following circular, sent to each officer in the District, will commend itself to the approval of the whole force:

"We, the Officers and Volunteers of No. 3 Military District, have lost by sudden death, caused by brain fever at Battleford, a gallant Officer in Lieut. Col. Arthur Williams, of the 46th Batt., who along with his corps, the Midlanders, were on the eve of returning to their homes in Canada, there to receive an ovation from the people for their gallantry in the late Rebellion in the North-west.

"This District has to mourn for the loss of one of its best and truest soldiers and sincere friends.

"Lieut.-Col. Williams' past life as a gentleman and officer are too well known for any remark; it therefore rests for me only to request, and feel sure it will be mournfully acceded to by all officers of the Volunteer Force in the district—that a badge of complimentary mourning be worn on the left arm for one month as a slight token of remembrance of our departed friend and comrade."

"H. V. VILLIERS, Lt.-Col.,  
D.A.G."

"D. A. G. Office,  
Kingston, 8th July, 1885.

The Militia general orders this week are so extensive that we can give only a small part of them. They embrace: No. 13 of 8th July, Official reports from the Major-General commanding of the operations in the North-west, including reports of the actions at Fish Creek, Cut Knife Creek and Batoche, with lists of the killed and wounded. No. 14 of 9th July, regulations for pensions and gratuities to wounded and relatives of killed in active service. No. 15 of 10th July, the result of the late examinations at the R.M.C. as given in our last issue. We would make the following corrections to our lists. Co. S.-M. von Hugel obtained 48912 marks and Corp. Skinner 42434 marks instead of the numbers given, also Cadet Clapp's name does not appear on this list of those accepting commissions, while Corp. Worsley was recommended for the Artillery. We hope to give further details of the order next week.

#### OBITUARY.

Another well-known old Militia Officer went over to the majority on the 9th, when Lt.-Col. John Stoughton Dennis, C.M.G., died at his country residence near Ottawa, at the age of 65. He had been in ill health for many years, and his death was not unexpected. His connection with the Militia force dates back to 1856, when he raised a battery of artillery in Toronto. Next year he was appointed Major of a brigade, and was made Brigade Major of the 5th Military District with the rank of Lieut.-Col. in 1862. He was in active service on the Niagara River in 1866, and retired from the force on being employed to organize a system of surveys in the North-West Territories. Since then he has occupied the posts of Surveyor-General of Canada and Deputy-Minister of the Interior. He was well known on both continents and highly esteemed by his large circle of personal friends. The commander of the Intelligence Corps is his eldest son.

#### IN THE HOUSE.

The whole of the estimates required for the Militia Department were passed in committee in the House of Commons on the 26th ult., when a lively discussion took place on the several items. We have not heretofore had room for any notice of this, but now publish the items with some account of the remarks:

No. of Vote.	Service.	1884-85.	1885-86.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
52	Salaries, Military Branch and District Staff.....	19,800 00	19,200 00
53	Brigade Majors' salaries, transport expenses, &c.....	16,300 00	13,900 00
54	Ammunition, including artillery ammunition, and manufacture of small arm ammunition at the cartridge factory at Quebec	55,000 00	55,000 00
	Clothing and great coats.....	90,000 00	90,000 00
55	Military stores.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
	Public armories and care of arms, including pay of Storekeepers, Caretakers, Storemen and Armorers.....	60,000 00	60,000 00
56	Drill instruction.....	40,000 00	40,000 00
	Drill pay, and other incidental expenses connected with the drill and training of the Militia.....	250,000 00	250,000 00
57	Contingencies and general services not otherwise provided for, including grants to artillery and rifle associations and bands of efficient corps.....	38,000 00	38,000 00
58	Government grant to the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association.....	10,000 00	10,000 00
60	Royal Military College of Canada at Kingston.....	59,000 00	59,000 00
61	Pay and maintenance of "A," "B" and "C" Batteries, Royal School of Artillery at Quebec, Kingston and Victoria, B.C.	152,000 00	152,000 00
	Pay and maintenance of Cavalry and Infantry School corps at Quebec, Fredericton and Toronto.....	171,000 00	171,000 00
62	Improved rifled ordnance.....	15,000 00	3,000 00
63	Drill sheds and rifle ranges.....	11,800 00	10,000 00
64	Care and maintenance of military properties transferred from the Ordnance and Imperial Government.....	12,000 00	12,000 00
65	Construction of, and repairs to, military properties.....	65,455 00	60,000 00

Respecting item 52, Mr. Caron explained that a District Paymaster's salary of \$600 had lapsed, and he did not propose making a new appointment. So from item 53 the salaries of two Brigade-Majors were deducted; one having been dispensed with at Kingston, the other in New Brunswick, where the commandant of "C" school acts as D.A.G., receiving Brigade-Major's allowance of \$360 for his extra duties.

The item of ammunition brought out many interesting facts. The ball was opened by Mr. Langelier asking why powder had been purchased through a hardware firm in Quebec, who were not manufacturers. Mr. Caron explained that they were agents of the Hamilton Powder Co., and that the Department was desirous of using Canadian-made powder. They had invited samples from the Windsor mills but had received none. The cost of manufacture was estimated at \$20 per 1000 rounds of Snider, and the machinery could be adapted for Martini at small expense. Sir Richard Cartwright complained of the quality of last year's ammunition, particularly at Toronto. Mr. Cameron had seen complaints of that sent to the North-west, and Mr. Lister had heard complaints in London. The Minister stated that an experienced Board appointed for the purpose had reported favorably on the D.C. ammunition, and that it was used at the D.R.A. matches last year, and gave satisfaction—he had heard no complaints, even after enquiry from the officers in the North-west, and said that the greatest care was taken in testing all powder used. He promised further immediate investigation.

Mr. Caron, in reply to questions, stated that about 150 Winchester rifles and 1000 Colt's revolvers were purchased for the field force; and in reply to Sir R. Cartwright, said we could do nothing better than increase the number of our riflemen; and that he approved of furnishing ammunition at as low rate as possible, and was working in the direction of supplying it below cost, having gone the length of paying the cost of transport.

On the next item Mr. Caron gave the average cost of uniforms as \$10 per suit and great coats \$5.85, and in course of discussion it was elicited that all except red tunics were of Canadian cloth, and that the General was pleased with the tunics and great coats. This item gave rise to a long discussion, for which a report of Col. Jackson, condemning the make of the clothes and the unsuitability of the forage cap, furnished a text, and in which many interesting points on the whole system of volunteering were brought out—in fact the whole debate is worth printing if space could be given to it.

Another long discussion took place on item 56, when Mr. Caron announced that he intended holding camps of instruction and having the drills of city corps as usual. Mr. Lister thought that with the amount at his disposal Mr. Caron ought to reduce the number of men drilled, pay those better who were called out, and keep them out longer, so that we would have a force of really well-trained soldiers. Mr. Cameron (Middlesex) would like to see the pay increased 10c per diem., which he thought would induce better men to join and to drill every