

## THE RIFLE.

## THE MANNLICHER.

The Mannlicher rifle, which has been used for the first time in the Chilian war by the Congressional forces, differs from the British magazine rifle in that it is not designed to be used as a single loader. At all times the soldier uses his magazine, no matter how deliberately he aims. There would be no gain in speed by this arrangement if the cartridges had to be placed in singly as in the British weapon, for it is a slower operation to put a cartridge into a magazine and then transfer it to the barrel than to put it direct into the chamber. But as a correspondent writes, instead of being loaded singly the cartridges were sent out to the Congressional forces in packages of five, these being held together by a light steel clip. The whole five, with the holder, are placed in the magazine of the rifle with more ease than one, as they represent a better finger hold. At each backward and forward motion of the bolt a cartridge is pushed out of its holder, forced into the barrel, and extracted, and, as soon as the last has been removed, the holder drops through a hole in the bottom of the magazine and falls to the ground, so that all the soldier requires to do is to drop into place each clip with five cartridges and fire away. The bolt has no turning motion on its axis; it is pushed straight in and out, and is locked by a drop-catch. The whole thing works with the regularity and ease of clockwork. The British magazine rifle takes eight cartridges, put in singly; the Mark II. rifle takes ten. But the Chilian soldier would probably have three or four clips of cartridges inserted and fired before the loading of ten cartridges was completed. The War Office authorities are credited with having means of ascertaining the efficiency of the Mannlicher rifle in use in Chili, and the official reports are being awaited with considerable interest.

## TRIAL OF MAGAZINE RIFLES.

A board of officers of the American army, under the presidency of Lt.-Col. R. Hall of the 6th Infantry, has been sitting for a considerable period at Governor's Island, New York, for the purpose of testing a number of magazine rifles, with a view to the selection of the pattern found most suitable for adoption in the American army. Amongst others the Austrian (Mannlicher), the German 1888 model, the English (Lee-Speed) service rifle, and the Krag Jorgensen, adopted by Denmark, have been under trial.

The inventor is first called upon to fire ten rounds for a safety test, the board conducting the following trials: 1. Rapidity and accuracy at a range of 100 feet only, the rifle being tried both as a single-loader and as a magazine rifle. 2. "Rapidity at will," the rifle being fired from the hip. 3. Endurance, 500 rounds without cleaning as a magazine gun, and 100 as a single loader. 4. The dust test, in which the weapon is exposed to the same dusting which it would receive "if carried by the soldier over the alkali deserts of Arizona, or Utah, or the sage brush prairies of Montana or Wyoming." 5. A test for defective cartridges. Rifles which withstand these ordeals are then subjected to supplementary trials, the first, a combination of the dust and defective cartridge trials, and the second the rust test. The service rifles of Belgium and Portugal have been tried in addition to those named, and those of Switzerland, Japan, Russia and Italy, will also be tried. France was "unwilling to have her gun subjected to trial."

Whilst a fair trial is given to every inventor the American board is naturally anxious to afford special encouragement to native talent, which has, however, as yet produced few weapons for inspection. The inventors of the Danish Krag Jorgensen gun are preparing a .30 calibre arm specially arranged for the American cartridge.

## THE OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

The following are the chief scores of the eighteenth weekly spoon competition of this club, held on Rideau range on the 19th September, with Snider rifles, at 200, and 600 yards:

G. L. Blatch! . . . . .	29 33 27—89	C. Routh . . . . .	28 27 23—78
R. Moodie . . . . .	28 28 26—82	Maj. J. Wright . . . . .	26 28 23—77
Lt. E. D. Sutherland	31 28 23—82	Capt. S. M. Rogers.	30 24 19—73
Capt. W. A. Jamieson	32 19 30—81	C. S. Scott . . . . .	25 23 24—72
Lt.-Col. Anderson . . . . .	31 28 22—81	J. H. Ellis . . . . .	27 22 23—72
Capt. J. W. O'Grady	27 26 27—80	J. A. Armstrong . . . . .	28 23 20—71
H. McKay . . . . .	24 27 27—78	R. Stewart . . . . .	23 22 25—70

## Militia General Orders (No. 18) of 18th Sept., 1891.

## No. 1—DRILL AND TRAINING, 1891-92.

The following corps are authorized to carry out their training at local headquarters: Nos. 1 and 2 Batteries, Prince Edward Island Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

## No. 2—ACTIVE MILITIA. CAVALRY.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S BODY GUARD FOR ONTARIO, Toronto.—To be Captain from 21st August, 1891: Lieutenant Frank Andrew Fleming, R. S. C., *vice* W. H. Merritt, appointed Adjutant.

3RD PROVISIONAL REGIMENT OF CAVALRY, "THE PRINCE OF WALES' CANADIAN DRAGOONS," Cobourg, O.—To be Adjutant, from 7th September, 1891: Lieutenant D'Arcy Edward Strickland, R. S. C., from "C" Troop, *vice* John Smith Hetherington, left limits.

"B" Troop, Millbrook.—2nd Lieutenant Charles E. Weeks, retires from the service.

"C" Troop, Peterborough.—To be Lieutenant, from 7th September, 1891: 2nd Lieutenant D'Arcy Edward Strickland, R. S. C., *vice* H. W. Kent, resigned.

## INFANTRY AND RIFLES.

2ND BATTALION, "QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA."—The retirement of C. C. Bennett which appeared in General Orders 28th August, 1891, is cancelled.

To be Paymaster with Honorary rank of Captain: Charles Corbishley Bennett, Esquire, formerly captain, *vice* J. F. W. Ross, retired.

10TH BATTALION "ROYAL GRENADIERS," Toronto, O.—To be Lieutenants: 2nd Lieutenant Alexander Claude Forster Bpulton, R. S. I., *vice* J. D. Mackay, promoted.

2nd Lieutenant George Alexander Stimson, R. S. I., to complete establishment.

11TH BATTALION OF INFANTRY "ARGENTEUH RANGERS," Q.—No. 8 Company, Chatham.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, from 7th September, 1891: Sergeant Major John Earle, V. B., *vice* James Wilfrid Cushing, who retires from the service.

16TH "PRINCE EDWARD" BATTALION OF INFANTRY, O.—No. 2 Company, Milford.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally, from 7th September, 1891: John Cook, Gentleman, *vice* B. A. Wycott, promoted into No. 5 Company.

No. 5 Company, Demorestville.—To be Captain, provisionally, from 7th September, 1891: Willet Jackson McFaul, Esquire, *vice* John Allison Sprague, who retires from the service.

20TH "HALTON" BATTALION, "LORNE RIFLES," O.—No. 2. Company, Stewarton.—The appointment to a Lieutenancy of Sergeant Robert Lee Graham, which appeared in General Orders 28th August, 1891, is cancelled.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally: Alexander Lane Noble, Gentleman, *vice* J. Hainer, resigned.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Sergeant Robert Lee Graham, *vice* J. R. Thompson.

No. 5 Company, Burlington.—To be Lieutenant: Alexander Galloway, Gentleman, R. S. A. (1st B), *vice* R. Graham, resigned.

21ST BATTALION "ESSEX FUSILIERS," Windsor, O.—Lieutenant Colonel John Richardson Wilkinson is permitted to retire, retaining rank.

24TH "KENT" BATTALION OF INFANTRY, Chatham, O.—To be Surgeon, from 31st August, 1891: Assistant Surgeon John Everett Pickard, *vice* George Arthur Tye, M. D., deceased.

No. 4 Company, Chatham—2nd Lieutenant Edwin John Ryall, retires from the service.

25TH "ELGIN" BATTALION OF INFANTRY, O.—No. 3 Company, Aylmer.—To be Captain, from 31st August, 1891: Lieutenant George Harris, V. B., *vice* Horace Huson Wright, who is permitted to retire, retaining rank.

26TH "MIDDLESEX" BATTALION OF LIGHT INFANTRY, O.—No. 3 Company, Glencoe.—To be 2nd Lieutenant provisionally, from 31st August, 1891: Charles Allan Stuart, Gentleman, *vice* W. G. Rogers, resigned.

To be Surgeon: William F. Roome, Esquire, M. D., *vice* Sur-