



CAN ANY OF OUR READERS SUPPLY THIS INFORMATION?

Editor MILITARY GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—Having noticed in your issue of May 15th, 1896, a rough sketch of Her Majesty's 100th Regiment, I kindly call your attention to same.

On page 21, No. 15, you will read the following address: "Pioneer John Finlayson, from Hamilton, Ont."

I would be much obliged if you could give me any information regarding the said deceased gentleman. My father, who was a Mr. John Finlayson, came to the province of British Columbia in the fall of 1860, and in the spring of 1861 proceeded to the gold fields of Carriboo with the late Sir Mathew Begbie and several other gentlemen, where he remained till the boom was over, and then came to the city of Victoria, where he lived till the time of his death. The said Mr. John Finlayson died on the 17th day of December, 1895, at the age of 63 years. He was a tall gentleman, and very reserved.

The picture to which I am alluding is the very image of my father, and I have a good idea that it is his picture, for he traveled much when he was a young man, leaving home when at the age of 16 years. He was a native of Loohelch, Rosshire, Scotland. If you can possibly obtain the photograph which was taken in 1859 I would only be too glad to purchase same. Kindly state what price you would ask for it.

If any of the gentlemen who were amongst those 16 are living nowadays, I would be much obliged if you would kindly ask any of them to write me.

I remain, yours sincerely,

HECTOR M. FINLAYSON,
P.O. Drawer 44, Victoria, British Columbia.

BAD AMMUNITION.

Editor MILITARY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—The Martini ammunition at present being issued by the Military Stores Department—viz., 1896—is calculated to cause considerable kicking, owing to its various bad qualities. In the first place, it appears to be pretty dirty. In the second, it is very inferiorly constructed, and during the process of extraction the only part of the case actually extracted is the iron head and top of the brass riveting piece. In a practice with thirty rounds, I had as many as ten which required the use of the ramrod to remove the empty case. This is very unsatisfactory, and must cause a great deal of delay during matches. I cannot speak of its shooting qualities, as I have not yet used sufficient to base an opinion on them. One of our leading riflemen called my attention to a case on Saturday, whilst shooting in a spoon match, when on opening a package one of the rounds had the head and part of the rivet lying separated from the rest of the shell.

Has the manufacture of Martini-Henry ammunition been discontinued by the Canadian Government factory? If so, why? There never was a better quality, or one that gave more satisfaction than that issued by the Canadian factory in 1892 and 1893. The issue of 1894, prepared specially for the Dominion and provincial matches, caused some kicking in the Upper Provinces, but the riflemen of the Lower Provinces had to shoot it in the league during the season of 1895, and I think there were very few, if any, complaints made, and they were only made when they found out that the teams, or many of them in the other provinces, were able to get,

and did get, and shoot, 1893. And I have heard that some of them were going to shoot 1893 during the present season. In the future it would be a good idea to compel all to shoot the same issue.

Yours, etc.,

M. G. B. HENDERSON.

St. John, N. B., July 27th, 1896.

A LOYAL CANADIAN.

Editor MILITARY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—I saw the report some time ago of the Canadian Government offering to send a detachment of Canadian soldiers to Egypt for service in the Soudan.

For various causes I neglected to attend to it at the time, but if not too late I would like to offer my services to go on such expedition, and would be greatly obliged to you if you would inform me of the proper authorities to apply to.

I have no other means of acquiring this information, and trust you will be kind enough to send it to me. I am a Canadian, but have lived here so long as to get out of touch with things at home, but consider it never too late to show our loyalty.

EX-CANADIAN.

Baltimore, Md., July 22.

COL. HERBERT ON AN IMPERIAL ARMY.

Colonel Herbert, late commandant of the Canadian militia, in a speech the other day referred to a dream that he had of there being one day an Imperial army, not merely an army of England and Scotland, or of Australia or of Canada, but an Imperial army in the widest sense of the term. We hope, with Colonel Herbert, that this dream of his is not altogether visionary and unreal, and that, to quote his words—which were received with hearty and sympathetic cheers—there will be some day a truly Imperial army, an army in which every one of the children of this Empire will be represented—not an army modelled on Continental fashion, but one which is suited to our big Empire—each section governed in the way that meets the needs of the particular part of the Empire to which it belongs, but in which organization shall have been brought to such a point that the different parts shall be interchangeable. He added, amid cheers: "I hope I may live to have the pleasure of seeing a Canadian regiment relieve my own regiment of the Grenadier Guards as the Queen's guard. This is not, I trust, a dream. It will, I feel confident, be realised some day, and at no very distant date." It is good to hear colonists so enthusiastic on the subject of Imperial defence.—United Service Gazette.

THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE hopes that in years to come his dream may come true, but it will be a long time we fear before Canada can afford to keep up a regular regiment. We have no doubt, however, but that it will come. As we read Gen. Herbert's remarks, we see why he made such a failure of his term as G.O.C. in Canada—clever officer as he was. He was developing a regular regiment at the expense of the whole militia.

Officers and men of the militia will help THE MILITARY GAZETTE very much if they and their friends in making purchases will give the preference to those firms which advertise with us. They can help us still further by recommending the paper to any firms who sell goods that are used by military men in every part of Canada, either as military men or in their private capacity. tf.

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