

"The improvement in the shooting of the drilled soldier during the practice of 1866-7 is marked, and the percentage of men who are qualified to receive the extra pay as marksmen has increased."

The General further says:—

"This improvement is, no doubt, attributable in a great measure to the breech-loading rifle, with which the tendency to flinch, consequent upon the explosion of the percussion cap, used with the muzzle-loader, is obviated."

Although Lieut. General Hay was rather given too much to theoretical principles, and committed the absurdity of endeavoring to inculcate a mathematical knowledge of musketry, into the minds of men who could neither read nor write, yet a better man could hardly be found for the position he has so long and ably filled. In reference to his retirement the *Volunteer Service Gazette* says:

"That to his exertions, to a great extent, is owing the high standard of rifle practice which has been attained by all branches of Her Majesty's service."

THANKS.

We take the present opportunity of returning our sincere thanks to the Press generally of the Dominion, for their kind greetings and compliments on the commencement of our second volume. These pleasing acknowledgments of our efforts in upholding and assisting in the education of the military Force of the country, shew conclusively that our labours have not been in vain, and we have only again to repeat that while looking confidently to the future we will spare no labour or expense to make *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW* still more worthy of the generous support and confidence it has received from the Volunteer Force, the public at large, and our fellow laborers of the Press.

A GOOD IDEA.

An esteemed correspondent, who is Captain of an Ontario Volunteer Company, sends us the following, which we beg respectfully to recommend to the attention of our friends throughout the Dominion, as an idea worthy of being acted upon in raising clubs for *THE REVIEW*:—

"DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I send you P. O. order to settle for the accompanying club list of twelve for *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW* for 1868. These copies have all been won at one Rifle Tournament, at which, instead of \$2 in cash, I offered a copy of *THE REVIEW*, either as a distinct prize, or added to other articles. This mode proved highly satisfactory, gave little trouble and would, I have no doubt, if followed by every corps in the Dominion, at their Rifle Matches, greatly increase the circulation and usefulness of the paper.

"Yours, very truly,

"_____."

AN ABUSE.

As all good things are liable to abuse, it seems that our Military School system has not been allowed to escape; as may be seen by the following from the *Quebec Mercury*:

"MILITARY SCHOOL CADETS.—A contemporary says:—'A good many cadets of the Military School have, after receiving military instructions at public expense, entered foreign service. To check this fraud, each cadet before receiving the compensation given by the Dominion to those who take certificates; ought to give a bond with security for its return should he enter the military service of a foreign power, or remove out of the country.' We know for a fact that instances have lately occurred of soldiers taking their discharges from Regiments of the Line, in Quebec and Montreal, and immediately after gaining admittance to the Military School, passing through in a fortnight or three weeks, and receiving their \$50. There is nothing whatever to prevent these men going over to the States with the money so easily acquired. In one instance lately, says the *Montreal Daily News* of yesterday, a Sergeant of the 23rd Fusiliers took his discharge, immediately after passed through the Military School, and then enlisted in the 75th Highlanders, in which corps he is now serving."

There can be no doubt that the country has been defrauded in this manner by persons who have taken advantage of the schools from motives anything but in accordance with the purpose for which they were established, or for which the premium is given to successful candidates. None but those whose worth and standing are well known should be allowed to receive the gratuity; as for others who may be deemed admissible a means could readily be found to prevent the misapplication of public money by the needy and unworthy.

"*THE CANADIAN*" is the name of a new monthly publication started in Boston, Mass., as may be inferred from its title, it is devoted to the interests of Canadians in the United States, and is gotten up, typographically and otherwise, in a very creditable style. In tone it is thoroughly British and Canadian, and strongly supports Confederation as against annexation. It is ably edited and deserves, as we hope it will receive, the support of Canadians at home as well as in the United States.

ANNUAL DRILL.

The statement which is going the rounds of the Press to the effect that the Volunteers, instead of having to put in their 16 days' drill as usual this year, will be called out for frontier service in the spring, is purely imaginary. It is not possible that the person originating the story could have had his information from a reliable source. It is absurd to suppose the Volunteers will be placed on Frontier duty until necessity, in the shape of an actual or threatened invasion, calls for such a proceeding. In reference to the 16 days' drill it must be patent to most people that the action of Parliament

has to be waited for before any decided steps towards ordering its performance can be taken. The House meets on the 12th of March next, and between that period and the month of June there is ample time for our Volunteers to put in the required number of days at drill, should Parliament vote the necessary funds for that purpose.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE.—All communications addressed to the Editor of the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW*, must be accompanied by the correct name and address of the writer, to insure attention.

"A VOLUNTEER," ST. CATHARINES.—The subject of your communication is not of sufficient importance to warrant its publication, and is also of rather a personal character, which alone would preclude its appearance in *THE REVIEW*. Your complaint, if well grounded, lodged in the proper quarter would doubtless obtain redress.

CAPT. C. A. O'M., WARDSVILLE, (Ont.)—Shall procure the missing numbers for you if possible. Should be glad to publish an account of your rifle match. Much obliged for the list.

J. B., ODESSA, (Ont.) asks:—"Is a Volunteer officer, who has been obliged to resign his commission through leaving the limits of his company, liable to be drafted as a private?" Most certainly he is. It would be different however in the case of a militia officer. Unless a volunteer officer retires retaining his rank, he is liable, under the above circumstances, to be drafted into the ranks should such be resorted to.

H. C. G. DUNDAS, (Ont.)—We cannot inform you what the price of the Snider Enfield Rifle is. At any rate they cannot be bought in Canada. The party requiring the arm cannot procure it except in England. The price of the old short Enfield with bayonet, as given in Lieut. Col. Wilby's "Militia List" of 1866, is \$22.98. The difference, we should say, would be trifling between the latter and the short Snider with bayonet.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

During the week ending Jan. 18th, we have received, on account of subscriptions, as follows:—

KINGSTON.—Dr. D., \$2; Captain J., \$2; Dr. Y., \$2; Lieut. Col. S., \$2; Major K., \$2.

PRESCOTT.—Captain R. W., \$2.

WARDSVILLE, (Ont.)—Captain O'M.'s Club, \$16.50.

HAMILTON.—Lieut. C. R. M. S., \$2; J. B., \$1; Captain A. H. A., \$1; Captain J. H. W., \$2; Captain J. M. G., \$2; Captain J. H., \$2; Captain F. M., \$2; Capt. F. G. R., \$2; Sergt. J. McA., \$2; Corporal W. M., \$2; J. H., \$2; Lieut. Col. J. A. S., \$2; Ensign C. D. C., \$2; Lieut. R. S. D., \$1; A. G., \$1; J. H. E., \$2.

KINGSBURY, (Q.)—Captain G. W., \$2.