

Col. Egerton, of the Corps of Guides, will, it is claimed, prove an efficient chief. Suakim, while really too hot for British troops, and possibly even for Egyptian garrisons, cannot, it is perceived, be better garrisoned than by picked troops from India.

It is about time that some alteration was made in the rule which allows the regimental colors to be sold when they become unserviceable, as the commanding officer may direct. It is disgraceful that the colors of the 72nd Highlanders, of the year 1815, should have been sold in London lately for £35. The question was brought up in the British House of Commons, and the Secretary for War stated that "it was desirable to leave the question to the feeling of the regiment." It is to be hoped that the Seaforth Highlanders will take the hint and secure their old colors.

Extreme regret in volunteer circles is expressed that no team will visit Bisley from South Africa this year. The total expenses of a representative team amounts to about £1,500. Of that amount the Cape Government offered to contribute £300. This left a large balance to be raised, and a meeting of officers was held on Easter Monday to consider whether it was desirable to try to raise the sum. The majority of the officers were anxious to see the colony represented, and a few of them offered to subscribe to the guarantee fund. Others were of the opinion that calls of this nature came too often, and that the Government should be called on to pay the whole expense. It was finally decided to drop the matter on a resolution to the effect that the guarantee fund could not be raised.

The prize-list of the National Rifle Association for the Bisley meeting has been issued. The Queen's Prize of £250 and the other prizes associated with it—600 in all, with a total value of £2,420—will be shot for once more under the old conditions, the Martini-Henry rifle being used probably for the last time in this great contest. The other great volunteer competitions of former years are again included in the lists, the Prince of Wales' and the St. George's still holding their place, and the popular Alexandra for all-comers offers £1,000 in 325 prizes. In consequence of the comparative paucity of entries last year it has been found necessary to further reduce the money value of the Imperial Prize Series for the regular army, navy and militia, so that the 125 prizes in this competition are now worth £250 in all, instead of £350 as last year. In a few other series the value has also been reduced; but some new minor competitions have been introduced, so that the total value of money prizes still exceeds £10,000, of which far the greater portion is for contests with the weapon with which the volunteers are armed. The camp will open on Monday, July 13, and the shooting will, as heretofore, extend over a fortnight.

The volunteer force celebrated its 37th

birthday on the 12th May, it having come into existence on the 12th May, 1859.

R. M. C.

### BRIGHT IDEAS FROM THE EAST.

**S**T. JOHN, June 3.—The 62nd Fusiliers are continuing their annual drill, as are the rifle company, but the artillery are waiting till next month before making a start. The former corps have the first march out of the season this evening. So far, the drill has been confined to squad and company. There seems to be more interest taken here in politics than military matters; consequently, on some evenings the attendance is not quite up to the average. We have three sets of candidates in the field—six in all—and although many meetings have been held and speeches made, the writer has not seen an account of any reference to militia matters by even one man. It is a pity that the militia, both here and throughout Canada, do not stand together and compel candidates to say what policy they will pursue with reference to a department on which the country spends millions of dollars and on which the safety of the country depends.

There is satisfaction here over the appointment of Colonel Maunsell to the position of inspector of infantry. There will be more benefit now in comparing efficiency returns, as all will be made on one basis. It is hoped the inspectors will be allowed to have some say in the system of drill, what shall be performed and what not; at present there is much time wasted. What is the good of men practising extension motions or physical drill for a few hours during the drill? There is not time enough spent to do them any good whatever, while, if musketry and aiming drill were substituted, the benefits would be incalculable under a proper instructor. Why cannot musketry instructors be appointed who would have the sole charge and say regarding target practice, and see that every man was properly instructed in theory and actually fired his number of rounds?

And so we are to have a new edition of regulations and orders. Not a bit too soon surely; but will they even then contain all that they should? Will any dress regulations be included, and if so, have they been carefully compiled? Have any officers been consulted as to special badges, etc., of different regiments? Will the new regulations and orders contain all that we want to know regarding the militia, or will we still have to hunt over Queens' Regulations, military law, puzzle our brains, and then take things for granted? And will general orders cancel and change some of the regulations in the new book as soon as issued?

The annual Maritime match between teams from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will be shot next week at Charlottetown. A challenge pitcher

is the objective trophy, and keen interest is taken each year in the match.

We will probably have more drill to unlearn this year, as the Infantry Drill of 1893 is now being revised, and the new book will be issued very soon. There are certainly many chances for improvement in the drill; already some important changes are practised at Aldershot; marching past at the "slope" has been introduced and the first motion of the "order" from the "slope" abolished, while some writers in the English service papers think the "present" should be done from the "slope." This is the custom in the German army.

The 62nd Fusiliers had their first route march of the season last night. The men marched splendidly to the excellent music of the two bands, and were much admired by the hundreds of people who had gathered on the streets through which they passed. There were 195 men in the parade. Before the battalion dispersed Col. Tucker made a short speech to the men, in which he complimented them on their fine appearance and steadiness in marching. The colonel spoke of the bright outlook for the present drill season, and hoped that the men would pay the strict attention to this drill that they had since the work began. The men then went to the Armories and partook of light refreshments, which were supplied by Col. Tucker.

THOMAS ATKINS.

### THE NEW BRIGADE MAJOR.

**H**ALIFAX, June 3.—At 10.30 p. m. on the 21st inst., Private Hart, of the Berkshire Regiment, who was slightly under the influence of liquor, walked up deliberately to the large plate glass window of the Halifax Piano and Organ Co., and struck it with his walking stick, shattering it to pieces. A civil policeman who was close by arrested him. As soon as arrested the "glass-breaker" said: "That's all right, policeman, you are only doing your duty." He has over six years service and is evidently tired of soldiering. He was to-day sentenced to two years in Dorchester penitentiary. Judge Johnston, in sentencing him, said he was sorry he could not give him five years.

Major Black, our new brigade-major, has taken over his duties. The Amherst Press speaking of him, says: "Major J. Albert Black, 93rd Cumberland Batt., has been appointed brigade-major of Militia District No. 9, or second in command of the militia of the province of Nova Scotia, whose strength in artillery, cavalry and infantry is about 4,000. For many years Major Black has been an enthusiastic militia officer, thoroughly versed in his duties. He took a prominent part in organizing the Cumberland County Rifle Association, of which he has been the secretary-treasurer for fifteen years, and the frequency with which the names of 93rd marksmen appear in provin-