

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

Third Year.
VOL. III, No. 33.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 16th FEBRUARY, 1888.

\$1.50 per annum in advance.
Single Copies Five Cents.

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THE annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association has been called for Wednesday, the 14th March, at 11 o'clock a.m., and that of the Dominion Artillery Association for the following day. Notice has been given of desired change in the constitution of the Rifle association making provision for granting the North-West Territories representation on the council, so soon as rifle associations are formed there corresponding with the provincial associations.

LINCH-PIN inquires this week why it is that the two associations above named do not make the MILITIA GAZETTE their official organ, his query being prompted by the fact that the Ontario Association has already done us the honour to officially recognize the paper in this manner. The matter was brought before the D.R.A. and D.A.A. last year, but passed over without any action being taken. It is, however, about to be brought up again, and judging from the friendly sentiments expressed by leading officers of both associations, we think it quite likely that a few weeks hence we will have authority to style the MILITIA GAZETTE the official organ of these influential institutions.

COMMENTING upon the report started some weeks ago that Hon. Jos. Chamberlain was likely to become Governor-General of Canada, the *Broad Arrow* says:—"The story that Mr. Chamberlain has been offered the Governor-Generalship of Canada is a funny one, and is noticeable notwithstanding that it is totally devoid of foundation. The *Times'* Philadelphia correspondent evidently views Canadian *esprit* through Yankee spectacles. A man of Mr. Chamberlain's 'grit' might assimilate to American political and social caste. He would cause a social revolution in the Dominion, and for political reasons would break up the Parliament—perhaps lead to separation. A duke, who is nothing but a duke, is the proper material in these days for a viceroy." We fancy it would take something more than a "man of Mr. Chamberlain's grit" to affect the mental balance of the Canadian people to an extent sufficient to cause even the semblance of a revolution.

THE important announcement is made that the Minister of Militia, recognizing the desirability of arriving, if possible, at some definite conclusion as to the practicability of a defensive system for Canada consistent with the country's wants and present means, has recommended

the formation of a committee at headquarters to consider the whole subject. The recommendation has been approved, and the committee organized as follows: Lieut.-General Sir Fred. Middleton, commanding the militia of Canada, chairman; Col. Powell, Adjutant-General; Major-General Oliver, commandant R. M. C., Kingston, and Lt.-Col. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery. In each military district the officer commanding will report to the central committee on the state of the defences—if any—in his district, or the force which could be utilized, and on the resources in men, supplies, etc., that could be made available in case of emergency. It is proposed that the officers of the R. M. C. and a certain number of cadets shall be employed during the holidays to make a topographical survey of the country. The central committee will report upon the practicability of schemes for the defence of the Dominion which have already been presented, as well as suggesting modifications or recommending new schemes. It will also consider the question of the formation of torpedo corps and the places where such could be profitably stationed. The committee will report upon the several points which have from time to time been raised in connection with the question of Canada's defences.

GRATIFYING news the above will prove to the multitude of correspondents who have ever since the first publication of this paper been using its columns for the advocacy of immediate action in the matter of strengthening our defensive works. And the outlook becomes much brighter for the garrison artillerymen, for batteries of such will have to be organized and instructed in the duties to be performed by them when occupying these to-be-created strong places in time of emergency. As stated last week, one great reason why the garrison artillery force has been allowed to go down is that the Department had realized the uselessness of attempting to maintain the batteries without the armament.

IN a spirited letter to the *Broad Arrow*, Lieut.-General Middleton protests against the proposition to close the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, and takes occasion to pay the following compliment to our military college: "There may be improvements which might be made in the management and course of instruction at this institution [Sandhurst]—in fact, there is no doubt that there are; and I am not at all sure but that in this matter the mother country might not learn something from her eldest daughter, Canada, who has, in my belief, established one of the best, if not the best military college in the world, which is a big thing to say." The agitation against Sandhurst has fizzled out, as has that recently started here in the case of the Kingston College.

LOOK at the figures quoted in our Toronto correspondence this week, comparing the amounts annually granted by the Dominion government for rifle and artillery competitions respectively: \$17,800 for the riflemen; \$900 for the gunners! Of course the Dominion Artillery Association has received a good deal more than \$900 per annum for several years past, but only in the form of *special grants*, though even adding these the amount is still very small in comparison with that voted to the rifle associations. There seems to be no good