THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Third Year. VOL. III, No. 44.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 3rd MAY, 1888.

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

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Districts 3 and 4 combined.
National Rifle Association new regulations.
Rifle practice in the permanent corps.
A souvenir of camp Batileford.
Lord Melgund on the auxiliary cavalry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Deficiency of horses at artillery schools—A Chevalier.

Proposed concentration of artillery at Niagara—Short Course.

Another plea for paid adjutants—Imperial

MODERN TACTICS—(Con.)—Capt. H. R. Gall. Chapter IX—Rivers.

THE MILITIA PASTIME.

A "man by the sea" answers Smoothbore.
"Thos Atkins," of Toronto, on same.
An interesting proposition from the Pacific.
Rifle practice in the United States army.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8, of 27th April, 1888.

MILITIA NEWS AND NOTES.

MISCELLANBOUS.

Current Topics.

BY the militia general orders in another place in this issue, relative to the district changes, it will be seen that there is an important difference between the arrangements made for districts 3 and 4, and what we announced last week. These districts have been combined, and Lt.-Col. Van Straubenzie will be Deputy Adjutant General for both. He will have his headquarters at Kingston, in No. 3. The Brigade Major, Lt.-Col. Lewis, will be stationed in No. 4, but at Brockville in place of Ottawa as at present, as the corps at the capital will, as stated last week, come under the immediate supervision of the headquarters staff.

A FEW unimportant changes have been made in the National Rifle Association regulations applicable to the Wimbledon meeting in July next. One is in the direction of stricter attention to dress, as follows: "Whenever a competitor fires in uniform his tunic frock or jacket must not be unfastened below the highest fastening." Another makes it an offence to neglect to hand in an aggregate ticket: "In aggregate competitions in which scores at more than one distance, or in more than one competition are included, each competitor will be held responsible for handing in his aggregate ticket in accordance with the regulations laid down. In case of failure, he will be liable to a fine of 10s." The Spring General Meeting of the association is fixed for Tuesday, the 29th May, at the Royal United Service Institution. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the President of the association, will take the chair.

LSEWHERE in this issue there appears several letters on the sub ject of rifle practice in the permanent corps, which are well worthy of attention. While they establish that the ruling spirits of that branch of the force are fully alive to the importance of efficiency in shooting, they serve to emphasize the fact that the government allowance of ammunition is too small to permit the theoretical knowledge imparted to the men to be given practical illustration, except to an extent so limited as to be little better than none at all. It is out of the question to suppose that these men with no resources but their very small daily pay, will themselves purchase ammunition, as the volunteer militia do, and it is evident that until the government issues very much more than twenty cartridges per man per annum the men of the permanent corps cannot be expected to become good shots. In the United States the regular soldiers receive six hundred rounds each per annum; as against the twenty furnished ours. We should issue at the very least two hundred

rounds a year to each man in the Infantry or Mounted Infantry corps, and then we would have a right to look for a majority of sharpshooters in their ranks. The extra annual charge upon the country this would involve would be less than fifteen hundred dollars.

CLEVERLY executed and exceedingly realistic painting representing the pow-wow between Major-General Middleton and Poundmaker, at Battleford, after the Indian chief's surrender, has just Leen put on exhibition in the Library of Parliament. It is from the brush of Capt. R. W. Rutherford, of B Battery, Quebec, whose taste and skill as an artist have long been recognized, and whose latest work adds not a little to his already high reputation. The central figures of the painting are Major-General Middleton and the Chief, who are conducting their conversation through Interpreter Houri. In the circle of volunteers gathered about, there appear most prominently the officers commanding the several corps then camped at Battleford, including Lieut.-Col, Montizambert, of A Battery, Major Short of B Battery, Lieut.-Col. Otter commanding the Battleford column, the late Lieut.-Col. Williams of the Midlanders, Lieut.-Col. Herchmer, Mounted Police, Lieut.-Col. Miller, Queen's Own, Lieut.-Col. Grasett, Royal Grenadiers, Major Todd, of the Ottawa Sharpshooters, and a score of other well known faces. Those interested in the event which the paintrng commemorates, will be glad to learn that photographic copies of it have been taken, and may be procured for a trifle from Mr. J. E. Livernois, photographer, St. John street, Quebec. The largest size, 171/2 by 21 inches, well mounted, may be obtained for \$1 each, while the cabinet sizes are only 25 cents. These photographic groups form an invaluable souvenir of the brief reunion of the main and Battleford columns of the North-West field force of 1885.

ORD MELGUND, miliary secretary to Lord Lansdowne during the initial period of his term as Governor-General of this Dominion, has an interesting article on "The Auxiliary Cavalry" in the last number of the Nineteenth Century. Lord Melgund now commands the Roxburghshire Mounted Rifle Volunteers, the only branch of that arm still surviving. Having stated that his opinions on the subject "deserve to be treated with much respect," the Volunteer Service Gazette proceeds, in a notice of the article: "In early life he held a commission in the Scots Fusilier Guards, but he has commanded the Border Mounted Rifles for the last fifteen years. Moveover, though then only a Volunteer officer, he served in the recent campaign in Egypt (we believe with the Mounted Infantry), for which he received the rank of Major. So far as the Yeomanry and Mounted Infantry are concerned, Lord Melgund takes the same view that we have always taken—viz., that long rifles should be carried in place of carbines; that the uniform and equipments should be of a practical character, fitted for rough work; and that no attempt should be made to emulate the organization and training of the Regular Cavalry. He also, we are glad to see, agrees with us in deprecating the notion of turning our Yeomen or Mounted Rifle Volunteers into mere "Mounted Infantry." In fact, we only differ with Lord Mel-