THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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CORRESPONDENCE.

The MILITIA GAZETTE aims at being the recognized medium of instruction and information for Canadian militiamen and rifle shots. Communications on the subjects to which its pages are devoted are respectfully invited. Anonymous communications will not be regarded. No name will be published, except with the writer's consent. The editors will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

COMMENT AND CRITICISM.	MILITARY PUBLICATIONS.
The campaign medal. Winter amusements. Ambulance drill desirable.	Military Law—Major Macpherson, G.G. F. Guards.
A work on Military Law. The Harston-Henry rifle. Another rifle required.	PERSONALS.
The Gzowski artillery cup.	CORRESPONDENCE.
zho dzowski dreinory cup.	The tuque for winter.
THE HARSTON-HENRY RIFLE.	Honors for those who were at the front. A new service arm required.
Contributed.	
Dominion Artillery Association. A noodle speaks-Misty.	AMUSEMENTS.
~	REGIMENTAL NOTES.
SELECTED.	Stray shots from Montreal.
How to encourage young and inexperi- enced shots-II. Bisset.	Stray Blots from Montreal.
Mounted infantry-Col. T. J. MacAndrew,	THE TARGET.
Bengal Staff Corps.	Annual matches of the 7th Fusiliers' R.A.

NOTICE.

We have been sending the GAZETTE to a large list of officers and others who we thought were sufficiently alive to militia interests to wish to become subscribers, and while we have no intention of taking advantage of the law which enables us to count these amongst our debtors, we would request all those who wish to receive the GAZETTE in future to remit their annual subscription, and those who are not pleased or do not sympathize with the military force sufficiently to wish for the paper to notify us to that effect, and to return promptly any future copies sent them.

COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The Citizen this morning announces, we presume with some degree of official authority, that the Imperial Government have decided to defray the cost of the medal about to be presented by Her Majesty to the Canadian forces engaged in the suppression of the North-west insurrection. The medal will be of silver, bearing on the obverse an effigy of the Queen, probably from a similar die as the late English medals, with a coronet and veil, whilst the reverse will bear a wreath of maple, with a suitable inscription. Now that the winter season is upon us with its attendant indoor drills, the various battalions will no doubt form associations for amusements of different kinds as well as for instruction, and itwould be well that the formation of such organizations should receive the sympathy and personal interest of company officers. Much good will arise from keeping the men together as much as possible by other means than drill, and in no better way can this be done than by snow shoe tramps, athletic meetings, and such like. The battalion that takes the lead in all such matters outside their military training will always be found the readiest to perform their regularduties when such are required of them, and will pull better together when commanded by those who they feel take an interest in their welfare and are willing to assist them in carrying out any scheme. productive of harmony and goodwill.

The medical officers of corps seem almost an anomaly on drill evenings, and literally have nothing to do except, perhaps, to smoke a cigar in uniform and look on at proceedings entirely devoid of interest to themselves personally. During the approaching season, however, much good might be accomplished by a course of ambulance instruction in each battalion, and, of course, city battalions offer a much better field for such than their less fortunate rural brethren, both on account of the greater facility for getting the men together and also because they have access to more commodious premises in drill halls to conduct their work. Even if no opportunity is likely to present itself in the near future for the practical application of ambulance work, yet information gained in such matters is never thrown away, and might often be turned to much advantage in civil life. A short course on "Emergencies" might be made very interesting and instructive, and would be a decided benefit to many who are often in a position to render valuable assistance to their fellows in times of accident before the arrival of a professional man:

Major Macpherson's forthcoming book on military law as applied to the Canadian Militia, noticed in another column, will be in every way a desirable addition to our military manuals, while the catechetical form which he adopts is calculated to greatly simplify rather a hard subject. Every officer has, or is supposed to have, in his possession a copy of the Militia Act and of the Regulations and Orders issued by the Department of Militia and Defence, but very few have the Queen's Regulations, and still fewer have the Army Act and Rules of Procedure. By the Militia Act the force is made subject to the Queen's Regulations, and from the time of being called out for active service and also during the period of annual drill or training, and also during any drill or parade, &c., is subject to the Army Act and all other laws applicable to Her Majesty's troops in Canada. It is, therefore, very necessary that all officers should have a knowledge of what these books contain, and ; was the difficulty experienced in obtaining this necessary knowly that induced Major Macpherson to bring out the present wo-