

written, for the words, which are obviously intended to apply to the left guide only, read as if they applied to the colour party.

"Charging in line," and "dressing in line," have disappeared, and the next subject is that on passing obstacles, etc. Here the principles laid down in Company drill are to be applied by each Captain or commander of larger bodies. The whole battalion may have to break into fours, the word of command being as heretofore. In this case the company which is to direct should be named.

In forming into line at the halt from company column, each company proceeds as in company drill. Here there seems to be a difficulty. It will be remembered that in line there is to be an interval of two paces between each section or sub-section, and six paces between companies. In column there are no intervals between sections or sub-sections. Therefore in company drill it is laid down that in forming into line from company column, sections or sub-sections are to open out to two paces interval as they form. In the General Rules for Battalion Drill we are told that in company column "each company is placed at a distance equal to its own breadth and six paces" from the one in front of it. The six paces are required in the line for the company intervals, and no space will be left for opening out to section or sub-section intervals. The difficulty might be got over easily by providing that in company column each column was to halt at a distance equal to the front it would occupy in line and six paces, etc., or omitting sub-sections by increasing the six paces allowed to twelve. The words of command for forming into line are: INTO LINE; LEFT FORM; QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH; *Eyes front*. "The mounted officer of the rear half battalion will move to the flank of formation to see that the companies form correctly into the alignment." In this, as in all other movements, it is assumed that no markers will be used.

(To be continued.)

In a lecture given at Buda Pesth, Count Olivier Wallis, attached to the Austrian general staff, and whose duty it is to make the Russian army his especial study, stated the other day that all the Russian regiments on the German and Austrian frontiers—that is to say, a very large proportion of the entire Russian forces—are already in possession of the new repeating rifle, pattern 1891, with a bore of $7\frac{1}{4}$ millimetres. It is an excellent weapon, allowing of 18 shots per minute, and is popularly called the "Three Lines Rifle."

The French papers assert that the Krupp gun supplied for the armament of the forts of Roumania has burst at Fokchany, while the guns, newly arrived, were being tried.



R. M. C. Club Notes.

No. 2.

THE LATE CAPTAIN WILLIAM HENRY ROBINSON, R.E.

Quebec, April 19th, 1892.

A cable from the War Office and late English mail advices confirm the death of Captain Robinson, R.E., who was killed in action at Tambi on the 14th of March, while acting on the staff of Sir James Hay.

The following short account has appeared relating to the circumstances under which he met his death: "Freetown (Sierra Leone).—The fighting at Tambi between the English expeditionary force sent to punish the native Chief Carimboo for the attack upon Major Moore's party in May last, was of a very severe character. The British expedition, consisting of 150 men of Sierra Leone Frontier Police, under the command of seven British officers, left Freetown on the 7th of March, and reached Tambi, which is situated about one hundred miles inland, on the 14th of March. Tambi is a stockaded town of about two thousand inhabitants. The British force formed up early in the morning and commenced the assault at a quarter past eleven. The contest lasted over three hours, and the natives made a desperate defence. When the engagement was at its height Captain Robinson, of the Royal Engineers, was killed, and this emboldened the enemy to sally out from behind their stockades. In the ensuing melee Private Johnson, of the Frontier Police, was killed, and finally, at half-past two in the afternoon, the British were compelled to fall back, having five officers and twenty men wounded."

The late Captain Robinson served four seasons in the Sierra Leone Station, and had charge during the last year of important engineering works. He had a fine situation awaiting him in the War Office in England, and was to have been relieved this spring. He was only 28 years old.

Captain Robinson's relatives have received a communication from General Maitland, D.A.G. for the Royal Engineers, written by direction of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief, conveying His Royal Highness's sincere regret and deep sympathy for the sad termination to Captain Robinson's brilliant career, and expressing great regret on the part of the corps to which he belonged and on behalf of his brother officers.

Captain Robinson joined the Royal Military College, Canada, as a cadet on the 8th February, 1879, and graduated therefrom on the 27th June, 1882, securing first place out of a total of nineteen graduates, entitling him to a commission in the Royal Engineers.

He obtained honours in the undermentioned subjects:—Mathematics and mechanics, theory and construction of artillery, strategy, tactics, military administration and law, geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry, physics and civil engineering; and special mention in fortification and military engineering, surveying, military topography, and reconnaissance, French chemistry, conduct, drills and military exercises.

He was the winner of the Governor-General's gold medal.

In the death of Captain Wm. Henry Robinson the Royal Military College Club have sustained a severe loss, not only of a friend and comrade but of an officer who was thoroughly in love with his profession; and in view of his early promotion, the impossibility of the age limit putting a stop to his further advancement, and his industry and love for engineering work, his future gave every promise of a brilliant career.

R. M. C. No. 47.

Leaning against the south fence of Saint James's churchyard is a stone which formerly marked the grave of a soldier who died as heroically as he could have done in the field of battle. The inscription is: "Sacred to the memory of Private Charles Ansell, 2nd Battalion, Rifle Brigade, who was accidentally drowned at Orillia, on the night of the 21st November, 1849, whilst endeavouring to save a comrade from a similar fate. Erected by the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Battalion, as a mark of respect. Aged 20 years and 8 months." The detachment of which Ansell was a member was going to the Bruce Mines, where some trouble had arisen. They came to Orillia by steamer from the other end of the lake. Ansell was on sentry duty at night, on the wharf where they had disembarked, and heard a splash, caused by one of his comrades falling into an opening in the wharf. He promptly plunged in, and getting his back against the outside of the structure, and his hands on his knees, enabled the other to clamber on his shoulders and out of the water. But the bottom was soft, and his feet sticking in the mud prevented the brave rescuer from swimming, and in that position he was found, but with life extinct. It is not creditable to the custodians of the churchyard that the tribute to the memory of one who died so bravely for his fellow, has ceased to mark the spot where he was laid and the slab was placed by grateful comrades-in-arms. — *Orillia Packet*.