

VOLCANIC FIRE ARMS.—A specimen of these arms has now reached this city, in the shape of a Rifle, and two pistols of different sizes, with the accompanying ammunition. They were imported by Messrs. Workman & Griffin, and can be seen at their store in Lower Town. These arms are of peculiar but not complicated construction, and are perfectly finished. The ball contains its own powder, and the percussion powder, which ignites the charge. Ten of them are placed at once in the receiving chamber, and brought successively into the barrel just as fast as you can cock, and pull the trigger, and in a few seconds can be replaced by others from the pouch box. We have not tried one of them, but shall do so, on a very early occasion. So far as we have seen we are inclined to like these pistols better than Colt's revolvers. They are a little dearer, but have advantages which 'Colts' pistols do not possess—particularly for Military purposes.

FIRE.—On Thursday night the alarm of fire was sounded in the streets of Ottawa, and on turning out we found that it had originated in the stables of Mr. Robinson Lyon, the proprietor of the Exchange Hotel. The fire spread with furious rapidity, speedily attacking the hotel itself which was totally destroyed. Nine horses were burnt in the stables, four of which belonged to Mr. Lyon, who ran a narrow chance of his life, his face having been severely scorched, in attempting to save them. Most of the furniture was taken from the house and guarded by a detachment of the Ottawa Field Battery, under Lieut. A. G. Forrest, until removed to a place of safety. Another detachment was placed to look after the safety of Lieut. Farley's house and property, the roof having been twice on fire, which was the only set of buildings near in much danger, and contained a very valuable stock. This is an example of the use of a body of disciplined men, who when ordered will mount without hesitation to the roof of a house on fire, and guard exposed property, and that particularly in a town in which there is no police. Nothing could have been better than the coolness and good conduct of the men.

A very handsome subscription was raised in the City, the day after, in order to enable Mr. Lyon to re-commence business at once—he is emphatically a "brick," and the subscription shows what the people think.

THE OTTAWA RIFLES.—The clothing of these companies No. 1, Captain Patterson, and No. 2, Captain Turgeon, is now completed. Owing to circumstances these two corps have been longer in obtaining their clothing than most others, but when made, it has turned out to be in excellent taste and of excellent quality. Captain Turgeon's company have received their Rifles and great-coats, and are constantly drilling. The material of these corps is very good, and though they have been slow, we are quite certain that they will be sure.

BROCKVILLE RIFLES.—The Major Commanding this fine corps gave a dinner to the whole of his Officers and Privates, at his own residence, a few days since. Many guests were invited and the affair went off with much spirit, and soldierly good fellowship.

THE CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE has now reached every officer in the Active force in the Province. Very few of them have complied with our request to send in a description of the uniform worn by their respective corps.

THE OTTAWA FIELD BATTERY, has been out for "shot practice" three times lately, with both shot and shell, at long ranges. The practice was very good particularly with the shells. Owing to local circumstances most of the shot have been recovered.

We extract from some of our contemporaries notices of our Journal, which are certainly very complimentary, and for which we sincerely thank them. Our grateful thanks are also due to those of our brother officers who have already remitted their subscriptions, and we do trust that others will follow their example as quickly as possible. We feel very much gratified, personally, at the kindly expressions of good-will towards ourselves which we find in these numerous letters.

We have received a prospectus of the "Canada Military Gazette," Sporting and Literary Chronicle, which is proposed to be issued at the City of Ottawa, at 10s per annum in advance. It is to be devoted to the interests of the Active Militia of Canada, and is sanctioned by His Excellency the Governor General. Commanded in Chief. It is to be published by Mr. Dawson Kerr, and will be under the editorial charge of J. Haily Turner, Major Commanding Ottawa Field Battery. From what we know of the abilities of Mr. Turner, we are sure he will make a paper which will be in every way worthy of the support of the Active Volunteer Militia Force of this Province. (Pilot.)

"THE CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE."—We have just received a prospectus announcing the early appearance of the first number of a new journal under the above title. Considering that the Active Militia of Canada, now numbering some thousands of officers and men, should have an organ for the dissemination of scientific information on military subjects, and general intelligence of all official acts in relation to the force, the present enterprise has been set on foot, and we have little doubt of its ultimate success. Politics and religion will of course be excluded, its columns being devoted mainly to military affairs, interspersed with occasional sporting and literary intelligence. The editorial department will be under the management of a gentleman admirably qualified for the duties. Major Turner, whose experience both in military and literary matters forms a sufficient guarantee that the new periodical will be in good hands. It is published at Ottawa, where subscriptions may be forwarded and prospectuses obtained. (London Free Press.)

We have received the first number of a new journal, the "Canada Military Gazette," published at Ottawa City, and devoted, as its name imports, principally to military matters. It is a very neatly got up sheet, of quarto size, with sixteen pages of reading matter. With so large a portion of our population as is now embarked in the military occupation, it is of importance to possess a journal of this stamp, giving information on matters relating to the service. The first number gives a correct Army List of the Royal Canadian Volunteer Militia, with really a very interesting selection of news, and Correspondence on various subjects. If the excellence of the first number be sustained in succeeding numbers, the journal will have an extensive circulation. The compilation is evidently conducted with great care and accuracy. The subscription is two dollars a-year. (Montreal Argus.)

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"CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE, SPORTING AND LITERARY CHRONICLE."—Published at Ottawa, by Dawson Kerr. Terms—Two Dollars a-year.

Similar in style to the "United Service Gazette," this periodical is issued in the interest of the Canadian militia. If it be necessary that all the verdant virile saplings of sixteen summers should associate to learn the art of defending "mother country," then we grant the utility—the very great utility too—of the present publication, and admitting such necessity, we cordially recommend the "Canada Military Gazette" to the attention of our martially-disposed readers. The articles on practice and drill will be found valuable adjuncts to the teaching of the drill-sergeant, and if made the subject of study will give to military parade and practice the character of a healthful and scientific recreation. (K. News.)

"CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE."—Quoted. It seems, most expert to paraphrase the Military position, and to be a new work of this kind, just been published. The "Canada Military Gazette," Sporting and Literary Chronicle, is a new number, and contains a great deal of interesting information. It is a very neatly got up sheet, of quarto size, with sixteen pages of reading matter. With so large a portion of our population as is now embarked in the military occupation, it is of importance to possess a journal of this stamp, giving information on matters relating to the service. The first number gives a correct Army List of the Royal Canadian Volunteer Militia, with really a very interesting selection of news, and Correspondence on various subjects. If the excellence of the first number be sustained in succeeding numbers, the journal will have an extensive circulation. The compilation is evidently conducted with great care and accuracy. The subscription is two dollars a-year. (Montreal Argus.)

"CANADA MILITARY GAZETTE, SPORTING AND LITERARY CHRONICLE."—Sanctioned by His Excellency, the Governor General and Commanded in Chief of Her Majesty's Forces in British North America.

From Messrs. Hall & Martin, St. Francois Xavier Street, Agents for Montreal, we have received the first number of this much needed publication, and we think it comes up in every degree to what even its most ardent friends could desire. It consists of a sheet of 16 pages, quarto size, and is very neatly printed. It contains a table of all the officers of Militia Companies throughout the Province with the dates of their commissions. The compilation of which must have entailed a large amount of trouble. The reading matter is well selected and the editorials are well and ably written. We sincerely trust that it will flourish and prosper, we see no reason why the Active Militia of this Province should not support a paper entirely devoted to its interests. (Pilot.)

CIRCULAR addressed to the Army at home and abroad:—Horse Guards, Jan. 7.—In reminding Commanding Officers of Regts. that they are held responsible that in the dress and equipment of their Regts. nothing be adopted which is not sanctioned by Her Majesty's Regulations, or by special authority as an exception, H. R. H. the Gen. Com-in-Chief is pleased to direct as follows:—The tuft of the men's forage cap is to be dark blue for all Regts. of Infantry, except Light Infantry and rifle Regts., which are to be of the same colour as the forage cap, viz., green. Chin straps are to be worn—peaks only to be used on the stations prescribed by regulation. The forage caps of officers and men of Light Infantry and Fusilier Regts. are to bear the Arabic numerals, surmounted by a bugle or grenade, as the case may be; the officers' in embroidery, the men's in brass, as by pattern lodged at the Army Clothing Department. The knapsacks of all Regts. are to have the numbers in Arabic numerals, 1½ inches in height, painted in white in the centre of the pack. Light Infantry, Fusiliers, and Rifle Regts. are to have the bugle or grenade in white paint over the number on the pack. This does not apply to flank companies. Number-plates for the knapsacks of every Regt. will be furnished by the Director-General of Army Clothing. It is to be distinctly understood that there are only two orders of equipment for general parade, viz.:—1st. Review order—full dress, but without knapsack. 2nd. Marching order, when the full equipment of the soldier is to be carried the greatcoat folded at the back of the pack, and mess tin on the top, as shown in the illustration given in the Circular Memorandum, dated Horse Guards, Oct. 3, 1854.—The upper end of the knapsack should be on a level with the lower seam of the collar of the coat. The larger pouch to hang about four fingers below the elbow; the small pouch to be worn in front, on the right side. The bayonet to hang on the right hip, and not too far to the front. Without special authority to the contrary, the chevrons of non-commissioned officers are not to be worn on arms, except in the cases sanctioned by the Queen's Regulations.—By Command,

G. A. WETHERALL, Adj.-Gen.