

approaches, and that consequently his bullets will pass over him. This was exemplified in the British in their defeats in South Africa, where the large majority of rifles picked up after the battles were found to be sighted for 400 yards range, and therefore useless in firing at the enemy when they had crept up, as they did, to within 50 yards, the result being the demoralization of the British. Thus at Majuba Hill 600 British regulars were routed by a force of 450 Boers with a loss of 92 killed, 132 wounded, and 59 prisoners, with a Boer loss of one killed and five wounded. It is contended that this would be largely avoided if the soldier was taught to set his sight for all distances under 500 yards at point blank range, and to obtain the desired elevation by aiming over the object he desires to hit and to lower his aim as it approaches, as at the worst he would shoot low and get a ricochet shot.

The *Journal* of Oct. 17, 1885, editorially called attention to the statements of Lieut. C. B. Mayne, R. E., in his work on Infantry Fire Tactics, that it was a mistake to adjust military rifles so that a fine sight is required to be taken, on the ground that a soldier in action will always take a full sight, that the German system of a full sight is much the best, and that men should be taught to aim at the feet of their enemy.

It would seem from this affair at the Cheyenne Agency that both these views are likely to be correct. It certainly shows the necessity of careful training in "fire discipline," by which the elevation to be used will be designated by the officers, and the usefulness of individual uncontrolled fire.

### Discipline.

(Belleville Intelligencer, 8th November.)

A very interesting and instructive lecture was delivered last night in the Sergeants' Mess Rooms to the non-commissioned officers of our City Battalion, by Col. Lazier. A fairly representative number of the "non-coms" were in attendance, and from the interest evinced by those present these lectures will evidently be very popular. The lecture was on "Discipline," and was full of good wholesome advice to young men, both in a civil and military sense.

To make an efficient and well disciplined soldier, said the lecturer, all orders should be implicitly obeyed, not only to the letter but in the spirit. There are few of us situated so independently in this world that we have no orders to obey or duties imposed upon us by some one else to carry out; and upon the readiness and promptitude with which we carry out what is our duty to do, depends to a large extent our success in life. The Governor-General of this great Dominion, the Judge upon the Bench, the clerk, the artisan and the labourer have all their respective duties to perform, and their success depends upon the fidelity with which they perform those duties and in their readiness and alacrity to obey the orders of those in authority over them. An important element is the cheerfulness with which such duties are performed and the courtesy and civility exhibited in their performance. This element is most essential to any young man's success in life, and there is no place, occupation or amusement where these can be better learned than by a term of service in the volunteer force of this great Dominion. The volunteer not only learns those habits which are to be of much benefit to him in fighting the battle of life, but it improves him physically, sets him up, gives him a carriage and bearing he can acquire in no other way. "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well." Too many, in almost everything they do, perform their duties in a perfunctory manner, sort of machine like. No one will succeed like the man who discharges his duties not only to the letter but also in the spirit, who infuses into his work an individuality and shows in his every action a desire to perform it to the best of his ability, drawing attention to himself as capable of better things, and should the opportunity occur, he is prepared to fill the advanced position with credit to himself. One stepping stone to another till the goal of his ambition is reached. Anything you have to do, whether in the way of business or pleasure, do it with all your might, and strive to be first in everything.

The object of the volunteer force is a double one—one to assist the civil authorities when necessary in maintaining and putting down internal dissensions when they are likely to interfere with the peace of the community at large; the other to assist in the defence of our country, our homes and our firesides against any outside or attacking foes. The welfare of our country thus depends upon the efficiency with which we discharge our duties as citizen soldiers. The best disciplined soldier is he who most implicitly obeys all orders of his superior officers. Nothing has so much tended to establish the invincibility of the British soldier and make his name a terror to his enemies as his implicit obedience to orders. The most brilliant sample possible in the record of the world's history of this fact is the ever memorable charge of the glorious "Six Hundred" at Balaclava. Who can read or even think, without feeling the blood course more quickly through his veins, of that band of gallant

soldiers riding to certain death in obedience to orders, although they knew

"Some one had blundered  
"Theirs not to reason why;  
"Theirs but to do and die."

An efficient soldier is obedient to orders, respectful to his superior officers, attentive to his drill, silent when in the ranks, clean and tidy in appearance, with arms and accoutrements in good order.

The success of any regiment of the volunteer force depends largely upon the non-commissioned officers. They are the part of the organization that is in immediate touch with the men; and the success and efficiency of any company depends more upon the exertions of the "non-coms" than upon the officers themselves. For our own credit and for the reputation of our city, let no exertion be spared to make our Regiment as our motto designates us to be, "*Nulli secundus*," Second to none.

### Offences by our Regulars.

(The Empire, 12th November.)

The maintenance of the discipline of the permanent corps is an addition to the duties of the officer commanding the militia, and like every other interest in the country, is growing in magnitude. The force although small in number, requires as much work in connection with its discipline as a large one would, and supplies examples of almost all the infractions of military law, which are tried by court martial. The force is under imperial military law for discipline, and as the Army Act prescribes severe punishment for infractions of its provisions, the life of the officer commanding at headquarters is not in all respects a pleasant one. In the discharge of his duty, he orders all district court martials for the trial of offenders, investigates the proceedings, and confirms, mitigates, etc., all sentences of these courts. In every case of conviction the punishment is by imprisonment during periods lasting from two months to two years. The officer commanding, or the adjutant-general, at headquarters, have therefore to perform what appears to be judicial duties of an onerous and sometimes of an unpleasant nature. Instances of desertion are not uncommon. They are frequent enough under ordinary circumstances, but when the demand for labour is beyond the ordinary requirements the pay of men increases and desertions are more numerous, notwithstanding that any man may buy his discharge for \$2 a month of the unexpired portion of his engagement. It is difficult to determine the reasons for desertion after enlistment, more particularly as the penalties are severe if the man is arrested and tried. For instance, a soldier forfeits the whole of his prior service on conviction by court martial of desertion or fraudulent enlistment, or, upon his trial being dispensed with, on confession of either one of these offences; and he is liable to serve for the term of his original enlistment, renewed from the date of conviction or of the order dispensing with his trial. When convicted by a court martial a soldier in the Canadian permanent force forfeits his pay for the days he was absent before conviction. If the punishment is by imprisonment, then also for the day, he is under sentence of a civil court, or court-martial, or by his commanding officer. He also forfeits his pay for every day he is in hospital on account of sickness caused by an offence, under the Imperial Army Act, 1881, committed by him. One would suppose that a man would not desert or commit a military offence, rendering himself liable to such punishment, but many do desert and some who do so and go to the United States cannot return to Canada without rendering themselves liable to be arrested, tried and punished. Many remain there under disability fearing to return and undergo punishment. There are, however, some whose love of country is so great that they return to Canada, give themselves up, and confess desertion in order that they may be punished, and be re-invested with the rights and duties of citizenship, and the privilege of residing in the country. Some men who enlist do so under false names, and cases have occurred where men who have deserted from one corps go to another and enlist under another name different from the first, but these cases are exceptions.

The foregoing remarks are the outcome of a conversation which *The Empire* had recently with Col. Powell, adjutant-general. The veteran officer had just been attaching his signature in confirmation of a sentence of six months' imprisonment with hard labour, passed on a private in the permanent corps for stealing, and the question as to how the man's term of service would be affected by his imprisonment led to the foregoing interesting explanation.

Probably no modern medicine has obtained wider notoriety, within a given time, than the really wonderful SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. To sufferers from lung troubles we say: take no other. As all druggists sell it, it is easily obtained.