

present it to the people for their approval? Here is a rare chance for somebody, and the elections are at hand.

How the efficiency returns for field batteries came to be published without credit being allowed for the gun practice is one of those things no one can understand. Gun practice should undoubtedly be the most important credit for efficiency. How in the world can a battery be considered efficient if it is incapable of performing gun practice? And yet these very original returns pretend to answer the question satisfactorily. The whole thing is too absurd to believe. Talk of Hamlet with the young Dane left out! Here is a case of Shakspeare's immortal play with the whole cast left out except the grave digger's skull.

Canadians would have special cause for gratification if the Imperial authorities could see their way clear to adopt the suggestion of adding the maple leaf and beaver to the ornaments of the Royal Canadian Regiment, the old 100th. Canadians are as proud of the regiment with a Canadian origin as they are of recalling the loyalty and self sacrifice of the men who raised it, and they would hail with satisfaction the proposed innovation as a token that the regimental officers and the authorities of the Horse Guards are willing to recognize the true Canadian spirit which led to the organization and equipment of the regiment.

This is the season when the officers of regiments with any ambition to have their corps stand well in the shooting records, and desirous of making their men really efficient members of the force, would do well to devote as much attention as possible to the Morris tube practice. Perhaps this indoor shooting is not of much practical value to old shots, but it certainly is of the greatest practical use to men inexperienced in rifle practice. It is infinitely easier to accustom a man to the knack of holding a rifle and to give him practical experience in the adjusting of the sights, on a Morris tube range than in the field. When he is familiar with these most vital points in the art of rifle shooting, he has only the windage and variations of light to

bother him when he goes out to the rifle ranges in the spring.

The great beauty of the Morris tube shooting for beginners is that it can be indulged in with comparatively little trouble and expense. Rifle shooting is generally a most disappointing kind of sport for such men. They go out to the ranges with great expectations, only to find that while other fellows can make strings of bulls-eyes and inners, the best they can do is to make a nice clear score of misses. This is discouraging, but when they come to remember that they have wasted a whole afternoon, and spent from half a dollar to a dollar on ammunition and railway fare, the discouragement turns to disgust, and the offer of liberal prizes in the Maiden stakes can barely tempt them out to the regimental matches. So important, in fact, is the Morris tube practice that it is a pity the government does not see its way clear to encourage it in some way. Even if the Morris tube shooting did not take men out to the ranges in summer, as it doubtless would, it would be of great practical value. A good Morris tube shot, if not entitled to be called a skilled marksman is certainly better than half a dozen men who cannot shoot at all, and that is the case with only too many men in the militia.

We do not hear much now about the question of uniform reform, but it is sincerely to be hoped that the question will not be lost sight of. The present uniform of the militia is unmistakably very unservicable. One of the greatest difficulties, we really believe, in the way of securing full complements of officers for our militia corps is the ridiculous expense of the uniforms. Our crack regiments are not satisfied without they have just as elaborate uniforms as the swell corps of the regular army, with special buttons, badges, head dress and all the rest of it. And then they wonder why they are short of officers, as if young gentlemen could always spare from \$200 to \$400 to throw away on picturesque millinery which they would seldom have occasion to wear more than a couple of dozen times a year.

The question of good roads is

one which should be of special interest to military men, now that route-marching is coming into fashion. The request of the Ontario Good Roads Association for a large attendance at the annual meeting to be held at Toronto on February 8th should consequently appeal strongly to the sympathies of our readers living in the premier province.

A Welcome Letter.

We reprint a welcome letter received by us some few days ago, from an old subscriber:

DEAR SIR,—I beg to hand you the amount of subscription to the writer's copy of the CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE for one year, also the additional sum of 10 cents for a copy of the issue of April 15, 1894, to complete my file for the year. I would also take advantage of the opportunity of asking you to be good enough to mail the Gazette, if for 1895, from the first of the year to the enclosed address, and I will remit you the amount of the subscription thereof upon the 16th February next. In connection with this subject I must not omit to place upon record my opinion as to the vastly improved tone of the Gazette of late, and of its independent spirit as shown in recent articles; also the very great satisfaction felt by scores of officers in the force at the manly and forcible manner in which the interests of the force are now advocated. It was no doubt the truest of wisdom which removed the Gazette from Ottawa, where party and other subtle influences were of such magnitude as to completely destroy its character as an organ of independent views, or of worth to the militia of the Dominion. Yours very faithfully.

We need not say such letters are most welcome, and we are happy to be able to say they come to us rather frequently. The present management have spent a good deal more than the income of the Gazette to make it the readable, newsy, interesting paper it now is.

Cannot more of our friends help us in the same practical way as the writer of the above, and send us not only their own subscription, but also that of some friend or for their company reading room.

"We are in receipt to-day of a copy of a special edition of Gopp, Clark & Co.'s Canadian Almanac for 1895, printed for the enterprising corporation of H. H. Warner & Co., Ltd., of London, England, who are now sole proprietors of 'Warner's Safe Cure.' It is full of valuable information and reflects credit on the publishers as well as on the enterprise of the English Company."