

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.

VOL. VII. No. 29.
Price Five Cents.

MONTREAL, JULY 21st, 1892.

\$2.00 a Year.
\$1 50 in advance.

LIEUT.-COLONEL JOHN MACPHERSON.

Lieut.-Col. Macpherson was born in Lancaster, Glengarry, Ont., on the 8th of January, 1830, and was for a time engaged in mercantile life in Montreal. He entered the militia service, however, at an early age, and, finding the duty congenial and more in keeping with his natural gifts, he devoted much of his time to the efficient discharge of it. His zeal was recognized in 1849, when he received a commission in the 3rd Battalion of Montreal Militia. In 1856 he carried out the scheme, which he had long cherished, of organizing a Highland company, of which he was appointed captain. Soon after he was appointed to a majority, and in 1861 was made Brigade Major to the Montreal active force. In 1862 his sphere of duty was enlarged so as to embrace the whole of Military District No. 11. In 1865 he became Lieutenant-Colonel of Militia, and during the Fenian troubles of 1866 he served on the staff of Major-General the Hon. (afterwards Sir) James Lindsay. He was appointed Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of Militia and given command of a military district in this province. In 1869 he commanded Military District No. 3, in Ontario, and in the following year was appointed Acting Superintendent of Military Schools a position which he retained until the new threat of Fenian raids, when he resumed his place on the staff of General Lindsay as Assistant Adjutant-General. He, in 1870, accompanied the staff of His Royal Highness Prince Arthur to the scenes of action on the Missisquoi and Huntington frontier. After the excitement had subsided, he returned to headquarters, and for a time acted as deputy of the Minister of Militia and as accountant to the Department. In 1880 he was appointed to his present position of Director of Military stores and Keeper of Militia Properties. It will be seen that Colonel Macpherson's career has for more than forty years been one of uninterrupted activity in the service of his country. He has ably filled the position of Treasurer of the D.R.A. since May, 1885.

A NAVAL VISITOR.

H.M.S. "Pylades" left Montreal on 19th inst., after a short stay which was noteworthy for the absence of any official visit or courtesies extended by the Council of that city. Her Majesty's ships should receive prompt recognition



LIEUT.-COLONEL JOHN MACPHERSON,
Treasurer Dominion Rifle Association.

from the ports they honour by their presence, and it is anything but creditable to Montreal that such shabby treatment was accorded the vessel that has just left. Unfortunately, this lack of courtesy on the part of the Aldermen reflects on the whole city, and the officers and men of the "Pylades" will carry away with them the feeling that their presence was not appreciated—which is far from being the case. But it is one of the traditions of aldermanic life that when dollars and dinners are in prospect, all other matters must lie in abeyance; and it is rumoured that the former have been very plentiful of late in the lobbies of the City Hall. When Street Railway contracts are brought into opposition with courtesies to the Queen's ships, the latter are "not in it."

MILITARY LITERATURE.

We are glad to note that the *Glengarrian*, of Alexandria, Ont., is republishing in serial form that excellent *brochure* by Ernest Cruikshank in "The Battle of Lundy's Lane." Our papers should bring out more of this sort of wholesome and patriotic writing, instead of

as in many cases filling their columns with foreign boiler-plate trash. The *Orillia Packet* is another weekly that publishes from time to time most interesting articles on Canadian military history.

In this connection, it is odd to see in papers of as high standing as the *Winnipeg Free Press* and *Kingston News* portraits of obscure American politicians and military men,—no doubt very estimable gentry in their own country, but of whose career the average Canadian knows nothing, and cares less.

LOCAL MILITARY CLUB-ROOMS.

The establishment of a common meeting-room for the officers of each district would, without doubt, greatly aid the efficiency of the force. Toronto was taken the head in this matter, in the formation of the "Canadian Military Institute"—the excellence and utility of which none can deny. With rooms in which the officers may meet in a social way or to discuss some special plan, with all the service papers available for use, and with a library of military works probably unequalled in the Dominion, the Institute must necessarily materially advance military interests in the district, and to a lesser degree throughout the country. Montreal, with the strongest brigade in Canada, is much behindhand in this respect, and a strong effort should be