

them, because I intend to speak strongly about matters at Victoria."

"What about the equipments--saddles and so on?"

"I should think the saddles are very suitable for this country, for long riding. They look strange, though, compared with the military saddle."--*Regina Leader*.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The riflemen of Westminster are talking of a proposed friendly shooting contest between teams of 10 or 12 each from Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver and New Westminster. It is suggested that this should be held about the time of the fall fair at the last named city. The New Westminster men think that, they alone having travelled from a distance to have a team at the Provincial meeting at Goldstream, they can, with particularly good grace, issue an invitation to the riflemen of the other three cities to visit them in return.--*News*.

A prominent popular officer of the Dominion regiment quartered in Victoria, returned recently from a fortnight's outing in the vicinity of Plumper's Pass.

Being desirous of regaling his brother officers with a good mess of fish, he got up brave and early one morning and secured in the limpid waters around Provost island half a dozen small sturgeon, such as had been tickling his palate for the previous two weeks. He opened and cleaned the silver beauties in the boat, and was surprised to find that each of the sturgeon caught contained several small fish, which swam away in a most independent manner when cast into the water. While moralizing on the bad digestion of the sturgeon, and his being the accidental saviour of that fish's prey, he landed from the boat and strung up his catch in a shady retreat, prior to packing them away with green ferns in his basket. The richness of the fishes' liver permeated the atmosphere with succulent odors, and attracted the attention of a passing fisherman, who, with a leer in his eye, pertinently asked, "What have you got?"

Proud of his prowess with the rod and line, our martial Waltonian promptly replied, "Sturgeon."

The old salt's sides shook, and with an effort which preceded his collapse he shouted, "Sturgeon be d d; you've got dogfish."

The Garrison Artillery have been doing battalion drill under the direction of Capt. Irving the Adjutant. The recruits being put through by Sergt.-Major Munroe and Sergt. Blanchard.

A recent visitor to Victoria was Rev. W. S. Ball, formerly minister of Knox church, Guelph, Ont., and now of English settlement, near London. Mr. Ball is an enthusiastic volunteer, and has held a commission as chaplain in the 30th Wellington battalion of rifles for many years. During the last North-west rebellion he was out with the 7th London battalion, and wears the medal for that campaign.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Nos. 1, 4 and 6 companies of the 25th Battalion, headed by the 25th Battalion band, attended divine service at Trinity church, St. Thomas, a few Sunday's ago, an eloquent sermon being preached by Rev. Canon Hill.

The well known 52nd Battalion band of Magog gave a concert for the benefit of the Rev. Geo. Ellery Read, on the grounds of the Congregational Church, Fitch Bay, on Friday the 26th August.

Michael Gallagher, of the G.T.R., Stratford, who died on 16th September, from internal injuries received from a fall, was buried with military honours, he having been a veteran of the Crimea. The funeral was a very large one, and as it passed down Ontario street the pavements were crowded with spectators. The military escort consisted of firing parties from companies Nos. 1 and 2 of the 28th Battalion,

who headed the procession. The pall-bearers were all old soldiers, three of them Crimean veterans, and three veterans of '66, Sergt.-Major Roland, Quartermaster French, Colour-Sergt. Colter and Corporals Wilson, Gough and Blair. The procession halted at St. Joseph's church and the coffin wrapped in the Union Jack, on which were laid the dead soldier's helmet, belt and sword, was carried in. Rev. Dr. Kilroy spoke feelingly of the departed, paying a high tribute to the soldier who does his duty so well as to merit such funeral honours.

Major Reilly, long connected with the 24th Kent Battalion, died at his residence at Chatham recently, after a lingering illness. The Major was an old soldier, and went to Chatham with a detachment of the R. C. Rifles thirty years ago, settling there after his discharge. He was a man of genial manners, and was popular wherever known.

FLAGS IN MONTREAL.

OTTAWA *Anglo-Saxon*: "Is not your friend [the ORILLIA PACKET] rather sweeping when he writes of Montrealers not being quite sure what their flag is? We believe there is a splendid British sentiment in Montreal, though not offensively self-assertive, which will be found quite capable of taking care of itself should the occasion ever unhappily arise. The toady element, however, has certainly made itself unpleasantly conspicuous in this matter of the flag, and its acts are duly noted, though passed over with silent contempt." Possibly. But, for years we have noticed that on almost every occasion when hunting was displayed in Montreal, the Stars and Stripes and Tricolour were quite as conspicuous as the "Meteor flag," if not more so. When a prelate of the Reformed Church of England was asked why he gave such prominence to the republican ensign in his parochial entertainments, his reply was a two-column justification of the practice--in Montreal. When an Ulsterman was spoken to on the subject, his reply was, "Oh, we must do it in Montreal." Look through the files of that excellent publication, the *Dominion Illustrated*, and see how far the PACKET is astray in assuming that the people of that city are uncertain which flag is their own. That there is a "splendid British sentiment in Montreal" we do not doubt, but it is so latent and the contempt for toadyism so mute, "that the only sound she gives, is when some heart indignant breaks, to show that still she lives."--*Orillia Packet*.

LIEUT.-COL. GIBSON, 13TH BATTALION.

(See portrait, page 297.)

This officer, so well known in military and rifle-shooting circles throughout the Dominion, was born in the country of Peel, Ontario, on New Year's Day, 1842, and is the son of the late William Gibson, who came to Canada from Glamis, Forfarshire, Scotland. During the Trent excitement in 1861, Mr. Gibson enlisted in the University Rifle Company, and after graduating joined the 13th Battalion. Having attended a military school he obtained a commission in the same corps, with which, as lieutenant, he was present at Ridgeway in 1866. In October, 1876, he was gazetted as Lieutenant-Colonel. He accompanied the Wimbledon team in 1874, 1875 and 1879, and won high distinction as a marksman, in this last year carrying off the Prince of Wales prize of £100 and a badge. In 1881 he commanded the team when it won the Kolapore Cup. He was at Creedmoor in 1876, and commanded the Canadian team which defeated the Americans at long range shooting in 1882. Col. Gibson is a member of the Council of the Dominion, and has been President of the Ontario Rifle Association. He is also president of the Canadian Military Rifle League. He was in 1873 elected a member of the Senate of Toronto University and has been Examiner in the Law Faculty. In 1879 he was elected to the Ontario Assembly over Mr. Hugh Murray, the Conservative candidate, and again, in 1883, over Mr. R. Martin, Q.C. He is now Provincial-Secretary of Ontario.