

than is done at present. We are convinced that the companies and battalions will enter on their yearly course of drill this season with redoubled interest and rigor, and not allow their energies to relax at the close of a struggle which they have bravely and unflinchingly maintained against the close fist and unpatriotic. They will shortly reap the benefit of their sturdy continuance in the path of duty, and we hope that they will be found as efficient at the close of the season, which seems likely to be the last of the present unfair distribution of militia work, as they ever were. The distribution of the breech loading arms lately received from England, is rapidly going on, and before long all the corps will be provided with them. To become thoroughly familiar with the use of these new weapons, will of course form one main feature in the drill of the present year, and we trust that the men will repay the energetic action of the authorities in providing them with the Snider, by regular attendance at drill and earnest endeavors to make themselves complete masters of the best and most efficient use of these rifles. The alterations in the manual and platoon, as laid down in the last edition of the field exercise, are simple and easy to master, and it will require but a short time for the merest tyro at drill to become well acquainted with them; but let no volunteer think that this simplicity can be an excuse for his not striving at once to become acquainted with the new drill. The facility with which the breech loading principle is loaded, and the rapidity with which it can be fired, renders it in the hands of the practical soldier, a most effective weapon, but used by the untrained marksman, it becomes an expensive machine for the waste of ammunition. In supplying it to the men the Government have done all they could, and the use or abuse of it must depend on the individual members of the Force. The company and battalion, of course, can do much to encourage the men to attend regularly at drill, and stimulate them to practice at the range, but the men must set themselves earnestly to work to become marksmen, or they will never be efficient soldiers under the present system of warfare. While doing full justice to the energy displayed by the political heads of the Militia Department, we have no desire to overlook the valuable services rendered the Force by the Adjutant General, from whom many serviceable suggestions regarding it have come. Without a deputy, in whom he could place every confidence, and who thoroughly devoted his energies to his work, the Minister of Militia would find tenfold difficulties in the way of attending to the fair and legitimate requirements of the Militia, and without a Cabinet Minister who felt a decided interest in the Force, the most zealous Adjutant General would be able to do but little for its welfare. Fortunately we possess in these positions two men on whom the Force can rely. Colonel MacDongall knows well what is necessary for the maintenance of the Militia in an efficient state; and in the Hon. Mr. Cartier its demands will have a fearless and able advocate on the floor of the House. Let the Volunteers show by strict attention to duty that they are worthy of the confidence the authorities repose in them.

THE NEW DRILL.

We are indebted to Captain Dartnell, of the 34th Battalion, for a very precise and lucid explanation of the recent changes in the Infantry Exercise. Although we had carefully noted these improvements, and intended to give our readers a complete resume of the same, we gladly made way for our correspondent, as we are always delighted to open our columns to such communications from the members of the Force. They show that our Volunteers are fully alive to the importance of their mission, and indicate a practical knowledge of their profession which is highly creditable. Too much attention cannot be given to this all-important subject. The complete revolution in the science of evolutions inaugurated by the wonderful improvement in guns and rifles, demands the closest regard of our volunteers, and we are glad to see the officers of the Force so well up to their business.

THANKS.

We are much obliged to a city contemporary, *Le Canada*, for its kind and complimentary notice of *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW*. Words of encouragement from our confreres, while contributing in no small degree to render smoother the rugged and uneven path of the conductor of a speciality in the world of journalism, have the effect, also, of urging us on to renewed efforts in our undertaking, and convincing us that our attempts to aid in the work of mapping out a satisfactory system of defense for the Dominion, have not been altogether without their legitimate effect. We hope that in the future we shall still further merit the good opinion of our brethren of the press.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Subscriber, 'Wolverton. The Regulation size of targets are as follows: 3d class, 2 targets, bull's eye 2ftx1ft; centre, 4x2. 2d class, 2 targets, bull's eye, 2x2; centre, 4x4. 1st class, 4 targets, bull's eye, 2x3; centre, 4x2. The size of outers is not given, as that is merely the margin between the centre and the edge of the target.

A large meeting of the officers of the Volunteer Force of Ottawa and vicinity, was held at the "Queen Restaurant," on Thursday evening last, for the purpose of organizing a Local Rifle Competition.

Major Forrest, Provisional Brigade Garrison Artillery, was appointed Chairman, and Lieut. and Adj. Falls 43rd Batt. Carleton, was requested to act as Secretary of the meeting.

The chairman having briefly explained the object of the meeting it was then moved by Lieut. Gemmill, and seconded by Capt. May; That the following officers be a committee (with power to add to their number) to collect subscriptions and arrange the necessary proceedings for a Local Rifle match viz:

Lt.-Col. Wilby, Commandant of Ottawa.
 " Powell, 43rd Carleton Battalion.
 Major Forrest, Garrison Artillery.
 " Anderson, Civil Service Rifles.
 " Bearman, 43rd Carleton Battalion.
 " Seale, do. do.
 " Grant, Prov. Batt., Carleton.
 Captain Morgan, 43rd Carleton Battalion.
 " Perry, Garrison Artillery.
 " Corbett, 43rd Carleton Battalion.
 " Langton, Civil Service Rifles.
 " May, Prov. Batt., Ottawa.

Lieut. McNab, Field Battery, Ottawa.
 " Steele, Garrison Artillery.
 " McGilivray, Prov. Batt., Ottawa.
 " Mowat, do. do.
 Lieut. and Adj. Falls, 43rd Carleton Batt.
 Ensign Walsh, Civil Service Rifles.

The above committee of management will meet this evening at the same place at 8 p.m. precisely for the despatch of business.

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BELLEVILLE.

It is with deep regret we are called upon to record the death of Major C. G. LeVesconte, who for many years commanded the Belleville Rifle Company. This sad event occurred at his residence on Sunday morning, the 1st instant. Major LeVisconte was universally esteemed and respected, and his loss will be long felt, not only by his late command, but by the citizens generally, occupying, as he did, a prominent part in the municipal affairs of the town. In him the poor have lost a valuable friend, who was ever ready in his professional capacity to administer to their respective wants. His remains were interred with military honors in the burial-ground of St. Thomas Church, and were followed to the grave by the 15th Battalion, part of the 49th, the Firemen and a large concourse of citizens. The firing party, under command of Major Howell, was composed of No. 1 Company 49th Battalion, Captain Hambley (his late command), and a detachment of Grand Trunk Rifles, under the command of Captain Murphy.

Major G. C. LeVesconte was the third son of Captain Henry LeVesconte, R. N., and was born at Mardencombe, near Torquay, in Devonshire, England, on the 12th day of November, 1818. His grandfather, father and uncles served in the Royal Navy: the first as acting Lieutenant of the *Blenheim*, was in the action off the Dogger Bank, in 1782, where he lost a leg. His father, who had sailed with Earl St. Vincent and Lord Collingwood, and was in Nelson's battle of the Nile and Trafalgar, emigrated to Canada in 1835, but before coming to this place spent some time in Newfoundland. Shortly after coming to Belleville, the subject of our notice, who had passed through some of the preliminary studies for the medical profession, went into the store of Mr. E. Chandler, and soon afterwards purchased Mr. Chandler's drug business, which occupation he continued to exercise till within a month of his decease. Major LeVesconte's military record is shortly as follows: In 1837 he joined the 1st Volunteer Rifle Company, and was shortly afterwards promoted to an Ensigny in Captain McLellan's Company, in which he served during the Rebellion. In the winter of 1837 and '38, while engaged, along with Messrs. S. Bull, G. C. Bogart and John Breckenridge, in an attempt to capture the notorious rebel "Bill Johnston," the horses they were driving (which they had taken from Mr. John L. McDonald for the purpose) broke through the ice, and Mr. LeVesconte had to hold on to Mr. Breckenridge while the others went for assistance. While thus engaged he had his left foot severely frost-bitten. In 1857 he raised the Belleville Rifle Company, Lieut.