

RETURNED PAPERS.—In the last number of the *Military Gazette* we deemed it right to expose what we conceived to have been an injury done to the Proprietor of this paper, in the fact that a few parties had received seven or eight copies of this paper, and retained them, and then gave us notice that they did not require them any longer. We complain that this is unfair. Any officer who received the first number should at once have returned it, if he did not require it. We learn, however, from Quebec that one officer whose name appears in what we call the delinquent list, has been in England for some time, Lieut. Barrow, and is consequently ignorant that the paper has been returned. Some one, of course, must have been receiving it, and some one must have returned the seventh number; what could we at this distance conclude but that the thing was done by the officer himself.

Since our last the eighth number of the paper has been returned in due fashion by Lieut. Galbraith, of the Granby Rifles.

The *United Service Gazette* tells us that Corporals in the Life Guards, and Royal Horse Guards, are literally going a begging. The extravagancies among the officers of these Regiments are so great, that no man can live in them unless he have a thousand a year besides his pay, the consequence is that parents refuse to allow their sons to enter them.

HIGHLAND RIFLE COMPANY.—This company met at their drill room, on Tuesday evening last; a number of the members being in full uniform. Captain Moffat explained the reason of his calling the meeting, to the following effects: 1st, that a vacancy existed by the resignation of Lieut. Smith, which would have to be filled; 2nd, that the drill time had soon to be appointed; 3rd, that Colonel Askin had written to the adjutant-general, and was present, to state to the company what answer he had received. Colonel Askin then informed the company that the baron had communicated with him, stating that the Highland Rifles should be supplied with arms without delay, and but a short time would elapse, before that body would be placed in class A. The company, being dismissed, marched through Dundas street, to the tune of "The Cannells are coming," played with a masterly hand on the bagpipes.—*London Herald.*

THE BAYONET EXERCISE.—A musket has been at length prepared, under the superintendence of Capt. McLeod Moore, late 69th Regiment, for the practice of the Bayonet Exercise. The arm was altered to its present state by Mr. Lang, gunsmith, of this city, a young man of great mechanical genius, who deserves the patronage of the community. The arm is so contrived that when the lunge is made, the bayonet recedes, the top of it being also padded, so that the blow is as innocuous as that of a common foil. The expense of the alteration is trifling, and any officer wishing to have a musket altered, in order to teach his men the bayonet exercise, can do so, under our own care, by forwarding to us an old flint lock musket. The wire masks to cover the face can also be made here, by Sergeant Baird of the Ottawa Field Battery. The soldier who is to defend himself with the sword, or bayonet, should wear a thickly padded jacket.

We very much regret to hear that an unpleasantness has taken place between Colonel Bar-

row, of H. M. 10th Regiment, the commandant of the Garrison at Kingston, and Lieut. Colonel Jackson, commanding the Volunteer Field Battery. The facts appear to be these: Some time ago an order was issued by the Adjutant General, that whenever any of the Volunteer Corps in Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, or Toronto, went out to fire with ammunition, notice should be sent to the Commandant of the Garrison. The reason is obvious. It appears that Lieut. Colonel Jackson took out his Field Battery for shot practice without giving this notice, and that an unpleasant correspondence has taken place in consequence. This is all we have heard about the matter, and we do not feel called on just now to make any remarks, further than to say that we do hope and trust that nothing may occur to destroy the good understanding existing between Her Majesty's regular troops and the Volunteer Militia.

Since the writer took the command of the Ottawa Field Battery, although the Order in question did not apply to this city, he has always given to the Commandant notice of any Field Day, or shot practice, thinking it right to do so, as a mark of respect to the Queen's service, as well as to the gallant officer himself.

We have news from Costa Rica to the 7th ult. A wholesale desertion of 120 men had taken place from Walker's miserable army. He is hemmed in on all sides by the Costa Ricans. The deserters describe his enemies to his followers in the most harrowing language. He makes the sick fight while they can stand, and then, to use the words of one of the deserters, "he shoots them down like dogs, or leaves them to die of hunger and want on the waste." The 120 deserters were sent home to the United States by the Costa Ricans, and they have published a warning to their countrymen not to be deluded by the stories of Walker or his agents to go to Nicaragua to certain death. The Costa Ricans number 4000 effective men, in good health and spirits, while Walker has not 400 men and invalids all told. When Walker is disposed of, it is intended to partition Nicaragua between Costa Rica, Honduras and San Salvador—Nicaragua being a consenting party to the division.

The colors of the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Scots Fusilier Guards, borne by those regiments during the late war in the Crimea, were, on Friday, deposited in the military chapel adjoining the Wellington Barracks in Horseage Walk.

The Marquise-Dowager of La Rochejaquelein has just expired at Orleans, in her eighty-fourth year. This is the famous lady who rode on horseback by her husband's side throughout the war of La Vendee, and who even on one occasion commanded a regiment herself.

It is understood that Lord Napier, the new British Minister, has already had two interviews with General Cass, on the subject of China, and for the United States to take part in the struggle, which is considered the great contest of commerce and civilization in that quarter of the world. Lord Napier has also earnestly urged on the Presidents and his Cabinet the selection of Mr. Walker as a Plenipotentiary of the United States, and that he be despatched forthwith; and has besought Mr. Walker, as a friend to peace, free trade and civilization, to consent to go.

HEAD QUARTERS.

Toronto, 2nd April, 1857.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS,

ACTIVE FORCE.

No. 1.—The Adjutant General's Book of "Instructions for Drill" of the Volunteer Militia Rifle Companies of the Province is being translated into French, and will be issued to all Officers of the Active Force requiring it as soon as possible.

2.—His Excellency the Commander in Chief has been pleased to direct that the five Highland Volunteer Rifle Companies at Hamilton, London, Kingston, Toronto and Montreal, shall be transferred from Class B. to Class A., in consideration of their being fully uniformed and in all respects in a state of general efficiency. These five Companies may remain at their present strength, but it must be distinctly understood that no more than fifty non-commissioned Officers and Men per Company, exclusive of the Drill Instructor, can receive the 16 days pay per annum fixed by the Militia Act.

3.—The formation of the following corps is hereby authorized, viz:

CLASS A.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER TWO, LOWER CANADA.

One Volunteer Militia Rifle Company at Cap St. Ignace, in the County of Montmagny, to be styled The first Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Cap St. Ignace. The number of privates to be 43.

To be Captain: Walstein Bessé, Esquire.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA.

One Volunteer Militia Rifle Company at Montreal, to be styled The 9th Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Montreal. The number of privates to be 43.

To be Captain:

Captain and Adjutant L. A. H. Latour, from 9th Battalion, Montreal.

To be Lieutenant:

Sergeant Edmond Beaudry, from 8th Volunteer Rifle Company of Montreal.

To be Ensign:

Sergeant François Xavier Lanthier, from 9th Battalion, Montreal.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR, UPPER CANADA.

One Volunteer Militia Rifle Company at Peterborough, to be styled The 1st Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Peterborough. The number of privates to be 43.

To be Captain:

William Alexander Scott, Esquire.

To be Lieutenant:

Edwin Poole, Gentleman.

To be Ensign:

Daniel Sutherland, Gentleman.

To be Surgeon:

Martin Lavelle, Esquire, M. D.

PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, &c.

No. 4.—His Excellency the Commander in Chief is pleased to appoint Major Gamache, Commanding Volunteer Field Battery at Quebec, and Major J. H. Turner, Commanding Volunteer Field Battery at Ottawa, to be Provincial Store-keepers at those Stations respectively, from the 1st January last.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN, LOWER CANADA.

Volunteer Field Battery, Quebec.

To be Supernumerary Second Lieutenant:

Charles Panet, Gentleman.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA.

Captain George Smith, of the Montreal Secretariat Rifles, will be attached to the Commandant of the Active Force in Montreal, and perform the duties of Major of Brigade until further orders.

Volunteer Field Battery of Montreal.

To be Captain:

Captain A. A. Stevenson, from the Foot Company of Volunteer Artillery, vice Bulmer, who is placed on the Unattached List.

To be Second Lieutenant:

Staff Sergeant William Alma, vice Isaacson, appointed to the Foot Company of Artillery.