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OLD SERIES.	MONTREAL, 15TH AUG., 1892.	NEW SERIES.
VOL. VII. No. 21.		VOL. I. No. 1.

This number, the first of our new series, speaks for itself, and gives a fair idea of what future issues will be like. The Canadian Militia Gazette has blossomed into *The Canadian Military Gazette*—a change of name, small in itself, but one which considerably enlarges the scope of the paper. The Militia and its doings will of course occupy chief attention, all obtainable records of special parades, inspections, camps, etc., being published; while full scores will be given of all regimental and provincial rifle-matches. Due attention will be given to military matters of interest in Britain and foreign countries; and it is hoped to bring out a series of regimental histories of the various corps past and present of the Canadian service.

THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

In this issue we give the scores in the fourth and fifth competitions, and regret that the publication of the list of prize-winners must be deferred until our next number. This is due to the fact that several protests have been entered against competing teams, and until these are settled by the Council it is impossible to say to whom the prizes will be awarded.

DISBANDING INEFFICIENT CORPS.

The Government has taken a wise step in the disbandment of three corps whose usefulness has long since departed, and we trust that it is but the beginning of a general lopping-off of defunct or comatose battalions, whose mention in the Militia List has long given an inflated and false opinion of our military strength. The three first victims are the Toronto Garrison Artillery, the Gaspé Garrison Artillery, and the 18th Battalion. The first mentioned corps was organized in 1866, and at one time showed considerable efficiency; but its condition of late years is shown by the fact that it possessed but one officer, Capt. McMurich, and he, although gazetted over eight years ago, had never qualified. The Gaspé Battery was of more recent creation, and was not quite twenty years old; but although nurtured in a cold district it was tropical in its early rise to maturity, and subsequent rapid senility. The 18th "Prescott" Battalion dated from 1863 and bore the moth "*Paratus et Volens*"—the truth of the first part of which has, of recent years, been more than questionable. It is to be hoped that all three corps will be resuscitated under the new conditions which, we sincerely trust, will soon surround the militia system. It is not creditable to Toronto that its only battery of Garrison Artillery

should be permitted to become inefficient and be reduced, while Halifax maintains seven batteries, Montreal six, St. John four, Quebec three, Victoria three, and many smaller towns two or even a single battery.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TORONTO, Ontario, 21st July, 1891.

The Editor of THE MILITIA GAZETTE.

SIR,—Your new departure in presenting your readers with views and portraits connected with the object of your paper, must be highly satisfactory to your readers and the public, and I congratulate you upon it.

I take the liberty, however, of informing you that your strictures upon the condition of Fort Mississauga have lost their point owing to the action within the two years past of the Ontario Government, by which a sum has been granted for the purpose of putting the old fort with its rich historic memories into repair. Two instalments of the sum granted have been paid in each year, by which method economists and antiquarians are alike satisfied, and the fort now presents a promising appearance for peace and war. The floors have been put in and low platforms placed at small pent-house windows—excuse my ignorance of the proper military term—one in each side of the quadrilateral roof, and from each of these, delightful views of the lake, and of the surrounding country may be had.

New doors have been placed at the entrance of the magazines, the yards have been cleared and gravelled, the earthworks re-graded, and plots of flowers vivify and relieve the otherwise heavy effect of the solid masonry.

A person is put in charge, quarters for a small family having been fitted up within the fort enclosure, which is shut off from the outer-world by the old heavily-studded oaken gate.

Fort Mississauga has become an actual pleasure resort; may it ever continue so!

Yours very sincerely,

S. A. CURZON.

The Editor of THE MILITIA GAZETTE.

SIR, Your reference, in a late issue, to the possibility of a change being made in the situation of the Richmond Field Battery suggests the desirability of a second battery in Montreal. Should it be necessary to remove the the Richmond guns from their present quarters, I think that it would be better to bring them to this city and supply the local gap by an increase in the Sherbrooke city battalion.

Our present system of establishing isolated field batteries is one presenting many weak points.

The field battery, to-day, is merely the lowest artillery unit in action. Consequently if the need of brigading arises at any time there will certainly be a want of cohesion when the tactical operations come into play.

The Ontario brigade only two batteries after all—gives on the field ample proof of the advantages of the brigade system, and the benefit to men and horses of the putting into brigade five batteries at the Niagara Camp was abundantly evidenced at the close of the camp. I know that a second field battery could be raised in a few hours in this city and it would consist of many experienced men.

F. B.

On 22nd ult., the Government steamer "Newfield" sailed from Halifax for St. John, N.F., taking the advance party of the 40th Company Royal Engineers, for demolition of the ruins of the burned portion of the city, and to assist in reconstruction. The detachment consisted of one sergeant and fourteen rank and file, under command of Lieut. Edwards; they took a supply of gun cotton and all necessary explosives.