

of field and garrison artillery. The idea of garrison batteries, as of some penal settlement, whither might be shunted all who, from various causes, were deemed too slack or too lazy, to do credit to the more showy and more favoured mounted branches, is one against which, not only the good sense and intelligence of the regiment itself at the present day revolts, but which is assuredly unlikely longer to commend itself to the approval of the service at large, or of the long-suffering taxpayer, who is mulct so heavily for the provision of gigantic ordnance, round which fiercely rages the battle of the guns. Nor can armaments so powerful, and appliances so intricate as those now deemed essential, be calmly handed over to the guardianship of inspectors of ordnance machinery. The need of well and scientifically officered garrison artillery for the working of the guns mounted on our home and foreign defences, cannot possibly be exaggerated, and the twelve months during which the so-called long course of gunnery for trained officers extends, is in itself an unanswerable argument that the knowledge required for the adequate carrying out of such duties is neither easily nor speedily acquired. There is, however, yet another side to the shield in the well-being of the more favored branches also. What can possibly be said in behalf of a system, under which a man removed from the field to the garrison artillery, without any additional knowledge of field artillery service, acquired during an absence of some ten or a dozen years, may yet, rising to higher rank, be actually placed in command of the arm with batteries on service in the field. The case is equally plain where men after incessant service in horse or field artillery are as lieutenant-colonels first brought into contact with the garrison arm when placed in command of garrison artillery districts, and made responsible for the training of the auxiliary forces. What can any man, who has ever really wished well to the efficiency of either garrison or field artillery, urge in defence of such a system as this? With regard to the subsequent and further subdivision of the services, there is this much to be urged in favor of the regimental organisation, which obtains in the line and cavalry, that the nearer the system of the other arms has been approximated to in royal artillery arrangements, the greater the progress in military efficiency which has resulted. When the brigade system of 1859—for which the regiment had to thank the ablest organiser who has ever been at its head, the late Colonel Bingham—was introduced, it was announced that the brigades were to be considered regiments of horse, field and garrison artillery; and it admits of no doubt, that under that system batteries, field and garrison alike, attained a degree of efficiency which has never since been reached. The causes which contributed to the failure of working in the system itself need not here be investigated, suffice it to say, that the result of the existence of a quasi-regimental system for a limited period of years, with all the attendant disadvantages of constantly changing officers, pointed clearly enough in the direction of subdivision and the creation of unity, between which wholesome rivalry and emulation might be created. Arguments founded on associations with the past, or on the still more flimsy basis of dispensing patronage, are of no avail whatever when the well-being and efficiency of a most important branch of the public service is concerned, a branch also to which the other arms of the service are entitled to look as ever ready and able to afford them support and protection. With the proper solution of this question, many others round which the waves of controversy, and it may be, of calousy, have oftentimes raged, would also be laid to rest, such, for instance, as the more frequent employment of artillery officers in commands and in the general duties of the army staff.—*Broad Arrow.*

Regimental Notes.

Winnipeg.—The Winnipeg light infantry is drilling at the drill hall on Tuesday evenings.

The written examinations for certificates are being held this week at the school of mounted infantry, Fort Osborne.

The annual general meeting of the officers of the 90th Rifles will be held on the 17th at the drill hall at 20 o'clock.

Recruit drill of the 90th is held every Thursday evening at 20 o'clock. Quite a number of recruits are offering themselves.

Toronto.—The annual meeting of "I" company, Queen's Own Rifles, was held at headquarters, Toronto, on the 17th, Captain John A. Murray in the chair. Lieut. J. E. W. Ross and a large number of members were in attendance. The usual committees were elected as follows: Rifle—Corp. Henderson, Ptes. Cassels, Thompson; Clothing—Ptes. Anderson, Drynan, Rogers; Recruit—Ptes. Brown, Campbell, McHenry; Sec.-Treas., Pte. McHenry. The proposed English trip was discussed with enthusiasm, and in the event of its being undertaken the company will be well to the fore as usual.

The members of the city militia corps are forming an association with the object of endeavouring to procure the return of members to the house of Commons pledged to protect and secure the rights of the volunteers of Ontario. A mass meeting will be held in Verral's hall on Tuesday evening, January 25th, when a large attendance of members and ex-members of the city corps is expected. The matter will then be discussed and programme arranged.

For some weeks past the officers of the Royal Grenadiers have been arranging the details of a grand ball to be held in the pavilion music hall on February 17th. It is stated that the affair will be the most brilliant that has ever been held here. The Governor-General and Lady Lansdowne, Lord Alex. Russel, commander of the British

troops in Canada, and Major-General Sir Fred. Middleton are expected to be present. Admission will be secured by invitation only.

Ottawa.—On Monday night the 43rd Rifles' snoeshoe club held its regular weekly tramp, and in spite of the wild blizzard which prevailed, thirty-eight members answered to the secretary's roll call. At eight sharp the "advance" was sounded by the bugler and immediately the long line issued from the drill hall and across Curtier square to Elgin street. The club trail was followed as far as the Lees farm, where a turn was made towards the Rideau river, and during the succeeding hour and a-half the Fortythirders were treated to the stiffest cross-country tramping of the season, the number of hills, hollows and drifts being legion, and an opinion prevailed among the rear files that the president, who led the way, was possessed of a well-developed evil spirit. At ten o'clock the Temperance Coffee House was reached, the halt sounded and shoes unstrapped. During the past week a feeling of curiosity had spread through the club concerning the novel supper promised by the committee, but this was quickly set at rest when all had gathered round the festive board with ravenous appetites, the following campaign bill of fare, printed on brown wrapping paper, being handed to each man: Ration List—Pea Soup (ate wid yer fork); Pork and Beans (with hurricane sass, look out for squalls); Some Molasses (use your thumb); Put 8 o's (with blankets on); One Hard Tack (hit it with a brick); Mince Poi (what's bitin' yer); Tay, Kaughphy, Nightmares, "and sich." Bricks were placed on the table at intervals to smash the hard tack on, and the way the rations disappeared was a sight for quarter-masters and proved that good soldiers fully appreciate active service grub. When supper was concluded eight new members were duly bounced, and the Blazers' cotillion indulged in with such energy that a large section of plaster was dislodged from the ceiling of the room below. Music was now in order, the following contributing songs, etc.: Sergt. Grant, Corps. Clendinnen and Wills, Ptes. Abbott, Hennessey, Jones and Mills, and Mr. Doyon, captain of the Frontenac's, who was a guest of the club. After an hour's pleasant fun "lights out" was sounded, and the jolliest tramp of the year brought to a close. Lieut.-Col. White and Major Walsh were among the trampers, and being veterans at the sport came up smiling at the finish.

Mounted Police Items.

Regina.—There can be no doubt the N.W.M.P. have made amazing progress. Most valuable officers have been secured either by promotion, the way the present commissioner greatly favors, or by transfer. Captain Matthews, an officer of boundless energy is proving great advantage to the force.—*Regina Leader.*

On New Year's Eve the non-commissioned officers and men of B division gave a ball in the mess room of the new barracks, which was tastefully and handsomely decorated for the occasion with bunting, flags, etc. A large number of invitations were issued and accepted, including all the officers and their wives and many prominent citizens. All the arrangements were excellent. The cloak rooms were in charge of Corp. Donkin, the refreshments of Consts. Stilson and Eaton and the decorations under Corp. Nicholas. The band, consisting of Corp. Farmer, flute; Const. Weatherley, piano; W. H. Pingle, violin; and H. Hamilton, violincello, was very good. A noticeable feature of the evening was the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," by the company when the clock, striking the midnight hour, announced that another year was born. Then the dancing, which continued up till four o'clock, stopped for a few minutes.

Our Trading Column.

The cost of announcements in this column for each insertion will be **one cent per word for the first ten words one-half cent for each additional word.** Each advertisement will have a register number in our books, and all communications regarding it must be forwarded through the GAZETTE, but it must be distinctly understood that this office incurs no other responsibility or liability in connection therewith. Address, with stamp for return postage, **Canadian Militia Gazette, Box 316, Ottawa.**

FOR SALE.—Two pairs of new black silk stars for rifle tunic or patrol badges. Price one dollar per pair. Register No. 6.

FOR SALE.—Officer's Uniform, Lieut.-Col., R. Artillery. Half price, except a few articles bran new. List on application; all in good condition. Register No. 8.

FOR SALE.—Rifle Officer's Uniform; height 5 ft. 9 in., chest 37 inches; Tunic Mess-suit, Patrol, Nickled Sword, &c., cheap. List on application. Register No. 10.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Copies of vols. 1 for 1867, and 9 for 1875, with any remaining volumes to the close of its existence, of the *Volunteer Review*, formerly published at Ottawa by Dawson Kerr. State price, condition, etc. Register No. 11.



Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Midland Harbor Works," will be received until Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 1887, inclusively, for the construction of Works at Midland, Simcoe County, Ontario, according to a plan and specification to be seen on application to the Reeve, Midland, at the office of the Resident Engineer, Midland Division of the Grand Trunk Railway, Peterborough, and at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

Persons desirous of tendering are requested to make personal enquiry relative to the work to be done, and to examine the locality themselves, and are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. GOBELL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 24th December 1886.

N. McEACHREN,
MILITARY TAILOR,

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191 YONGE STREET - - - TORONTO.

UNIFORMS of every description made to order and everything necessary to an

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