

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF MILITIA.

COLONEL PATRICK LEONARD MACDOUGALL entered the army on the 13th of February, 1836, and rose rapidly, becoming Lieutenant 11th May, 1839; Captain, 7th June, 1844; Major, 9th February, 1849; Lieutenant-Colonel, 17th July, 1855, and Colonel, 17th July, 1858. For a short time he was Adjutant of the Royal Canadian Rifles, and afterwards rose to be a Major in the same regiment, and on the 26th of May, 1858, he was placed on the half-pay list.

During the Crimean war he was employed on particular service, acting on the staff of the Quartermaster-General. In May, 1855, he accompanied the highly successful expedition, under the command of Sir George Brown and Admiral Lyons, to the Sea of Azoff, and was engaged at the capture of Kerch. He was afterwards engaged in the siege of Sebastopol, and has received the Crimean medal and one clasp.

Col. MacDougall is one of the very few officers of the army who have been able to take a certificate at the Senior Department of the Royal Military College. This certificate can only be obtained by a complete course of study and a rigid examination in not only military subjects, but in foreign languages, and the holders of it always succeed in occupying high positions.

On his retirement from the Royal Canadian Rifles, he was appointed Commandant of the Staff College at Sandhurst, which appointment he held up to 1865. On the application of the Canadian authorities to the English Government for a competent officer to perform the duties of Adjutant-General of Militia in this country, which had been for a long time vacant, the Horse Guards at once recommended Col. MacDougall for this important position, and his appointment took place on the 5th of July, 1865. That the old adage, "The pen is mightier than the sword," is true, we can entirely vouch in the case of Col. MacDougall. Shortly after entering the army he published one or two pamphlets on military topics, and since then has made several valuable contributions to the field of military literature. In 1858 he published "The Campaigns of Hannibal Arranged and Considered." In 1862 he brought out an illustrated treatise on "The Theory of War," and two years later another work of great importance, entitled "Modern Warfare, as Influenced by Modern Artillery." These books were, at the time of publication, all favorably reviewed, and particularly "The Theory of War." A work in two volumes, entitled "The Life and Correspondence of General Sir William Napier," published in 1864, and edited by Mr. H. A. Bruce, M. P., has been by many attributed to the pen of Col. MacDougall, and we believe with some degree of truth. The editor, in his preface, states that the author had written it when abroad, far from works of reference, and that for private reasons he did not wish to affix his name to it.

Col. MacDougall is not unknown to Canadians as a public lecturer of no mean ability. He is ever ready to assist some charitable purpose, or to forward the interests and knowledge of the Volunteer force by giving either a lecture on some great military hero, or a rendition of selections from our most elegant poets or prose writers, in a style equal to some of the most accomplished English elocutionists.

Theoretically speaking, he is a thorough soldier, and his writings prove him so. Although he has not yet had an opportunity to display his prowess in an engagement, or his tactics as a commander on the field of battle, yet we are sure that should his services come into requisition, he would prove a gallant and able soldier. In his arduous duties as Adjutant-General of Militia, he has been placed in a very trying and delicate position. The sys-

tem with which he has to deal is new, and is one which has never yet been brought to perfection. The difficulties are numerous and almost unsurmountable; but evidently, from the manner in which he is endeavoring to organize our forces, he wishes to steer clear of those trammels of red-tapeism which are the curse of the British army.

Judging from the age that most officers enter the army, and the number of years Colonel MacDougall has been in the service, we would take him to be nearly fifty years of age, although he looks much younger. In personal appearance he is tall and of a somewhat wiry build. His face bears that pleasing but firm expression which carries respect with it everywhere. His eye is quick, and detects at once the missing small black button from the rifleman's tunic. In inspections he passes no one in a careless way, but minutely scans each Volunteer from head to foot. He proceeds in a quiet and unostentatious manner, and not in that hurried way in which many of those officers get through their work whom the government, a short time ago, used to despatch to inspect Volunteer companies, and who reported just as they saw them, without being in any way able to form an opinion as to whether they had made any improvement since their former inspection.

THE RECEPTION OF THE BELGIANS.

From the Volunteer (Eng.) Service Gazette.

Sir Charles Coldstream describes a truly English way of doing things, when he explains the absence of a St. Peter's in London, by declaring that we never felt the want of one. "If we wanted such a thing," says he, "of course we should have it. A dozen gentlemen meet, pass resolutions, and in twelve months it would be run up." It is somewhat in this fashion that our Volunteers are seeking to repay the obligations incurred by them last year in the magnificent reception they met with at the Brussels FETES. The first feeling of our comrades on returning home after their unwonted experience of foreign gaiety was, we will undertake to say, an honorable desire to make some worthy return for the generous hospitality they had received. The second was, not improbably, a certain uncomfortable perception that it was not in their power to offer any kind of welcome which should at once be as hearty and as universal as that which had been accorded to them. Certainly there were difficulties in the way which might well have seemed unsurmountable. The idea of *quo pro quo* could scarcely be entertained. If they sat down quietly to consider what it was they were called upon to repay, what the precise nature and extent of their obligation, it was at once apparent that strict imitation was simply beyond their reach. The interchange of courtesies had been limited in their origin, at first involving the riflemen of each nation, who attended the rifle meetings of the two countries, but subsequently they occupied a far wider field. Our detachment of Volunteers who visited Brussels last year were offered, and accepted, the most unlimited hospitality of the whole Belgian nation. The strict return for this would seem to be that the guests of last season should become the hosts of the present, and the hosts of last year should now occupy in their turn the position of guests. But herein lay the difficulty. How could the battalion of English Volunteers who went over to Belgium in 1866 manage to entertain the whole Belgian nation in 1867? To put the question in such a form would, perhaps, be "to enquire too curiously," for the obligation on our side was very properly accepted as of much greater extent than to the individual Volunteers who partook of the late festivities. The compliment paid in Brussels was no doubt paid to the British Volunteer force in general, and has since been largely acknowledged in that sense

by the main body who stayed at home. But it would not be doing justice to our allies to stop short even here. In honoring the body of our countrymen that were last year assembled under Col. Liudsay, the Belgians did not intend to pay respect to English Volunteers alone, but to convey through them a sentiment of cordial friendship to the British people generally. It is in this sense that those charged with the issue of a return invitation have determined to act. They have taken the largest view of the subject, and treated those receptions as a series of international courtesies, not confined to the British Volunteer force on the one side, or the Belgian Garde Civique on the other. Belgium entertained England in 1866; England is to entertain Belgium in 1867. Such, at least, appears to be the recognized principle of the Belgian Reception Committee. Here, however, the differences of our national methods of proceeding bring the two countries into contrast. It is obviously impossible to give our guests a welcome of the same universal character as that which they gave us in Brussels. That system of centrality and executive control which enables a Government to undertake an affair of this kind abroad, does not exist here. With us, in our insularity, such things are set on foot and carried into execution in the manner above mentioned, "Gentlemen meet, pass resolutions," &c. In the present instance this customary method has been employed, with every prospect of success. A few weeks ago we published a very long list, which has since been added to, of members of the General Reception Committee, comprising influential and active Volunteers in various parts of the country, as well as a few gentlemen of high position unconnected with the force. The work has been proceeded with in a practical and business-like way, by means of local committees, all of which, it is hoped, will co-operate with the central body in so concentrating the reception as to make it the more worthy of the country. It was of course necessary to impose some limit to the invitation, but it has been made wide enough to include "the municipal authorities of Brussels, Ostend, Antwerp, Ghent, and Alost, the officers of the Belgian army, the Garde Civique, and all others who might appear in the Belgian uniform," and it asks them "to honor England with their presence during the meeting of the National Rifle Association in July next." At present, it is calculated that about a thousand are likely to avail themselves of the invitation, and these will probably be under the command of the Count de Flandre. As to the festivities in store for our allies, it is not yet possible to give anything of a complete programme, but the following arrangements are spoken of with some confidence. A proper official reception will be given to the Belgians at Dover, and on their arrival in London they will be conducted in procession,—perhaps with torches—to places where they will be supplied with refreshments. Their steamboat passage between London and Ostend, and railway journeys between London and Dover, will be free of charge. Col. Buxton has liberally offered to entertain them at Fox Warren, and baquets at the Mansion House and Crystal Palace are also in prospect. A ball at the Agricultural Hall is also talked of, the cost of flooring and decoration having been offered to be defrayed by the company, without expense to the committee. Then, in the way of general amusements, the Alhambra, Polytechnic, Cremorne, and one or two theatres, have offered free nights, and omnibuses of the London General Omnibus Company have been placed at the disposal of our Belgian guests gratis.

What is to be done for them at Wimbledon is a branch of the subject which opens questions of an interesting nature, apart from the claims of hospitality. There is little doubt, however, that these claims will be as well cared for there as elsewhere. The Belgians are, of course, to be conveyed to and from the Commemorative Dinner free of expense, and the estimate of £200 worth of prizes to be offered to them is not likely