

## DOMINION OF CANADA.



## MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

## HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 28th March, 1872.

## GENERAL ORDERS (S).

## ACTIVE MILITIA.

1. Advertising to General Orders (6), 8th March, 1872, it is to be understood that the cancelling of No. 1 General Orders (19), 1st September, 1871, does not alter the rank or status of the Officers concerned, in their capacities as Inspectors of Artillery.

2. In reading paragraph 2. of No. 1 of General Orders 8th March, 1872, the words "Schools of Gunnery at Kingston, and Quebec (A and B Batteries)" to be omitted, substituting therefor "A and B Batteries at Kingston and Quebec."

3. With reference to a paragraph 3 of the same General Order, for the words "A and B Batteries," on first line, to the word "Batteries," inclusive on the fifth line, read "Schools of Gunnery, will notify Commanding Officers of Military Districts direct, whenever there are vacancies in the respective Schools of Gunnery."

The States and Returns alluded to in the same paragraph will be confined to matters of supply, except when otherwise specially ordered.

## Correspondence, Artillery and Engineers (Province of Quebec.)

4. Correspondence on all Regimental matters relating to Field and Garrison Batteries of Artillery and Companies of Engineers, in the Province of Quebec, (matters affecting clothing or discipline excepted) will in future be forwarded by Officers commanding Military Districts, in that Province, to the Commandant of the School of Gunnery at Quebec, in his capacity as Inspector of Artillery. This Officer will submit such correspondence as may be necessary for the consideration of the Adjutant General with any remarks he may think advisable to make thereon.

By Command of His Excellency the  
Governor General.

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel,

Adjutant-General of Militia,

Canada.

A MISERABLE SINECURE.—It is only right at the commencement of Lent to call Sir Charles Dilke's attention to the gratifying fact that the office of the King's Cockerer has been abolished. The duty of this official was to crow the hour each night within the precincts of the palace during Lent instead of calling it out like an ordinary watchman. The last instance on record of the cockerer performing his duties was on the first Ash Wednesday after the accession of the House of Hanover, when the unfortunate man got into sad trouble, for George II then Prince of Wales, being disturbed at supper by the cockerer entering the room and making an unpleasant noise to announce that it was "past 10 o'clock," imagined that some insult was intended, and was with difficulty made to understand that such was not the case. There is, however, reason to fear that the office existed for some time as a sinecure after its duties had ceased to be performed, for in DeBrett's *Imperial Calendar* for 1822, the "cock and cryer of Scotland yard" appears in a list of persons holding appointments in the Lord Stewart's department of the Royal Household. It is to be regretted that although the cockerer no longer exists, the practice of cackling occasionally like sillier birds than the cock still prevails in certain quarters—not only in Lent but at other seasons—and might be discontinued with advantage to the public service. It is painful to note that the observance of Lent by public departments is far less strict now than in former days. The Lord Chamberlain, it is true, forbids theatrical representations on Ash Wednesday, but the Admiralty and War Office make no difference in the diet of our sailors and soldiers during Lent, although by so doing they might effect a decided economy. A precedent for saving in this respect may be found in *Pepys's Diary*. On the 12th of December, 1663, he writes, "We had this morning a great dispute between Mr. Gauden, the Victualler of the Navy, and J. Lawson and the rest of the commanders going against Algier about their fish and keeping of Lent, which Mr. Gauden so much insists upon to have it observed, as being the only thing that make up for the loss of his dear bargain all the year."—*Pull Mall Gazette*.

It figures often lie, says the *Boston Globe* they as often reveal awkward truths. Take for instance, the conclusions forced upon us by the accounts furnished by the German *Feldpost* of the number of money letters transmitted to and from the German army in France during the period embraced between July 16th and December 31st, 1870. The sums forwarded to German soldier by their families are stated to have amounted to 13,440,000*fr.*, whilst the amount sent back by the soldiers to their relations and friends reached the enormous sum of 34,881,000*fr.* or about thirty five millions in round figures! The Germans are excellent fathers and husbands no doubt, but it may be safely asserted that not a twentieth part of this sum represented the savings of the soldiers in the field. As to where the remainder came from we have the pillaged chateaux and farm-houses of France to answer.

The population of the British Empire, including the colonies, did not exceed 12,000,000 in 1760, when the Third George became King. At the present time the populations in both the Old and New Worlds which speak the English language may be considered to far exceed 60,000,000.

It is reported that the ex-Prince Imperial of France will visit the United States next summer. He is now 16 years of age, and it is said speaks five languages fluently.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY.—ITS WESTERN TERMINUS.—The *Puget Sound Dispatch*, of January 15th, states that the western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad has been fixed at North Whatcom, at the mouth of the Nook Sakl river, twenty-three miles south of the British line, and about six miles north of the old town of Whatcom. A long narrow island in front of the town divides Bellingham Bay from Lunie Bay, and upon this island the company intend to build their depot and warehouses. The name of the place they will change from North Whatcom to Puget City. Much of the land between this place and the British line has already been taken up by the German immigrants, three or four hundred families of whom are already on the ground. Puget City has been laid out into blocks and lots of 20 feet front by 140 feet deep, which have been sold at \$100 each. Work upon the main line of the railway is to commence at Puget City in the spring. The road from the port of Kalama, on the Columbia river, to the main trunk has been partially completed, and the cars are already running on a section of 25 miles of this branch line.

A French paper, alluding to the rapidity with which news travels now-a-days, says that the other evening intelligence was received in Paris that the wife of a French diplomat had been brought to bed that morning of a son at Shanghai. To think, adds this paper, that it was three months before Paris learned that St. Louis had fallen under the walls of Turin, and that the accounts of the battle of Fontenoy, gained by Marshal Saxe (or by the Irish Brigade) in 1745, were not published in the capital till eight days after the engagement, though the scene of action, was only seventy leagues from Paris. The news of Austrelitz, fought on December 2, 1805, only reached the Tuilleries on the 16th of the same month, and Algiers had been captured a fortnight in 1830 before Louis Philippe heard of it. The writer might have added that news of some of the French disasters was much longer on the road. The news of the Trafalgar affair, for instance, travelled so leisurely that France knew nothing of the affair for months—that is to say the public. However, in the case of Waterloo the disaster, by some curious means never explained, appears to have been known in Paris almost as soon as the Emperor galloped off the field.

A new substance has recently been discovered by Aime Girard in the india-rubber of the Oaboon. When treated with a mixture of sulphuric and nitric acid, the rubber is transformed into a gummy, thick, and translucent substance, which thrown into water, precipitates in the form of flakes. The precipitate when carefully washed and dissolved in boiling alcohol, deposits crystals of nitrated dambonite, which are insoluble in alcohol, and detonates under the hammer. The new base, dambonite, treated with fuming hydrochloric acid, yields dambos which acts similarly.

The *Irish Times* foretells a Parliamentary vacancy namely for Talce, not that the O'Donoghue means to resign, but because he is said to have been offered the governorship of Madras, which Earl Milton has declined.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday, the 30th ult:—

TORONTO.—Lt.-Col. Darle, D.A.G., \$100.  
PORT HURON.—Lt. Col. H. W. Smart, \$20.  
KEWLETON, Que.—Lieut. A. E. H. Kimball, \$20.  
LACHUTE.—Ens. George Walker, \$20.  
SHELBURNE.—Dr. E. Worthington, \$15.  
HAMILTON, Ont.—Lieut. P. B. Beaman, \$20.