

TACTICAL TRAINING.

IN a recent address on "The Tactical Training of Volunteers," Lord Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief, said that there was a general tendency to confound tactics with strategy. When one talked of strategy he talked of science, but when he talked of tactics he talked of an art. It was very desirable that those who hold high positions in military forces should have a very extended knowledge of strategy and military history, from which the rules of strategy were derived.

Tactics, on the other hand, was an art very easily acquired, and related to outpost duty, rear-guard duty, and work of that kind. He believed any competent captain of a company could teach it to his subordinates, and he would even go further and say that tactical instruction might be given in a room. Of course, he did not wish to deprecate the instruction which was given in the field. On the contrary, the more officers of both the army and the volunteers who could go into camp and be taught tactics and tactical operations the better it would be for them.

IMPROVING IN DRILL.

It had been said that regiments and regimental officers were what the commanding officers made them, and he believed that to be entirely the case.

When he remembered what the volunteers had been and knew what they were at present, he could not but congratulate them upon having done so much in recent years to improve themselves. They had improved both in discipline and drill. He referred particularly to the drill, because it had rather been lost sight of in the discussion, and, although no one worked harder than he had done to get old-fashioned drills abolished in the army, he had always thought, and would continue to think, how great was the value and importance of drill. It was not only a discipline for the body, but for the mind, and taught men in the first rudiments of obedience.

UNQUESTIONING OBEDIENCE.

If he were asked what was the greatest military virtue—greater even than courage—he would say that it was unhesitating, unquestioning obedience. With regard to the suggestion that volunteer officers should be required to pass a compulsory examination in tactics, though there was a great deal to be said in favor of it, one had to deal with actual facts, and could not lay down in writing what he conceived would be the best possible process for imparting a knowledge of tactics. It was necessary to take volunteer officers as they were found, and make the best of the force, but, above all, he must not do anything that would injure the patriotic feeling which called the force into existence.

Instructors should take every opportunity of instructing the officers in a knowledge of tactics, but they could not lay down a hard and fast rule, and say that volunteer officers must pass an examination in tactics, or their services would be dispensed with. On the

other hand, however, where they got a bad commanding officer in a battalion, and it was evident that the defects of the battalion were due to the commanding officer, they must say to him: "Sir, you have done your best, but your best is not good enough for us, and you must go."—London Globe.

"JAMESON'S LAST STAND."

THIS subject, by R. Caton Woodville, is one that will appeal to the Anglo-Saxon race in all parts of the globe. The account of Dr. Jameson's famous ride is still fresh in everyone's memory, and Mr. Woodville has depicted the scene at Doornkop, nine miles from Johannesburg, where the Boer forces met Jameson's followers, showing the battle at its height.

The foreground of the picture is occupied by the British South African Company's Police, who, surrounded on three sides, are endeavoring to force their way through the Boer position so as to reach Johannesburg. A stalwart corporal of the Matabele Mounted Police, sponging rod in hands, awaits the firing of one of the seven-pounders. Beside the gun are troopers firing in various positions. In the centre of the front group are the four principal officers.

"The Doctor," in his fawn Newmarket coat, mounted on a spirited chestnut waler; Sir John Willoughby in patrol jacket of the Life Guards, on a fine roan horse; Col. White, wearing black military tunic and fatigue cap, and the red-striped pantaloons of the Guards, and Capt. Coventry, distinguishable by his khaki uniform and scarlet puggaree. Both he and Col. White wear the Egyptian ribbon.

Prints on India

paper of the subject will be published at two guineas each, and subscriptions for either artists' proofs or prints are invited. Henry Graves & Co., Ltd., London, Eng.

THE NEW COMPETITION.

The competition inaugurated by Lieut.-Col. Otter, commanding Military District No. 2, should be a popular one. It is one which should be carried out in other districts. It cannot but be beneficial. Some officers criticise the details, and because some of these details are not entirely in accord with their views they talk as if they would not enter a team. This is not a true military spirit. Let them support this year's competition enthusiastically. If experience brings out defects, no doubt the Deputy-Adjutant-General will willingly remedy them in next year's contest. We consider this competition of far greater value than the annual contests over the Gzowski and Smith Cups for general efficiency. They are of little practical value. They cause no end of worry and ill-feeling. The best companies are never sure of winning. No matter how conscientious the inspecting officer, he unwittingly gives preferences. In the Otter competition the best team is sure of winning.



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