

This reminds us that we have several valuable inventions in our office at the service of the military authorities—a piano-mitrailleuse, consisting of 50 rifle barrels in two rows, armour-plated, and fixed on four wheels. The piano-mitrailleuse is directed and fired by one man who sits or stands behind it and discharges it by simply touching the keys of the piano. Then we have a repeating rifle in which the butt instead of being made of wood is made of thin steel plate and contains the cartridges for the rifle. The cartridges are fired in succession without any extraction of empty cases being necessary. In our backyard we have a military waggon intended to convey infantry rapidly from place to place. This conveyance consists of a long pole on four light wheels. On the pole is arranged a set of padded seats with stirrups. The men to be conveyed will sit astride on the pole, and it is calculated that twenty men can be thus conveyed at the same time. We have several other things under trial, but they are hardly in a sufficiently matured state to permit of our describing them at present.

There is a very curious article in the current number of the *Contemporary Review*, of which we received an early copy, with the single title "The Army." The paper is anonymous. The writer is a pessimist of pessimists, and groans that the service is going to the dogs. This is far from being the case, nor does the allegation derive any support from the converse conclusion that foreign nations are ahead of us in military science. The essayist is evidently a philo-German in army affairs, and quotes *ad nauseam* the well-worn legends about Sadowa and Sedan, the mobilisation of the Prussian army in 1870 in from seven to eleven days, and all the rest of it. The argument, of course, is inferentially prejudicial to our military system, but what is the difference of mobilisation to the two countries? In Germany mobilisation is a mere affair of going into the next street, i.e. concentrating an army to cross the frontier of a neighboring power. With us it means mobilisation for concentration in a country three thousand, or seven thousand, or ten thousand miles away. Our powers of mobilisation are equal to those of Germany or any other foreign powers, and vastly ahead of their resources where transport abroad is necessary. We could throw an army corps into Scotland in less than a week, and if necessary could have a force of 30,000 men with a practically invincible fleet within firing distance of the sacred shores of Hamburg or Kiel itself in less than ten days. We have never been able to appreciate these comparisons between England and Germany to the discredit of the former as a military power where it is not men, but the power of moving them that serves the basis of atrabilious criticism. The writer groans also that our officers are below the standard of efficiency represented abroad, and he cites admonitory field orders from the pen of the commander-in-chief after some review. The malicious accusation is made that "if society could have its way officers would still be obtaining promotion by the fatness of their pockets and sentencing men to be flogged." The writer also betrays a superficial understanding of the causes of the flow of recruits which followed the introduction of short service. The real inducement existed in the concurrent improvement socially, domestically, personally, of the soldier's life in the ranks. We wish editors would leave army criticism to critics with well-ordered stomachs.

Although fire tactics will still have no place in the course at Hythe, in spite of the fact that they are a feature in almost all foreign schools of musketry, much will be done to further the strict and efficient practice of fire discipline side by side with careful instruction, which after all, is the secret of success with quick-loading arms.

This point should receive full consideration in discussion of the subject of the adoption of repeating rifles, for:—"If there is any want of thorough training in firing, combined with strict fire discipline and control of fire by all subordinate commanders, at least up to the battalion commander, troops armed with long-range, rapid-firing rifles will inevitably fall into independent firing at long ranges, when all the advantages of unity of action will be lost."

Most nations, therefore, only allow a rapid fire at distances of from 200 to 400 metres. The Germans alone do not lay this down in their regulations, for they appear to recognise the fact that "with well-trained infantry armed with a rifle of sufficient range, a flat trajectory and good penetration, the distance should in future play a secondary part. Long-range fire, both volley and independent, will be regarded as a fundamental instruction rather than as an occasional practice." Experimental firing, such as that at long distances, with special sights, night-firing, indirect and curved fire at concealed objects, etc., which has already been instituted at Hythe, will be more fully carried out. The latter kind of fire has of late been the subject of study, both in France and Germany, and if, when further developed, should have an important bearing on the principles of attack and defence.

Our Trading Column.

This column is established for the purpose of enabling our friends to exchange, purchase, sell, or otherwise advertise articles they desire either to acquire or dispose of. It is not available for commercial purposes.

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.**

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Rifle mounted officer's saddle. Describe and quote prices. Register No. 3.

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 Hot-water Heating Apparatus, Post Office Building, Hull, P. Q.," will be received at this office until **WEDNESDAY, 19th inst.**, for the erection and completion of a

Hot-water Heating Apparatus.

—AT THE—
Post Office, &c., Building, Hull, P. Q.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after **SATURDAY, 8th inst.**

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, 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, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, 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, 3rd January, 1887.

N. McEACHREN,

MILITARY TAILOR,

ALBERT HALL BUILDINGS,

191 YONGE STREET - - - TORONTO.

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

OFFICER'S OUTFIT SUPPLIED.

Send for List of Prices.

Terms strictly cash.



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.

TO ADVERTISERS!

For a check of \$20 we will print a ten-line advertisement in One Million issues of leading American Newspapers and complete the work within ten days. This is at the rate of only one-fifth of a cent a line, for 1,000 circulation! The advertisement will appear in but a single issue of any paper, and consequently will be placed before One Million different newspaper purchasers;—or FIVE MILLION READERS, if it is true, as is sometimes stated, that every newspaper is looked at by five persons on an average. Ten lines will accommodate about 75 words. Address with copy of Adv. and check, or send 30 cents for book of 176 pages.

GEO. P. ROWELL & CO.,
10 Spruce St., New York.

We have just issued a new edition (the 161st) of our book called "Newspaper Advertising." It has 176 pages, and among its contents may be named the following Lists and Catalogues of Newspapers:—

Daily Newspapers in New York City with their Advertising Rates.

Daily Newspapers in Cities having more than 150,000 population, omitting all but the best.

Daily Newspapers in cities having more than 20,000 population, omitting all but the best.

A small List of Newspapers in which to advertise every section of the country; being a choice selection made up with great care, guided by long experience.

One Newspaper in a State. The best one for an advertiser to use if he will use but one.

Bargains in Advertising in Daily Newspapers in many principal cities and towns, a List which offers peculiar inducements to some advertisers.

Largest Circulations. A complete list of all American papers issuing regularly more than 25,000 copies.

The best List of Local Newspapers, covering every town of over 5,000 population and every important county seat.

Select List of Local Newspapers, in which advertisements are inserted at half price.

5,493 Village Newspapers in which advertisements are inserted for \$41 a line, and appear in the whole lot—one-half of all the American Weeklies.

Sent to any address for **THIRTY CENTS.**



STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

Existing Policies \$100,000,000.
Invested Funds, \$31,470,435.64.
Profits divided in ten occasions, \$17,500,000.

Class H Policies are FREE FROM ALL RESTRICTIONS, the contract being PAYABLE WITHOUT THE SMALLEST DOUBT.

W. M. RAMSEY, Manager, Montreal.

Agents in every city and town in the Dominion.



CAPE BRETON RAILWAY.

SECTION—GRAND NARROWS TO SYDNEY.

Tender for the Works of Construction.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders for Cape Breton Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Wednesday the 12th day of January, 1887, for certain works of construction.

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the office of the Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the office of the Cape Breton Railway at Port Hawksberry, C.B., on and after the 27th day of December, 1886, when the general specifications and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms and all the conditions are complied with.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 15th December, 1886.