

brigade of observation on the flank of an army gains secret intelligence regarding the enemy, which is of vital importance should be made known to the commander of the force with the utmost despatch. He selects as his messenger an officer, a non-commissioned officer, and two or three troopers, who are not only bold riders and admirably mounted, but who enjoy a reputation for self-reliance and courage. The distance to be traversed is believed to be about forty miles, and it is known that small parties of the enemy's horse were patrolling a portion of the intervening country the day before. This is a difficult task, but one which cavalry might at any time be called upon to undertake during a campaign. Do we thoroughly prepare them in time of peace for such a duty? That only the death or capture of every member of the party would prevent the message from reaching its destination as quickly as stout hearts and fleet horses could convey it might be confidently predicted; but how infinitely more satisfactory it would be if the officer forwarding the information could rest assured that each of his messengers had been carefully taught beforehand the various precautions and ruses necessary to the successful performance of the appointed task.

A CAVALRY RAID.

Again, the commander of a body of cavalry receives orders to make a raid into an enemy's country. The distance to be traversed is considerable, and the time available is short. While keeping the primary object in view, which we will suppose to be the destruction of an important railway bridge, it is necessary to detach one party to the right and another to the left of the main road to destroy two smaller bridges, and for all three parties to meet later on at some given point. After the combined party has effected its object, the commander determines to attempt with a bold dash the capture of a large convoy of the enemy's supplies and ammunition, which is expected to be at a certain place on a certain date. To carry out each detail of such an operation at the proper moment, and in the most effective manner, it would be necessary for every officer and man of the detachment to be thoroughly acquainted with his work as a cavalry soldier. I would say, therefore, while continuing to practise the duties which cavalry will be called upon to perform on the battlefield itself, let us not lose sight of the many opportunities which are open to this branch of the service before the hostile lines stand face to face, and which, if properly taken advantage of, may in no small degree affect the final issues of the struggle.

CAVALRY DRILL.

At the commencement of his career the cavalry soldier should be thoroughly grounded, as at present, in the first principles of his profession; but, when once these preliminaries have been mastered, the drills should be made as instructive and interesting as possible. The steadiness of a regiment on parade would not suffer, I feel sure, if, in addition to being trained in the field movements laid down in the drill book, it were exercised whenever opportunity offered in the more important duties I have just referred to, or in work of a similarly practical nature, such as the rapid entrenchment of a railway station, village, or bridge, and its defence until reinforcements arrived. Every inducement should be held out to all ranks to learn how to scout boldly and intelligently, for on this most important duty the success of all cavalry action mainly depends, and I have sometimes thought that an annual challenge cup might be offered to the party, consisting of, say, one officer and twenty men, which conducted the best raid of reconnaissance, much in the same way as the chart and compass race is carried out by the enterprising members of the Behar Light Horse at Mozufferpore, and by the Calcutta Light Horse in the neighbourhood of Calcutta. I believe that such a competition would bring out more *esprit de corps* even than polo tournaments, and young officers might perhaps be tempted to spend their spare cash on horses instead of polo ponies. Whether this suggestion is acted on or not, I certainly think that cavalry should be taught how to convey a message to some distant point through an enemy's country; and to ensure full advantage being derived from such instruction, it is essential that, as at a camp of exercise, the conditions under which the troops are practised should as far as possible be assimilated to those obtaining in real warfare.

ONTARIO ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

The following is the prize list for 1892 :-

R.M.C. Cup, value \$50.....	
R.C.A., Firing competition, 9 pr. M.L.R.,	
1st. \$7, 2nd. \$6, 3rd. \$5.....	\$ 18
Cobourg G.B. Firing competitions, 1st. \$10,	
2nd, \$8, 3rd. \$4, 4th. \$3.....	25
Field Batteries Firing, Aggregate scores,	
1st. \$20 and Gzowski Cup, 2nd. \$20, 3rd.	
\$15, 4th. \$10, 5th. \$5.....	70
Individual scores, 1st. \$10, 2nd. \$8, 3rd. \$6,	
4th. \$5, 5th. \$4, 6th., 7th., 8th., 9th.,	
each \$3, 10th. to 15th., each \$2.....	62
Driving competitions. Three best drivers in	
each Battery, \$5, \$3, \$2.....	10
General efficiency, 1st. \$45, 2nd. \$35, 3rd.	
\$25, 4th \$15, 6th. \$10.....	130
Short Course efficiency, N.C.O., \$7, Gunner,	
\$5.....	12
Officer's Firing, Challenge Cup value \$100...	
	\$417

THE FLAG INCIDENT.

A recent issue of the St. John (N.B.) *Gazette* has the following sensible remarks on the action of a few Montreal artillerymen in ordering down foreign flags in that city on Her Majesty's birthday :-

The Boston *Herald* of yesterday contains a despatch from Montreal adorned by the following sensational head lines :-

AMERICAN FLAG INSULTED.
CANADIANS FORCED TO LOWER THE STARS AND STRIPES.
Flagrant Offence by Militiamen at Montreal—The Colours Were Flying For Decorative Purposes—An Informal Investigation Already Begun—Culprits to be Punished.
* * *

The *Herald* forgets that Canada is not yet a part of the United States and therefore it is an insult to every loyal citizen for a resident of the country to haul up the flag of the United States in this free country. In the past our people have been much too sentimental on the flag question. Our neighbourly feeling permitted citizens of the United States, resident in Canada, to fly the flag of their nation side by side with our own Union Jack. Unscrupulous persons took advantage of this friendliness and claimed that the people of Canada were only too anxious to enter into political union with the United States. Since this matter has been made plain to the people of Canada the United States flag is only hoisted from the United States consulate—where it properly belongs. If the pulling down of the stars and stripes in this country is an insult to that flag, then it has frequently been insulted. It is not a great many years ago since it was forcibly lowered and by militiamen too, from the house of a violent anti-confederate in this city. Then ex-Alderman Robertson mourns the loss of a Yankee flag which he hoisted on his grounds at Westfield on another Dominion Day. The men of Canada are tired of this display of the stars and stripes and now that the question has been so forcibly brought to the attention of our people, owners of Yankee flags will keep them in their coverings and not unfurl them. The Union Jack, battered as it may be, is good enough for Canada yet awhile, and this all traitors must understand.

GUARDS' RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The third weekly spoon competition of the Guards' Rifle Association took place on Saturday last. The spoon in the first class was won by Staff-Sergt. Armstrong. The following are the scores of 70 and over :-

Staff-Sergt. Armstrong (tea spoon).....	85
Lieut. Galwey.....	83
Sergt. Nutting.....	81
Col.-Sergt. Watts.....	81
Sergt. Short.....	80
Col.-Sergt. Mailleue.....	79
Drum Major Donaldson.....	78
Lieut. Tyrill.....	77
Pte. Ellis.....	76
Pte. Brammer.....	76
Corp. Rogers.....	76
Corp. Carroll.....	75
Pte. Tink.....	74
Pte. Clayton.....	74
Pte. White.....	73
Pte. Wiggins.....	72
Pte. Johnson.....	71

The following men won ammunition, as under : - Col.-Sergt. Watts, Drum Major Donaldson, Pte. Brammer and Pte. Brammer, 40 rounds each; Pte. White, Corp. Rogers, Sergt. Hogan, Lance-Sergt. Mailleue, 30 rounds each; Staff-Sergt. Cawdron, Pte. Clayton, Pte. Dawson, Pte. Haycock, 20 rounds each.