THE CANADIAN

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The enthusiasm of the reception tendered to the Infantry School Corps on their return to Toronto last week furnishes another evidence of the depth to which the country has been stirred by the North-west insurrection, and of the reality of the appreciation since accorded to the Undoubtedly Col. Otter and his command militia force as a whole. deserve all the attention they received, for if hard work and fine discipline are worthy of admiration they have never been shown more effectively than by "C" company since they left Toronto last March. We are pleased to see them back at their regular work, and pleased that the force will permanently reap the advantage of their large and varied experience.

The commission appointed by the Militia Department to enquire into the manufacture of Snider ball ammunition at Quebec met in that city on the 22nd October and continued their investigations until the 27th. The board was to have been under the presidency of Lieut.-Col. Gibson, of Hamilton, but he was, unfortunately, prevented from attending, and Capt. Perley, H.Q.S., acted in his stead. The remaining members of the commission were Dr. Bayne, professor of chemistry, &c., at the R.M.C., Capt. Adam, 13th Batt., Capt. Hood, Royal Scots, and Capt. Würtele, 8th Royal Rifles. They made an examination of the manufacture of the shells, bullets and caps, and of the filling of cartridges, and tested them with the chronograph, by firing from fixed

rests, and also from the shoulder at the Levis range. The investigations are yet far from complete, but we feel sure from what has already been done, as well as from the composition of the commission, that they will reach the root of all the complaints that have been made against the quality of the home made animunition.

Should not some provision be made for the instruction of mounted officers of infantry corps in riding ; or, to put the question more strongly, should they not all be compelled to qualify in equitation? We do not wish to insinuate that the whole of our mounted officers are bad riders, or even that the numerous accidents that have befallen this portion of the force are mainly due to their awkwardness, but nevertheless it must be patent to all observers that some of them look and feel anything but at home in the saddle, and on active service their usefulness would, to. a great extent, be proportional to their skill as riders. Now that we have a cavalry school at Quebec and a school of mounted infantry at Winnipeg, it would seem an easy matter for the Militia Department to perfect arrangements to give, to at least the five mounted officers of each battalion, a course of riding lessons-not a regular cavalry course. but a short course specially adapted to their needs, and sufficient, at least, to teach them how to make a creditable appearance on parade.

Akin to this is the question of proper furnishings for officers' horses. The regulations are plain enough on the subject, but the regulations are not carried out, and we see in brigade camps as many varieties of bits, bridles, saddles and girths, as in years gone by we used to see of swords. Some of our correspondents have maintained very strongly that a man should not take a commission in the militia unless he was in a position to provide himself with proper uniform, and if this holds good for subalterns respecting their personal outfit it should have much more force with regard to the whole of a field officer's equipment, and it is our opinion that none should be gazetted unless it were certain that he would undertake the expense of so providing himself,

A meeting of the council of the Dominion Rifle Association has been called for the eleventh instant to consider the advisability of immediately issuing Martini-Henry rifles for practice to the members of next year's Wimbledon team, as well as for other business. It may be as well to explain that there is no difference of opinion as to the desirability of issuing rifles to the new Wimbledon team at as early a date as possible, but in consequence of the action affecting a period beyond the term of office of the present executive, it has been deemed preferable to submit the question to the whole council.

The following, from a new subscriber in the Maritime Provinces, is but a sample of the letters we are frequently receiving :-- "I am much pleased with the Gazetie, and hoje in a few days to send you the amount due from my quota of subscribers. Publishing all the scores from all places as you do enables us to see each other's work, and I hope to see several changes introduced at our own provincial meeting next year based upon some of the matches in your paper." To all our friends we would say that they can aid us materially by getting up lists of subscribers and sending them in promptly.

Col. Knollys' remarks on tactics show, if they show nothing else, the confusion into which a vigorous advance to the attack will throw even the best drilled troops, and the difficulty that often occurs in exercising command over them and separating bodies into their integral parts after a fight; all of which lends strength to our argument that good shooting is more important than precision in drill. We have passed through a long era in which excellence in the manual exercise and in marching past seemed to be the only ambition of our volunteer commanders. Let us hope we have entered on a new and more practical one. It seems useless, too, to spend too much time on the field exercises at an epoch when everything points to further and radical changes being made in the mode of attack, where the superiority of weapons calls for the least possible exposure of the fighting line and a ready means of quickly reinforcing it at the critical moment. For these reasons Col. Knollys' article is specially worthy of study.

The Amherst Gamette is publishing, from the collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society, extracts from the journal of General John Winslow, who had command of the British troops in New England in the old colonial days, circa 1755. They form very interesting reading, despite the quaint diction and spelling, recalling many of the events which led to the revolution, as well as constituting a valuable addition to our records of early colonial history.

Lieut.-Col. Worsley, who has been brigade major since 1870, and who is at present stationed in Montreal, has received a well-deserved promotion by his appointment to the deputy adjutant generalship of the Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island military districts, made vacant by Lieut.-Col. Taylor's removal to command the Mounted Infantry School at Winnipeg. Col. Worsley was for many years in the 60th Rifles, leaving the regular army with the rank of captain, and used to be an excellent rifle shot. He is so favorably known in Montreal, and has had so long a staff experience, that we feel sure he will be appreciated by our Maritime confreres.

The militia general orders this week contain the official report of the memorable trip of the *Northcote* down the South Saskatchewan past Batoche, which is substantially the same as the descriptions published at the time by the newspapers. It will be noticed that the names of Mr. Bedson and Captain Wise are specially mentioned.

All the other changes in the militia list are in the lower ranks, and this part of the orders is brief, summing up five promotions, three new appartments, and six retirements, leaving a net loss of three officers.

REFLECTIONS ON TACTICS.

BY COLONEL W. W. KNOLLYS.

In Germany the question of tactics best suited to the modern conditions of war has probably been more carefully studied than in any other country. We imagine, however, that most of the chief German authorities would frankly admit that the subject is, with regard to some of its parts, at all events, still in an experimental state. To us it seems that during the last ten years little progress has been made. The Franco-German war swept away both the close order line and the battalion column. The Germans still clung to the company column some what, but in the course of a few years became gradually convinced that even the latter order was unsuitable within the zone of effective rifle fire. The Russians in the Russo-Turkish war, as a rule, handled their infantry in a rather coarse manner, still, on most occasions hurling that arm against

the enemy in masses of more or less size. The only lesson, indeed, to be learnt from that war was that afforded by Skoboleff, who taught and practised the doctrine that in the actual assault of a strong position successive masses of troops should be sent forward, each following wave carrying the general tide a little further. This method, which proved successful at Plevna, is no doubt sound, and sometimes it is the only one that can be applied. It is not, however, the solution of the whole problem of infantry tactics. Indeed, it is but the application of mere brute force if carried out on a large scale, involves a fearful loss of life, and requires for success, at all events, a large local numerical superiority. It is one of the blows which may be delivered, but is not the only one.

Since the termination of the Russo-Turkish war the only illustrations of any progress or modification of ideas have taken place at peace manœuvres. Of such as have taken place in England, France and Italy the writer of this article can speak from personal knowledge, but in the case of the manœuvres of other countries only from the perusal of newspaper reports. Speaking generally, the tendency of most armies seems to be to cover too much ground in proportion to the number of troops, while in the German army one great object aimed at seems to be to obtain an enveloping fire. The result of the almost universal practice of spreading troops excessively is to render it impossible to give sufficient consistency to the line, to provide adequate supports and reserves, to collect rapidly a sufficiently strong body of troops to deal or ward off a heavy blow, or to make a vigorous counter attack at precisely the right moment. Moreover, the sound principle that command should extend over depth rather than length is violated, the troops broken up into small scattered fractions are apt to work for local racher than general purposes, to fail to combine their action in short, and the senior lose all control over their junior officers. Of course, when a body of infantry are once in the actual firing line, and closely engaged with the enemy, the chances are, save under special circumstances and conditions of ground, that the only thing the commander of each fraction of such fighting line can do is to induce his men to stand fast, to advance straight to their front, or to advance with a slight obliquity of direction to either right or left. Practically, he can restrain his men from running away, induce them to advance, and that is all. As for the company chief, if with the company supports or reserves, he can, to a certain extent, control these, but only up to the moment of their joining the firing line. The battalion commander in theory palls the strings which guide the companies, but in practice has little authority over any but the body with which he posts himself as soon as his command has been broken up for attack; the very amount of space covered is an almost insuperable obstacle to control. The regimental, or in our army, the brigade commander, for a foreign regiment of three battalions may be considered to correspond with a British brigade, has, of course, still less control, while, as to officers commanding larger bodies than three battalions, they can initiate an attack ; but having done this, and placed his men in actual contact with the enemy, his functions practically cease for the time. In many cases, impatient at being even for the moment cyphers, he attaches himself to a particular portion of his command, thus ignoring the immediate commander of that portion, and losing even the shadow of control over the entire body.

To sum up the results of the prevalent method of fighting at manœuvres, they amount to the various tactical sub-units getting thoroughly out of the hand of the commander of the next higher group. But allowing that this scrambling disjointed method of fighting proves a success so far that the enemy are driven from the whole, or a portion of the position, what happens then? The senior officer on the spot, if under the circumstances and the present system it can be ascortained who he is, should at once direct his attention to two matters-one the repelling of a counter attack while his men are necessarily in a state of confusion, the other the following up, if thought desirable, of the success already gained. For the former purpose, at all events, it is imperative that order should be restored in at least a portion of the force. Companies should be got together, and, as far as possible, formed into battalions. This is the minimum that should be attempted, but it is likewise desirable to separate brigades and divisions from each other. How often during the Franco-Prussian war do we find that after capturing a position, especially if it happened to be a wood, it took the Germans a considerable time, twenty minutes, or half an hour even in some instances to disentangle the fragments of the different battalions, regiments, brigades, and even divisions. It would have been bad enough if the enemy had made a counter attack on the breathless and disorganized mass before the attempt to reduce it to order; but how much worse would it have been had an attack taken place when the process of disentanglement was taking place ?

With long thin lines, and command extending over length rather than depth, it may very well happen that the whole of one supporting brigade may get mixed up with the whole of a leading brigade, in taddition to the temporary mingling of two regiments of the same brigade, and naturally the edges of divisions and brigades fighting alongside each other will sometimes overlap. That is unavoidable; but if the troops be otherwise well in hand it will soon and easily be remedied. Still, under any circumstances, there must be confusion and mixing up of men belonging to different companies, battalions, &c. We admit so much frankly, but we contend that by a judicious system the evil may be reduced to a minimum and kept to a certain extent under control. On the other hand we maintain that the long thin order of battle, with command extending over length rather than breadth, tends to add to this evil as well as to produce other bad consequences.

It is astonishing how much words influence things, and an illustration is afforded by the existing system of tactics. We apply the term "reinforce" to two different processes. One is that of strengthening a firing line by bringing up another line, melting the two lines and fusing them. The other is that of interpolating in the firing line fragments of another line in rear, the interpolated fragments retaining their homogeneity. To our thinking the former method is only advisable in the case of portions of the same company, and only to be tolerated in the case of two companies of the same battalion. The term reinforce being used indifferently for both processes, it has seemed, probably, to many unimportant as to which should be adopted. We would suggest that the phrase "thicken the line" should be employed in case of a fusion, and the word "reinforce" be reserved for thrusting homogeneous fragments into the firing line.

As we have said above, we hold it to be of the highest importance that each officer should retain the control of those under his command as long as possible, and that he should not sink into a mere cypher or an example of personal courage until the last section should have been absorbed into the actual firing line. We by no means wish to see a major general interfering with a colonel, or a colonel with a captain. Till lately there was too much of that, and it is desirable that an officer, on being given a certain task, should be allowed to work out all details himself. Still, if the bartalion once formed into order of attack is to feel no longer the hand of its chief, the latter may just as well, for all the good he would do, fall to the rear for luncheon as remain to be shot at like a soulless target. The colonel has a wider view than the captain, and may see that circumstances have changed since the company was sent against the enemy, or that Captain A, must, in order to combine his operations with those of Captain B, make some modification of his arrangements, change his direction slightly, &c., &c. Similarly, the general has a wider view than the colonel, and may feel convinced that a local success must give way to general considerations. Consequently, it cannot be right that the company and battalion should respectively escape completely from the general control of the colonel and the brigadier. But with the present system of tactics both company and battalion do so escape.

This is a state of things to be remedied, and the remedy which we would suggest is but a modification of present detailed arrangements, though a revolution in existing general practice. We would propose that—

lst.—A distinction between thickening and reinforcing the firing line should be recognized.

2nd.—That no thickening should ever take place save by portions of the same company.

3rd.—That when the company's support and reserve shall have been ordered up, reinforcements should take place, *i.e.*, that tresh tactical sub-units should be interpolated.

4th.—That as far as possible the companies of the same battalion should be kept together in the firing line.

5th.—That for every 1,000 yards of position or front of attack the proportion of troops should be increased.

6th.—That if necessary to lengthen the general line in excess of this proportion, the additional space should be obtained by increasing intervals between brigades or divisions; and that in all cases there should be a sufficiently large interval, clearly separating each brigade from the brigades on its flanks.

7th.—That command should extend over depth rather than breadth, in all cases, from the company upwards.

8th.—That each body from the company upwards should have its local support and reserve at the commencement of an action.

With regard to the latter point, we cannot too strongly advocate Colonel Macdonald's system of dividing a company into groups of fours, and providing four successive lines. On the last of these coming up the company is put together in two ranks, just as it was before the advance, with the exception of casualties during that advance. In the matter of gaining ground to the front under fire, we consider that there should be no rigid rule. Indeed, no rigid rule on that subject either has been or will be observed. In some cases the sudden rush of a section, half company or company, under cover of the smoke of a volley, will be best. In other cases, especially when at a distance, it will be as well for the whole or a large portion of the line to advance at a brisk walk, halting from time to time when cover offers to fire a few volleys. Again, when there is little cover and the distance from the defenders short, it will be expedient to gain ground gradually from the right or left of companies or half companies by the right or left hand man either crawling or suddenly rushing forward in a stooping attitude, say 15 or 20 paces, the next man imitating his example and placing himself on his flank, and so on successively till the whole company or half company shall have taken up a fresh line in advance.

To be continued.

THE WINNIPEG INFANTRY SCHOOL. (From the Manitoban Oct. 13th.)

The quarters for the officers and men of the new School of Mounted Infantry at Fort Osborne are rapidly approaching completion, and very soon regular barrack life will commence and everything get shaken down into running order. Ten huts in all have been utilized, five on each side of the main street, if it can be so called. They have been newly shingled, stoops put to the doors, re-plastered and cleaned inside, shelving erected, and new partitions put up. The huts are numbered from one to ten, No. 1 being occupied by Colonel Taylor, the comman-dant of the school. No. 2 is being fitted up as a recreation room, where the men propose to amuse themselves in their leisure momonts, give concerts and entertainments, etc. Nos. 3 and 4 are barrack rooms where the men sleep, and are each fitted up with a small room for the sergeant in charge. No. 5 hut, situated at the south-western extremity of the right hand row, is the quarter-master sergeant's store, and will be fitted up with tailor's and butcher's shops, etc. Crossing to the end This is furhut, No. 6, on the left hand row, the band room is found. nished with quarters for the bandmaster or the bugle-major, both offices being united at present, and also quarters for the drill instructor situated at the rear end. The huts on this side are occupied, and in the band room rows of beds neatly covered with rather ornamented blankets line each side of the room. The shelf over each bed is also occupied with each man's kit. Huts No. 7 and 8 are also barrack rooms, whilst No. 9 is the sergeant's mess-room, and contains the sergeant major's and quartermaster-se-geant's quarters. The main body of the hut is divided by folding doors and one-half used as a mess-room and the other as a reading room, whilst the canteen and kitchen occupy the rear. No. 10 is the officers mess room and is laid out suitably. Up to the present the corps numbers 34 non-commissioned officers and men, but others are on their way from the eastern provinces to join, and three or four of the 7th Fusiliers (London), are expected to arrive to-day. The names of those who have joined up to the present are as follows:

NON-COM. OFFICERS.—Sergt.-Major Bilman, Q.M. Sergt. Taylor, Bugle-Major Anderson, Sergt. Gardiner, Sergt. Potts, Hospital-Sergt. Pennefather.

PRIVATES.--Pte. Skinner, late of Winnipeg Cavalry; Pte. Elwood, late of 92nd; Pte. Martin, late of 92nd; Bugler Weale, late of 92nd; Pte. Dennis, late of 92nd; Pte. Pulsford, late of 92nd; Pte. Watson, late of 51st Regiment of the Line; Pte. Hardisty, late of 91st; Pte. Sherman, late of 91st; Pte. Munsell, late of 91st; Pte. Wilson, late of 91st; Pte. Garbett; Pte. Calder; Pte. Ellis, late of 90th; Pte. Dunn, late of 90th; Pte. Bates, late of 90th; Pte. J. R. Skinner, late of 92nd; Pte. C. P. Braithwaite, 46th Regiment of the Line; Pte. Carnegie, late of 7th Fusiliers; Pte. Crawford, late of 7th Fusiliers; Pte. Greig, late of 7th Fusiliers; Pte. Shephard, late of 92nd; Bugler Wertheim, late of 90th; Pte. Egerton, late of 1st Dragoon Guards; Pte. Kilpatrick, late of 92nd; Pte. Simpson, late of the North-west Mounted Police; Pte. Barncastle, late of 92nd; Pte. Kinniburgh, late of 92nd.

The men are all up to a high standard, and, without an exception, are smart, intelligent, active young men, and just the material of which the best soldiers are made. Most of them are of medium height or a little over, and as a body would delight the eye of a veteran general. In selecting the men the officers of the school have been most particular a good character being as essential as a sound constitution, and they are to be congratulated on having got together a body of men who cannot fail to be a credit to the new school and an acquisition to the city of Winnipeg. The men have, almost without an exception, received some preliminary training in carrying arms being drawn for the most part from the volunteer corps which took an active part in the late rebellion. The bandmaster and bugle-major is a gentleman of large experience in musical matters, and he hopes in the near future to work up a firstclass band. Some of the uniforms have arrived, and the remainder will arrive some time this week.

When the school is fairly started, it is the intention to get up cricket, football, baseball, and other teams, and the soldier-boys will give some of our local clubs a good game occasionally.

It is the intention to gravel the street or boulevard running through the centre of the Fort, and add ornamentation as the ocrasion presents itself. No doubt when the band once gets fairly started, Main street, Fort Osborne, will become a fashionable promenade.

CORKESPONDENCE.

SKIRMISHING MATCHES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette :

SR.—I, with many others, would like to see a change in the skirmishing matches, for, taken all round, there is nothing in them at present, as far as a test of marksmanship goes, and I think that any one who was at Ottawa this year will admit that the General Middleton match capped the climax, it being the greatest farce that a lot of riflemen ever took part in—the idea of keeping men at the double from start to finish and then expect them to hit a target shown for a few seconds, which, in a great number of cases, went down before they could align their sights, was something ridiculous. Now, I have an idea which I think would be an improvement and bring out the shooting qualities of the different teams. Of course every rifleman knows what will make him expert as a skirmisher—viz.: coolness and judgment, and where can you get a chance to use either of these two requisites in a match of the present style.

either of these two requisites in a match of the present style. My idea is—let the different teams be told off to their respective targets, say starting at 600 yards (of course targets will be down), extend in skirmishing order and advance at the quick, then the officer in charge of the telephone calls up targets at any distance he may see fit, let them remain up one minute, then let every man get his work in and fire as many shots as he can with effect, and this is where the judgment will come in. A man may fire his first shot and see if he is low or high, he can then put in a couple that would tell the same as if an enemy were in reality down at the butts. As soon as the minute expires the officer in charge at the butts orders targets down, the men are again advanced and targets shown and so on to the conclusion of the match.

I think by this arrangement there would be quite a change in the scores, and not so many shots wasted, as one effective shot is worth a gross that skip round an enemy, for the only way to stop a man is to hurt bim or knock him out altogether. Also, I would suggest to do away, at once and for ever, with the knapsack, and in fact with everything that encumbers a man while fighting. I would like to ask those who arrange these matches if they ever got into a little racket did they at once look round for their overcoat, muffler, gloves, or anything they could crowd on before they started to defend themselves? No, sir, on the contrary they would quick as lightning pull off their coat and vest and it times admitted roll up their sleeves and then wire in. Now why should not a man with a rifle in bis hands feel just as free ?

I have written this as a suggestion to start riflemen thinking, which usually results in a change, and often a very decided one.

Trusting this will have the desired effect and bring out other views on the subject,

I remain, &c., G. M. Donnelly.

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

MONTREAL.-Our Canadian Highland Regiment, the "5th Royal Scots of Canada," under command of Lieut.-Col. Caverbill, paraded at the drill ball on Tuesday, 27th ult., for annual inspection and roll-call. The regiment mustered in full strength, so that when in line No 6 company had to be wheeled across the end of the hall at right angles to the remainder. The inspecting officer, Lieut.-Col. Worsley, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Fletcher, Capt. Clapham of the cavalry, and Lieut. Marquis of the 13th Battalion, arrived shortly after the battalion was formed up in line, and were received with a general salute. He then passed along the ranks and minutely inspected every man, and expressed bimself well pleased with their appearance. The battalion was put through the manual exercise by Major McCorkill; the firing exercise by Major Lyman; battalion movements by Capt. Hood, and company drill by Major (Lieut.) Blaiklock, all of which were correctly and smartly performed. After roli-call the battalion formed three sides of a square facing the platform, on which was a table covered with some forty valuable prizes in kind, including a Martini rifle, a sporting rifle, eight medals and fifty-six money prizes. In the cent e of all stood the Accident Insurance Company's silver cup, a handsome piece of plate, presented by the company some six or seven years ago to the corps of the Province for team competition; won this year for the second time in succession by the "Royals," and now their sole property. Capt. Hood, Secretary of the Association and captain of the winning team, presented the cup to the commanding Lieut.-Col. Worsley assisted by Lieut.-Col. Fletcher, then presented the omcer. prizes to the successful competitors at the regimental annual matches. The whole proceedings passed off in a manner pleasing and satisfactory to all ranks; the different companies vieing with each other in cheering their various repre-sentatives on their being called to the tront to receive their prizes. We are pleased to learn from Capt. Hood that four of the six compunies of the battalion are menbers en bloc of the rifle association, and it is expected that the remaining two companies will join before the opening of next shooting season.

On Friday evening, 23rd Oct., the Montreal Engineers were inspected by Major Raban, R.E., of the Royal Military College staff. They were put through infantry movements at their armory, which were executed in a most commendable manner, bringing forth favorable comments from those present at the inspection. They looked particularly neat, having been served with new uniforms lately, and every man bore the appearance of a thoroughly trained soldier. The knowledge displayed in infantry drill deserves special mention, when it is considered that the men had also to do the regular routine work of an engineer company. On Saturday morning they marched to a field above Hochelaga, and there underwent an inspection of several hours' duration in field works, etc. Their achievements throughout were highly spoken of by the inspecting officer. At the close, Lt-Col. Kennedy said that of the two prizes offered for competition among the engineer corps of Canada, they had certainly won one. The fife and drum band of the corps was present at both inspections.

Another court of enquiry has been ordered from headquarters, to investigate charges of insubordination made against Capt. Forbes, Quartermaster of the Garrison Artillery, by Lt.-Col. Oswald. Lt.-Col«. Straubenzee, D.A.G., Worsley and Hughes have been appointed as the court.

At the annual meeting of the Prince of Wales Rifles' sergeants' mess the following officers were elected :--President, Sergt.-Major J. Porteous; secretarytreasurer, Color-Sergt. G. Lefebvre; committee, Color-Sergt. D. McRae (chairman), Color-Sergt. Ferguson, Sergt. Dugan, Sergt. Pinget and Sergt. Middleton; auditors, Quartermaster-Sergt. T. C. Elliott and Color-Sergt. Benton. 'The birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (9th November) will be celebrated by a grand social in the sergeants' mess room, Ottawa Buildings, St. James street.

THE TARGET.

KING'S COUNTY RIFLE ASSOCIATION MATCHES.

The annual matches of the above association were held on the Stockton Ranges, Sussex, N.B., on the 21st October. The attendance was about the same as last year, but the shooting was not nearly so good, owing partly to a "fishtail" wind, but in a much greater degree to poor ammunition; none but Dominion manufacture of 1885 being obtainable. In the Battalion Match, for instance, the score of the winning team was 56 points below that of last year. The winners in the different matches were as follows:

| COUNTY CUP N | ATCH-200.500 | AND 600 YARDS, 7 | ROUNDS AT EACH. |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|

| \$8 Cup and medal, Lt. Kinnear, 74th Batt. 72 \$2 Lieut. W. Langstroth, 8th Cav60 8 Capt. Arnold, 74th Batt | | |
|---|--|--|
| DONVILLE CUP-500 AND 600 YARDS, 7 ROUNDS AT EACH. | | |
| \$6 and cup, Lt. W. Langstroth, 8th Cav | | |
| BATTALION MATCH-ELDER CUP, AND \$7.50 IN CASH TO INDIVIDUALS. | | |
| Elder cup, 8th Cavalry 321 74th Battalion | | |
| Individual Prizes. | | |
| \$ 3 00 Lieut. Kinnear, 74th Batt | | |
| GRAND AGGREGATE. | | |
| \$ 2 00 and Jones' cup, | | |

\$ 2 00 and Jones' cup.
 Liout. Kinnear, 74th Batt...... 115
 1 00 Sergt. G. Langstroth, 8th Cav.... 112
 1 50 Sergt. Gray, 74th Batt...... 113
 0 50 Lieut. W. Langstroth, 8th Cav.... 108

85TH BATTALION ANNUAL OPEN MATCH.

MONTREAL.—The annual open match of the 85th Battalion Rifle Association took place at the Point St. Charles ranges on Saturday alternoon under very favorable circumstances. There was scarcely a breath of wind, and the scores were in consequence high. The match was open to all comers for individual prizzs, and to teams of five *bona fide* members of any rifle association; ranges, 500 and 600 yards, with seven shots at each range.

| INDIVIDUAL PRIZES. | | |
|---|--|--|
| \$ 1° Capt. Hood, 5th R. S | \$ 2 Pte. Kamberry, 5th R.S. 52 2 Mr. J. Walton, G.T.R. 51 1 Pte. Scott, 5th Fusileers 59 1 Pte. Desbarrats, 3rd V.R.C. 50 1 Pte. Riddle, 6th Fusileers 50 1 Pte. Cook, 8th R.S. 49 1 Pte. R. Allan, 5th R.S. 49 | |
| TEAN P | PRIZES. | |
| \$ 15 00 6th Fusileers 257 10 00 5th R. S., first team 256 | \$ 7 50 5th R. S., second team | |

THE 60TH BATT. AND MISSISQUOI RIFLE ASSOCIATION MATCHES.

The 60th Battalion and Missisquoi Rifle Association Matches for 1885 were held at Stanbridge on the 16th and 17th October. The following are the scores:

TRIAL MATCH.

| Open to all members; 270 yards, standing or kneeling; 5 shots; 15 prizes, value \$35. | | |
|---|--|--|
| F. Larcock | Sergt. Newell, 52nd Batt 18 M. Kennedy 18 Dr. Crothers 18 T. Robert 18 A. Soule 17 | |
| Lieut. Hall, 52nd Batt | R. A. Crothers | |



Rigby. Remington.

41

which they carried on the matches. Owing to the stormy weather yesterday the small bore long range match was postponed indefinitely.

FIRST MATCH.

Ranges, 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots at each range; Snider rifle. The first prize, won by Mr. J. Omand, consisted of the Snider gold medal, Belling medal and cash \$5.

| Upen to all members; ranges, 200, 500 an value \$45. | d 600 yards, 7 shots ; Snider rifle ; 15 prises, | |
|--|---|--|
| C. W. Getty | Lieut. Whitman | |
| MISSIBQUO | I MATCH. | |
| Open to all members; range 500 yards, 7 s | hots; 10 prizes, value \$25. | |
| 0. S. Stanton | Dr. Crothers 23 M. Kennedy 22 C. Van Antwerp 22 Pte. Getty 22 Pte. H. Phelps 22 | |
| AGGREGATE. | | |
| 1st prize, badge P.Q.B.A. and \$2; 2nd, \$2; 3rd, 4th and 5th, \$1 each. | | |
| Pte. O. S. Stanton: 117 Pte. Getty. 113 A. Soulo 110 | Sergt. Newell | |
| | | |

DISTRICT OF BEDFORD MATCH.

ANNUAL PRIZE MEETING OF THE PRESCOTT RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The ninth annual prize meeting of the above association was concluded on Saturday the 24th October, and was particularly well attended; the members present being largely in excess of any former meeting, amounting to forty competitors in all. 'The weather was cloudy, with intervals of rain during the meeting, and consequently the light bad, which accounts for the small scores at the long ranges. The meeting was graced by the presence of Col. Lamontagne, D.A G., who kindly came out from Ottawa in order to be present at the matches. He expressed himself as highly pleased with the range and attendance.

1st-volunteers' match.

Open to non-com. officers and men of the local corps (who are members without charge) and membors of the association. Ranges, 200 and 400 yards, soven shots at each.

| \$6 J. S. Huntington 31 31 62 5 H. B. White 27 30 57 4 G. G. Lafayette, B.R.A. 24 32 56 3 Capt. Sparham 27 29 56 3 Asst. Surgeon Fenton. 27 28 55 3 J. Barnhart, B.R.A. 29 26 55 2 W. H. Mossman 23 31 54 2 Sergt Carmichael. 28 25 53 2 Sergt. Huton 26 27 53 2 Sergt. Young. 21 31 52 | 1 H. Dyer, B.R.A. 26 25 51 1 Trooper Moore. 21 29 50 1 B. Hannah. 23 26 49 1 Qr. Mr. Sergt. Hunter. 27 18 45 1 W. Callahan, B.R.A. 19 25 41 Gapt. J. J. Bell. 22 21 43 Geo. Inrie. 27 14 22 | |
|---|--|--|
| | | |
| • | inges, 500 and 600 yards, seven rounds at each. | |
| \$ 6 Capt. Sparham 27 25 52 5 H. B. White 24 26 50 4 J. S. Huntington 29 18 47 3 Asst. Surgeon Fenton 26 16 42 3 Sergt. Young 27 14 41 3 G. G. Lafayette, B.R.A. 25 13 38 2 Capt. J. J. Bell 21 16 37 2 J. B. Coates 16 19 35 2 Capt. Raney 24 11 35 | 1 Capt. Stitt 28 7 35 1 J. Barnhart, B.R.A. 24 10 34 1 B. Hannah 16 16 32 Y H. Dyer 14 16 30 Y R. Junkin, B.R.A. 14 14 28 M. Callahan, B.R.A. 19 8 27 Thos. Hale 15 11 26 | |
| | IATON MATCH. | |
| Open to members of the association. Ran | ges, 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven rounds at each. | |
| \$ 10 and cup, H. B. White * 26 29 19 74 8 J. S. Huntington | 2 B. Hannah 22 20 9 51 1 Pte. E. Fenton 24 18 9 51 1 Bugler Trip 28 20 3 51 1 Bugler Trip 28 20 3 51 1 Surgeon McCammon 25 26 0 51 1 H. Dyer 23 9 18 50 5 1 Capt. Stitt 17 24 49 | |
| • Presented by W. Shanly, M.P. To be won twice in five years before becoming the property of the winner. | | |
| BANGE PEIZE-HIGHE | ST SCORE AT 500 YARDS. | |
| H. B. White, hunting knife Tied by J. S. Huntington and John Huto | | |
| EXTRA SERIES-200 YARDS, FIVE ROUNDS. | | |
| W. Fenton 22 Sergt. Huton 22 Capt. Sparham 21 Sergt. Press 21 Sorgt. Carmichael 21 Thos. Hall 21 E. Fenton 21 Dr. McCammon 21 | M. Callahan 21 J. B. Coates 21 R. Junkin 20 H. B. White 20 H. Dyer 20 J. S. Huntington 20 Sergt. Young 20 | |
| There were ten absolute ties in the above, nine twenties counted out, and 108 entries. | | |
| GRAND A | GGREGATE. | |

| URAND AUGBUAIS. | | |
|--|--|--|
| There was a tie for first place between J. S. F ing to D. R. A. rules, the tie was decided by firin by J. S. Huntington with a score of 16 points to H | r five rounds each at 600 vards, and won | |
| J. S. Huntington 181 W | Fenton 164 | |

H. B. V

| oung 149 |
|----------|
| 0 |

ANNUAL MATCHES OF THE VICTORIA RIFLE CLUB.

HAMILTON, ONT.-The Victoria Rifle Club commenced their annual matches on Monday, Oct. 12th. The attendance was large, but the weather was cold and cloudy, with a very strong wind blowing in all directions. The scores in the first match were anything but satisfactory. A majority of the shots at the 600 yard range found a resting place in the bank; it seemed almost impossible to find the target. The scores in the second match were something extraordinary, Messrs. Goodwin, Mitchell and Pain making 48 points out of a possible 50. The scores in the third match were also very good, Messrs. Geo. McMicking, of Niagara Falls, and Col. Gibson making 46 and 45 respectively out of a possible 50 at 500 yards. The committee deserve great praise for the systematic way in

| by Mr. J. Umand, consisted of the Snider gold medal, Belling medal and cash \$5. |
|---|
| \$10 00 J. Omand 28 30 22 80 \$2 50 W. M. Goodwin 26 29 10 65 8 00 P. Robertson 28 26 25 79 2 00 F. Schwarz 19 25 20 64 6 00 F. B. Ross 28 25 25 78 2 00 Geo Margetts 22 23 19 64 5 00 G. Mc Micking, Niagara F 29 31 17 77 1 50 D. Mitchell 28 24 12 64 5 00 O. Hancock 27 22 24 73 1 50 J. Adam 21 23 18 62 4 00 A. Pain 26 23 22 71 1 00 G. Murdock 24 23 15 62 4 00 G. Murison 26 23 22 71 1 00 W. H. Clarke 30 17 14 61 3 00 J. M. Gibson 26 23 22 13 70 1 00 W. H. Clarke 20 20 20 60 3 00 G. Disher, St. Catharines 28 29 13 70 1 00 H. Graham 20 20 16 65 2 50 J. R. Adam 23 27 16 66 |
| SECOND MATCH. |
| Ten shots at 200 yards; Snider rifle. \$10 W. M. Goodwin 48 \$ 8 D. Mitchell 48 \$ 48 \$ 1 P. Robertson \$ 6 A. Pain 48 \$ 1 M. Marris 45 \$ 2 J. M. Gibson 46 |
| THIRD MATCH. |
| Ten shots at 500 yards; Snider rifle. |
| \$ 10 G. A. MeMicking, Niagara Falls |
| FOURTH MATCH. |
| Ranges, 800, 900 and 1,000 yards; 7 shots at each range; any rifle. |
| \$ 10 G. Margetts |

 4 Wm. Garson.
 34 25 11
 63

 3 W. H. Clarke.
 26 21 21
 63

 3 Jas. Adam
 19 22 24
 65

 2 Jos. Mason
 11 24 27
 62

 FIFTH MATCH. Grand aggregate for Snider and any rifle; ranges, 200, 500, 600, 800, 900 and 1,000 yards; 7 shots at each.

Albert Pain, Snidor, 72, any rifle, 87, total, 159; prize, D.R.A. medal. G. Margetts, Snider, 64, any rifle, 91, total, 155; O.R.A. medal. Liout.-Col. Gibson, Snider, 71, any rifle, 82, total, 153; Gibson badge. J.Omand, Snider, 80, any rifle, 79, total, 150; \$2. F. Schwars, Snider, 64, any rifle, 79, total, 143; \$1.

ANNUAL MATCHES OF THE 13TH BATTALION.

The nineteenth annual matches of the 13th Battalion and the match for the challenge cup of the Third Brigade Division of the Second Military District were held at the ranges of the Victoria Rifle Club, near Ainslie Wood, on Monday and Tuesday last, 19th and 20th October. The weather was very unfavorable. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the large number of young shots, who came forward, and their good shooting. The large prize list was made up of cash and value combined, and no competitor was allowed more than two individual prizes.

| MATCH NO. 1, JUNIORS-5 SH | BOTS AT 200 AND 400 YARDS. | |
|---|--|--|
| MATCH NO. 1, JUNIORS-5 SH Major MoLaren, D Co 16 21 37 \$ 10 00 Pte. A. Ray, A Co | \$ 2 50 Pto. J. Lydiatt, B Co | |
| 7 00 Pte. Furmide, D Co 17 15 32 5 00 Pte. Elz, B Co 14 17 31 5 00 Pte. Bettles, B Co 15 15 30 5 00 Pte. D. A. Walsh, D Co 5 24 29 5 00 Pte. Gilmer, A Co 13 16 29 4 00 Pte. J. Allan, G Co 15 14 29 | 1 50 Pte. Henning, F Co 14 7 21 1 50 Pte. W. Horspool, B Co 19 2 21 1 50 Pte. D. Boll, A Co 5 15 20 1 50 Pte. McMurtrie, F Co 10 10 20 1 00 Pte. W. Forbes, F Co 11 9 10 1 00 Pte. W. Rushbrook, B Co 13 7 20 | |
| 3 00 Sgt Maj. Woodhouse, D Co 20 8 28 3 00 Ptc. J. W. Greenley, B Co 22 6 28 2 50 Corp. Meadows, D Co 15 10 25 2 50 Pte. Hopkins, C Co 16 9 25 | 1 00 Ptc. J. H. Larkin, G Co 10 8 18 1 00 Ptc. J. Burns, band 11 7 18 1 00 Ptc. T. King, band 11 7 18 One score of 18 is counted out. | |
| Major McLaren competed only to get a pl | ace on the team, and did not take a prize. | |

MATCH NO. 2, SENIORS-5 SHOTS AT 200. 500 AND 600 WARDS

| MATCH NO. 2, SENIORS-0 | SHOIS AT 200, 500 AND 000 TARDS. |
|---|---|
| \$ 20 00 and D.R.A. medal, Ptc. H. Graham, E Co 19 15 22 | \$ 3 00 Pte. T. Lawrence, E Co. 22 15 10 47 |
| Ptc. H. Granam, E Co 19 15 22 | 56 3 00 Capt. Adams, A Co 17 17 11 45 |
| 17 59 and O.R.A. medal, | 2 50 Capt. Reid, C Co 16 11 16 43 |
| Sgt. W. Goodwin, A Co. 16 21 18 | 55 2 50 I te. Omand, A Co 15 16 10 41 |
| 13 00 Pte. H. Marris, D Co 19 19 17 | 55 2 50 Pte. Keefer, B Co 16 17 8 41 |
| 10 00 Pte. J. Mitchell, E Co. 20 21 14 | 55 2 50 Pte. Hancock, E Co 15 19 6 40 |
| 10 00 Corp. Peeble, A Co 17 18 19 | |
| 10 00 Pte. D. Mitchell, E Co. 21 17 14 | 52 2 50 Pto. Burniston, D Co 17 12 8 36 |
| 10 00 Lieut. Ross, B Co 19 20 12 | 51 2 00 Pte. Grant, A Co 11 16 9 36 |
| 8 00 Pte. Robertson, E Co 19 14 17 | 50 2 90 Sgt. Madgett, B Co 14 21 11 35 |
| 5 00 Lieut. Tidswell, F Co 18 16 15 | |
| 5 00 Co'Sgt. Miller, D Co 17 18 14 | 49 2 00 Pte. Parkhill, A Co 18 7 9 34 |
| 5 00 Staff-Sgt. Pain 16 20 12 | |
| 5 00 Staff-Sgt. Clarke 18 15 14 | |
| 3 00 Staff-Sgt. Margetts 18 18 11 | |
| 3 00 ColSgt. Murdoch, B Co 20 16 11 | |
| o vo voi-ven stardood, D vo to to ti | |

MATCH NO. 4.

Officers' cup-five shots at 200 and 500 yards; to be competed for by twelve members of each company. Any company winning this cup for three years consecutively will be entitled to hold it. Scores in No. 2 match by competitors previously named to count. A Co.-Pte. Lambert, 42, Pte. Ray, 40, Sgt. Goodwin, 37, Staff-Sgt. Margetts, 36, Corp. Peebles, 35, Capt, Adams. 34. Pte. Omand, 31, Col.-~gt. Omand, 23, Pte. Gilmer, 26, Pte. Parkhill, 25, Pte. Lipke, 20, Pte. Harvey, 16, total, 370; E Co., 359; B Co., 345; D Co., 268. INDIVIDUAL PRIZES.

| \$ 3 00 | Pte. Lambort. A Co | 21 | 21 | 42 |
|---------|------------------------|-----|----|----|
| Nop. | Pte. J. Mitchell, E Co | 20 | 21 | 41 |
| 2 00 | Pte. Ray, A Co | 17 | 23 | 40 |
| 1 50 | Lieut. Ross. B Co | -19 | 20 | 39 |
| 10 | Pte. Marris, E Co | 19 | 19 | 36 |

Nop. Pte. D. Mitchell, E Co..... 21 17 38 Nop. Sgt. (R.odwin, A Co.... 16 21 37 \$ 1 00 Pte. T. Lawrence, E Co..... 22 15 \$7 1 0' Staff-Sgt. Margetts, A Co... 18 18 36

MATCH NO. 4.

Non-Commissioned Officers' cup—seven shots at 500 and 600 yards; to be competed for by six members of each company. Any company winning this cup for four years conse-cutively will be ontitled to hold it. A Co.—Sergt. Goodwin, 57, Pte. Harvey, 46, Capt. Adam, 44, Pto. Ray, 41, Corp. Pcebles, 38, Staff-Sgt. Margets, 24, total, 250; B Co., 218; E Co., 210; D Co., 144; F Co. shot one man short. H Co. fired, but being a new company, score was not recorded.

INDIVIDUAL PRIZES.

| \$ 3 00 Sgt. Goodwin, A Co 30 27 | 57 | \$1 00 Capt. Adams, A Co 25 19 44 |
|----------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 2 00 Pte. Harvey, A Co | 46 | Non, Pte. D. Mitchell, E Co 20 18 44 |
| 1 50 Pte. Keefer, B Co 25 20 | 45 | 1 00 Pte. Robertson, E Co 26 18 44 |
| 1 00 Pte. Marris, D Co 19 25 | 44 | |

матси ко. 5.

Mrs. Gibson's prize—five shots at 300, 500 and 600 yards; to be competed for by six members of each company. To be held in permanent possession by the company first win-ning it for the third time. E Co.—Pto. J. Mitchell, 58, Pte. D. Mitchell, 49, Pte. O. Han-cock, 48, Pto. Robertson, 48, Capt. Reid. 44, Pto. Graham, 40, total, 287; A Co., 237; B Co., 233; II Co. also fired; D and F Cos. fired one man short.

| INDIVIDUAL | PRIZES. |
|------------|---------|
|------------|---------|

 \$ 3 00 Ptc. J. Mitchell, E Co.... 22 16 20
 58
 \$ 1 00 Ptc. C. Hancock, E Co.... 20 16 12
 48

 2 00 Ptc. Keefer, B Co..... 18 21 13
 52
 1 00 Ptc. Robertson, E Co.... 20 17 11
 48

 1 50 Ptc. Mitchell, E Co 24 15 10
 49
 1 00 Capt. Reid, E Co..... 21
 9 14
 44

MATCH NO. 6.

District Challenge cup—three shots at 200, 400 and 600 yards; to be competed for by three marksmen from any volunteer company in the 3rd Brigade Division. The cup to be hold in trust for the association for one year by the company, and the name of the winning company to be engraved on it. E Co.—Pto. J. Mitchell, 37. Ptc. D. Mitchell, 32, Ptc. O. Hancock, 27, tota, 96; B Co., 83; No. 2 Co. 77th Batt., 72; F. Co., 69; D Co. 67.

INDIVIDUAL PRIZES

| INDIVINORU I MINDO. | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| \$ 3 07 Pte. T. Mitchell, E Co 14 11 2 00 Pte. D. Mitchell, E Co 15 10 1 50 Sgt. Goodwin, A Co 10 12 No p. Pte. Marris, D Co 11 14 | $\begin{array}{cccc} 7 & 7 & 32 \\ 7 & 7 & 29 \end{array}$ | 1 003Capt. Adam. A Co 7 12 8 27 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

MATCH NO. 7.

The Moriden Britannia Co.'s Cup-five shots at 200 and 400 yards; to be competed for by four members of each company proviously named, simultaneously with match No. 1. Competitors to be qualified to shoot in Match No. 1. The company winning this cup for the second time to hold it in permanent possession. A Co.-Pie. Ray, 37, Pie. Lambert, 35, Pie. Gilmer, 29, Sergt. Stannard, 28, total, 129; D Co., 199; B Co., 119; F Co., 103; E Co. 81 Pte. Gim E Co., 84.

OTTAWA .- The series of matches arranged by the Ottawa Rifle Club for 1885 was brought to a close on Saturday alternoon last, when the members met to compete for the ninth pair of "spoons," and made the following scores :

| Mr. Sutherland | | | | | Mr. Chamberlin | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|----|-----------------|----|----------------|----|-----------------|----|----|
| Mr. Armstrong | 30 | 32 | 23 | 85 | Mr. Reardon | 28 | 21 | 19 | 71 |
| Mr. J. E. Hutcheson | -31 | 30 | $\overline{23}$ | 84 | Mr. McJanet | 28 | $\overline{25}$ | 17 | 7Õ |
| Mr. Cotton | 31 | 32 | 19 | 82 | Mr. Mailleuc | 27 | 23 | 18 | 68 |
| Mr. Morrison | 31 | 28 | 22 | 81 | Mr. Short | 30 | 25 | 13 | 68 |
| Capt. Perley | 34 | 29 | 20 | 87 | Dr. Hutchinson | 23 | 24 | 15 | 67 |
| Lieut. Thompson | 28 | 25 | 26 | 79 | Mr. Dawson | 28 | $2\dot{2}$ | 16 | 66 |
| Mr. Jamieson | 30 | 31 | 17 | 78 | Mr. Whiteley | | | | |

During the season the members have engaged in sixteen competitions, nine of which were shot with the Snider and four with the Martini-Henry, at the Queen's ranges, seven shots and one sighter at each range, two with the Martini-Henry at 800 yards, ten shots and one sighter, the whole of the foregoing for "spoons," and one with the Suider at the Queen's ranges, ten shots at each range, but no sighters, for the medals obtained by affiliation with the Dominion and Ontario Rifle Association. In our next issue we propose giving a synopsis of all these competitions.

MONTREAL .-- Last Saturday afternoon a friendly match was fired between 15 men from A con pany 5th R. S. and the same number from A company 6th Batt., the latter beating the R. S. by 80 points. The Scots attritute their deteat to the fact that five of their best men were absent.

GLEANINGS.

The V. S. Review is responsible for the following stories of movements not laid down in the Field Exercise: Story No. 1.—A Battalion arrives at a hole in a fence. The commanding officer gives the order—"Halt; shoulder arms; right turn; dismiss; fall in on the other side!" No. 2.—A Battalion commander this time a Regular-having got his men into a four-deep square, and being some distance from his adjutant, was hopelessly ignorant how to get them out again. Directing the bugler to sound for markers, these were formed up, The command "Break off" was given, and then "Fall in on your markers." No. 3. - A colonel of a volunteer regiment on the march, having given the orders to the head of the column "Left wheel" and "Right wheel" successively, and getting a little mixed, finished it up with—" Damp it all; why don't you turn down Moorgate street?" No. 4.—A Metropolitan regiment being unable to assemble in any other place than the street, was ordered to fall in and dress by the gutter.

A novelty in the way of prizes, and in the conditions attaching to the competition, comes from Totnes, Devonshire. At the annual shooting of C Company, 5th D.R.V., the prizes included a wedding-ring, presented by ladies. The ring havi to be competed for by unmarried men, and to be the property of the winner if he married within the twelve months. In the event of his not being able thus to claim the prize at the next annual meeting, he had to pay a forfeit of 2s. 6d., as well as give up the ring for another competition, the forfeit to go towards a purse for the ultimate winner. Bergt Tucker is the happy possesser of the article at present.-V. S. Review.

Engines of war are short-lived nowadays, says the London World. Three years ago no praise was too high for the machine guns which had brought to a close the bombardment of the forts of Alexandria by driving the gunners from the guns they were serving. This week those same guns of Mr. Nordenfeldt's invention are pronounced obsolete, and no longer fulfilling the necessary requirements. Recent experiments carried out in Weymouth Bay by the Polyphemus against dummy torpedo-boats have shown that the quick-hring gun manufactured by Messre. Hotchkiss is the only one at present whose results are satisfie tory.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS OF 30TH OCTOBER 1885.

NO. 1-NORTH-WEST FIELD FOROZ.

Memo.-The following despatch should have accompanied the one from Major-General Middleton on the capture of Batoche, published in General Orders (3) 8th July, 1885:--

"BATOCHF, 13th May, 1885.

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" From Captain and Bt. Major Smith, Commanding 'C' Co., Infantry School Corps, " To Major-General Middleton Commanding Canadian Militia,

-I have the honor to report that in accordance with Field Force Order "SIE. No. 1, of the 6th inst., I, on the 7th instant, proceeded with the detachment of 'C' Company, Infantry School Corps, present under my command (2 officers and 31 n.c.o. and men) on board of the steamer 'Northcote,' and in the afternoon dropped down to Gabriel Dumont's crossing, where we anchored and remained till the morning of the 9th.

"In addition to 'C' Company there were on board Mr. Bedson, chief trans-port efficer, Capt. Wise, A.D.C., wounded at Fish Creck, 3 sick officers, viz., Lieutenant Hugh J. Macdonald, of the 90th, and Lieutenants Elliott and Gibson, of the Royal Grenadiers; Doctor Moore and Mr. Pringle of the medical staff; several men of the supply and transport service, a newspaper correspon-dent and several residents of the country, who, under protection of the troops were returning to their homes. All these were pretty well armed and were able to bring about 50 rifles into action. (Two large barges loaded with supplies were in tow.) After embarking I found that the vessel had been partially prepared for defence, but not, as I considered, sufficiently; so the 8th was employed in adding to the defences by piling up sacks of oats, boxes of meat, &c.

"Early on the morning of the 9th we prepared to move, and all on loard were assigned to their positions. Mr. Bedson was in charge of the boat and supplies, and from him the master took his orders and I took the general command of the troops on the main deck. The master was instructed to anchor a little above Batoche. He was aware that a wire calle was stretched across the river at that place, and he knew that there was a danger of its catching the boat, and he was warned to be on the look out for it.

"A little after 6 a.m. we moved down stream to a point about 2 miles above Batoche; when finding that πc were likely to reach that place before the hour named by you, 8 a.m., we anchored, and at 7.40 again moved op, and immedi-ately afterwards the boat was fired upon from both banks of the river. For a time we did not reply, but the rebel fire soon became hotter, and we commenced both independent and volley firing, and this we continued without intermission till some distance below Batoche, partly to keep down the opposing fire, and partly to lead the enemy to believe that our force was much larger than it really was. As we passed Batoche the fire was specially heavy, and I heard a crash as if a portion of the upper deck had been carried away. About two miles below that place the rebel fire s'ackened and I ordered the 'cease fire,' and shortly afterwards we came to anchor. I then learned that the smokestacks and the steam whistle had been swept down by the ferry cable and were lying on the deck; that the master and the pilot, who had both been in the wheel-house, were in a state of great trepidation, and that Mr. Pringle, of the medical staff, and Vinen, a transport officer's assistant, had been wounded. Finding that we were so far down the river, I as! ed the master why he had not followed his instruc-tions, when he explained that owing to the heavy fire he could not manage the boat and got on the cable before he was aware of it. I then directed him to go up stream again, but he objected that that was impossible, as the smokestacks being gone there was danger of setting fire to the vessel, and besides that it was unsafe for him to go into the pilot house. Steps were at once taken to repair this damage, and two short stacks made from one were got into place. That being done, the next difficulty was the pilot house. The steersman positively refused to go into it. We then persuaded him to set his carpenter at it. Material was carried up and the carpenter was on the house at work when several shots came from the west shore, one of which hit him in the ankle and imbedded itself in the foot, and we found that some of the enemy had crept along the west side of the river and under cover of the bank fired on every man who showed himself on board. This put an end to the work, for, as the master told me, it was impossible again to induce his crew to come on deck. The steam whistle having been carried away we were left without our means of signalling to the troops on shore; the boat authorities would not undertake to replace it, so volunteers were called for, when Private Coombes of 'C' Company and one of the boat hands volunteered to put it up, and this they did successfully under a fire from the banks, and without, I am glad to say, any injury to themselves. In the course of the afternoon Mr. Bedson learned that one of his men had acted as a river pilot, and that he would be willing to take the wheel. Accordingly we proposed to the master that this should be done, and we were again met with objections, and after some talk we concluded that the proposed pilot would not be able to work satisfactorily with the engineer, so, after consultation with Mr. Bedson and Captain Wise, it was decided to remain in our present position all night and await possible communication from you. Strong guards were then placed and every preparation made to meet any possible attack from the shore. During the night the enemy continued to fire on the boat from both banks, but we abstained from replying. On the following morning, Sunday, Mr. Bedson and I again urged the master to move. He still pleaded the weakness of the pilot house, but finally, with great reluctance said that he would do so if we would make it bullet proof. Mr. Bedson then set his men to work, with the assistance of my men, material was got up, and in the course of the afternoon the wheel-house was made satisfactory to the pilot. During all this time firing from the shore continued at intervals, but as our men worked from the inside they were not seen, and were in danger only from chance bullets. The question then was, shall we go up stream or down? We were anxious to go to Batoche. The master said that he could not with safety go up with the barges in tow, and that he was getting out of wood and must take on more before he could remain any-where long. We then decided to run down to the Hudson Bay Ferry, leave the barges there, take on wood and sufficient supplies for the column, and return at once to Batoche. About 6.30 p.m., under a fire from the shore, we weighed

anchor and proceeded down the river a few miles, and at dusk anchored for the night. At daylight next morning we again moved, but had little more than started when we ran on a sand bar and were delayed some three hours. Finally, without any further mishap, we reached the Hudson Bay ferry about 3 p.m. Here we found the steamer *Marquis*. She had arrived from Prince Albert that morning, and Mr. Bedson having decided to bring her up the river in company with the Northcole, steps were at once taken to complete her outfit and make her more defensible, and I directed Mr. White-Fraser, commanding the Mounted Police at that post, to send an officer in charge of her with as large a force of men as he could spare from his command. This he did and himself proceeded in charge. My orders to both boats were to start up the river at dawn next morning, but owing to delays of one kind and another it was eight o'clock before we got off. On the way up the steering apparatus of the Marquis became dam-aged, and the Northcote had to take her in tow. This made our progress very slow, but without any further accident we reached Batoche about 8 p.m., just too late to take part in the splendid victory of yesterday.

"Before closing this report I beg to call your attention to the zeal and energy shown by Mr. Bedson on this occasion; his services were valuable in the highest degree; also to the support and advice which I received from Captain Wise, your A.D.C. His coolness and courage were remarkable. Notwithstanding his wound he persisted in remaining in the cabin, the most exposed part of the boat, and his example did much to give confidence to all on board. The other officers also were very active and vigilant, the n.c.o. and men worked to my entire satisfaction, and the civilians on board, except the crew, took part in the fight with a zeal which could not be surpassed.

"Our weakness lay in the fact that the master, pilot and engineer were aliens, and that the crew were civil employés and not enlisted mon. "The wounded, I am glad to say that their injuries were not serious, were

sent on from the ferry to Prince Albert by waggon.

"I have the honor to be, sir,

"Your obedient servan',

"H. SMITH, Capt and Bt. Major,

"Commanding 'C' Company Infantry School Corps."

NO. 2-MEDICAL BOARDS.

Errata.-In No. 1 of General Orders (23) 16th October, 1885, under the heading "Military District No. 1, London," read, "Dr. Alex. E. Fenwick" instead of "Dr. Alex. E. Meurick;" under the heading "Military District No. 3, Kingston," read "Dr. Fife Fowler" instead of "Dr. Fife Forster."

NO. 3-DISTRICT STAFF.

Lieut.-Col. Pennyman White Worsley, from Brigade Major of 1st and westerly part of 2nd Brigade Division, Que., to be Deputy Adjutant-General of military district No. 9 (Province of Nova Scotia) and of military dis'rict No. 12 (Province of Prince Edward Island) from 23rd October, 1885.-Head-quaters at Halifax, N.S., vice Taylor, appointed Commandant School of Mounted Infantry, Winnipeg.

NO. 4-ACTIVE MILITIA.

Oth Batt.-To be 2nd lieut., prov., Charles Edward Burch, vice Hay, promoted. The resignation of 2nd Lieut. (prov.) Leonard Edward Leigh is hereby accepted.

14th Batt.—To be 2nd lieut., prov., Corp. Frank Strange, vice William Beverley Waterbury, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

5th Batt.-To be capt., Lieut. John Earl Helliwell, S.I., vice Pope, appointed qr.-master. To be qr.-master, Capt. William Walter Pope, V.B., vice Joseph W. Campion, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

8th Batt., No. 4 Co.-The resignation of Lieut. Fry, jr., is hereby accepted.

52nd Batt., No. 6 Co.-To be lieut., prov., Sergt. Nathaniel Sargent (2nd), vice Perkins, resigned.

86th Batt., No. 6 Co.-2nd Lieut. (prov.) Armulus Lafrenière, having left limits his name is hereby removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

87th Batt., No. 6 Co.—'The head quarters of this company are hereby changed from "St. Jean d'Orleans" to "St. Famille d'Orleans."

62nd Batt.-To be lieuts.-2nd Lieut. Henry Hamilton Goddard, S.I., vice Edwards, promoted; 2nd Lieut. David Churchill, S.I., vice William Henry Murrhy, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

The resignation of 2nd Lieut. (prov.) James McMillan is hereby accepted.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

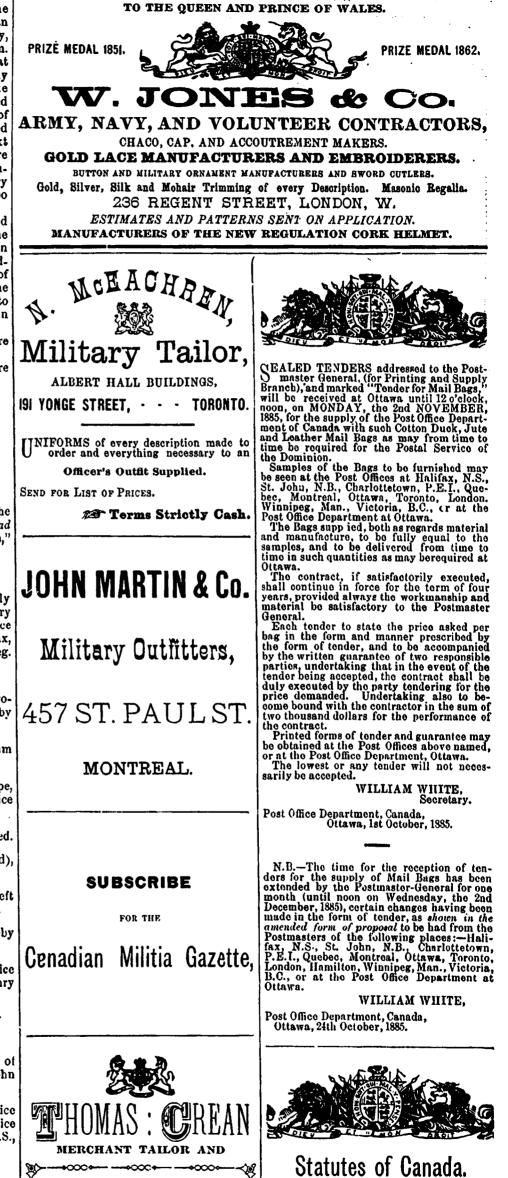
Memo.-The name of Licut. McMillan, 62nd Batt., whose confirmation of rank is published in No. 3 of General Orders (23) 16th November, 1885, is "John Frederick" instead of "James."

94th Batt., No. 5 Co.-To be capt, Lieut. John Donald McNeil, M.S., vice Clement Harrington, M.S. Hill promoted. To be neut., 2na Lieut. Hubert McNeil, promoted. To be 2nd lieut., 2nd Lieut. William Henry Micheau, M.S., from No. 4 Co., vice Harrington, promoted.

NO. 5-CERTIFICATES GRANTED-SCHOOLS OF INFANTRY.

First class " Special Course"

Memo.-Adverting to No. 4 of General Orders (23) 16th October, 1885, the name in full of 2nd. Lieut. Mc Millan, 62nd Batt., is "John Frederick Mc Millan." And the "special course" certificate published in same General Orders as having been granted to 2nd Lieut. H F. Leonard, 38th Batt., should read "second class" instead of "first-class."



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B. CHAMBERLIN,

Q.P.

Ottawa, May, 1885

