

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

First Year.  
VOL. I, No. 31.

Ottawa, Tuesday, 8th December, 1885.

\$1.50 per Annum in advance.  
Single Copies Five Cents.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The MILITIA GAZETTE aims at being the recognized medium of instruction and information for Canadian militiamen and rifle shots. Communications on the subjects to which its pages are devoted are respectfully invited. Anonymous communications will not be regarded. No name will be published, except with the writer's consent. The editors will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.

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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE,  
Box 316, OTTAWA, Canada.

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he would modify his ideas of hieland costume. We used personally to favor English shoes for Nor'-west surveying work, with thick soles and copper toes, with leggings for rough country or cold weather. A few holes in the sides, to let out any stray slough water, were not deemed objectionable.

The Carleton Place *Herald* resents with some heat the comment in No. 28 on its proposal to have a Lanark County battalion formed, but unfortunately it has quite misinterpreted our motives. In the first place we did not speak officially in this case, we have never spoken officially yet, and it is as well that it should be thoroughly understood that we are not in any way officially inspired in our utterances, and do not propose to be; and in the second place we repeat that we see difficulties in the proposition. There is not sufficient unoccupied territory around Brockville to support two battalions if the north country be cut off from them, and it is only just to give preference to the corps already in existence. If, however, the *Herald* can show that full companies can be raised, with qualified officers, in unappropriated parts of the country, we should be the first to wish the venture good luck, for nowhere in the district can a finer body of men be found than the farmers and manufacturers of the county of Lanark.

On one other point must we join issue with the *Herald*. It expresses the opinion that a battalion drilling at its own headquarters would offer far more encouragement to the young men of the district to join its ranks than if they were required "to leave their homes and occupations for a couple of weeks each year and go into camp in some strange and distant town." Our experience has been exactly the reverse of this, for we know that many of the "boys" look forward with lively interest to a trip away from home, and thoroughly enjoy the evening leave in the strange towns. Moreover, it is better in every way for the troops themselves. They are more amenable to discipline, and they are less likely to be distracted by trying to look after two things at once, or by having friends perpetually interfering with their duties. In this if in nothing else the system of brigade camps is an advantage over battalion camps.

The Government have just issued, in the form of a blue book of ten pages, a memorandum prepared by the Hon. Sir Alexander Campbell, Minister of Justice during the proceedings against Riel, concisely setting forth the position which the government assumed upon the question of Riel's execution. The many false assertions that have been made, and the animosities that have been kindled for selfish ends, render it necessary, Sir Alexander explains, to put the facts clearly before the public. As the matter is outside our province, as well as having been already pretty extensively ventilated by the daily press, it is unnecessary to further refer to it here. We have no doubt that anyone desiring to read the full text of the explanation would be sent a copy by the Queen's Printer of the Deputy Minister of Justice in answer to a request for the same.

## NOTICE.

We have been sending the GAZETTE to a large list of officers and others who we thought were sufficiently alive to militia interests to wish to become subscribers, and while we have no intention of taking advantage of the law which enables us to count these amongst our debtors, we would request all those who wish to receive the GAZETTE in future to remit their annual subscription, and those who are not pleased or do not sympathize with the military force sufficiently to wish for the paper to notify us to that effect, and to return promptly any future copies sent them.

## COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

We felt sure that the noodle's ideas about "foot gear" for our troops on active service would give rise to some discussion, for this is one of those subjects where the old proverb "*tot homines tot sententiae*" holds good. But the "beef boot" or "shoe pack" has certain advantages, if it be borne in mind that there are beef boots and beef boots, just as there are contract high boots with paper stiffening, and the genuine article of solid leather with a proper fit to the foot. Sharpshooter, when he speaks of his experience with beef boots, is alluding to an article altogether different from those that the noodle described. In the genuine article there must be good soles, so put on that the stitching does not go quite through the inner leather, and so leaves the boot watertight. We are afraid that if the sharpshooter struck a good flock of mosquitoes, or a few miles of thick raspberry or rosebush scrub,

A statement has been going the rounds of the Canadian newspapers to the effect that the commander of a regiment that was in the North-west has been suspended for certain alleged irregularities. While the statement is perfectly true, we cannot help feeling that it would have been far preferable not to notice the fact until the charges were investigated. The mere suspension of an officer does not necessarily imply any fault on his part, it merely indicates that a charge has been made against him, but the publication of the suspension is bound to affect him unfavorably, whatever may be the outcome of the case after investigation.

We would call attention to the announcement of the Standard Life Assurance Company in our advertising columns. This reliable institution claims to be peculiarly adapted for members of the militia force to insure in, because it issues totally unconditional policies as to residence and occupation, so that during the insurrection its policy holders had not to wait for action by the directors, or special permission, but could go into a fight with the knowledge that their policies were quite safe and incontestable. A great many officers and men in the field force were, we believe, insured in this company, which, however, only incurred one loss, that by the death of Private Dobbs, killed at Cut-Knife, whose insurance was promptly paid. Capt. Greville Harston, R.G., is general agent for this company at Toronto, and Capt. Waldo, G.G.F.G., its local agent at Ottawa.

#### "NOTIONS OF A NOODLE."—I.

MY DEAR MISTY,—What is the use of the waist belt that John Smith, of "K" Battery Saskatoon Artillery, wears round his middle? If I had the good fortune to be sitting opposite you, your answer, abrupt and sharp, would of a certainty be, "Why, to keep up his bayonet, of course, you fool; also his pouches and ball bag."

Quite right, Misty; principally the bayonet. "The glorious old bayonet," I can hear you say, "that has carried the British army, or that the British army has carried, through everything." "From Waterloo downward British steel has won the day, and lastly in our own small affair the other day at Batoche, the Indians and Breeds faded like smoke before our bayonets," etc., etc. This is what you will say, Misty; I know you will. But, my dear boy, they didn't; there was no bayonet about it, and the reporter who first stated the absurd story should be compelled to wear one for the rest of his mortal life as a punishment for leading decent people to believe in this obsolete old sticker as a weapon for the plains. Every day we hear the old expression, "how we gave them the steel at Batoche." And I suppose our next campaign out West will be undertaken with a "bayonet" and a "Gatling," for, according to the Winnipeg papers, which first originated the fable, the bayonet took Batoche, while, if we believe the American advertising agent, the Gatling killed all the enemy. We did not hear so much of the latter at Cut Knife; but then the said American was not there. Now let us come down to the truth. Neither one nor the other ever killed a man. Several were talked to death by the above mentioned gentleman, but it was their own fault, as it was quite possible for them to have run away; others saved their lives by doing so; obviously, therefore, the blame in the case of those killed rested on their own indiscreet shoulders.

Hunting Indians with a bayonet or Gatling is about as paying a pastime as it would be with the same weapons to hunt a caribou. No Indian or Half-breed at Batoche ever waited to be stuck, unless he had a bullet through his body; and the Canadian soldier who, we are told, ran his gory weapon, the bayonet, through a rebel's body so that it was impossible to remove it, if the story be true, struck a foul blow, for the foe certainly fell by a bullet first. Those only who have seen the Indian mode of warfare can fully appreciate the supreme folly of thinking of a bayonet. A bayonet in the old muzzle-loading days, especially before rifling and increased ranges changed the mode of fighting, may have done all that history tells us; but is it worth while for us to polish and trip over this uncouth piece of steel for the chance of getting a dead man to stick? For dead or winged he must be. No savage with his Winchester is going to stand still for our men to bayonet him; he simply dodges round a bush and shoots, and our man does the same, unless he is a drivelling idiot. If the Indian happens to be out

of cartridges he won't be there at all. So we come to the conclusion that our poor little soldier will have to go home without his little prod, which becomes doubly mortifying when he remembers how long and thoroughly he has practised that highly necessary accomplishment, the bayonet exercise. Under no condition can this weapon ever be of use in Western warfare, or in any other. Now let me mention a few more reasons, which may possibly convince you that the bayonet in fighting times is better adorning the front hall at home.

The sword bayonet, with its scabbard and frog, weighs exactly 2 lbs. 7 oz., and hangs dangling from the belt, and slips to the front or rear of a man at will, usually locating itself so that it can swing accurately between the legs of the wearer. Who has not seen a "double" with each man's left hand firmly grasping his scabbard to protect himself from the efforts of the thing to trip him up? Its length is admirably suited for this, reaching to the knee, and if once well in between the legs of a doubling hero it generally "fetches him." I can well remember noticing our men fighting with the Indians in the bush, while advancing through the bluffs, carefully holding and *steering* this deadly appendage clear of the twigs and brambles. When the enemy's bullets and buckshot made it necessary to crawl forward the advantage of the bayonet again asserted itself, for the hilt continually brought its owner to an anchor round the stump of some projecting poplar. It would be useful to determine which had most cause for complaint, the privates with their bayonets or the officers with their equally useful Indian destroyers, their *swords*. Of course, if Mr. Strike-him-on-the-back or Kick-him-in-the-belt, or any other big chief meets an officer with a drawn sword, he drops his Winchester and is "quite cut up." But more of this question later on. We will finish the rank and file first.

Let us put away the old bayonet, and try at all events to drag on for a term without it. Boulton's, Dennis's and Steele's scouts existed, and I imagine were quite as efficient on foot as the other troops, except when it was necessary in the excitement of action to open a can of beef, when I frequently heard of the weapon proving convenient, provided always that circumstances prevented the borrowing of a jack-knife. Also allow me to suggest the advisability of devoting, if possible, as much time and instruction to the useful study of "shooting" as is now given in many cases by ardent and painstaking officers to the "bayonet exercise." I grant it is good *exercise*—no better; and when undertaken in marching order becomes *exceedingly* good exercise; but outside of this is thrown away on redskins.

To demonstrate the advantage gained in a day's march by leaving two pounds seven ounces on the piano, just try carrying the weight in cheese in one of your side pockets. But at the same time it is hardly a fair comparison, owing to the satisfaction experienced in possessing such a really invaluable article as cheese by the side, when needed; for, unlike the steel and scabbard, it does prove of some advantage on the "*whey*."

This burden removed from the side of the campaigner, also removes all the labor required to keep it in order, suitable to the taste of the fire-eating commanding officer, not always capable of discriminating between peace and war.

As the point of the bayonet has brought me to the end of my letter, I will now, my dear Misty, allow the other attachments of the waistbelt to remain quietly hanging for my next. However, one other superfluous morsel of iron I beg to draw your attention to, that we likewise carried over the prairie for the admiration of the "gophers" and Indians, viz., our cleaning rods. I have not weighed one, but most people are aware what a difference it makes while aiming a rifle without it. Fortunately the defect, or rather the advantage, of the worn out thread caused many of them to fall out, to the evident relief of the soldier, who probably had exhausted most of his patience in trying to keep the thing in the rifle. Its weight is quite half a pound; not much, to be sure, but, on the principle of an inch on the end of a nose, it becomes obnoxious. Considering that it is most injurious to the barrel, swabbed up and down by some lunatic with a piece of cartridge paper, under the impression that he is "cleaning;" and that a stout piece of cord, with a swan shot on one end to drop down the barrel, attached to a fragment of cloth cleans better, and does no injury, it appears quite legal to question the propriety of transporting the steel rod. Moreover, I am firmly of the opinion that our rifle barrels would be far more lasting if the men were deprived of it altogether, and thus prevented from scouring away at the bore, injuring the grooves with the rod itself, or worse still, with bath brick or emery powder.

Sergt. Patterson and ten men of the North-west Mounted Police arrived at Saskatchewan Landing on the 12th Nov. from Maple Creek, having been ten days out following the river in search of twenty-five lodges of Assiniboine Indians, reported to have left Red Pleasant's reserve on the Battle river some days ago. So far nothing has been seen of them.

*MOUNTED INFANTRY.—Conclusion.*

BY COL. J. F. MACANDREW, BENGAL STAFF CORPS.

The dress of regiments for the purpose of Mounted Infantry is a matter of great importance, and we have no hesitation in saying that the rifle green should be discarded. It is all but black, which at a distance is the most conspicuous color in which a soldier can be dressed. We confess to a preference for the national red, and if that be the old brickdust color, in which our army thirty years ago used to be dressed, there is no better wearing or less visible color. The present tunic is a good pattern if it be made loose enough to give perfect freedom to the limbs and body, and to enable the man to sleep comfortably with it on. The material would naturally depend on the climate in which the battalion was to serve. Their belts should be brown leather, and their ornaments true, not black, bronze. The present helmet in use in the army is absurd, both in shape and color. It is black with burnished brass ornaments, a combination which seems calculated to get the men shot. It is no protection from the sun, and but little from the rain. Its color should be as nearly that of the coat as could be managed, and its ornaments should be true bronze. Indeed, all the ornamental parts of the uniform made of metal, including the buttons, should be true bronze or some equally dull inconspicuous color. Nothing about the men should either clatter or shine, and the bayonets should be never fixed until the men were so near the enemy that concealment became no longer requisite. The shape of the helmet and its material should be such as to protect the soldier both from sun and rain. There should be no spikes allowed on service. The peak should be sufficiently large to shade the face and be but slightly drooped from the horizontal. The sides should droop more and cover the temples, enlarging towards the back so as to completely shade the back of the head and neck from even a low sun. Where great heat had to be endured, the tiger hunter's pad, to cover the back and spine, coming up under the helmet behind, which was adopted in the Soudan, would save many a man from sunstroke. As the best helmet material we know we recommend thick cork. It is light, a good non-conductor of heat, impervious to rain, will stand a good sword cut, and endure the rough treatment to be expected as well as any other material.

The nether garments of the soldier should be pantaloons, fitting close from below the knee to the small of the leg, where they might button, but loose enough from the knee upward to give perfect freedom to the body and legs, and to enable the man to stoop, kneel, sit on the ground, or lie down with comfort. The material would vary with the climate, but the color should be one as invisible at a distance as possible. For the feet and legs we recommend the Elcho boot of brown leather. From experience we can say that it is equally suited to walking or riding, and that it gives great support to the leg. It reaches to the small below the knee and protects the leg so far from mud, grit, and dust, keeps the feet dry, and is impervious to thorns, spear grass, burrs and other annoyances of that kind. It is warm, ties close to the small of the leg, and possesses the unique advantage that it can be taken off or put on without any difficulty when wet or when contracted by being dried after wet. It is a true soldier's boot. The Afghan patti, which has been in the Soudan, may be better for that country, for it is lighter, cooler, and perhaps supports the leg as well, but it does not protect from mud or grit and dust, and invites the other troubles mentioned, and for general purposes is not to compare with the Elcho boot.

The greatcoat for its material must, like the rest of the clothing, depend on the climate, at least, to a certain extent. Some ingenuity is required to devise a suitable pattern, for to be perfect it should be waterproof and cover the man's knees when mounted, and yet be such that he can move and fight on foot with it on when required.

To preserve the health of the men, and keep them dry from rain or dew, we suggest that a tent of the following kind might be carried by them: a ridge-pole tent, seven feet long, for two men. We think that their rifles might form the uprights, each man carrying a small plug, with a canopy to support the ridge-pole, and a small blunt spike on top to pass through the ridge-pole rings and corresponding holes in the tent. The ridge-pole would be in two pieces of a light strong wood, such as hickory, with a socket six inches deep on one piece, into which the other would fit. Each piece would be about 3 ft. 9 in. long. A rifle is 4 ft. 7 in. long, and if an inch is allowed for the plug, the upright becomes 4 ft. 5 in., which, if the width of the tent be 6 ft., requires a piece of cloth 7 ft. by 11 in., besides the ends. The ends should be split down the middle, overlap, and be fastened by a couple of cord and cross-stick buttons, passing through eyelet holes. The tent when pitched would be 7 ft. long, 6 ft. wide, and 4 ft. 7 in. high, and if the ground were scraped and embanked inside the edge of the cloth no rain could get into such a tent. The material should be the

lightest that would resist water and stand the work. In a camel corps the soldier and driver would be comrades in the tent, and in a horse corps two soldiers. The tent would be fastened down by eight pegs—that is, two to stay the uprights and ridge-pole, one for each corner, and one for each side. We cannot say what the weight would be, as we have not seen one made, but it should not be great. In a camel corps the tent could be carried under the flap of the saddle in a hollow made for the purpose, the fly on one side and ridge-pole and pegs on the other. We think that the same arrangement might be made in the saddle of a horse for the ridge-pole pieces and pegs, the other man taking the fly of the tent over the pommel of his saddle. Such saddles would not sit like a hunting saddle, but it is not required that they should, for the men are only to use the horses for marching and nothing else. They are in no case to fight on horseback. The two men could pitch the tent in three minutes. If it was thought that there was danger of spoiling the rifles by using them for this purpose, they would have to carry poles. Each tent would require two, 4 ft. 9 in. long each. Such poles of hickory would be easily carried on a camel side by side with the other things, but they would be rather in the way on a horse. They might, however, be carried one by each man slung on the arm in a stirrup socket as lances are carried, with two small loops, on one side of the saddle in its front and rear, in which to fasten the pole when the soldier dismounted. The health of the men is so important that it is worth carrying this. In an elephant corps six men ride on each elephant, sitting three on either side of a pad—Irish car fashion. There is plenty of room on the pad between the seats for three such tents and the men's packs and valises.

The kit of the soldier should, of course, be cut down as much as possible, and would best be carried in small-bags—two behind for the kit, one before on one side for concentrated provision, biscuit and pemmican, and on the other side a leathern flask for water, the chagal of Persia and Western India, which carries a good supply and keeps it cool. The soldier's kit for service might consist of one spare flannel shirt, one pair drawers, and two pairs of socks, which, with what he had on, should do for clothing. His blanket might be carried valise-fashion, with his greatcoat, on the cantle of the saddle. There would be no pipe-clay, blacking, or anything of that sort. Indeed, besides the actual clothing, he would only require a hair-brush and comb, a clothes-brush, and two small towels, with the implements necessary for cleaning his rifle and bayonet. Men trained as here recommended would be very valuable, and it is plain economy to take care of them. Their lives are truly given to their country's service, but not to bare-faced want of care.

The training of the animals is not a matter of much difficulty. Some years ago an officer of the Poonah Horse devised a plan by which one man could lead the horses of four dismounted men; two were linked on either side of his own horse, and we believe they were trained to wheel and march so that they could follow the movements of the regiment. This officer's idea was that the men of his own regiment, a cavalry one, should fight on foot. It probably came to nothing, because the object was not considered desirable, as in our opinion it is not—such practice would spoil cavalry as cavalry; but the means (that is the linking and manœuvring of the horses) were highly approved of. In India probably natives might be ordinarily used to lead the horses, and if so each battalion of horse chasseurs would have a native for every fifth man, in order to save the valuable Europeans for fighting; but in a camel corps each camel would have its own native driver, who would be an armed and disciplined soldier. The fifth, native, in a horse corps should be armed with a sword and revolver to rid himself of a stray assailant, but he should be drilled to get out of the way of danger, and under the protection of the Europeans if possible. Certain officers would of course be told off to take charge of the horses in action or when the men were dismounted. A camel corps should have its officers, and they might dismount, tether the camels in a mass, and drive off plundering assailants; the drivers should have their rifle and bayonet like the soldiers. No elephant corps need be embodied, but the elephant drivers should be trained to a few simple words of command and bugle sounds, and be taught to move in line, to march in columns of single elephant front, and to halt at the word of command. This they could be taught at their depôt by the officers in charge of them without any expense at all.

The manœuvres of horse and camel corps need only be of the simplest descriptions. The object is to keep as near to the men in action as possible, but so as not to endanger the animals until they are wanted, forming line from column, and column from line, increasing or diminishing the front, marching, halting, and wheeling would be about the whole of it. The ordinary pace would be a walk for a horse corps and a gentle amble for the camel, whose walk is too slow; but both should be able to move rapidly if required, and the men trained accordingly.

The horse required need not be large, but active, wiry and of a good, sound, hard constitution. The camel should be the best riding dromedary, for the true dromedary is to the ordinary camel as a race-horse is to a cart-horse. These animals are found on the borders of the Indian desert and in Arabia; some were, we believe, sent from Aden to the Soudan, and were far the best camels there. The camel is an animal sure to fail if overladen or in unskilled hands; but if not weighted beyond what is proper, and driven and cared for by men who know its habits and requirements, the camel is capable of making astonishing marches. Heavy men should not be entertained in these regiments, and all that the animal had to carry should be reduced as far as is compatible with the thorough efficiency of the soldiers.

The question of the carriage to accompany such a force as we are speaking of is one that requires the most careful consideration. It should be confined to food, ammunition, and the necessary medical impedimenta. No wheeled carriage should accompany the corps on its special work—that should all be pack. If the force were advancing, and the army coming up behind, the wounded could generally be picked up by them; but if the force were retreating they would carry them off. For the bad cases mule litters would probably be the best carriage, and for less serious cases men who were unable to ride in the ordinary way might ride one on either side of a camel or strong horse, in an ambulance seat to be invented and constructed for the purpose. Of course these men would be handed over to the first regular field hospital they might come across. What is essential is that this question should be most carefully studied and regulated in every detail: the contents of every package to be carried should be laid down as they are for the contents of the limber of a gun, and be rigidly adhered to, and this should extend to everything—food, ammunition, kits, clothing, and medical necessaries and stores. Means of replenishing the stores of the force when detached, and of supplying ammunition to the soldiers in action, should be most carefully and thoroughly provided, and the arrangements once sanctioned should be carried out under the orders and requisition of the officer in command of the detached force, who should be responsible for them. A force of this kind should be as self-contained and as independent of departments as possible, for the more it is dependent upon them the more hampered will it be in the face of its special duties, and the less fit for sustained detached action. It should be very liberally supplied with the best pack carriage, while its impedimenta should be cut down to the minimum of thorough efficiency. But to make it realize all that is to be expected it must have its own special commissariat arrangements and carriage, which would probably be mules.

After the battle of Tel-el-Kebir Lord Wolseley, with a happy audacity, sent forward his cavalry alone to follow up the victory, and the promptitude and confidence of the pursuit so cowed the enemy, that the cavalry seized the city of Cairo and the person of Arabi, and concluded the campaign as far as Egypt proper was concerned. It was, however, a risk, and with an enemy of more resolution would probably have failed; but if a general had at his disposal a brigade such as we have described, it is not too much to say that a similar operation would be conducted with infinitely less risk than was then run, even should the enemy be made of better stuff.—*Colburn's Magazine.*

### PERSONALS.

Major General Sir Frederick Middleton will return to the Capital from the Maritime Provinces this week.

Lieut.-Col. C. Boulton, of Boulton's horse renown, is in Toronto, and is said to be about publishing a history of the campaign.

Mr. A. H. Malloch (late of Ottawa), has joined the Toronto Car. Art., which corps is up to its full strength and is a very fine body of men.

It is rumored that Captain Streatfield, A.D.C. to the Governor-General, will succeed Lord Melgund as military secretary to His Excellency. Lord Melgund's reasons for resigning are entirely private. He and Lady Melgund will probably sail in time to spend Christmas day at home.

Dr. Martin, who twenty-two years ago was stationed in St. John's, P.Q., as staff-surgeon of the Royal Canadian Rifles, then quartered there, has returned to that town for the purpose of making it his home for the future. In the interval Dr. Martin has travelled over a large part of the world, and has been in service in India and Egypt. He has recently retired with honors with the rank and pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel.

### GENERAL MIDDLETON'S VISIT TO FREDERICTON.

#### INSPECTION OF "A" COMPANY I. S. C.

On Friday, the 27th ult., Major-General Sir Frederick Middleton inspected the Infantry School at Fredericton, N.B. Everything was in favor of a successful review. The sun shone brightly; the weather was all that could be desired, and the barrack square was in good condition, being almost free from snow.

At eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the corps, in line at open order in the barrack square, facing the river, received the General, who was accompanied by Capt. Wise, his Aide-de-camp, and also by Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G. and Commandant of the Corps, with a general salute, the band playing a quickstep, after which he proceeded to carefully inspect the clothing, arms, accoutrements, &c., of each non-commissioned officer and man, finding everything in perfect condition. During the inspection the band played.

The line having taken close order broke into column to the right, forming three companies—No. 1 under command of Lieut. Hemming, No. 2 under Lieut. Bremner, and No. 3 (the attached men) under Sergt. Sutton, Brighton Engineers.

These companies were then made up into two companies, No. 1 being under command of Lieut. Hemming, and No. 2 under Lieut. Bremner, which were "proved" by their commanding officers, and then marched past both in quick time and at the double. While at the double the column formed line to the right on the rear company, and were then halted. During these movements Col. Maunsell was in command.

Major Gordon next put the corps through the manual and firing exercises, after which, Lieut. and Adj. Young put them through the bayonet exercise.

When this part of the review was finished, Lieut. Hemming was called to the front, broke the line into column to the right, changed direction by several wheels, formed quarter column on the leading company, deployed into line to the left, then wheeled into column, moved the column to the left in fours, wheeled into line, and changed its front to the left on the right company. During these battalion movements the companies were under the command of Lieut. Bremner, I. S. C., and Lieut. Russell, 71st Batt., attached to the corps for a "long course."

Lieut. Russell was next called out, and put the corps through several battalion movements, principally in echelon.

Too much praise cannot be given to these officers for the excellent way in which they handled the corps through all these movements. As for the men, they worked like clock-work; no imperial regiment of the line could have surpassed them.

Col. Maunsell then again took command, and advanced the corps in line in "review order," and a general salute was given. It was then formed into a hollow square, and the general with his staff taking up a position in the middle of the square, immediately commenced the presentation of prizes. The following is a list of the prize winners:—

#### TARGET PRACTICE, ETC., IN 1885—BEST SHOT OF CORPS.

Prize by the commandant (handsome dressing case) and badge as best shot in company, Pte. W. Morgan, 117 points.

Best shots of No. 1 squad—Pte. R. Oulton, 108 points, \$4; Lance-Corp. J. Kelly, 103 points, \$3; Pte. J. G. Keith, 99 points, \$1.50.

No. 2 squad—Sergt. J. M. Chappell, 111 points, \$4; Pte. G. Wilks, 91 points, \$3; Pte. C. Nason, 90 points, \$1.50.

No. 3 squad—Sergt. Doherty, 117 points, \$4; Pte. J. C. Grant, 106 points, \$3; Pte. McPherson, 104 points, \$1.50.

No. 4 squad—Pte. R. Burt, 117 points, \$4; Lance-Corp. Kearney, 103 points, \$3; Act.-Sergt. Fowlic, 100 points, \$1.50.

#### SKIRMISHING.

Best target—Corp. Long, Pte. W. Boone, 42 points, \$5.

Second best targets (ties)—Pte. R. Burt, Lance-Corp. Bushwell, 36 points, \$2.

Pte. J. C. Burns, Pte. J. Williams, 36 points, \$2.

Sergt. Ross, Pte. E. Walsb, 36 points, \$2.

#### BEST JUDGES OF DISTANCE.

No. 1 squad—Pte. W. Hayans, 22 points, \$2; Pte. R. Oulto, 15 points, \$1.

No. 2 squad—Pte. C. Starkey, 16 points, \$2; Pte. J. Morrison, 16 points, \$1.

No. 3 squad—Lance-Corp. Cantwell, 18 points, \$2; Sergt. Sutton, 18 points, \$1.

No. 4 squad—Pte. J. C. Burns, 21 points, \$1; Sergt. Polkinhorn, 16 points, \$1.

#### VOLLEY FIRING.

Best squad—No. 2 squad, 42 points.

#### INDEPENDENT FIRING.

Best squad—No. 1 squad, 43 points; No. 2 squad, 43 points; No. 4 squad, 43 points (ties).

In an address to the corps, after the presentation of prizes, Sir Frederick reminded the men that shooting was the most important part of their drill, and he was glad to learn that so much attention

had been given to target practice by the corps. It was more than probable that the only fighting which Canadian troops will ever be called upon to do will be with Indians and Half-breeds. In referring to the discussion regarding the relative merits of the Snider and Martini-Henry rifles, he expressed his belief in the superiority of the Snider for the operations in the field in which our troops may be called upon to engage. The ability to hit the bull's eye at 1,000 yards is an excellent accomplishment; but a marksman capable of doing this may not be so successful in actual warfare, amid the noise and smoke and excitement of battle. It is widely different from firing at a target—one will not likely make as good a score when the target fires back at him. He hoped that practice at moving targets would soon form part of the annual training of our militia, as a soldier who cannot shoot well is no good in the field. Good shots are invariably steady men who don't drink. During the four months our troops were in the North-west, nothing stronger than tea was used, hence there was no sickness or crime during the whole campaign. The late experience of our men in the North-west would be of great service to the whole force in the future. The first four or five shots were generally thrown away in the field, principally owing to the inability of the soldier to judge the distance between himself and the enemy, consequently too much attention cannot be bestowed on judging distance drill; and he was glad to see that proper attention to this essential part of a soldier's duties was given at this school.

After the review, the General, accompanied by the officers and attached officers of the corps, inspected the men's kits, in their rooms; after which he went through the new Drill Hall and Hospital.

#### PRESENTATION OF CIVIC ADDRESS.

At half past four the same afternoon an immense audience gathered in the City Hall, when the Mayor presented Sir Frederick with an address of congratulation. The General was attended by all the officers in the city, and the Mayor, Mr. G. E. Fenety, by the Aldermen and chief citizens. Sir Leonard Tilley, Lieut.-Governor, was also present. The address had the merit of departing from the usual line of such laudations. After welcoming and congratulating the Commander of the Militia on his late success, and in the wonderful promptitude with which peace had been restored, the Mayor continued:

"The Seminole wars in Florida extended over a period of twenty years; while ten millions of treasure and the lives of a quarter of a million of men was the terrible price paid by the United States Government ere the savages were subdued; and these Indian wars and depredations are of periodical occurrence in the Republic up to the present time. The Custer massacre is of recent date.

"The rebellion which broke out in our far West during the latter part of March last was crushed and all the chiefs made prisoners within six months, and yet the Dominion had no mean foe to contend with, but men well trained to arms and inured to hardships. Thanks to the brave and gallant volunteers who did active service at the front, led by a commander of high military skill and renown, who had gathered his first laurels in the Crimea and Indian Empire, and whose excellent training and abilities fitted him so admirably to defend Her Majesty's power and authority in these her far outstretched and sparsely inhabited possessions. In the language of a recent reporter, "Our volunteers and little handful of regulars were pitted against a foe as brave, as adroit and as experienced in the hardships, perils and horrors of frontier warfare as can be found under the sun, and after meeting with a desperate and stubborn resistance, our gallant fellows triumphed brilliantly; but it was a costly and blood-bought victory." Now, sir, in our triumphs must we forget those brave New Brunswick and Nova Scotia volunteers (our excellent Military School included) who, on summons, marched forward to do battle? and if they did not get to the front before the war was over, it was no fault of theirs, but the fault (if the word here is not a misnomer) of those who fought so well—like the 300 at Thermopylae and the 600 at Balaclava—that there was no occasion for their services. The bravery, however, was the same, it was only the opportunity that was wanting to show our Western fellow colonists that we of the East, like themselves, were eager for the fray, and should have given a good account of ourselves had the war continued.

"We trust, sir, that you will forgive us if we inform you that this recent call to arms is not new to our provincial volunteers. We profess to have a brief military history of our own. The sons of the Loyalists are true to the memories of their fathers. In 1813, when Great Britain was at war with the United States, we raised in Fredericton and neighborhood a regiment of 900 men, called the 104th, which marched to Canada (as it was then known) in the dead of winter, and there the blood of our fellow countrymen was spilled at Lundy's Lane, Sackett's Harbour and other well fought fields. The service they

rendered to their king during that campaign can best be established by the number of lives lost. Not more than sixty out of that noble band of heroes returned to their homes in Fredericton.

"Again we refer you, sir, to 1839 during the north western boundary trouble, when the whole Aroostook County, then in dispute, was in a blaze of excitement during the whole summer, as it had been, off and on, for years before. The Americans, urged on by Governor Fairfield, of Maine, and our volunteers full of patriotism and loyalty, formed two hostile camps, ready at the first signal for blood and carnage. Had an accidental shot been discharged, or one fired in anger, a terrible struggle must have ensued. Every day a commencement of hostilities was anticipated in all parts of the Province. But fortunately the American commander came to the front, in the person of General Scott, and he and our Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Harvey, like true generals and christian gentlemen, caused a truce, and entered into a calm examination of matters, and at once the fiery spirits of both sides were quenched. The Ashburton Treaty followed, and a peace was proclaimed which it is to be hoped will last for all time to come between the two great nations.

"Sir, we cannot close this imperfect address without reminding you, as Commander-in-Chief, of the opinion which we, as magistrates representing this city, entertain of the Infantry School established at Fredericton. The excellent discipline and soldierly bearing of the men are best shown in their ordinary conduct when off duty, as well as in the observance of our laws equally with good citizens, the result not only of a high moral intelligence among the soldiers themselves, but also of the good training and example set them by their officers, for whom we entertain the utmost regard."

General Sir Frederick Middleton made a suitable reply to the address, thanking the city for the honor done him, and referring categorically to the several items of the address. Concerning the Maritime Province contingent for the insurrection and the I. S. C. he spoke as follows:

"You were pleased to remind me, sir, of the brave deeds of Maritime Province men in the past. Circumstances prevented the troops from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick from taking an active part in the North-west affair. The Nova Scotia men, owing to the distance from the field of action, arrived late, and were detained in the rear to cover and forward the supplies for the troops at the front.

"This was a very necessary part of the campaign. They did this work well, and so assisted me in the operations at the front. The New Brunswick troops, owing to the great distance away, were prevented from taking an active part. But from the readiness with which they responded to the call to arms, and from what I know of their commander, Col. Maunsell, I am sure they would have proved themselves worthy sons of the fathers to whom you, sir, have been pleased to mention. You, sir, have spoken in high terms of the Commandant and his staff, and alluded to their general popularity among the citizens of Fredericton. You also speak of the discipline and conduct of the men. I can speak of the interior arrangements, conduct and management of the School, and say it with pleasure, that I found nothing to correct or complain of."

#### DINNER BY THE I. S. C. OFFICERS.

In the evening the General was entertained to dinner by the officers of the I. S. C. when the following were present: Major-General Sir Frederick Middleton; His Lordship the Metropolitan of Canada; The Right Rev. Dr. Kingdon, Bishop Coadjutor; Rev. G. G. Roberts, Chaplain to the forces; Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G.; Lieut.-Col. Marsh, 71st Batt.; Capt. Wise, A.D.C.; Col. John Robinson; Major Gordon, I. S. Corps; Surgeon Brown, I. S. Corps; Lieut. and Adjutant Young, I. S. Corps; Lieut. Hemming, I. S. Corps; Lieut. Bremner, I. S. Corps; Major O'Malley; Capt. Powys; Chief Justice Allen; Judge Wetmore; Hon. T. R. Jones; Provincial Secretary McLellan; Solicitor General Ritchie; E. L. Wetmore, Q.C., M.P.P.; Thomas Temple, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Crookshanks, the Lieut.-Governor's Private Secretary; H. Beckwith, Esq.; Major A. G. Beckwith, 71st Batt.; Capt. Copley, 71st Batt.; Capt. A. F. Street; Lieut. W. E. Russell, 71st Batt.; Lieut. Donkin, Argyle Highlanders; Lieut. Wedderburn, 8th Cavalry.

Amongst the numbers played by the band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Hayes, is a valse "Fern Hill," credited to Col. Maunsell, from which it would seem that the gallant commandant adds a knowledge of music to his other numerous accomplishments.

A French officer of infantry has invented a repeating rifle which he believes to excel everything of the kind hitherto devised. The weapon can be loaded with its seven cartridges in ten seconds, and completely discharged in four. A great merit of the arm is that it can be fired until the magazine is exhausted without being removed from the shoulder.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## SERVICE FOOT GEAR.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—I quite agree with some of the remarks of "A Noodle," but as regards the "beef boots" I should like to give my experience. I was attached to the Sharpshooters during the North-west campaign; we were served out with the "beef boots" when we left Ottawa, and on arrival at Winnipeg we were supplied with long boots, said to be of the same pattern as those used by the Mounted Police—although I afterwards saw some of the Police wearing boots of a different pattern.

Well, I wore my boots from the day we received them, 8th April, until the day we were relieved from duty, 25th July, during which time I tramped over a considerable amount of ground of all descriptions, and during that time I never had a sore foot and never had any difficulty in getting my boots on or off. I still have those boots, and all they require is to be half-soled to make them as good as new—the uppers being quite good yet.

I tried the "beef boots" for some days, but I found that the grease ran down to the soles, softening them, so that any inequality in the ground was felt by the feet. I also found that the seam, where the upper was joined to the lower part of the boot, constantly chafed the back of the foot. And if the ground was wet or covered with frost the foot would slip at every step, which made the marching doubly tiresome, especially in going up or down hill.

I saw some men whose "beef-skins" had gone over, the sole coming up on the side of the foot. I have also known them to come off in crossing a slough.

I know there were some who could not wear their long boots, but I believe the fault lay with themselves, as they did not know how to choose them. They should be large enough to allow for the expansion of the foot, which is considerable on a long march; and high in the instep, which lowers and spreads on the march.

I think that if our "beef boots" had been soled—as recommended by "A Noodle"—and heeled they would have been better, as they would have had more hold on the ground.

It is a difficult matter to choose foot-gear suitable for Canada on account of the great diversity of the ground and climate. What would suit the soft prairie would not do for rocky ground, and what would do for our warm summers would not do for the cold and ice of winter. How would a low shoe do for summer? They are cool, are easily slipped on and off, and dancers and skaters favor them as giving more play to the ankle. This suggests the Highland dress as being suitable, the shoe and stocking being easily slipped off on coming to a wet piece of ground, and the absence of trousers keeping the legs cool as well as being less encumbered in marching and not liable to get chafed as so many did during the late campaign.

SHARPSHOOTER.

December 1st, 1885.

## HONORS FOR THOSE WHO WERE AT THE FRONT.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—The following is cut from the published official memorandum of the Minister of Justice upon Kiel's case:—"That it was part of his plan to capture the police force, or some high government official, in order to compel negotiations, has been stated by him to the Rev. Mr. Pitblado and to others, as well as to Capt. Young. 'From that time until the suppression of the rebellion by the taking of Batoche' on 12th of May, he was the unquestioned leader of the movement. Being urged by Mr. Astley, after the second engagement, which took place at Fish Creek, to allow him to negotiate, he said to him, what he also repeated to the witness Ross, that they must have another victory first, when they would be able to make better terms with the government;" and another quotation will show the Minister's opinion of Batoche. Summing up he says: "The government were obliged to keep in view the need of exemplary and deterrent punishment for crime committed in a country situated in regard to settlement and population as are the North-west Territories; the isolation and defenceless position of the settlers already there; the horrors to which they would be exposed in the event of an Indian outbreak." This ought to prove, if nothing else will, to "Cut Knife," that the rebellion was "suppressed by the capture of Batoche," and that the same event saved "the horrors of an Indian outbreak."

A friend of mine, who had a friend in Egypt during the rebellion of 1882, gives me the following instance, which I quote for "Cut Knife's" benefit, as a precedent for the issue of a distinguishing badge for Batoche. He says: "There was some very tough fighting around Alexandria, quite as hard as the capture of Tel-el-Kebir, but the latter virtually suppressed the rebellion and ended all chance of a universal rising throughout Egypt, which would have caused war, probably lasting for years. Consequently," he says, "they gave a badge for Tel-el-Kebir, which my friend, who was at Alexandria, did not get."

Here, then, is an exactly parallel case, and a strong argument why those who were at Batoche should have a distinguishing badge of some sort.

"Cut Knife" in his letter deliberately misrepresents me and shows both jealousy and viciousness.

I never pretended that, "we, who were at Batoche," are only to be considered as having been "at the front."

I do not seek in the least to depreciate the work done by Colonel Otter and the boys at Cut Knife, nor by the others at Fish Creek and Frenchman's Butte. On the contrary, I should like to see a clasp given for each separate fight, only that would not suit your correspondent "Cut Knife" if he stayed in Battleford all the time and let the others go to Cut Knife without him.

If "C. K." has not heard the "growl" I spoke of I would advise him to apply to the medical board, for the drum of his ear is evidently affected, and if never under fire, he is still entitled to compensation. The growls have also been loud and deep, I am informed, in the regiments he mentions, some going so far as to say "they won't wear the medal without some badge for Batoche."

Since writing the above I have seen "Volunteer's" letter, and I think there are many such volunteers equally generous.

THE ODD FILE.

[The Royal Navy received a clasp for the bombardment of Alexandria.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—It certainly appears now that a clasp for Batoche will not be given, and those who had the pleasure of being shot at by the rebels, at what might fairly be called a victory, are to receive and wear the same medal as those who, by no fault of their own, did sentry-go about the car sheds of the Canadian Pacific railway.

If such be the case, the only mode of distinguishing those regiments who took part in this engagement will devolve upon themselves, and though slightly out of custom, their only alternative will be to leave their breasts as they were during the fighting, quite bare.

The troops with General Middleton, both at Fish Creek and Batoche, had quite as good a chance, and perhaps a better one, of receiving a bullet as the Imperial soldiers at Abuklea, and the idea of giving no clasp for Batoche at least (though both deserve it), has no precedent in war.

All who were west of Port Arthur without doubt deserve the medal, and it is unfortunate that they had not the opportunity for a closer inspection of Gabriel Dumont's rifle pits. From remarks made by those who had this opportunity, I question, if issued a medal minus a clasp, whether they will care to wear it.

The late Egyptian campaign has, I think, four or five clasps, and some of the battles did not see, in proportion, as many killed and wounded as our little affair out west. Burmah will doubtless decorate more breasts, and in spite of the three or four men slaughtered by King Theebaw, the engagement at Mandalay will be considered a battle worthy of a clasp.

The reason for such an injustice, if intended, cannot well be imagined. If it is feared that a Batoche clasp will provoke jealousy among those not there, then by all means furnish one to all the men under fire at the other fights.

If again the feelings of those not in the fighting line are to be considered as a bar to our receiving our just reward, according to the custom of the British service, why the remedy lies at once in the very sensible plan of giving those at Batoche, Fish Creek, Cut Knife, and Frenchman's Butte the bare medal, and issue clasps to those not present at these affairs, with the inscription "C.P.R.," "Sun dance," or "Teepee."

FIREBAG.

## REGIMENTAL NOTES.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

HALIFAX.—A correspondent in the *Herald* thus sums up a discussion that has enlivened the local press: If the discussion has proved anything it is that the militia corps, in this city at least, require a thorough reorganization. In the first place, men on joining and officers on receiving their commissions, should undergo a rigid medical examination. We should then know that we had a healthy body of men for our defence. No officer should accept a commission, or having one should retain it, if he finds that his own business interests, or those of others with whom he may be connected will suffer if he is called upon at any time to go wherever duty or danger calls him. The plea that has been advanced in defence of several officers that the interest of business firms would be injured if they had gone to North-west is puerile. So long as our militia is officered by men who are only able to sport the uniforms in "the piping times of peace," so long it will be a poor affair to depend upon if an emergency should arise. Quite a number of the Canadian officers who went to the front—indeed several of those of the Halifax provisional battalion—made great sacrifices in leaving their business and families to take care of themselves, and this without hesitation or murmur. What is true of the officers in this respect is especially so for the rank and file. It is to be hoped that the ventilation of these matters will aid in bringing about improvements in the militia force.

The 1st battalion of the Berkshire regiment, which has rendered such valuable service in the Soudan, will shortly be moved to their garrison, to take the place vacated by the 1st battalion Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire regiment), which was sent to Egypt.

FREDERICTON, N.B.—The new drill hall on Carleton street was taken off the contractor's hands yesterday. The I.S.C. drilled in it for the first time yesterday afternoon. The 71st Batt. band have taken possession of their band room, and Nos. 5 and 7 companies will move into their armories during the week.

TORONTO, Dec. 5.—The sub-committee of the Toronto City Council, appointed to consider the question of a new drill shed, met this week. Several available sites were suggested. It was thought that three and a-half acres would be required for the shed and parade ground adjoining. After some discussion it was decided to communicate with the Minister of Militia, with a view to learn whether the government would build the shed if the city provided the site.

The non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Grenadiers, who went to the North-west last spring, are to receive an allowance of \$8.15 in lieu of boots and under-clothing.

31st Grey Batt.—The recently organized rifle association in connection with the Durham Co. has already been doing some good work. In a competition for points with a team of the Mount Forest Co., 30th Wellington Rifles, on the range of the latter, the Durham boys came out victorious. At 200 yards the scores were equal; but at 400 yards they were 46 points ahead, and at 600 yards, which, owing to darkness coming on, was unfinished, 11 points ahead. They were very hospitably entertained by their comrades in the Mount Forest company.

It was intended that several non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment should attend the School of Infantry here during the course beginning in January. Not anticipating a rush of non-commissioned officers and men to gain admission, application was not made until last week when it was found that there were no vacancies.

The Meaford Company, under Capt. Cleland, drills weekly, and will continue to do so during the winter. About sixty members are on parade each evening.

The Military board, consisting of Lieut.-Col. Denison, D.A.G., Major Dunn, G. G. B. G., Capt. Delamere, Q.O.R., and the Medical board, consisting of Dr. H. H. Wright, Dr. Burns and Dr. Pyne, assembled on Tuesday last to inspect and report on the wounded and invalided men in this district. There are some

fifty men to go before these boards, more than half of whom belong to the R. G. Some delay occurred at first, owing to the D.A.G. not issuing the printed certificates required, and the board refusing to accept stereotyped ones which had been prepared, but the want was at once supplied, and the work is now daily progressing with all possible despatch. The boards are good ones and will doubtless deal liberally with the brave fellows. Several serious cases of rupture are unfortunately reported in the Q O.R., which took place during the very heavy fatigue works at Battleford.

**LINDSAY.**—Major McDermid has removed the armory from the outside of the drill shed and placed it inside, covering it overhead in such a way that neither rain nor sand can blow in as happened in the old one. The Major deserves great credit for providing, almost at his own expense, so secure a place for the government property, for the remuneration that he is allowed for it will not nearly cover the time and lumber expended. He has put a rack in the centre for the rifles with the number of each rifle placed at the muzzle which makes it very convenient when giving them out to the men.—*Victoria Warder, Dec. 4.*

**WINNIPEG.**—Uniforms for the School of Mounted Infantry have been forwarded from the military stores branch of the Department of Militia.

**LONDON, ONT.**—At a meeting of the officers of the 7th Fusiliers the other night, it was decided to put in a claim to the Government for five days' ration allowance, that being the length of time the men remained under arms after their arrival at home here. Probably a claim for indemnity for the clothing and boots purchased by the men themselves will also be put in, as one of the Toronto regiments is said to have secured \$8.15 per man, as an allowance for their expenditures for these articles. About a dozen claims have been sent to Major Smith, commanding, from volunteers seeking compensation for injuries to health sustained during the recent campaign in the North-west. The majority of the claimants seek compensation for permanent injuries sustained through cold and exposure.

London claims that thirteen out of the fifty-six members of the Winnipeg Mounted Infantry School are natives of the forest city.

**St. JOHN'S, P.Q.**—The *News* reports that the barracks occupied by B Co. I.S.C., have just been greatly improved. The old faded red brick walls have been painted a bright yellowish drab, and all the old debris connected with the burnt wing has been removed. A good sidewalk has been laid the entire length of the barrack road, which is a great convenience not only to our military friends but also to citizens having occasion to visit the barrack.

The Militia Department have consolidated the regulations of the Royal Military College as well as those of the Military Schools of Instruction in the provinces.

The Medical and Military Boards appointed by the Department of Militia to investigate the claims of volunteers injured during the North-west rebellion have already made considerable progress in Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Kingston and Ottawa. The Deputy Adj. Gen. of the district, and Capts. Hodgins and Gourdeau constitute the board of officers for this district.

**AMUSEMENTS.**

*(If the active organizers of regimental games, company clubs, and similar winter occupations for the militia will forward us accounts of their doings we will gladly publish them. This, we hope, will have the good result of encouraging the organization of similar clubs where there are none at present.)*

**OTTAWA.**—The fourth annual meeting of the 43rd Rifles' snowshoe club was held in the orderly room on the evening of the 2nd, when there was a large attendance. The annual report showed a good balance on hand. The following officers were elected: President, Lieut.-Col. White; 1st vice-president, Lieut. Bradbury; 2nd vice-president, Staff-Sergt. Rogers; captain, Capt. T. D. B. Evans; secretary treasurer, Sergt. E. A. Grant; whipper-in, Pte. A. E. McCormack; committee, Corps. Wills and Lyon, and Ptes. Huband and Clendinnen. It was decided to adopt a scarlet tuque with black band (rifle colors), having a maltese cross worked on its side. This, with white blanket coat, knickerbockers and red sash, will constitute the club uniform. Capt. Lees, who is retiring from the command of No. 1 Co., was elected an honorary member. On account of the large number of friends of the club who are anxious to tramp with the boys, it was decided to admit a limited number of civilians, each one of whom must be introduced by two or more members of the snowshoe club. Wednesday nights were chosen for the regular weekly tramps. The first tramp will take place on the 9th. Before adjourning resolutions were passed expressive of the deep regret felt by the members at the death on the field of honor of Pte. Wm. Osgood, who for the past three years had been one of the most active and popular members of the club.

**Toronto, Dec. 5.**—No. 8 Co. 12th York Rangers held a very successful concert in North Toronto Monday evening.

**GLEANINGS.**

The widows of the three workmen, killed some time ago by the fall of a scaffold at the drill shed, Montreal, have instituted proceedings for damages against the contractors, claiming \$10,000. The father of the fourth man killed has also begun proceedings.

The late Lord Ranelagh, who had always been devoted to the interests of the English volunteer force, and who, at the time of his death was in command of the South Middlesex R.V., received a military funeral on the 21st inst., when 650 men of his corps and most of the metropolitan commanding officers accompanied his remains to their last resting place.

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PRIZE MEDAL 1862.

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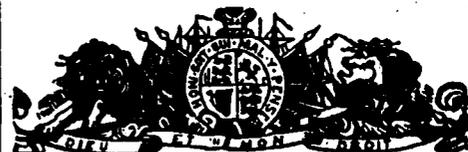
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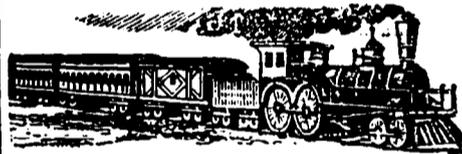
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