

F. O. Wurtzle
c. o. C. F. Wurtzle
Quebec Bank

THE CANADIAN

Military Gazette

Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.

VOL. X.
No. 23.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER 1, 1895.

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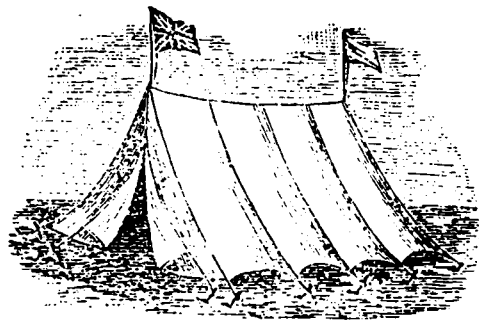
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MONTREAL, DECEMBER 1, 1895.

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News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address.

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE
P.O. Box, 387, Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N. S.

Drafts to the number of 280 officers, warrant officers, N. C. O.'s and men, to complete the establishment of the regular troops at this station and the 49th Royal Berkshire Regt. expected from Bermuda next month, arrived here on the 23rd inst. Amongst the arrivals was Sergt. Major Mullane V. C., Royal Artillery. He was awarded the much coveted Victoria cross for valour during the Afghan campaign 1881.

The O. C. Halifax Garrison Artillery has arranged for a series of lectures on artillery subjects to be given by himself and his officers on Monday evenings during the winter months. Major and Adjt. Oxley faces the blackboard on the 2nd proximo with the opening lecture "Modern Ordnance," its construction etc.

I was sorry to see so many typographical errors creep into my letter in your last issue, it was copied here by some of the local papers, and each error was faithfully reproduced.

Militia and Mobilization.

The following is an extract from a letter from the commander of the Canadian militia forwarded to Colonel Irving, D. A. G.

"The major-general notices with much pleasure the appreciation expressed by the lieutenant-general commanding H. M. troops of the work done by the militia, an appreciation which he himself after a careful perusal of the detailed reports fully shares.

"He has read with interest the very clear accounts of their field operations sent in by Lieut.-Colonel Egan, 63rd rifles, and Majors Weston and Menger, 66th

Fusillers, who commanded the local infantry on the occasion, and he especially notices the admirable sketch with which Lieut. Col. Egan illustrates his report.

"He feels every reason to be satisfied with the work performed by those members of the Halifax Garrison artillery who attended the parade.

"The major-general, while regretting that the turnout was not as large as last year, desires to express his thanks to all those members of the militia force who were present under arms, no doubt in many cases at the expense of considerable inconvenience, or possibly even at pecuniary loss to themselves. He entertains the hope that before the next mobilization takes place it may be found possible to perfect arrangements by which those drawbacks may be minimized, with a result of a much larger attendance."

GRAVELCRUSHER.

Hamilton.

Lieut.-Col. Gibson's Farewell.

There was quite an affecting scene at the muster parade of the Thirteenth regiment on Friday evening, Nov. 22nd, when Lieut.-Col. Gibson formally took his leave of the corps, which he has commanded for the past seven years. As it was the last parade of the fall drill of 1895 the regiment was out in full strength, and the galleries were filled with spectators, many of whom were ex-members of the Thirteenth who had come to hear their former commanding officer deliver his valedictory.

After the business of the evening was concluded, the regiment was drawn up in a hollow square by Lieut.-Col. Moore, with the officers in front of their companies, and then amid a silence that allowed every word to be heard throughout the big armory, Lieut.-Col. Gibson addressed the regiment for the last time as its commander. He said:

"Thirteenth.—I am no longer your commanding officer. After nearly thirty-five years of service in the militia, over thirty-two of which have been spent in the Thirteenth as private, non-commissioned officer, or officer, the command of this corps has been by me most reluctantly resigned. The reasons for taking this step need not be dwelt upon by me. All will admit that my numerous other duties and responsibilities would have justified me in asking to be relieved of the command long ago. Strong reasons

exist for my desiring to continue with you. All of you, from the senior major down, have been loyal and true to me, and I think none of you want me to leave. When I took command we had no drill hall and no arms or equipment; some of the companies were very weak and our position was in many respects most discouraging. We have improved year by year, not so rapidly as I sometimes thought we should, but always sufficiently to be approvingly observed by Col. Otter on his annual inspections as deputy adjutant-general, and we have now the reputation of being a smart and, in a general sense, very efficient battalion, and just such a battalion as any officer might feel proud to command. We have a good drill hall and well furnished and comfortable quarters. The staff of officers is complete and nearly all of them are well qualified. A better lot of sergeants the battalion never has had. All the companies are now over the required strength and completely equipped. The band has a continental reputation, and is composed almost entirely of home-trained Hamilton young men. Our record in rifle practice and shooting has not been surpassed by any other corps in the Dominion. We are proud of having the Queen's prizeman for the year, and have no less cause for congratulation in the fact that efficiency in shooting is general all through the battalion. There was, in short, every inducement to remain with you. Let me not, however, be understood as taking more than my share of credit for all this. While I have done the best I could, you have co-operated zealously and faithfully. The citizens of Hamilton have also done well by us, and I take this last opportunity of thanking all those who have so cheerfully and liberally, year after year, contributed to our rifle fund, and those, too, who at different times, under inconvenience, allowed many of you to be away from ordinary duties to do your work on the ranges. Lieut.-Col. Moore will succeed to the command, and no one could be more deserving of promotion. The late Lt.-Col. Skinner, during his long period of command, owed much to Col. Moore, and but for the assistance he has always readily and cheerfully given me, I could not have continued nearly so long in the position of your commanding officer. I ask all ranks to be as faithful and true to him as you have been to me. He is entitled in every sense to your loyal and generous support. Let it never be forgotten that it is your Queen and country you are voluntarily serving when, by drilling and acquiring experience in the use of the rifle, you qualify yourselves for active service, and that even the simple act of signing the service roll is a much more reliable expression of loyalty than anything that may be gathered from eloquent flights of oratory or windy pro-

essions of patriotism which cost nothing. After well nigh half a lifetime of service, it is not likely that I shall ever cease to feel a keen interest in the Thirteenth, and by being allowed to remain in the active militia and to retain an honorary connection with the battalion, I may still at times have the opportunity of being of some service to you and associating with you; but I am no longer your commanding officer."

Several times during the delivery of his address the speaker's voice trembled with emotion, and as he turned away his eyes were suffused with tears. After a painful silence that lasted some seconds, the band in rear of the line struck up *Auld Lang Syne*, and played the melody twice over.

Lieut.-Col. Moore replied briefly to Lieut.-Col. Gibson's remarks, assuring him of the deep regret of every officer and man at his retirement. A pleasant feature of it, however, was that the government had granted him an honorary connection with the regiment, and consequently all ranks hoped to see him often with them. He would always be sure of a warm welcome when he visited the corps. After thanking him for the kindly reference to himself, Lieut.-Col. Moore called upon the officers and men to take off their caps and give three cheers for Lieut.-Col. Gibson.

The regiment gave three hearty cheers and a rousing tiger, and the ceremony was over.

Apart from the concluding feature of the parade it was a very busy night for the regiment.

During the forenoon Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., of the district, inspected the company armories, and was much pleased with their appearance and especially so with the cleanliness of the rifles, the inside of the barrels of which fairly shone.

Lieut.-Col. Buchan had examined the officers during the day and at night inspected the four companies as follows:

"A" company, 47 strong; Major Stoneman, Lieuts. Herring and Marshall.

"E" company, 44 strong; Capt. Osborne, Lieuts. Waddell and King.

"G" company, 43 strong; Capt. Mewburn, Lieut. Logie.

"H" company, 42 strong; Capt. Moore, Lieuts. Bruce and Barker.

These companies did even better than the other half of the regiment the previous week.

The manual exercise of "A" company, under Sergt. Allan, was splendidly done, having plenty of snap. The firing exercise, under Color-Sergt. Parkhill, was also good; then the company was put through three movements of company drill by their officers, the movements being particularly well done by the men, the only mistakes being a few slight ones in command by their captain.

The manual and firing exercises of "E" company, under Sergt. Stewart and Color-Sergt. Hill respectively, were well done, and the manoeuvring under the company officers, if characterized by a little more snap, would have been good.

"G" company followed and showed that they had profited by the extra

week's drill allowed them over the other half of the regiment.

The manual and firing exercises were carried through with plenty of snap and good time, and the marching of the company under the captain and Lieut. Logie was such as should bring them well to the front in the Gwoski cup returns.

"H" company, as in the case of one of the preceding companies, lacked snap, although both their manual and firing exercises were good as also was their manoeuvring.

The regiment was then mustered and every officer and man stepped from the ranks and saluted. The strength of the regiment was 431, the other four companies turning out as follows: "B," 45; "C," 50; "D," 40; "F," 48; staff, bugles and band, 67.

The principal prizes won at the regimental matches were presented by Lieut.-Col. Gibson, assisted by Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Henry McLaren, Lieut.-Col. Buchan and Chaplain Forneret. As each man or team came forward their company comrades applauded heartily, and when a bandsman was the recipient the big drum was beaten with sonorous, triumphant booming.

As the colonel presented the prizes to the old shots of the regiment, such as Staff-Sergt. D. Mitchell, Sergt. Morris and others, he was deeply moved and could not but remark that it was the last time that they would receive prizes from his hands.

The Hamilton Field Battery will take an active part in the Military Encampment this week, when they will give exhibitions of mounting and dismounting ordnance drill, gun drill and sword exercise. The Battery can give a splendid exhibition and will doubtless do themselves credit.

There is talk of having a battalion dinner, at some date, when the regiment can again meet Lieut.-Col. Gibson, and also celebrate together the great victory of Private Hayhurst at Bisley. There is no doubt but that this will be a great improvement over the usual company dinners.

It is rumored that the 13th Regiment have a very tight grip upon the Gwoski Cup for 1895-96.

The Pedro League formed amongst the various clubs in the city will afford a great deal of pleasure to a large number this winter. The clubs comprising the league are the Sergeants Mess, 13th Regiment, the Hamilton Bicycle Club, the Canadian Club, the Victoria Yacht Club, and the Young Liberals Club.

The sergeants and the young Liberals met the other evening, and after a hard night's playing the result was a tie.

The Canadian Almanac.

This almanac which has just been published for 1895-96 is as complete as ever and more specially interesting to military men by its militia list—corrected to October '95—and also its lists of graduates of the Royal Military College and details about the North West mounted police etc. It is a valuable compendium and useful work. The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd., publishers, Toronto.

Kingston.

KINGSTON, Nov. 25.—Major-General Gascoigne with Mrs. Gascoigne and his staff will arrive here to-morrow, and will remain until Friday. During his stay he will inspect the Royal Military College, and "A" Field Battery R C A. He will also inspect the stores of the 14th Batt P W W R at the new regimental headquarters in Artillery Park.

On Tuesday evening the Major-General will be entertained at dinner, in the mess of "A" Battery, by the officers of that corps. A similar attention on the part of the officers of the 14th Batt. is being talked of. On Thursday Mrs. Gascoigne will be tendered an informal reception by the wives of the officers of "A" Battery.

There will be no turn out of the 14th during the stay in the city of the general officer commanding the militia.

An officer commanding a company of the 14th Batt. states that every time a new issue of tunics is made, it costs his company from \$15 to \$20 to "cut down" the garments. He is of the opinion that the government should insist that the contractor supplies uniforms to the militia, or make and not ask the men to pay for such work, after they have devoted their time and pay to the regiment.

Lieut. C. M. Strange returned a few days ago from a business trip through the North Territories. He returns to Montreal this week.

Major (Ald) L. W. Shannon of the 14th Batt, was home on Monday last.

Corporal D'Amour, of "A" Battery, has received from Shoeburyness, England, his certificate, recording his proficiency in gunnery. This makes the second certificate of proficiency that he has received from England, and he possesses besides these two four others from Canadian military schools.

It is understood that a strong deputation of citizens will wait upon the Major-General, as soon as convenient after his arrival here, to urge upon him the advisability of reorganizing the band of "A" battery, R C A, which was disbanded some time ago.

VEDETTE.

London.

The 7th Fusiliers could not have made arrangements with the weather bureau for their annual matches which they held at the "Cove Ranges" on Thursday, the 14th Nov. Snow was plentiful—but not the gentle snow of the poet—rather that of the storm king and western blizzard.

It was weather that would have disgruntled marksmen less keen than those of the 7th and their gallant Major Hayes, who as range officer managed to have all things work smoothly to even win glory for himself by very creditable scoring.

A good deal of interest centred in the competition for the "Tracy" cup which had been won for two years in succession by B. Co. and which would have become their property this year had they succeeded in winning it again. But there's

many a slip in rifle shooting, and F Co. stepped in and carried off the trophy with a lead of 36 points over the old winners, so that Lieut Graves will hold the cup for this year.

The members of the successful squad were Col-Sgt Galbraith, Sgt Scarlet, Corp Woodgett, Ptes Martin, Crittle and McNeil.

A special prize of a baby cradle for twins to the member making the lowest score of the day was won by Pte. Showler, who, by the way, is a bachelor. His score was two points, one for each twin.

The following are the individual scores:

BATTALION MATCH

Five shots each, at 200, 400 and 500 yards:

1 Col-Sgt Galbraith.....	61
2 Major Hayes.....	57
3 Sgt Ross.....	55
4 Pte W Robson.....	50
5 Lt Watt.....	49
6 Col-Sgt Freeland.....	48
7 Col-Sgt Jacobs.....	48
8 Corp Woodgett.....	48
9 Pte Martyn.....	47
10 Bugler Bell.....	45
11 Lt-Col Lindsay.....	44
12 Pte Wilson.....	43
13 Col-Sgt Stein.....	41
14 Quarter-Master Sgt Milligan.....	41
15 Pte Crittle.....	41
16 Corp Rollings.....	39
17 Pte Irvine.....	35
18 Pte Hennessy.....	35
19 Sgt Scarlet.....	35
20 Sgt Gauld.....	33
21 Sgt Erskine.....	33
22 Pte R Spicer.....	33
23 Pte McCorkindale.....	32
24 Col Sgt Hayman.....	31
25 Lance-Corp Hessel.....	28
26 Pte Hurkit.....	26
27 Lt Lindsay.....	24
28 Pte Freeland.....	23
29 Pte Asplin.....	21
30 Capt Thomas.....	21

EXTRA SERIES.

Match No. 1, 200 yards.

1 Lt Watt.....	21
2 Major Hayes.....	21
3 Quarter-Master Sgt Milligan.....	20
4 Sgt Ross.....	20
5 Pte Robson.....	20
6 Lt-Col Lindsay.....	19
7 Sgt Gauld.....	19
8 Col-Sgt Galbraith.....	19
9 Col-Sgt Hayman.....	19
10 Col Sgt Jacobs.....	18
11 Corp Woodgett.....	18
12 Pte Martin.....	17
13 Sgt Scarlet.....	17
14 Bandmaster Tresham.....	16

Three other sixteens were counted out.

No. 2, 500 yards.

1 Pte Robson.....	23
2 Sgt Ross.....	23
3 Major Hayes.....	22
4 Col-Sgt Freeland.....	18
5 Lt Watt.....	15
6 Col-Sgt Galbraith.....	14
7 Col-Sgt Jacobs.....	14
8 Corp Woodgett.....	13
9 Sgt Scarlet.....	13
10 Lt-Col Lindsay.....	13

NURSERY MATCH.

Five shots at 200 and 400 yards.

1 Pte Crittle.....	37
2 Corp Woodgett.....	35
3 Pte Martin.....	35
4 Lt Watt.....	34
5 Q-M Sgt Milligan.....	30
6 Bugler Bell.....	30
7 Corp Rollings.....	30
8 Pte R Spicer.....	29
9 Col-Sgt Stein.....	29
10 Pte Hennessy.....	28
11 Pte Irvine.....	27
12 Pte McCorkindale.....	27

13 Pte Wilson.....	26
14 Sgt Erskine.....	26
15 Pte Hurkit.....	26
16 Lance-Corp Essom.....	24
17 Sgt Gould.....	24
18 Pte Freeland.....	23
19 Capt Thomas.....	20
20 Sgt Mackenzie.....	20
21 Pte Aspiin.....	19
22 Pte Gardiner.....	18
23 Sgt Foottit.....	16
24 Pte Caswell.....	16
25 Lt Lindsay.....	16

B Co. won the skirmishing competition with a lead of 45 points over the next team.

The gold medal presented by Lt Watt to the member of "C" Company making the highest score was won by himself with 49 points. But he magnanimously refused to accept it, and Sgt Jacobs, who was second with 48 points, will receive it.

Toronto.

Inspection and Roll Call are both over and nothing now remains, but to look to the arrival of the annual pay with hopes that 12 instead of 8 days will be allowed for by the government.

The inspections of the different companies of the city corps have been conducted by the Lt.-Col. Buchan during the past few weeks, the briefness of which still lingers in a great many minds.

Very few complaints are to be heard at the systematic manner in which these have been conducted and while some did very well and others fairly well and still others very poorly, all admit that short as the inspection was, it was quite sufficient to prove to an expert whether the com. and its officers and non com.'s were up to the mark or not.

Brief and all as it was, it was still sufficiently long to enable some nice exhibitions of how not to do it by some who are qualified and certified as knowing how to do it. It was mainly from those that any objections to the plan pursued this year, emanates.

The commanding officers must have been in secret communication with the clerk of the weather, and got some inkling into the cold weather with which we were favored on Thanksgiving day.

Fortunate as it was that no parade was ordered, the decision as communicated to the Q.O.R. by Col. Hamilton was most disappointing and received with regret, not only by the Q.O.R. but by the representatives of the other regiments who were present in the drill hall when the announcement was made. Some remarks have appeared in the papers questioning the wisdom of the commanding officers making such a radical change with no apparent reason, and there are those who say that such a decision did not represent the feeling of the different regiments.

It did not seem to meet with the approval of some of the Q.O.R. as no less than 5 companies were arranging to go out on a little sham fight of their own, despite the announcement made about the lateness of the season. It was only the inclement weather of the night before

that prevented them spending Thanksgiving day, as they had spent it for quite a number of years previous.

It is to be regretted that the season was too far advanced to render the plan of Lt.-Col. Buchan, which is given below, permissible.

The members of the different regiments thoroughly appreciate anything novel, and whether it will entail hard work or not does not weigh very heavily on the average member.

If the plan could be put into operation, say the night before the civic holiday, it is almost certain that it would score a great success. The following was the draft prepared by Lt.-Col. Buchan.

District Office, Nov. 13th, 1895.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The infantry of the Toronto Garrison will be exercised in night marching and outpost work on the night of the 20th inst., preceding Thanksgiving day, under a General and Special Ideas.

The dress for this work will be drill order, with greatcoats and haversacks.

One meal be carried in the haversack. C. O.'s are advised to make arrangements for a small supply of wood fuel for fires, which will be permitted for a short time before the return march is begun.

The Ideas and Orders will be issued to C. O.'s, or their representatives, at the District Office, Stanley Barracks, on the night of the 20th inst., at an hour to be notified hereafter.

As the nightwork is to be a test of ability to turn out on emergency, march to a designated point, an form an outpost line on comparatively unknown ground in a given time, no assembling of any corps at the Armouries is to be permitted until the orders for such have been issued from the District Office.

Each C. O. will detail a field officer as an umpire to accompany another battalion throughout, and to keep a record on the following points:

1. Time taken from receipt of order to commencement of march out of Armouries.

2. Time taken to march to point designated.

3. Actual strength on parade, giving details of signallers, ambulance men and cyclists present with corps.

4. Time taken to reach Armouries from point of assembly after operations are over. The time will be taken in each case for the head of the main body of the corps, and not the advanced guard.

Corps will march with advance and rear guards, and take the usual precautions against surprise.

Five rounds of blank per man will be issued.

Bands will not play, nor will any bugling, singing, or noise of any kind, be permitted until the assemble is sounded previous to the route home being given.

The whole length of time occupied in these operations, from issue of orders to assemble to dismissal at the Armouries, should not exceed seven hours.

By order,

(Sgd.) LAWRENCE BUCHAN,
Lt.-Col. Staff Officer.

FUNERAL OF CAPT. G. P. ELIOT.

The funeral of the late Capt. Granville Percival Eliot took place Sunday afternoon the 17th Nov. from his late residence, 293 Jarvis street, and was very largely attended. The funeral was con-

ducted with military honours, the coffin, draped with the Union Jack, being borne on a gun carriage of the Toronto Field Battery, drawn by six horses, under the command of Sergeant-Major Spry. Every regiment in the city was largely represented, a number of officers being present in uniform and multi. Colonel Otter, Lieut.-Col. Buchan, and other members of the permanent corps also attended. Among the mourners were a number of deceased's friends in the Civil Service, and members of the A.O.U.W. and the Select Knights, to both of which orders deceased belonged. A number of very beautiful wreaths were laid on the coffin, and at the head was a pillow, presented by the officers of the Royal Grenadiers, with the inscription, "Our Brother Officer." The pall-bearers were four captains of the Grenadiers, namely, Captains Trotter, Caston, Cameron, and Gibson, and also Captains Elliott, T.F.B.; Lee and Mutton, Q.O.R.: Sloane, G.G.B.G.; and Adams, 48th Highlanders. The regiment of the Grenadiers, headed by the band, turned out in great force, and in the line were a number of privates from the other city regiments. The firing party was formed of "F" Company, lately commanded by deceased, under the command of Capt. Boyd. The procession, which was a very large one, preceded by way of Jarvis street, Wilton avenue, and Bond street to St. Michael's cathedral, where the funeral service was conducted by Rev. Father Ryan, the edifice being thronged to the doors. After the ceremony at the cathedral was concluded, the cortege proceeded to St. Michael's cemetery, where the interment was made.

The late captain Eliot was appointed second lieutenant in the regiment named on November 30th, 1883; first lieutenant February 6th, 1885; captain April 29th, 1887. He retired, retaining rank, on December 24th, 1891, and was reinstated on April 20th, 1894, as quartermaster, which position he occupied at the time of his death. Captain Eliot saw active service in the North-West in 1885.

The Veterans Association, of Hamilton are arranging to try and get the Queen's Own Rifles, Royal Grenadiers and 13th Infantry take part in a grand demonstration to take place at Ridgeway on the 1st and 2nd June 1896.

LIEUT.-COL. OTTER'S RETURN.

Lieut.-Col. Otter, who has been attached to the regular army in England for five months, returned to the city on Tuesday 11th, and assumed the command of military district No. 2 yesterday. It will be a case of "happy to meet and sorry to part," with respect to Lieut.-Col. Otter and Lieut.-Col. Buchan, for the latter administered the duties of his office as acting deputy-adjutant-general during Lieut.-Col. Otter's absence with ability, and is very highly regarded. The officers will be sorry to part with him as officer commanding, whilst they are equally pleased to see Lieut.-Col. Otter back once more to his post, looking well, and able and willing, as he always is, to give them the benefit of the instruction and experience he acquired in the higher branches of the service.

While in England Lieut.-Col. Otter was attached, for a course of instruction to the three arms of the service. He took a course of instruction first with the Royal Artillery; then he joined the cavalry, and was attached to the Scots Greys. After a successful course with the cavalry he was attached to the 1st Middlesex Regiment. He passed his

examinations as lieutenant-colonel in the British army, and after five months at Aldershot he took a course of musketry instruction at Hythe. At the conclusion of his instructional courses he visited the Royal carriage department, the gun factory at Woolwich, the School of Military Engineering at Chatham, and the dockyards at Plymouth and Chatham, studying the manufacture of arms, transport and supplies. He also visited the torpedo school, and the school of military ballooning. Col. Otter took part in the autumn manoeuvres at the New Forest, and paid particular attention to the training of the militia and volunteers at Aldershot. He then crossed to Isle of Wight, and witnessed the training and practice of the land batteries there. He thinks these batteries in action beat Dante's "Inferno." He then attended the autumn manoeuvres of the German army in the vicinity of Cologne and Strasbourg.

Referring to the British militia and volunteers. Lieut.-Col. Otter said:—"What struck me most of all was the excellent equipment of the British auxiliary forces. The volunteers and militia are excellently clothed and equipped, and no efforts nor expense seem to have been spared by the Home authorities in this direction. The men are also well drilled, smart, and clean. I was particularly struck by the excellent drill of the post-office brigade. These men, I think could out-march British regulars. The volunteers are soon to be armed with a small-bore rifle, with the Martini action. It is a beautiful, light, handy weapon." Referring to the German army he said:—"The German cavalry and infantry compared well with the same branches in the British service. The physique of the men is excellent, although they are not so well set up as ours. The cavalry are well mounted. The German artillery, however, in dash and horsemanship, are far behind the Royal Artillery. The artillery horses are far inferior to the British, and the batteries much slower. When they came to a ditch they slowed up, whilst the British go at such obstructions at the gallop. However, I cannot say anything as to shooting of the German artillery, as I only saw them fire blank cartridge."

Lieut.-Col. Otter is a close observer of everything pertaining to his profession, and the militia will benefit by the experience he has gained.—*Mail*.

The Garrison Cricket Club "At Home."

The V.R.I. Cricket Club gave a very pleasant "At Home" to their many friends on Monday evening, the 25th ult., at Stanley Barracks.

The drill hall was very prettily decorated for the occasion with flags, bunting, piled arms, lances, etc., while the walls were hung with large pictures, the whole presenting a beautiful appearance, which reflects great credit on the decorating committee.

Farrell's Orchestra furnished the music, which was excellent.

Mr. Jacks catered to the happy assembly in his usual first-class style.

The drill hall has been the scene of many enjoyable gatherings, and this one upheld the reputation in capital style. In spite of the disagreeable weather a great number accepted invitations, among whom were Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Capt. Cartwright, R.R.C.I., Capt. Forrester, R.C.D., Lieut.-Col. Buchan, R.R.C.I., Captain

Williams, R.C.D., Lieut. Thacker, R.R.C.I.

Dancing was kept up till about 2 a.m., after which the merry gathering broke up, everybody expressing themselves highly pleased with the evening's enjoyment.

The committee was composed as under:

Q. M. S. Borland, R.R.C.I.
Sergt. Instructor Page, R.C.D.
Color-Sergt. Galloway, R.R.C.I.
Sergt. Thompson, R.R.C.I.
Corp. Beattie, R.R.C.I.
Corp. Male, R.C.D.
Corp. Thompson, R.R.C.I.
Pte. Cole, R.R.C.I.
Pte. Emly, R.R.C.I.
Pte. Ferris, R.R.C.I.
Lance Corp. Austin, R.R.C.I.

Montreal.

Several changes are impending in the Garrison Artillery as a result of the retirement of Major McEwan. Capt King, Adjutant of the Battalion, receives his majority and Captain Fred Hibbard will replace him as Adjutant.

The Sergeants of the Montreal Field Battery, on Thursday 21st, inaugurated a series of monthly dances which promise to be quite a feature of military social life in Montreal during the winter. The first dance was a complete success in every way, reflecting credit on the committee, Sergeants Porteous and Pettigrew and Gunner Paton.

The Garrison Artillery held a turkey shoot in their armoury on the Monday and Tuesday preceding Thanksgiving day. Prizes were offered in each company, and the officer provided the turkeys. The winners were: No. 1 company—Gun Geo Cooke, 51 points; Sergt H McCleave, 44 points. No. 2 company—Gun Geo Sharpe, 61 points; Gun W H Taylor, 51 points. No. 3 company—Cr-Sergt-Major Finlayson, 57; Bom R A Outhet 50, Staff—Q-M Sergt W McGuinness, 46. Consolation, five shots at 500 yards—First class, Sergt L Winter, 24; second class, Bom R Clarke, 18. The shooting took place in the Morris tube gallery of the regiment. It is the intention of the sergeants to keep the gallery open during the winter months and offer monthly prizes, as well as a grand aggregate for the season's shooting.

The officers of the Royal Scots are made great preparations for the St. Andrews' day annual ball given in the Windsor Hotel, Friday the 29th of November. The ball room, corridors and sitting-out rooms of the Windsor presented a beautiful and novel appearance. Being distinctly a military ball, the decorations, were, of course, be of a military character. The effect of such decorations however, was softened with an elaborate floral display. It is hoped that the proceeds of the ball will make a substantial addition to the regiment's feather bonnet fund which has been handsomely swollen by some considerable private subscriptions.

The Sergeants of the 6th Fusiliers hold their first annual mess dinner on December the sixth.

There was a good turn out of militiamen and civilians to hear Captain A. H. Lee, R A, of the Royal Military College, lecture on the Waterloo campaign, at the Victoria Rifles Armoury, on Friday 22nd. Captain Lee illustrated his lecture by a number of diagrams and maps and some photographs of the scene of operations by the lecturer himself last summer.

The lecture very closely corresponded to Allison's account, but presented the

whole campaign in a very intelligent manner. Several militia officers who were present expressed their regret that attention had not been given rather to the tactical than the strategical features of the campaign, but it is unreasonable to look for a complete covering of the ground in one short lecture.

The engagements at Ligny and Quatre Bras were graphically described and the advantages gained by the British and Prussian forces over the French through the apathy and indifference exhibited by Napoleon in commencing these engagements and his neglect in covering the retreat of the Prussians, were pointed out. Up to the battle of Ligny, he said, Napoleon had the best of the situation, and every advantage for a successful campaign, but on the evening of June 15 he became singularly inactive.

He seemed to underestimate the strength of his opponents, and was overconfident of the fighting qualities of his own men. The 16th he lost by delay, and the advantages accruing to the British forces by reason of such made him unable to make good his ground at Quatre Bras.

Capt. Lee described in detail the events of the 18th—the date of Waterloo. The manner and objective points of the four great attacks made by Napoleon upon the invincible British squads—and which resulted in the total inability of the former to pierce the ranks of the latter—were made clear by the maps and diagrams of the field of battle thrown on the screen. Every detail of the battle was graphically described, and the different positions of the opposing forces throughout the day indicated on the map. The manner of the advance of the "Old Guard" and its subsequent retreat before the terrific fire of the "thin red line," and the charge of the British cavalry, were outlined distinctly and pointedly. The retreat of Napoleon, the meeting of Wellington and Blucher, the pursuit of the French forces, now vanquished by the Prussians, who had arrived at that moment from Weyre, whither they had retired after the battle of Ligny, embraced some of the features of the closing remarks of the lecturer with regard to this sanguinary conflict.

Summing up the battle, Capt. Lee said that Napoleon's delays and overconfidence were his ruin. The magnificent loyalty of Wellington's troops and the skillful strategy of this distinguished general were responsible in a large measure for the brilliant victory achieved by the British and Prussian forces. The battle was not won by either chance or "dogged British pluck," said the lecturer, but was the fair prize of skilled valor and mutual aid.

A silent eloquence attached itself to many of the pictures shown, the shattered walls and ruined chateaus, which bestrew the battlefield, attesting more eloquently than words can express the devastation which accompanied the conflict. On the field of battle there was shown a monument erected to the memory of Alex Gordon, grand uncle of our present Governor General, who, as Wellington's A.D.C., was killed in the last terrific charge of Napoleon's Imperial Guard. The memorial of the battle, consisting of a pyramid made of loose stones from the surrounding district, was also shown, as was also the view of the chapel on one of the chateaux, which survived the fire, and the walls of which are now covered with the monograms of the tourists who visit the historic battle ground.

Captain Lee quoted the Duke's brief address to the 95th Regiment, "We must not let them beat us. What would they say in England?" as one of the noblest appeals to men ever made on a battlefield.

At the conclusion of the lecture a vote of thanks was extended to Captain Lee on the motion of Lieut-Col Whitehead, seconded by Mr. Justice Davidson.

Many of the officers of the different city corps were in their mess uniforms.

The concert given by the band of the Victoria Rifles in the Windsor Hall, on Tuesday evening, November 26, was a most successful affair. True, the hall was not filled, but many were kept away by the disagreeable weather. The concert was under the patronage of Major-General Gascoigne and the officers of the regiment, but the General unfortunately was unable to be present. The commanding officers of the different city corps were among the invited guests. The programme was a splendid one and the numbers rendered by the band were certainly well executed. The selections were of the difficult order and their rendition would do credit to many a professional band. Mr. Quiveon wielded the baton in a faultless manner. Of the talent outside of the band Mr. Leon Madaer the clarinetist was the star. His solo was well rendered and he received an encore. The band is lucky to number such an artist among its members. The boys of the regiment who occupied the gallery had a big time of their own having arranged a programme which they carried out before and during intermission of the concert.

Up to the time of going to press the number of tickets sold for the ball of the Royal Scots was about 500 and the proceeds of these joined to the already had some donation, either promised, or actually in hand, are expected to bring the Feather Bonnet Fund up to the amount required for the purchase of the much coveted head gear.

We are pleased to publish a list of the donations made so far to the fund:

Sir D A Smith	\$1000
Miss Mary Dow	50
Miss Jessie Dow	100
W C McDonald	250
Hugh Eaton	100
John Macdonald	50
R G Reid, jr	200
Major-General Gascoigne	25
Mrs John McDougall	100
Lt-Col Houghton	10
D A Macpherson	8
James Poustie	10
Lt-Col Caverhill	25
Edgar McDougall	5

Quebec.

QUEBEC, Nov. 25, 1895—Lieut.-Col. T. J. Duchesnay D. A. G. 1st Military District, has been to Kingston in connection with the board of visitors to the Royal Military College of Canada, of which he is a member, and in fact has filled this position on all previous boards. It is understood that the inspection was the most thorough ever made, and anticipated that the recommendations will prove of great service to that institution. By the press we note that the report has reached Ottawa, and it is hoped will receive immediate attention. It is confidently expected that the board will prove an annual one, as provided for, and that its usefulness will not be allowed to die out as heretofore, when some four boards have visited the college in a period of some nineteen years. On this occasion the graduates had a representative in the person of Captain Duncan MacPherson R. L., and not Mr. D. McPherson as gazetted in Militia General Orders. Captain MacPherson was a member of the first batch that entered the college, and the honor has fallen upon a gentleman well qualified to act on behalf of the graduates.

Now that the winter has set in in earnest in this section of the country, it is hoped that the officers of the Royal Canadian Artillery Institute will arrange to have delivered a series of lectures in their room which is so well adapted for that

purpose and will doubtless prove of great service to the militia generally in this district. To the permanent corps, we look for lecturers who are in a position to treat with various military subjects to the benefit of such who desire to attend the same.

Major B. A. Scott, 61st Batt., has been spending a few days in this city.

Mr. G. Joly de Lotbiniere, R. E., who has been out on leave from India for several months, left on the 17th inst. to return to India accompanied by his sister Mrs. Nanton, wife of Capt. H. Nanton, R. E.

Mr. A. Land, unattached list, will shortly be gazetted to the 8th Royal Rifles. We hope that other additions will be made to the commissioned ranks as there are several vacancies.

Mr. Ralph Mayne-Read, R. C. A., was married on the 13th ult., to Miss Louise Sewell. Shortly before this pleasant ceremony he was the recipient of a beautiful black marble clock, from the Church Boys' Brigade of St. Matthews church as a mark of their esteem for the services he rendered as drill instructor.

PATROL.

Winnipeg.

It is now stated on every good authority that a movement is on foot to form a volunteer infantry corps in this city. Many of the local leading military men have been discussing the matter for some time, until now it is believed to have taken a practical turn, and it is freely discussed on all sides by military men. The general opinion is that the red coat uniform would have more attraction in every way for the volunteer than the sombre hue of the rifle grade. The new battalion would have similar accoutrements to those of the 91st. The coats being red with white buff belts. In all probability the new Lee-Metford rifle would be furnished to the new volunteers, as 5,000 of these weapons have been ordered by the Canadian government from England.—*The Free Press*.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE FOR 1896. The announcement of a reduction in the price of this famous eclectic from eight dollars to six dollars a year will prove of more than usual interest to lovers of choice literature. Founded in 1844, it will soon enter its fifty-third year of a continuous and successful career seldom equalled.

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To those whose means are limited it must meet with especial favor, for it offers them what could not otherwise be obtained except by a large outlay. Intelligent readers who want to save time and money will find it invaluable.

The prospectus, printed in another column should be examined by all in selecting their periodicals for the new year. For the amount and quality of the reading furnished, the new price makes THE LIVING AGE the cheapest as well as the best literary weekly in existence. Reduced clubbing rates with other periodicals offer still greater inducements, and to new subscribers remitting now for the year 1896, the intervening numbers of 1895 will be sent gratis. Littell & Co., Boston are the publishers.

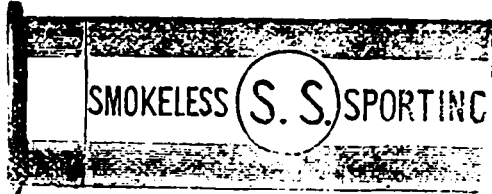


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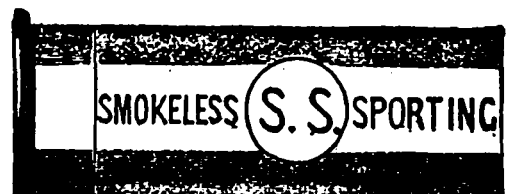
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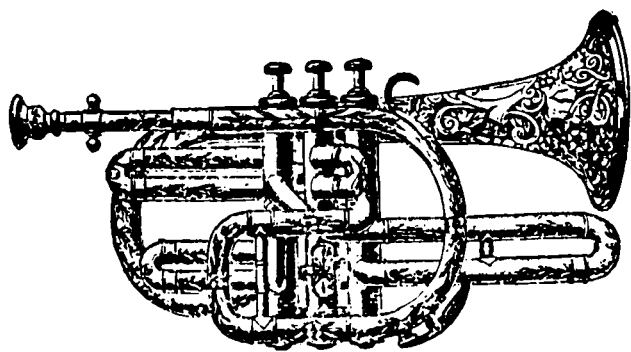
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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2170, Montreal.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER 1, 1895

Notes and Comments

In no section of the vast host which wears Her Gracious Majesty's uniform in different parts of the world is the appointment of Lord Wolsely to the supreme command more popular than in the active militia of the Dominion of Canada. It was in Canada that the new commander-in-chief had his first independent command, winning his spurs as a commander in the brilliant, if bloodless, Red River campaign. There are still in the militia service officers and men who served under Wolsely both at the time of the Fenian trouble and in the expedition to Fort Garry, and each and every one of them really rejoices at the splendid position attained by their old commanding officer, not merely for the sake of the man himself, but because they believe his appointment will be to the advantage of the army and the empire.

Lord Wolsely always exhibited a warm admiration for the Canadian militia and appeared to understand the peculiarities of our defensive force, its strength and its weakness, as few imperial army officers ever have. He consequently always succeeded in getting out of the militia placed under his command the maximum of service, and his recollections of our national force are all of the best. In the

midst of his multitudinous duties in his Egyptian campaign in 1885 he found enough time to cable a congratulatory message to his old friend, Sir Fred. Middleton, upon the capture of Batoche, and did not forget to ask the old general to congratulate "his old comrades of the Canadian militia" for him. It is safe to suppose that His Lordship will take to his new office with him his regard for our service, and a little intelligent attention occasionally from the headquarters of the imperial army should certainly be of the greatest value to the Canadian militia. But for the arrival of a new general now and again we could almost forget that we had any connection with the British army.

It is satisfactory to hear from Ottawa that Major General Gascoigne expresses himself well pleased with the corps of the militia he has inspected at Ottawa, Montreal, Kingston and Toronto. That the the new general officer commanding, in spite of the shortness of his visits, established a great and unmistakable personal popularity in each and every one of the great militia centres he visited is gratifying, although no more than was expected. The new general has already by his suavity and tact done much to popularize the service, and, we regret to say, that was getting to be badly needed.

It is certainly a subject for regret that the Toronto corps, for reasons of their own, did not hold their regular Field Day on Thanksgiving Day. This event in past years not only proved of great value to the corps participating, but was an object lesson of decided interest and great value to the rest of the force, for militiamen always closely read the detailed reports of these sham fights and derived much practical instruction therefrom. The Toronto Thanksgiving Day sham fight was an important educational factor in more ways than one, for it was stirring up in the other chief militia centres a desire to go and do likewise. And yet it was hardly fair to expect the Toronto militiamen, enthusiastic and all as they are, to go on spending their only autumn holiday, and considerable spare cash to boot, in acquiring a certain necessary mili-

tary training with which they should be provided by the government.

We have often said it, and we repeat it again that it is a positive disgrace that the militia department does not provide the city corps with the means for participating in at least one day's field work each year. Field training is by far the most important part of a soldier's education, and yet, now that the Toronto Thanksgiving Day turn out has been stopped, our so-called crack city militia corps get none of it. So far as preparing the militia for service as an effective fighting force is concerned, the money spent on drilling the men in the mysteries of the manual, bayonet and firing exercises and the fanciful evolutions of the barrack yard might as well be thrown away, without this elementary training is supplemented by training in the field. As it is now our militia get a mere kindergarten training, and altogether too little of that. The department should certainly provide every year for brigade field days of all the city corps, and not only should the transportation and other expenses be borne by the government, but officers and men should receive pay and allowances in addition to the paltry pittance already allowed.

But this will cost more money than the government is willing to spend. Well, if that is the trouble, so much the worse for the government. There is no use mincing matters. If the militia is not what it should be, it is the fault of the parsimonious policy pursued by successive governments. Thanks to the great personal sacrifices of time and money by officers and men, the force has done wonders considering the funds placed at its disposal; but the government must realize that it will have to increase the militia grant substantially if the militia is to be what it ought to be in the way of efficiency.

Not only has Canada her own interests to study in this matter, but her duty to the empire. That a country whose people make such loud protestations of loyalty to the British crown should be notoriously the weakest link in the whole chain of imperial defence is a disgrace and a scandal, and the govern-

ment, failing any honest attempt on its part to strengthen the defensive force of the Dominion, must bear the responsibility.

We would very much like to see the government go about the rearming of the militia in a more whole-souled manner. The first consignment of the Lee-Metford rifles, about which we have heard so much, amounts to only 1,500 stand. And what are they among so many? Barely enough to arm the permanent corps. The whole force should be rearmed at the same time and at once. If only a paltry thousand or so of the new rifles are to be purchased each year, it will be years before the rearming is complete, and meantime the force will be in a most awkward and dangerous position, for the danger of mixing different kinds of ammunition on active service is too well known to require enlarging upon.

We cannot refrain from repeating our question: What is being done about the rearming of the artillery? If the imperial government was properly approached we believe that there would be no difficulty in obtaining modern artillery pieces on very reasonable terms. It is to be hoped that the subject is being looked into at headquarters.

St. John's Ambulance Association.

In Toronto recently Dr. Ryerson, Deputy Surgeon General and an honorary member of the Order of St. John, convened a meeting, having for its object the establishment of a branch for Ontario of the St. John's Ambulance Association.

The work can be more directly interesting to those belonging to the permanent or active militia in Canada, and it is pleasant to know that this first meeting was a most successful one in every way and is likely to lead to the permanent establishment of the association in Ontario. The Toronto Globe gives the following account of the meeting and also the objects of the association:

His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick presided at a meeting held in the Canadian Military Institute yesterday, at which a "centre" or branch for Ontario of the St. John's Ambulance Association was formed. Among those present were Lieut.-Cols. Otter, D.A.G., Mason, Davidson, Hamilton and Macdonald (Guelph), Major Mead, Drs. O'Reilly, F. E. King, Stuart, Elliott, Meyers and G. S. Ryerson.

This society is the ambulance department of the Order of St. John of Jerusa-

lem in England which has its headquarters at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, which is now all that remains of the ancient priory of the order, built in 1504 and recently restored. This order is a revival and continuation of the old Hospitaller Order of Rhodes and Malta. Its history has been an eventful one, both in England and abroad. It was suppressed in England at the time of the Reformation as a Roman Catholic fraternity, and at Malta when Napoleon took possession of the island. In England, however, it was never annihilated, for after the suppression referred to its members continued in communication with the headquarters at Malta, and, passing through many vicissitudes, continued without State recognition as a fraternity devoted to hospital and charitable work. In 1888 Queen Victoria granted a royal charter of incorporation, and graciously became its Sovereign head and patron, the Prince of Wales at the same time taking the place of Grand Prior. Among the many services which the order has rendered to the public is the establishment of the ambulance society which is now being formed here. Since the inception of this association in 1877 upwards of 300,000 certificates of proficiency have been awarded, hundreds of detached classes have been formed, one among the police in this city, and over 300 "centres" established. It is spread over the entire empire, having branches in Australia, South Africa, West Indies, Madras, Bombay, Ceylon, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Halifax.

Its objects are the instruction of persons in rendering first aid in cases of accidents of sudden illness, and in the transport of the sick and wounded in peace or in war, instruction in the elementary principles and practice of nursing, also of ventilation and sanitation, the formation of ambulance depots in mines, factories and railroads, the organization of ambulance, nursing and invalid transport corps, and generally the promotion of works for the relief of the sick and injured in peace and war, independent of class, nationality and denomination. It should be distinctly understood that its object is not to rival but to aid medical men, and with a view of qualifying pupils to adopt such measures as may be advantageous pending the doctor's arrival or during the interval of his visits.

Some idea of its necessity may be learned by the statement that in London alone in ten years 28,071 were injured in the streets, and in England and Wales there are annually lost 2,000 to 3,000 lives by drowning, and in mines over a 1,000.

It is intended to form local centres through the province as opportunity may arise. A local centre will be formed in Toronto at an early date. The formation of these centres is being promoted by Dr. Ryerson, Deputy Surgeon-General, an ordinary associate of the Order of St. John.

Classes of not more than 30 persons are to be formed, to whom a course of lectures are to be delivered by one of the lecturers of the association. At the con-

clusion of the course an examination will be held, upon passing which certificates of proficiency will be issued to those entitled to them. On no account will mixed classes be permitted, nor will a lecturer be allowed to examine his own class, so that the certificates may be awarded as an evidence of knowledge apart from any influence which may affect the lecturer.

The following officers were elected: President, his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor; vice-presidents and members of council, Sir James Grant, K.C.M.G., Ottawa; Senator Gowan, C.M.G., Barrie; Judge Weller, Peterboro'; Sheriff Murtton, Hamilton; Rev. Canon Richardson, London; Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Guelph; H. Corby, M.P., Belleville; Judge Hughes, St. Thomas; Dr. R. T. Walkem, Q.C., Kingston; Wm. Mulock, M.P., Toronto; Surgeon-General Bergin, M.P., Cornwall; Henry Cawthra and W. R. Brock, Toronto; medical director, Deputy Surgeon-General G. S. Ryerson, M.L.A.; assistant secretary and treasurer, Dr. Campbell Myers; examiners, Drs. Strange, Grasett, King, Stuart, Dame, Nattress, Elliott, Myers, W. H. B. Aikins and O'Reilly.

Military Meeting.

To the Editor of CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—Your remarks on the time and step of the meeting at the recent brigade church parade of 27th October, are well taken. The whole matter rests with the proper drilling of the drummers of both base and side drums, who are responsible for the time and step of the bands and so of the marching of the regiment. The non-coms. in charge of the bands are doubtless good musicians and there the matter rests, as they rarely attempt to drill their bands in simple marching which it is their duty to do. Both brass and bugle bands, especially their drummers, should be properly trained with metronome and pace stick and good marching would be the result. But that might not suit some bands, as for instance when a metronome was placed in a certain band room and the attempt made to get the time up to regulation, the performers found it rather quicker than usual and at next practice said metronome was found to have been purposely put out of gear, thus finishing it and the proposed reform.

It was a pleasure to see the fine swinging step and uniform time of the bands, both brass and bugle of the Toronto brigade at the parade of 3rd November; the marching of those regiments resembled that of the Imperial troops, and an absence of that short mincing step of the battalions of the Province of Quebec, showing that both metronome and pace stick were in use. The regulation in the book is plain, quick march being a pace of 30 inches in length and 120 paces to the minute (beat of the standard metronome.) Therefore it should be promulgated in militia general orders that cadence and length of step in marching would form part of the annual inspection and the inspection of officers to see that those regulations are strictly carried out, otherwise there never will be uniformity in the marching of the Canadian militia.

SMOKELESS POWDER.

Mr. Duff Grant's Interesting Lecture at Ottawa—The Small Arms of the World.

Mr. Duff-Grant, secretary of the Smokeless Powder Company, limited, delivered a most interesting lecture at Ottawa last week on smokeless powders. Much of the ground covered was the same as traversed by him in his lecture on the occasion of his last visit to Canada. The lecture was certainly *apropos* in view of the fact that the militia department has the question of ammunition for the Lee-Metford rifle now under advisement.

Mr. Duff-Grant's criticism of cordite was very outspoken. Speaking of its velocity, he said :

"Just as a velocity below 1,960 f.s. would be regarded as objectionable, no matter how regular, so would a velocity above the maximum 2,040 f.s., the specified limits for service ammunition in the Lee-Metford being, as already stated, that the velocities shall not average below 1,960 f.s. nor above 2,040 f.s., and the average difference shall not exceed 15 feet. This is the task that cordite has to fulfill. In this respect it is well known that its velocities have varied, since its origin to the present moment, to an extent which would have given it much discredit had it been a private manufacture. Besides being sensitive to temperature, cordite is a difficult powder to load with any degree of accuracy, and this also tends to increase the irregularity complained of. The dangers attending its manufacture, or rather the manufacture of the necessary nitro-glycerine, are, alas, only too well known, from the numerous explosions that have taken place at the government factory at Waltham Abbey, where it is made. Had these happened at any private factory the outcry against the manufacture could only have ended in the strictest enquiry being made, and in a complete stoppage of the manufacture itself. In a hot climate the danger of manufacture, as well as of storage, is even greater than in a moderate climate such as England. So much has this become a recognized fact, that the Indian government have recently returned to England the machinery which was sent out with a view to starting the manufacture there, and at present it seems very uncertain whether they will be able to adopt cordite at all for the Indian army.

"Probably, however, from a shooting point of view, the greatest fault it has is the enormous amount of heat it generates on being fired. So much was this the case at first, that after firing fifty shots in rapid succession from the magazine rifle, the barrel became so hot that the sights melted and dropped off, about the most serious defect a powder could have, and a defect which, I believe, it is impossible to remedy so long as tri-

nitro-cellulose and nitro-glycerine form the base.

"In view of the increasing use of machine guns, such as the Maxim, the importance of a low temperature powder cannot be over estimated, and we know from the report of experiments recently carried out by two well-known English chemists, Mr. W. MacNab and Mr. E. Ristori, that cordite and ballistite are the very worst of powders in that respect, as you will see if you refer to the table which they published as to the quantities of heat and the volume of gas developed per gram with different sporting and military smokeless powders now in use."

The lecturer read the following table indicating the quantity of heat and the volume of the gas developed per gram with different sporting and military smokeless powders now in use :

Name of Explosive.	Calories per gram.	Permanent gases : Cubic centimetres per gram.	Aqueous vapour : Cubic centimetres per gram.	Total volume of gas : Cubic centimetres per gram.
E C Powder }	800	420	154	574
S S Sporting } English } Powder... }				
Troisdorf, German.....	799	584	150	734
Rifleite, English.....	943	700	195	895
B N, French.....	864	766	159	925
Cordite, English manufacture.....	833	738	168	905
Ballistite, German manufacture.....	1253	647	235	882
Ballistite, Italian and Spanish manufacture..	1291	591	231	822
	1317	581	245	846

He continued : "This enormous heat, too, has the further disadvantage of causing the greatest amount of tear and wear on the rifling of the gun, so much so that the maximum life of the magazine rifle when used with cordite is admitted to be 3,000 rounds, and it is well known that long ere that number are fired all accuracy of shooting is gone. The only one redeeming point that cordite has is its low pressure, being about 10 per cent. lower than the rival powders, in which the nitro-glycerine is not used, but there is little merit in that, for so long as the rival powders are not in the habit of bursting the rifles in which they are used, it cannot be said that cordite is a safer powder. Had cordite possessed any phenomenal superiority, that superiority would have stood out boldly, overtopping all its rivals, as being the powder which had been adopted for service in the British army, but it is not so, and, as you are aware, it was on this very question of cordite that the late Liberal government came to such unqualified grief, and that Lord Salisbury rose to the exalted position which he now holds."

The lecturer gave the following valuable information as to the small arms of the leading armies of the world :

Austria.—Whilst retaining the Mannlicher magazine rifle, introduced in 1886,

the calibre was in 1888 changed from 11 mm. to 8 mm. and in 1890, on the introduction of a smokeless explosive, the sights were re-graduated for it.

Belgium.—The 7.5 mm. Mauser rifle superseded in 1889 the old 11 mm. single-loading Albin-Braendlin, there being no intermediate pattern.

Bulgaria.—The Bulgarian troops are being re-armed with the 8 mm. Austrian Mannlicher, pattern 1888, in place of the 10.85 mm. single-loading Berdan No. 11.

Denmark.—Denmark, like Belgium, did not adopt a large calibre magazine arm, but after almost deciding upon an 8 mm. rifle on the Lee system in 1887, finally, in 1889, settled upon the 8 mm. Krag-Jorgensen gun.

England.—While adopting the improved Lee-Metford Mark II. rifle for the standing army, has also decided, especially for India and the colonies, to convert the old .450 bore Martini into a magazine rifle of .303 calibre, but with the Martini action, and it is probable that this weapon will ere long be issued to the volunteers in this country.

France.—France was the first to definitely adopt the small calibre magazine arm and smokeless ammunition, the Lebel taking the place of the Gras rifle as early as 1886. The magazine of the Lebel rifle is a tube in the fore-end, a system now practically out of date, and experiments have for some time been in progress in France with rifles having the magazine under the bolt mechanism, and the Berthier 8 mm. carbine on this system has already been provisionally adopted for the cavalry. A reduction in calibre to 6.5 mm. or 6 mm. is also under trial, and a very high velocity is aimed at

Germany.—In 1888 the 11 mm. tube magazine rifle, pattern 1871-'84, was superseded by a 7.9 mm. rifle, with a magazine under the bolt, known as the "Rifle Pattern '88."

Greece.—Greece has also adopted the 8 mm. Austrian Mannlicher rifle, pattern 1888, to take place of the 11 mm. single-loading Gras rifle, pattern 1896.

Holland.—The Dutch troops are at present armed with the 11 mm. Beaumont-Vitali magazine rifle, but a rifle on the Mannlicher system, resembling closely the German rifle, pattern 1888, with a calibre of 6.5 mm., to fire smokeless ammunition, has been recommended for adoption.

Italy.—To take the place of the 10.34 mm. Vetterli-Vitali magazine rifle, a 6.5 mm. arm, termed "Pattern 1891," has been decided upon in Italy. It resembles in general principle the arm adopted by Holland, with some modifications of the breech mechanism, introduced by M. Carcano, of the Turin Small Arms Factory.

Portugal.—In 1886 Portugal decided upon an 8 mm. rifle on the Kropatscheck tube magazine system; this is still the service arm, and fires black powder ammunition.

Roumania.—The single-loading Peabody-Martini is being replaced by a 6.5

mm. magazine rifle, upon the Mannlicher system, almost identical with the rifles of similar calibre adopted by Holland and Italy.

Russia.—The "3 line rifle pattern 1891" has been introduced to take the place of the single-loading Berdan II. of 1871. Smokeless ammunition is to be used with it.

Servia.—The Servian troops are still armed with the 10.15 mm. single-loading Mauser-Milanovic rifle, pattern 1881.

Spain.—The Mauser rifle, pattern 1892, calibre 7 mm., almost identical with the Belgian Mauser, has been adopted in Spain to replace the 11 mm. single-loading Remington.

Sweden and Norway.—The Swedish 11 mm. single-loading Remingtons are being converted into 8 mm. magazine arms on the Mannlicher system. The adoption of an improved rifle of the Mauser type is said to be in contemplation; calibre 6.5 mm. The 10.15 mm. Jarman magazine rifle of 1887 is still the service arm in Norway, its issue to the troops only having recently been completed. A special commission has lately been carrying out experiments with small calibre rifles, and has recommended the 6.5 mm. Krag-Jorgensen rifle.

Switzerland.—Although the question of small calibre rifles was first taken up in Switzerland, it was not until 1889 that that country finally adopted its present armament, viz.: the 7.5 mm. Schmidt-Rubin magazine rifle, and smokeless ammunition.

Turkey.—In 1887 Turkey obtained a supply of 7.5 mm. Mauser tube magazine rifles. These will now be converted into 7.65 mm. rifles so as to be of the same calibre as the new Mauser rifles of the Belgian pattern, which are in course of supply. The .45 Peabody-Martini are also being converted into 7.65 mm. arms.

United States.—On the recommendation of the Board on Magazine Arms, a rifle of .300 (7.62 mm.) calibre on the Danish Krag-Jorgensen system was finally adopted for the United States army, and the manufacture of these weapons is now being proceeded with.

The naval authorities, on the other hand, decided upon the adoption of a 6 mm. (0.236) calibre for their magazine rifle, the smallest calibre rifle in service use in any country. The breech mechanism and other details are not yet quite settled.

The lecturer made the following interesting reference to modern rifles in general:—"In weapons such as the Mauser, Mannlicher, and the Lee-Metford apparently little improvement remains to be made, and they may be looked upon as having nearly reached perfection. Already, however, there are signs of fresh developments in altogether new directions. Automatic rifles, like those of Messrs. Woodgate and Griffiths and M. Darce, suggested, no doubt, by the success of the Maxim automatic machine gun, have passed well into the experimental stage

and if all that is claimed by Professor Hebler for his new hollow tubular bullet can be substantiated, it is highly probable that we are on the eve of further startling changes. The choice of a repeating or magazine rifle is thus a matter of as vital importance as the selection of a smokeless powder for it.

"The gain of a magazine rifle, whether it be of large or small calibre, over a single loader, apart from the confidence that it inspires, really consists in the number of rounds that can be fired continuously through the magazine. The soldier has not at a critical moment to fumble about his pouch for a cartridge. The magazine rifle, however, has no advantage over the single loader as regards rapidity of fire, if the firing be continued for one minute, owing to the time necessary to refill the magazine after its contents have been expended. It is stated that between fifty and sixty rounds have been fired from the single-loading Soper rifle in one minute, and it is very doubtful whether any magazine rifle could attain that rate of fire. Moreover, unless special precautions were taken, the barrel would become terribly heated after one minute of such firing. Naturally no aim could be taken under such conditions of rapidity.

"There can also be no dispute as to the many advantages possessed by a small-bore rifle over one of a comparatively large calibre. They are these. Reduction in size and weight of cartridges, 115 rounds of the new ammunition weighing no more than 70 of the Martini-Henry. Increased accuracy and penetration. Practical absence of recoil. Higher muzzle velocity, giving a lower trajectory; using the fixed sight a man can be struck up to 470 yards. Saving in transport of ammunition; a greater number of cartridges can be carried in the magazine of the rifle without increasing the weight of the former.

"The introduction of magazine rifles, and a smokeless explosive agent, has also been speedily followed by a revolution in tactics. For were contending forces approaching each other under the tactical conditions of the olden days, one dependent on gunpowder would suffer tremendous blows from batteries whose position and distance they would be quite unable to determine except by the sound and report, and their outposts would be completely demoralized by being harassed and picked off by an unseen enemy. Their attacking line would suffer severe losses without being able to adequately inflict them on the advancing enemy, and lastly, when at close quarters enveloped in dense smoke from the rapid use of their own rifles, the enemy, provided with the smokeless explosive, would have a perfectly clear front. At the same time, in the hands of ill-disciplined, badly-commanded troops, a magazine rifle might prove a curse instead of a blessing.

"From what I have said I am sure you will agree with me that the single

breech-loader will soon be as obsolete a weapon as the old muzzle-loader now is, and that the adoption of smokeless or nitro powders for all military purposes is only a matter of time. No doubt there are occasions during naval and military operations when the shroud of smoke produced by musketry or artillery fire has proved of important advantage to one or other or to both of the belligerents, but this smoke will have to be found from other sources. The French, it is said, have a new invention in the shape of a smoke bomb, intended to be fired into the ranks of the enemy who use smokeless powder, and so obscure their view. With the adoption of smokeless powder the duties of the guard and patrol will be made immeasurably more difficult by the absence of smoke and noise which, in the case of the employment of ordinary powder, attracted their attention to and pointed out the position of the enemy. On the other hand, it will render capital service to the franc-tireurs whose object is to escape from and confuse the guard. Sudden attacks and surprises will become matters of such daily occurrence, that outposts and patrols will have to be immensely strengthened and kept at the utmost tension of watchfulness. Firing, drill, and discipline must necessarily be made much stricter than at present. The most important fault of the smokeless powder is, however, the terrible clearness, the overwhelming distinctness with which, when it is used in battle, every man will be able to see the carnage and slaughter around him. Hitherto the heavy roll of the firing has mercifully smothered the cries and shrieks of the wounded, the cloud of powder smoke has veiled the horrible sight of men piled in heaps, dying and dead, their dreadful sufferings, their agonized end. Each man fighting behind a thick fog of smoke which was only wafted aside now and then by a gust of wind, or lightened by a pause in the firing, felt a certain sense of screened security, mistaken, indeed, but none the less reassuring until he himself was struck by the fatal bullet. How will it be in the future? The fall of each man who is shot down will be clearly seen by his comrades, every cry of anguish will be heard by half the company, the least hesitation, the least vacillation which, through the rapid change of commander that a death or a severe wound often renders necessary, will be immediately observed by the men and rob them of that feeling of perfect confidence they ought to have in their officers. On the other hand the advantages of smokeless powder may be summed up. The demoralizing and bewildering effect on the corps exposed to infantry fire, and the difficulty experienced by the enemy in determining the distance and the direction whence the fire comes, the increased certainty of aim arising from the absence of smoke from their own fire, especially in the case of artillery, where it enables at least three times as much to be fired as with the old powder.

For the defence it is an estimable boom ; for the attack, it means certain death."

The Ashantee Expedition.

On Saturday the advanced party of the Ashantee Expedition left the Mersey on their way to King Prempeh's capital at Coomassie. We are, therefore, now committed to one of those inglorious but necessary little wars, the successful waging of which is necessary to the expansion and even to the maintenance of the empire. If once we became weak in those regions, where our civilization trenches on an immemorial barbarism, we should have to bid farewell to those larger dreams of a fair Imperialism which the entire British race is more and more determined to cherish. A creeping paralysis, beginning at the extremities, would steal gradually to the very heart of the empire. Respect for us would cease to be entertained in our colonies, our central government would be weakened by lack of energy, and would fall into self-contempt, and before long we should have to face again the question now laid aside as an anachronism, "Is the British Empire worth preserving?" We need hardly repeat the reasons for the expedition. The Chief of Coomassie, claiming to be suzerain lord over other chiefs whom we protect, disturbs whole regions and diverts trade by continual wars and raids, while our determination is to preserve the peace which is necessary to prosperous progress. He has revived human sacrifices, which we have forbidden, and shall always denounce as intolerable. He assists slave raiding and slave trading. If these be not offences serious enough to justify the expedition and the demand that Prempeh's future policy shall be guided by a Minister resident at Coomassie itself, then no expedition against an irredeemable savage can be justified. There is just the question whether the virtual annexation of a hinterland in one of the most unhealthy of the world's territories is worth its cost to England, but the answer is that there is a large trade to be developed through Cape Coast Castle, and our inward march is necessary to the preservation of our commerce in those regions from the grasping hands of France and Germany.

In regard to the expedition itself, some uneasiness is expressed lest it should not be able to cope with all the obstacles in the way. The demoralizing effect of a disaster such as befel us on Majuba Hill or at Isandula or in the early days of the Soudan fight, are dwelt upon with eloquence. We should have thought that Lord Wolseley, who knows the country well and has had the best advice possible under the circumstances—that of Sir Francis Scott who has come home on purpose to lay the newest facts before the Commander-in-Chief—might have been trusted to make the best of all dispositions. We do not fear a check. The forces, it seems, may be depended upon,

the medical precautions to be taken contrast happily with the reckless inattention shown by the French authorities in sending their soldiers to the swamps and woods of Madagascar; our little army, and the Maxim guns put all thought of savage success almost out of the question. Still, there are fearful souls who are very nervous. If Prempeh still defies us, according to one lay authority, "the Ashantees, who know that it is their last chance of independence, who are furious at the loss of their ascendancy over smaller tribes, and who may be in a state of religious exultation, may fight as they have never fought yet—perhaps arrest our march, perhaps leave us masters of Coomassie with the victory still not won. A very small repulse would be followed by a rising of the tribes now supposed to be friendly, and nothing is so costly as a second expedition to repair defeat. The blow given should be a crushing one, and for this the force to be employed does not look to outsiders quite sufficient." But surely this is purely a matter for experts, and the experts are satisfied. Moreover, the risk is less a risk in the field than the risk to the health during the march, and Lord Wolseley is to be praised if he does not expose to that risk more troops than he actually needs—praise because he is doing a humane thing, and because rapid movement such as is possible only to a small force and a good commissariat which could not be quickly organized for a full army, are a security against such a disgraceful breakdown as occurred during the recent French march to Antananarivo. We are inclined to feel content with the arrangements made, and the public will be the same. The country believe, and is justified in believing, that Lord Wolseley has an almost miraculous foresight.—*Naval and Military Record.*

Prince Bismarck's Views.

Germany Should Interfere, but Await Developments.

[Correspondence of *The N. Y. Herald.*]

Prince Bismarck's organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, comments on the Eastern question in the following terms :

"That the Armenians should bring about a war is a supposition for which there is not as yet a sufficient basis. Evidently there is an agreement between the Powers interested with regard to the pressure to be exercised on the Porte to compel it to carry out the necessary reforms. We do not think the liquidation of Turkey is so near at hand as it is represented in certain journals. But we consider that if such changes should take place it would come about in this manner:—Some fine day Russia will disembark enough troops on the Bosphorus, offering the Sultan guarantees, and will quietly await to see that England and the other Powers will do. In our opinion Russia has one aim, never to be given up—to close the doors of her house on the Black Sea, settle the Turkish question, and then devote all her strength to affairs in Asia.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S FORECAST.

"When that takes place there may come the solutions into which the existing Oriental crisis with which we are confronted will resolve itself. Prince Bismarck, in his great speech on February 6, 1888, thus expressed himself:—'When will there be a crisis in the East? Some years may elapse first. We have not the slightest security. We have had during the present century four crises, without counting minor crises, which did not attain their full development. There was that of 1809, which ended in the peace that gave Russia the Pruth as her frontier; that of 1828, that of 1854, and that of 1877; that is, at intervals of something like twenty years. Why should the next crisis break out in a shorter period?'

"These words were uttered in 1888, and we are now in the year 1895. We are therefore not far from the end of the interval fore-shadowed by previous Oriental crises. But this circumstance contains no reason for alarm in Europe. The European situation is still such that every Power, without exception, is afraid of declaring a war the result of which must be uncertain. The time when England was a serious menace is over for the moment, and neither Germany nor Austria is disposed to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for England. Nor do we think that England will do it, although a rapprochement between the two countries in regard to certain questions is probable. And Russia cannot better forward her projects than by maintaining the existing situation in Europe.

"If Russia wants to concentrate troops on the Armenian frontier, she will do so, for her voice is the most weighty when Turkish affairs are to be settled, and the more troops she has the more weight it will be. Concentrations of troops are not absolutely a means of waging war, but are often a useful means of applying diplomatic pressure. As to the position of Germany, we hold that it is her duty to continue her policy of non intervention as the collective action of all the Powers in regard to Turkey is not in question."

THE QUESTION OF THE DARDANELLES.

In an article upon the question of foreign war ships passing through the Dardanelles, the *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:—"The Straits Convention speaks only of 'war ships,' and the definition of a war ship is, therefore, the main point. In the eye of international law, and technically speaking, a war ship is unquestionably any vessel fit and ready to fight, that is, a weapon ready for use. No transport ship of any kind is in ordinary language a war ship, and its capability of being rendered fit for war is a quality which it shares with every merchantman. After such adaptation every transport ship becomes a war vessel, but till then it does not belong to the category of war ships as defined in the conventions of 1856 and 1871.

"The principle of those conventions, which empower the Sultan to forbid foreign war vessels to enter the Straits, rests on the fact that the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus are not open sea, but undisputed parts of the Turkish empire, and the right to forbid or to grant permission to other States to send armed forces through Turkish territory or Turkish waters is indisputable, even without European treaties, being a natural prerogative of the Turkish sovereign."

Lord and Lady Aberdeen are now at Calgary. They will arrive at Winnipeg on Saturday, remaining until Tuesday.

The Persecution of the Russian Quakers.

In the Contemporary Review Count Tolstoi tells in brief the story of the persecution which has befallen the Dookhobortzy, who may be described as a kind of a Russian Quakers, and who are now being harried by the Russian government because they refuse to bear arms. The following is the substance of the story which Count Tolstoi has to tell: "The Dookhobortzy settled in the Caucasus have been subjected to cruel persecutions by the Russian authorities; and these persecutions, described in the report of one who made inquiries on the spot, are now, at this moment, happening. These Dookhobortzy were beaten, whipped, and ridden down; Cossacks were quartered upon them in 'executions,' who, it is proved, allowed themselves every license with these people; and everything they did was with the consent of their officers. Those men who had refused military service were tortured, in body and in mind; and it is entirely true that a prosperous population, who by tens of years of hard toil had created their own prosperity, were expelled from their homes and settled, without land and without means of subsistence, in the Georgian villages.

"The cause of these persecutions is, that for certain reasons three-fourths of the Dookhobortzy (that is about 15,000 people, their whole population being about 20,000) have this year returned with renewed force and earnestness to their former Christian profession, and have resolved to comply in practice with Christ's law of non-resistance to evil by violence. This decision has caused them, on one hand, to destroy all their weapons, which are considered so needful in the Caucasus, thus renouncing the principle of fighting, and putting themselves at the mercy of every marauder; and, on the other hand, to refuse, under all circumstances, participation in acts of force which may be demanded from them by the government; which means that they must refuse service in the army or elsewhere that violence is used. The government could not permit such a desertion of the duties established by law on the part of so many thousands of people, and a struggle broke out. The government demands compliance with its requirements; the Dookhobortzy do not obey.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

"The government cannot afford to yield. Not only because this refusal of the Dookhobortzy to comply with the requirements of the government has, from the official standpoint, no legal justification, and is contrary to the existing time-

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E. DESBARATS,
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consecrated order; but such refusals must be discountenanced at once, for the sole reason that, if allowed ten, tomorrow there will be a thousand, ten thousand others who wish to escape the burden of the taxes and the conscription. And if this is allowed, there will spring up marauding and chaos instead of order and security: no one's life or property will be safe. Thus the authorities reason; they cannot reason otherwise; and they are not in the least at fault in so reasoning."

A RELIGIOUS STRIKE.

The Russian government, in fact, is face to face with an organized strike based on religious principle against compulsory military service. The peasantry hate conscription, and if conscientious objections to soldiering as anti-Christian were permitted to exempt from military service the numbers of Russian Quakers would increase by the million. Count Tolstoi takes the persecutions very philosophically. He rejoices in tribulation and sees in martyrdom the shortest road to victory: "The more indulgent the government the quicker the number of true Christians will grow. The more cruel the government the quicker the number of those who yield to the requirements of government diminishes. Thus, whether indulgent or cruel toward men who by their lives proclaim Christianity, government is forwarding its own destruction. 'Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out' "

He prefaces his paper with the following prophecy of ultimate victory: "If we will only have courage and boldly

profess Him, soon not only will those horrible persecutions of the body of true disciples of Christ who carry out His teaching practically in their lives disappear, but there will remain no more prisons or gallows, no wars, corruption, idleness or toil-crushed poverty, under which Christian humanity now groans."

The Priest.

"William, fetch the priest!"

It was Admiral Sir John Hopkins of H. M. steamship Blake who thus commanded his canoeman

It was an altogether strange and unexpected request for such a vigorous man to make, and under such circumstances. He certainly seemed to be in no immediate need of a spiritual adviser, for he was at the moment skilfully landing a fine salmon toward a convenient place for gaffing; hence I interposed with the query:

"What on earth do you want with a priest?"

Sir John's benign countenance lost for the moment its look of anxiety, and his eyes twinkled merrily as he replied:

"Why, to administer the last consolation, don't you know? We call the club with which we stun our salmon 'the priest.'" The point was obvious.

In spite of the announcement that King Pramph, of Ashanti, has agreed to the terms of Great Britain, the preparations for the campaign against Coomassie continue, as there is an indemnity for expenses up to date and other little details to be settled before Great Britain will be thoroughly satisfied with the practical protectorate which she is taking steps to assume over this portion of Africa.

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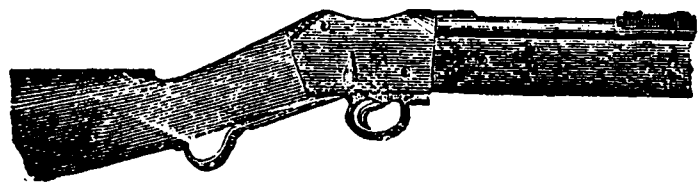
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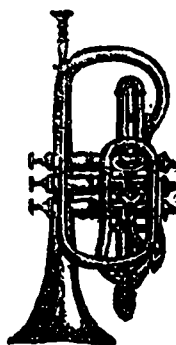
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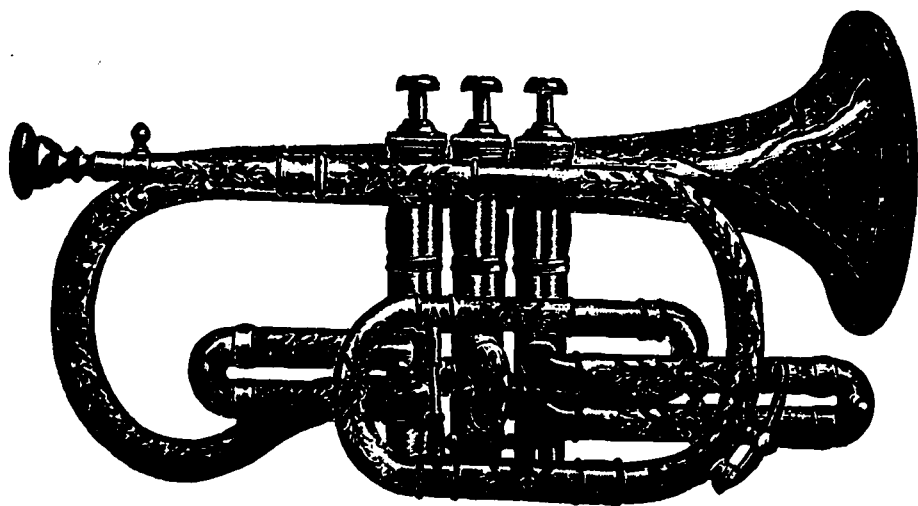
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