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This year is apt to witness a Queen's Birthday review of an unusual character, it being expected that the Duke of Connaught, who is about returning from India *via* Canada, will spend the anniversary in one of our chief cities. Such being the case, no pains should be spared to make the parade of the militia worthy of the occasion.

The military news from the Antipodes published in this issue, and which we have extracted from our sprightly contemporary the *Colonial Military Gazette*, may be read with much profit, showing as it does that in their military administration the Australian colonies are ahead of the Dominion in many respects. For example, signalling corps are encouraged and paid; cadet training is very extensively practised, and camps for cadet corps, to be tried here as an experiment next summer, are successfully conducted; commissariat and transport corps flourish; the free ammunition allowance for military training is fifty rounds a year, against our twenty annually or biennially; and even in the matter of a Military Institute, such as Toronto has been enterprising enough to organize, Victoria has forestalled us, having established a Naval and Military Institute in November last. In pointing out these facts, of course we do not wish it to be inferred that the Antipodean colonies might not with advantage take pattern from our system in other respects.

Unhappily it is notorious that the attendance at the district camps annually held, is not a fair representation of the corps called out, and the men who put in the twelve days training are too often coaxed out to do duty for that occasion only, and with no expectation that they will be on hand at any subsequent training. A correspondent, whose letter appears in this issue, gives it as his opinion that were those men who were trained in 1888 and 1889 ordered out again this year, con-

siderably less than half would respond. It is a question whether the money spent upon the district camps might not be employed to much better advantage. For instance, the rural corps might be so constituted that each company could be drilled at company headquarters, just as the city corps are now drilled; and for the officers and higher non-commissioned officers classes of the duration of the present camps might be formed in connection with the military schools for their respective districts.

A Toronto militiaman, one of the rank and file, writes to express the hope that more will be heard of the proposed efficiency competition for infantry, which he thinks would be a great incentive to all ranks to perfect themselves in drill and useful military acquirements generally. We hoped to have ere this presented a detailed scheme for such a competition, but the officer who has been interesting himself in its preparation has been interrupted by pressure of other business.

The Halifax *Critic* has this pleasant paragraph: "Nothing can be more satisfactory than the present relations of the militia of Halifax with the Imperial forces, who are untiring in affording every assistance in their power to our citizen soldiery whenever occasion serves. An instance of this good feeling occurred on Friday last. The Royal Artillery were already short-handed by the strength of one battery which had left, and another was to leave on Saturday. A very heavy gun was to be mounted for the use of the H. B. G. A., and the R. A. determined it should be done though they had to impress men not usually employed on that kind of work, and who had all to prepare for leaving on Saturday morning. This service (an arduous one) was rendered in the most cheerful and pleasant manner."

Will our correspondent "Rifleman," who writes anonymously from Georgetown, P. E. I., be good enough to send his name, when we will be happy to print the answer to his question.

Sir F. Roberts on Artillery.

(United Service Gazette.)

Sir Frederick Roberts' recent address, on the occasion of his visit to the Artillery Practice Camp at Delhi, will receive a warm welcome from all who have the interests of the Army at heart. Amongst Sir Frederick's other important remarks, it will be observed that he lays down the principle that, "with foes equally well armed, that artillery will win which can soonest find the range of its enemy, and, when found, fire with the greatest accuracy, steadiness and rapidity." He went on to say how we are to arrive at this highly desirable result, and his remarks are eminently practical and to the point. Coming from the Commander-in-Chief in India, they have a remarkable value; but, seeing that the Commander-in-Chief is also an able artillery officer, they have in this case a unique force and application. According to this great authority, we must not be content with the results hitherto obtained, but must aim at a far higher standard of excellence. We must learn to get the range as soon and as accurately as possible. Then gunners must be taught to

turn the power and accuracy of their armament to the best account. No round must fall ineffective or without an object. Hitting must be the sole end and object of the gunner's training; and, if anything interferes with that part of his education, it must ruthlessly be swept away and forgotten.

We no longer should hear of the "best horsed" or "best dressed," but only of the "best shooting" battery or troop. Mobility, as we have before pointed out, is not now so important a qualification as excellence in shooting, and much of the trouble formerly lavished on drill movements and evolutions must now be turned in a more useful direction. We often plume ourselves because our artillery is supposed to be the best in the world. It is undoubtedly the best horsed and the best dressed. It may also now be said to have in the 12-pounder at any rate as good a gun as that of any other state, and, as regards the physique of its men (*pace* Sir Edward Sullivan and "Army reformers"), it may also claim equality, if not superiority. But if we take account of its capabilities of destruction, we are not sure that we can boast of first place. This should be ours. Englishmen are keen of sight and observation, and if trained in the right direction, can excel here as in other respects. Unfortunately, we have as yet hardly adopted methods calculated to call forth the best powers of our men. Until quite recently, few cared to inquire how a battery shot if it only looked and moved well on parade. Practice was regarded as a nuisance, and gunnery was voted a decided bore. Much of this spirit has disappeared, but much has still to be got rid of, and until the last remnants of it have been lost sight of we can hardly hope to have a really efficient artillery.

A fortnight ago, we pointed out that the advances made in firearms and equipments will more than ever accentuate the value and importance of artillery fire. Its scientific use will have to be studied with the same care that is devoted to any other portion of the military art, and it will no longer be looked upon as sufficient if the guns can only make a noise, and by their presence produce what is called moral effect. Their effect may be moral, but it will most certainly have to be physical too if the infantry are to make any headway or drive back the advancing foe. Its distribution in masses on the battle-field will have to be arranged for, and the positions it is to occupy chosen with foresight and judgment.

When Sir Frederick Roberts alluded to the possibility of a collision with Russia on the frontier of India, he was indulging in no imaginary flights and raising no false bogies to frighten us into activity. In India, we are living in much the same state of anxiety as are the French and Germans on the Continent. We are, as it were, in the presence of the enemy, and can indulge in no day-dreams as to the unlikelihood of war. That is a real danger, and soldiering has a practical ring about it in India that it lacks in England. When, therefore, the man in all India best qualified to know both the danger and the remedy bids us endeavour to get the most out of our weapons, we trust his words will go home to those to whom they are addressed, and be remembered as the hints of a practical man on a practical subject deserve to be treasured up. As long as we had only Asiatics to fear, our somewhat careless methods carried little danger with them. Our worst was always better than our opponent's best. Now, however, we must work to a higher standard, and having given our artillery the best possible equipment, must insist on extracting the very best possible results from the weapons in their hands.

Sir Frederick's reasoning, moreover, is of wide application and comprehensiveness, though it is of artillery in particular that he speaks. The magazine rifle must also be made the most of, and a better effect striven for from the fire of our battalions. Fire discipline is the watchword that must here guide our efforts, and, as in the case of artillery, the more showy side of soldiering must be sacrificed to produce it. Victory no longer "lies in the legs," but in the sights and ammunition.

The Palace of Laeken met with destruction by fire on New Year's Day. The historical reminiscences attaching to this late residence of the King of the Belgians, include an item of some general interest. As known, the edifice was once the property of Napoleon I., who lived in it for a space with the Empress Josephine, and signed within its walls the declaration of war against Russia. He must have liked the lodgings, for he desired to return to them on the 17th June, 1815. On that day, when Wellington, with the British forces and their allies, stood ranged on the plateau on Mont St. Jean to await the French onset, Napoleon is stated to have remarked to Marshal Soult, *Enfin je les tiens, ces Anglais!* ("At last I have got them—these English!") but the latter commander, who had already some experiences in Spain and Portugal of the value of the enemy in front, surlily muttered some words to the effect that as his sire had got them, he would have to keep them—if he could. Ever confident of his nimbus of victory, before even a shot of the opening battle had been fired, Napoleon despatched messengers to Paris with the advices that he had come up with the English, and after disposing of their opposition to his advance on Brussels, intended "to sup the same night at Laeken!" As it proved, the "smoker" song was sung, but that night Napoleon had no supper at all.

Some Thoughts on Cavalry.

(Col. Wm. S. Brackett, Inspector General, Ill.)

We hear a good deal about cavalry being "the eyes of an army," about its "hovering on the flanks of the enemy," making raids, foraging, skirmishing, preparing the way for combat by the infantry and cannon,—in short anything and everything except downright hard fighting in battle. We hear it also asserted (and with much truth) that the old time cavalry charge in heavy massed formations, as against infantry armed with the modern rifle, is a thing of the past, never to be resorted to unless the sacrifice of the cavalry is thus demanded to gain precious time in some battle emergency.

But nevertheless it is believed by the writer that the sphere of cavalry as an active independent force, supported by its own proper horse artillery, and fighting in large bodies against either foot or mounted troops, is by no means at an end, so far as wars in the future are concerned. As long as the achievements of the cavalry corps of the army of the Potomac under General Sheridan remain to adorn the page of history, the brilliant military possibilities of a large mounted corps acting independently against an equal, or even superior force of infantry, in a rough and new country like ours, will and must arrest the attention of army organizers of the future.

One mistake made with our cavalry now is to handicap it with a bungling and inadequate equipment, fit only for cavalry, and not for dragoons, and at the same time to expect from it, and exact from it, dragoon service. Our cavalry should be transformed into dragoons and be used only as dragoons.

The original and true meaning of the word "dragoon" is a soldier who can fight equally well on horseback or on foot as necessity may require. In the old army of the United States there were two regiments of dragoons and one of "Mounted Riflemen," so called. Later (in 1855) two regiments of cavalry were added. Early in the war (to the great disgust of the dragoons and mounted riflemen), all were merged into five uniform regiments of horse, and were called "cavalry."

Thus the new volunteer regiments were called cavalry also, and with the regulars, were armed with short, pop gun carbines, and their efficiency further destroyed by being told off into small squads for escort, courier and "orderly" duty. So it came to pass that the infantry volunteers used in joke to offer a reward for a "dead cavalry-man." But let it be noted that whenever the cavalry had a chance to act in large bodies and together they made splendid records. Yet they had few such chances until near the end of the war of the Rebellion, when Sheridan massed the cavalry of the Potomac Army into a corps and used them as they should be used, viz., as dragoons.

Towards the end of the war, too, the cavalry obtained better guns, or many regiments did, such as the Henry or Spencer rifle, both breech loaders and magazine guns.

Some noble attempts were made early in the war to use the cavalry as they should be used in fighting, notably by Maj. Gen. John Buford, who had he lived, would surely have shown the world as Sheridan did later on, how much cavalry could accomplish in a new country like ours, of heavy timber, rough hills and poor roads, when they were used as dragoons, i.e., manoeuvred while mounted and fought while on foot.

The cavalry of Russia has the same or similar difficulties of rough, new and broken country to operate in, as our own. It contends with the enemy in large, independent brigades or corps, in regions where long marches, lack of roads and other impediments of a wild region render the manoeuvre of infantry impossible, because under the given conditions, celerity of movement by infantry is impossible.

Let it be noted that all the regular cavalry of Russia, 57 regiments and 56 depot squadrons, numbering over 95,000 men, have been transformed into dragoons, armed with long rifles and especially trained to fight on foot. In target practice many of these regiments are equal to the infantry. How absurd it is to compare, as some military critics are prone to do, the operations of cavalry in an open, highly cultivated country of turn-pikes and macadam roads, like France, for instance, with the operations of mounted men in a country like the wilderness of Virginia, the Tennessee mountain region or the bad lands of North Dakota. There is, and can be no parallel. Cavalry armed with short carbines as an auxiliary to the sabre may do great things in the fair fields and vineyards of sunny France. On the steppes of Asia, in the rough mountains and forests of Tennessee, in the labyrinths of the bad lands, among the wild buttes of Montana, cavalry must act as dragoons, and should be armed with the long rifle.

It has been a matter of wonder among the Indians of the plains for a quarter of a century that our horse soldiers are given the short guns to fight with. They very pertinently ask, "if the Great Father at Washington has not got enough long rifles for all his soldiers, why he does not give the short guns to his foot soldiers and the long guns to his horsemen?"

It fills a man with amazement and indignation to see one of the pitiful carbines (I saw one lately in Montana) carried by Gen. Custer's 7th Cavalry in the memorable battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876. The Indians not only led the companies under Custer into an ambush on that occasion, but poured a concentrating fire on them from hard-shooting long range rifles of various excellent patterns. As Sitting Bull and Chief Gall remarked when visiting the field and describing the massacre ten years afterwards, the soldiers under Custer "were shot down like pigs in a slaughter pen." It is notorious that comparatively few Indians were killed in that battle, and it is equally true that afterwards numbers of nicked pocket knives were found on the field where our soldiers fell, mute eloquent testimony of their vain efforts to extract tight shells from badly chambered carbines even as they were being shot down like sheep in the shambles. It is believed there would at least have been some white survivors of that awful field if the 7th Cavalry had been armed with good rifles instead of carbines.

Why our cavalry are not armed as dragoons should be armed, it is hard to say, unless it be the imbecile conservatism of our Army policy, always behind the age until war is at our very doors.

Of course a long rifle could not be carried in a sling as our cavalry now carry the carbine. Nor is it desirable to carry any weapon in such a senseless manner, awkwardly jostling and jumping about and embarrassing and straining the rider until he is tempted to throw it away as an intolerable nuisance.

The Russian dragoons carry their rifles hung by stout gun slings across the back, the piece depending from the left shoulder, butt of piece on right side of the horse, barrel pointing upwards just back of the left shoulder.

This method somewhat cramps the body in riding, and it is believed a better one exists in the favourite manner of carrying the rifle practiced by hunters, cowboys and mounted men generally in the far west, a method in vogue from Montana to New Mexico. Once tried, no other way will ever satisfy a man on horseback. This is, to carry the rifle in a leather scabbard or case, open at the lower or bottom end, which is fastened under the left side flap of the saddle, and, of course, under the stirrup leather.

It is a sort of "reverse arms" position under the left stirrup leather and left saddle flap. The barrel is turned down with toe of the butt and trigger guard up, and the small of the stock within easy grasp of the right hand. The rifle can thus be drawn out from its scabbard with the right hand alone almost as easily and quickly as a sword from its sheath. It is absolutely out of the rider's way when mounted, and is as fixed in its position on trot or gallop, without jingle or jostle, as if it were a part of the saddle tree itself. The left leg holds it in place without feeling it or knowing it.

It has the merit, not of being the theory of some board of officers, but of being the invention of those who through rough and continuous riding were compelled to study out the best way for a mounted man to carry his gun. It is confidently submitted that this is the manner in which the future *dragoons* of the American army will and must carry their rifles.

In writing of cavalry, much might be said about the sabre and whether dragoons should carry any at all. Certainly no sabre should be carried in campaigns against savage tribes. Sabres are never carried in the U. S. army in Indian campaigns. But this article is already longer than intended, and it is enough to say that the present sabre could be much improved on, particularly the steel scabbard, which should be lighter and should be so constructed or lined as to preserve the blade sharp. Some of the best light cavalry in the world sheathe their blades in *wooden* scabbards, thus preserving keen edges on their swords. The pistol as now carried in the U. S. army at the belt should be retained. Perhaps the sabre ought to be capable of being detached and left on the saddle when dragoons dismount to fight on foot. But there are some objections to this.

In conclusion, let it be said that the great advantage of celerity of movement, manoeuvre and march, which rests with a large corps of mounted men armed with the same, or nearly the same rifles as the infantry, far outweighs the loss of one soldier out of every four left behind the line of battle as a horse-holder; and it is confidently believed that large bodies of dragoons acting independently will be a feature of wars and campaigns in the future, especially in wild, rough and forest regions such as are found in most parts of the United States.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner* says: "The Government has secured the patent rights of a new artillery arm which, among experts, is believed to be an advance upon any of the guns in the armament of any of the European Powers. The weapon is the invention of two officers in the American navy, Lieuts. Driggs and Schroeder, from whom the Government has purchased the patent. The trials of the new arm have been of a most satisfactory kind. The range of the gun is said to be effective up to 600 yards, while it can be discharged at three times the rate of the Armstrong gun."

Correspondence.

(This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.)

QUALIFICATIONS OF PERMANENT CORPS OFFICERS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—In looking over the new Militia List for 1890, I perceive that although the officers on the active list of our volunteer battalions have their certificates of qualification (those who have them) marked after their names—such as "Smith, George, M. S. 1st," "Brown, John, V. B. 2nd"—I can find no such degree of qualification following the names of those gentlemen who hold commissions in our permanent corps. This seems to me to be hardly fair on the volunteers.

As it is at least as interesting to the militia and the general public to know the qualifications of our instructors on full government pay, you would greatly oblige by giving some explanation as to why they are not published.

I would also like to know if it is requisite with them as with us to obtain a first to hold field rank.

MILITAIRE.

THE ATTENDANCE AT CAMP.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—"B. M. W.'s" remarks in your last issue are good, more especially when he says we have the remedy in our own hands.

But we do not require \$150,000 more! Call out the actual men that were in camp in '88 and the actual men that were in camp in '89, and only about 18 per company would be willing to go! or even discovered near their company headquarters!

Send out these 18 men, who have had one camp already, this year, and the annual grant would be ample, for money is thrown away on men who never turn out again!

Bring the officers and n.c. officers, and say 15 men per company, out every year for their three years of presumed enlistment. *Insist upon their presence*, and we might then begin to feel that we have a somewhat efficient militia!

In my humble opinion a dozen good eggs are worth 500,000 bad ones, except, perhaps, for electioneering purposes! Yours humbly,

A YOLK.

The Rifle.

Staff-Sergt. Pink, of the 43rd Battalion, has declined the proffered place on the Canadian twenty, and Pte. E. H. Brown, 59th Battalion, now has the option of taking the twentieth place.

A Halifax rifleman writes: "I hope the executive of the D. R. A. will see their way clear to have more shooting in the matches that go to make up the grand aggregate, and less in the extra series matches, except in those at 800 and 900 yards." There seems to be a general desire for more long range shooting, if not in the grand aggregate, at least for places on the Canadian twenty.

ALLAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Allan Rifle Association was held Tuesday evening, 18th inst., at the Q. O. R. orderly room, in the drill shed, Toronto. The secretary-treasurer's report, received and adopted, showed the Association to be in a very flourishing condition both numerically and financially. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season: Honorary President, Lt.-Col. Allan; President, Mr. M. S. Mercer; Vice-President, Mr. Jno. H. Knifton; Secy-Treasurer, Mr. G. M. Donnelly; Auditor, Mr. W. C. Macdonald; Committee, Messrs. Jno. F. Crean, Wm. Harp and W. H. Meadows. The association have every reason to congratulate themselves on their selection of officers, as every one is a worker. They have decided to hold a spring match the first Saturday the ranges open, which will probably be about May 10th, by which time there will be a very fine prize list prepared for competition. The secretary (whose address is 68 Colborne St.) would like to correspond with secretaries of other associations, with a view to arranging telegraphic matches during the coming season.

TORONTO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Toronto Rifle Association was held last week. There was a large attendance. The annual report and financial statement showed the association to be in a flourishing condition. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, Mr. Walter Macdonald; 1st Vice-President, Major McSpadden; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. John Agnew; Secy-Treasurer, Mr. A. D. Cartwright; Committee of Management, Messrs. Jos. Johnston, A. G. Ronan, T. Mitchell and A. Bell. The target practices will commence early in May, and be held Tuesday and Saturday afternoons during the season.

OUTDOOR PRACTICE AT MONTREAL.

The Vics think they can claim the honour of being first in the field for a practice this spring. As the weather has been delightfully mild and springlike for the past week, and no possibility of any practice at the Cote St. Luc ranges for some time to come, five of the Vics went out to the Athletic Club House grounds at Cote-des-Neiges and had a little practice match at the 100 yards range for sporting rifles. Considerable difficulty had to be overcome in getting the elevation, as the Snider shoots about two feet over the mark with the lowest "fixed sight" at 100 yards, and as the target had a 4-inch bulls-eye pretty close shooting was necessary to score. The Snider held its own against the Marlin repeater .38 calibre used by several gentlemen in the scratch match, but on Saturday next, 29th inst., there will be a regular team of five armed with Marlins to compete with the same five Vics, and a good competition may be looked for. The conditions will be the same as Saturday's practice, viz: Five men a side; 5 shots each; military kneeling, civilian standing; Snider and Marlin rifles respectively. Range 100 yards, D.C.R.A. revolver target. Following is the result of Saturday's practice:—

Lt. E. Desbarats	3 5 5 3 5—21
Corpl. R. Binmore	4 4 4 4 4—20
Lt. G. W. F. Carter	3 4 4 5 4—20
Pte. R. Kough	3 4 3 5 4—19
Lce.-Corpl. D. McCrae	2 4 5 3 4—18

Average 19 3-5. 98

Regimental and Other News.

Prof. Anderson, late Bandmaster of the 7th Fusiliers band, has secured an appointment in Toronto, as the following from the *Globe* shows: "The violin department of the College of Music has just been strengthened by the addition to the staff of the well-known violinist and teacher, Mr. August Anderson, from the Royal College of Music, Copenhagen, Denmark."

We regret to have to chronicle the death, on the 13th March, at Gananoque, of a promising young officer of the militia force in the person of Harry Mace Jackson, late in command of No. 2 Co., 41st Battalion. Captain Jackson was an enthusiastic officer. In September, 1886, on being gazetted to the command of a company, he proceeded to Toronto and took a highly creditable course at the R.S.I., obtaining a 2nd class grade A certificate. In January, 1887, he again went up, for a first, but while in Toronto was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs, and was obliged to leave, and has since been in poor health. He possessed in a marked manner the prized quality for a good officer of volunteers, that while always maintaining thorough discipline, he was popular and beloved by the men of his company. In losing him the 41st loses a promising officer, and one it will be hard to replace.

22nd Battalion "Oxford Rifles."

The annual meeting of the officers of this battalion was held at the O'Neill House, Woodstock, on the 28th ult. The following officers were present: Lt. Col. Munro, Major and Paymaster McCleneghan, Surgeon McWilliam, Capt. and Adj. W. M. Davis, Capts. Day, Macqueen, Hegler, Ball and Van Buskirk, and Lieuts. Quinn and Anderson. The commanding officer gave a resume of what was done since last meeting, referring to the late Surgeon Major Swan as a most zealous and efficient officer, whose death all ranks would deeply deplore. All would feel grateful, he said, for the very liberal assistance from the county council, and he trusted that no effort would be spared to maintain the regiment in such a state of efficiency as to deserve such aid. He urged the necessity of the officers and non-commissioned officers making themselves acquainted with the new infantry drill before going into camp, and hoped that, with the new head dress and the new equipment for non-commissioned officers and pioneers, the regiment would turn out, if possible, in better shape than ever before. The reports of the band, regimental and rifle committees were then read, which were all satisfactory, and adopted. The following officers compose the several committees for the current year: Band, Capts. Sutherland, Davis and Ross; Regimental, Majors Loveys and McCleneghan, and Capt. Day; Rifle, captains of companies; Mess, Surgeon McWilliam, Capts. Macqueen and Sutherland. All the officers present were enthusiastic and elated at the bright prospects of the battalion.

Toronto.

"C" Company Royal Grenadiers held a meeting on the 13th inst. for the purpose of forming a company fund. Nearly every member was present. Col.-Sergt. Milsom occupied the chair, and Sergt. Carter was elected secretary-treasurer, provisionally. It was carried unanimously that the company have a fund and put their whole annual pay in, and a committee was appointed to draft a set of by-laws. It is composed of

the following members: Col.-Sergt. Milsom, Sergt. Foley, Corp. Gilbert, and Ptes. Davidson and Russell.

Nearly all the companies in the Grenadiers have decided to put their entire pay into company funds. Hitherto, several of them had no fund at all. Lt.-Col. Dawson intends issuing a memo. regarding the management of the various funds. He will require each company to appoint a committee of four, the captain being an ex-officio member, to handle the funds, and that no moneys be paid excepting on a cheque signed by the secretary-treasurer and countersigned by the captain.

The Grenadiers' recruit class commenced on Tuesday, 18th inst., and a large number of recruits were waiting to go in. Ex Sergt.-Major Francis is going to put them through, and, no doubt, under his tuition, they will become thoroughly efficient in all their duties.

Hamilton.

The wisdom of funding the pay in the Thirteenth Battalion is becoming more apparent day by day. The evidences of new life are showing themselves on every hand. The change was not made before it was needed, as the battalion was rapidly becoming a resort for a lot of old moss backs, who only thought of their pay and how to get it with as little exertion on their part as possible. These men, of course, kept the better class out. But this is all changed now. The funding of the pay has provided the companies with the wherewithal to decorate their armouries and make them places not only to keep arms and accoutrements in, but also to spend an hour or two of an evening to the advantage both of themselves and the battalion, for of course it is only a natural result that where militiamen congregate, the militia in general and their own battalion in particular will come in for a large share of their attention. Then drill, shooting, and the best way of recruiting all come in for their share, and the battalion reaps the benefit. To-day the members of the Thirteenth are working for the interests of the battalion; a desire to excel has pervaded every company, and friendly rivalry exists throughout. What would still further advance the battalion would be the possession of a full camp equipment, so that short trips could be indulged in by the whole battalion. This would be much more conducive to discipline than having separate companies tramping over the country independently.

There were three companies on parade last Friday evening, A, F and H. A and H marched out under command of Captain Stoneman, who had Captain Moore and Lieut. Herring with him.

F Company paraded for target practice. Lieut. Tidswell was in command, and was assisted by Lieut. Laidlaw. Two new Morris tubes were used, and the scoring was the best that has been done yet.

The annual meeting of the sergeants was held last week in their mess room and was fairly well attended. After the minutes were read and the usual routine business dispatched, it was decided to give a cup for competition at the battalion matches, to be called the "Sergeants' Cup," in lieu of the non-commissioned officers' cup won outright by C Company. The new cup to be won three times before becoming the property of the winner. The following officers were elected: President, Sergt. Major Athawes; vice-president, Staff-Sergt. Goodwin; secretary, Sergt. Greenley; treasurer, Col.-Sergt. Bismark. Committee, Col.-Sergts. Bettles and Silk, and Sergt. Garson.

Lieut.-Cols. Skinner and Irving, late of the Thirteenth Battalion, were in town last week.

The bugle band are getting on first-rate with the decoration of their room.

The following orders have been issued:—

HEADQUARTERS 13TH BATTALION A.M.,
HAMILTON, March 19th.

8. The regiment will parade for battalion drill on Friday, April 11th, at 7.45 p.m.
9. The following men passed the drill instructor's examination on the 11th inst., and are qualified for the non-commissioned officers' ranks, namely: Private B. Harvey, D Company; Private J. Harvey, D Company; Private W. Stewart, D Company; Private Richmond, F Company.
10. The commanding officer has been pleased to appoint Corporal Thos. Wheaton, of H Company, to be sergeant from this date.
11. Second Lieut. Powis has three months' leave of absence from April 4th next, for the purpose of attending the Royal School of Infantry at Toronto for a short course.

By order,

J. J. STUART, Captain and Adjutant.

Ottawa.

Mr. H. Graham, who has served about ten years in the Thirteenth Battalion at Hamilton, has removed to Ottawa to enter upon the management of the Grand Union Hotel, of which his uncle, Mr. John Graham, is the proprietor. Mr. Graham was one of the Thirteenth's best shots, and has been to Wimbledon as a representative of that corps. He will be quite an acquisition to the Ottawa corps with which he decides to cast in his lot.

THE GUARDS.

The Governor General's Foot Guards have commenced the annual drill, and the semi-weekly musters are well attended. Major Todd being in command, Major Hodgins has taken over the duties of junior

major in addition to those of adjutant. The ranks are well filled by a good class of men, and the prospects of the corps were never better. It is not decided where they will spend the 24th of May, but an endeavour will be made to participate in the big military celebration on that day, wherever it may be held.

Capt. Bowie having gone to Nova Scotia to reside, has relinquished the command of No. 5 company, and Second Lieutenant Watters, from No. 1, has been chosen as his successor. Mr. Edward F. Taylor, formerly colour-sergeant of the company, has taken a commission and rejoined it as the second lieutenant. He was very popular as a non. com. both in No. 5 and No. 1 company, in which he originally served, and his old comrades in arms are much pleased that he has now taken an officer's commission. Mr. Taylor has had experience of actual service, having served in the North-West as a corporal in the Guards Sharpshooters.

Having caught the infection from the recent visit of the Highland Cadets of Montreal, officers of the Guards are discussing the advisability of establishing a cadet corps in connection with the regiment. The movement has already got a good footing in Ottawa, a class having just been started under the auspices of the officers of No. 6 company of the 43rd Battalion.

The "bugle band" of the Guards is to be strengthened by the addition of ten drummers, and the strength of the organization will then be thirty members. The band has always been a smart and efficient one, and the regiment look forward with confident pleasure to the proposed strengthening. Ten very fine drums are to be procured, each of the six companies providing one out of the company funds, and the officers providing the rest.

Battery Drill and Driving Competition.

The Secretary of the Dominion Artillery Association, Capt. J. B. Donaldson, has issued the usual circular giving the conditions of the Field Battery drill and driving competition for the Gzowski challenge cup and cash prizes offered by the Association. The conditions are the same as those of last year, but a couple of moot points are set at rest, by the clauses respecting forage caps and harness bits. The following are the

CONDITIONS.

The prizes to be competed for on parade during annual drill by the four sub-divisions of the Battery. The prizes to be awarded to the Batteries performing the conditions in the shortest average time.

Nine-pounder gun and limber, from horses. Four detachments, each to consist of 1 n.c. officer (mounted), 6 gunners, 2 drivers. Field day order—forage caps may be worn. Harness bits with curb chains and straps are to be used—in very exceptional cases, and with the sanction of the umpire, a bridoon bit may also be used. Detachments to be in order of march. No. 1 and Drivers—stand to their horses.

1. Gunners and Drivers prepare to mount. Mount.
2. Forward at a trot. March. Left incline. Left-shoulders. Forward. Left-shoulders. Forward. Left incline. Halt. The gun to be taken round two pickets, each 30 yards from the leaders, and 30 yards apart, and back again to original ground.
3. Action front.
4. Load with drill cartridge and fire one round with friction tube.
5. Cease firing. Rear limber up.
6. Gunners prepare to mount. Mount.
7. Forward at a trot. March. Gun to be taken straight through two pickets, 3 feet high, 40 yards distant, and 6 feet 8 inches apart—as soon as 15 yards clear then:—
8. Halt. Action rear.
9. Load with a second drill cartridge and fire one round.
10. Front limber up. Form the order of march. Halt.

Cartridges to be taken separately from the limber box by No. 7. Ammunition not to be carried. For striking any of the pickets, 5 seconds to be added to the total time. For any faults or mistakes in drill as judged by Umpire—5 seconds to be added for each. Umpire's decision to be final. No appeal. Prizes: 1st, Gzowski Challenge Cup and \$35. 2nd, \$25. 3rd, \$15.

Military cycling is being tried even in far-away Australia, a meeting having been held on Sept. 16th, at the Melbourne Barracks attended by upwards of 60 cyclists. Major Otter, of the Victorian Rangers (mounted Rifles), explained that he wanted a section of 25 cyclists for a start, and expressed himself confident of success, hoping to make it the crack corps of the colonies, expecting that the other colonies would take up the matter when Victoria had shown the way. The wheelmen here (writes our correspondent) seem to have taken kindly to it, but it requires the devotion of plenty of time, as each man must undergo a series of 20 probatory drills as infantry before being classed as effective, after which it is incumbent upon them to attend twelve night and twelve day drills per annum, which means practically at least once a fortnight.

A Sergeant-Major's Reminiscence.

(Belleville Intelligencer.)

"Some men are born to honour, others have honours thrust upon them." The last part of the above quotation was my case in a small way—and this is how it came about:

About the middle of July, 1842, two deserters belonging to a regular regiment, captured somewhere between Lancaster and Montreal, were brought up to Cornwall, the headquarters of our regiment (the old 4th Incorporated), by a detachment of the Glengarrys, and lodged in our main guard, to be forwarded by us to their regiment at Kingston. Accordingly, an escort, consisting of an ensign, one sergeant (myself), one corporal and six men, were picked out that evening, and warned to be ready in light marching order, with three days' cooked rations in our haversacks, to proceed to Dickenson's Landing early next morning, and thence, by steamer, to Kingston. Dickenson's Landing is just above the head of the Long Sault rapids, twelve miles from Cornwall, and, at that time, the lowest point reached by lake boats. The St. Lawrence canal, although about finished, was not opened until late in the fall of that year, and as railways were as yet in the womb of futurity, the only mode of travelling from Cornwall to the Landing and *vice versa* was by waggon, or by "shanks' mare"; the latter was, of course, our way of progression. We started early next morning, and, notwithstanding the heat and dust, got in early that afternoon—embarked on the splendid steamer "William IV," which shortly after proceeded on her way up the river; as soon as we were clear of the landing, we quartered ourselves on the lower deck abaft the shaft, put a bayonet sentry on the larboard and starboard gangways to look after the safe-keeping of our prisoners, then, throwing off our heavy accoutrements, brushed off the dust, and made ourselves as comfortable as possible. There were on board, besides the ordinary passengers, quite a number of tourists from the Southern States, with their ladies, children and negro servants, who had stationed themselves on the upper or promenade deck to view the scenery of the beautiful St. Lawrence as we passed along. There are several short rapids in the river between the Landing and Prescott, which steamers, before the canals were dug, had considerable difficulty in surmounting, the lower one in particular, the Rapide du Plat I think it is called, where our boat had to take advantage of an eddy on one side of the river and then shoot across diagonally to the other. We had arrived at this part of the river, and were just about making the last manoeuvre, when, as I was sitting on the gangway rail with my feet hanging over the side, enjoying the excitement, something white falling from the upper deck grazed my head and knocked off my forage cap. I made an impulsive move to catch that important article of head dress, and in doing so, aided by a slight lurch of the vessel, lost my balance and popped overboard, boots, uniform and all, into the troubled waters. Fortunately, I am a good swimmer, and as the water was pretty warm, I did not feel much alarmed. When I rose to the surface I heard a great outcry on the boat, which was just moving away from me, and on looking around I found that the cause of my trouble was a baby about ten or twelve months old, whose clothes, being inflated with air, prevented it from sinking, and it was bobbing up and down on the waves caused by the paddles of the steamer. I at once got hold of the poor little thing and, throwing it over my shoulder, allowed myself to drift down with the current. In taking in the situation, I saw at a glance that the steamer could not stop to lower a boat until she had run up to the head of the rapid, so that my only course was to edge off towards the nearest shore, which happened to be only a short distance away on my right hand side. Accordingly, I put on a little extra steam, and, taking advantage of an eddy, got safely on shore without much trouble. The little child behaved remarkably well, for though it whimpered a little at first, I had no sooner got out of the water and sat down on the bank with it on my knee in the warm sunshine than it began to crow and laugh in my face, and seemed rather to like the fun. The steamer, by this time, had reached the slack water, and had slowed her speed, and I could see by the waving of handkerchiefs on board that my landing was observed. A boat, well manned, was soon lowered and came to our rescue in quick time. When they reached us, the first man to jump ashore was the father of the child, who, in the excess of his joy, grasped my disengaged hand with both of his, called me a hero—the saviour of his darling boy—and said that by jumping overboard at the risk of my life I had earned his eternal gratitude. Now, this rather startling view of the situation had not struck me in that light before, and taking into consideration the fact that my falling overboard was a pure accident and that my rescuing of the child was nothing more than what any man with common humanity would have done in such a circumstance, I was completely taken aback, and as I did not wish to aspire to an honour I knew I was not fairly entitled to, I was going to explain to him the true state of things, but he cut me short by helping me into the boat and bidding the oarsmen pull as fast as they could back to the steamer, which they accomplished with some trouble, as the current was very strong. When we reached the side of the boat, I began to think that I must have become a very great person.

age in a very short space of time, for all hands and the cook were on the deck cheering with all the strength of their lungs, and if there had been a band on board, I have no doubt they would have struck up "See the Conquering Hero Comes," but as there was none, and steam whistles had not yet been invented, they only cheered the more. After I had been lifted up the side of the steamer (for in cases like this the hero is supposed to have lost the use of his arms and legs), a hundred arms were outstretched to help me, and, in fact, I have no very distinct recollection of how I got aboard, but when I did get on deck, oh, dear! my arms ache yet at the very thought of the handshaking I had to undergo. However, at last, some humane individual, seeing that my teeth were chattering with the cold from having been so long in my wet clothes, took pity on my hardship and hurried me off to a stateroom, made me strip off my clothes, put on a dry shirt and pop into bed, and when well covered with blankets, they gave me a dose (in fact, I ought to say a big overdose) of brandy. What with the brandy and the excitement, I soon fell asleep. How long I slept I do not know, but it must have been a considerable time, for when I was roused up by one of the hands with my uniform on his arm nicely dried, he told me to get up and dress as quickly as I could, for Kingston would soon be in sight, and that I was wanted on the upper deck. As soon as his back was turned, I jumped out of bed, washed and dressed myself in a jiffy and walked out to see what new hero worship I had to get through with; and, sure enough, I found a deputation waiting to escort me to the upper deck, where I found a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled to do honour to your humble servant, the hero of the hour. Among the rest were the father and mother of the rescued child. The father at once stepped forward and shook me warmly by the hand, and then introduced me to his wife, by whom I was almost overpowered with a mother's thanks, after which came the general handshaking all round by everyone until I began to think that I would soon have no longer a hand to shake. However, everything has an end except a plum-pudding, and that, they say, has two. (Isn't that a conundrum?) After the handshaking had been got through with, an old, reverend-looking gentleman came forward and made an oration, in which he had something to say about all the heroes that had ever existed from the beginning of history up to the present time, winding up with an eulogium on poor me, whom he extolled as the greatest of them all. But to me the most interesting part of the ceremony was when he pulled out a purse containing, I don't know how much, and was about to present it to me, when, to my disgust, who should step up to interrupt the presentation but our little whipper snapper of an ensign, who, with more zeal than brains, said: "Ladies and gentlemen, I cannot allow my sergeant to receive a money reward for simply doing his duty, as a British soldier always is expected to do, whether it is in taking or saving life. The honour and glory he covers himself with is a sufficient reward for any pains he may endure. Sergeant, we are nearing Kingston; you will now go down and see that your escort is ready to leave the boat the moment she arrives at the wharf. Right about face, quick march!" and with one long, last, wistful look at the purse, down I had to go, followed by the ensign, who, I am happy to say, was greeted with a groan of indignation that must have made him feel very small—that is, if he had any feelings about him.

And thus ended my heroship; but what more could I expect? It began with a mistake, or rather with an accident, and finished by my "coming out of the small end of the horn," the usual luck of the

OLD SERGEANT MAJOR.

At the Antipodes.

New Zealand can boast of a number of flourishing Naval Artillery corps.

New South Wales has tried, and with satisfactory results, camps of training for Public School Cadets.

Victoria has a Commissariat and Transport Corps, which has lately received several new waggons, built to a special pattern, and its train now consists of one large vehicle and eight smaller ones.

Col. Brownrigg, late Commandant of the Victorian forces, at a farewell dinner spoke in very flattering terms of the Cadet force, and advocated compulsory drill for the boys of the colony up to fifteen or sixteen years of age.

In order to encourage signalling in the South Australian force the Commandant has sanctioned pay for two and a-half days' practices a week for two men per troop, battery and company, who have passed an examination, and are certified by the Brigade-Major to read six words a minute.

On the occasion of the formal entry of the new Governor of Victoria, the Earl of Hopetoun, into Melbourne, and his swearing in, a battalion of cadets assisted in keeping the approaches to the old Treasury building, where the ceremony was performed.

A meeting of officers to consider the establishment of a Naval and Military Institute was held at Melbourne, Victoria, recently, Major-Gen. Tulloch presiding. Government has promised £100 towards fitting up the Institute, and a subsidy of £1 for £1 up to £400. It was decided to establish the institute, and the annual subscription was fixed at one guinea. Major Rainsford Hannay was appointed provisional secretary.

The New South Wales Government encourage their civil servants to render military service also. This is an extract from a recent general order: "In view of the importance of the detached whole-day parades, the Colonial Secretary approves of such Civil Servants who are volunteers being allowed to attend on those days, subject to the heads of the several departments being satisfied as to arrangements for discharge of duties."

The annual musketry course of the Victoria Garrison Artillery has been abolished, but the recruits' musketry course will be carried on. Any member of the Garrison Artillery may obtain the free grant of 50 rounds by joining a rifle club, and C.O.'s are authorized to form rifle clubs within their batteries. Some alterations have been made in the equipment of the Garrison Artillery. The shoulder-belt has been abolished, and the pouch will be carried on the waist-belt; but when the water-bottle is not worn the pouch will be carried at the back of the waist-belt. Greatcoats will be worn with the sleeves under the arm.

Major-General Edwards recently made this report on the Western Australian army: "The forces are composed entirely of volunteers. The material is good, but owing to insufficient training but little reliance can be placed in them. Albany must be fortified. The volunteers of the metropolis and neighbourhood should be converted into a partially-paid battalion 300 strong. Two companies of Mounted Infantry should be raised, and the field batteries at Perth and Fremantle amalgamated into one 4-gun battery. At Albany a corps, 100 strong, of partially-paid Garrison Artillery and Submarine Miners should be raised to assist in the defence. The number of rifles in the colony should be increased to 2,500, with 500 rounds per rifle. The erection of a small battery to protect Fremantle is not at present necessary, but a first-class torpedo boat should be procured, and would be an effective and economical means of defence." In the Legislative Council recently, by a majority of one (12 to 11) the volunteer vote—£3,160 14s. 9d.—was reduced by £400. Among the items cut out were—Easter Encampment, £250, and £150 for field-day expenses and State ceremonial.

To Our Subscribers.

The SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT which appeared in our columns some time ago, announcing a special arrangement with Dr. B. J. KENDALL CO., of Enosburgh Falls, Vt., publishers of "A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases," whereby our subscribers were enabled to obtain a copy of that valuable work FREE by sending their address to B. J. Kendall Co. (and enclosing a two-cent stamp for mailing same) is renewed for a limited period. We trust all will avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining this valuable work. To every lover of the horse it is indispensable, as it treats in a simple manner all the diseases which afflict this noble animal. Its phenomenal sale throughout the United States and Canada makes it a standard authority. *Mention this paper when sending for "Treatise."*

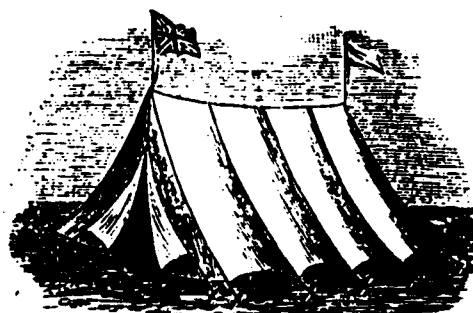
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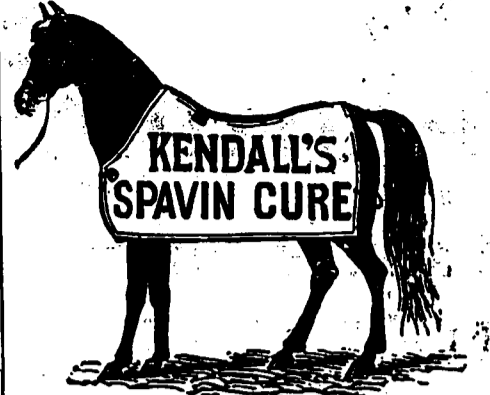
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