

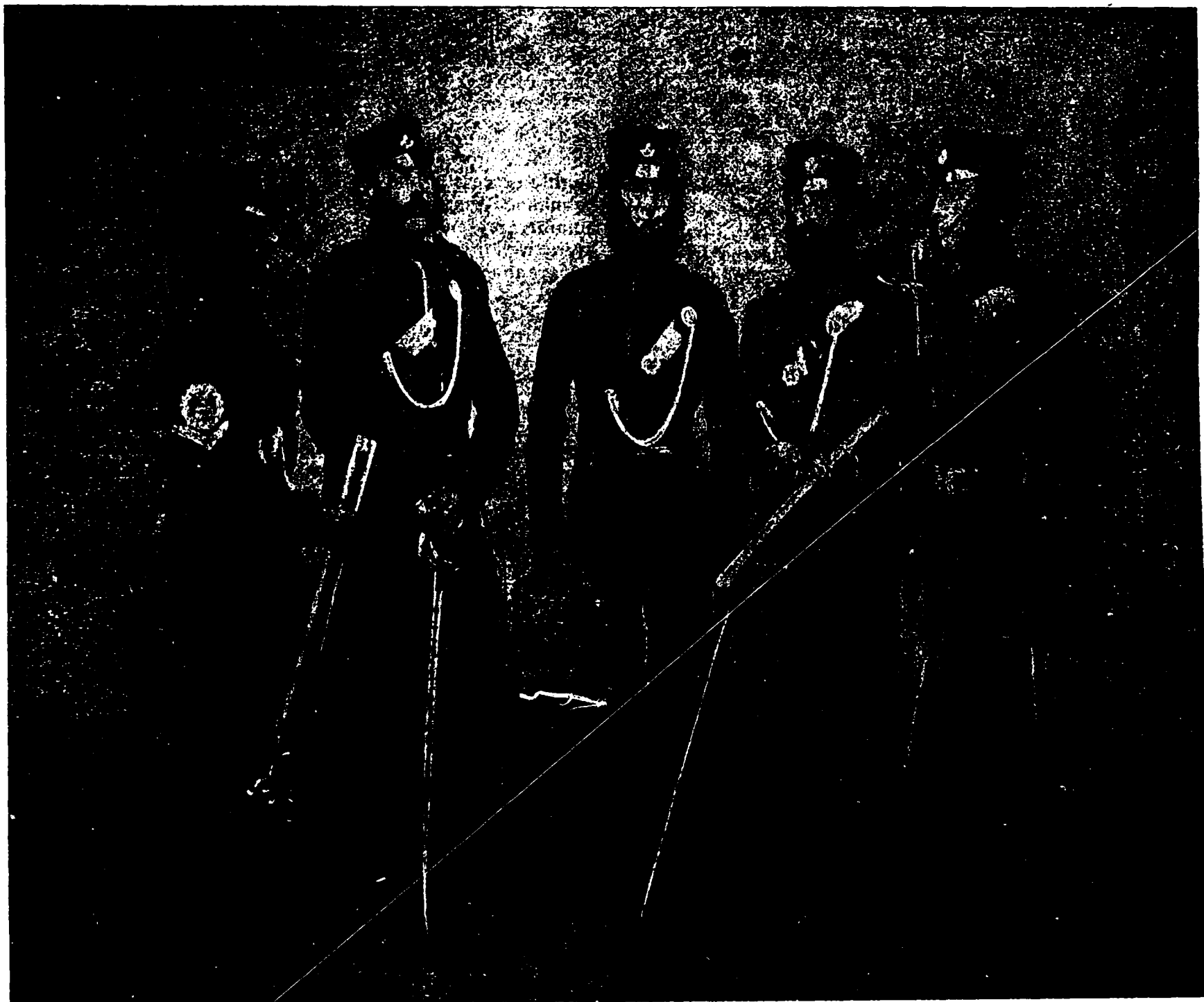
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UNIFORM OF THE MONTREAL RIFLE RANGERS, 1855.

THE MONTREAL RIFLE RANGERS.

In 1855, a number of young men enrolled their names with a view of forming a military company in Montreal, and obtained the sanction of the Government and a supply of arms, accoutrements, etc. Quite opportunely the Government of the day, under His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, Bart., had

appointed a Royal Commission "to report and recommend a scheme for the organization and enrolment of the militia of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada." The regular troops, with the exception of the Canadian Rifles, had been withdrawn to meet the requirements of the Russian war.

So when the Commission reported favourably to the organization of a militia force in Canada, the "Rangers" was the first company to offer its services to the Government; it was accepted and gazetted September 1st, 1855. The accoutre-

ments and arms then supplied were those used in the war of 1812, issued to the volunteers in 1837-38, and of course, neither ornamental nor serviceable; the corps preferred to procure their own outfit, which they did at an expense to each member of nearly \$70.

It was some little time before the Enfield rifles were issued to the force, which were much more desirable and useful than the "old Brown Bess;" later on the Enfield was replaced by the breech-loading "Snider," and the Government provided the outfit, with the latest improved arms; a number of the finest Martini rifles were supplied to every shooting regiment. Sixty-four (64) were the number of men allotted to each company.

The corps was fortunate in securing the services of Sergt. John Tomkins of the R. C. Rifles as drill instructor, and as the company drilled twice a week it soon attained a knowledge of arms and exactness that was not surpassed by any company in the force. In the first year of its existence, three of its members obtained commissions in the Imperial army—Mr. Fred. Parker in the 97th Regiment, Mr. Bent, C.E., Captain in the Engineers of the Turkish contingent, and Mr. John Low, of this city, who joined the 15th Regiment of Foot, and retired after a service of eighteen years as captain.

Capt. Lyman of the Rangers was offered a company, and Lieut. Hanson a Lieutenancy in the Hundredth Regiment on its organization in this city, and many of the members of the company obtained commissions in various volunteer regiments as they were organized; various staff appointments were filled from its ranks, most notably Lieut.-Col. Macpherson of the Headquarters Staff at Ottawa.

On the formation of the Prince of Wales Regiment of ten companies the Rangers were merged into the new corps, becoming No. 1 Company; the regiment received its name from H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, who visited Montreal in August, 1860; the late Lieut.-Col. Wily was the first commander, and under his superior drill and discipline, it soon attained the first rank in the militia force.

And now thirty-eight years since the formation of the company, there remain nearly thirty of the original members living who meet once a year to talk over old times and look one another in the face.

The following are the names of the surviving members:—R. G. Starke, Ensign J. W. Hanson, John Macpherson, T. F. Blackwood, J. W. Britt, John Low, E. Beaudry, R. L. Gault, R. Forsyth, G. E. Starnes, M. Bourret, T. D. Hood, Capt. Lyman, F. Scholes, John Pope, Malcolm Morison, J. H. Wood, L. A. Dufresne, C. Nelson, W. L. Haldimand, G. W. Stephens, Richard Thomas, W. Farrell, J. McLean and G. B. Fraser.

Some of the militia commissions above referred to which were granted to members of the company were as follows:—Capt. Lyman, Ensign Hanson and Pte. Macpherson became Lieut.-Colonels; Pte. Wily, a Major; Lieut. Blackwood, Corp. Beaudry, Sergt. Scholes, Privates Dufresne, Wilson and Farrell, captains; and Ensign Starke, Privates Starnes and Stephens, lieutenants. Private Britt removed to the United States and entered its military service on the breaking out of the civil war; he rose to the rank of colonel.

The official authorization of the establishment of the corps appears as follows in the *Canadian Gazette* of 1st September, 1855:

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA.

CITY OF MONTREAL.

The formation is authorised of a Rifle Company, to be styled the First Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Montreal. The strength of this company will be sixty-three privates and usual officers and N. C. officers.

The officers will be as follows:

Captain, Theodore Lyman.

Lieutenant, J. W. Haldimand.

Ensign, J. E. Malhiot.

It may be noted that on the 29th of the same month the Second Volunteer Rifle Company of Montreal was gazetted, officered by John Fletcher as captain, John Lambert as lieutenant, and Duncan McNaughton as ensign; all three officers being transferred from the same ranks in the Montreal Fire Brigade, which at that time must have been a semi-military organization.

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

TORONTO.

The inclement weather of the past few weeks has retarded the drill of the three regiments. The attendance while large, has evidently suffered from this cause. The 48th Highlanders are working as hard as beavers and from the little battalion drill they practised a big change can be noticed from the form they displayed last fall. Both the Queen's Own and Grenadiers have devoted all of their time to company drill, the detail of which has been given out a few days prior to the parade, and both show that the time has not been idly spent. The want of a suitable parade ground is greatly felt, the limited space of Upper Canada College being severely taxed at every parade, and although the "Kilties" tried on Friday night to hold a march past the smallness of the ground did not make their attempt very successful.

* * *

The Sergeants' Mess of the 48th Highlanders have an interesting relic of the Crimea and one on which they set great store. It is a sporran which was worn by Pipe-Sergt. Ronald Graham of the 42nd Black Watch, and who was killed in action at Alma. The sporran was presented by Sergt. J. Graham, of No. 1 Co., 48th Highlanders.

* * *

The initial Musical and Dramatic Entertainment given by the New Fort Dramatic Club on Monday, 17th April, was highly successful and the following programme was given in a manner that was thoroughly well enjoyed by the large number present, and among whom the different city corps were well represented. At a few minutes after eight the programme as below was entered upon:

PART I.

Overture, "Emergency," Orchestra and Troupe; song, "I've Gwine Back to Dixie," Pte. W. Notley; comic song, "The Simple Pimple," Colour-Sergt. Galloway; song, "The Silent Toast," Lieut. J. H. Laurie; song, "I'm a Waiting," Lieut. Pirie; comic song, selected, T. W. Baker; song, "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," Pte. W. Restall; comic song, "Drill ye Tarriers Drill," by T. W. Baker and members of the Troupe; song and dance, "Angelina," by Jack Pratt Grand contortion act and feats of strength, by Pte. Jas. Greer. Specialties, by T. W. Baker, comedian.

Negro burlesque, entitled "Massa O. Tello and Dars de Money," introducing choice selections from Shakespeare.

Black Patti (The Famous Tenor) Colour-Sergt. Cooper
Enery Hirving (The Great Tragedian) . . Staff-Serg. Donnelly
Manager of Opera House Bug.-Sergt. Woods
Policemen Colour-Sergts Lennox & Worthy

PART II.

The Screaming Farce "The Area Belle."

Penelope (The Servant) Miss Rose Davis
Mrs. Croaks (The Mistress) Miss Maude Davis
Tosser (In the Guards) Colour-Sergt. Galloway
Pitcher (In the Police) Pte. W. Restall
Walker Chalks (The Milkman) Sergt. Butcher

Musical Director, Bug.-Major Forder; Manager, Corporal Bloxam; Secretary, Q. M. S. Borland; Orchestra, Lance-Corp. Farrell, Ptes. Forder, Shelton, Tingman, Taylor and Liddell.

The Negro Burlesque was especially good and the Screaming Farce entitled "The Area Belle," convulsed the audience time and again and brought an exceedingly bright and witty programme to a close. It is expected that a repetition will follow in a short time.

* * *

The Q. O. R. Revolver Association are anxious to arrange matches with any associations or regiments at 25 yard ranges and under the rules governing the D. R. A. Letters sent to the Sec.-Treas., Ontario Chambers, will receive prompt attention; and while I am on matches I hear that the sergeants of the Q. O. R. would like to shoot a telegraph match at 200, 400 and 500 yards, any number a side over twenty men, at an early date.

* * *

Rifle practice commences on Saturday, 6th May, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Q. O. R. for the season's practice are nearly alike those adopted by the other regiments. The following is a summary.

PRACTICE will be held every Saturday and Wednesday afternoons during the season, commencing May 6th.

RIFLES—Snider or Martini.

RANGES—200, 400 and 500 yards.

POSITION—Snider, 200, standing or kneeling; 400 and 500 any; Martini-Henry, 200 standing, 400 kneeling, 500 any.

ROUNDS—5 at each Range.

CLASSES—Regiment is divided into 3 classes, viz :—

1st class, Winners of Marksmen's Badges of 1892.

2nd class—Those who under the regulations of 1892 or any previous year, qualified themselves to practice at 500 yards.

3rd class—The remaining members of the Regiment who will be permitted to practice at 200 and 400 yards only.

It is provided that any men of the 3rd class who make 3 scores of not less than 24 points each, shall be passed into second class.

BADGES—The following Badges will be awarded at the close of the season :

Battalion Cross Guns to the N.C.O., or men making the six highest aggregate scores during the season.

Silk Cross Guns to all N.C.O.'s or men who shall make five scores of fifty-eight points or over.

Worsted Cross Guns to all N.C.O.'s or men who shall make five scores of fifty-two points or over.

It is provided that no N.C.O. or man can compete in any regimental competition, unless he has performed at least 50 per cent of the regimental drills for the current year, or for a portion of the present year.

As an incentive to practice it is stated that five teams have been entered from the regiment for the League Matches. The officials who are in charge of rifle shooting in the Battalion are a committee consisting of Capt. Mercer, Lieuts. McNeill and Crooke; Lieut. McNeill, Instructor in Musketry; Staff-Serjts. Donnelly and Agnew, Sergeant Instructors in Musketry.

* * *

The handicap for the Martini-Henri in the Q. O. R. is as follows: Standing at 200 yards, kneeling at 400 yards and prone at 500 and 600 yards. This is a rather heavy one considering there is very little difference, in the opinion of experienced shots, between either of the rifles at 200 yards, and the difference at 200, 500 and 600 yards was I believe only placed at eight points. It was thought that allowing the score of the Martini made at 200, 500 and 600 yards as against that made by the Snider at 200, 400 and 500 yards would be more equal and would do away with practising at the 400 yard range with the Martini, which in the opinion of many is simply wasting ammunition.

* * *

I have just been told that the Ontario Rifle Association will have little or no change from its last programme unless an additional Martini match be added. This will mean the success of the League, fired as it will be with Snider for another year, although no doubt it will be a big disappointment to many who had anticipated nothing but, or else a big increase in, Martini matches.

* * *

To judge from the letters of enquiry and demand for rifles which Staff-Serj. McVittie has been receiving all winter the season of 1893 bids fair to be the best shooting season Canada has ever had, and for the benefit of those who would like to hear of the Martini-Metford rifle I might say on the authority of Birmingham manufacturers that no Metford barrels for this rifle have yet been made by them. Possibly someone else is at it but they have no intimation of such being manufactured.

* * *

The Queen's Own have decided to stay at home for the Queen's birthday and will exert themselves to the utmost in conferring the freedom of Toronto upon the Governor-General's Foot Guards, who will be their guests on that day.

* * *

The 48th Highlanders have made all arrangements for

their trip to Hamilton and have also arranged whereby their friends can accompany the regiment.

* * *

The Grenadiers are at time of writing undecided as to their movements. It is just possible that they may visit St. Catharine's; the Garden City people have sent a very pressing invitation to come over and see them and promise the very best of a time.

* * *

The Grenadiers Race Ball is already an assured success and the work that has already been performed by the committee deserves the greatest measure that has yet been their lot to obtain.

* * *

It is expected that the Major-General will be in the city on the 24th May and make a brief inspection of the different regiments. The 48th certainly won't get much of it, and the others are just wondering as to the quantity they are likely to get. Meanwhile they are hard at it, and the energy displayed will have its results even if an inspection does not put them on their mettle.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Toronto Field Battery Rifle Club was held at the Old Fort barracks on evening of 27th April to get into shape for the coming season's shooting. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Honorary President, Capt. Irving; President, Serj.-Major James Spry; vice-President, Serj. W. G. Carter; Sec'y.-treasurer, Corporal A. Pullan; Rifle Committee, Serj.-Major Spry, Quartermaster T. Warrington, Serj. George Smith, Gunners W. Leach, W. J. Abbott, E. Donald.

* * *

Arrangements are all completed for the concert that is to be given by the 48th Highlanders regimental band this week in Victoria rink. As the affair is to be under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor it is expected that a large crowd will be present.

Surgeon Stuart is giving the ambulance corps weekly lectures on the regulation subjects and hopes to compare favorably with the ambulance corps of the 13th when they visit Hamilton on May 24.

* * *

The band of the 48th Highlanders made its first appearance in public on 12th inst. at the Auditorium, on the occasion of the reception to Mr. Dalton McCarthy. The music rendered was very fine and the appearance of the men did credit to the corps.

* * *

On the evening of 12th inst. Major J. H. Mead, Capt. L. E. W. Irving, Lieut. Robert Myles, Lieut. Armstrong, Surgeon J. E. Elliott and Veterinary Surgeon Andrew Smith, six of the officers of the Toronto Battery of Field Artillery, entertained a number of prominent military officers at dinner at the National Club. The tables were prettily decorated with flowers and drooping ferns and a most dainty menu was provided. The entertainment was wholly informal, the only toast being that of "The Queen," which was drunk with loyal enthusiasm. The remainder of the evening was spent in song, jest and laughter, the music being furnished by the guests. The invited guests, nearly all of whom were present, were: Lieutenant Governor Kirkpatrick, Sir Casimir Gzowski, the Minister of Militia, Major-Gen. Herbert, Lieut.-Col. W. D. Otter, D.A.G., Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Lt.-Col. F. C. Denison, C.M.G., Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Lieut.-Col. Cotton, Lieut.-Col. Alger, Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Lieut.-Col. Dawson, Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Lieut.-Col. Grasett, Lieut.-Col. Graveley, Lieut.-Col. Gray, Lieut.-Col. Jones, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. J. M. Gibson, M.P.P., Surgeon Strange, Lieut.-Col. Dunn, Commander Law, Major Buchan, Major Mason, Major King (W.C.F.B.), Major Delamere, Major Stuart (Hamilton), Major Macdonald (48th), Major Cosby, Major Sankey, Major Hay, Capt. John Hendrie (H.F.B.), Capt. Streatfield, Capt. W. B. McMurrich, Capt. Mutton, Mr. John Akers (President National Club), Mr. L. Homfray Irving, Mr. A. E. Irving, Q.C., Major Secretan, Mr. Graham, Lieut. J. B. Miller (Q.O.R.), Mr. A. Bolte, Mr. A. T. Kirkpatrick, Mr. A. W. Smith.

* * *

The 24th April being the anniversary of the battle of Fish Creek the sergeants of the Royal Grenadiers held their annual meeting, according to constitution. Several amendments were made to the by-laws with reference to the interior working of the mess. The auditor's report showed the books to have been well kept and the mess to be in a flourishing condition, both numerically and financially. It was decided to celebrate the anniversary of Batoche in the usual manner, by the annual dinner, which will be held at Webb's again this year. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year, and will be installed on May 12: President, Staff-Sergt. Ewart; vice-president, Col.-Sergt. Scully; secretary, Paymaster-Sergt. Harding; treasurer, Quartermaster Sergt. Johnson; committee of management, staff-Sergt. Bewley, Sergt. McClinton, Sergt. Atkinson and Sergt. M. Macdonald; auditors, Staff-Sergt. Hutchinson and Sergt. Wetherley.

* * *

Lieut.-Col. Gravely, Paymaster of No. 2 District, was recently in receipt of a letter bearing Russian stamps and post marks, not often seen in Toronto. On examination it proved to contain a claim for a North-west pension. It was a militia pension claim, dated at Sebastopol in the Crimea, April 4, 1893, and regularly made out and certified to by the British Consul at Sebastopol. It certified that Henry Jones, late of "C" Company Canadian Regiment of Infantry, who was wounded at Fish Creek, was entitled to a pension of 30 cents per diem for one-half year for having had half his jaw shot away on the aforesaid field of battle. The claim has been forwarded to Ottawa.

BREECH-BLOCK. ¶ ¶

MONTREAL.

A meeting of the Montreal Amalgamated Rifle Association was held on Saturday evening, 8th inst. Lieut.-Col. Butler, P.W.R., presided. Sufficient arrangements were made so that the members will be enabled to get target practice on Wednesday afternoons. Mr. R. Binmore announced that he was compelled to resign his office of secretary-treasurer, and Mr. Arthur Ware was elected his successor. Bugler Broadhurst intimated that the Royal Scots would not shoot in any of the military league matches if the Snider rifle was to be used. This led to some discussion, and finally Lieut.-Col. Burland moved:

"It is expedient that the modern rifle to be issued to the active militia should be placed in their hands at as early a date as possible, so that the same only be used on the ranges and the members of the force become familiar with it and to do away with the anomaly at present existing, in the fact that three different arms are now used for practice."

This was seconded by Major Busted and carried.

* * *

It is to be hoped that strong action will be taken by the senior officers of the Vics, and by the Reserve Association, against the new saloon which it is proposed to open next to the Natural History Society building. It is bad enough to have *one* near the Armoury without having an additional one to tempt the members of the corps. It would show excellent judgment on the part of the officers to do all in their power in opposition to the granting of a license to the place referred to.

* * *

The company drills of the Victorias have been fairly well attended; the series is now closed. The challenge cup presented by Major Sims adds special interest to the regimental work this year; it is to be competed for annually, and held for the season by the company making the highest total number of points, which are to be allotted as follows:—

Attendance at Company and Battalion parades for drills ordered by the officers commanding, based on the percentage of the strength of the Company. Possible 100 points.	
Attendance at parade at Annual Inspection. Two points for each officer, N. C. O. and man present.	
Clothing and Accoutrements.....	30 points
Company Book and Interior Economy.....	30 "
Company Drill.....	100 "
Manual and Firing.....	40 "
Officers' Questions (2 each, value 3 points)....	18 "
N.-C. O. Questions (2 each, value 3 points)....	48 "

Attendance at Annual Company Target practice at Cote St. Luc Ranges. One point per officer, N. C. O. and man. Figure of merit at Annual Company Target practice, based on the strength of the Company.

* * *

The annual meeting of the N.-C. officers of the Royal Scots was held in their Mess room on 3rd inst. The reports for last year were approved, and office-bearers for 1893-4 were elected. These were: President, Serg.-Major Niven; Vice-President, Colour-Sergt. Currie; Secretary-treasurer, Corporal Casey; Committee, Colour-Sergt. Bethune, Pipe-Sergt. Clarke and Corporal Irwin; Auditors, Pioneer-Sergt. Kelly and Corporal Harbeson. Votes of thanks were tendered to the retiring officers for their services, and to Color-Sergt. Currie, Corporals Irwin and Early for donations to the Mess.

* * *

On the evening of the 20th inst., the new commanding officer of the Royal Scots, Lieut.-Col. J. A. L. Strathy, formally took command of the battalion. The muster was a fair one, and the battalion drill which occupied the first part of the evening was well done. At half past nine the regiment went for a short march-out and on their return to the Drill Shed, prior to dismissal, Lieut.-Col. Strathy drew their attention to the fact of this being the first parade of the corps since he had been gazetted to the command, and stated that for his part he intended being as good a commanding officer as he knew how, and that, knowing the regiment as he did, he could rely on their co-operation and prompt attention to duty. He then referred to the band, and said that as he had been promoted he had given up the position of president of the band committee, and that in future, for the purpose of discipline, the band and pipers would be in charge of the new band president, Major Ibbotson. In closing, he said that in future markers would sound at twenty minutes past eight, and that, if only ten men were on parade at eight thirty, drill would commence and continue for an hour and a quarter, as he believed good, sharp drill far better than a long drawn out one that was often needlessly fatiguing.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Vics Rifle Association was held at the Armoury on the evening of 14th inst. Lieut.-Col. Starke presided and there was a fair attendance of members. The secretary's report was read and approved. Two important resolutions were then carried, one entering two teams for the League competitions and the other recommending that the P.Q.R.A. matches be held in June this year instead of in August as usual. It was also decided that the annual matches of the Association be held on 15th July and that both Snider and Martini rifles be used.

The following office-bearers for this year were then elected: Hon. President, Lieut.-Col. Starke; President, Major Busted; Vice-President, Capt. Meakins; Sec'y-treas., Lieut. Brown; Assistant sec'y, Sergt. Phillips; Team captains, Major Busted and Capt. Meakins; Committee, Staff-Sergt. McCrae, Sergts. Binmore and Lanigan, Corporals Davis and Warmington and Pte. McClatchie; auditor, Lieut. Wilson; executive officer, Major Sims. The delegates appointed to the D.R.A. and P.Q.R.A., were Lieut.-Col. Starke and Major Sims; delegates to the Montreal Amalgamated Rifle Association, Lieuts. Brown and Wilson, Sergt. Binmore.

* * *

The presentation of the silver challenge cups given by Sir Donald A. Smith, K.C.M.G., to the most efficient city and rural corps of the Fifth Military District, took place in the Drill Hall on Saturday evening, 29th April, and was a brilliant affair. The 6th Fusiliers, and the 83rd "Joliette" battalion of infantry were the winners, and the former corps had a full-dress parade for the occasion. The galleries of the immense hall were crowded with spectators, while at the north end of the ground floor a platform was specially erected to accommodate the large and distinguished party of invited guests. This comprised, the generous doner of the trophies, Hon. Mrs. Herbert, Miss Cantlie, Mrs. Burland, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Massey, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Mattice, Col. Powell, Adjutant-General, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Mr. Sanford Fleming, Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D. A. G., Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, Mayor Desjardins, Lieut.-Cols. Henshaw, Bond, Gardner, Sinton, the officers of the various city corps, and many others. The platform and the walls near it were tastily

decorated with flags and arms, and a large picture of Her Majesty occupied the place of honour. The band of the Fusiliers was stationed near the dais, and discoursed excellent music.

The Sixth paraded in their armoury, and marched out into the Drill Hall to the regimental marching tune "The British Grenadiers." The companies averaged about ten files each, the smallness of the muster being, no doubt, due to the annual May-day epidemic of domestic moving. A good many recruits were in the ranks, but the few battalion movements which were done prior to the presentation were fairly well performed. Lieut.-Col. Houghton briefly introduced Sir Donald, and Lieut.-Cols. Burland, and Sheppard, the commanding officers of the 6th and 83rd, ascended the platform and were duly presented with the cups. In making the presentation, Sir Donald expressed his pleasure at the opportunity thus afforded him of assisting the corps of this district in the hard and self-denying work they annually performed. He mentioned the wish strongly expressed a year ago by Major-General Herbert that some such reward be offered to the Montreal battalions for their labours, and as an incentive to the attainment of the highest degree of efficiency. He regretted the absence of that officer on duty in England, and spoke in the strongest terms of his zeal for the service. He heartily congratulated the winners, but reminded them that they must look to their laurels, as he knew that the other city corps would give the present holders a hard fight for the trophy during the season now beginning. He closed his remarks by saying: "Without derogation from the merits of Col. Burland, it is only right to say that while he commands this very fine regiment at the present time, the cup was won when it was under the command of Col. Massey, and it gives me very great pleasure to hand it over to Col. Burland, with the confidence that he and his battalion will keep it as long as possible, and in the same way it gives me very great pleasure in handing the other cup to Col. Sheppard for the 83rd. When another competition comes around may they have it if they are the best in the field. I congratulate you, Col. Burland and Col. Sheppard, and you, Col. Massey, that your battalions have obtained these presents."

Lieut.-Col. Burland expressed the pleasure it gave him to accept the cup from Sir Donald's hands. The force needed some encouragement and it was such acts as Sir Donald's that would cement the force and build up an army to defend Canada.

Lieut.-Col. Sheppard briefly acknowledged receipt of his cup.

Col. Powell, A.G., referred in flattering terms to the handsome prizes, and Montreal and the Sixth ought to be proud in winning Sir Donald's gift. He was pleased to hear that the force had so willing and generous a friend.

Mayor Desjardins also spoke in complimentary terms of the good done by Sir Donald who gave largely and freely to McGill, the Royal Victoria Hospital, and the deserving institutions. Again, Sir Donald in his good acts knew no race or creed as he had given to the St. Jean Baptiste monument and to all that was good. The city should be proud of its generous donors. If our people are becoming self-reliant and confident it will be due to such men as Sir Donald, who has helped to strengthen and encourage our volunteers. He thanked Sir Donald, and also the Hon. Mrs. Herbert, as well as her distinguished husband, who was doing so much to further the work he has in hand.

Lieut.-Col. Massey likewise thanked Sir Donald for the active interest he took in the corps in giving the cups, which went so far to promote the efficiency of the battalion. They owed Sir Donald a debt of gratitude and he would not have to regret giving them to the corps to work for. He expressed the pleasure it gave him to be in command of the Sixth when they won the cup and he was equally sure they would, by constant application, try and retain it.

Lieut.-Col. Houghton in the name of the Fifth District thanked the donor for his gifts.

Mr. Solicitor-General J. J. Curran remarked that the gifts were echoed throughout the country. He did not like to speak of Sir Donald's generosity in his presence, but he spoke of the many and continued sacrifices of time and money made by the officers and men of the force, especially in Montreal. He felt satisfied that Sir Donald's influence was such that the great boon of having the military school removed to Montreal might possibly be secured. (Prolonged applause.) It was too bad if anything should prevent so



THE SIR DONALD A. SMITH CHALLENGE CUP
WON BY THE SIXTH FUSILIERS.

(Cut kindly loaned by Herald Printing Coy.)

desirable a consummation. The Mayor, aldermen and citizens of Montreal were only anxious to give suitable grounds for such a school and relieve the young men who desired military instruction from having to leave their business and go a distance of thirty miles to secure it. If Sir Donald Smith could induce the Minister of Militia, whose anxiety to improve the opportunities of the force was now so well known and so highly appreciated, to adopt the idea of bringing the school to Montreal, he would have conferred a lasting and substantial benefit on the force.

Sir Donald Smith assured the commanding officer and men that he would only be too happy to lend all his influence to secure the school for Montreal. He felt, however, that the Solicitor-General was minimizing his own influence. The latter had far more power than he was willing to acknowledge, and all he would say was that he was willing to co-operate with Mr. Curran and secure that great advantage to the volunteer corps of Montreal if it were possible.

Col. Burland then doffed his busby and called upon the Sixth to give three cheers for Sir Donald which was done lustily.

Sir Donald returned his thanks, and spoke of their work, adding that Montreal should be proud of them. He promised to do his best in the House of Commons for them. This was just the beginning of a movement to make Montreal the military centre, and the present Minister of Militia was favorable to it. This ended the interesting ceremony.

Lieut.-Col. Burland held a reception afterwards in the armouries of the Sixth and Garrison Artillery. Among those present were Lieut.-Cols. Starke, Henshaw, Massey, Bond, Cole, Butler, Gardner, Dugas, Prevost, Stevenson, Strathy and Isaacson; Majors Seath, Ibbotson, Busted and McArthur; Captains Ibbotson, Hamilton, Bond, Cantlie, Rodden and Cameron; Lieuts. Costigan, Stewart, Wilson and a large number of ladies.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Grand Trunk Rifle Association was held on Saturday evening 15th inst. at the G. T. R. reading rooms on Sebastopol street. After the secretary's and treasurer's reports had been read and adopted, it was decided that the Association would enter a team in the League matches this year. The question of the advisability of the P. Q. R. A. matches being held in June instead of in August then came up and the feeling was unanimous in favour of June. It was decided to hold the annual matches on August 19th, and that the open match should be shot with the Martini-Henri rifle.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place and resulted as follows:—Honorary president, F. L. Wanklyn, Grand Trunk works manager; president, James Anthony; vice-president, Joseph Walton; secretary, Joseph Ward; treasurer, G. Lavers; committee, L. Jehu, W. Collinson, A. Reid, J. Armstrong, D. Turnbull, junr.; trustees, J. Farrer, J. Pitt and J. Laing; auditors, J. W. Marks and J. McDonald. Before the meeting adjourned a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to the many friends of the Association who had so generously contributed towards their funds.

* * *

At the parade of the Montreal Garrison Artillery on 21st April, Sergt. Drysdale, who shot so well at the D. R. A. matches last year—winning the Governor-Generals prize and a high place on this year's Bisley team—was presented with a new Martini-Henri rifle, Webley make, and also a very handsome and valuable gold watch. The rifle was the gift of Lieut.-Col. Cole, the popular commander of the corps; the watch was from some of Sergt. Drysdale's many friends. We trust that the Martini will win him many prizes at Bisley this summer.

* * *

A lecture on "The organization of an army for war" was recently read by Capt. Lydon, Royal Scots, before a large attendance of members of that corps. It was taken chiefly from a paper on the same subject read by Major-General Harrison, R. E., at the Military Institute, Aldershot, and is an excellent epitome of the subject. Capt. Lydon prefaced his paper with a few observations applicable specially to the Canadian force, pointing out the necessity of having arrangements so systematized that an Army Corps could be formed here ready in every detail for immediate action in case of invasion or war. He urged the necessity of a thorough reorganization of the rural corps, alleging that the greater part of the money now spent in instruction at the District camps was wasted, and advocating a permanent Provincial camp ground and establishment where each corps in that Province could attend for at least one week, and that the rates of pay be materially raised as an equivalent to those attending for the loss of their usual income. In connection with the rural corps he mentioned a rather amusing instance that came under his own personal notice. He said:

"I was on the staff in camp a few years ago and amongst the officers in command of a company was one who ranked as a provisional lieutenant, and had been so for eighteen years; he was then 82 years of age. He told me that he was thinking of handing his company over to his son, who was a sergeant in the company, because, as he said, the allowance for care of arms and instruction, though small, came in very handy, and he would like to keep it in the family. I asked him how he kept the company stores. He said he used a spare stall in his stable where he stored all the arms, etc., etc., and occasionally, in the winter, he went over the rifles to clean them. I asked him what oil he used. He said when he came into camp he always took a bottle of oil back from the allowance issued in camp, but when the oil gave out he used fat of pigs when they killed, as they always did in the fall."

We trust that this instance is an isolated one, otherwise the pruning knife cannot be too soon applied.

The lecturer considered his subject under the four heads of:—

- (1) Enlistment.
- (2) Equipment.
- (3) Training.
- (4) The Formation of Units.

On the first of these points, the various regulations under which a man entered the army were dealt with, defining long and short service, the reserves, and the militia. The success of the system of short service and reserve in Europe during

the past twenty years was pointed out, but attention was also directed to the complicated and unsatisfactory nature of the plan or rather plans now in vogue in the British service.

Under the heading of "Equipment," the lecturer divided the classes of equipment for war purposes into Personal, Regimental, and General or Army. He pointed out the difference between the personal outfit necessary in time of peace and that most suited for active service, and the necessity of providing for the latter contingency being always before the authorities. The limit of weight which a soldier can carry during a campaign, was stated as about 56 pounds for a temperate climate and 48 for the tropics. The supply of food was then discussed in detail, and the present regulations explained. Arms and ammunition, clothing, boots, and the various other necessaries of a man going on active service were carefully considered, and some valuable hints given. On the important subject of boots he said:

"It hardly needs stating that soldiers should not take into wear a new pair of boots just when they are commencing the work of a campaign, and yet under the existing system in our army such must always invariably be the case. If the boots of the soldier were made of really good soft leather, which would bear soleing several times, there would always be in his possession one pair at least which could be relied on to take him easily and comfortably through the first three months of almost any campaign."

It was strongly advocated that the whole war kit should be in possession of the soldier and worn by him at all marching-order parades. Emphasis was also given to the necessity for a really good and serviceable water-bottle for the Canadian troops, and for the availability of a portable entrenching tool.

So much for the Infantry.

The mounted branch of the service was then considered. The necessity of careful attention to the horse, and to the load he is capable of carrying with ease, was stated. Special mention was made of the new pattern of blanket that has been recently adopted for the protection of the horse at night.

After some remarks about the equipment and uniform of officers on active service, the subject of transport and transport wagons and what should be packed in them, was fully considered. The latter comprises food, ammunition, clothing, tools and materials for repairs, tents, medical, signalling and miscellaneous stores. Eleven wagons or twenty-two carts are given as necessary for transporting the stores, etc., for each infantry battalion (presumably 1,000 strong.)

Under the head of *Training* the lecturer made some valuable remarks as to the necessity for special attention to this work, proving his views by the recital of many instances from both ancient and modern history. He pointed out that military training not only was an essential preparation for successfully waging war, but was also an admirable factor in the physical and mental improvement of the young men of the nation. Some hints on books of instruction were then given. On the question of pay, the very sensible suggestion was made that there be three classes for men in the ranks, the pay varying in each; these would be for (1) the recruit, (2) the 2nd class man, (3) the thoroughly trained soldier.

The concluding portion of the lecture was devoted to the subject of "The Formation of Units." The size of a military unit should, it was agreed, be limited to what can be commanded by one man. A plea was made for the increase of the strength of our (Imperial) infantry companies in excess of the present authorised strength of 125 men.

In conclusion, the lecturer drew attention to the necessity of we in Canada paying greater attention to these important matters of defence, and especially of the careful training of our young men in time of peace, so that they may be thoroughly proficient if the necessity for war should arise; and that every proposed change in our military system should be considered as bearing on the question, "How will the proposed change affect the organization of the Army for War."

* * *

The annual meeting and the distribution of prizes won during the past season at the matches of the Montreal Rifle Association was held on Saturday evening, 22nd inst., in the officers' mess-room of the Victoria Rifles armory. In the absence of the president, Lieut.-Col. Cole, first vice-president, occupied the chair. The other members present were Lieut.-Col. Hood, W. M. Andrews, Capt. Finlayson, Lieut.

Pope and Messrs. Carter, Howard, Marks, Drysdale, Cole, Binmore, Kough, Meakins, Bell, Norton and Ware. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved, Mr. W. M. Andrews, secretary-treasurer then reading his report. These showed that the association's affairs were in a fairly satisfactory condition.

In moving the adoption of the report, Lieut.-Col. Hood and others called attention to the excellent manner in which both offices had been filled by Mr. Andrews during the year and all regretted that he was about to leave them for the United States. On motion of Mr. Raymond Binmore, seconded by Capt. Finlayson, it was resolved:

"That the special thanks of this association be tendered to the retiring secretary-treasurer, Mr. W. M. Andrews, for the faithful manner in which he has carried out the arduous duties of his office for the season of 1892, and further that the association do now express their regret that Mr. Andrews finds it necessary in the course of business to remove from Montreal; and that this association do now wish Mr. Andrews all possible success in his new sphere of usefulness; this resolution to be engrossed in the minutes of the Montreal Rifle association."

A resolution was then unanimously passed that it would be advisable for the P. Q. R. A. to hold their matches in June in place of August this year.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place and resulted as follows:—

Patrons—Sir D. A. Smith, K.C.M.G.; Senator Desjardins, Mayor of Montreal; Hon. J. J. Curran, M.P.; Lieut.-Col. Henshaw, Lieut.-Col. Caverhill, Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, Lieut.-Col. Dugas, Lieut.-Col. Dufresne, Major the Hon. J. S. Hall, M.L.A.; Lieut.-Col. Massey, Lieut.-Col. Butler, Lieut.-Col. Brosseau, Lieut.-Col. Miller, Capt. C. C. Newton, Capt. W. Abbot.

President, Lieut.-Col. Massey.

First vice-president, Capt. Edwards.

Second vice-president, Mr. E. Desbarats.

Executive committee, Capt. Finlayson and Messrs. R. Kough, J. Broadhurst, B. L. Howard, J. Drysdale and Arthur Ware.

Auditors, Raymond Binmore and E. W. Wilson.

Secretary-treasurer, Mr. G. W. F. Carter.

Captain of team, Lieut.-Col. Hood.

Delegate to Montreal Amalgamated Rifle Association, Lieut.-Col. Cole.

Delegate to the D.R.A. and P.Q.R.A., Lieut.-Col. Hood.

Prizes won at the 1892 monthly matches were then distributed.

VICTORIA, B.C.

A military parade has been looked forward to by a great many Victorians as part of the Queen's Birthday celebration, and there is some disappointment that nothing so far has been done in this connection. A demonstration by the Naval forces, C. Battery, the B. C. Brigade of Garrison Artillery, including the Westminster Battery, and the Nanaimo Infantry Coys, would make a grand display, and be one of the most powerful attractions, so far as visitors are concerned. There would be little expense in connection with such an affair, and the military men would readily undertake the trouble of getting it up if arrangements were made to have the parade over early enough to allow the volunteers to witness the afternoon sports. It is hoped that the committee will promptly take steps to have the idea carried out.

* * *

The representatives of the Provincial Rifle Association on the Sports Committee will endeavour to secure a suitable prize to be competed for by teams of eight or ten each, which the Navy and the cities of Vancouver, Westminster, Nanaimo and Victoria will be invited to enter, the idea being, if a proper prize is procurable, to have it made a challenge trophy to be shot for annually in connection with the Queen's Birthday celebration. The Provincial Association have taken the matter up on account of there being as yet no other organized rifle association here, but would, no doubt, willingly transfer their interest in the affair to any local club which may be formed.

* * *

The date of inspection of the Nanaimo Infantry Company

is fixed for October 7. The B.C.G.A. will be inspected on a day to be named by the Inspector of Artillery.

* * *

Captain H. J. Woodside, of B. Troop of Manitoba Light Infantry, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, arrived last evening. He is making a business trip in this Province. Capt. Woodside was formerly of the 95th Battalion of Infantry, which was recently disbanded. He takes a lively interest in rifle shooting affairs, and his corps will be represented in the League matches.

KINGSTON.

There was a large attendance of citizens at the Royal Military College on Saturday evening, 29th April, to witness "the very last appearance" of the Ethiopian Troubadours. The Cadets are to be complimented on their spirited endeavors to cater to the amusement of their guests; and to be congratulated on the large measure of success that attended the same. Between 7.30 and 8 p.m. on Saturday night vehicles of all descriptions might have been seen heading towards the College, together with quite a crowd of pedestrians, and by the time the performance commenced the "theatre" (for the time being) was quite full. Shortly after 8 p.m. the curtain rose and disclosed the Ethiopian band with their leader, Mr. Johnsing, in the centre. Every member of this musical troupe had his hands on his knees, and so they remained rigid, their bodies immovable while the opening number, "Our Dinah," was sung. At the conclusion of this the "Inimitable Six" were introduced, and were greeted by the audience with shouts of laughter. The performers were arranged in the shape of a crescent, with Cadets Leckie, Armstrong, Thacker, Strickland, Armstrong, B., and Gibbs as end men, and Cadet Warner in the centre. These funny men kept the audience amused with their mirthful sayings. It was scarcely possible for any six decent looking fellows, *au naturel*, to more thoroughly metamorphose themselves than did these six individuals. Apart from their costumes, which were a mixture of negro-cum Yankee-cum Paddy, their faces were awful, and their foot-gear absolute monstrosities. If the passivity of the first comers was remarked, the energy and restlessness of these last was still more noticeable; they seemed to be on springs, and bounced from side to side of the stage in a manner truly marvellous. The whole performance was most creditable. The sword dance was exceedingly gracefully executed. In the concluding portion of the entertainment the Misses Gildersleeve and Britton did well and were loudly applauded.

The programme was as follows:

BOXES—Mr. "Alfie" Leckie, Mr. "Horatio" Armstrong, Mr. "Honeyhoof" Thacker.

TAMBOS—Mr. "Grewsome" Strickland, Mr. "Isaac" Armstrong, Mr. "Pieface" Gibbs.

Mr. Johnsing, Mr. J. T. Warner, assisted by the entire Court Chorus of the late King Mbongwelxkhwee.

1. Opening Chorus "Our Dinah"..... The Company
2. Overture..... The Inimitable Six
3. Brother Grewsome will now electrify the audience with the "Rowdy Dowdy Boys".
4. "The Story of the Bells"..... Our own Nightingale, Mr. H. Lamb.
5. Through an unavoidable mistake Horatio will now be allowed to assert that he is "Not the Only One."
6. The audience will please remain seated while Ikey claims to be "The man who broke the Bank at Monte Carlo."
7. Alfie will now sing (?).... "When the day grows longer."

Claims for damages must be presented to our Solicitors.

8. Closing Chorus "Oh! who will o'er the Downs"

The Company.

OLIO.

First appearance of the R. M. C. Banjo Club, under the direction of Signor Andante Tutti Fruitti.

"The quickness of the eye deceives the hand"—as exemplified by Herr Brittaggio Von Illusander.

"Sing again Nightingale"—"The Arab's Bride".... Mr. H. Lamb.

Sword Dance by our "braw Hieland Laddie," Mr. W. Cantlie. The Rev. Pompadour Wayback will now deliver a few pointed and eloquent remarks.

Grand Spectacular Production of "Who Speaks First," with all the original scenery and electrical effects.

Cast of Characters :

Captain Charles.....Mr. B. H. Armstrong
Mr. Militant.....Mr. Heneker
Potter.....Mr. Strickland
Mrs. Militant.....Miss Britton
Smart.....Miss Gildersleeve

Worth Costumes (worth millions). Scenery by Gaslight (also by Day). Music by the Company's Orchestra.

God Save the Queen.

* * *

Major Drury and Sergt. McIntyre, of "A" Battery, left for Montreal on 20th inst. en route for England. When passing the barracks on the train all the officers and sergeants turned out and gave three cheers, while the buglers sounded the "salute."

* * *

One of the "inimitable six" at the R. M. C. Cadets' concert declared that his father had died of "hard drink." It was subsequently explained that the poor man had been killed by a large piece of ice falling on his head.

NORTH WEST TERRITORIES.

The sixth annual general meeting of the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association was held at Lansdowne hotel, Regina, on Monday evening, the 24th inst., the President, Major Hayter Reed, occupying the chair. The election of officers for the current year was proceeded with, resulting in the election of the following gentlemen:—President, Mr. R. Sweet; vice-President, Mr. J. W. Jowett. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer were amalgamated and the present secretary, Mr. Mitchell, was elected secretary-treasurer; asst.-secretary, Mr. J. R. C. Honeyman; Executive Council, Major Hayter Reed, Major D. Mowat, Major Perry, Messrs. A. E. Forget, W. M. Williamson, R. J. Steel, W. J. Chisholm, E. McCarthy, T. H. Jones, A. McKinnon and J. T. Stemshorn, all of Regina; Major Bell, Indian Head; Capt. Harris and Mr. Hewgill, Moosomin; Mr. H. A. Carruthers, Kutawa, and Mr. C. Gass, Moosejaw; Range officer, Mr. W. M. Williamson; Team captains, Major Mowat and Mr. R. Sweet; Range Committee, Messrs. T. H. Jones, W. J. Chisholm and A. McKinnon.

It was decided that the range should be opened immediately, and that the weekly matches be shot, during the present season, on Wednesday afternoons, except on League match days (commencing at 3 o'clock sharp) instead of on Saturdays as heretofore. Special inducements will be offered to young shots, and on the Canadian Military League match days, viz., May 27th, June 10th, July 8th and 22nd, ammunition will be issued free of charge to all members shooting. The thanks of the Association were tendered the retiring officers, and regret was expressed that the late president, Major Reed, could not be induced to again fill the chair which he had occupied, with so great benefit to the Association, during the past three years.

* * *

Inspector Chalmers has resigned from the Mounted Police Force to take up work as a Dominion Land Surveyor. He has been awarded a contract of township subdivision this season near Egg Lake, south of Edmonton.

* * *

On 7th April a blaze at the N. W. M. P. barracks, Regina, which might have proved serious, was put out very quickly by the prompt and decisive action consequent on the discipline and training of the Mounted Police Force. The fire under the boiler used for heating water in the lavatory at the rear of the south barrack building burnt through the floor in some manner at present unexplained and ran along between two joists until it reached the wall, and was not discovered until the wall was burning. Though in a fair way to secure a hold on the building had it but a few minutes longer start, yet it was held in check and finally put out by water poured from above down the inside of the frame walls.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At a recent meeting of the City Council of Sherbrooke, P.Q., the following resolution was adopted:—That this Council having been informed that it is the intention of the Federal Government to make arrangements for the selection of a permanent location for the annual drill of the military forces in this part of the country, which would necessitate the erection of an armory and drill shed, it is hereby ordered that correspondence be entered into at once with the Hon. W. B. Ives in reference thereto, setting forth the special advantages this locality offers for such purposes.

* * *

Some amusing paragraphic comments on the first battalion parade of the 53rd appeared in the Sherbrooke "Gazette" and "Examiner;" they were signed respectively by "Kodak" and "Snap-shot," but evidently were penned by the same hand. Some of the personal notes are very good. We learn from them that there is a wish in the corps to have the annual outing this year take the shape of a trip to Quebec.

* * *

Lieut.-Col. D'Orsonnens, D.A.G. of the 6th Military District, and Lieut.-Col. Pope, Brigade Major, were in Sherbrooke recently inspecting the arms and accoutrements of Capt. Morkill's troop of dragoons. They also visited Compton, Stanstead and Cookshire on the same errand.

* * *

Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D. A. G., of Fredericton, passed through St. John on 10th inst., on his way to Sussex, to make arrangements for the meeting of the Brigade camp there on the 26th of June.

* * *

The Artillery band will give a grand concert in the Mechanics' Institute on the 4th of May, which is the hundredth anniversary of the formation of the first company of artillery in this province. It is expected that in addition to the selections by the band some first-class vocalists will assist.

* * *

A marked instance of the frailty of human nature occurred at London recently. One of the men of No. 1 Co., C.R. I., who deserted from the barracks there, was located at Galt soon afterwards, and a sergeant was sent after him. The sergeant secured his man and handcuffed him to himself. The two, before leaving for London, visited the hotels and got full of bad whiskey, so full that the conductor put them off the train at Ayr. The two wandered about all night and on the following day, the "prisoner" Detler arrived at the C. P. R. station, but nothing was known as to the whereabouts of his captor.

* * *

The Perth Rifle Association held its annual meeting on 27th April, in the Commercial hotel. The gathering was large, and every man present was as enthusiastic as he could well be. Thirty-five new members were added, and the association starts off very prosperously, and with every prospect of greater interest developing in rifle shooting this year. The officers elected were:—Lt.-Col. McKnight, patron; J. Worden, president; W. Gillard, vice-president; W. Lawrence, secretary-treasurer; E. C. Sealey, assistant secretary-treasurer; R. Hesson, J. Dempsey, J. Worden, J. Baxter, W. Monteith, council; W. Gillard, W. Monteith, auditors; J. Fitchett, W. Monteith, J. Worden, W. Gillard, W. Waldie, C. Stock, range officers; J. Dempsey, J. Worden, J. Baxter, C. Stock, match committee. R. Hesson, lot 4, con. 3, Downie, very kindly offered a range on his farm, free of charge, which was accepted by the association, and Mr. Hesson was elected an honorary member. Mr. Worden was appointed to make arrangements as to targets, etc., on the new range, and have all in readiness by May 20, when the first shoot will be held. It was agreed to hold the annual matches on 15th and 16th September. The association will affiliate with the Ontario Rifle Association and with the Dominion Rifle Association. Two teams will also be entered in the Canadian Military Rifle League this year.

* * *

There will hereafter be four companies of the 25th Battalion in St. Thomas, the headquarters of the Vienna Company having been removed there. It is expected that the battalion will be gazetted as a city battalion before camp is held in June, and that therefore the 25th will not go to camp, but drill at home.

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No. 9.

A correspondent of the London *Free Press* calls attention to the atrocious condition of Carling's Heights, which is to be the permanent camping ground for No. 1 District. He says:—

"As far as their location and general outline is concerned, the grounds could not well be beaten, but when looked at in detail, they could scarcely be worse. The ground appears to have been used at some time in the past as a farm. The formation of the furrows in which it was ploughed are still quite plain to be seen and felt, if one attempts to drive or walk over them. The middle of the ridge is quite high, and on each side the old dead furrows still remain. A more unsuitable piece of ground for military evolutions would be difficult to find. How can a body of men march in anything like order when every second or third time they set down a foot it either drops into a deep furrow or rests on a mound a foot or so higher than the man expected? Then, the cavalry are, if possible, in a worse plight. It is not only almost impossible for the men to keep in line, but they are actually in great danger of having their necks broken by their horses falling under them. If it were not so dangerous, it would be very funny to see the artillerymen holding on to their seats while the horses are galloping to their position in the review. Altogether, the grounds are in a dangerous and disgraceful condition, and should be levelled at once."

This ought to be looked into by the authorities. It is hard enough to get men to attend camp when the surroundings are favorable, without asking them to spend twelve days where the parade-ground would even put the Rideau rifle ranges to blush.

* * *

A quite lively interest has of late been taken in the subject of the employment of discharged soldiers, and, undoubtedly, the matter is of great importance so long as the short-service system continues. A recently issued Parliamentary paper throws some light on what is done in this matter in foreign countries. In Austria-Hungary nearly 60,000 Government posts are available for old soldiers. Employers of labour usually prefer old soldiers to civilians. In France 500 descriptions of appointments are reserved for retired sub-officers. In Germany 92,345 places under Government are reserved for soldiers who have served 12 years with a good character. A well-conducted soldier or sailor who passes into the reserve after three years' service is always sure to obtain employment, and it is a common thing to read in advertisements for men, "Must have been a soldier." An unemployed old soldier of good character is unknown in Ger-

many. In Italy it is generally accepted that to have served in the army is an advantage to a man seeking civil employment. In the War-office and Admiralty all the available posts, in number 2,602, are exclusively reserved for soldiers and sailors. In other public offices 4,645, or one-half of the available appointments, are reserved for soldiers and sailors, and on the railways 1,700, or one-third of the available posts. —*Military and Naval Record*.

If similar systematic attempts were made in Canada to get employment for steady men after passing through the ranks of our Permanent Corps, it might considerably help recruiting. Montreal and Toronto might be made centres to which discharged men would gravitate, and if there were an office where such could register and where they could be found when wanted, we feel sure that many a trial in work would be given them that now goes to mere civilian workmen. Those who have served in the ranks of our troops deserve all possible recognition and assistance in this way.

* * *

In the estimates of the current year recently passed by the Provincial Legislature of Prince Edward's Island, one hundred dollars is granted towards the funds of the Provincial Rifle Association. This from a Province where the total public expenditure is less than \$300,000; and yet in Quebec—the largest and second wealthiest Province in the Dominion, and where millions of money are annually voted away—not a single cent can be had towards encouraging the most essential branch of national expenses. And why? Simply because the majority of the Provincial House look on the Provincial Rifle Association as an *English* institution, and claim that the grants in that direction are exhausted; they apparently being unaware of the fact that the P. Q. R. A. knows no such features as distinction of race, language or creed.

* * *

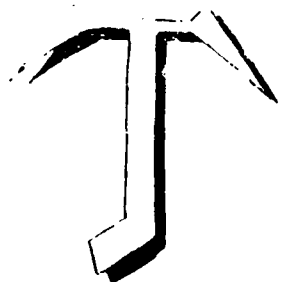
Within the past few weeks several events of special interest have occurred in the force. A large sum, \$105,000, has been voted by Parliament towards the Esquimaux defences, and arrangements are in progress for a garrison of Imperial troops at that important station, while "C" Battery R.C.A. is to be brought east. Major-General Herbert has gone to England in connection with the above mentioned fortifications and garrison, and also, it is said, to endeavour to arrange an occasional interchange of stations between the Canadian Regulars and the Imperial troops. Four officers, Major Drury and Capt. Pelletier, R.C.A., and Captains Cartwright and Wadmore, C.R.I., and four non-commissioned officers of our Permanent corps have also been sent across the Atlantic to be attached to the Imperial troops during the coming manoeuvres. This is an excellent step, and one the results of which cannot fail to be most beneficial to the officers concerned and indirectly to their regiments. It also forms a precedent for similar future action to be annually looked for by our Permanent officers and N. C. officers and will thus be an incentive to zeal in the service.

A reporter of the *Westmeath (Ireland) Examiner* had Lord Longford up before the magistrates at Mullingar Petty Sessions recently, for an assault, in that his lordship pulled off the newspaper man's hat because he had not removed it during the singing of the National Anthem. The incident occurred at a Unionist meeting held in Mullingar, and Lord Longford, seeing the man with his hat on, pulled it off; giving it back to him when the singing had ceased. The magistrates came unanimously to a decision that the case should be dismissed, as the reporter should have removed his hat when "God Save the Queen" was being sung.

THE KING'S REGIMENT.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE SERVICES OF THE CORPS IN CANADA.



THE record of the distinguished regiment which has recently arrived at Halifax dates back over two centuries. The corps was raised in 1685 by King James II. at the time of Monmouth's rebellion; it was composed of ten companies recruited in London, Hertfordshire and Derbyshire, chiefly, how-

ever, in the latter county. The first title given to the regiment was the "Princess Anne of Denmark's Regiment;" the first commanding officer was Lord Ferrars of Chartly, who was succeeded by in November, 1686, by James Fitz-James, Duke of Berwick. During the stormy events of 1688 the rank and file of the corps, as a whole, remained loyal to the King, in spite of harsh treatment received at his hands in the previous September when the Lieut.-Col. and first captains were summarily cashiered. After the Revolution, the regiment was incorporated in King William's army and fought at the Boyne and throughout the rest of the campaign in Ireland. It soon returned to England and in 1697 joined the army in Flanders, and fought at Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde and Malplaquet, names that will always take high rank in the annals of the British army. By this time the corps was known as the "Queen's Regiment." Its next service was in the Jacobite rising of 1715 and at the battle of Dunblane the regiment suffered severely, losing 101 men and 10 officers killed, 13 men and 1 officer wounded—a disparity which indicates the desperate nature of the fighting.

In 1716, the Eighth was authorized by George I. to bear the title of the "King's Regiment of Foot," and to adopt the badge of the White Horse of Hanover with the motto "*Æc aspera terrent.*" It then served at home until 1742 when it was again ordered to the Low Countries and participated in the victory of Dettingen and the fight at Fontenoy, where our troops, out-numbered two to one, met with defeat. On the breaking out of the Jacobite insurrection of "Forty-five" the "King's" was ordered home and despatched to share in the campaign against the Pretender; it fought at Falkirk and Culloden. It subsequently returned to Flanders and took part in various actions. The regiment was then ordered to Gibraltar and remained on that station until 1751, when it returned home and remained there until 1760 when it was again sent to Germany, and took a prominent share in the fights at Warbourg, Corbarch, Wilhelmstal and others, returning to England in 1763.

In May, 1768, the "King's" embarked for Quebec and were stationed at various points throughout Canada. On the invasion of that country by the American rebels in 1775 the regiment formed part of the feeble garrison of the colony which was strung out, in small and widely-scattered groups from Quebec to Detroit. In the following year an exploit of one of the officers of the corps, Capt. Forster, was, without doubt, the most brilliant event of the campaign, and reflected the highest credit on himself, on his corps, and on the loyal French-Canadians who aided him. With the exception of Quebec and the extreme western posts, the invaders were in possession of the country during the winter of 1775-6 and the subsequent spring, and, early in the season, they built a fort at the village of Cedars, on the St. Lawrence, about midway between Montreal and the British post at Oswegatchie (now Ogdensburg) where Capt. Forster was in command. Under instructions from General Carleton, Forster left Oswegatchie on 12th May, 1776, to attack the fort at the Cedars with his entire garrison consisting of 2 lieutenants, 2 sergeants, 1 drummer and 35 rank and file of the King's and 11 volunteers, together with 160 Indians, the latter under the command of the Chevalier Lorimier. On the 14th May he reached St. Regis where he was joined by 54 more Indians, making his total force 266 men. The American fort was garrisoned

by 390 Continentals under command of Major Butterfield. Forster and his party reached their destination on the 18th, and at once summoned the fort to surrender. Butterfield acquiesced on condition that the garrison be allowed to march out with their arms; this was refused, and a desultory attack with small arms begun, Forster having no cannon. On the following morning he was reinforced by a party of 30 Canadians under command of M. de Montigny; but hearing that supports for the garrison were *en route* from Montreal, de Montigny and his men were sent to intercept them. At 4 o'clock on the same day Butterfield surrendered, stipulating only for the safety of the lives and clothing of his men.

The Indians grumbled at this and claimed the right of the "free plunder of the garrison" as had been promised them by a Committee of the American Congress should they espouse the rebel cause and aid in the reduction of the British posts of Niagara and Detroit. Forster refused this claim, and with very few exceptions the American prisoners were landed safe in barracks with their packs and possessions inviolate, some money and a few watches being the extent of the robbery by the savages.

The reinforcement from Montreal, consisting of 140 men under command of Major Sherborne, was by this time near Vaudreuil and on the 20th Forster despatched two Canadian officers—M. Lorimier and Maurer with 98 Indians and Canadians to reinforce de Montigny. They missed him, but unexpectedly fell in with Sherborne's force and attacked it with so much vigour that after a short fight and the loss of 5 or 6 men, the American officer surrendered unconditionally, and were taken to the Cedars. The Indians claimed the last party as their prisoners, and as their chief had been killed in the fight, wanted to put some of them to death; this Forster strenuously resisted and finally he and his officers paid the savages a money compensation in lieu of the prisoners' lives. The latter were plundered *but not a single man was killed*. This is worth noting, as Congress afterwards spread far and wide the report that several of Sherborne's party had been murdered, and the historian Bancroft repeated this inaccuracy in his "History of the United States."

Forster now advanced towards Montreal and on reaching Ste. Anne's, placed 250 of the prisoners there in charge of de Montigny, and the rest at Oka in the care of the resident priests; he then continued his advance towards Montreal, but found the enemy in such strength that he determined to retreat to the Cedars. He halted at Vaudreuil and collected all the prisoners there; but in view of their number and the smallness of his force, arranged with Arnold a cartel of exchange and returned all the captives to the Americans on condition that they were not to serve again during the war. This cartel was afterwards deliberately broken by the American Congress, on the flimsy pretext of the murder of several of the prisoners—a charge which is not borne out by an unprejudiced analysis of the evidence.

Capt. Forster returned to Oswegatchie with his little force. His gallant conduct brought him both praise and promotion. Sir Guy Carleton wrote him from Montreal, under date 20th June, 1776: "Your last expedition has acquired you great honour; the next, I hope, will prove no less fortunate." On the 5th of November of same year, Forster was promoted to a majority in the 21st North British Fusiliers, and never rejoined the King's.

The regiment took no further prominent share in the campaign and returned to England in 1785. During the war with France, which broke out in 1792, the flank companies aided in the capture of Martinique and Guadaloupe. In 1794 the regiment was sent to Flanders as part of the Duke of York's army, subsequently proceeding to the West Indies. They then did garrison duty in Guernsey and Minorca, following which they formed part of the force sent to Egypt, and distinguished themselves at the battle of Alexandria on 21st March, 1801, and in other engagements of the campaign. From Egypt they were sent to Gibraltar, and thence in quick succession to Portsmouth, Hanover, Copenhagen, Halifax (in 1808) and West Indies. They returned to North America and on the outbreak of the war of 1812 against the United States were quartered in various posts on the Canadian frontier. The flank companies formed part of a brigade of observation stationed at Blairfindie, near Lacolle, the brigade being commanded by Lieut.-Col. Young of the King's regiment; this force was not, however, called on to engage the enemy. During the winter the corps was moved farther west, and at the attack on York by the Americans on 30th

April, 1813, two companies of the Eighth, under command of Capt. Neale M'Neale, happened to be there, while *en route* from Kingston to reinforce the garrison at Niagara. York, at that time a village of not more than 1,000 inhabitants, had a garrison of only about 350 regulars and a few militia, while the defensive works were old and useless. The place was incapable of defence to a strong attacking force; and as the invaders were in great strength, and their landing covered by the fire from the ships, the plan of Sir Roger Sheaffe, the British commander, was to check the American assault long enough to enable him to destroy all military stores, etc., and to retire with his force to Kingston. The two companies of the Eighth, with about 200 militia were given the post of honour in engaging the enemy while the latter were landing. M'Neale may have exposed his slender force rather recklessly to their fire and the broadsides from the ships, but in any case he and a large number of his command were killed early in the fight. The remnant, after a short defence, slowly fell back on the main body in face of a steady attack from the Americans, of whom a force about 1,000 strong had by this time come on shore. The defences were soon carried and the whole remaining British force retreated unmolested to Kingston; an explosion of a powder magazine near the works at this time rendered *hors de combat* a large number of the assailants, and no doubt prevented further molestation of the retiring British force. Of the regular troops engaged 62 were killed and 72 wounded not far from one-half of the force engaged. The light company of the Eighth, also on the way to Niagara, was met by Sheaffe's force a short distance from York, and joined the retreat.

By the end of May five companies of the King's had been added to the British force at or near Fort George; and at the American attack of the 27th of that month, 6 officers and 198 men of this regiment were killed or wounded, out of a total strength of 320 who went into the action. The fighting was most stubborn, and the detachment of the Eighth showed especial vigour and bravery in the fight, as attested by the heavy loss it sustained.

A portion of the regiment was still in the Kingston garrison, and two companies took part in Sir George Prevost's abortive attack on Sackett's Harbour on 27th May, and sustained a loss of 81 out of 259, the total casualties of the force engaged.

The battle of Stoney Creek was fought on the night of the 5th June. In the small British force (704) which successfully attacked an American army of 2,500 men, there were five companies of the King's under command of Major Ogilvy; proportionately to the number engaged their loss was heavy, 83 in all.

On the 3rd of the same month, Sir James Yeo sailed from Kingston with 280 men of the King's to reinforce the army on the Niagara frontier. They reached the Forty-Mile creek on the 8th, and after an engagement with the enemy landed there. The American army of invasion, which had penetrated as far west as this point, had by this time commenced a retrograde movement, and a large stock of arms and stores were abandoned to the landing party.

In the attack on Black Rock on 11th July, memorable as the occasion of the death of the gallant Lieut.-Col. Bishopp, 40 men of the King's participated and lost exactly half their number. In the second and more formidable expedition in the same direction made on the last day of 1813, and which ended in the destruction of Buffalo, there were four companies of the King's employed, their loss in the affair being 7 killed and 16 wounded.

In the campaign of 1814, the Eighth lost a company at Fort Erie on 3rd July when that post surrendered to General Brown, the American commander. In the fight at Chippewa that followed and which resulted disastrously to our arms, the King's (which had just arrived from York) took part, and acted with great gallantry and steadiness. In the hardly-contested fight in Lundy's Lane on the 25th of July, a detachment of 120 men of the King's formed part of the British force and were in the brunt of the engagement. At the unsuccessful attack on Fort Erie on 15th August the available companies of the regiment were engaged, and suffered a loss of 32 killed and wounded.

With the exception of trifling skirmishes the King's regiment was not engaged with the enemy again during the year, and peace was declared in the following winter. In the following year the regiment returned to England, and for the

next thirty years was employed on the usual home and colonial reliefs.

The Halifax *Herald* publishes an extract from the old *Nova Scotian* of 9th May, 1839, which states that the 8th regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Col Bould, arrived there on Sunday 5th inst., in H.M.S.'s Pique, Andromache, and brig, Wanderer, and disembarked next day. Shipping intelligence in same paper of same date: "Arrived, Sunday, H.M.S. Pique, Capt. Boxer, Montego Bay, 17 days, with part of 8th regiment; H.M.S. Andromache, Capt. Baynes, ditto, with part of 8th regiment; H.M. brig Wanderer, ditto, with remainder of 8th regiment."

In 1846 the King's went to India, and was still there when the Mutiny broke out in 1857, the corps being then stationed at Jallundur. It at once took part in the campaign, marched to Delhi in June and bore an honourable and prominent share in the siege and the assault, it furnishing the storming and ladder party in the attack on the Water Bastion. After the fall of the city, the corps formed part of a flying column sent to Cawnpore, and which completely routed a force of 6,000 Sepoys which attacked them *en route*. They subsequently acted with the Lucknow Relief column, and participated in most of the actions of the war. In 1860 they returned home, the Governor-General acknowledging their services in an order which assured "the regiment of "the very high sense entertained by him of its soldierly conduct whether in quarters or in the field." Since the Mutiny the 1st Battalion has been in various stations but has seen no special service.

On three separate occasions, in 1756, 1804 and 1857, second battalions for this corps have been formed. That first-mentioned remained with the King's for two years only, it receiving a separate regimental organization as the 63rd Foot in 1758. The 2nd battalion of 1804 was in Halifax in 1812-13 and in February, 1814, six companies marched from New Brunswick to Quebec on snow-shoes through an almost unbroken forest. They arrived at their destination in March after undergoing great hardships, which was cheerfully borne. In September this battalion took part in the expedition to Plattsburg, so atrociously mismanaged by the commander-in-chief, Sir George Prevost. The battalion was reduced in 1815.

In October, 1857, more troops were required for India, and a second battalion for the King's was again easily recruited. It served in Gibraltar, Malta and India, and was in the thick of the fighting in Afghanistan during 1878-80. Its latest active service has been in Burmah.

The colours of the King's Regiment attest its length of service and its valour in action. The badges of honour that are there inscribed read as follows: "Blenheim," "Ramilies," "Ondenarde," "Malplaquet," "Dettingen," "Egypt," "Martinique," "Niagara," "Delhi," "Lucknow," "Peiwar Kotal," "Afghanistan, 1878-80."

To members of the Masonic order in Canada, this regiment possesses a special interest, for the lodge attached to the corps when it was quartered in Niagara in 1775 is the first known record of Masonry in what is now the Province of Ontario.

The very doubtful yarn, now current, of the invention of a bullet-proof uniform in Germany, recalls an anecdote of the great Duke of Wellington. A stranger gained admittance to the War Office one busy morning, and urged the Duke to introduce into the army a bullet-proof jacket which he had invented. He produced a specimen. "Bullet-proof?" said the Duke; "very good. Put it on, will you?" The man did so. The Duke rang the bell; an officer appeared. "Tell Capt. So-and-so to send two of his men here and let them load with ball cartridge." When the Duke looked up from his writing presently the inventor had disappeared.

* * *

The Queen and the Prince of Wales have expressed a strong wish that the detachments of horse artillery from Victoria and of cavalry from New South Wales, both now on their way to England to take part in the Military Tournament, shall form part of the Royal escort when Her Majesty opens the Imperial Institute in May. There will also be a detachment of cavalry from India.

FOLLOWING THE BIG GUN.

A REMINISCENCE OF '85.

I. THE FIRST MOVE.

For many months the Big Gun had been left to hibernate in the square enclosed by the buildings of Fort Macleod.

Even when spring came, when the last snow-wreath had vanished before the breath of the Chinook wind, and the stir of the year's new life was felt in the land, his sleepy calm was uninterrupted.

But one day as the men were drawn up for stable-parade, the Captain came out and read them a despatch which made their hearts beat fast, it was a fragmentary account of the Duck Lake fight, and thereafter there was little day-musing for the Gun. He was forever being thumped about after six eager, sinewy horses; or being unlimbered,—not that he was very limber in the common meaning of the word; then his throat would be swabbed out by raw gunners, who gave him nothing to cough up; or they would explode caps with a mere irritating snap when he felt he ought to be allowed to roar.

There was continual going to and fro in the square in those days. The shout of the gun-sergeant made echoes like hammer-strokes rattle among the buildings; and out beyond the line enclosed by these there was actual hammering, and the bite of the adze was heard, and the creaking and coughing of saws; for at each corner bastions were a-building, with loop-holes pierced through their heavy timbers, whence one could watch the wide prairie. A blanketed Indian scrutinized one of them for an hour. "What is it?" said the carpenter. The Indian half-closed his eyes, and in grieved tones declared that it was "Bad Medicine."

If this brave had not been spying about the Fort, he would have been glad to stay at the Reservation, where excitement made buzzing such as one hears in a hive on a summer evening. The old war-spirit was rampant. The gray-haired sub-chiefs had stories to tell of their ancient prowess, stories reserved for a complete edition of Munchausen's book. The young bucks burned to do something on which they could base bigger stories. Meanwhile the councillors of the tribe withdrew nightly to secret meetings. Occasional messengers rode in on tired ponies, bringing tobacco from Riel, or boasting that the days of the white man were numbered.

For two years there had been bravado talk among the Indians of a great confederacy; by uniting together the tribes were to regain their hunting-grounds, and when the settlers were driven away, the buffalo, they thought, would return. So South Peigan and North, Blackfoot and Blood, Kootenai and Sioux, Nez Percé, and Flat Head, Gros Vent and Stoney, Fox and Snake and Crow, were to gather from mountain and prairie, and drive from the land the white invaders. This was the yearly talk in the Spring; it began whenever the ponies which had been "skin-poor" all the winter, began to eat of the young grass, and it reached its loudest when they "waxed fat, and kicked," like Jeshurun.

It is needless to tell with what envious eyes the young warriors looked upon the roaming herds that had taken the pasture lands once covered by their buffalo. Reports came to the Fort that they had been reviving memories of the hunt by killing cattle,—not in hidden coulees either, but on the open prairie. For the Indians the prospect was fascinating; the fifty thousand head of cattle in the district seemed to them innumerable, and from among the ten thousand horses each one thought how well he could replenish his own pony-herd. For the ranchers the outlook was not joyful, for their wealth was represented by these herds of cattle; for them the Chinook winds seemed to blow just as kindly as for the buffalo, coming with warm breath from the Pacific to clear away the snow from the foot-hills and the plains. But what if the increase was in the end to be ministrant only to Indian feasting? Moreover, the ranches were far apart, too far to allow the men to give help in emergency to one another. So the cowboys, and the settlers on their little scattered farms were expectant, not to say afraid, as the boasts and threats of the Indians were reported to them.

On the Reserves, however, there were old men who counselled patience, and restrained the warlike ardor of the would-be warriors by telling them that Riel was not yet in power, and by reminding them of the Government ration still coming to them, beef and flour, week by week, without any pre-

requisite of toil on their part. They observed also that in the Fort the preparation of "bad medicine" was going on.

The Fort was a busy place. In the square men hurried back and forth. The Sergeant would look at the Gun when he passed, and say, "I hope there is to be work for you, my pet." In the stables a score of horses stood with saddles girthed. Provisions were ready, so that with pack-horses a four-days' trip could be begun at any moment by a squad of two score, more than half the men in the troop. To anticipate their absence men in the neighbourhood were to be organized as mounted rangers; and an infantry garrison was to be enrolled for the Fort, that the Police might be the more free to patrol the district.

There are few finer forces in the world than that from which the men were drawn who eventually travelled with the Big Gun. They were in proportion as one man to a hundred of the Indian population. They had to watch the wily braves, and prevent them from killing cattle, or stealing horses. They had to see that no one evaded customs dues, and, most unpleasant duty of all, to capture whiskey smugglers and dealers; this in a town into which was flowing a perpetual tide of cowboys, freighters, bull-punchers, ranchers, mule-skinners, and sometimes miners and prospectors, all of whom were willing to pay high prices for spirituous exhilaration. They were brave fellows, these men of the Mounted Police; they used to laugh and make arrests while the lustreless eyes of loaded Winchesters were turned upon them by irascible friends of the horse-thieves.

The daily troubles of the Big Gun began on the day when a despatch told of the Duck Lake fight. That was the opening of the Half-Breed Rebellion of 1885. The Indians camped on the Mokoanis River, just fourteen miles from Fort Macleod, had the news by their runners two days before it came to the Police by telegraph and courier. Soon every Indian tribe, even to the South Peigans and the Crows, knew that war had begun, and had received Riel's final invitation to have part in it. They were deliberate about smoking the tobacco he sent; they all wanted to be on the winning side.

The question, What was all this commotion about? is quite likely to interrupt the story here. First of all, then, let it be known that the Half-Breeds in the North had many grievances: the methods of surveying their district perplexed them; they believed that there was favoritism in the placing of Government contracts; they could not get titles to their lands. Then let it be understood that they had made appeals by letter and petition to the Government; and when these failed had sent a deputation which brought back promises, for "light are words, and lightly spoken." In the end when they found themselves unnoticed, and the promises unfulfilled, they thought of Louis Riel and called him to their aid. Their desire was to have such an agitation that the swell of its waves might beat upon the threshold of the big houses for talking at Ottawa. The agitation was to be constitutional; but they were like children in their quick indignation against what they considered the injustice of their treatment by the Government.

The Half-Breeds tell of the war's beginning thus: One day an official of the Hudson's Bay Company passed through a settlement, coming from the east, and the men queried eagerly, "Are we to hear from the Government?" It may be said parenthetically, that this was not a politic question, for one of their grievances was that the Hudson's Bay Company took Government contracts, for a price, then gave the people who filled them half a price, paying the same not with money but with double-priced goods. Moreover it was a current joke that this man had drowned several inquiries in Hudson Bay rum; there are those who say that it is very potent liquor in which to drown care and weariness, and the inquiring spirit. Was it likely if these things were so, that this official should greatly rejoice in the agitation which was likely to bring investigators thirsty only for facts? Maybe his wish fathered the thought, for he said, "Yes, you will hear from the Government; you will get an answer in bullets." That sentence was like the striking of the match; it set the flame of rebellion leaping.

The men were silent and dismayed. It was found in Riel's state papers that an order at once went forth to seize the stores at Duck Lake belonging to those who were loyal to the Government. About the same time teams sent thither from Fort Carlton to bring in supplies, were confronted by armed men. At this news Major Crozier advanced from Carlton with fifty-five men of the Police force, and forty-

three volunteers who had come from Prince Albert. Two hours march and the advance guard was fired upon; whereupon the teamsters fell to the rear and the fighting men advanced. Forth came some rebels, one having a white blanket, and Crozier went forward to parley. It was a planned ambush, and during the delay the rebels partially surrounded the force. While the men were talking an Indian tried to take away the interpreter's rifle, but he prevented the theft by shooting the man with his revolver. Almost immediately firing began on both sides. The volunteers on the right were exposed to a deadly cross-fire, and eleven killed. On the left three Policemen were killed and many wounded. So hopeless was the case that the sleighs were brought forward to carry away the wounded, whom the retiring force then protected with a steady fire. Retreat prevented a massacre, for the Half-Breeds admit that this was the only fight at which their whole force was present. After this the Police evacuated useless Fort Carlton, and went to the straggling town of Prince Albert where were women and children needing defence.

Of these movements little was definitely known in the South; but imagination pictured the gathering of woefully black clouds. Then, like the thunder-crash, came the news of the Frog Lake massacre. That day the sergeant shouted at gun drill as if he would threaten with his voice the brutal Indians far away in the North.

When seventeen days of April were gone at last the men could say, "To-morrow we march." What packing of kits there was, and in the process what debating between desire to carry as little as possible and fear of leaving anything needful behind. What a night of talk; leave-taking that was solemn enough, and boasting that intended to be merry.

When the cavalcade set forth next day the dust rose as imposingly as if for a royal procession. The horses champed their bits, and the curb-rings jingled; their hoofs made music for eager hearts as they clinked on the stones. The rattle and clank of the gun-wheels as the six mighty horses hauled it along, sounded assurance for the doubtful. Behind came the four-horse waggons, loaded with tents and kit-bags, and what might be vaguely termed "something to eat."

Out from the Fort marched the force, along the level bench-land, then down through the "Slough," wherein the river in high water has its extra channel; how the gun rumbled over the round boulders! There was a street next, broad enough for a bull-train to turn in, lined by squat houses, built of cotton-wood logs, and roofed with earth. This was the "Old Town," once rich and populous and greatly important. But there was a new town near the Fort, and few were so poor as to be compelled to do the old town reverence.

Down the broad street swept the cavalcade, a mixed multitude, for many were coming as far as the river to see their fellows off. Some of the "old timers" of the force looked up to the slight eminence where the old fort stood. Lowly enough the deserted buildings were, but what good times they had had there. The very logs in the walls were dear to them; they had helped to haul them from the river bottom. The romance of the past clung to the place; would they see it again? Or,--what a queer feeling the suggestion of death brings!

Splashing and stumbling the foremost riders crossed the ford. The gun-horses cautiously planted their great hoofs among the rolling pebbles and big boulders that they could not see for the rushing water. The gun rocked from side to side, and swirling eddies curled among the wheel-spokes. At last the dripping horses climbed the farther bank, and the men that were to stay raised the cheer of farewell. "Good-bye, boys; bring us back some scaps."

II. AN ARMED CAMP.

A hundred and six miles in three days of actual marching, yet the horses were restive and eager when they entered the town, and they whirled the gun about as if it were a toy. Mightily impressed were the militiamen, and some of them saluted the whole line of horsemen as if such cavaliers must be all officers.

Calgary plain had never seen such bustle and confusion, not even when the hordes of railway builders were there. Ordinarily there might be beyond the houses a few clusters of Indian tepees, dingy with dirt beneath, and brown with smoke towards the top; for these lodges were shaped like a cone, the apex of which is all chimney. But now there were

villages of tents, clean and new looking; and the Indians who had been visitors in the neighbourhood had shown their wisdom by silently stealing away. That is they ordered their squaws to break camp; and quickly enough this was done, for many obediences had made them expert. The tent-poles were tied to a pony's back by their slender ends, and thus trailed along. The apex of the "A"-shaped *travois* was lashed to a pony's saddle, and into the pocket between the cross-bars were tumbled tent-cloth and puppies, clothing and the baby; to the saddle were fastened the frying-pans also, then the mother bestrode the pony, and vigorously "quirked" him into motion. The man, who had been a spectator of the preparations, took his place at the head of the procession, carrying only a rifle in the hollow of his arm, having of course the gayest outfit, and riding the best horse. Thus the women were assured of protection from imaginary dangers. So much did they, as a class, believe in the divinity of the male, that, for lack of a larger warrior, they would plant a stark naked six year old boy on a young pony, and set him in the forefront of their procession.

Thus safely guided and guarded the Indian families had migrated to the Reserve, and over the ashes of their camp-fires the militiamen had swung their kettles. There were streets and avenues lined by the new white tents, that were to be soiled enough ere long; and parading up and down went the new, clean soldiers who were to return bronzed and rugged from the North country.

They had many things to learn, and merrily they set themselves at the new tasks. The mounted men who had come with the Big Gun regarded them with the superior air of regulars. They revelled in the stories told about the sentinels,--how one man approaching a camp late at night was startled by a voice out of the darkness crying to him, "Halt! Say Montreal or you can't come farther"; how another who did not know the pass-word entered into conversation with the sentry who had halted him, and then abruptly saying, "But what is the pass-word anyway?" was answered innocently enough, "Calgary." It was said that even the officers took advantage of the guileless sentry; as for example, one who had been away when the word was given, and coming home late did not wish the sergeant of the guard to be called out to identify him and pass him through the lines. When halted he deliberately gave the wrong countersign. "Sure, that's not the word I got," said the sentry. "It isn't, eh?" he replied. "No," persisted the sentry, "it was Madrid."

The militiamen did better work during the daytime, however. Daily drill made them grow soldier-like, and at rifle-practice they learned to make the neighborhood of the target, far and near, dangerous ground. They were also learning the mysteries of camp-cooking, what was of more importance; someone has said, you know, that "an army marches on its stomach."

The cause of their remaining in the city of tents operated also to keep the Big Gun in the courtyard of the Fort where it had been drawn when the cortege arrived. The Gun may have maintained a silence that was just a little sullen, but that was not noticed amid the clack and bustle which was going on. Teams with jingling trace-chains drew up loaded wagons to the storehouse door, and there boxes of canned beef and barrels of hard-tack biscuits that had rumbled along by rail from Winnipeg, were unloaded. In a safe enclosure there was a growing pyramid of oat-sacks, and men began to recall the time not long past, when a sack of oats and a ten dollar bill were interchangeable. Horsemen with jingling spurs rode hither and thither; the red coats of the Mounted Police flashed in all quarters. Infantry men in black, strangers in "store clothes," and citizens of the town, well-dressed or in nondescript attire, jostled one another.

No one could help observing in the Fort yard, a black pony whose four legs seemed endowed with perpetual motion. He managed almost to be in two places at once,--his tail was generally sailing where he had been a moment before. The rider of this pony was the organizer of the transport. And as the hours went by the string of wagons ready for service became longer, and the corrals that were full before became crammed with restless horses. Curious outfits came in, ready to render service at the rate of "eight dollars a day and grub." New wagons drawn by sleek, handsome horses imported from the East, with harness of oak tanned leather; ancient wagons, fit for service though, with sorry-looking ponies, caged in harness of rope and shaganappi. These

ponies were like the proverbial singed cat; they rebuked those who judged by appearances. They knew nothing of storehouse and barn; they were accustomed to accept Nature's free lunch, and so at halts on the march they would have their heads down and their mouths busy, while their more aristocratic neighbors were waiting (too often vainly) to be fed. Red River carts came in too, some of them dragged by oxen. These carts are made of wood only; when they break, a piece of green hide makes the mend, and when dry it binds more firmly than iron. These vehicles do not delight in travel; on their large wooden axles the wheels turn with shrieking remonstrance, and it never occurs to the owner to quiet the indescribable squawking with any lubricator.

In Edmonton at the North there were alarms, and rumours of war,—so report said. The Indians began to threaten; and in the Hudson Bay Company's fort many bullet marks told how they had done so in old days when all the inhabitants could be protected by its walls. But now there was a town; and if the Half-Breeds were to follow Riel's advice and the Indians were to be their partners, there might be the horrors of massacre. It was of little use appealing to the Police at Fort Saskatchewan, for they were few, and it able to defend their post in case of attack they would do well. These things were reported at Calgary; then the regular mail service failed, and men had to guess what was going on.

There came a day, April twenty-fourth it was, when the gun-horses were hitched to, and the loaded wagons defiled after it from the Fort yard. The first column had gone its way northward four days before, and as there was a third force to leave in a week, this force with the gun was known as the "centre column." This estimate of its size was written down in the pocket diary of a bystander, as the column marched past him: Left wing of the Sixty-fifth, 148 men; 24 Mounted Policemen; 100 vehicles with 60 teamsters, and one nine-pounder gun.

One might ask how there was need of a wagon for each couple of soldiers. The truth was this column was in a sense a provision train. Calgary was the base of supplies, and the objective point was two hundred miles distant,—with a likelihood of having to march twice as far beyond. The column was at one time five hundred miles from the base, in a country where there was nothing in the way of forage,—except grass. So there was wisdom in providing for such emergency. It was thought also that there might be some destitution among the people near Edmonton, to which these Government supplies would have to minister.

Along through the prairie-street of Calgary moved the column, and beside the men went a crowd of friends and on-lookers. The mounted men in advance deployed at the ford of the Bow River. The footmen were crossed in the wagons. The Gun rumbled mightily as the horses leaped forward, eager for the freedom of the prairie after their delay in crowded stalls. A cheer went up as the last horseman crossed—the rear guard. Beyond the river Major Perry, of the Police, once of the Royal Engineers, was commander of the column, and director of the destinies of the Gun. And the story is yet to be told how he risked his life one day, and all for the sake of the Big Gun.

WILLIAM P. MCKENZIE.

THE GIGANTIC ARMY OF FRANCE.

The official report on the war budget for 1893 has just been placed in the hands of the French deputies. The figures are bewildering. Since 1871 the military expenses, without counting the navy, amount to eighteen milliards of francs. Subtracting from this sum the pensions and strategic railway expenses, there remain for strictly military expenditures fifteen milliards three hundred and sixty-eight millions of francs. Of this sum two milliards eight hundred and ninety-one millions have been expended in the reconstruction of war material and eleven milliards seven hundred and seventy-four millions for the support and preparation of armies. Here are some of the figures in detail:

	Francs.
Armament	1,565,149,660
Fortifications	781,560,536
Subsistence	81,388,730
Clothing	242,594,022

Sanitary service	22,991,583
Remounting	27,847,594
Railroads	35,671,605

The largest item in the bill was the cost of changes in the French infantry rifle. The Chassepot was discarded in 1874 for the Gras rifle, and the whole army, with the reserves, were furnished with this weapon when, in 1886, the Lebel rifle appeared. In five years this new rifle was supplied to all the infantry and cavalry. Its extraordinary accuracy and power have already been described.

In fortifications the work has been pressed on with feverish activity. Vast intrenched camps have been established at Lille, Maubenge, Besancon, Belfort, Verdun, and other points. The forts around these places completely shelter them from bombardment. Moreover, the railroads and all important routes are supplied with forts. The discovery of new explosives has necessitated some troublesome alterations in the fortifications. To protect the casements and magazines, the safety of which was not sufficiently guaranteed by the earthworks, it was necessary to make beds of beton of immense thickness. Armored cupolas have also been established in some of the fortresses. Sheltering places and powder magazines have also been made in rocks. The forts have also undergone alterations in regard to the position of the guns. They were at first found to be too much exposed, and annexing batteries on a level with the ground, intended for oblique firing, have been set up to support them. At the same time special works have been constructed for the infantry destined to defend the guns. The sanitary condition of the barracks has been the object of great care, to guard against epidemics.

In 1869 the regular army of France footed up 24,005 officers, 385,372 men, and 80,702 horses. At present it counts 28,382 officers, 484,015 men and 140,879 horses. In 1869 the army was divided into 372 battalions of infantry, 238 squadrons of cavalry, and 232 batteries of artillery. The present army has 727 battalions of infantry, 448 squadrons of cavalry, and 580 batteries of artillery. It should be remembered that the figures for 1869 given above represent the entire military force of France at that time; while the figures of 1892 represent only the active army on a peace footing. The effective forces of this army become doubled in a few days at the time of mobilization by calling out the trained reserves, and between them and the regulars there is no perceptible difference in their value as soldiers. Moreover, these reserves are also doubled by another reserve force. And yet this is not all. In fact it is only the first line of the fighting men of the French army. The second line is composed of the men of the territorial army. This army, added to the first line, gives a fighting force represented by the following figures: Infantry, 1,650 battalions; cavalry, 600 squadrons; artillery, 750 batteries.

Including the forces at the depots, this represents a total of more than 2,000,000 of men. And to this colossal fighting force must still be added the 850,000 men enrolled in the reserve of the territorial army, all trained troops.

The strategic railroads and the lines of telegraph form a gigantic network, which is kept in constant running order.

These figures are well known in Germany, and it is no wonder that Emperor William is calling for more soldiers.

MILITARY MATTERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The report of the Military Commission was submitted to the Government at Sydney the other day. In it the Commission recommends the creation of a Minister of Defence, and also the reorganization of the naval and military forces in such a way as to secure greater efficiency and at the same time effect a saving of about £50,000 a year, reducing the expenditure from £280,068 to £232,102. Amongst other recommendations of the Commission are those relative to renting of a modern ship of war from the Imperial Government, the selection of officers from the Imperial Service, and that such accoutrements, including great-coats, &c., as can be produced in the Colonies be obtained locally. The investigation by the Commission not only took into account the naval and military forces, but also the cadet system, relative to which certain changes are proposed. Sir George Dibbs has called for a report from the principal military officers in the Colony, with the view of ascertaining how far the recommendations made by the Military Commission can be carried out.

FORTIFYING THE BORDER.

Under the above heading the *St. John Telegraph* says: There is some reason for the belief that, if Mr. Harrison had been elected to a second presidential term, the desperate gang of political gamblers with whom he had surrounded himself, would have sought to bring on a war with Great Britain for the purpose of covering their own misdeeds and obtaining a new lease of power. While in control of the Government of the United States they obtained an act of congress authorising the establishment of a military post at Essex Junction in Vermont, within a few miles of the Canadian border. This post is to be named Fort Ethan Allen, and its purpose, according to the *New York Sun*, is to form a rallying point on the eastern side of Lake Champlain, for regulars and volunteers, in the event of a war with Canada. This object was indeed disclosed with sufficient plainness in the report of U. S. Secretary of War Proctor, and in a letter written by General Schofield to Secretary Elkins. General Schofield, in a letter to Proctor, stated that certain points on the northern frontier of the United States must be made the nucleus of troops of all arms—infantry, cavalry and artillery, where the forces from the adjoining states might immediately unite to take the initiative to prevent the people of Canada from using their waterways to move gunboats into the lakes. In his letter to Secretary Elkins, General Schofield says:

"I have the honour to report that the well-considered military policy of the United States, in view of the possible contingency of war with Great Britain, includes prompt and energetic aggressive action toward certain important strategic points in the Dominion of Canada. To be prepared for such action, it is of vital importance that permanent military posts be maintained at convenient points near the northern frontier, at each of which may be stationed the nucleus of an army, to be composed mainly, in the event of war, of the state troops quickly assembled from the neighbouring states. The place named in this bill, on the line of railway between Burlington and Highgate, is perfectly well adapted to the purpose had in view, and I think it would be manifestly wise to commence at this time, as far as therein contemplated, the preparations for the establishment of such a post."

All this is candid enough, and the people of Canada are not so dull of comprehension as not to understand the significance of such declarations. On the whole Canadian border from St. Croix to the Pacific there is not one fortified post held by Canada, and yet our neighbours, who ought to be our friends, are fortifying their border against us and constructing posts for the purpose of facilitating an invasion of Canada. Fortunately for the peace of the two countries Mr. Harrison has been retired to private life, leaving behind him the reputation of being the smallest man, in mental calibre, who has sat in the presidential chair for 50 years. We are convinced that his hostile views were not shared by the majority of the American people, who are disposed to keep the peace and pick quarrels with their neighbours. The peaceful character of the American people is sufficiently shown by the smallness of their army, which only numbers 25,000, all told. As for the value of Fort Ethan Allen as a rallying point, it need only be observed that there is not much force in the vicinity for it to rally. There is not a cavalry or infantry regular soldier in all New England and only a small number of artillerymen. The Vermont militia who would rally at the new fort number only 636 men, while New Hampshire has but 895, and Maine 906 militia. Even the great state of New York has only 12,337 militia men, and Massachusetts 4,948. These are not formidable figures, and if the quality of the militia of the several states is not much better than it was in 1812, the whole militia force of New York and the New England States, even if rallied at Fort Ethan Allen, would not be much of a menace to Canada.

THE BISLEY TEAM, 1893.

The team is now complete and will be composed of the following:—Major W. Bishop, 63rd; Col.-Sergt. Henderson, 62nd; Lieut. A. D. Cartwright, 47th; Lieut. T. Mitchell, 12th; Lieut. M. Pope, 3rd Vics.; Corp. J. Ellis, G.G.F.G.; Staff-Sergt. Crowe, 1st Brigade Field Artillery; Pte. Bartlett, 57th; Staff-Sergt. J. H. Simpson, 12th; Staff-Sergt. Rolston, 20th; Pte. W. Langstroth, 62d; Pte. Heaven, 20th; Staff-

Sergt. Green, 21st; Sergt. Drysdale, M.G.A.; Pte. R. Tink, G.G.F.G.; Sergt. Mumford, 63rd; Sergt. Short, G.G.F.G.; Sergt. Bent, 93rd; Lieut. Limpert, 29th; T. C. Boville, 43rd. The team, of which Lt.-Col. Fred Denison, M.P., G.G.B.G., will be Commandant, and Major Hartt, 62nd Fusiliers, will be Adjutant, will sail from Montreal on the *Sarnia* on the 24th of June.

SENATOR McINNES' WIND GAUGE.

The device which Senator McInnes has patented, for adjusting the windage allowance, is in some respects a decided improvement on the various means heretofore used with the same end in view. It is a common thing for the wind to blow sufficiently strong to carry a Martini bullet five or six feet to the right or left of the spot aimed at from a distance of five or six hundred yards, and many plans have been tried for making allowance for the wind. To align the sights upon an object the proper distance to the right or left cannot be done without much difficulty; and it is admitted, too, that the most successful plan in target shooting is invariably to align the sights immediately under the bull's-eye, and to enable this to be done the windage is gauged by aligning the foresight over a point to the right or left of the centre notch on the bar of the backsight. On many sporting rifles the whole bar is movable, by means of a thumbscrew arrangement, but this is not allowed on the British military rifles, whose sights require to be fixed in this respect. Senator McInnes' device, however, is one which can be attached to the ordinary Martini without interfering with the regulation sight, and consists of a small V sight moving from side to side by the turn of a thumbscrew, the bar itself remaining stationary. It can be so arranged as to be used or not at will, and though not easily broken, if an accident does happen to it the original sight is not impaired.

AN ANNEXATIONIST FROM TORONTO.

Mr. Alex. Downey, of Toronto, formerly a staff-sergeant in the Royal Grenadiers, was in New York a few days ago, when he was approached by an American, who "guessed" Mr. Downey was a Canadian. When answered in the affirmative, the Yankee remarked that "you Canucks" were hot on annexation. Mr. Downey wanted to know if that was so, and was informed that the American gentleman had met "the mayor of Toronto" a few days previously, and that official had informed him that the whole people of Canada were anxious to be taken into the American union. Mr. Downey asked for a description of "the mayor," and was told that he was a big man with a red nose and a limp in his speech, who gave the name of "Macdonald." After further conversation Mr. Downey informed the enquirer that Torontonians anyhow were quite in favor of annexation, because a few years ago they had annexed Yorkville, East Toronto and Parkdale. They were now dickering for Hamilton, and when that deal was completed they would take into consideration the application of the United States.—*Empire*.

THE ENORMOUS RESERVES OF RUSSIA.

The *Revue du Cercle Militaire* has an article entitled "The Readiness for War of the Russian Army," as estimated by a German. He says of the active army that "its state of preparation for war is much superior to that of any other European army," and adds that same the remark applies to the reserve. It is stated that Russia could put in the field 648 battalions of infantry reserves, and 112 batteries; 300 sotnias of the second ban could be mobilised in two or three weeks, and, as the Cossacks are in habitual possession of their complete military turn-out, "the second and third bans supply a reservesuch as no European Power is possessed of." This writer asserts that "Russia has been able to create, during the time of peace, by the side of its active army, an army of reserve which does not differ from the former except in that it requires a few more men to make it complete on a war footing."

THE MONTREAL MILITARY INSTITUTE.

During April three meetings of the members of this Institute were held. The first was in the rooms of the Montreal Garrison Artillery, on the first of the month. A large number of members were present, Lieut.-Col. Butler in the chair. After reading and adopting the minutes of previous meeting, the secretary read letters from Lieut.-Governor Chapleau, Major-General Herbert, Col. Powell, A.G., and Lieut.-Col. Irwin, agreeing to become vice-patrons of the Institute; a letter was also read from Sir Donald A. Smith, K.C.M.G., thanking the Institute for having made him a honorary member. The Committee then presented a report on by-laws, but it was moved and carried "that the report be received and that the adoption of the by-laws be deferred." A resolution making THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE the official organ of the Institute was also unanimously adopted. The question of club rooms was then discussed and the chairman reported what the Committee had done in the matter and it was resolved that the Committee be authorized to, if possible, complete arrangements with the City Club for premises, provided the expense be limited to two hundred dollars. On behalf of the Royal Scots, Major Ibbotson then invited the members to meet at the room of that corps on 15th inst. This concluded the business, and a very enjoyable evening was then spent.

The meeting on 15th April at the armoury of the Royal Scots was a most pleasant one. In spite of the very unfavourable weather there was a large attendance of members. At the short business meeting that opened the proceedings, the President, Col. Butler, occupied the chair; after routine, the vital question of permanent quarters was again discussed but in the absence of definite offers of rooms nothing could be decided. The name of Major Labelle, 65th Rifles, was added to the room committee, and a thorough canvas for eligible quarters was decided on. This concluded the business and a very jolly evening was spent.

The third meeting during the month was held on 29th inst. in the rooms of the Montreal Field Battery at the Drill Hall. Owing to the parade of the 6th Fusiliers and the ceremony of the presentation by Sir Donald Smith of the challenge cups given by him to the winners in the efficiency competition, the meeting did not take place till nearly eleven o'clock; but though late, it was an exceptionally brilliant one, being graced by the presence of Hon. Mrs. Herbert and a large number of ladies, Col. Powell, A.G., Sir Donald Smith, Mayor Desjardins, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Mr. Sandford Fleming and other distinguished guests.

What little business was on hand was quickly disposed of and several of the gentlemen present, including Sir Donald Smith, Col. Powell, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Mr. Fleming and the Mayor, favoured the meeting with short speeches. For the settlement of the only really important business before the Institute (the selection of permanent quarters) it was decided to have a Committee meeting on the following Monday. On behalf of Number 1 Troop Duke of Connaught's Hussars, Col. McArthur invited the Institute to hold its next meeting in their rooms on Saturday, 13th May, which was accepted with thanks. The meeting then adjourned.

The trite saying that a great war can no longer be afforded is given greater significance than ever by the descriptions of the new field piece of the German army. This is pronounced the most terribly destructive engine of war ever produced, and is a three-inch gun, which can be loaded and fired in one-third of the time required for the old gun, and with almost double the effect and precision. Explosive shell is the only projectile. This is charged with a new powder of secret composition, that scatters thousands of splinters over a circle of 900 feet, whereas during the Franco-German war the pieces of bursting shell fell within a circle of 40 or 50 paces, and not more than 7 or 8 were wounded.

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The United States Government have decided to erect fortifications for the defence of Portland, Maine, and a few days ago the Government surveyor, and four assistants, went to Cushing's Island and surveyed the tract of land there upon which the fortifications are to be erected. A strip of 30 acres, running from White Head, along the outer shore towards the Ottawa Hotel, will be taken. This piece of ground is well known to many Canadians.

Personal Notes.

Lieut.-Col. J. A. L. Strathy, who has just been promoted to the command of the 5th Royal Scots, is not quite thirty-six years of age, having been born on the 24th July, 1857. He joined the 5th in 1880, and attended the regimental camp held on St. Helen's Island during that summer. In the following winter he obtained a 2nd class M. S. certificate and received substantive rank on 25th February, 1881.

On 2nd June, 1882, he was promoted to rank of lieutenant, and on 29th February, 1884, to captain. He commanded a company until 1891, when he was appointed Major, and now succeeds to the command of one of the best six-company battalions in the Canadian service, and the pioneer killed corps of the present establishment.

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Lieut. A. G. Peuchen, of the Queen's Own Rifles, was married to Miss Thomson, third daughter of the late Mr. John Thomson, a few days ago. Owing to the illness of Mr. John Thomson, the brother of the bride, the wedding was a quiet one, there being present no one but the immediate friends and relatives of the contracting parties. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. R. J. Beattie, of Guelph. Lieut. Edward McNaughton, of the Cobourg Garrison Artillery, and Lieut. Alex. Crooks, of the Queen's Own, acted as groomsmen, and the bridesmaids were Miss Jessie and Miss Nannie Thomson. The drawing-room of the house was resplendent with a large collection of presents from the bride's many friends. Chief among the presents was a complete case of silverware from the bride's brother. Among many others was a Doulton china set from Dr. J. E. Elliott, a silver service from S. C. Peuchen, a diamond pendant from the bridegroom, a piano lamp from George Thomson, a gold watch from Mrs. Thomson, and a solid silver card case from the doctors, matrons and nurses of the hospital in England in which Miss Thomson studied for some years.

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Mr. Taylor Crowe, son of Mr. J. J. Crowe, of Dummer, has returned from the Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, where he concluded a three months course by successfully passing his examination for a first-class certificate. Mr. Crowe had previously taken first-class honors at the Quebec School of Cavalry.

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Mr. Henry Taylor, a prominent citizen of London, Ont., who died on 28th inst., was at one time in the Commissariat department of the Imperial Army, and afterwards held a captain's commission in the 7th Fusiliers.

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Staff-Sergeant Walker, of the Dufferin Rifles, met with a very severe accident recently. He was unloading about half a ton of lead from a G. F. R. lorry when the mass fell upon him, crushing him terribly.

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Major Busted, of the Victoria Rifles, Montreal, has been made a Q.C.

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At the St. George's Society dinner in Toronto on 24th April, Lieut.-Col. Gray responded for "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," while Lieut.-Col. Denison suitably spoke for "The Day and all who honour it."

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Mr. C. E. A. Patterson, who has just been appointed one of the city assessors of Montreal, held a lieutenancy in the Victoria Rifles for several years subsequent to 1876. On the breaking out of the North-West Rebellion in '85 he joined the 65th Battalion as Sergeant-Major and served throughout the campaign.

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Sir Evelyn Wood, V.C., completed 41 years of service under the Crown on April 18, he having joined the Royal Navy on April 18, 1852, at the age of 14. He was with the Naval Brigade in the Crimea and took part with them in the battle of Inkerman and in the attack on Sebastopol, being severely wounded in the assault on the Redan. The gallant officer was transferred to the Army as a cornet in the 13th Light Dragoons in 1855. Before assuming his present command at Aldershot Sir Evelyn held the post of Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, and he also served some time at the Cape.