

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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Comment and Criticism.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us from Prince Edward Island, pointing out that a contingent from that province was under arms for a couple of weeks during the early stages of last year's rebellion, and that although their services were ultimately not required in the West, their good will and readiness to do their duty were quite as fully manifested as if they had gone; and, furthermore, that they suffered grave inconvenience by being called away from their usual avocations just as the spring work was beginning. He urges that their good will deserves just recognition, and indicates that some of the local journals suggest that the whole contingent be granted free passes over the Canadian Pacific railway, that they may have the opportunity of viewing the land where so many of their countrymen "foremost fighting fell." This suggestion, of course, is extravagant and impracticable, but no one in the force would grudge the active-service contingent any favors that the government had it in their power to grant them in the way of additional pay, or some indulgence in the shape of extra accoutrements, ammunition, or such like. It is probable that nine-tenths of the volunteers who helped to quell the rebellion lost money by their loyalty, and it is not well to have such an anomalous state of affairs existing.

THE general public seem to have a particularly hazy notion of the relations between the government and the Canadian Pacific railway, and it seems to be an article of faith with our rural friends that free passes can emanate from the ministers by a mere stroke of the pen. It

should be distinctly understood that the government have not the slightest control over the management of the railway, and that anyone who wants to travel on it has to pay his way or get it paid for him, deadheads being tabooed. On account of transport charges during the rebellion alone, the militia department paid three-quarters of a million dollars to the company, which should be sufficient proof that it is run on strictly business principles.

IT really looks as if practical work in every military branch were going to become fashionable, and as if the old machine drill would soon be consigned to that oblivion which it ought to have graced ever since rifles were invented. We have the daily press in England devoting editorials to the subject, and we have the Duke of Cambridge himself "sailing for" general officers in a style quite unique, as a result of his recent tour of inspection, and warning them that they will be held personally responsible in future for any lack of knowledge and experience in field duties on the part of their several corps. As for the military press, it has been a unit for years in advocating reform, but like everything else preaching was vain until it was backed up by fashion. Sir Fred. Middleton here advocates practical teaching in field duties, and we hope that when our militia force is sufficiently leavened by new graduates from our schools of instruction, his wishes may be carried into effect more successfully than they are by most of our officers of the old school. We would warn all such that if they do not speedily work up and practise open formation movements, they are likely to find themselves and their corps behind the mode.

THE London volunteers have this fall developed quite a taste for outpost work, and the service papers have lately contained descriptions of more than one expedition successfully carried out. The plan adopted seems to be to divide up into two opposing bodies, one of which goes and takes up position while the other follows later, feeling its way, and each endeavors to secure and hold all the bridges, roads and paths. No shots are fired, but there is a code of rules under which the work approximates actual service, weak bodies being compelled to fall back, and all that sort of thing; so that full scope is given to the judgment and good soldiering of the several commanders. It is found that detachments can leave London at half-past four, go twenty-five miles by rail, and get all the work they want before eight o'clock. What battalion will take the lead in Canada in this real drill? There is plenty of fit ground within easy marching distance of every one of our Canadian corps' headquarters, and there might be many worse ways found of spending a winter half-holiday.

AN ordinary meeting of the council of the Ontario artillery association was to be held at the Rossin House, Toronto, on the 1st December, to consider the annual report preparatory to its submission to the members. In addition to the council meeting, his honor the Lieut-Governor was to attend and present the Ontario prizes (amounting to \$500), won during the last year.

Personals.

Major-Gen. Laurie has been nominated as the Conservative candidate for the representation of Shelburne county, N.S., in the Commons.

Major Boulton, he of the noted Scouts, has been nominated a candidate for the Commons by the Conservatives of Marquette, Man., provided the nomination tendered Hon. Thos. White be not accepted by him.

Capt. Prevost, of the 65th battalion, Montreal, has received a commission in the French army, and will shortly leave for Paris, en route to Tonquin. The commission was obtained, it is said, through the influence of Gen. Boulanger.

Lieut.-Col. Osborne Smith, commanding the Winnipeg light infantry, proposes running for a Manitoba constituency, and Lieut.-Col. Scott, M.P., for Winnipeg, commanding the Manitoba Grenadiers, announces his intention of again contesting the same seat.

Capt. John Stewart, who established the Princess Louise dragoon guards of Ottawa, and had command until he went into the ranching business in the North-West, has arrived in this city on a visit. During the rebellion Capt. Stewart organized a company of cowboy scouts, which rendered valuable service.

Lieut. S. M. Rogers, of No. 1 company, 43rd battalion, on Tuesday of this week entered into a life partnership with Miss Woodburn, eldest daughter of Mr. A. S. Woodburn, the proprietor of the *Evening Journal*, and one of Ottawa's leading men. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Wm. Scott, in the Dominion Methodist Church. Lieut. Rogers will be well remembered by the members of Col. Otter's Battleford brigade, which he accompanied in the capacity of staff-sergeant of the Sharpshooters.

Rev. Father Prevost, superior of the College of Ottawa, died of consumption in the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Montreal, on Sunday evening last. The deceased, who only assumed charge of the Ottawa College in April last, consequent upon the demise of its former superior, Rev. Father Tabaret, had been chaplain of the 65th battalion, Montreal, and in that capacity accompanied it through the North-West campaign. A detachment from that battalion accompanied the remains to Lachine, where the funeral took place yesterday morning. Deceased was only 45 years of age.

The departure of Capt. H. S. Casey, of No. 1 Troop, 3rd regiment Prince of Wales' Canadian Dragoons, from Colborne, to become an inspector in the Mounted Police, has necessitated the appointment of three new troop officers. The command will devolve upon W. W. Brown, who is now regimental sergeant-major. He is an enthusiastic young soldier, and holds a first-class certificate from the Quebec cavalry school. E. E. Phillip, now troop sergeant-major, is to be first lieutenant, and W. Crochrane, now a sergeant, son of E. Cochrane, Esq., M.P., is to be second lieutenant. The troop has been in existence for thirty-one years, and is one of the best rural troops in the Dominion, and it is confidently expected that its new officers will maintain its high standing.

Major Draper, who has been chief of police of the city of Toronto for the the past twelve years, recently sent in his resignation in consequence of continued and protracted ill health, and the police commissioners have appointed as his successor Lieut.-Col. Grasett of the Royal Grenadiers. The appointment is a very popular one, Col. Grasett being considered by the citizens generally as one of the very best men possible for the position. His long experience in handling men, gained while adjutant of the 100th regiment, and as commanding officer of the Royal Grenadiers, together with his prudent and methodical disposition and character, render him peculiarly well-fitted for the duties of his new office. It is expected that he will retain his connection with his regiment for some time yet.

Lieut.-Col. Thomas Ross, whose resignation from the command of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, we announced last week, was one of the oldest officers of the active militia. He first joined the force in the year 1839, and served for six months as a non-commissioned officer in No. 1 Co. mounted rifles. In 1844 he was appointed lieutenant and adjutant of the Montreal garrison artillery, under command of Lieut.-Col. Maitland. On the removal of the government from Montreal he was placed on the un-attached list as major. When the Civil Service corps was formed, at the time of the Trent difficulty, he was appointed color-sergeant. In 1865 he was appointed to the command of No. 2 battery, Quebec artillery. When the seat of government was removed to Ottawa, he was authorized to raise a battery of garrison artillery, which subsequently became No. 2 battery of the Ottawa brigade, of which, in due course, he became the major. In 1872 he received authority to raise the Guards. This he successfully accomplished, and

for 14 years has worked hard in the interests of the regiment. With him it was a labor of love, and, he was never so happy as when with his corps. He was a personal favorite with both officers and men, and his presence will, no doubt, be missed by his old friends. Colonel Ross always took a warm interest in the Dominion rifle association, and for a couple of years was chairman of the executive committee. In 1884 he commanded the Wimbledon team.

Lieut.-Col. Pennington Macpherson, who succeeds Lieut.-Col. Ross in the command of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, has been connected with the force for the past twenty-five years, the first four of which were spent in the ranks of the Cobourg highland light infantry corps and the Civil Service rifles. In 1866 he was appointed adjutant of the Ottawa provisional battalion. In 1871 he raised No. 2 company, Civil Service rifles, and when the guards regiment was formed joined it with his company. In May, 1876, he was promoted to the rank of major. He holds a first-class military school certificate, a first-class short course gunnery school certificate and a first-class engineering certificate. He has always been an earnest promoter of rifle shooting, and is himself a crack shot. Amongst other prizes he has won the silver cup for the highest aggregate score at the Ontario matches, two regimental gold medals, four D.R.A. silver medals, four O.R.A. silver medals, and the silver medal and the bronze medal of the National rifle association of Great Britain. In 1874 he was a member of the Wimbledon team, and a prize winner in the "Queen's" and "Alexandra," and won the Dollond telescope presented to the team for competition among themselves. In 1875 he was again a successful competitor for a place on the team, but was unable to go. In 1880 he went to England as adjutant of the Wimbledon team. In the fall of that year he won the second highest place for the team of 1881, but was again unable to go. With the revolver he has probably been more successful than any other man in Canada, having carried off first prizes at the Dominion, Ontario, Quebec, and Metropolitan matches. During the past ten years he has been one of the representatives of the province of Ontario at the council board of the Dominion rifle association. Col. Macpherson is probably one of the best posted men in the force to-day. His work on "Military Law," published last year, bears evidence of his thorough acquaintance with the legal aspect of a soldier's duties, and he is an excellent drill, besides being a good shot. We hope to see the guards, under his command, maintain a high reputation for efficiency and discipline.

Prizes for 200 Yards Off-hand Shooting.

THE Bullard Repeating Arms Company of Springfield, Mass., offer valuable prizes for competition in two series of matches by teams of ten men each representing any rifle club or military company in the United States or Canada. Match No. 1 of the first series must be shot between the 20th and 25th of December next, and Match No. 2 between the 10th and 15th of January, 1887. The team making the highest score in the first match will be awarded an extra fine Bullard magazine rifle .45 calibre; and that making the highest in the second, an extra fine Bullard mid-range single shot rifle. The further conditions for each of these matches are published in *Forest and Stream* as follows:

Distance to be shot 200 yards, strictly off-hand.

Target—American field, off-hand.

Any team of the National Guard or regular army of the United States or Canada using the rifle furnished by the State or Government, and having the regulation six pound pull and regular open sights, shall be allowed 5 points for each score of 10 shots. No cleaning between shots.

Sighting shots, each man 2.

Scoring shots, each man 10.

Targets will be furnished competing teams by the Bullard Repeating Arms Co., free, 2 for each match. Application should be made before December 11.

Fifty shots only will be allowed on each target, the targets and score cards to be signed by the referee and president or secretary of the club, and forwarded by mail to the Bullard Repeating Arms Co., Springfield, Mass., U.S.A., not later than 24 hours after completion of match.

The shooting will be governed by the revised rules of the National rifle association of America.

The president of each rifle club and commanding officer of each military company will appoint a referee who shall see that the rules of the National rifle association are adhered to.

The conditions of the second series will be published as early as possible. It is proposed to have an international match, open to the world. Prizes will be offered for teams, also a valuable individual gold badge to be known as the Bullard championship badge of the world, to the marksman making the highest individual score.

The Canadian Militia:—A Historical Sketch.

BY LIEUT.-COL. W. R. OSWALD,

Commanding Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

(Continued from page 564.)

AND now we come to the last act in the drama of the history of the Canadian army or militia, the campaign of last year in the North-West, in which, unlike the unrevealed secrets and possibilities of the fifth act in a heavy tragedy on the boards of the Academy of Music, we all know already what the finale has been. And inasmuch as that is the case, I shall confine myself to a very few remarks and reminiscences of the campaign and of the comparatively easy part taken in it by the brigade which I have the honor to command. We left Montreal on the 11th May last, 300 strong, about the tallest and strongest and most soldierly-looking man in the regiment being the *chaplain*. A most excellent soldier was spoilt when he was made a minister. It was a fortunate thing for the people of St. Paul's that we were not called on our arrival at Winnipeg to go on immediately to the front, and then if we had got there to be lucky enough to get into action. The chaplain had only a penknife to defend himself or fight with, but he had, I always thought, a great hankering after one of my revolvers. If I had missed one I know that I should either have accused the chaplain of the robbery, or a certain colored gentleman, though gold was more in his line than steel. He got my patent leather boots with the spurs for which he took them, but alas for Jumbo, they were only plated brass and not gold, as I have no doubt he has found out from the pawnbroker long ere now. Perhaps some of you thought, as he thought himself, that the first duty of the minister of the church was to his own congregation, and that he need not have come up with us. Well, if, as he teaches you to do, you love your neighbors as yourselves, you doubtless love your country, and have at least a kindly feeling for those who were willing to sacrifice much—home, comfort, means, life itself if necessary—for it. You may think I am exaggerating, but I am not. You would scarcely believe the amount of suffering caused by the prolonged absence from home of the bread-winners of so many families, notwithstanding the good work done by the charitable committees, to whom be all praise, and to whom we return most hearty thanks. The men themselves felt anxious about those they had left behind, I know, and were cheered and comforted by the chaplain's kindly words and Christian counsel. He talked to them as a brother and a comrade, preached to them under most impressive circumstances, took hold of their affections by beating them at putting the stone, tossing the caber, and pitching into them most unmercifully for swearing! For myself, and the officers and men of my brigade, I thank the people of St. Paul's church for giving us our chaplain, and if you lost a little by his short absence you have the satisfaction of knowing that the gain to others was great. Surely it was a Christian duty to look after the spiritual welfare of so many men, and I think the chaplain will agree with me when I say that a finer body of men it would be hard for any city to send out. Their conduct while they were away proved this, and they brought nothing but credit to the good city whose name is borne by the brigade to which they belong. And talking of chaplains, let me say that some of the noblest martyrs' blood has been given to this North-West territory. Who can read without a shudder of the fearful tortures suffered by the Jesuit Fathers Brobœuf and Joques and others, at the hands of the cannibal Iriquois, or of the foul murders of Fathers Marchand and Fafard in the recent war? Roman Catholics, you will say. Yes, but all the same men who suffered much and sacrificed their lives for the Christianization and civilization of the world. The missionaries of our Protestant church are few and far between in the North-West. Good men and true they are, and their life is by no means a bed of roses. I happened to meet one at old Crowfoot's Blackfoot reserve—a man of education and culture, and eager in his arduous work of translating the Bible into the Blackfoot tongue, as well as doing good as opportunity offered. In order to show you the sort of persons he had to deal with, I will tell you the answers he gave me to two questions I asked him incidentally. He gave us some preserved milk for our coffee. I said, how is it you have no fresh milk with such splendid pasture for a cow? Oh, he said, I had a cow; but it was no use keeping it. The Indians got up too early in the morning for me and milked it, so I killed it. I noticed a nice patch of potatoes growing, and congratulated him on it. Yes, he said, they look very well, but I doubt if there are any potatoes really there, because, you see, they (the Indians) come over in the dark and pull away the biggest ones under the ridges, and cover the ground over again, so that I never know if I have any potatoes at all until I dig up the stalks in the fall. Parkman tells of a dying Indian, just baptized, asking anxiously whether, in the realms of bliss to which he was bound, *pies* were to be had comparable to those with which the French regaled him. Of the Indian character much has been written foolishly and credulously believed. Yet to the eye of rational observa-

tion there is nothing unintelligible in him. He is full, it is true, of contradictions. He deems himself the centre of greatness and renown—as old Pie-a-Pot said to us, that his name was the terror of his foes all the world over, from the far West, mentioning some unintelligible place, to the very farthest east. Yes; even as far as Winnipeg! Yet, who can help feeling for them? We have taken away their birth-right, their hunting grounds, and driven off their buffaloes, upon which they lived. Whatever civilization can do for them now ought to be done. Let us treat them kindly. Let us send to them more soldiers of the church and we will have less need to send more soldiers of the Queen. The late campaign was by far the most remarkable in Canadian history. Organized at Ottawa by a French-Canadian minister of militia, Sir A. P. Caron, a man of devoted loyalty to the British crown and of great ability—the operations in the field were ably planned and carried out by a British major-general, Sir F. Middleton, to whom too much praise and thanks cannot be given for his thoughtfulness and care for the lives of the citizen soldiers under him. The troops were altogether Canadian militiamen, and I think no one can question that they did their duty well. That they did so, the death roll bears cruel witness to. Never shall I forget that Sunday in Winnipeg when we assisted at the funeral of some of its young citizens who had fallen in the earlier engagements. The following lines on the death of a gallant young trooper, of Boulton's scouts, are not inappropriate—poor D'Arcy Baker, who was lying severely wounded, on hearing the shots fired at a night alarm, raised himself up, called for his horse and rifle, staggered to the door of the tent, and fell dead from the exhaustion of his efforts:—

"My rifle and my horse!" the soldier cried,
As forth with vigorous step he quickly came;
On his young brow the morning sunlight played,
And life was centred in his active frame.
By winding streams, far o'er the plain we go,
Where dark ravines and woody bluffs appear,
Where'er a swarthy, treacherous Indian foe
May hide to burst upon our flashing rear.
'Tis ours to guard the friends who come behind,
'Tis ours to find and search the dangerous shade;
Perchance our lives we lose, but never mind,
When duty calls, let no man be afraid.
The sulphurous smoke is drifting to the sky,
And horse and rider on the plain are spread:
The ambushed foe in sullen terror fly,
The bold and brave are now amongst the dead.
With shattered heart, the stricken soldier lies,
The fatal wound has almost ceased to bleed;
The dying warrior vainly seeks to rise,
And begs once more his rifle and his steed.
Forever more the youthful limbs are still,
The young, the gallant and impulsive brave
Now rests beside the far off western hill,
And wild flowers blossom by his lonely grave.

This campaign will always be memorable as marking a new era in Canadian history, inasmuch as it has shown that we have the means and the men within our own borders for repelling attacks either from within or from without.

Do not, however, go away with the idea that the success of the campaign was brought about without much personal trouble and sacrifice.

A soldier's lot on active service is not by any means a happy one. I know a commanding officer's is not. He is the only responsible head. If anything goes wrong he alone is blamed, and he consequently has to do his duty without fear or favor, and regardless of the offence it is almost inevitable he must sometimes give to parties outside as well as inside his regiment. First to maintain discipline, and then to look after the comfort and welfare of his command, are his two most important and sometimes troublesome duties, but which must not be neglected if the efficiency of the regiment is to be maintained. And here I cannot refrain from alluding, with regret, to the most unsoldierly habit indulged in by a few insubordinate members of the militia force—I cannot call them soldiers—of criticising and decrying, through the medium of the public press, the actions of their superior officers. Such men are a disgrace to the service; and as a rule a man who will write scurrilous anonymous letters is not at all scrupulous as to the truth of what he says. The cowardly part of it is that a commanding officer cannot defend himself. It is like striking a man when he is down, with his hands and feet tied. The militia act says, and very properly so, that no writing in the public press should be permitted, inasmuch as the regulations provide for every man in the service, no matter what his rank may be, receiving ample justice. Notably since the recent campaign in the North-West has this pernicious custom been indulged in, and it is a great pity, for it has detracted from the justly deserved praise given on all sides to the good work done there by the militia force. Although the work we were called upon to do in the North-West was not of a physically arduous nature, yet it was trying enough. We had gone a long way for a fight, and wanted to have one,

and it was from no fault of mine, as Colonel Van Straubenzee can tell you, that we didn't succeed. We were, it is true, disappointed in not getting into any of the engagements, but still we were fortunate in having a very important position assigned to us. So, resigning ourselves to fate, we kept watch and ward on the arch-rebel Riel and his councillors in case there should be any attempt at rescue, as well as serving to keep in check by our presence any rising of the Indians on the reserves a little farther north of us on the Qu'Appelle river. As we lay at night in our blankets, feeling—as one of the men expressed it—every now and then for a “bit of the soft side of the prairie to lie on,” with nothing to disturb the silence of the night in that great lone land but the changing of our sentries and the loud shout of the Mounted police patrols close by, as they told off their numbers and finished up their rounds with the reassuring “all's well”—our thoughts would wander from where our hopes and aspirations were, at the front, to the dear ones we had left at home. And, as I know now, but was unaware of then—many an anxious thought and many a weary care were concealed under a calm exterior—not for themselves, but for those dependent upon them whom they had left behind. The spirit of the Anglo-Saxon is not dead amongst us. Slumbering it may be under the work and cares of every day life, but when occasion calls it will always be found in the future as in the past, that both the men and the women of our race are willing to sacrifice much when duty calls upon them so to do. That spirit has never been wanting in the Canadian militia from its earliest records, as I have endeavored to show, until now. How is it to be in the future? that is a question for our younger men to answer; that they will be worthy of their forefathers I have little doubt. There is a sturdy spirit of endurance, manliness and pluck permeating the youth of this country, and while upon them falls the responsibility of maintaining a greater inheritance, I feel very confident that they will be worthy of the trust, and be able to maintain, inviolate, this large and important possession of the vast empire of Great Britain.

THE END.

Cavalry Bridles.

WE have lately entered a protest against the faults of the present horse equipment of our cavalry in the most practical way of protesting, i.e. by suggesting something better. Our suggestions on this important subject would be incomplete were we to offer only a new saddle without also bringing to notice an improved form of bridle and head-collar. The present head-gear has long been recognized as too heavy, cumbersome, and complicated; and after investigating in many directions, from the heavy and motley arrangement of the Mexicans to the simple noseband of the Arabs, we are most favorably inclined to a form of bridle invented by Col. Ghis, of the 10th French Hussars. Its main advantages over the present form of bridle are:—1. Its lightness and simplicity; 2. Its easy method of adjustment; 3. Its economy. The chief novelty in the new bridle is that it is not encumbered with the nose-band and cheek-pieces of the present head-collar, and that the bit and bridoon are both attached to the same head-piece; and are adjusted or removed by the use of one buckle. The entire head-collar consists merely of a brow-band, head-piece, and throat-lash, all connected on the temples by semi-circular leather-covered D's. Over this arrangement goes the bit bridle-head, similar to the one now in use, with the exception that it has a semi-circular D on each cheek, above the corners of the mouth, by which the chains of the snaffle are attached to it.

The head-piece is a leather band, of which the back half is of double thickness, and to the upper layer of this the temple D's are sewn. A strap and button are fixed on the top to secure the bit in its place at that point. The brow-band is similar to the present one; it is attached to the D at each temple, and is fitted with a small strap and stud near each temple to keep the cheek-pieces of the bit headstall in their places. The throat-lash joins the head-piece and brow-band at the temple D's, and is similar to the present one in make and appearance. It is fitted with a running D or ring, to which head-rope is attached. The head-rope should have a strong spring hook on each end. A deal of time which is now lost in making fast the head-ropes of horses would thereby be saved. A dressing of Norwegian tar is recommended for the head-rope as a safeguard against both damp and dry rot, and as a means of keeping it always soft and flexible. The inventor has had one head-rope thus prepared, in use for the past three years, both in the stable and out of doors, and it has not required a fresh dressing during that time. The bridle-head is similar to the bit headstall now in use, with the exception that the cheek-buckle is set on the reverse way, i.e. with the tongue towards the ground and on the long strap. This is so arranged in order that when unbuckling the cheek-buckle to take the bits out of the horse's mouth without unbridling altogether, the soldier can employ both hands on the bit and leave the headstall to take care of itself, as the buckle on the end of it will prevent its slipping through the temple tab,

and will keep it practically in its place on the horse's head till the man is ready to re-affix it to the bit. The bits and chains should be of galvanised iron. The present steel bit takes an hour daily out of the soldier's time for its burnish, and its constant cleaning has a fatal effect on the reins at their most important point, i.e. where they are attached to the rings of the bits. The bit should be attached to its headstall by a buckle and not sewn; it can then be removed from the horse's mouth, leaving the bridoon there, a most valuable point on a long or fast march. The advantages of the proposed bridle as regards lightness and simplicity are at once apparent. The regulation bridle in fair use weighs about 6¼ lbs.—the one now described is 3½ lbs., and does not come into so many heating points of contact with the horse's head,—details which have their importance in the course of a long or hot day's work. The new bridle gives somewhat less surface to be cleaned by the soldier. A horse with his head collar on can be bridled in the new way in half the time that is taken under the present system. In the former both bit and bridoon are placed simultaneously in the horse's mouth, and the headstall is then simply passed on to his head, and secured there by the three tabs and studs. This simple method is of immense value in the case of a hurried turn-out in the dark, etc. For the purpose of watering or feeding, the cheek-buckle of the bit headstall is undone, and the bit allowed to slip out of the mouth; the strap is then again drawn up and buckled in such a way that the bits are hanging behind the lower jaw. They are thus ready to hand to be slipped into the horse's mouth in a moment should the necessity arise, as on outpost duty, etc. The proposed bridle is readily fitted to horses of most varied sizes without the saddler's aid. This is a point to which great importance is attached in France, where, in the course of the last war, it was found, on requisitioning horses for remounts, that a large proportion of them were too big to get into the bridles issued for them. The present regulation bridle could, without much difficulty, be converted into one on the principle of that just described and possessed of its chief points of excellence.—*Broad Arrow.*

Unveiling of the Brown Memorial.

THE memorial erected in the Central Park, Peterborough, by the residents of that town, in honor of Capt. E. T. Brown, of Boulton's Scouts, killed at Batoche, was unveiled on Wednesday of last week, by Major-Gen. Middleton, with appropriate ceremony and in the presence of a vast gathering of the residents. Prior to the unveiling of the memorial, the annual inspection of the 57th battalion took place. Having received the major-general, who was accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D.A.G., and Capt. Wise, A.D.C., at the drill shed, the battalion, headed by the band, marched to the Central Park, where the inspection was to take place. The *Peterborough Review* says: The following officers of the battalion were present:—Lieut.-Col. J. Z. Rogers, Major Grover, Major Bell, Qr.-Mr. Millar, P.-Mr. Howard, Surg. Kincaid, Surg. O'Gorman, Capt. Edwards and Lieut. Dennistoun of No. 1 company, Capt. Langford and Lieut. Lee of No. 2, Capt. Rogers and Lieut. Peck of No. 3, Capt. Bursdall and Lieut. Hill of No. 4, Capt. Burke and Lieut. Brennan of No. 5, and Capt. Cooper and Lieut. Hammond of No. 6. The battalion having been put through various movements, as well as the manual and firing exercises, by Col. Rogers and Maj. Grover, were formed in a square around the memorial, while the North-West veterans, all wearing their medals, were drawn up into line on the platform. These were: Capt. Burke, Lieut. Brennan, Sergts. Hannah, Graham and Reynolds, Pts. Crowe, Breckinridge, Crowter, Gray, of the old G company; and Cook, late of French's scouts. Lieut.-Col. Rogers read the following address:

Major-Gen. Sir Fred. D. Middleton, K.C.M.G., C.B.:

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—The object of our meeting together this day is to do honor to the memory of Capt. Edward Templeton Brown, who gave his life as a sacrifice for his country, and in his name to do honor to the Canadian volunteers engaged in the suppression of the late rebellion. When, in the Spring of 1885, the telegraph flashed eastward the news that the traitor Riel had a second time stirred up an insurrection, that he had exceeded his former crime by inciting to murder and rapine the lawless and uncontrollable Indian tribes, that helpless women and children were at the mercy of savages, the hot blood stirred in every true son of Canada. In such an emergency it was to the volunteers we had to look, not to a force of professional soldiers. Our young men, whose yearly drilling had been sneered at by some as a sort of boyish holiday parade, just such young men as are being inspected this day, were suddenly found to be our only bulwark. Their ready response to the toilsome marches, the hardships borne without murmuring, the eagerness to go forward, the coolness and bravery when face to face with the foe, the gallantry of the final struggle, are now all matters of history, and well may we be proud that on the first occasion when our citizen soldiers, unaided by regular troops, were to meet the enemy they proved themselves worthy of the race to which they belonged. Well too, for them was it, and well for us, that at such a crisis we had at the head of the Canadian militia the gallant soldier, whose personal courage was a model for his men, whose skill and judgment knew how to make the most of the material at his command, who combined that prudence which neither risked defeat nor needlessly sacrificed precious lives, with the generalship which, when the proper time had come, could strike the decisive blow. Who so fitting a person to unveil a monument to him whom we desire

to honor as the brave commander, who was as a father to his men, whose name will always be gratefully associated with our dearly bought victory? I, therefore, ask you, General Middleton, to unveil this tribute to the memory of Captain Brown, one of the heroes of Batoche.

Gen. Middleton took off the red, white and blue bunting with which the memorial was swathed, and the band played the "Sweet By and By." Lieut.-Col. Rogers then turned to Mayor Stevenson and said:—

And now, Mr. Mayor, it remains for me, as chairman of the committee, to hand over to you, as chief officer of the town, this drinking fountain, which has just been unveiled. Edward Templeton Brown was a native of our county. His family and friends are in our midst. A few years ago he left us with the well wishes of all who knew him, on account of his many genial and endearing qualities, to carve out for himself a home in the great North-West; and although he was not at the time of his death connected with our local force, he had been initiated in military life as a member of No. 1 company of the 57th battalion. This early training, coupled with his natural ability, stood him in good stead when his country required his services. At the first news of the outbreak he joined Col. Boulton's scouts, and that officer showed his estimation of him by promoting him on the field to the command of a troop. Not in any spirit of thoughtlessness did he enlist, but as a duty to his country, and with the solemn conviction that he was giving up all, even to life itself, for her sake. He escaped unharmed from the deadly fight at Fish Creek, and the first two days of Batoche. On the day of the memorable charge, just as victory was assured, he fell at the head of his men. Peterborough does well to honor such a soldier. And in honoring him we honor the whole force engaged in the suppression of the rebellion. The men standing here, wearing Her Majesty's medal, remind me that the 57th sent its contingent, and although the company under the command of Capt. Burke had not the fortune, like some of the "Midlanders," to take part in the fighting, they in the line of duty and in obedience to orders, rendered good service elsewhere. One, however, of Peterborough's sons we have with us to-day, who, as a member of another force, stood side by side with Capt. Brown at Fish Creek and Batoche—Richard Cooke, also an old member of No. 1 company, was in the North-West at the time of the rising, and threw up a lucrative position to join French's scouts, providing his own horse and outfit. The terrible wound he received on that first hot day at Batoche, his agony while lying exposed for hours before he was carried off the field, amidst a shower of lead, by the brave and lamented Capt. French, the long months of suffering that followed with death staring him in the face, the permanent injury he has sustained, ruining all his worldly prospects, entitle him to special mention on this occasion, and to special consideration at the hands of the country he has so well served.

The form of this memorial, that of a drinking fountain, furnishing a cool and refreshing stream for the thirsty passer by, fitly symbolizes the life blood that has been shed, and the useful services that have been rendered by her sons for our beloved country. To you, as mayor of Peterborough, I now hand it over, confident that it will ever be preserved by the town authorities as a sacred trust to commemorate the bravery of our citizen soldiers, to keep alive the memory of the gallant Capt. Brown.

Mayor Stevenson, in accepting the memorial on behalf of the town, said that he was pleased to receive so beautiful a monument, and he would see that it was well taken care of. The citizens had acted as became them in placing a token of their admiration of the late Capt. Edward Brown's courage and patriotism where the world might see it. It was but right to honor those who helped to uphold the country's honor. He then paid a tribute to Gen. Middleton for the successful quelling of the rebellion, and thanked him for coming to do honor to the ceremony to-day.

Maj.-Gen. Middleton, in replying, said:—Mr. Mayor, Col. Rogers and people of Peterborough: It affords me gratification to have been able to accept your kind invitation received at your hands to unveil this tribute to the memory of the late Capt. Brown, and to the bravery of the brave volunteers. I have not known Capt. Brown so well as some of you have known him, but I knew him well in the North-West. When called upon to take command of the Canadian forces in the North-West, Major Boulton offered his services. He offered to raise a troop of scouts, and knowing him as I did, his offer was at once accepted. He raised his force in a remarkably quick time, and I can say that his troop did constant good service during the campaign. I always felt safe when Boulton's scouts were in the front. They were employed in several kinds of duty, and always acquitted themselves well. Indeed, I deem it owing to Boulton's scouts having been thrown upon Batoche and Riel that the latter's surrender was accomplished much more speedily than if they had not been there. When the former captain of Boulton's scouts was unfortunately killed, Colonel—then Major—Boulton asked my permission to appoint Capt. Brown to the position. I gave that permission and had no reason to regret having done so. Capt. Brown did his duty worthily and well. I had a great deal to do with him personally, and I always found him willing and ready when duty called him. From my personal knowledge I can say that Capt. Brown was a credit to his force. You have been so kind as to make reference to myself. I can say that no matter how well I planned—no matter how well I may have had my plans laid—if they had not been faithfully carried into effect by the Canadian volunteers they would have come to nothing. I thank you, Mr. Mayor and people of Peterborough, for the kind way you have received me.

The band then played "God Save the Queen" and the gathering dispersed, the battalion marching back to the drill shed.

The memorial fountain is of Ohio stone, stands 11 feet high, and is of a beautiful Gothic pattern, designed by Mr. J. E. Belcher, C. E. It cost about \$500. The water trickles through a polished brass mouth-

piece representing a lion's head. The inscription in front reads:

Pro Patria.

CAPTAIN EDWARD T. BROWN.

FISH CREEK—1885—BATOCHÉ.

On the west side, or rear, is the following:

ERECTED AS A TRIBUTE TO CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS, AND IN MEMORY OF

CAPTAIN BROWN,

A NATIVE OF THIS COUNTY, WHO FELL AT BATOCHÉ, MAY 12th, 1885.

Magazine Guns of the Immediate Future.

WHAT continental nations and our own authorities are doing in the matter of provident arming with magazine guns is, as far as we can gather, pretty much as follows. As regards Germany, the factory at Spandau alone, without taking the establishments at Erfurt, Dantzig and elsewhere into consideration, has for some months past been turning out the converted Mauser for issue at the rate of a hundred a day. Now, this gun is not by any means the best of its kind that has been, or can be, produced, but the Berlin war office, as the most practical military bureau of our time, may reasonably be credited with knowing its own business best, and, under all the surrounding circumstances, it probably thinks that half a loaf is better than none. The Mauser is constructed to contain a column of cartridges in a tube, the cartridges being actuated by a spiral spring, and, like all guns similarly conceived, is open to the objections of possible danger and certain inconvenience. All of them—Mauser, Kropatchek, Hotchkiss, Vetterli, Ball-Lampson, Winchester, and numerous others, are slow and troublesome to load, and the jolting and compression of the cartridges in the tube, whether the latter be under the barrel or in the stock, are sure to injure the powder and bullets more or less, if they do not actually explode them. It is just possible that the German experts have devised some means to obviate these defects, for they have managed to keep the complete details of the converted gun a secret from the public at all events. In Austria-Hungary the navy, gendarmerie and Tyrolese mounted Jagers, have been armed for some years with the Fruhwirth. A credit to the extent of three and a half millions of florins (£350,000) has been asked from the delegations, now sitting, for arming the land forces with a magazine rifle, which is, as a first instalment, to be the Mannlicher, as finally decided last week by the Technical Military Commission. The form of the Mannlicher adopted is said to fire 36 shots a minute. Italy has decided to adopt the Vitali magazine system to her military single loader, at a cost of £400,000, and the transformation will begin with the new year. A committee of twelve officers taken from twelve infantry regiments has been nominated, and meets at Turin to put the new gun through a series of thorough practical tests. In Russia the committee which has been considering the question of re-armament for the last two years, has, we believe, decided definitely on a magazine gun for adoption; but whether it be the Evans' type—already in naval use, and which was very much favored a little while ago—or not, we cannot say, since the highest bidder for patronage is the *persona gratissima* to the Scythian tchinovnik. In France the choice of a new weapon appears to lie between the converted Gras, recommended by the artillery committee, and Col. Lebel's magazine gun, approved by the normal school of musketry at Châlons, and favored by the infantry committee sitting at Versailles. The Lebel gun has the advantage of a smaller bore, and consequently of a lighter cartridge, with the capacity of carrying more of them than the Gras. The factory at Tulle has received orders in the meantime to manufacture 10,000 Lebel rifles, which are to be issued, on completion, first to six battalions of the Tonkin division and subsequently to the 30 battalions of the Chasseurs à pied. The final adoption of either gun will be settled before Christmas, when, owing to the arrangements already made, all the small arms factories, but especially the one at St. Etienne, will be able to turn out the new weapon, whichever it may be, with sufficient rapidity to arm the whole of the infantry by next spring. This transformation is estimated to cost £4,000,000, of which £2,800,000 will be for the rifles, and the remainder for ammunition. What the official personages entrusted with the solution of the re-armament question in this country have been doing may be summed up in the statement that they had decided on giving the British grenadier another single loader, until they had got a magazine gun to their own fancy, and representing as much finality as Mr. Gladstone's Irish legislation. We need not go back on all we have written on the subject, for we are glad to hope and believe that the magazine gun, foreshadowed by the director-general of artillery in his letter of 18th April, 1885, to the adjutant-general, as being then

ready for recommendation—or some modification of that already ancient weapon—is about to be presented to an admiring and grateful public. That the weapon will not please everybody goes without saying. That it will please a fair majority of unbiased experts remains to be seen when the gun is before the world. This new instrument of destruction is, as might be expected from Enfield, a hybrid contrivance. It will retain the small-bore barrel with low trajectory of the Enfield-Martini, and its magazine complications will, we hear, be a compound of the Bethel Burton and Spencer-Lee systems. We do not suppose that Messrs. Burton and Lee will be particularly well pleased at this enforced partnership, but with regard to the Enfield authorities retaining the Enfield-Martini barrel with the smaller bore consequently lighter projectile, and, above all, flatter trajectory, no fault can be found. This last is a feather in their cap. We are also ready to admit that there is some reason for the excuse tendered on their behalf for the retention of the condemned Martini breech action in the now, it is to be hoped, dearly departed single-loader. They kept the objectionable breech in order to avoid the expense for new machinery, in view of the ultimate necessity of adopting another breech arrangement—which would also require special machinery of a novel character—for the inevitable magazine gun. The mistake that was made, and is always made, is the everlasting waiting for some one else to lead the way. There was a time when England showed the way to the continent in everything—except making sauces.—*Broad Arrow.*

A Hartford dispatch of recent date says that something of a flutter of excitement pervades the leading machinists of New England because it is known that agents of the French Government are hereabout buying up machinery with a liberal, if not lavish, hand. And this machinery is to be used in the manufacture of arms and ammunition. Thus far four of the New England States have been invaded, and the most famous producers of iron-working machinery in the Eastern States serenely contemplate the prospect of selling out, in short order, everything which can be made subservient to the manufacture of a weapon of war. The French Government proposes to establish another armory, capable of turning out at first at least 500 perfect rifles a day. To accomplish this, it is stated that these envoys are ordering all of the available machinery now on hand in the shops above named. It is understood that the negotiations are for immediate purchases, and not for machinery to be made. To make 500 rifles a day will require \$500,000 worth of machinery, and it will cost more than \$1,000,000 in all to set this machinery in motion for the production of the first 500 guns.—*Forest and Stream.*

The Target.

Windsor, N. S.—The regular fall rifle meeting of No. 4 company, 78th Batt., took place on Wednesday last, on the Nesbit range. There was a very fair attendance and the prizes were partly cash and partly in kind. A high and variable wind prevailed, which kept down the scores, and caused disappointment to more than one marksman.

FIRST COMPETITION—5 ROUNDS AT 200, 400 AND 500 YARDS.

G. H. Medal and \$2.50 Lieut. C. H. Dimock..... 66	\$1 00 Alfred Smith..... 36
\$3 00 John P. Smith..... 58	1 00 J. Caldwell..... 35
1 50 T. A. Lawrence..... 57	75 G. A. Harvie..... 32
1 50 Capt. J. H. Smith..... 53	75 S. Terhune..... 26
1 50 Sergt. D. Davis..... 49	50 J. Murphy..... 25
1 50 S. Sampson..... 48	50 J. Ashton..... 24
1 50 A. Sweet..... 48	50 F. Williams..... 24
1 00 Sergt. J. W. Smith..... 45	50 R. Mosher..... 21
1 00 Sergt. J. A. Webb..... 44	50 F. Fletcher..... 21
1 00 H. Findal..... 40	

SECOND COMPETITION—5 ROUNDS AT 200, 400 AND 500 YARDS.

Silver Medal and \$2.50 T. A. Lawrence..... 61	1 00 Sergt. D. Davis..... 36
\$2 00 Capt. J. H. Smith..... 56	1 00 R. Mosher..... 36
1 75 Lieut. C. H. Dimock..... 56	75 J. Murphy..... 32
1 50 Sergt. J. W. Smith..... 55	75 H. Findal..... 30
1 50 John P. Smith..... 53	50 J. Caldwell..... 30
1 50 S. Sampson..... 52	50 S. Terhune..... 28
1 50 Alfred Smith..... 47	50 F. Williams..... 25
1 00 A. Sweet..... 46	50 F. Fletcher..... 22
1 00 J. Ashton..... 43	50 G. A. Harvie..... 21
1 00 Sergt. J. A. Webb..... 42	

AGGREGATE PRIZE.

Fraser Silver Medal..... Lieut. C. H. Dimock..... 122

RANGE PRIZES.

Hunts Journal 1 year and \$1, for the most bull's eyes at 200 yards..... John P. Smith..... 5
Tribune for 1 year for the most bull's eyes at 500 yards..... Lieut. C. H. Dimock... 5
Half doz. cabinet photos, presented by L. Rice for highest score at 400 yds..... T. A. Lawrence..... 46

Milton, Ont.—On Thursday, the 18th November, says the Milton *Champion*, two teams, of nine men each, members of the Milton rifle club, captained by Messrs. D. D. Scott and A. Chisholm, shot a match for an oyster supper. The weather was wretched, so bad that the annual matches of the Hamilton battery of artillery, which were commenced on the same day, were discontinued after the competitors had fired at 200 yards, but though the snow fell so thickly at times that the signalling discs could not be distinguished, though the wind blew almost a gale, and though it was bitterly cold, our local men stuck to their work. The ranges were 200, 400 and 500 yards, 6 shots at each, and Mr. Scott's team won by 65 points, as will be seen by the following score:—

SCOTT'S TEAM.

D. D. Scott..... 19 15 20 54	S. McDowell..... 16 13 8 37
W. Panton..... 18 19 10 47	G. Reid..... 15 11 7 33
A. Alexander..... 17 18 12 47	C. McKinney..... 3 6 4 13
D. A. McLennan..... 15 19 11 45	D. Kippen..... 4 2 0 6
J. McGibbon..... 15 17 9 41	

CHISHOLM'S TEAM.

W. Armstrong..... 11 19 7 37	A. Chisholm..... 14 11 2 27
R. Major..... 13 19 4 36	N. Richardson..... 11 8 7 26
J. Rixon..... 17 13 4 34	W. Duff..... 4 8 9 21
H. Robinson..... 14 14 0 28	T. Johnston..... 15 4 2 21
J. Peddie..... 18 5 5 28	

The above scores, says the *Champion*, considering the conditions under which they were made, and the fact that less than half a dozen of the competitors ever took part in a match until this year, are very creditable.

Edmonton, Alberta.—The first annual fall meeting of the Edmonton rifle association, the most northerly association on the continent, was held on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th instants. There were six matches, including the aggregate, and valuable prizes in cash and kind were offered. The number of entries was large, reaching 34 in one match, and the scoring, as seen below, was good. The *Edmonton Bulletin*, from which the score were taken, says: "The weather on Monday was rather unfavorable—cloudy and windy—but the remaining three days were perfect. The match was opened by Mrs. Hardisty firing the first shot. Several ladies were present. The shooting was at the ranges on Ross' Flat. The matches were delayed so late in the season on account of waiting for the militia department to furnish Snider ammunition. No order for ammunition was received, and it was only procured through the personal intervention of the 1st vice-patron, Mr. Hardisty. The prizes were numerous and valuable, the competition keen and the interest great and well sustained. The affair passed off smoothly and pleasantly and with satisfaction to all concerned—especially the prize winners." The prize winners were as follows:—

PATRON'S MATCH—200, 400 AND 500 YARDS.

John F. Forbes..... 19 17 14 50	W. L. Blair..... 21 12 13 46
M. McCauley..... 17 21 11 49	J. S. Edmonton..... 19 19 8 46
E. S. Glasford..... 20 12 14 46	

VICE-PATRON'S MATCH—300, 400 AND 500 YARDS.

Sergt. Pringle..... 18 17 21 56	Fred Sache..... 18 17 14 49
John F. Forbes..... 16 16 19 51	W. S. Robertson..... 19 20 10 49
Jas. McMunn..... 20 19 11 50	

ASSOCIATION MATCH—200, 400 AND 600 YARDS.

W. S. Robertson..... 22 21 7 50	J. E. Noyes..... 22 21 4 47
J. S. Edmond..... 21 21 6 49	John A. Beldon..... 21 21 5 47
Sergt. Pringle..... 19 24 14 47	Fred. Sache..... 18 17 10 45

MERCHANT'S MATCH—200, 400 AND 500 YARDS.

Fred Sache..... 20 21 18 59	Frank Osborne..... 19 21 10 51
W. S. Robertson..... 20 19 14 52	Edward Looby..... 20 18 10 45
J. S. Edmonton..... 21 20 11 52	John F. Forbes..... 17 18 11 49
W. L. Blair..... 19 21 11 51	

LADIES' MATCH—200 AND 400 YARDS.

W. S. Robertson..... 20 25 45	Jas. McDonald..... 18 25 42
D. E. Noyes..... 22 23 45	

HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORES.

W. S. Robertson..... 44 49 50 58 196	Fred. Sache..... 36 49 45 59 189
J. S. Edmonton..... 46 46 58 52 192	

W. S. Robertson, having the highest aggregate, was awarded the D.R.A. medal. The council of the association, of which M. McCauley is president and C. F. Strang secretary, at a meeting held after the matches, passed a resolution thanking the 1st vice-patron of the association (Richard Hardisty, Esq.) for his donation of \$100 to the funds of the association; as well as the ladies of Edmonton, for their valuable gift of three prizes to be competed for at their first meeting; and Mrs. Hardisty for her kindness in firing the first shot (making a bull's eye) and opening the meeting.

Correspondence.

INSTRUCTION IN EQUITATION AT TORONTO.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

SIR,—*Apropos* of the question of providing adequate and convenient instruction in equitation for militia officers in the province of Ontario, might I venture a suggestion in your columns.

Instead of, as has been proposed, bringing half of the cavalry corps from Quebec to Toronto, why not turn the infantry company already in the latter place into mounted infantry, upon the same basis as the Winnipeg company. Or, if that were too extensive a project, provide them with a number of horses and have a mounted infantry division on the principle of the field artillery divisions of A and B batteries.

This would be a much more economical plan than the one already suggested, because it would be necessary to appoint no extra staff, except, perhaps, one subaltern and one sergeant, whereas in the other case a commandant and the usual regimental outfit of subalterns, sergeants, clerks, etc., would have to be appointed and paid.

As it is now in Quebec, the cavalry establishment is barely strong enough to run itself.

It would be a more practical plan, because in Canada mounted infantry is destined to be the branch of the service upon which the success of future Indian campaigns in the North-West (if we have any) will depend. Therefore the instructions given at such an institution as I propose would be of far greater value to the officers and men receiving them, and to the country generally, than the "pursuing practice," etc., etc.

The days of cavalry, as cavalry, are done. A writer says, "cavalry are the eyes, ears, feelers and veil of an army." He is right, but that is about all they are. There is nothing that cavalry can do that cannot be done equally as well by mounted infantry, except make a charge; but in these days when men are trained to shoot and fight their battles at long ranges, charges are unnecessary and the cavalry sabre should be placed with the battering-ram, the hauberk and the pike, in the museum, as relics of our ancestors.

The advantages which mounted infantry possess over cavalry are so well known that it is not necessary to say anything about them.

Queries and Replies.

Q. Inserted in last week's issue re beating the attack in the Bayonet Exercise?

A. "Beating the Attack." authority Horse Guards, G.O. 1st February, 1882, also Manual, Rifle, Carbine and Bayonet Exercises, Horse Guards' W. Office, 1885.
READ UP.

Regimental Notes.

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

Toronto.—C company I.S.C., is still, and has for some time past been, performing the usual route marching. A paper chase was lately held by the n.c. officers and men of the company. The course was eight miles, through High Park and round home by the Lake Shore road. The time was very good, although the checks were somewhat severe. Privates Evans and St. Johns were hares and ran in good form. Several of the attached officers, n.c. officers and men ran and acquitted themselves well.

The tug-of-war team of the Queen's Own have been practising very hard all week for the tournament that is to be held in Guelph on Friday evening, the 3rd, and which is given by the officers and men of the 1st Provisional Brigade field artillery. The Grenadiers have also a team entered to pull.

A by-law is going to be submitted to the rate payers of Toronto, in January, to decide whether they will authorize the council to issue debentures for \$50,000 to be applied in buying a suitable piece of ground as a site for a new drill shed. The government have decided to build the shed if the citizens will provide the land. If the by-law is carried, it is expected that the property of Mr. McLean, bounded by Queen, Brock, Adelaide and Peter streets, consisting of about 3¼ acres, will be purchased.

CUMBERLAND CUP DRILL COMPETITION.

The annual competition for the Cumberland challenge cup—to be held for one year by the best drilled company in the Royal Grenadiers—took place on Tuesday and Thursday last, with the result that the cup was again awarded to G company, commanded by Capt. Bruce. This is the second time the company has been thus honored. The companies were examined by Major Smith, of C company, I.S.C., and his decision was received by all as just and correct. The *Toronto World* says of the competition:

A company (Capt. Davidson) was short one file and all regretted it, as A stood a good chance for first place. H company was ahead in the work of its markers, but owing to a few recruits, the ranks made several bungles. D company looked and promised well, and only failed by a little unsteadiness on the part of a few men. F company marched on the ground with better appearance than any. The guides' places in all the companies were taken by Sergt. Instructor Munroe and Belau of C company, infantry school, and their drill could not be excelled. A few old hands in F company who should have known better, and a few mistakes by the markers lost several points, notwithstanding the splendid show they made in the manual under Lieut. Hay. G company was at first rather disappointing to the deeply interested spectators. They soon "buckled" to the work and began to show that they had quite a few of the North-West veterans still in the ranks. They handled their arms in first-class style, and it was soon seen that Capt. Bruce had a good chance of holding the cup for another year. The result proved this to be correct, and as the work went on, all were astonished to see what a good company can do when well handled, even with only a little practice. Capt. Cumberland deserves great credit for his idea and for his liberality in providing the handsome cup. The regiment appears to appreciate his efforts. The result of the competition will determine the position of the companies on parade, as regards the posts of honor on the flanks. Lieut.-Col. Grasett was present, and appeared to be much pleased with his red-coated boys. After the results were made known the officers and men, who were awaiting them with much excitement, gave three cheers for Major Smith, G company and the colonel. The adjutant read out the results as follows: G company, 143 points; F company, 128; D company, 124; H company, 113.

Peterborough.—The annual inspection of the 57th battalion took place on Wednesday, last week, before Major-Gen. Middleton and Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D.A.G., at the Central Park, prior to the unveiling of the Brown memorial, an account of the proceedings, of which ceremony appears elsewhere in this issue. The battalion, all things considered, acquitted itself very creditably. The *Review* says:

The appearance after the inspection of the 57th, Peterborough Rangers, newly reorganized as a city battalion, was a proof that our young men are ready and willing to fit themselves to fight in defence of their country if called upon. There is evidently no lack of loyal zeal or martial ardour. It is well that we should have a citizen soldiery capable of defending their homes against a foreign foe; for the very fact of being prepared lessens the probability of an attack.

When trooper Cook appeared at the drill shed on review day in the handsome uniform of the Peterborough Hussars he was mistaken for Gen. Middleton. He was so crowded around that he had to make his escape to the orderly room till the arrival of the general.

The regimental band, under bandmaster Millar's direction, appeared to good advantage during the review and march out.

On Tuesday evening the different companies of the battalion were served with new belts and frogs for the bayonets. These were worn at the inspection and added much to the neat appearance of the troop.

General Middleton was entertained at mess at the Oriental hotel on Wednesday evening by the officers of the 57th battalion and cavalry troop. Lieut.-Col. J. Z. Rogers took the chair, having on his right Gen. Middleton, the guest of the evening, and on his left Col. Villiers. Major and Adjutant Bell occupied the vice-chair, having on his left Capt. Wise. The usual loyal toasts were drunk and briefly responded to. Volunteer toasts were also heartily replied to. Among the latter was "The North-West Veterans," coupled with the names of Capt. Wise, Capt. Burke and Lieut. Brennan, all of whom replied suitably. Capt. Birdsall in a well worded speech proposed "The old 57th," to which Paymaster Howard replied very happily, recounting several interesting incidents in the history of the battalion.

Guelph.—The First Provisional Brigade of field artillery, Guelph, intends holding a military tournament on December 3rd. The chief feature will be a tug-of-war competition. The Queen's Own will send their team which won at the regimental tournament here a short time ago, and it is likely that the Grenadiers will be represented. Teams from the brigade and the 30th Wellington Rifles, Guelph, will also compete.

Montreal.—The Montreal brigade of garrison artillery is preparing to have a tug-of-war at a military concert on December 21st. Teams will consist of four men and a captain. It is expected that besides the Montreal corps the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto and the Royal Grenadiers will compete.

C company, Royal Scots of Canada, held their annual dinner at the exchange hotel on Friday last, over forty of the company sitting down to a well filled table. Lieut.-Col. Caverhill, Major Lyman, Capt. Hood, and Messrs. Walton and Aird were guests. The chair was filled by Capt. Lydon, who is at present in charge of the company. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were honored, and the enjoyment of the evening added to by songs, recitations, etc. A very pleasing event was the presentation of a handsome ring to Pte. Stewart Cuthbert, secretary-treasurer of the company fund for the past three years. At the chairman's request the presentation was made by Capt. Hood, who, in so doing, delivered a neat address. The evening's festivities were brought to a close about mid-night by all singing "God Save the Queen."

Ottawa.—A few weeks ago Lieut.-Col. Macpherson gave notification that hereafter at commanding officers' parades the posts of honor at the flanks of the parade would be awarded to the companies which fell in with the largest musters. A and F companies have held the flanks ever since. F has run A pretty close, and last Friday evening displaced it for the first time taking the right flank, while A took the left. The guards have been drilling hard in preparation for their annual inspection, which takes place to-morrow evening.

St. John, N.B.—The n.c. officers of the 62nd Fusiliers held another of their popular dances in the regimental club room on the evening of 23rd inst., but were unfortunate as regards the weather, although those who attended enjoyed the dance nevertheless. The dances will be resumed after Advent, and continued during the winter. The sergeants of the 62nd are an enthusiastic set of young men, and have done much good work this year, in improving their rooms, holding dances, giving picnics, etc., and have also paid much attention to their uniform, and are now looked upon as a "swagger" set. The staff-sergeants have adopted the new gold peaked forage caps, while all have their tunics neatly trimmed in gold braid, etc. A drill class is also proposed for the winter months.

Lachute.—The *Watchman* says: "There is some talk of agitating for a drill hall and Armoury at Lachute to accommodate two companies of the 11th. This would be a move in the right direction and make our enterprising town the scene of military parades and drill instruction."

Our Trading Column.

This column is established for the purpose of enabling our friends to exchange, purchase, sell, or otherwise advertize articles they desire either to acquire or dispose of. It is not available for commercial purposes.

The cost of announcements in this column for each insertion will be one cent per word for the first ten words one-half cent for each additional word. Each advertisement will have a register number in our books, and all communications regarding it must be forwarded through the GAZETTE, but it must be distinctly understood that this office incurs no other responsibility or liability in connection therewith. Address, with stamp for return postage, Canadian Militia Gazette, Box 316, Ottawa.

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J. P. FRENCH,
Post Office Inspector.
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Ottawa, 23rd Oct., 1886.

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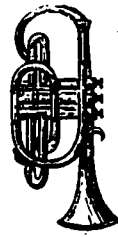
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A. CAMPBELL,
 Postmaster-General,
 Post Office Department,
 Ottawa, 21st May, 1886.