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# PROCEEDINGS

## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BUREAU OF ARCHIVES  
RECEIVED

MAR 9 1905

ONTARIO



1897  
277

# Royal Military College Club OF CANADA.

1898 BUREAU OF ARCHIVES  
RECEIVED  
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Major

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PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE CLUB  
OF CANADA.

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HELD IN MONTREAL, QUE., AT THE WINDSOR HOTEL, ON  
SATURDAY, THE 27TH FEBRUARY, 1897.

---

AT WHICH WERE PRESENT :

CAPTAIN FRANCIS JOSEPH DIXON, R. O., President.

LIEUT. ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK, R. O., Vice-President.

CAPTAIN ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, R. O., Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.

MAJOR GEO. R. HOOPER, Reserve of Officers.

CAPTAIN F. M. GAUDET, R. C. A.

LIEUT. CHAS. J. ARMSTRONG, 5th "Royal Scots of Canada."

LIEUT. C. F. J. B. DE BOURCHERVILLE, R. O.

} Members  
of  
} Managing  
} Committee.

Major John Houlston, 86th "Three Rivers," Battalion of Infantry.

Captain T. H. Browne, Reserve of Officers.

Captain J. W. Domville, 8th "Princess Louise's N.B. Hussars."

Captain G. A. S. Hamilton, 3rd "Victoria Rifles of Canada."

Captain H. J. Lamb, 8th "Royal Rifles."

Captain J. C. MacDougall, "Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry."  
Captain D. MacPherson, Reserve of Officers.  
Captain C. P. Newman, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. R. C. F. Alexander, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. L. J. A. Amos, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. M. C. E. Amos, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. R. M. Courtney, 6th Battalion "Fusiliers."  
Lieut. C. R. F. Coutlée, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. F. L. Crawford, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. F. Drayner, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. E. H. Drury, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. L. Homfray Irving, Retired List.  
Lieut. Frank E. Leach, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. R. W. Leonard, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. A. J. Matheson, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. W. J. Mitchell, 24th Baluchistan Regiment, (Indian Staff Corps.)  
Mr. R. Blackburn.  
Mr. J. A. Cantlie.  
Mr. K. C. Cochrane.  
Mr. Randall Davidson.  
Mr. W. A. Fleming.  
Mr. M. L. E. Hudon.  
Mr. G. L. Mattice.  
Mr. William Moore.  
Gentleman Cadet Battalion Sergeant-Major J. A. Stairs, Royal Military  
College of Canada.

The meeting was called to order at 10.30 A.M. by the President,  
Captain Francis Joseph Dixon.

Moved by Captain D. MacPherson, R. O.,

Seconded by Lieut. R. W. Leonard, R. O.,

That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting as printed be accepted  
as read.—Carried.

Moved by Major Geo. R. Hooper, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Captain Jas. W. Domville, 8th N.B. Hussars,

That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting be adopted.—Carried.

Captain Ernest F. Würtele, the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, then read his Annual Report for the year 1896.

Moved by Lieut. C. R. F. Coullée, R. O.,

Seconded by Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A.,

That the Report of the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, as read be adopted.  
Carried.

The President, Capt. Francis Joseph Dixon, then touched upon the report and in his remarks referred to those portions referring to the Dues, Correspondence, Local Dinners, Adjutants, Concessions, Memorial Tablet, Board of Visitors, Delegates to Ottawa and the North West Mounted Police. The President had great pleasure in announcing that Mr. Paul Weatherbe had been appointed architect of the Militia Department.

The Secretary then read the following letters:—

TORONTO, March 31st, 1896.

Ernest F. Würtele, Esq.,  
Captain, R. L.,  
Quebec.

DEAR SIR,

Your esteemed favour of March 27th to hand, together with a copy of the resolution passed by the Royal Military College Club at the twelfth Annual Meeting, expressing its sincere sympathy and regret in our recent bereavement. On behalf of our family I desire to thank the members of the Club for their sympathy and especially for their many kindnesses to us since our great loss.

I beg leave, Sir,  
to remain yours very truly,

D. CAMPBELL RIDOUT.

MONTREAL, 4th April, 1896.

Capt. Ernest F. Würtele,  
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer,  
Royal Military College Club,  
P. O. Box 1117, Quebec, P.Q.

DEAR SIR,

On behalf of my family and myself I beg to own receipt of your favour of 27th ultimo, and ask you to convey to the Club our thanks for, and appreciation of, the sympathy with us, so kindly expressed in the resolution referring to the death of my dear son, Somerled, of which you send me copy. If anything could comfort us in such a trial it would be the general sympathy which has been shown us by all who knew him; and we naturally value very highly that expressed by your Club, the Members of which, or at least many of them, no doubt knew my boy intimately. Again thanking you, the Club, and its various members, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A. T. PATERSON.

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EXTRACT from letter received from Captain J. Irvine Lang, C. M. G.,  
R. E., School of Military Engineering, Chatham, 22nd June, 1896.

“In the first place allow me to convey to the Club through you, my heartfelt appreciation of the vote of congratulations to me, passed at the last meeting, on being made a C. M. G. I think the good wishes of those one knows best are always most appreciated, and for this reason it is highly gratifying to feel that my old comrades at the R. M. C. have thought the occasion worthy of so great a distinction. I hope you will not forget, at the next Meeting, to say how much I appreciate the honour the Club have conferred upon me. There is no body of men in the world whose good wishes I would rather have than those of the Graduates of the R. M. C. of Canada.”

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SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 29th, 1897.

To the Board of Management and Members R. M. C. Club.  
In Meeting Assembled, at Montreal, Quebec.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to propose that Article 12 of the constitution be cancelled and the following substituted therefor:—

SEC. 1.—Any member may, upon payment of the sum of \$25.00 at one time, or the sum of \$10.00 per annum for three consecutive years, be transferred from the list of Ordinary Members to the list of Life Members.

SEC. 2.—Life Members shall not be subject to the payment of Annual Dues.

SEC. 3.—Twenty-five Dollars of the fees derived from Life Members shall be invested and the interest only shall be used for ordinary purposes.

In proposing the above, the writer is led to believe that many Members will become Life Members. The sum of \$25.00, though not a very large one, is probably in some cases harder to spare at one time than would the sum of \$10.00 at three different times, and would give such of our Members of moderate means a better chance to become Life Members.

Further, the certainty of a fund derived from the fees of Life Members carefully invested would insure a permanency to the organization, and greatly lessen the work of our Honorary Secretary-Treasurer in the matter of the collection of dues.

In other organizations it has been known that active members drop out from time to time, and it is reasonable to suppose that such might be the case in this Club organization. Their becoming Life Members does away with this possibility. I therefore think it to the best interests of the Club to offer as many inducements as it can for members to become Life Members.

Very respectfully,

J. M. CLAPP.

460.14

The above letter was received too late to comply with the requirements of the Constitution, that a notice of change be submitted to the Members thirty days previous to the Annual Meeting, but was read for the purpose of ascertaining the views of those present with regard to the desirability of acting upon the suggestion therein contained at the next Annual Meeting of the Club, upon the usual notification.

The matter was then discussed and taken part in by Captains Francis Joseph Dixon, D. MacPherson and Ernest F. Würtele, and Lieutenants C. R. F. Coutlée and R. W. Leonard.

Moved by Captain D. MacPherson, R. O.,

Seconded by Captain H. J. Lamb, 8th "Royal Rifles."

That the letter just read be referred to the incoming Managing Committee, for the purpose of conferring with Mr. J. M. Clapp upon the matter of detail, and that it be submitted as a proposed change of the Constitution at its next Annual Meeting.—Carried.

The Secretary then read a letter from Mr. Walter Douglas, of Bisbee, Arizona, under date 13th January, 1897, with regard to the question of the expulsion of members who forswear their allegiance by becoming naturalized citizens of the United States.

The matter was discussed by some of the Members, after which it was decided that no action be taken by the Club on the matter in question.

In the absence of the Auditors, their Report was read by Lieut. Chas. J. Armstrong, 5th "Royal Scots," and is submitted herewith:—

#### AUDITORS' REPORT.

QUEBEC, February 22nd, 1897.

To the President and Members,  
Royal Military College Club of Canada.

GENTLEMEN,

We have audited the Books and Accounts of the Royal Military College Club, for the year ending the 31st of December, 1896, and beg to report as follows:—

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1st.—We have verified the cash payments with the Vouchers.

2nd.—The receipts have also been verified, and the Cash Book additions found correct, the balance amounting to four hundred and four dollars and seventy-two cents, (\$404.72,) agrees with Bank Pass Book and Cash in hand.

3rd.—The additions of the Journal have been checked, and the entries ledgerized as well as the Cash Book.

4th.—The Revenue Account has been checked and the statement of receipts and expenditure found correct.

5th.—The Balance Sheet shows a correct statement of the Books of the Club as at 31st December, 1896.

We have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

V. B. RIVERS,

Major,

Royal Canadian Artillery.

H. A. PANET,

Lieut. and Brevet Captain,

Royal Canadian Artillery.

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Moved by Mr. K. C. Cochrane,

Seconded by Captain Jas. W. Domville, 8th N. B. Hussars,

That the Report of the Auditors be adopted.—Carried.

The following reports were then read by the Hon. Secretary :—

REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

ON THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF "L'ALOUETTE" AS THE COLLEGE SONG.

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*(Extract from the Proceedings of the 12th Annual Meeting.)*

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The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Captain P. E. Gray, R.A., suggesting that the song of "L'Alouette," which has in a measure become identified with the College, be recognized as the College song.

Moved by Mr. W. B. M. Carruthers, R. L.,

Seconded by Mr. L. Homfray Irving, R. L.,

That the question of the adoption of the Song be referred to the incoming Managing Committee.—Carried.

We, the undersigned Members of the Committee, have carefully looked into the question of the adoption of the Song in question, and in view of the fact that it is one which is made use of very freely by a number of Educational Institutions, Societies and persons, and further, as there is no direct connection with the words of the Song to the College, consider that it would be inadvisable to adopt it, and respectfully submit that the suggestion be not acted upon.

FRANCIS JOSEPH DIXON, President, Captain, R. O.

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, Captain, R. O.

P. G. TWINING, Captain, R. E.

ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK, Lieut. R. O.

GEORGE R. HOOPER, Major, 3rd Field Battery.

CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG, Lieut. 5th "Royal Scots."

JOSEPH B. DE BOUCHERVILLE, Lieut. R. O.

F. M. GAUDET, Captain R. C. A.

JNO. G. HEARN, Lieut. R. O.

Moved by Lieut. R. W. Leonard, R. O.,

Seconded by Captain D. MacPherson, R. O.,

That the Report just read be adopted.—Carried.

*Meeting.)*

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## REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

ON THE PROPOSED ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE CLUB OF CANADIANS  
SERVING IN THE IMPERIAL SERVICE, WHO JOINED THE ARMY PREVIOUS  
TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLEGE.

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*(Extract from the Proceedings of the 12th Annual Meeting.)*

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The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Captain Geo. M. Kirkpatrick, R. E., suggesting that Canadians serving in the Imperial Service, who joined the Army previous to the organization of the Royal Military College of Canada, be admitted as Hon. Members or in some such similar capacity.

Moved by Captain P. G. Twining, R. E.,

Seconded by Mr. W. B. Leslie, R. E.,

That the suggestion contained in Capt. G. M. Kirkpatrick's letter be referred to the incoming Managing Committee.—Carried.

We, the undersigned Members of the Managing Committee, have fully considered this question, and whilst admitting that in some respects such a move would prove a desirable one, and to a certain extent a beneficial one,

cannot recommend its adoption, as being beyond the spirit of the Constitution of the Club, and further consider that it would be inadvisable to bring forward any change in the Constitution, that would permit the admitting of such persons who have not served at the College as Gentlemen Cadets or having been connected with it in an official capacity, as already provided for.

FRANCIS JOSEPH DIXON, Captain, R. O., President.

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, Captain, R. O.

ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK, Lieut., R. O.

GEORGE R. HOOPER, Major, 3rd Field Battery.

CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG, Lieut., 5th "Royal Scots."

JOSEPH B. DE BOUCHERVILLE, Lieut., R. O.

F. M. GAUDET, Captain, R. C. A.

JNO. G. HEARN, Lieut., R. O.

H Moved by Lieut. L. Romfray Irving, R. L.,

Seconded by Captain D. MacPherson, R. O.,

That the report just read be adopted.—Carried.

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#### REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

ON THE ADOPTION OF A DISTINCTIVE RIBBON AND TIE.

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*(Extract from the Proceedings of the 12th Annual Meeting.)*

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Moved by Captain J. B. Cochrane, R. O., R. M. C.,

Seconded by Captain W. E. Cooke, R. C. A.,

That the Club adopt a Distinctive Ribbon and Tie, and that the pattern be left to the Managing Committee to decide.—Carried.

We, the undersigned Members of the Managing Committee, respectfully submit, that as the Colours in use at the College, viz:—Red and White, are applicable to Light Infantry or Regiments not designated "Royal," that upon the appointment of a new Commandant the matter of a change of colours to Blue and Red, be brought to his notice, with a view of having colours consistent with those the College is entitled to make use of, and that the Club defer action on this matter until the question has been settled, in order to permit of the adoption of colours to conform with the College.

FRANCIS JOSEPH DIXON, Captain, R. O., President.

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, Captain, R. O.

P. G. TWINING, Captain, R. E.

ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK, Lieut., R. O.

GEORGE R. HOOPER, Major 3rd Field Battery.

CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG, Lieut., 5th "Royal Scots."

JOSEPH B. DE BOUCHERVILLE, Lieut., R. O.

F. M. GAUDET, Captain R. C. A.

JNO. G. HEARN, Lieut., R. O.

Moved by Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A.,

Seconded by Lieut. Charles J. Armstrong, 5th "Royal Scots,"

That the Report just read be referred to the incoming Managing Committee.—Carried.

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REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE,

RESPECTING GRADUATES BEING ATTACHED TO THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF  
INSTRUCTION FOR A PERIOD OF SIX WEEKS.

*(Extract from the Proceedings of the 12th Annual Meeting.)*

Mr. W. B. M. Carruthers asked whether Graduates upon leaving the College were sufficiently instructed, during their course, in Regimental routine work, to qualify them for filling positions as Adjutant of Militia Corps, if not, would it not be advisable to have the Graduating Class attached for one month or six weeks, to the Royal Schools of Instruction for such work, immediately upon their leaving the College.

The President, Captain Dixon, read an extract from the Report of the Board of Visitors referring to the subject of Drill and Discipline, after which the matter was discussed and taken part in by Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, Mr. W. B. M. Carruthers, and Captains J. B. Cochrane, F. M. Gaudet and Ernest F. Würtele.

It was then moved by Mr. W. B. M. Carruthers,

Seconded by Capt. J. B. Cochrane, U. L., R. M. C.,

That this matter be referred to the Managing Committee.—Carried.

We, the undersigned members of the Committee, respectfully submit the advisability of placing this question before the Hon. the Minister of Militia and Defence and before the Commandant of the Royal Military College of Canada, with the request that Graduates be attached to the

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Royal Schools of Instruction, upon graduation, for a period of one month or six weeks, for instruction in Regimental routine work.

FRANCIS JOSEPH DIXON, Captain, R. O., President.

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, Captain, R. O.

ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK, Lieut., R. O.

GEORGE R. HOOPER, Major, 3rd Field Battery.

CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG, Lieut., 5th "Royal Scots."

JOSEPH DE BOUCHERVILLE, Lieut., R. O.

F. M. GAUDET, Captain R. C. A.

JNO. G. HEARN, Lieut., R. O.

Moved by Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A.,

Seconded by Lieut. C. R. F. Coutlée, R. O.;

That the report be referred to the incoming Managing Committee, with the recommendation that the Commandant of the College be requested to communicate upon the subject with the Hon. the Minister of Militia and Defence.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. L. Romfray Irving, R. L.,

Seconded by Lieut. Charles J. Armstrong, 5th "Royal Scots,"

That the Royal Military College Club of Canada convey to Lieutenant E. P. C. Girouard, D. S. O., R. E., their sincere congratulations upon his being made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of his services in connection with the operations in the Dongola Expedition.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. W. J. Mitchell, 24th Baluchistan Regiment,

Seconded by Lieutenant E. C. Amos, Reserve of Officers,

That the Royal Military College Club of Canada convey to Captain Kenneth J. R. Campbell, D. S. O., Suffolk Regiment, its sincere congratulations upon his being made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order for services rendered on the West Coast of Africa in 1894.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. C. R. Coutlée, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Major J. Houlston, 86th Battn. of Infantry,

That this Meeting of the Royal Military College of Canada express its sincere sympathy with the family of the late Mr. Merle Shafto Knight, who died in Central America at the latter part of the past year of malaria typhoid.—Carried.

Moved by Captain H. J. Lamb, 8th "Royal Rifles,"

Seconded by Mr. G. L. Mattice,

That the thanks of the Club be tendered to Mr. W. A. H. Kerr, Hon. Solicitor, for valuable services rendered on behalf of the Club in his official capacity for the year 1896, and their appreciation of the same.—Carried.

The question of the Incorporation of the Club was then taken into consideration.

Moved by Lieut. L. Homfray Irving, R. L.,

Seconded by Lieut. Alex. K. Kirkpatrick, Reserve of Officers,

That the Club be Incorporated under the Laws of the Province of Ontario, and that the Managing Committee be empowered to obtain such Incorporation and to name the Incorporators.—Carried.

The Hon. Secretary informed the Meeting that the following papers had been contributed by Members of the Club :—

*Notes on Canadian Country Roads from a Military Standpoint,*

By Lieut. C. R. F. Coutlée, Reserve of Officers,



*The Dongola Expedition, 1896,*

By Lieut. J. J. B. Farley, North Staffordshire Regiment.

Moved by Mr. K. C. Cochrane.

Seconded by Lieut. R. M. Courtney, 6th "Fusiliers."

That the papers just mentioned be accepted as read and printed in the Proceedings of the Club.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. Alex. K. Kirkpatrick, Reserve of Officers.

Seconded by Capt. D. MacPherson, Reserve of Officers.

That the thanks of the Club be tendered to Lieuts. C. R. F. Coullée and J. J. B. Farley for the papers contributed by them.—Carried.

An adjournment took place at 12.40 for luncheon.

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#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Meeting was called to order by the President, Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, at 2.30 P.M.

The following correspondence was then read by the Hon. Secretary and is submitted for the information of the Members:—

*Extract from Memo for Minister of Militia and Defence, Re. G. O., 78.*

#### BREVET RANK FOR PERMANENT OFFICERS.

"Major-General Gascoigne wishes to add that he will be very glad to give the representations of any officers of the Militia on the matter his most careful consideration, if they will be good enough to submit them through the ordinary channel of communication."

QUEBEC, 26th November, 1896.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the General Officer Commanding the Militia, the following view of General Order No. 73, referring to Brevet\* Promotion and the manner in which it is likely to influence Graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada.

We will assume that A. B. C. and D. are four gentlemen who graduated from the College at the same time, all being equal :—

A enters the Imperial Service by merit with the rank of Second Lieutenant.

B is through political influence put into the Permanent Corps and becomes a Brevet Captain.

C selects of his free will to join a Militia Corps with the rank of Second Lieutenant.

D, having to gain his livelihood and being unable to join a Corps, is posted to the Reserve of Officers as Lieutenant, and where there is no promotion.

On behalf of the Royal Military College Club, I would be pleased to know why the Permanent Corps man has been selected for this rank, which evidently gives him superior rank without any apparent reason for so doing.

Trusting to receive such information as will remove the present opinion that undue advantage is extended to him at the expense of the others,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE,

Captain, R. O.,  
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.

The District Officer Commanding  
No. 7 Military District,  
Quebec, Que.

QUEBEC, 5th December, 1896.

*(From District Officer Commanding 7th Military District.)*

To Captain Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.,  
Quebec.

In answer to your letter of the 26th of November last, re Brevet Promotion, etc., the General Officer Commanding states that he cannot look on it as an official Communication requiring an official reply.

T. J. DUCHESNAY,  
Lieut.-Col.,  
D. O. C. 7th Mil. Dist.

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The proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws, as submitted to the Members in Official Communication No. 1, 1897, was then taken up.

Moved by Captain D. MacPherson, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Lieut. R. W. Leonard, Reserve of Officers,

That voting by proxy be cancelled and that the principle of voting by letter ballot be adopted for the election of Officers and changes of Constitution and By-Laws, and that the Managing Committee be instructed to get up a workable scheme for voting by ballot based on the proposals now before the Meeting. The Committee to have power to put the scheme in force not later than November 1st next.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. F. Drayner, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Lieut. E. H. Drury, Reserve of Officers,

That Article 16 of the Constitution be cancelled and the following substituted therefor :—

Article 16, Sec. 1 :—The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held sometime during the winter months, in rotation, at each of the following centres :—Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, and Toronto.—Carried on division.

The following communication was then read by the Hon. Secretary R. M. College Club :—

The system of voting by proxy having proved unsatisfactory, it is desired by the Managing Committee to obtain the opinion of each member of the Club on the advisability of returning to the system of election of officers, alterations of Constitution, etc., by letter ballot. This will give members in foreign parts an opportunity to take an active interest in the affairs of the Club, as ballots will be sent out in time for return from the most distant country in postal communication. Every member is earnestly requested not to send proxies to any one for the next Annual Meeting, but to write the Secretary, for the information of the meeting, stating definitely approval or disapproval of voting by letter ballot.

MONTREAL, Sept. 25th, 1896.

Capt. E. F. Würtele,  
Sec. Treasurer, R. M. C. Club,  
Quebec.

DEAR WÜRTELE,

Would you kindly issue the above circular to all members as soon as possible. The circular speaks for itself and is considered advisable by the undersigned members of Managing Committee.

GEORGE R. HOOPER,  
JOSEPH B. DE BOUCHERVILLE.  
CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG.  
ALEX. K. KIRKPATRICK.  
P. G. TWINING, Capt. R. E.  
F. M. GAUDET, R. C. A.  
JNO. G. HEARN.

The Secretary informed the Meeting that upon receipt of the above circular he had immediately referred the matter to the President of the Club, who declined to sanction its issue, on the ground that it was contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club, therefore it was not issued. Acting by authority of the President, the circular in question together with the President's letter declining to sanction its issue and giving his reasons therefor were submitted to the Legal Adviser of the Club, for an opinion. The latter fully sustained the President's action and gave it as his opinion that the Secretary would not be justified in issuing the same under the circumstances. The action of the President was fully concurred in by the Secretary of the Club. This circular was subsequently issued by Captain D. MacPherson in his private capacity as a Member of the Club. Explanations were then made by the President, the Hon. Secretary and those Members present who signed the circular as well as by Capt. D. MacPherson. Any reflections upon the two chief Executive Officers of the Club, (the President and Hon. Secretary) were disclaimed and regret expressed that such a construction as submitted by the Hon. Secretary should have been placed upon it. These explanations were deemed satisfactory and no action was taken.

Moved by Lieut. E. H. Drury, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Lieut. F. Drayner, Reserve of Officers,

That Captain J. W. Domville and Lieut. Charles J. Armstrong be elected Scrutineers.—Carried.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, the report of the Scrutineers showing the following as being elected :—

President : Lieut. A. K. Kirkpatrick, R. O., Smith's Falls, Ont.

Vice-Presidents : Capt. F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A., Quebec, Que. ; Capt. J. B. Cochrane, R. O., R. M. C., Kingston, Ont.

Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, pro tem : Capt. H. J. Lamb, "8th Royal Rifles," Quebec, Que.

Captain Ernest F. Würtele declined re-election.

MANAGING COMMITTEE :

Captain H. A. Panet, R. C. A., Quebec, Que.  
Captain C. J. MacDougall, R. R. C. I., St. Johns, Que.  
Captain H. J. Lamb, 8th "Royal Rifles," Quebec, Que.  
Major J. Houliston, 86th Battalion of Infantry, Three Rivers, Que.  
Lieut. W. B. Lesslie, R. E., R. M. C., Kingston, Ont.  
Hon. Solicitor : Lieut. W. A. H. Kerr, R. O., Toronto, Ont. (Re-elected.)

Moved by Major Geo. R. Hooper, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Captain Ernest F. Würtele, Reserve of Officers,

That the thanks of the Club be tendered to the Scrutineers for their services.—Carried.

Moved by Lieut. R. W. Leonard, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Capt. D. MacPherson, Reserve of Officers,

That this Meeting, recognizing the valuable services of the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer during the past year, that he be granted the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) as a recognition of his services.—Carried.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledged with thanks the grant passed in his favor.

Moved by Captain D. MacPherson, Reserve of Officers,

Seconded by Mr. G. L. Mattice,

That the thanks of the Club be tendered to the President and Officers of the Club for their work in the interest of the same during the past year.—Carried.

At 5 P. M. it was :—

Moved by Capt. Jas. W. Domville, 8th N. B. Hussars,

Seconded by Capt. H. J. Lamb, 8th "Royal Rifles,"

That this Meeting do now adjourn.—Carried.

The Annual Dinner was held in the evening at the Windsor Hotel. Covers were laid for fifty and an enjoyable evening spent. The music was supplied by Members of the Band of the "Victoria Rifles."

The Club Guests present were :—Lieut.-Colonel Gerald C. Kitson, Commandant, Royal Military College of Canada ; Major John Bayne MacLean, 6th "Fusiliers," of the *Canadian Military Gazette*, and Gentleman Cadet Battalion Sergt.-Major J. A. Stairs, Royal Military College of Canada.

After the Toasts of "The Queen," and "The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief" had been honoured, the Hon. Secretary read letters of regret from the Hon. Dr. Borden, M.P., Minister of Militia and Defence ; Major-General W. J. Gascoigne, Commanding the Militia ; Colonel Walker Powell, Lieut.-Col. T. J. Duchesnay, Lieut.-Col. H. Smith, Sandford Fleming, Esq., Members of the Board of Visitors to the College ; Major D. C. Forster Bliss, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, and Capt. MacLean, A. D. C. to the General Officer Commanding the Militia.

The following were the Toasts :—

The Queen, proposed by Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, R. O., President.

The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief, proposed by Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, R. O., President.

The Royal Military College of Canada.

#### PURPOSE OF THE COLLEGE.

"The Royal Military College of Canada" was proposed by the President, Captain Francis Joseph Dixon. He said, in part, that he rose with a great deal of pleasure to propose the health of the Royal Military College of Canada, and coupled with it the name of Lieut.-Col. Kitson, the Commandant of the College. In doing so, he said, it might not be uninteresting to "look back" at the Royal Military College, why it was established and what it has done. After the withdrawal of the Imperial troops from Canada, the supply of professionally trained officers, available for the militia service, ceased, and some other system had to be devised to

meet the necessities of the case. The Government obtained reports from Imperial Officers then serving in Canada, as to the best means to be adopted. Finally, Colonel Fletcher, Grenadier Guards, Military Secretary to the Governor-General, was sent to the West Point Military Academy in the United States, and it was on his report that the Royal Military College was established. He recommended the establishment of a Military College on the West Point model. The term was fixed at four years, the same as at West Point, so that Cadets here could learn all Arms of the Service, as well as such instruction as is usually given at a Staff College, thereby combining into one institution a Staff College and all Arms of the Service. So the Government introduced and the House passed, a Military College Act. One of the first clauses of this Act reads as follows:—"The Royal Military College is established for the purpose of imparting a complete education in all branches of Military Tactics, Fortification, Engineering and General Scientific knowledge, in subjects connected with and necessary to a thorough knowledge of the Military Profession, and for qualifying Officers for Command and for Staff Appointments." That is what the Act says. The late Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, at the time Premier, in introducing the Act in the House, stated that the Government intended to follow the West Point model, and that the number of Cadets would be limited, so that reasonable hope could be held out to those who graduated receiving permanent military employment in Canada. He also said, that even the small number of graduates might be in excess of military requirements, but that in such an event, appointments in the various Public Departments, such as Public Works, Railways and Canals, Interior, Marine, etc., etc., would be offered, so that their services would not be lost to the country. In this way there would be no political influence, for appointments would be offered and made strictly in accordance with their seniority on graduating and fitness for the place. To supplement the Act and to carry out its intention, a "Militia General Order" was issued, which is still in force, the content of which is somewhat as follows:—"Cadets on graduating, except those who elect to take Commissions in the Army, shall be appointed Lieutenants in the Militia, and form an 'Unattached List.' Appointments to Permanent Militia Corps will be made solely from the graduates of the College on this list, and after sufficient length of service and rank has been obtained, Permanent Militia Offices will be filled therefrom." The College was opened in 1876 with 18 Cadets, and in 1880 there were over 90 at the College. In the meantime a change of Government had taken place at Ottawa, and very different ideas of the utility of the Military College seemed to prevail. One of the first movements made to "strangle" the College, was to fix a fee of \$100 per annum for each Cadet. This not proving effective, the fee was doubled and made \$200, as it is to-day. The

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reason why Cadets are called on to pay \$200 per annum for four years, for receiving a high-class Military Education, when officers and men attached to the "Drill Schools" are paid, has never been made public. (Applause.)

FAITH NOT KEPT.

In 1883 the Government established Permanent Cavalry and Infantry School Corps, and appointed some 18 officers to them. Out of these 18 appointments there was not one officer appointed in accordance with the "Militia General Order" he already had quoted. Some of those appointed at this time, had never been connected with the Militia, were without any qualification, and had lived in Canada but a very short time. This was repeated at the formation of the Winnipeg and London Schools, and since then has been the general rule in all Schools. The public thus saw that the Government were not keeping faith with the College and its graduates, and that they were utterly ignoring the Act and Militia Regulations. Consequently, the number of Cadets attending the College has been steadily decreasing, until at the present time there are but 45 there. These figures are not obtained from the Militia list; they are correct. On January 1st, 1897, by the Militia List, out of 45 officers in the Permanent Force, appointed since the first graduates left the Military College, 9 only are graduates. It is not pretended that even these 9 obtained their appointments on account of being graduates of the College, but solely on account of their "political pull," appointments that they would, like others, have received, had they never seen the Military College.

Look at West Point, upon the lines of which the College was established. There are some 320 Cadets at West Point. Every graduate goes into the Army. It is true that the United States army is small, but a number go into the "Corps of United States Engineers," and it is under the supervision and direction of officers of this Corps, that the Federal Public Works throughout the United States are constructed. Hence, you do not hear of "boodling" in connection with Federal Public Works, like you do in State and Municipal. Is it likely that you would have heard of the "Curran Bridge" and "Quebec Graving Dock," if the Engineers in charge had been Military College men. (Applause). The officers of the Royal Engineers, supervise the construction of all Imperial Works of every kind throughout the world. Some of our friends say that it would not be right for the Government to give the preference to Military College graduates, for civil employment over the graduates of Universities, like Toronto, McGill and others. But, gentlemen, it should be remembered that the Military College is the only educational institution maintained by the Federal

Government and it is necessary here as in every other country, to offer special inducements to obtain men to go to a Military College for four years, to acquire a scientific military training which is not of pecuniary value in the open market. In the same time a man might be a lawyer or a doctor. Do you suppose that there would be the same keen competition for West Point, Woolwich and Sandhurst, if army commissions were not given to all graduates. He thought this the only country in the world where appointments in the military service were not given to professionally educated military men,—especially when they have them—and where they have to stand aside to make room for those whose sole qualification is a “long and strong political pull.” (Applause.)

Some of our friends also say that 4 or 5 commissions in the army are given graduates of the College every year. And, therefore, Permanent Corps appointments should be given militia officers, other than graduates of the College. It is true that 4 or 5 commissions are given by the Imperial authorities to graduates of the College every year, which are eagerly sought after, and awarded by competition and not by “political pull.” But it is also true that there are 6 commissions in the army allotted solely to militia officers every year, which are not eagerly sought after. In any case, the Military College was established for the benefit of Canada and the Canadian militia, and not as a “Nursery” for the army. Let the Imperial authorities withdraw the army commissions and there will be an empty Military College. We believe that the Permanent Force of Canada is entitled to have as good men as go into the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery, and they are available.

#### COST OF THE COLLEGE.

Up to the present time the Military College has cost some \$2,000,000, and although established, as the Act says, to qualify officers for command and for staff appointments, not one graduate has been appointed, in accordance with the Act and Militia Regulations, to either the Headquarter or District Staff, and there is not even one in the Militia Department. If a clerk is appointed to that Department, a poet or some other person without any military knowledge is the one selected. Do the taxpayers and the militia receive value for the large amount of money the College has cost, which the Minister of Militia (who, he regretted to say, was prevented from being present to-night on account of injuries sustained in a railway accident), and the General Officer Commanding the Militia? If the scheme of the late Mr. Mackenzie when establishing the College were carried out, and graduates appointed to the Staff, Permanent Force, and various other Federal offices, like Public Works, Railways and Canals, Marine, Militia,

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Customs, etc., etc., stationed in various parts of Canada and identified with the militia, as adjutants or otherwise, the benefit of the training these graduates have received would be disseminated through the militia, and in that way, and in that way only, can the country get the benefit of this large expenditure.

“HOSTILE” SPIRIT OF MILITIA DEPARTMENT.

Let us look for a moment at the manner in which the Militia Department have treated the graduates. Shortly after establishing the College, a “Militia General Order” was promulgated, allowing those graduates who are officers on the “Unattached List,” to be attached to corps during the period of their annual drill, and after a certain number of years, promotion was given. This club constantly urged the Department to fix the number of trainings necessary for promotion, but it took 9 years to get the Department to act. This has now been entirely wiped out. Thus the Department have completely “divorced” the graduates of the College from the rest of the Militia. For the last 20 years, every General Officer Commanding has, in his yearly report, strongly recommended that appointments to the Permanent Force should be given to graduates of the Military College, but without effect. To show the respect the Government have for a recommendation from the General Officer Commanding, it may be mentioned that in November, 1895, Major-General Gascoigne made this report:—I venture respectfully to say, that the very least the Government can do is to make a hard and fast rule, never to be broken, that no commission be given to the Permanent Force unless the holder is a graduate of this Military College. It is the very least return which can be made for the annual gift of four commissions in the Imperial Forces. I have commented above on the feeling which sometimes find expression amongst ignorant people of the loss sustained by Canada in these four good men leaving the country, but there is another side to the matter, and that is that seeing that the enormous competition there is at home for army commissions amongst her own sons, it is an extraordinary liberality on the part of England to give commissions from the Military College, and also from the Canadian militia. The liberality is so extraordinary, that I verily believe that if, in any way, an idea gained ground that this liberality was not properly taken advantage of, it would be at once withdrawn. Anyone who really studied what this home competition really was, how terribly it pressed on young Englishmen, could hardly blame the mother country for withdrawing this concession. I respectfully urge that to make appointments to the permanent militia, other than graduates of the College, is not making the return intended by England. I trust, therefore, that it may be in future an unalterable rule that if there is any graduate of the College

available and willing to accept a commission in the Permanent Force, that Graduate should be the one selected.

Within four months after that recommendation was made, three persons were appointed to the Permanent Force, who had never been cadets at the Military College. With a view, apparently, to distribute the "benefit" of these appointments, one was made to the Cavalry, one to the Artillery and one to the Infantry. A short time ago, when the Militia Department required a local architect at Montreal, some people, not knowing the "policy" of the Department, fancied that a Military College graduate would be appointed, out of the 20 or 30 residing in Montreal, several in the active practice of their profession as architects; but not at all. A civilian without military education or knowledge, or connected with the force, is appointed. Shortly after the obnoxious Brevet or "General Order," No. 73, was issued, the General Officer Commanding caused to be issued a "Confidential Memorandum," giving his reasons for justifying the "Order," and inviting militia officers to submit their representations to Headquarters if dissatisfied. Our Secretary, on behalf of over 100 militia officers, graduates of the College, not connected with militia corps, made a representation to Headquarters, pointing out the injustice of this "Order," and received a reply from Headquarters, that it was not an official letter and did not require an official reply. At the time of the "North-West Rebellion, 1885," there were some 60 graduates of the College. Many of these applied to the Militia Department to be sent to the front, but the invariable reply was a refusal on some pretext or other. These refusals were not given because officers and corps were not being sent up, for the Department were at that time appointing provisional officers to corps going up, and bringing civilians from all over Canada and the United States, and sending them up in various staff capacities. But notwithstanding the refusal of the Department, a number, through their personal influence with staff and commanding officers, managed to get there, so that no less than 30 served in the field, west of Winnipeg, and a number did duty east of Winnipeg, in corps ordered out for garrison duty. No less than 4 were "wounded in action" during this short campaign. The "Militia General Orders" require that the Board of Visitors shall every year be appointed and report on the College. In 20 years there has been 3 such reports. For 11 years this Club has been constantly urging the Militia Department to appoint a Board with some graduates on it. In 1895 a Board was appointed with one graduate on it. The report of this Board is the only one that has been made worth anything. What has been the result? The report was made in the autumn of 1895, with a number of recommendations. Up to the present time, February, 1897, one only of the recommendations has been carried out. We have constantly pointed out to the Minister of

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Militia the advantage of having graduates on the board and having annual reports. The Militia Department, as a "bluff" to the public for appointing officers to the Permanent Force without having any qualification, invented an ingenious scheme—and he gave them credit for their ingenuity—called "Long Course Certificates." This was done, apparently, to enable the Minister to satisfy the demands of the low-caste politician who commands all military patronage in Canada, and, like the Boers of South Africa, insists on no educational examination, and a military qualification of fitness so low that there is little danger of his own nominee failing to pass. Thus a Permanent corps officer, after appointment, may attend some lectures for 3 months at the Military College, in several elementary military subjects. If he passes this examination, and some are there for the fourth time, and some have never been there at all, a certificate is granted, which is, by Militia General Orders, made the highest military qualification obtainable in Canada. The diploma of graduation from the Royal Military College, after 4 years, and passing Annual Examinations, is made equivalent to this "Long Course Certificate."

It is said that graduates of the College do not join militia corps. Can you expect them to, when they would be inspected by Officers who do not know as much as themselves? They want to be inspected by, and receive instruction from, officers at least their equals in military knowledge.

He merely mentioned these few things, the President said, to show the attitude of the Militia Department towards the College and its graduates. He could mention many more instances, but it would keep them too late. They were all familiar with the improper appointments made, and the gross injustice, of which they all complained. But with a new Government in power, of the same political party that established the College; with a new and sympathetic Minister of Militia, like the Hon. Dr. Borden, and a new Commandant, like Colonel Kitson, they were in hope that justice would be done the College and justice done the graduates. It affords the Club great pleasure to have with them to-night Colonel Kitson, the recently appointed Commandant, and we trust to see him on every future occasion at our annual dinner, and that the number of Cadets will rapidly increase, but until the Militia Department makes a radical change in its "policy" towards the College and its Graduates, it will be useless. (Applause.)

Replied to by Lieut.-Col. Gerald C. Kitson, and Gentleman Cadet Battalion Sergt-Major J. A. Stairs.

The toast was honored with enthusiasm, and "For He's a Jolly Good

Fellow " was sung as Lieut.-Col. Kitson rose to reply. When the applause had ceased he thanked them very much for the way in which they had drunk his health. He was sorry there were no more representatives present from the College than Mr. Stairs and himself. He had hoped at this meeting to have told them of any proposed changes at the Military College which the Minister might be disposed to make, but unfortunately, as they all knew, Dr. Borden had met with a very serious accident, and he was therefore unable to see him, and hear what proposals he had to make concerning the College. That was disappointing, but, as they knew, with regard to changes which were not sanctioned, the least said about them the better. (Applause.)

He could only say for himself that there had been very few changes that he had wished to make at the College. He had only been there two months, and during that time there had been no punishments. The cadets at the College at the present time were well worthy of the country in every way. (Hear, hear.) He could only say that he wished there were more of them. When he went into the class-room and saw from 35 to 50 empty benches, with only two or three cadets sitting at them, he felt disappointed. He hoped that the Minister of Militia and the whole Government were most anxious to do everything for the College, and he hoped that after this year they would have bigger classes. (Hear, hear.) He could only say, and he had been told so, that the Graduates' Club had done much for the College, and many improvements would not have been carried out had it not been for them. Any suggestion which they might be prepared to make he would be only too ready to hear and give his best consideration to, as he felt they were best able to give an opinion which might be for the good of the College. (Applause.)

Battalion Sergt-Major Stairs, R. M. C., replied briefly on behalf of the cadets.

The Army and Navy and Militia of Canada, proposed by Captain Duncan MacPherson, R. O.

Replied to by Lieut.-Col. Houghton, Lieut.-Col. Mattice, and Mr. Justice Würtele, the latter replying for "The Navy."

The Press, proposed by Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A.

Replied to by Major John Bayne MacLean, 6th "Fusiliers."

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Our Absent Comrades, proposed by Mr. R. W. Leonard, R. O.

Major J. B. MacLean, 6th "Fusiliers," proposed the health of the Royal Military College Club of Canada. He said, in part, that it afforded him a great deal of pleasure to be with them to-night. He took a very warm interest in the College, and had been instrumental in having several young gentlemen enter as Cadets. He knew and appreciated what the Club had done and is doing for the College, and strongly advised the Club not to be disheartened, but to continue their good work. It took time to educate the public up to the necessity of a high-class military training. Having been a "practical politician" in his day, he advised the Club never to "let up" for one minute in its attacks on the Department, as he had found from experience that more was to be obtained from Government by fear than by love. He again thanked them for the pleasure they had afforded him by inviting him to be present to-night. (Applause.)

Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, President, replied, in part, as follows: That he, on behalf of the Royal Military College Club of Canada, returned thanks for the very kind and hearty manner in which they had drunk the Club's health and the very complimentary remarks Major MacLean was good enough to make concerning the Club. We organized in 1884 with 24 members; to-day we number 252, with members in every part of the world. We meet annually in rotation at each of the following centres:— Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal and Quebec. The Club has obtained concessions from the Government of the Province of Ontario, placing graduates of the College on a par with graduates of the Universities and School of Practical Science, so that graduates of the College have to serve but one year in place of three to become "Ontario Land Surveyors." The Law Society of Ontario call to the Bar after 3 years' service in place of five. The Medical Council have abolished Matriculation Examination. We are now endeavoring to obtain concessions in regard to Architects. In Quebec, we have obtained concessions in regard to Land Surveyors. All these concessions have been obtained by this Club without the slightest assistance from the Militia Department. We get no concessions from the Militia Department, but possibly, at our next annual dinner, we will be able to give the Department credit for something. He again thanked them for the toast. (Applause.)

Mr. Chas. J. Armstrong, 5th "Royal Scots," proposed the health of the Secretary, Captain Ernest F. Würtele, who responded in fitting terms.

The Ladies, proposed by Mr. Randall Davidson.

Replied to by Mr. Chas. J. Armstrong, 5th "Royal Scots."

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
HON. SECRETARY-TREASURER  
OF THE  
Royal Military College Club of Canada  
FOR THE YEAR 1896.

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QUEBEC, 15th January, 1897.

*To the President, Officers and Members,  
Royal Military College Club of Canada.*

GENTLEMEN.

NO. 1, GENERAL REVIEW.

In presenting the Annual Report for the year 1896, a general review of the leading events of the year in question, will tend to show that as a Club, considerable has been accomplished in the direction of furthering the interests of its Members, both individually and collectively. When it is considered that the Membership is limited to those who have attended the Royal Military College of Canada, as Cadets, and who are from the nature of their appointments and occupations, residing throughout the British Empire and other countries, and thereby widely scattered, it may be taken as being equal to, if not surpassing, the work of former years, and as being in every sense fully up to the expectations of its members.

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If the zeal, activity and interest manifested in the past is maintained as the membership increases, we can look forward to a future which will materially assist the members and the College. Owing to the efforts of the Club with regard to the latter institution, certain concessions have already been obtained in favor of graduates, all of which tends to increase the number of Cadets in residence, as upon the future advantages to be gained by them will depend in a great measure the number that will enter from year to year. A review of the past few years will indicate that these advantages are increasing. Most important changes have taken place in the College, as a direct result of the report of the Board of Visitors. This report was entirely due to the agitation of the Club, who were in a position to fully understand the absolute necessity of an inspection, and who very strongly represented to the Government the desirability of carrying out the act with regard to an annual Inspection, and who further took action in requesting the appointment of graduates on the Board. This was partly followed out, and as a result, we can look with pride at the work performed by our representative, who found himself in a very delicate position, but who nevertheless sustained his part in a highly satisfactory manner. This inspection was instrumental in the radical change which has taken place. It may be further pointed out that when the Board had completed its work, it devolved upon the Club to see that it was acted upon, and had it not been for the circulars, which were sent to the members of the House of Commons and of the Senate, and to the action of our President, Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, who spent a month at Ottawa during the session, it is very probable that the report would have remained a dead letter and its recommendations lost sight of.

There yet remains much to be done, more especially in connection with military appointments, which have hitherto for a period of some 17 years been given in a manner most inconsistent with the militia regulations and with the objects of the establishment of the College. These appointments have never been satisfactorily explained by those responsible for the irregular system put into force in the year 1880 and continued to the period we are now dealing with. To maintain a College at a large outlay to the country, and then neglect to make use of its graduates for the benefit of the militia, is a question which has been looked upon as being beyond all just and fair consideration, and as being due to a system of Government which fails to appreciate the duties devolving upon it, and subordinates the benefit of the militia to political exigencies and in marked contrast to the system pursued at West Point, Woolwich, Sandhurst, and every other Military College in the world. Notwithstanding repeated representations made to the Department of Militia and Defence, commissions were given

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during the past year to persons not in possession of the requisite qualification as required by the Militia Regulations, and who had resided in Canada but a short time and in no sense entitled to consideration in this respect.

Her Majesty was pleased during the year to confer honours upon two members of the Club, by their appointment to the Distinguished Service Order, in connection with the operations on the West Coast of Africa in 1894, and of the Dongola Expedition of 1896.

A graduate was a member of the team which proved itself the best shooting team in the British Army.

Another was a member of the Bisley Team and formed part of the team that won the Kolopore Cup, this being the first occasion upon which we have had a representative in this capacity.

The Imperial authorities have given an extra commission yearly for a period of five years, in the Indian Staff Corps, with effect in 1896, thereby allowing of its acceptance by one of the graduates of the year named.

At the military tournament held in Toronto, a number of cadets were present to represent the College, and acquitted themselves in a manner to bring credit upon themselves and their Alma Mater.

During the summer months the Federal Government employed a party to make a reconnaissance, as in the past two years.

New regulations have been issued by the Militia authorities effecting graduates, more especially that of the Reserve of Officers. The above briefly indicates the leading events of the year and which will be dealt with more fully under separate headings in this Report.

#### NO. 2, MEMBERSHIP.

Twenty-one new Members were added during the year, from which we require to deduct a loss of one, by death, leaving a net gain of twenty. Of this number fifteen composed the Graduating Class of 1896, all of whom joined the Club as a body.

Statement of Membership :—

1st January, 1896. Total Membership this date.....	232
Enrolled during the year 1896, Ordinary Members.....	21
	— 253
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Loss by death.....	1
Total Membership 1st January, 1897.....	— 252

Subdivided as follows :—

Life Members.....	16
Ordinary Members.....	236
	— 252
Members in good standing.....	128
Members in arrears.....	124
	— 252

List of new Members for year 1896 :—

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

Alexander, R. C. F.	Kirkpatrick, G. H.
Cantlie, J. A., Jr.	Lafferty, F. D.
Cantlie, W. H. N.	Leach, F. E.
Cochrane, K. C.	Mattice, G. L.
Evans, A. S.	Parks, J. H., Jr.
Hardie, G. E.	Russel, A. M.
Hayne, G. O.	Stephen, C. M.

Hudon, M. L. E.	Weatherbe, D.
Jones, A. M.	Weller, J. L.
Holden, J. C.	Wilby, A. W. R.
	Wood, C. C.

The following statement will show the increase in membership from year to year and is submitted for the information of the members:—

For the year 1884.....	25	Members.
do 1885.....	3	do
do 1886.....	16	do
do 1887.....	17	do
do 1888.....	16	do
do 1889.....	9	do
do 1890.....	15	do
do 1891.....	3	do
do 1892.....	53	do
do 1893.....	27	do
do 1894.....	33	do
do 1895.....	23	do
do 1896.....	21	do
	<hr/>	
Total enrolled.....	261	do
Deduct, Loss by death and resignation.....	9	do
	<hr/>	
Present membership.....	252	do

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The increase in membership during the year was due to the efforts of the undermentioned members :—

Lieut. C. J. Armstrong, 5th Batt.      Captain J. B. Cochrane, R. O.

Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A.      Lieut. W. H. Sullivan, R. O.

Captain Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.

No. 3, FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Financial Statement submitted herewith shows an actual deficit of \$72.18, representing a balance due in connection with the printing of the Proceedings of \$45.00, and a balance due the Secretary for General Expense of \$31.90. This deficit is more than amply covered by arrears of Dues, as will be seen on reference to the statements embodied in this report.

The Receipts and Expenditure for the year is submitted herewith :—

STATEMENT OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

RECEIPTS.

1896.

1st Jan. To Balance this date.					\$400 76
“ Annual Subscriptions for year 1892	\$	1	00		
“ do do do 1893		2	00		
“ do do do 1894		19	00		
“ do do do 1895		43	00		
“ do do do 1896		181	00		
“ do do do 1897		11	00		
“ do do do 1898		1	00		
				—————	258 00
Carried forward.....					\$658 76

Brought forward - - -		\$658 76
To Interest on deposits in Union Bank	\$ 15 25	
“ Difference in exchange on remittances	66	15 91
“ Proceeds sale of Proceedings, 3 Copies		1 15
“ Proceeds sale of Distinctive Badges, 1 each, Watch Charm and Scarf Pin, at	\$ 3 25	6 50
		<u>\$682 32</u>

EXPENDITURE.

By following payments :—

“ Ryrie Bros., Toronto, Distinctive Badges.	\$ 6 00
“ Subscription to “Broad Arrow,” One year.	7 50
“ Annual Dinner Fund, Deficit Kings- ton Dinner.	3 50
“ Ernest F. Würtele, Expenses at- tending Meeting.	14 00
“ Ernest F Würtele, Grant as Secretary	100 00
“ Sabiston Litho. & Pub. Co., Cut of Secretary.	5 55
“ W. & J. G. Mulrooney, Letter Book.	2 25
“ J. C. Wilson & Co., 500 Manilla Envelopes.	4 75
Carried forward - - -	<u>\$143 55</u>

658 76

15 91

1 15

6 50

\$682 32

Brought forward - - - \$143 55

By Subscription "Canadian Military Gazette," for the years 1895 and 1896. 4 00

" G. Seifert, Field Glass, Club prize to R. M. C. 10 00

" E. Vincent, Official Communications. 14 00

" E. Vincent, Envelopes and Letter Heads. 8 00

" Daily Telegraph, on account Proceedings. 85 00

" Ernest F. Würtele, on account General Expense. 10 00

" Postage, Telegrams, Express, etc. 3 05

Total Expenditure. \$277 60

" Balance in Union Bank of Canada. \$400 00

" Cash in hand 4 72

404 72

682 32

Cash Balance subdivided as follows :—

On Special Deposit, 16 Life Subscriptions, at \$25 00. 400 00

Available for general use, 4 72

\$404 72

No. 4, AUDIT AND YEARLY STATEMENTS.

The Managing Committee, in accordance with the By-Laws, appointed Major V. B. Rivers and Captain H. A. Panet, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, Auditors. These gentlemen made an audit of the books and vouchers of the Club, and will submit a written report at this meeting.

The yearly statement of the books is submitted herewith:—

YEARLY STATEMENT.

TAKEN 1ST JANUARY, 1897.

DR.	CR.
Expense Account.....\$ 13 50	Life Membership Account..\$400 00
Printing " ..... 41 60	Daily Telegraph " .. 45 00
Stationery " ..... 40 00	Ernest F. Würtele " .. 31 90
Cash " ..... 404 72	Profit & Loss " .. 82 43
Reference Book Account... 38 36	
College Song " ... 21 15	
<u>\$559 33</u>	<u>\$559 33</u>

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.

Cash.....	\$ 404 72
Cash Box.....	\$ 7 00
Club Die.....	6 50
	<u>13 50</u>
34 Copies Proceedings, 1894, at \$0 35.....	\$11 90
68 " " 1895, " \$0 32½.....	22 10
234 " By-Laws " \$0 03¼.....	7 60
	<u>41 60</u>
Carried forward - - -	\$459 82



Brought forward - - - \$459 82

Set of Books, Cash, Journal, Ledger, Minute, Address, Letter Record, Service Record, Memorandum, Attendance Register, Employment Ledger and Scrap Book.....	40 00
137 Reference Beoks, at \$0 28.....	38 36
141 College Songs, " 0 15.....	21 15
	<hr/>
	<u>\$559 33</u>

LIABILITIES.

Life Membership Subscriptions.. .....	\$400 00
Daily Telegraph..... .....	45 00
Ernest F. Würtele..... .....	31 90
	<hr/>
	\$ 476 90
Balance to credit Profit and Loss Account .....	82 43
	<hr/>
	<u>\$559 33</u>

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\$400 00  
45 00  
31 90  
82 43

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\$ 404 72

13 50

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\$459 82

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

DR.		CR.	
General Expense Account.	\$276 87	Interest Account.	\$ 74 83
Printing do	545 76	Annual Dinner Account.	1 05
Stationery do	78 22	Distinctive Badge Acct.	7 70
Stationery, (Books) do	4 00	College Song Account.	11 65
Postage do	165 84	Annual Subsc. do 1884	25 00
Salaries do	375 00	do do do 1885	22 00
Reference Book do	128 11	do do do 1886	39 00
	<hr/>	do do do 1887	55 00
	\$1,573 80	do do do 1888	67 00
Balance to Credit Profit		do do do 1889	73 00
and Loss Account.	82 43	do do do 1890	80 00
	<hr/>	do do do 1891	78 00
		do do do 1892	129 00
		do do do 1893	247 00
		do do do 1894	270 00
		do do do 1895	263 00
		do do do 1896	200 00
		do do do 1897	12 00
		do do do 1898	1 00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$1,656 23		\$1,656 23
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At the close of the year the books were written up and closed into Profit and Loss Account, for a period extending from the organization of the Club in 1884 to 1896, as per Statement submitted above.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ACTIVE LIABILITIES.

<i>Daily Telegraph</i> .....	\$45 00
Ernest F. Würtele.....	31 90
	<hr/>
	\$76 90

ACTIVE ASSETS.

Cash available for general use.....	\$ 4 72
Balance to debit of Active Liabilities.....	72 18
	<u>—————\$76 90</u>

This active liability of \$72.18 is amply covered by the arrears in dues made up as follows :—

For the years 1885 to 1894, both inclusive.....	\$230 00
For the year 1895.....	133 00
For the year 1896.....	225 00
	<u>—————</u>
Total arrears 1st January, 1897.....	\$588 00
Written off as doubtful.....	188 00
	<u>—————</u>
Probable receipts on account of arrears.....	<u><u>\$400 00</u></u>

No. 5, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

The correspondence during the year embraced a variety of subjects of importance to the Club. It is pleasing to note the marked increase of interest taken by individual members in communicating with the officers of the Club on matters not merely of a personal nature, but with a view of rendering assistance to other members, whose suggestions are appreciated to their full value. This is a move in the right direction and in keeping with the spirit and objects of the organization of the Club.

The following information is submitted to the Members :—

Record of Correspondence :—

Number of letters written	533
Number of letters received.	519
	<u>—————</u>
Total number of letters exchanged during the year 1896.	1,052

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Official Communications issued :

Official Communication No. 1, 1896. 233

Circular Letter Re : Expression of Opinion at Annual Meeting,

To Senators 79

To Members House of Commons. 209

To the Press and others. 83

———— 371

Circular letter, Re : Report Board of Visitors.

To Cabinet Ministers, Press, etc. 68

Proceedings 12th Ann'l Meeting. 308

Constitution and By-Laws. 25

Reference Books. 16

Reference Book Supp. Nos. 1 & 2 16

Addresses regist. during the year. 37

Adresses supplied to Members. 22

Members are requested to notify the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer of changes which may occur in their addresses, with a view of ensuring their receiving the publications of the Club, and to permit of direct communication with them when the opportunity presents itself. Members are herewith requested to advise the addresses of such of the Graduates and ex-Cadets, who are not already Members, with a view of enabling the Officers to communicate with them in the interest of the Club, who desire to enroll all former Cadets as Members of the Club.

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number

NO. 6, THE SCRAP BOOK.

There has been a slight increase in the number of contributors to the Scrap Book over that of the previous year, with a marked increase in the number of papers, etc., contributed. The list is submitted herewith :—

Lieut. C. J. Armstrong, 5th Battn.	3
Lieut. R. W. Brigstocke, R. O.,	2
Lieut. J. M. Clapp, R. O.,	2
Capt. K. J. R. Campbell, D. S. O., Suffolk Rgt.,	2
Lieut. W. B. Carruthers, R. O.,	1
Capt. J. B. Cochrane, R. O.,	12
Capt. W. E. Cooke, R. C. A.,	2
Lieut. C. R. F. Coutlée, R. O.,	1
Lieut. C. F. J. B. DeBoucherville, R. O.,	1
Capt. Francis Joseph Dixon, R. O.,	66
Capt. J. W. Domville, 8th Hussars,	2
Lieut. J. F. Fraser, R. O.,	9
Lieut. F. N. Gibbs, R. O.,	1
Capt. P. E. Gray, R. A.,	8
Lieut. L. Homfray Irving, R. L.,	7
Lieut. A. K. Kirkpatrick, R. O.,	94
Capt. C. J. MacDougall, R. R. C. I.,	2
Capt. D. MacPherson, R. O.,	1
Lieut.-Col. J. B. Ridout, late "Cameronians,"	2
Inspector J. E. Sanders, N. W. M. Police,	1
Capt. P. G. Twining, R. E.,	5
Capt. Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.,	103
	—
Total,	327

Treasurer of  
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No. 7, THE DISTINCTIVE BADGE.

Distinctive Badges were supplied to the following Members :—

W. F. McLaren,      Watch Charm.  
E. H. Drury,         Scarf Pin.

Members are reminded that Distinctive Badges may be obtained direct through the Secretary, in the form of Scarf Pins, Cuff Links, Studs or Watch Charms.

No. 8, DONATIONS TO THE CLUB.

The following contributions were received during the year :—

Department of Militia & Defence per Col. C. Eug. Panet.	Militia List and Reports, Bound Copies Militia General Orders.
School of Practical Science, Toronto, Ont.	Papers read before the School of Practical Science, Toronto.
Library of Victoria University.	Calendar 1896-1897.
Captain P. E. Gray, R. A.	Proceedings Royal Artillery Insti- tution.
Lieut. Vernon L. Beer, R. A.	Proceedings Royal Artillery Insti- tution.
Lieut. G. F. F. Osborne, R. E.	Royal Engineer Journals.
Lieut. Jas. F. Fraser, R. O.	Militia Reports.
Capt. E. T. B. Gilmore, R. O.	R. M. C. Waltzes.
Lieut. E. St. J. Maunsell, R. O.	Annual Report Boston Transit Commission, 1895.
Capt. Francis Joseph Dixon, R. O.	Report Dominion Artillery Asso- ciation.

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- Lieut. Geo. E. Laidlaw, R. O.      Transactions Canadian Institute.
- Lieut. J. M. Clapp, R. O.      Annual Report upon the Improvement of rivers and harbours in Oregon, etc., 1894-1895.
- Regimental Publications.      "The Maple Leaf," Royal Canadians. "The Seventh Regiment Gazette," New York. "The V. R. I. Magazine." Canada.

NO. 9, THE DEATH ROLL.

It is the painful duty of the Secretary to place on record the deaths of three ex-Cadets, which occurred during the year. But little information was available, and which is given herewith:—

PERCY JAMES NEWMAN,

Attended the College during the years 1886 to 1888. Died in the month of January at Salisbury, Mashonaland, South Africa, of coast fever, after a residence in that country of some six years.

MERLE SHAFTO KNIGHT,

Attended the College during the years 1884 to 1888. Died in Gwalam, Guatemala, Central America, from malaria typhoid. Previous to his illness he was employed in engineering work on the construction of a railway.

WILLIAM KIRBY YOUNG MACAULAY,

Attended the College during the years 1885 to 1887. Died in the United States.

NO. 10, LOCAL DINNER AT MONTREAL.

A local dinner took place in Montreal on the evening of the 14th of March, in the Mess Room of the Victoria Rifles' Armoury, placed at their disposal by Lieut.-Col. Starke, Victoria Rifles. The orchestra of that corps was present and played a number of pleasing selections.

The members present being :—

- Captain Duncan MacPherson, R. O., (Presiding).  
Major George R. Hooper, 3rd Field Rattery.  
Major J. Houliston, 86th Battalion.  
Captain T. H. Browne, 5th Battalion.  
Captain J. W. Domville, 8th Hussars.  
Captain J. E. L. du Plessis, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
Captain G. A. S. Hamilton, Victoria Rifles.  
Captain C. J. MacDougall, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry.  
Captain J. A. Moren, Royal Artillery.  
Captain P. G. Twining, Royal Engineers.  
Captain Ernest F. Würtele, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. L. J. A. Amos, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. M. C. E. Amos, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. C. J. Armstrong, Royal Scots of Canada.  
Lieut. R. M. Courtney, 6th Fusiliers.  
Lieut. F. L. Crawford, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. J. B. De Boucherville, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. F. Drayner, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. E. H. Drury, Reserve of Officers.  
Lieut. J. G. Gibson, Reserve of Officers.

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Lieut. J. F. E. Johnston, Reserve of Officers.

Lieut. B. McLennan, Reserve of Officers.

Lieut. J. B. F. Taylor, Reserve of Officers.

Lieut. E. A. Whitehead, Reserve of Officers.

Lieut. E. B. Wilson, Reserve of Officers.

Second Lieut. B. H. O. Armstrong, Royal Engineers.

Mr. H. C. Baker,

Mr. P. W. W. Bell.

Mr. J. A. Cantlie.

Mr. Randall Davidson.

Mr. M. L. E. Hudon.

Mr. G. L. Mattice.

Mr. P. Armstrong.

The following guests were present :—

Lieut.-Colonel G. R. Starke, 3rd Battalion.

Mr. Forshaw Day, Royal Military College Staff.

#### No. 11, THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

The members as a body will be pleased to learn that two members have been appointed to the Distinguished Service Order during the year. The following information will prove interesting and will indicate the services rendered, and in recognition of which, they were decorated by Her Majesty the Queen.

Captain KENNETH J. R. CAMPBELL, D. S. O.,  
Suffolk Regiment.

War Office, 10th April, 1896.

The Queen was graciously pleased to appoint to the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of service on the West Coast of Africa, Captain K. J. R. Campbell, Suffolk Regiment, to be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, for services in the operations against the Chief Nanna of Benin, during the period August to October, 1894. Capt. Campbell was then employed with the forces of the Niger Coast Protectorate. On the 5th of September he was invested by the Queen with the Distinguished Service Order, on which occasion Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein was present with Her Majesty and Sir Arthur Bigge, Lord Ed. Pelham Clinton and Lieut.-Col. Davidson were in attendance. Capt. Campbell had the honour of lunching with Sir Arthur Bigge and the members of the household.

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Lieutenant E. P. C. GIROUARD, D. S. O., R. E.

War Office, 17th November, 1896.

The Queen was graciously pleased to appoint to the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of services during the operations in the Soudan, (The Dongola Expedition), to bear date 18th November, 1896, as a Companion of the Order, Lieut. E. P. C. Girouard, R. E. (Employed with the Egyptian Army.)

Captain Campbell, attended the R. M. College from 1879 to 1881 and Lieut. Girouard, graduated therefrom in 1886.

#### No. 12, THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

In connection with the Soudan Campaign, the following Graduates were on service :—

Lieut. J. J. B. Farley, Prince of Wales' Regiment, Graduate of 1893.

Lieut. E. P. C. Girouard, D. S. O., R. E., Graduate of 1886.

Lieut. A. G. Bremner, R. E., Graduate of 1888.

Lieut. W. A. Hamilton, Connaught Rangers, Graduate of 1889.

Lieut. Girouard, D. S. O., R. E., was selected for special service in Egypt in April, 1896, as Director of Railways. The following appears in Sir Herbert Kitchener's despatches, 30th September, 1896 :—

“The railway services were very efficiently performed under the direction of Lieutenant Girouard, Director of Railways, (Royal Engineers). The construction of 110 miles of railway during the very trying summer and in difficult country, involved much labor and constant supervision on the part of this officer and his assistants.”

Lieut. Bremner, R. E., was employed in the capacity of Assistant Field Engineer.

Lieuts. Farley and Hamilton were on service with their respective Battalions.

With reference to this campaign, it will be remembered that Lieut.-Col. Domville made an offer to the Imperial authorities to take the 8th Princess Louise's New Brunswick Hussars for service in the Soudan. Some six members of the graduating class offered their services, as well as other graduates, namely, Capt. H. J. Lamb, 8th Royal Rifles; Lieut. C. J. Armstrong, 5th Royal Scots, and Lieut. F. Drayner, R. O. The reply received was that graduates would receive the first consideration in all cases. There may have been others who offered in a like manner, but if so, no notification was sent to the Club.

#### NO. 13, THE INDIAN STAFF CORPS.

It will doubtless be very gratifying to the members to be made conversant with the fact, that an agreement has been entered into between the War Office and the India Office, whereby one appointment to the Unattached List for the Staff Corps will be given for competition annually, amongst army candidates of the Royal Military College of Canada, for a period of five years, commencing with the year 1896.

The order reads as follows :—

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

---

APPOINTMENT OF GRADUATES TO THE INDIAN STAFF CORPS.

---

His Excellency the Governor-General has been advised by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the Secretary of State for India in Council, has agreed to one appointment to the Unattached List for the Indian Staff Corps, being offered for competition annually, amongst army candidates at the Royal Military College of Canada for the next five years.

The first to avail himself of this concession was Gentleman Cadet Grant Espie Hardie, who graduated in June, 1896, and was appointed to the Unattached List on the 23rd of September, with a view to his appointment to the Indian Staff Corps.

NO. 14, THE BISLEY TEAM.

The Bisley Team of 1896 had among its members a graduate of the College, in the person of Captain J. L. Weller, Adjutant of the 59th Battalion of Infantry and a graduate of 1883. He was selected as one of eight, who fired for and won the Kolapore Cup, taking fourth place with a score of 82 points, the highest made being 88.

Upon his return from Bisley he was tendered a complimentary dinner by the citizens of the town of Cornwall, which took place on the 30th of September. He was the recipient of a gold medal presented by the Dominion Government to each member who composed the Kolapore Team. The medal is of gold, and is in the form of an elephant, which, with the tiger, forms the insignia of India. The elephant is surmounted by an Imperial crown. The ribbon is crimson, blue and orange, and the face of the gold clasp pin is surmounted by a tiger and bears the legend "Kolapore-Bisley." On the reverse side of the medal is the inscription, "Presented by the Government of the Dominion of Canada to Captain J. L. Weller, 59th Battalion."

The following table will show his standing in the matches and prizes won. It may be well to state that in most of the matches there were over 2,000 competitors.

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Her Majesty the Queen's Prize...	384th place.	£ 1 0 0
St. George's Challenge Vase.....	51st do	5 0 0
Prince of Wales.....	26th do	3 0 0
Thorburn.....	1st do	15 0 0
Martin's Cup.....	49th do	2 0 0
Golden Penny... ..	16th do	1 0 0
The Regiment.....	8th do	3 5 0
Stewart.....	5th do	2 0 0
Burt.....	16th do	1 0 0
London and South Western Ry..	26th do	1 0 0
Wantage.....	5th do	1 2 0
Volunteer Aggregate.....	33rd do	2 0 0
Grand Aggregate .....	89th do	2 0 0
Corporation of London.....	7th do	5 0 0
Kolapore Cup, (Canada).....	1st	10 0 0

With the Volunteer Aggregate he won a handsome cup presented by Sir Donald A. Smith to the highest of the Canadian Team, and in the Grand Aggregate a Bronze Medal.

No. 15, THE QUEEN'S PRIZE FOR SHOOTING.

The Queen's Cup for rifle shooting by teams of eight, is considered one of the best competitions throughout Her Majesty's Regular Forces. The very best marksmen only can have the honor of representing their corps. In 1885 the victory was distinguished by success far surpassing any previous record, 96.5 points having been made out of a possible 105 by the team of the Royal Munster Fusiliers. The success of the team was

considered so great that the members thereof were duly recognized in the warmest terms of appreciation by the Viceroy of Ireland and Field Marshal Lord Roberts, on a specially appointed parade. They were summoned from Ireland to Windsor Castle by Her Majesty, in order that they might receive their reward from the hands of the Queen of the British Empire. This took place on the 4th of March. The deputation appeared in full uniform, and consisted of the Colonel, Adjutant, Second Lieutenant, Sergt.-Instructor, Colour-Sergeant, and one Lance-Corporal. Second Lieutenant R. H. B. Magee, a graduate of 1894, formed one of the team, of which he is one of the best shots. They received from Her Majesty the Silver Challenge Trophy, which is awarded annually to the best shooting team in the service.

#### NO. 16, THE CAIRO MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

At the Military Tournament held in Cairo, Egypt, in 1896, (open to all British officers in Egypt), Lieut. J. J. B. Farley, Prince of Wales' North Staffordshire Regiment, won the fencing championship and the grand aggregate in the military contests. He came within one point of being champion marksman in Egypt. Lieut. Farley is a graduate of 1893. At the presentation of new Colours to the Regiment by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, he had the honour of carrying the old Colours during the ceremony.

Lieut. Farley designed and painted a large band programme in connection with the Regimental ball, with appropriate pictures around the border. At the request of the Duke of Cambridge, the Officers placed their names upon the same and it was sent to him.

#### NO. 17, THE WARREN CHALLENGE SHIELD.

In the Warren Challenge Shield, presented by Major-General Sir Charles Warren, open to teams of six men of any rank, at 200, 500 and 600 yards, there were 23 teams in the competition, the trophy was taken by the 34th Company, Royal Engineers, which was commanded by Captain D. H. Ridout, R. E., a graduate of 1885.

#### NO. 18, THE TORONTO MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

At the Military Tournament, held in Toronto, on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of June, the Cadets of the College and ex-Cadets were represented. The appearance of the Cadets was due to a suggestion made by Captain H. A. Panet, R. C. A. A squad of ten Cadets were present, and who

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were quartered at Stanley Barracks, under the command of Lieut. W. B. Lesslie, R. E. Gymnastic exercises were given on each day under the direction of Sergeant-Major Morgans. The Bayonet Combat between Regimental Teams of Infantry was won by the Cadets. The following took prizes :—

Bayonet vs. Bayonet, won by Cadet D. Weatherbe.

Fencing, (Officers,) Captain H. A. Panet, R. C. A., First.

Sword vs. Sword, Mounted, Captain H. A. Panet, First; Captain W. E. Cooke, Second.

Sword vs. Sword, Lieut. F. B. Osler, R. O., a close second.

Heads and Posts, Officers, Captain W. E. Cooke, R. C. A., tied for 1st place.

Riding and jumping, Officers, Capt. W. E. Cooke, R. C. A., 3rd place.

Sword vs. Lance, Mounted, Officers, Captain H. A. Panet, First; Captain W. E. Cooke, Second.

#### NO. 19, THE MHOW ASSAULT-AT-ARMS, 1896.

An Assault-at-Arms took place on the 16th, 17th and 18th of November, at Mhow, which was open to representatives of all the Corps in the District, both British and Native. In the competitions which were open to British Troops, Lieut. W. F. Sweny, Royal Fusiliers, graduate of 1893, proved the winner in the following competitions, open to Officers :—

Fencing, Lieut. Sweny, 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

Sabres, Lieut. Sweny, 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

#### NO. 20, MEMORIAL TABLET.

A tablet to the memory of Lieut. Somerled Lorn Paterson, late of

the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, was erected in St. George's Church, Montreal. The tablet is of brass, in an oaken frame, and bears the following inscription:—

IN MEMORY OF  
LIEUTENANT  
SOMERLED LORN PATERSON,  
THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS,  
SON OF A. T. PATERSON, ESQ., OF MONTREAL,  
WHO DIED AT QUETTA, INDIA, ON THE  
25TH JULY, 1895,  
FROM THE EFFECTS OF AN ACCIDENT AT POLO,  
ON THE 22ND JULY, 1895, AGED 24 YEARS.  
ERECTED BY HIS BROTHER OFFICERS

The memorial was manufactured in England and shipped to Montreal by the Officers of the Regiment. It was placed on the eastern wall of the church.

NO. 21, MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE.

The Federal Government employed another party of graduates for the purpose of making a military reconnaissance during the summer months, under the supervision of Captain A. H. Lee, R. A. The following graduates were employed:—

J. C. Holden, F. D. Lafferty, G. H. Kirkpatrick, and J. H. Parks, Jr., of 1896, and R. W. Brigstocke, of 1894. Messrs. Brigstocke and Lafferty completed the work at the Royal Military College.

This year the survey comprised two parties instead of one. One party was employed surveying that strip of land ten miles wide along the northern bank of the St. Lawrence River, from Kingston to Coteau du Lac,



where the survey was left off last year. This party started out on July 2nd, and were paid off on August 22nd, having completed a survey of 1,300 square miles, which is considered unusually rapid work, even for a military survey. The second party was employed at the same time on the Niagara Peninsula. Captain Lee, R. A., was in charge of both parties, and had to be continually travelling between the two, exercising supervision over both.

The map compiled by the St. Lawrence party in its rough state, is 33 feet long, and in this particular beats the record. The finished plans present a complete topographical map of the district surveyed at a scale of three inches to a mile, showing every house, wood, elevation and all details of the country.

The country surveyed includes the Eastern Townships of Quebec, the Island of Montreal, the country in the vicinity of Montreal, including a radius of 20 to 40 miles; the northern bank of the St. Lawrence, from Montreal to Kingston, ten miles wide, and the Niagara Peninsula.

#### NO. 22, REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The Secretary entered into correspondence with the members of the Managing Committee with reference to the following matters, which were referred to them at the annual meeting, viz :—

1st. Proposed adoption of "L'Alouette" as the College Song.

2nd. Proposed admission to membership in the Club of Canadians serving in the Imperial Service, who joined the army previous to the organization of the College.

3rd. Proposed adoption of a Distinctive Ribbon and Tie.

4th. Attendance of graduates at Royal Schools of Instruction for regimental work after graduation.

Upon receipt of the views of the different members, a meeting was called for the 5th of August at the Garrison Club, Quebec, and at which the same were fully discussed, and in which the following took part :—

Captain Ernest F. Würtele, R. O., Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.

Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A. }  
Lieut. John G. Hearn. } Members of the Managing  
Committee.

And the following members of the Club who were invited to be present :—

Captain A. G. G. Würtele, R. O., R. M. C.

Captain K. J. R. Campbell, D. S. O., Suffolk Regiment.

Major T. Benson, Royal Canadian Artillery.

Captain H. J. Lamb, 8th Royal Rifles.

Captain J. E. L. DuPlessis, Royal Canadian Artillery.

The conclusions arrived at will be submitted to the meeting under separate headings for approval or otherwise, as the case may be. It was deemed advisable to make a separate report in each case, so as to permit of the matters referred to being taken into consideration conveniently and advantageously.

No. 23, R. M. C. WALTZES.

A communication was received from Captain E. T. B. Gillmore, R. O., on the 15th of March, in which he very kindly offered to give the Club the plates and copyright of the R. M. C. Waltzes, of which he is the composer. The matter was submitted to the Managing Committee, and who decided to accept the offer, since which the plates have been received, and it is proposed to obtain 100 copies. These, when obtained, will be available to the members on the same basis as the College Song.

No. 24, THE ASHANTI EXPEDITION.

Two graduates of the College were employed in this expedition, Lieut. C. C. VanStraubensee, R. A., who was the only subaltern of that corps sent out, and Lieut. D. S. MacInnes, R. E., the latter with a detachment of the Telegraph Battalion.

The following extract from "The Canadian Gazette" of the 12th of March will prove of interest :—

“Many of our readers will be glad to hear a good account of Lieut. MacInnes, son of Senator MacInnes, who took part in the Ashanti Expedition. He was caught by the fever just as he had practically finished his work, and was sent home in the “Coromandel.” As he had three attacks of fever on the way, the doctors insisted on putting him on shore at Gibraltar. He recovered from his third attack in the hospital there. The doctors, however, told him he must remain in the south for six weeks before returning to England, and he left last week for the South of France. There were only two telegraph officers sent out in the Ashanti Expedition, and as Captain Curtis, his superior officer, was laid up with the fever shortly after passing Prashu, on the way to Kumassi, Lieut. MacInnes may be said to have had pretty hard work.

“The natives have a pretty habit of cutting out yards of the wire to make bracelets of, and increase the difficulties of keeping up communication. However, the Canadian officer got into Kumassi with the telegraph line a few hours after the troops did.”

#### No. 25, INCORPORATION.

Although on two occasions the officers endeavored to have the matter of the incorporation of the Club carried out in the Province of Ontario, it was found that for the want of time, the matter could not be successfully put through. The first occasion was during the annual meeting of the Club in Kingston, and the second during the time certain of the members were in Ottawa to interview the Hon. the Minister of Militia and Defence. In view of the limited time at the disposal of the officers, it has been deemed advisable to have the matter attended to by some of the members resident in Toronto, and for which purpose all necessary papers, prepared by our Hon. Solicitor, Mr. W. A. H. Kerr, have been sent to that city, with the request that the matter be attended to with as little delay as possible.

#### No. 26, THE MOUNTED POLICE ACT.

At the late session of Parliament, a Bill was introduced with regard to the North West Mounted Police, amending the Act of 1894 with regard to the officers and the filling of vacancies. The following is a copy of the change :—

#### AN ACT TO AMEND THE MOUNTED POLICE ACT, 1894.

Sub-section one of section four of the Mounted Police Act, 1894, is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor :—

“The Governor-General may, by permission, appoint an officer, who shall be called the Comptroller of the North West Mounted Police Force, a Commissioner of Police, an Assistant Commissioner of Police, and one or more staff and other Superintendents and Inspectors, Surgeons, Assistant Surgeons and Veterinary Surgeons of the Police, provided that all vacancies in the commission ranks, other than those of Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner and of the medical officers, shall be filled by selection from those who have served in the ranks or from graduates of the Royal Military College of Kingston.”

Section twenty-eight of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:—

“The Civil Service Superannuation Act shall apply to all commissioned officers of the force, and their service shall be computed from the time they entered the ranks.”

#### NO. 27, ONTARIO ARCHITECTS' ACT.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last annual meeting, that the Secretary take the necessary measures to obtain a concession in favor of graduates, for a shortened term of three years in lieu of five, a communication was addressed to Major-General D. R. Cameron, C. M. G., Commandant of the College, requesting that an application be sent to the Ontario Government, and which was immediately acted upon.

In the latter part of March the Commandant wrote stating that the Bill had been defeated, since which no further information has been obtained as to the intentions of the promoters of the Bill. It would be in order that some of the members in Ontario, say in Toronto, should take the matter in hand, and at the proper time endeavor to obtain the concession in question.

#### NO. 28, THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

The closing exercises in connection with the above Institution took place on the 25th of June, 1896. There were 15 graduates.

The following were the winners of the “Aberdeen” Medals:—

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Gold Medal,   | Battalion Sergt.-Major A. S. Evans.    |
| Silver Medal, | Sergeant G. H. Kirkpatrick.            |
| Bronze Medal, | Company Sergt.-Major W. H. N. Cantlie. |

The Sword of Honor for Good Conduct and Discipline was awarded to Company Sergt.-Major C. M. Stephen.

The following graduates were recommended for Commissions in Her Majesty's Regular Forces, and were Gazetted to the Corps marked opposite their respective names :—

Battn. Sergt.-Major A. S. Evans.	Royal Engineers.
Co. Sergt.-Major W. H. N. Cantlie.	Royal Artillery.
Co. Sergt.-Major C. M. Stephen.	Cheshire Regiment.
Sergeant C. C. Wood.	Royal North Lancashire Regiment.
Corporal G. E. Hardie.	Indian Staff Corps.

Fourteen candidates passed the necessary examination for entrance to the College, of which one was a University matriculant. Of this number but nine joined the College in September, thereby reducing the number of Cadets in residence to forty-five, the lowest number after the first two years of the establishment of the College. Candidates were invited for a supplementary examination to take place in November, but no candidates presented themselves. This condition of affairs is due to the action of the Department of Militia and Defence, who have continually broken faith with the graduates, which, becoming generally known to the public, has been directly instrumental in keeping out of the College such as would have joined under a different condition of affairs.

No. 29, MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

The following Militia General Orders are submitted for the information of such of the members who are not in possession of the same :—

HEADQUARTERS, 25th April, 1896.

Royal Military College of Canada.

STAFF.

“Lieutenant Francis H. Vercoe has been appointed Assistant In-

structor in Mathematics from the 26th August next, vice Captain James A. Moren, R. A., whose term of service expires on that day.”

Lieut. Vercoe is a graduate of 1892, and Capt. Moren of 1885.

HEADQUARTERS, 16th May, 1896.

CIVIL STAFF.

“Ira E. Martin, Esquire, has been confirmed in his appointment as Professor of Mathematics, Mechanics, and Astronomy, from the 1st July, 1895.”

HEADQUARTERS, 1st June, 1896.

DRESS OF GRADUATES.

“Gentlemen Cadets graduating from the Royal Military College of Canada will be allowed, on appointment to a corps of active militia, three years in which to provide themselves with the uniform of the corps to which they have been appointed. During this period they will be permitted to wear the uniform of the Royal Military College with the following alteration :

Shoulder straps of blue cloth edged with a single line of Russia tracing lace, and small button of the College pattern. Badges of rank in gold.”

HEADQUARTERS, 1st July, 1896.

APPOINTMENT OF GRADUATES TO THE INDIAN STAFF CORPS.

“His Excellency the Governor-General has been advised by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the Secretary of State for India, in Council, has agreed to one appointment to the Unattached List for the Indian Staff Corps being offered for competition annually amongst army candidates at the Royal Military College of Canada for the next five years.”

HEADQUARTERS, 26th August, 1896.

MILITARY STAFF.

“The period of service of Captain J. A. Moren, R. A., as Assistant

Instructor of Mathematics, at the Royal Military College, having expired on the 26th of August, 1896, he is struck off the strength from that date.”

HEADQUARTERS, 10th September, 1896.

RETIREMENT OF COMMANDANT.

“ Major-General D. R. Cameron is permitted to resign the appointment of Commandant, and is granted a gratuity on retirement, 25th of August, 1896.”

HEADQUARTERS, 12th December, 1896.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMANDANT.

“ Lieutenant-Colonel Gerald Charles Kitson, King's Royal Rifle Corps, has been appointed Commandant of the Royal Military College of Canada, vice Major-General Cameron, resigned, 20th November, 1896.”

HEADQUARTERS, 25th April, 1896.

RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

ACTIVE MILITIA.

“ In order to provide for the increase, in a time of emergency, of Units of Active Militia up to war strength, a ‘ Reserve of Officers ’ is authorized to be established.

This Reserve will be made up as follows :

(1) Graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada commissioned as officers of the militia, unattached.

(3) Officers whose names are carried on the Reserve will retain their rank and precedence in the Active Militia, but will be retired on reaching the limits of age defined by Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887, para. 55.

(4) Under no circumstances will officers serving in the Reserve receive promotion, while so serving, to a higher rank in the Militia.

(5) Officers serving in the Reserve will be required to report themselves, in writing, to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General at Headquarters on or before the 30th November in each year, and the names of Officers failing to so report themselves will be struck off the list.

(8) "General Order (6) No. 4, dated 29th March, 1889, is hereby cancelled."

HEAD-QUARTERS, 1st June, 1896.

BREVET RANK.

"Duly qualified Officers recommended to Headquarters by Commanding Officers of Units, through Officers Commanding Districts, will be granted brevet rank as follows :—

SERVICE QUALIFICATION.	BREVET RANK.
After 7 years continuous service as a substantive Captain in a Unit of the Active Militia, and in possession of Diploma of Graduation from the Royal Military College of Canada.	Major.
After 5 years continuous service as a Lieutenant in a Unit of the Active Militia, and in possession of Diploma of Graduation from the Royal Military College of Canada.	Captain.
On appointment to substantive rank of Lieutenant in a Permanent Unit of the Active Militia, and in possession of Diploma of Graduation from the Royal Military College of Canada.	A Step of Rank.

In connection with the new Militia General Orders affecting the graduates of the College, it may be pointed out that the Reserve of Officers is the direct result of the motion passed at the last annual meeting, requesting the authorities to have a separate list, and of which copies were sent to the Department. The President, Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, when in Ottawa, had several interviews with the General Officer Commanding the Militia, the Adjutant-General, and the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, and was instrumental in having action taken such as reported herein. He further endeavored to obtain certain concessions in

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favor of graduates, whereby the militia service would be made more attractive for them, and succeeded in obtaining a reduction of three years in the usual time of ten, thus permitting a graduate to obtain a majority in seven in lieu of ten years. Needless to state that this entailed a great deal of work, and which will prove of benefit to the members of the Club. To date one graduate has had the advantage of this concession.

NO. 30, MILITARY NOTES.

At the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Military Institute, held in Toronto, in January, Mr. L. Homfray Irving was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer for the year 1896.

The Commander-in-Chief sanctioned an exchange between Captain Kenneth J. R. Campbell, D.S.O., 6th Dragoon Guards, (Carabiniers), and Captain H. Peregrine Leader, 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment, 22nd January, 1896.

Captain E. Thornton Taylor, Cheshire Regiment, passed the final examination at the Staff College and graduated therefrom on the 1st January, 1896.

Captain G. S. Duffus, R.A., was appointed a Staff Captain of Royal Artillery on the 1st January, 1896.

Captain Geo. B. Laurie, Royal Irish Rifles, was seconded for service as an Adjutant of Volunteers, 6th October, 1896.

Captain C. C. Luard, Durham Light Infantry, was appointed Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, 1st July, 1896.

Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Victor Arthur Seymour Williams was

appointed Adjutant of "B" Squadron, Royal Canadian Dragoons, on the 3rd of January, 1896.

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At the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Artillery Association, held in April, 1896, Mr. L. Homfray Irving was re-elected Secretary.

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Lieut. Chas. M. Dobell, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was appointed Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, 7th November, 1896.

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Captain J. L. Weller, 59th Battalion of Infantry, was elected a Vice-President of the Cornwall Rifle Association for 1896.

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Lieut. E. P. C. Girouard, D. S. O., R. E., delivered a lecture at the Montreal Military Institute, in January, 1896.

Subject :—*Infantry Tactics.*

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Capt. C. J. MacDougall, R. R. C. I., delivered a lecture at the Montreal Military Institute on the 15th of January, 1896.

Subject :—*The Modern Rifle.*

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Captain J. B. Cochrane, R. O., R. M. C., delivered a lecture at Kingston, Ont., on the 5th of March, 1896.

Subject :—*Cathography.*

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Captain Ernest F. Würtele, R. O., delivered a lecture before the Royal Canadian Artillery Institute, Quebec, on the 20th of May, 1896.

Subject :—*Ashanti.*

Lieutenant and Brevet Captain George Hunter Ogilvie was appointed Adjutant of "A" Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, from the 13th of November, 1896.

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Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Herbert Cyril Thacker was appointed Adjutant of Nos. 1 and 2 Garrison Companies, Royal Canadian Artillery, from the 16th January, 1895.

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Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Robert Cartwright was appointed Adjutant of No. 2 Regimental Depot, Royal Canadian Infantry, from the 1st of October, 1894.

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Lieutenant and Brevet Captain James Charles MacDougall was appointed Adjutant of No. 3 Regimental Depot, Royal Canadian Infantry, from the 1st of October, 1894.

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A special class of instruction for infantry officers of No. 7 Military District, Quebec, was organized in December, 1895, and of which Major T. Benson, Royal Canadian Artillery, was appointed Adjutant.

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A special class of instruction for infantry officers of No. 5 Military District, Montreal, was organized on the 4th of March, 1896, and of which Captain J. C. MacDougall, R. R. C. I., was appointed Adjutant.

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Lieutenant H. W. Clinch, 1st Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was selected for appointment to the Army Service Corps, and proceeded to Aldershot to join the Corps on probation in April, 1896.

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Lieutenant R. K. Scott, R. A., was appointed a Second-Class Assistant Inspector of Warlike Stores, Eastern District, and proceeded to Devonport

for duty in April, 1896. The post carries with it a large house and grounds and is worth about £500 a year for five years, after which a return to regimental duty for two years and then a return to the same work in a higher class.

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Captain J. B. Cochrane, R. O., R. M. C., contributed a paper entitled *Testing of Precious Stones with the Roentgen Process*, which appeared in the "Jewellers' Circular," published in New York, 22nd April, 1896.

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Captain Geo. R. Ogilvie, R. C. A., proceeded to England for a course of instruction in April, 1896, and was attached to the Royal Artillery Division at Aldershot.

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Captain J. L. Weller was appointed Adjutant of the 59th Battalion of Infantry, from the 16th of May, 1896.

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Captain J. D. Mackay was appointed Adjutant of the 10th Battalion, "Royal Grenadiers," from the 26th of August, 1896.

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Captain G. S. Bowie, 2nd Field Battery, Canadian Artillery, was appointed Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Dragoons on the 1st of February, 1896.

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Lieut. J. E. L. Duplessis, R. O., was appointed Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Artillery on the 25th of March, 1896.

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Lieutenant and Brevet Captain F. M. Gaudet, R. C. A., was seconded on the 16th of May, 1896, on appointment as Superintendent of the Government Cartridge Factory, Quebec.

Lieut.-Colonel J. Bramley Ridout, late "Cameronians," and formerly Captain of Cadets at the Royal Military College of Canada, was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County of Kent on his election as Chairman of the Gillingham District Council in May, 1896.

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Lieut. C. C. VanStraubenzee, R. A., 86th Field Battery, was transferred to the 32nd Field Battery, in Egypt, in April, 1896.

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Captain George M. Duff, R. E., on return from field service, was posted to Headquarters of Director-General of Military Works, 25th of January, 1896, and promoted Executive Engineer, 4th Grade, temporary, from the 9th of October, 1895, and permanently from the 22nd of November, 1895.

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Lieutenant H. B. D. Campbell, R. E., on completion of temporary employment in Thomason College, Roorkee, was posted to the Bengal Command, 22nd of January, 1896.

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Lieutenant H. S. Rogers, R. E., was transferred from Secunderabad to Madras, 3rd January, 1896.

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Lieutenant H. G. Joly de Lotbiniere, R. E., on return from leave, was posted to the Bombay Command, Military Works, and attached to the Aden Division for duty, 17th of January, 1896.

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Lieutenant A. E. Panet, R. E., on return from leave, was posted to the Bombay Division, Military Works, 14th February, 1896, and transferred to the Punjab Command, 14th of March, 1896.

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Captain J. C. MacDougall, R. R. C. I., was appointed Acting District

Staff Officer of the 5th Military District during the absence in England of Lieut.-Col. Roy.

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Captain G. D. Luard was appointed Adjutant of the 3rd Battalion, "Scottish Rifles," from the 5th of August, 1896.

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Lieutenant A. G. Bremner, R. E., proceeded to Suakin to take up duty with the Indian Contingent, in July, 1896.

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Major G. C. Kitson, P. S. C., 4th Battalion, "King's Royal Rifle Corps," was selected for promotion to a half-pay Lieutenant-Colonelcy on his appointment as Commandant of the Royal Military College of Canada.

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Captain C. J. MacDougall, R. R. C. I., was appointed Brigade Major for the Laprairie Camp in September, 1896.

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The following were attached to the Umpire Staff of the Aldershot Manœuvres, August 28th to September 11th, 1896.

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION.

Captain H. E. Wise, Derbyshire Regiment.

3RD INFANTRY DIVISION.

Captain F. St. D. Skimmer, Royal Sussex Regiment.

5TH INFANTRY DIVISION.

Captain G. M. Kirkpatrick, Royal Engineers.

Captain E. T. Taylor, P. S. C., Cheshire Regiment, was appointed to officiate as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General for Instruction, Poona, India, in August, 1896.

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Captain H. A. Panet, R. C. A., was appointed Musketry Instructor and Provost Marshal for the Brigade Camp at St. Joseph de Levis, in September, 1896.

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Captain G. B. Laurie, "Royal Irish Rifles," was selected for the Adjutancy of the 4th Volunteer Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, from the 6th of October, 1896.

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Lieutenant R. C. Morris, R. A., was seconded for service in the Indian Ordnance Department from the 14th September, 1896.

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#### GENERAL NOTES.

Mr. John G. Hearn was elected Alderman for Montcalm Ward, city of Quebec, on the 10th of February, 1896, by acclamation.

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Major W. M. Davis, C. E., was elected a member of the Engineering Committee of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors for 1896-1897.

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Among the papers included in the report of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Health Officers' Association of Ontario was one from Captain W. F. Van Buskirk, C.E., entitled:—

#### *Care of Water Supplies.*

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Mr. W. F. Powell was appointed Chief of Police of the city of Ottawa, on the 27th of August, 1896.

No. 31, PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC., FOR THE YEAR 1896,  
IMPERIAL ARMY.

FIRST APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS.

TO BE SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Cantlie, W. H. N.,	Royal Artillery,	25 September.
Evans, A. S.,	Royal Engineers,	25 September.
Stephen, C. M.,	Cheshire Regiment,	5 September.
Wood, C. C.,	Loyal North Lancashire Rgt.,	5 September.

UNATTACHED LIST.

TO BE SECOND LIEUTENANT.

Hardie, G. E., 23 September.  
With a view to his appointment to the Indian Staff Corps.

PROMOTIONS.

TO BE CAPTAIN.

Moren, Capt. J. A., Royal Artillery, 7 September.

FROM THE SECONDED LIST.

TO BE LIEUTENANTS.

Armstrong, Sec. Lt. B. H. O.,	Royal Engineers,	27 June.
Duffus, Sec. Lieutenant F. F.,	Army Service Corps,	30 March.
Farley, Sec. Lieut. J. J. B.,	Prince of Wales' Regiment,	26 February.
Heneker, Sec. Lieut. F. C.,	Royal Canadians,	2 November.
Hollinshead, Sec. Lt. H. N. B.,	Royal Artillery,	27 June.

EXCHANGE.

Campbell, Capt. K. J. R., D.S.O., Suffolk Regiment, 22 January.

FROM THE CARBINIERS.

Leader, Capt. H. P., Carabiniers, 22 January.



FROM THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT.

RESIGNATION.

Hamilton, Capt. E. C., King's Hussars, 8 January.

CANADIAN ACTIVE MILITIA.

FIRST APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS.

TO BE LIEUTENANTS.

Bowie, Capt. G. S., Royal Canadian Dragoons, 1 February.  
DuPlessis, Lieut. J. E. L., Royal Canadian Artillery, 25 March.

PROMOTIONS.

TO BE CAPTAIN.

Benson, Lt. and Brevet Capt. T., Royal Canadian Artillery, 5 February.

TO BE MAJORS, (BREVET).

Benson, Capt. T., Royal Canadian Artillery, 21 Aug., 1895.  
Rivers, Capt. V. B., Royal Canadian Artillery, 10 Aug., 1895.

TO BE CAPTAINS, (BREVET).

DuPlessis, Lieut. J. E. L., Royal Canadian Artillery, 25 March.  
Panet, Lieut. H. A., Royal Canadian Artillery, 2 May, 1894.  
Thacker, Lieut. H. C., Royal Canadian Artillery, 10 Oct., 1893.  
Thacker, Lieut. P. E., Royal Rgt. Canadian Infantry, 1 April, 1895.

The Brevet rank of the undermentioned officers will date from the dates set opposite their respective names.

Cooke, Lt. & Bvt. Capt. W. E., 20 Oct., 1892.  
Gaudet, Lt. & Bvt. Capt. F. M., 27 Dec., 1887.  
Ogilvy, Lt. & Bvt. Capt. G. H., 29 Oct., 1885.

RESIGNATION.

Bowie, Lt. G. S., Royal Canadian Dragoons, 8 July.

FIRST APPOINTMENTS TO CORPS.

TO BE LIEUTENANTS.

Courtney, Lieut. R. M.,	6th Fusiliers,	13 June.
Wilson, Lieut. F. B.,	3rd Montreal Field Battery,	16 May.

TO BE SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Hayne, Lieut. G. O.,	10th Royal Grenadiers,	26 August.
Uniacke, C. D. W.,	66th Princess Louise Fusiliers,	8 August.
Wilby, Lieut. A. W. R.,	66th Princess Louise Fusiliers,	24 August.

PROMOTIONS.

TO BE MAJOR, (BREVET).

Davis, Capt. W. M.,	22nd "Oxford" Rifles,	7 April, 1894.
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TO BE CAPTAINS.

Lamb, Lieut. H. J.,	8th "Royal Rifles,"	18 January.
Weller, Lieut. J. L.,	59th Stormont & Glengarry Bn.,	16 May.

GRADUATES.

Lieutenant Francis Joseph Dixon is granted the rank of Captain in the Militia from the 29th of March, 1889, under the provisions of General Order (6) No. 4 of that date.

Lieutenant Edward Theodore Barclay Gillmore, (Retired List), is granted the rank of Captain in the Militia under the provisions of General Order (6) No. 4, dated the 29th March, 1889.

RESIGNATIONS.

Graham, Lieut. W. J.,	36th "Peel" Battalion,	7 March.
Hesketh, Capt. J. A.,	6th "London" Field Battery,	7 March.
Leckie, Sec. Lt. J. E.,	72nd "Annapolis" Battalion,	21 March.
Wilson, Lieut. F. B.,	3rd "Montreal" Field Battery,	20 October.

RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

All graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada, who were on the Unattached List, have been transferred to the Reserve of Officers, Engineer Branch. On the 1st of January, 1897, this list was made up as follows :—

13 Captains.

115 Lieutenants.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

Certificates of military qualification were granted as follows :—

Cantlie, Gentleman Cadet J.A.,	18 January.
Moore, Corporal Wm.,	18 January.
Uniacke, Corporal C. D. W.,	8 September.

DISCHARGES.

The following Gentlemen Cadets have been granted their discharges :—

Armstrong, Corporal F. P.,	No. 376,	18 May, 1896.
Gzowski, Gentleman Cadet G. V.,	No. 407,	6 Oct., 1896.
Stewart, Gentleman Cadet C. J. T.,	No. 355,	30 June, 1894.

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No. 32, EMPLOYMENT.

Several applications for employment were received during the year and a few vacancies reported. Through the efforts of the following members employment was obtained for some of those requiring the same :—

Walter Douglas, Esq.,

Copper Queen Mining Co., Bisbee, Arizona.

Lieut. John G. Hearn, R. O.,

Commercial employment.

Captain Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.,

Quebec, Montmorency & Charlevoix Ry., Steam and Electric Divisions.

Lieut. R. W. Leonard, R. O.,

St. Lawrence & Adirondack Railway.

As the question of employment forms a most important part of the work of the Club, its members are requested to give the same their full consideration, and to at all times report such matters as in their opinion may prove of interest and may thereby assist those who are desirous of taking advantage of such information. On this occasion a few extracts from letters are given, which will serve to indicate the nature of the information required, with the expectation that for the next year it will lead to a still greater return from members generally.

C. de C. Middleton, writing from Mombasa, states:—

“A good many positions are available for ex-Cadets in Mombasa, British East Africa, both under the Foreign and Colonial Office. Applications to be sent through the different Secretaries of State.”

Lieut. J. E. Beatty, R. O., writing from Salt Lake City, states:—

“The outlook for the present year is favorable here along engineering lines, but like other places applicants are decidedly numerous. The prevailing financial condition has not passed by Utah. I have met many Canadians in the city, all of whom seem to be doing well. An engineer coming to the West without a knowledge of Mining Engineering is sadly hampered, as work is principally of that class. A friend and myself have been awarded a United States contract for the survey of eleven townships.”

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NO. 33, THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, BOSTON.

We are indebted to Lieut. E. Percy Brown, for the following information relative to the course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the recognition given to the diploma of the Royal Military College.

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He was admitted to the third year of the Mining Engineering course without examinations, and was given every advantage possible to fall in with their work.

This information will be appreciated by members desiring to take a similar course, as well as giving the R. M. C. Diploma an established standing.

Information of this nature is most important, and it is hoped that as our numbers increase that more will be able to take advantage of such concessions, and take the first opportunity to advise the Club of similar recognition by other institutions.

No. 34, CLUB PRIZE TO GENTLEMEN-CADETS, R.M. COLLEGE.

A Club Prize, consisting of a Field Glass, was sent to the Gentlemen Cadets for competition at their annual sports, as was done in the previous year. The Committee of the R. M. C. Sports decided to postpone the same until April in view of the absence of several officers.

Gentleman Cadet Herbert H. Syer, Hon. Secretary R. M. C. Sports, has communicated to the Club their intention of opening the following events to ex-Cadets:—

Quarter-mile, 100 yards dash, and 120 yards hurdle.

No. 35, THE CLUB AT HEADQUARTERS.

On the 27th of August, your Secretary had an interview with the Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia and Defence, at Ottawa, and on which occasion several matters were taken into consideration regarding the College and its graduates.

On the 10th of December, by special appointment, the following members of the Club proceeded to Ottawa:—

Lieut. W. B. M. Carruthers, R. O.

Lieut. L. Homfray Irving, R. L.

Capt. Duncan MacPherson, R. O.

Capt. Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.

And had an interview with the Hon. Mr. Laurier, Prime Minister, and the Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia and Defence. Matters were fully gone into, and questions regarding the future welfare of the College were taken up and discussed. The result of this interview, it is anticipated, will be favorable, as it was ascertained that the Government will endeavor to make use of the graduates in both military and civil employment. At the request of the Minister of Militia, a statement was sent to him containing a number of suggestions, based upon the interview in question, and which, if acted upon, will materially assist in establishing confidence in the country, that the Government will take the necessary steps to utilize those whom they are instrumental in educating, and not follow the course taken by the late Government, which continually ignored the graduates for reasons so well-known that they need no repetition here.

It may be stated that the gentlemen named proceeded to Ottawa at their own individual expense, and that no charge was made against the Club in any manner. If the result is at all favorable, they will feel amply rewarded for their efforts in promoting the future welfare of the College.

#### No. 36, THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS.

In accordance with the resolution or expression of opinion passed at the last annual Meeting, the same was duly printed and sent to each member of the Senate and of the House of Commons, and also to the leading newspapers in Canada, many of which printed the same in their columns. This was followed with a request to a member to ask for the production of the report of the Board of Visitors for the year 1895, which was subsequently laid on the table of the House. It was then ascertained that one page was missing, and when asked for and produced was found to refer to the question of Commissions in the Permanent Force. From the appointments made subsequently, it was easy to see that it had doubtless been purposely omitted, as the Government acted directly contrary to the recommendation of the Board in this respect.

As no immediate action was taken by the Government with regard to carrying out that recommendation referring to the administration of the College, the Club issued another printed circular and sent the same to the Cabinet Ministers, in which it was earnestly requested that the matter should receive immediate consideration, in order to permit of suggested changes in time for the beginning of the College year. This circular embodied the views of the "Broad Arrow," and to which was added the views the Club took as regarded the probable result if action was delayed for an

indefinite period of our efforts, a place, which will be a better basis for favourably disposing of certain proposals. Residence is likely to be effected by our efforts have been a brighter future. Commented upon and was read at the time stated. Danger of retrogression. Recommendation same, for reasons. New administration originally contemplated whereby it could supplement and made to supplement. Produced in the but part of the it is understood.

Upon the Royal Militia there will be no say that the rule, never to force unless standing the the late Government men who have some three

In addition Militia Department according to did not have commission

indefinite period. We have reason to congratulate ourselves on the results of our efforts, and to note with satisfaction that certain changes have taken place, which will very materially assist in placing the College on a firmer and better basis, and when we consider the Minister of Militia is apparently favourably disposed towards that institution, and has under consideration certain proposed measures which if carried out the number of Cadets in residence is likely to be increased, we have every reason to feel that our efforts have been rewarded with success, and that we may look forward to a brighter future for our "Alma Mater." The expression of opinion was commented upon in many quarters and received considerable attention, and was read in the House of Commons, by Sir Richard Cartwright, who at the time stated that it gave rise to the belief that the College was in danger of retrograding under its then management. In the face of all these recommendations, the powers then in authority refused to carry out the same, for reasons too well known to repeat here, and it remained for the new administrators to complete and put into force, the work which was originally commenced by the Club and by them brought to a position whereby it could be fairly and properly handled. With regard to the supplementary report of the Board, this was withheld and an attempt made to suppress the same, which, however, failed, and it was duly produced in the House and made public. It may be pointed out that although but part of the recommendations have been carried out, the remainder will, it is understood, receive attention at some future period.

#### NO. 37, COMMISSIONS IN THE PERMANENT FORCE.

Upon reference to the report of Major-General Gascoigne upon the Royal Military College, which appeared in the Club proceedings, last issued, there will be found the following paragraph:—"I venture respectfully to say that the very least the Government can do is to make a hard and fast rule, never to be broken, that no commission be given to the permanent force unless the holder is a graduate of this Military College." Notwithstanding the above and a like recommendation from the Board of Visitors, the late Government made three appointments to the permanent corps of men who had never been to the College as Cadets, and these were made some three months after the reception of the above reports.

In addition to the above, the Club took means to point out to the Militia Department that graduates were available for the positions and according to regulations were entitled to first consideration. This, however, did not have the desired effect, and the old established rule of granting commissions according to political influence and like considerations was

adhered to. The very frequent changes in the portfolio of Minister of Militia could not but have a discouraging effect upon the force in general, the term of office being but sufficient to permit the incumbent getting but an imperfect idea of the nature and responsibilities of his office. The result has been unsatisfactory, and it is to be hoped that with the new administration that the present Minister will retain office for a sufficient time to fully grasp militia affairs, which can only be obtained by a longer tenure in office than some of the present Minister's predecessors have had, and that the recommendations made by the General Officer Commanding in regard to administration of militia affairs, will have that weight they are entitled to, which would probably prevent acts which are detrimental to the militia, and made with a view to satisfy political and personal friends. This is a matter of grave importance and when we view some of the Militia General Orders promulgated during the year, we have reasons to anticipate that a change would be in order and desirable.

No. 38, SUGGESTIONS.

The following suggestions are placed on record, with a view of enabling some action being taken when found desirable and necessary :—

Captain J. Irvine Lang, R.E., C.M.G., suggests :—

“ That the time has come for the beginning of a detail survey of all Canada, that might extend over a period of fifty years, commencing with a careful trigonometrical survey extending from ocean to ocean. There would be no necessity to spend much money annually. That of India was begun early in the century and is not yet completed.”

He further draws attention to the condition of Canada from a defensive point of view, involving the consideration of a very long frontier with a small force for disposal. A commission composed of Canadian and Imperial officers should be appointed to consider the question.

No. 39, CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Members in the above capacity are requested to take a greater interest in their localities and to make an annual report for submission at the annual meetings. Such reports could be made to include information of general interest to the Club, and including among other things, a general description of the country in which they are residing, and the possibilities or work suitable for Graduates of the College, as well as touching upon the nature of their own work and members in their vicinity.

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Captain Geo. M. Duff, R. E., has suggested the division of India, for corresponding members, into army corps, as follows:—Madras, Bombay, Bengal, and Punjab. A representative in each of these districts would doubtless produce interesting reports for submission at the meetings of the Club.

NO. 40, PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

The attention of the Club is drawn to the necessity of looking forward to future representation in the House of Commons. Up to the present time, we have had to seek the services of members of Parliament to express our views, and for which it may be stated we are very thankful and deeply grateful. However, it can be readily understood that no representative can entertain the same views nor have the same sympathy as one of ourselves, nor be in a position to take up and maintain our views unless he has had direct connection with the College, and fully understands its requirements and the position occupied by its graduates in this country. It would be well for the members to take this matter into serious consideration, with the object of taking advantage at the first favorable opportunity of securing representation in Parliament. The consummation of such an undertaking would prove of very great advantage to the Club, and it is to be hoped that the suggestion thus put forward will be acted upon at the very earliest opportunity.

NO. 41, HER MAJESTY'S LONG REIGN.

We cannot review the events of the year without a due reference to the sixtieth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, to whom we bear true allegiance, whether serving within or without the British Empire, as circumstances may have placed us. When we look back upon the record of those years, and consider the great events and the many changes which have taken place, due to her wisdom and to the just appreciation of her responsibilities, we cannot but be unanimous in our views that her reign has been a noble one, and one to which we can always look up to with pride and honor, and I feel assured that in giving expression to the hope that she may be long spared to continue to reign over us, that in so doing I voice the feelings of the members who are this day scattered throughout the world, and it but remains to add, we sincerely trust that the blessings of God may be extended to her for many years to come, and that we, as her subjects, may be permitted to render unto her that true allegiance which she is entitled in every respect to receive, as a just, true and faithful ruler of a great nation.

In closing the yearly report there still remains one duty to perform, namely, that of expressing my heartfelt thanks to the President and officers of the Club, for the assistance rendered at all times and which has enabled us to make such progress that we trust the future before us will prove beneficial to those connected with the Club, and although it is not possible, nor should it be expected, that we can render assistance to every member, we feel, that by combined work, we are in a position to assist a certain percentage, and which will increase as we grow up in years, and which in itself should prove a sufficient inducement to hold our numbers together in a common interest.

I must also take this opportunity of placing before you the great pleasure it has afforded me to note the kind feelings entertained towards the officers by the individual members, and to note that they are taking greater interest in the affairs of the Club from year to year. I sincerely trust that this feeling may continue to grow, and in severing my official connection with the Club, after a period of five years service, I can but give expression to the hope that as an ordinary member you will deem my services at your disposal in any way you may think proper, with the assurance that I will endeavour to meet your views to the fullest extent.

My official connection with the Club, has brought me in touch with members in many distant points, to whom I would say that we all look forward for a continuance of their support, with the belief that it will be given to whomsoever may be elected this day, as freely as it has been given heretofore to those who have occupied the position which will be rendered vacant after this day, by the expiration of the period for which the office was made.

I have the honor to be,  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE,  
Captain, R. O.

Hon. Secretary-Treasurer,  
Royal Military College Club of Canada.

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Report from Mr. J. M. Clapp, Corresponding Member for the Western States of the United States of America.

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SEATTLE, Washington, February 18th, 1897.

Capt. Ernest F. Würtele, R. O.,  
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer R. M. C. Club,  
Quebec, Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report as Corresponding Member for the Western States for the year ending December 31st, 1896 :—

Since the last report, one member's name has been added to the list of those in this district, making the grand total now in the district 3, as follows :—

Mr. D. Ford Jones,	Bisbee, Arizona.
Mr. Walter Douglas,	Bisbee, Arizona.
Mr. J. M. Clapp,	Seattle, Washington.

They all follow civil engineering as a profession and all are members of the R. M. C. Club.

Another year has passed and the members in this district, owing to the great distance between their places of residence, have been unable to arrange a meeting. They hope, however, at some near future date such an arrangement may be practicable.

On behalf of the members living in this district, I renew the invitation of last year to Old Point Frederick's sons to visit us should they at any time happen in our vicinities. The members in this district all join in best wishes for the prosperity of our comrades and the Club generally.

In submitting this report, the writer is highly sensible of the great honor conferred upon him by the Club members in appointing him Corresponding Member for this district, and herewith tenders his sincere thanks.

Believing that the interests of the Club would be best served by appointing other men as Corresponding Members from time to time, I respectfully offer my resignation as Corresponding Member, Western States, and suggest that one of the other members resident in this district be appointed as my successor.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. CLAPP,

Corresponding Member.

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## Notes on Canadian Country Roads.

*From a Military Standpoint.*

(BY C. R. COUTLÉE, CASCADES POINT, QUE.)

The ancients memorized the geography of the heavens by likening each constellation to an ideal or real object in some very far fetched way :

Following their example, the country south of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence may be pictured as some great sea serpent poised to plunge into the Atlantic; its head, the Province of New Brunswick; its tail, the State of Michigan, while up its back—against the hair—flows Erie, Ontario, and the St. Lawrence. The waist of this monster is the line, New York to Kingston, 500 miles, and Portland to Montreal, 225 miles, is its neck collar. Cape Cod is its fore-paw, while the nose is thrust into Nova Scotia, and consequently "blue." Western Ontario, like a furious rooster, rushes down the Leviathan's back to peck its tail, while an eagle's head and beak cranes forward, over the tail, to repel this onslaught. The geography of our communications being thus made startlingly clear, it will be seen that the head and tail of this monster and the beak above, the Macanaw Peninsular, should be secured to hold the road to the Pacific. The amphibian's leading string is the route—Halifax to England—2,500 miles. The great lines of communication on the head and neck are :—The Intercolonial and Grand Trunk Railways, Halifax to St. Flavie, and Point Levis to Montreal; the Temiscouata route, from St. John to River du Loup, where it joins the first. In addition, there is the international railway across Northern Maine to Megantic and Montreal. Convenient as these railways may be, however, our great communication is ever the St. Lawrence. From Montreal, the great arteries to the West are the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific systems. The latter, from Lake Superior westward, parallel to the longest frontier in the world, which is only fifty miles distant.

Rivers and railways form the great strategic communications, and the network has become so complete, from Quebec to Lake Huron, that common roads would seldom be used for a distance of over one hundred miles.

They may be considered as the minor communications and their operation as the minor tactics of transport.

All our country roads, since Confederation, have been in the hands of the county authorities, who maintain them in various degrees of neglect, down to the rut furrowed waggon tracks that bound the concessions of clay districts. The officer of transport, confronted with such roads, must take immediate steps to improve the surface, for a few hours' rain will render them impassable. The first matter is to empty all water holes by small drains and to scrape the mud therefrom. If no side ditch exists, a plow furrow must be made to the nearest outlet as a temporary measure. Little cross drainage, for clay roads, can be obtained from crowning the surface, still it is always advantageous, but wheel ruts may be emptied by slight, longitudinal grades, say half a foot per hundred; where grades meet arrangements are made to lead the water into side ditches. Where deep drainage is necessary, the ditch is made on the farm side of the fence, to prevent accidents. The plane of sub water can easily be determined by digging a hole and allowing the water to collect over night. Covered under drains can hardly be extensively used for hasty road improvements, especially, as during a march, the surface must not be obstructed by trench cutting. Side-hill roads are pitched toward the hill and a small, but clean cut, drain made along the inside, with frequent outlets under the road or diagonally across it in carefully paved, broad, shallow depressions, which also check and direct the water flowing down wheel ruts. A low mound, mitred up the road, may be used for the latter purpose. Hills throttle the weight of loads in any stage of a route. Delay from breakage of traces whippetrees, etc., always attends the use of auxiliary teams. Grades of 5 per cent are serious obstacles, but often 7 or 10 per cent grades are encountered; here the best wheel base must be maintained and frequent turnouts provided for disabled carriages. Brakes are required for all descents; drag-shoes must be used with guns, but tear the road. Every care is required to prevent checks. Several vehicles may be hauled up at a time, by a winding engine and cable, when anything of the nature can be obtained.

The surface of clay roads, under double traffic, presents two longitudinal depressions resembling a "double" winter road. The horses feet and wheels passing in the same track, every care is required to prevent ruts, which are so distressing to draft teams. Horses feet, to a certain extent, splash the water from ruts and compact the wheel base. Single draught following double on a clay road, is, if possible, to be avoided. The animals take one of the beaten hoof tracks and throw the wheels out of the trail.

The width of roadway should be 16 feet; our roads are generally much wider, except at culverts, cuttings, high embankments and bridges; these places limit the capacity of the road. If possible width for two lines of traffic in a forward direction, should be sought, besides which, crossing points for returning trains are necessary. On single routes space for a bridle path is required on one flank. Twenty feet suffices for a double line (bridges too) and a French authority states a double road formation will shorten a column by 3-10, besides the facility of pushing fighting unit to the front.

Drivers often seek to open a new track upon the sod surface of fields, but soon this cuts through and the trail, being unditched, becomes itself a broad shallow water course. Confusion too is apt to occur when returning to the road at culverts or bridges.

An ample organization for minute and immediate repair is absolutely necessary on earth roads, even in the dryest weather. A sufficient force should be detailed to furnish working parties, after the manner of section men on a railway. Ruts should, if possible, be filled with metalling, the aim being toward gradual betterment; ashes, old mortar, stone chips, etc., may be used if at hand, but material cannot be transported, as a general rule, for the first hasty work. Nothing larger than 2 inches should be interposed between wheels and clay, as jolting off a "round head" will cause cutting by the wheel. Boulders and mud are, perhaps, more difficult to drain than clay; tree branches up to an inch thick may be spread across in such cases. In early spring time, branches or straw, serve well. Winter snow roads are best compacted by rolling, which should be done for a width of 15 to 20 feet. Drifted roads may be broken by a light "double bob" sleigh, with bundles of twigs or hay secured to the front of the rear runners. Sprinklers are frequently used to form ice roads in freezing weather.

When roads are deeply cut and flowing with liquid mud, it may be advisable to abandon them and build new ones alongside, using, however, the bridges and structures already built. In moving earth plows and scrapers, either of the "blade" or "bowl" pattern, or some gang principal machinery is always to be preferred to hand labour. Over stony surfaces, the side ditch excavation may be spread to form the road bed, but in most cases it is best wasted to the outside. In heavily wooded country, the felled timber may be piled along the centre line and burnt, as much as possible, then the cinders and ashes spread to form the road.

Swamps, when heavily wooded, may be wholly or partially corduroyed, the logs flatted on the top side if possible. Small poplar and osier bushes can be partially cut, then bent across the road to form a mat, over which branches and sods may be laid. Where no brush exists, wire, stripped from fences, may be laid in several lines longitudinally and even inch boards laid across or posts or heavy timber may be driven as piles and trestle construction adopted.

Roads for long maintained traffic need to be metalled with stone gravel or whatever may be obtainable. A rough stone bed, of 6 inch to 12 inch stone sledged to a good bearing, is very desirable between broken stone and yielding top soils, to prevent sinking and shoulder stones along the edges prevent waste of metal laterally. Rough stone is frequently thrown into the road and the surface broken in place. When stone is rare, clay may be burnt in earth kilns and used for metalling or as a "sand" to temper clay.

A narrow gauge tramway, along one side of a road, is a splendid communication. When rails are not to be had wooden ones can be made by axemen, even from fence rails. Ties for wooden rails are slotted and the fastening done with wooden wedges. Trough rails, for ordinary waggons, can be hewn from 6 to 10 inch poles.

Canadian farm waggons have generally but a 2 inch tire, which soon cuts ruts, especially as the fore and aft wheels follow in the same track. Wide tires—4-inch—are now manufactured that fit around the ordinary ones; these show to the greatest advantage on soft ground, where they do not cut in, but where the narrow wheel will enter and increase the traction 50 to 100 per cent. Across fields 650 pounds pull of a team will draw 2¼ tons on 4-inch tires, but 1200 pounds would be the pull for a like load on 1½ inch tires.

Fencing of Canadian roads is frequently of whole or spit rails; either of these forms a good breastwork and screen, especially when small bushes have grown along the fence. The heavier log fences may be prepared for defence, by lowering the logs to touch each other. Barbed wire is much used in the country and it forms a splendid obstacle. To extract the holding staples a "claw bar" is used; a notch with an axe removes the staple with the chip. The quantities of wire to be had in the country should be borne in mind for obstacles, bridging, etc. The mesh nettings especially adapt themselves to suspension bridges.



In conclusion, the importance of road classification by the military authorities, through district staffs, is strongly urged. Annual reports on the condition of roads in each district, from a military standpoint, should be made and, hand in hand, with the parish and country authorities every practical means, for systematic improvements, should be sought.

Were the roads of a county classified and the important ones, aggregating say 50 to 100 miles, put under contract, road construction companies would be formed to do the work, receiving in payment county bonds, augmented by mileage grants from the Provincial and Federal Governments, which would each then employ an inspecting engineer in their interests. Laborers in every parish would adopt road repairing as a means of livelihood and these would be available in case of hostilities.

If a ring of Monecrief gun emplacements is ever constructed around any of our commercial centres, good roads and iron trough tramways will be required within the circle for quick and sure communication. The roads must not, however, serve an adversary in the event of his capturing the forts. To this end they may best be carried across low land at several points in their length and arrangements made for inundations, which are one of the most effective modern obstacles.

In conclusion it is urged that the many members of our Club who are engineers and go "up and down throughout the land," should constantly make notes on the roads and the positions commanding them.

Methods of arbitration are still very crude and filled with inherent defects. National unreasonableness is still an ever present danger. International hostilities are as remote as war between two States of the Union or civil strife between the Provinces, but mental preparedness of the military scions of the land is a strong internal assurance.

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# The Dongola Expedition 1896.

BY LIEUT. J. J. B. FARLEY, NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

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It was on the 14th March, 1896, that we received orders to be ready to take the field in a week. We were under canvas for the annual manoeuvres at the time and had just returned from a very heavy field day, never dreaming of the good news in store for us, and it seemed almost too good to be true but, nevertheless, we were all inspected by the doctor next day, and the day after we struck camp and marched back to the Citadel. Then followed a very busy week drawing field kits, boots, khaki, etc., and settling tradesmen's bills, which, of course, were at once showered in.

The men whom the doctor rejected gave no end of trouble, too; they kept continually coming up before their company officer to know why they were being left and of course each one knew just how the mistake in his case happened; he "was standing next a sickly man" and "the doctor hadn't meant him at all," or "his name was very like another man's and they had been mixed up," etc., so that one was kept always on the alert dodging the "sickers."

On the 22nd we left Cairo by two special trains, receiving a great send-off as we went. Arriving at Balliano at about 2 p.m. next day, we embarked on two of Cook & Son's steamers and from this time until we reached our destination (Wady Halfa), our trip was very pleasant indeed.

At Luxor, where we arrived about midday on the 26th, we had an opportunity of seeing the remains of the ancient temples of Luxor and Karnac, as well as Thebes, which is on the opposite side of the river, and found them marvellous and quite beyond description.

Next morning we were on the move again at an early hour and reached the first cataract at Assouan about midday on the 29th, where we had our first taste of desert marching. It was not a long march, only seven or

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eight miles, but the heat and dust made it decidedly unpleasant, so that we were not sorry to arrive at Chellal. We might have come by train, as there was one waiting for us, but the idea was to create an impression on any spies who might be about, on the chance that the news of an English advance might reach the Khalifa's ears, for although the Dervishes despise the Egyptians, yet they all agree that an English "Tommy" is a thing to be avoided.

Later, while in Dongola, I heard a rumour that the Khalifa had changed the uniform of his bodyguard to red, thinking there must be some magic in the colour, but I don't know if it is supposed to be true.

Next morning we left Chellal in four stern-wheelers for Wady Halfa, where we arrived about noon on the 2nd of April and were soon settled in our barracks, which consisted of mud huts formerly occupied by the Soudanese troops.

A rather amusing incident happened a few days before our arrival. It seems that the shopkeepers of the neighboring village of Tewfikish, thinking to make an honest penny out of the defenceless wives and families of the Soudanese who had gone to the front, raised the price of "dhura," (corn). This was too much for the black ladies, so four hundred of them, armed with clubs, marched down in a body and raided the village; they took as much corn as they wanted and for some time had complete possession of the village, everyone who came in their way being very roughly handled. Finally, the Commandant of Wady Halfa appeared on the scene and on his promise that corn should go back to its old price and also that their request to be taken to the front to fight the same as their husbands, would be considered, they went home.

We now began to realize what heat in Upper Egypt really is; our rooms, having thick mud walls, and the doors and windows being kept closed in the day time, were comparatively cool, but as soon as one went out he was struck by a hot wave of air just as if he had opened the door of a furnace and were walking in. Metal left in the sun for a time got too hot to hold and one's collar stud, if of metal, or a bunch of keys, got quite uncomfortably warm. Even the birds seemed to suffer, and would come into our rooms and stop during the hottest part of the day. They never thought of building their nests outside in trees like Christian birds, but usually built them just over one's "angareb," or native bed.

The temperature often went over 120° F. in the shade, the highest

official record being 124°. The climax was reached when a khamsin or dust storm was blowing, and we were seldom without them; the fine sand went simply everywhere, in one's eyes and ears and large quantities in our victuals. By the time one had finished a cup of tea there was as much as a tablespoonful of sand in the bottom of the cup, without considering the amount swallowed with the tea.

There was very little in the way of amusement, bathing and walking being about the chief, though we often got a chance of a little revolver practice at jackals, which were very numerous in the hills just behind the village, but I don't think anyone ever hit any.

We had three little alarms while in Halfa. The first one at one end of our lines caused by a man shouting in his sleep; two companies turned out very smartly, but were very much disgusted when they discovered the cause of alarm. The second one was caused by a donkey walking over my captain while he was sleeping (we always slept outside), and trying to make a meal of his hair; this time only the guard turned out.

The next alarm was in the village and an army of Soudanese women besieged our gates and raised a fearful hubbub trying to get in; the adjutant went out with the interpreter to see what it was all about. It seems that they thought the Dervishes were going to raid the village that night and wanted to get in our barracks for protection. He tried to quiet them as best he could, assuring them there was no danger, until one suddenly plumped a naked, greasy baby in his arms, imploring him to save that at any cost. That was too much; he dropped it and fled. It turned out that our chaplain was the innocent cause of all this.

He had got permission to take some men about twenty miles up the river for a pic-nic and as a precaution they had to go armed.

The train they should have come back in was so heavily laden with Dervish prisoners and the spoils of war, etc., that had just been taken at the battle of Firket that it broke down and the pic-nic party had to sleep out that night. The natives hearing that we had sent out an armed party which did not return and that some Dervishes were expected, thought something was wrong and finally when a native declared he saw Dervishes up in the hills, they were sure of it.

On the 1st of July, cholera, which had been slowly making its way

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up the river, broke out in Wady Halfa, three cases being reported and next day there were seven deaths among the native troops next our lines.

Orders were at once received to proceed without delay to Gemai, which is about 20 miles farther south, and on the night of the 2nd, the battalion started by route march, arriving about 6 a.m. on the 3rd, the camp having been pitched the day before by the advanced party. The march had been an extremely trying one on account of the rocky nature of the ground and for most of the way we had to keep to the railway line. Some companies, too, before leaving, were ordered to empty their water-bottles for fear of infection in the water, and as the river proved much more difficult to get at than was at first anticipated, they suffered accordingly.

It was hoped that, by this prompt move we would escape the cholera, but it was not to be. The day after our arrival there were three cases and for about a fortnight there were three or four cases every day and all but about two proved fatal.

We lost twenty-five of cholera, including three Sergeants, one of whom was Band Sergeant, and another Armourer.

The departments also suffered in proportion, the Pay Department losing a Sergeant and clerk, and the Medical Staff several men.

The funerals, which were held very quietly, almost secretly, were very impressive. They took place at night and only four men to carry the corpse, and the chaplain and the company officers attended, and every night this little procession headed by a couple of men carrying lanterns might be seen going up the hill to the graveyard.

To keep up the men's spirits open air concerts were held almost every night and a ration of rum was frequently served out all round, but they all seemed very cool and collected, however, and took everything as it came, though there is no doubt they had a very bad time. All the water and milk that came into camp had to be boiled, no one was allowed to leave the camp and there was absolutely nothing to do in it. The river was rising and the water was thick with mud and there were no filters to be had and last but greatest trial of all, "Tommy" could get no beer until 6 p.m., as on account of the heat the canteen was kept closed in the middle of the day.

The filter difficulty was got over to a certain extent by precipitating the mud with alum or by straining the water through ghaki bags or havre-

sacks, and it was not long before each tent had an improvised filter in working order. There was some pretty good fishing to be had, though the fishing tackle was limited, and one sometimes landed a big one. A little native boy, a camp follower, caught some monsters between 16 and 20 pounds and one dragged him in the river and would have got away with him, but the mess sergeant came to his rescue. One of the men captured a stork here and it turned out to be a great pet and a very knowing one as well. The man knocked him down with a stone as he was flying over the camp, and we kept him tied by a string to the mess tent for a couple of weeks until he was quite recovered and then let him go.

Three days after his release he came back and took up his old stand in the shady corner of the mess tent, and there he remained as long as we stopped in the camp, though he was perfectly free to come and go as he liked. Every morning before breakfast he went for a short fly about the camp, but always came back inside a quarter of an hour. We used to catch small fish for him with a mosquito net and bring them to him in a bucket, so he soon became a great nuisance to the water fatigue, as he thought they must be carrying fish for him and he had to inspect every bucket before they could pass. The dogs got to hate the sight of him, as he could always catch them on the tender part of the nose with his sharp beak when they thought they were well out of range.

We had to leave the poor old chap behind when we moved south and I only hope he is still alive and well. By the end of July, we were well clear of cholera and by the middle of August they had found some work for us to do viz:—pulling the steamers through the "Bab-el-Kebeer" or great gate at the cataracts and all ranks were glad of the change. The channel through which the steamers had to pass was 150 yards long with a fall of 20 feet in the whole length and only about 12 yards wide and through this the water rushed with tremendous force, making the passage extremely dangerous.

Assisted by an Egyptian battalion, we got three over that day, over 1,400 men being employed each time and then the result was several times doubtful. Soon after this we received orders to be ready to leave for Kosheh on the 28th, but on the 25th the whole Nile valley was swept by a frightful dust and rain storm, the like of which the "oldest inhabitant" said had not been known before, and next day we received word that over seven miles of railway between Sarras and Kosheh was completely swept away and that our move was to be postponed for a fortnight.

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This might have been a very serious matter, indeed, as the troops at Kosheh had not got their supplies up yet and had only enough for little more than a week, but the Sirdar promptly put every available man to work at the line as soon as he discovered the extent of the damage.

Our battalion was at once ordered to Sarras, which is about 15 miles further south, and set to work without delay in company with an Egyptian battalion.

Our first piece of work was an embankment about 75 yards long by 30 feet high in the centre, which had been completely swept away, leaving the line sagging down.

It was a bit of the old railway,—as in fact, were all the breaks,—which had lasted ever since 1889, only to go at the most critical time.

Under the superintendence of Girouard, we mended this, and two other very bad breaks in six days, which was four days under the estimated time, and in three more days a "through" train came down and was received by tremendous cheering from our "Tommies" as it passed the camp.

Next day, (9th Sept.), we got orders for Kosheh and three companies left by trains the same day, the rest of us following on the day after and by the next night we were all ready for the advance on the 12th.

We were told off to the eight steamers and gunboats while the Egyptian army was to march up the East bank of the river, the West bank being patrolled by a few friendly Bedouin Arabs.

In consequence of accident by which the new gun boats "Zaffir" was disabled, three of our officers and 150 men had to be left behind, much to the regret of every one; they begged hard to be allowed to march, but as there was no land transport available for their stores, there was no help for it.

It was 8 a.m. when the little fleet steamed out, the "Kaibar" showing the way, followed by the "Akasheh" (Head'qrs. boat) and the remaining boats in rear. We could not go very fast as the current is very strong and we had continually to be shifting from one side to the other to avoid the shallow places. Besides this each steamer had two large giasas or native boats tied alongside to accommodate the men, there being no room on the steamers, and of course they kept us back a good bit.

As we went along the country seemed to improve very much, although it was scarcely cultivated at all and we would go for miles without seeing a human being.

Occasionally we came across some half naked wretches who seemed quite frantic with joy, the women and children shouting while the men went through a sort of war dance, killing countless Dervishes in pantomime.

We tied up for the night at a place called Nuirungo and after stretching our legs for a bit, curled up in our blankets and slept on board, one company being left on shore as a picquet.

Next day, Sunday 13th, we steamed off as soon as it was light, passing one Brigade bivouaced at Delligo about noon. During the afternoon I witnessed a rather unpleasant sight. As we went past a little sand bar, I saw the dead body of a native half in the water with one arm torn off at the shoulder and two small crocodiles near him. They disappeared in the water as we came up.

We tied up that afternoon at 4.30 p.m. at Kaderma, and were just nicely getting settled when a patrol brought the news that 350 Dervishes had been poking around and that a large force was, in all probability, close by behind some hills. Strong cavalry patrols were at once sent out and we prepared to receive an attack. Most of the troops having by this time arrived, they were formed in line of quarter columns covering the boats, each battalion throwing out a company as an outpost. Our battalion was in the centre of the line covering the Maxim battery, my company furnishing the outposts. We had some little distance to go out on the desert and by the time I had got the sentries in position it was quite dark and I was just giving the final directions to the last one, when suddenly there arose immediately in front of us the most weird and uncanny cries I ever wish to hear; the sentry was so startled he nearly dropped his rifle and I confess I was a bit taken by surprise myself though I knew they could only be wild animals of some sort. I told the sentry they were jackals, but was informed afterwards that they were hyenas. Everything was quiet for the first part of the night until about 12 o'clock, when suddenly away on the left of the line there arose a dull sort of sound, which got louder and louder and nearer and nearer, until it developed into a perfect roar, almost directly behind us, as if ten thousand men were shouting and running as hard as they were able. We ordered the picquet to stand to arms, which they did very promptly and quietly, and waited until all was quiet once more; thus having ascertained that the sentries were correct,

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lay down again. The disturbance was caused by an officer who was returning from the brigade Mess getting mixed up with the cavalry lines. His horse kicked another who passed it on, and in the confusion which ensued a number got loose, these bolted over the top of a native Battalion, very naturally causing a stampede which extended pretty well along the whole line, though they were got in hand again very quickly, however. Our men behaved very steadily. We embarked next morning at 4 o'clock, and steamed up the river just in advance of the land column. All along the bank we saw natives driving back goats and fowls which they had hidden from the Dervishes among the hills and at one place, a poor solitary man informed us that his village had been raided that morning and all the men but himself carried away, he having escaped by hiding. At about 9 a.m. we tied up again at Nori and disembarked in a little palm grove with all our stores while the steamers went back for more supplies. As we had to stop here three or four days, we set about making ourselves comfortable, which the men soon succeeded in doing, and with the aid of their blankets, (our tents had been left behind at Kosheh,) and some convenient date palm, got plenty of shelter from the sun.

Wilson (O. C. my Company) and I made such a fine little hut with the aid of three palm trees, our blankets and the reserve ammunition, that the Colonel and Senior Major were charmed with it and came and took up their abode with us; a wise decision, as our servants turned out to be very good cooks and mine, a native, an expert climber, as he kept us well supplied with dates; he would not cook bacon, however, and when the ration was pig, Hassan retired from the field.

There were a number of mud huts here, but all were deserted, though some contained stores of dates, mealies, wheat, raw cotton and some strange seeds.

We stopped here three days and nights bivouacing at night on the desert and marching back to the palm grove at reveille.

We had to sleep with our boots and clothes on and in fact from the 12th to the 24th never once got a chance to take our boots off at night.

On the 15th there was a little excitement; one of our patrols surprised a raiding party of Dervishes at work about 5 miles up the river and one of our companies was sent in a gunboat to capture their boats, but they only got two boats and as many men, with a quantity of dates. This little affair showed what sort of men some of the Dervishes are; when surprised by

the patrol all the Dervishes fled except the Emir, who charged the squadron single-handed; an Egyptian trooper rode out to meet him and they had it hand-to-hand until the trooper, who was having much the worst of it, was in danger of being killed, when the officer in charge shot the Emir with his revolver, only hitting him with the fifth shot; six Dervishes in all were killed here. On the evening of the 16th we had an alarm and all stood to arms; a party of Dervishes had driven a picquet in and fired a few shots; a patrol went after them, but they got away. Next morning we embarked early and steamed off at 5 a.m., passing large groves of date palms on our way, all of which, however, had been stripped of their fruit by the Dervishes.

Most of the islands were rather thickly populated just here, the natives feeling safer there than on the main land, and crowds of women and children followed us for miles, cheering us on. They were not overburdened with clothes, as a rule, the children being absolutely naked, and the women nearly so; one lady, finding that her garment interfered with her running, took it off and carried it under her arm, appearing in a girdle with "boot lace" fringe.

About 1 p.m. we stopped and disembarked at a place called Fogo, when we tied up. A small party of Dervish cavalry came and watched us from the West bank for about five minutes and then made off south in rather a hurry, and in the village we were informed that a raiding party had been there and only made off about 15 minutes before we arrived.

We discovered a letter which their leader had left behind for the headman exhorting him to be pious and attend worship in the Mosque regularly. He was a man, apparently, who would have his little joke, for he treated some of the women and children very cruelly and had stolen all the fowls and goats he could lay hands on.

We stopped here for the remainder of the day and all night, every precaution against surprise being taken; in fact, one of our patrols, after a very exciting chase, succeeded in capturing three "suspicious looking niggers," but they only turned out to be harmless villagers and rather badly frightened ones at that.

Next day we halted about noon and were at once summoned to the headquarters boat, and there informed that the enemy was in a rather strong fort at Kerma, some miles further south, and that the Sirdar's intention was to march that afternoon and attack at an early hour next

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morning. So far it was all very fine, indeed, but imagine our disgust when we learned that our company had to remain behind in charge of 800 baggage camels, as well as all the stores, sick, etc. There was no help for it, as Wilson was the junior officer commanding a company, and all the others had first choice, so we set about carrying out what orders we had received, while the rest of the battalion disembarked and prepared to march with the column at 3.30 p.m. All the steamers, with the exception of ours, were to attack the fort from the river, and steamed off at the same hour, leaving us behind.

We had been told that we should, in all probability, be attacked that night by some parties of Dervishes that were supposed to be hovering around out in the desert, so we started getting ready to receive them. The officer in charge of the camels had them formed into a sort of zareba, while we collected our fourteen giarsas around the steamer, covering it with the company as a picquet. The engineer of the steamer said we need not trouble much about her, because if attacked we could keep them off on shore for a while and he could steam off into the river and be quite safe, but as we were not very enthusiastic about this scheme, he dropped the idea.

A field gun and detachment of Gippy gunners had been left behind for us, but neither they or the gun could be found anywhere. However, the night passed without an alarm, the only incident being the burial at 4 a.m. of a poor fellow who had died of sunstroke on the march and been brought back to us on a stretcher.

About midnight we received a message from the D. A. A. G. ordering us to steam off at 5.30 next morning, leaving the "giarsas" to follow at dawn, and as may be imagined we were prompt to the minute. We thought there was just a chance that we might come in for something after all, and once we were off we made the engineer put on all the steam the engines would stand, which sent the old boat through the water at a pace which must have astonished even herself and she has the reputation of being the fastest one on the Upper Nile. We had some rather troublesome cataracts to navigate, but managed to get through without an accident, though we found the "El Teb" had not been so fortunate, as we passed her near Abu Fatmeh high and dry on a rock. The "Akasheh" was steaming about trying to get her off, so we did not stop.

We now began to look for some signs of battle, as we knew we were near the spot where the fight was expected, but there was nothing of the sort to be seen.

About 7.30 a.m. we came in sight of the gunboats a few miles ahead of us, and it was soon evident that they were firing, as every little while we would be nearly hidden by a great cloud of smoke. We could see the troops standing quite inactive on the east bank and presently we passed the Dervish fort at Kerma, but it was empty and had not been fired at. Wad-el-Bishara had done the best thing possible for him and had crossed the river to Hafir a couple of hours before the troops got there.

About two miles further on we came upon our own regiment on a hill in rear of Bimbashi Young's battery and very disconsolately watching the fight.

We had no time to stop for orders, however, so we steamed out to join the gunboats. The Yamai, Abu-Klea and Matimmeh were skipping about and firing briskly, being answered shot for shot from the Dervish batteries. Their position was rather a strong one. They had a long mud breastwork for riflemen, zig-zagged at intervals; towards either flank was a cunningly built battery, one for three guns, and the other one. Further up the river, on their right, was their fleet of sailing giarsas, in the centre of which was their steamer, "Et-Tahera," also carrying a gun. Just in rear of their position was a thin screen of palm trees, through which we got occasional glimpses of a mass of cavalry and spearmen hovering around out in the desert ready to swoop down should we attempt to land.

Once we came up so close that we could see their rifle barrels starting up over the breastwork, but they opened such a heavy fire that we put back again. We were ordered to keep in rear of the gunboats, as both our boat and the Dal, which had another of our companies on board, were unarmoured, and so we could not do much with our machine guns for fear of hitting them, but we were well within range and the bullets were skipping about us in quite a lively way.

Occasionally a shell would come within hailing distance and two or three struck within twenty yards of us.

None of our men were hit though Wilson and I had a close shave, as a bullet came whizzing down from a high angle and struck the side of the boat just below us, then glanced off into the water, splashing us both well.

The gun boats seemed to be in pretty warm quarters, from the number of bullets continually dropping around them, and sometimes a shell would appear to have passed right through them as they always struck about one

hundred yards short and then by watching for the next point of impact one could pretty well trace its course.

A number of their riflemen, whom we did not discover at first, were firing from the tops of palm trees, but a few rounds from the maxims and a rocket or two soon brought them down.

In the meantime our gunners were doing excellent practice and every shell appeared to burst where it would do the most damage and I wondered how any one could live for five minutes inside one of those batteries, but they returned the fire in a wonderful plucky way.

About 11 a.m. there was a lull and we were told to go back for orders while the gunboats turned their noses up stream, a shout from one of them telling us that they were off for Dongola. There was some heavy firing when they tried to go past the batteries and some expostulations from the "Tahera" in return, for which they promptly sank her and off they went with a clear run to Dongola.

We disembarked and unloaded our stores near the old fort, and sat for the rest of the day watching the duel, which was kept up until late in the night, between Young's battery and the Dervishes. We thought that when the gunboats came back next day we would land and try to take the position, but in the morning we found that they had made their third great mistake and had marched for Dongola in the night. If they had held the position we would have had great difficulty in driving them out and must have lost heavily, but they could not stand the sight of the boats steaming off to Dongola.

They left their guns and a large quantity of ammunition, which they had taken from Hicks Pasha's army. Their gunners, who were old artillerymen of Hicks' army, deserted them, hiding in the long grass near the river until we landed in the morning. They said they had been obliged to work the guns by the Baggaras, who stood over them with drawn swords and threatened to kill them if they shot badly.

They only fused one or two of the shrapnel, however.

We started crossing the river in the morning and it was done, I think, in record time. Before 6 p.m. the whole army of about 16,000 men with horses, camels, guns, supplies and everything was in camp on the West bank.

We found the batteries had not been hit more than three times, the shells having passed over and burst just in rear and one of the prisoners taken there said they had only lost about 30 killed, but they were not altogether believed.

The gunboats had returned in the morning bearing many honourable scars; one had three shells right through her and another had a shell lodged in the magazine, but having no fuse, it did not burst and they were all spattered with bullets. Our losses had been slight, thanks to the armour plating of the boats, only two being killed, (one on the East bank) and about a dozen wounded.

Next day (21st Sept.) we commenced our march south on Dongola, starting at 5 p.m., and bivouacing in a palm grove at 11 a.m. The night was very chilly and we had a most uncomfortable time, as we had no blankets or anything to keep us warm. At 3.30 a.m. we filled water-bottles and by 4 a.m. were off again making a final halt for the day at 8 a.m., only one man in the Battalion during the whole march having been obliged to fall out.

We managed to get a bath in the river and some breakfast and spent the rest of the day preparing for the fight which we were told would come off next morning as the enemy's position was only seven miles further on.

The machine guns were all tested, the rifles carefully inspected and those that required it were touched up by the Armourer Sergeant; the war artists were working away for life and labelling everything "the day before Dongola." The last thing before turning in a large ration of rum was issued out all round and as it was the first taste of anything stronger than "Nile mud," the men had had since leaving Kosheh, it was quite appreciated.

Next morning, 23rd Sept., reveille went at 3 a.m., and by 4.30 the whole force was on the march.

We marched in the centre of the line, with the Horse Artillery and on either side of us almost as far as one could see were the Soudanese Battalions; on the extreme right were the cavalry and camel corps.

About 7 a.m. we sighted the enemy drawn up in square formation on a hill and at once all the right of the line began to come up, the cavalry stretching forward like a big arm working round them.

In the meantime the Zafir's big twelve pr. was dropping shrapnel right in the thick of them from the river about 4,000 yards away, which was more than they could stand, so they retired.

We tramped on and on, wondering when they were going to make a stand, and wishing the blessed gunboat at the bottom of the river.

About 9 a.m. we came upon the bodies of two Dervishes, who had evidently been killed by a shell, and a little further on were nine wounded trying to get down to the water; they were given some water and well cared for.

About a mile further on we came to the village of Dargola, which extends for about five miles along the river, and here there was a little scattered fighting, as a few Baggaras had shut themselves up in houses and fired on the troops as they passed through; they would not give up their arms and were all shot. They managed to kill an officer's servant, however. One native servant left his master's spare horse and went into a house, probably to look for loot, when a Dervish popped out and fired at him, then jumped on the horse and rode off. The bullet just grazed my servant's leg, giving his nerves an awful shock. The Dervish did not get far, however, as three rifles cracked and he toppled over backwards, the horse finding its way to camp later on.

We now began to suffer very much from the hot sun and want of water, as it was impossible to teach the "Tommies" the necessity of being careful of it, and their bottles were now nearly all finished, and what little was left was so hot that it nearly scalded one's throat as it went down.

The Soudanese troops were suffering, too, although their water-bottles held about twice as much as ours.

Finally, just in the nick of time, we came upon a mud-hole, nearly dried up; it was vile stuff, nearly pure mud, and I don't think I could be persuaded to wash in it now, but it tasted all right then, and it pulled us together wonderfully; men who could with difficulty drag one foot in front of the other before reaching the mud-hole, and could scarcely speak, did the rest of the march in good form, and when we reached the river at 12.40 a.m. and the bands played the triumphal entry, there was quite a show of smartness, where, I am certain, none was felt. Eight hours' continuous marching under such a sun as that, on practically an empty stomach, (my breakfast consisted of half a biscuit and a glass of water, and very many

had no more, though, of course, that was no one's fault but our own), with a pint of water in between, do not tend to make one feel smart.

The spot where we bivouaced, we found, was quite cut off from the Nile by a long ditch full of dirty stagnant water and a good many men drank this stuff, being too played out to swim across or walk a mile around. It was much worse than our friend, the mud hole, as the natives of Dongola used it to wash in, and a number of those who drank it have since died of enteric. That evening the first batch of between four and five hundred prisoners, men, women and children, was brought in, a number of the men being wounded. The youngest warrior was about three years old and came in in full Dervish costume and riding a donkey, under a strong guard. This night proved to be the most uncomfortable one we experienced during the whole expedition, as our blankets did not arrive and the night was very chilly indeed. A number of us wound our putties around our bodies and tried to bury our legs in the sand, but it was not much use; we could not get any warmer. Next morning the Sergeant-Major was ill and died on the way down the river; one officer dropped insensible when he tried to get up and some of the men were ill. At last the sun came out and thawed us and when we had had breakfast we felt none the worse.

That afternoon the Sirdar had a review of all the troops and said a few flattering words to us, after which we marched to a new camping ground about 5 miles further up the river and on the 26th we embarked for Cairo, where we arrived on the 9th of October.

J. J. B. FARLEY.

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## RECORD TARGETS :

Being a Short Description of Those Now in Use  
And a Comparison of Their Merits.

BY

CAPTAIN P. E. GRAY, R. A.

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It is not many years since Garrison Artillery practice was, by all ranks, regarded as an objectless, perfunctory annual duty. It took place under what are, to our ideas, the very reverse of service conditions, and consisted of a number of rounds, fired off at an anchored barrel, each gun-captain or No. 1 correcting his shooting from his own observation, or by the advice of his Divisional Subaltern Officer.

The ultimate object of the whole practice was attained when the barrel gracefully went to pieces to a well-directed shot.

The Commanding Officer of a battery usually undertook the duty of judging the Rights and Lefts.

The results of each round were signalled up from the range-party, firing ceasing to allow this to be done.

The more barrels that were expended, the better was the practice. Instruction was comprehended in the destruction of as many barrels as possible.

The idea of carrying out annual practice on a recognized scheme, directing the fire of a fort by the orders and will of one officer, who would observe and correct the shooting for himself, and on his own judgment; who would hold the fire of his command, as it were, in the hollow of his hand; in short, the instant, quiet, and effective application of what we now call Fire Discipline in Coast Defence, was not even thought of.

There were thoughtful officers of Garrison Artillery, no doubt, who remarked, after a more than usually impressive display, at the expense of the long-suffering barrels with their flags, that, though magnificent, it was scarcely an example of Service Practice; for what enemy would ever stand still and allow himself to be shot to pieces, unless his ship was sinking?

A naval officer would hardly attempt a regular artillery duel with forts, by anchoring his own ships and giving the enemy every possible chance against him. The practice at anchored targets was no doubt excellent as a means of testing the eyesight of layers; and by way of accustoming the detachments to concussion and noise, it was everything that could be desired; but, as a preparation for attack by an enemy's enterprising and swiftly moving ships, cruisers, and torpedo-boats, endeavouring to run past with an ulterior object in view, the practical instruction of the annual practice was *nil*.

So, grew up, tentatively at first, more rapidly as its vast importance became recognized, that branch of applied gunnery which is known as Coast Defence; and in its train came into being, as necessary adjuncts, specialist gun-layers, depression range-finders and their uniform and effective use, groups and group differences, Commanding Officer's observation and corrections, moving targets, schemes of practice, strict Fire Discipline, and Record targets.

Record targets are designed to represent actual ships, and to travel at a fair rate of speed.

The forerunner of the Record target was the single or double Hong Kong, which is still far the best bad-weather target we have. It is cheap, handy, and extremely light. Used singly it represents any desired position of a ship, usually the bow, and hits are counted as the shots fall within given limits, laterally, and in range.

It is usually taken to represent the bow water-line, because layers are instructed to invariably aim at that point. If the Fire Commander knows that this is being done consistently, he can himself then correct, with confidence, to bring the shots to any desired point of impact.

Two Hong Kong targets, connected by a tow-rope, represent the length of a supposed ship. All shots, within limits, falling between the two are counted as hits.

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The objections to the Hong Kong are its small size, which renders it difficult to see at long ranges, the impossibility of its recording effective hits, for if it represents the bow water-line—a shot through would be far less effective than one 50 feet astern of the target. It is also liable to tow under, nose-first, when turning, and in rough weather, owing to weight of tow-rope. This may be prevented by using an ordinary square cork buoy, made fast to the tow-rope between target and tug.

Dismissing, then, the Hong Kong, useful and seaworthy as it is, we come to Record targets proper, which are required to fulfil the following conditions, or as many of them as possible :—

- (1.) Visibility at long and short ranges.
- (2.) Every hit to be recorded.
- (3.) Strength.
- (4.) Seaworthiness.
- (5.) Lightness in towing.
- (6.) Cheapness, in first cost and repair.
- (7.) Durability.

One of the first was known as the Portsmouth pattern target. It was a long, narrow boat-shaped body, having an iron centre-board keel at the stern, and a superstructure of light iron masts and tape lattice-work. Its length was over 60 feet, its breadth at water-line about 3 feet, and its height 12 feet. It towed remarkably well, but was very heavy, very expensive, and could be dismantled by one or two lucky shots.

It was cut clean in two at Plymouth by a shot at water-line; and the bow portion was used for some time alone, until it was again cut in half by a similar shot.

A target called the Devonport or Richardson pattern was then invented.

It was designed to illustrate the breadth, as well as the height and length of a warship, and to offer the same target area when not exactly broadside-on to the battery.

It was built in such a manner that no one shot could pass through it without leaving a record; but no single shot could do any extensive damage.

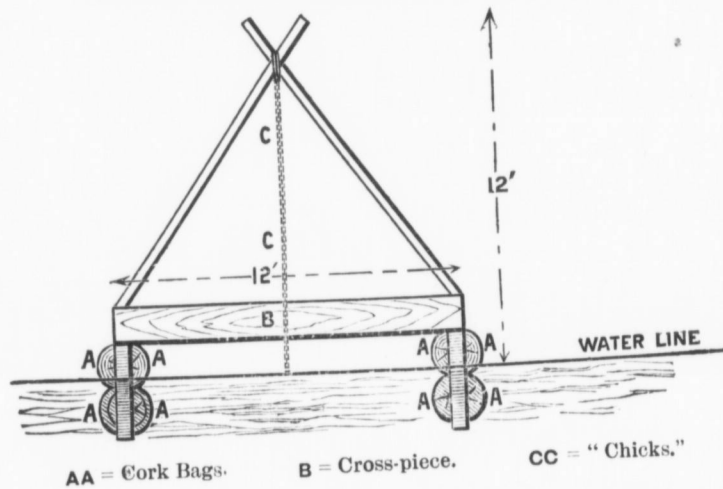
Light wooden cross-pieces and lathing were built up upon two keels,

12 feet apart. These were fitted with bags of cork chips to give the necessary buoyancy.

The structure resembled the frame of a house-roof, was made of the lightest deal scantling, and from the ridge-pole hung "chicks" or curtains of laths, strung on tape, which could be rolled up when not required. The length of target was 40 feet, its height above water-line 12 feet when new, but as the cork bags became water-logged, it sank deeper.

An end view of this target was somewhat as follows:—

**DEVONPORT OR RICHARDSON TARGET.**



It was cheap and easy to build, and at first it answered well, but as the cork bags became thoroughly soaked, the cross-pieces B, of which there were 10, entered the water, and the resistance they offered was so great that towing at a fair rate of speed was out of the question.

The original target was found to be too unwieldy in one piece, and a second pattern was designed, in two sections, connected by lashing and stays. This was rather handier, and the sections could be used separately in very rough weather.

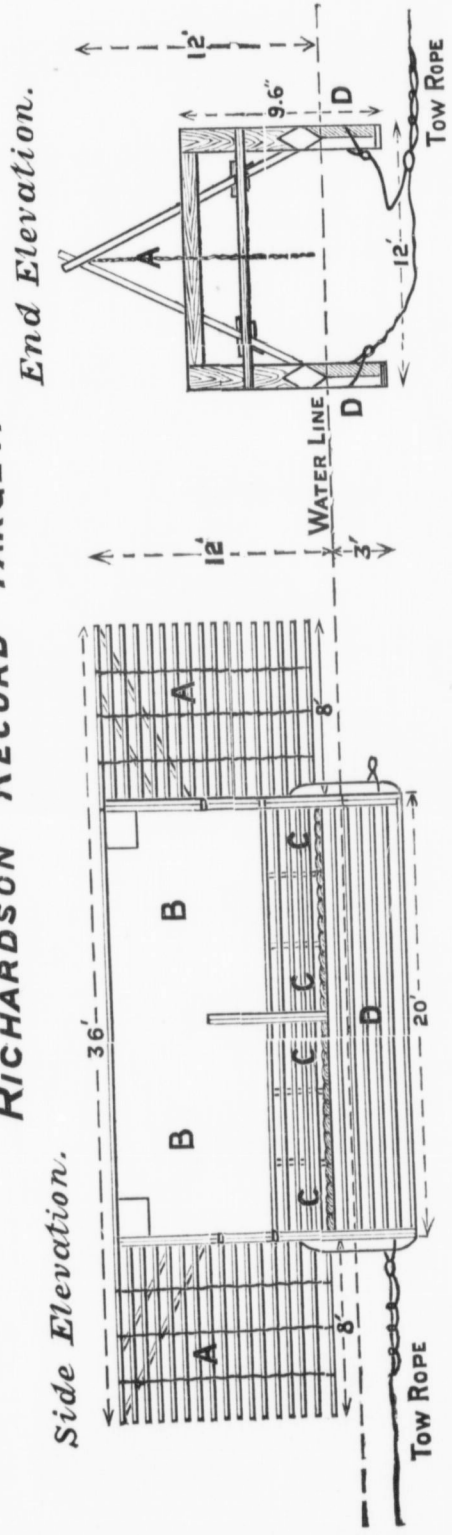
The great objection to this target altogether was its difficulty in towing, on account of the cross-pieces, which difficulty has been overcome in the target known as the "Improved Richardson 1893 pattern." Major-General Richardson so far altered the design of his first targets that the cross-pieces should be well clear of the water.

The cork bags also offered considerable resistance, and these were very ingeniously disposed of, by making each keel double and stowing within its interior spacing the bags of cork chips, the ends of each keel being built into a cut-water.

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**RICHARDSON RECORD TARGET.**



*Scale - 10 feet to 1 inch.*

AA = "Chicks," or Tatties.    BB = Tarred canvas.    CCC = Cork bags.    DD = Floats or keels.

The cut-water at either end was continued up to a height of 6 feet with a similar upright in the centre of each keel. These uprights formed the main supports of the structure. Cross-pieces at their tops connected them, and also at a height of 6 feet 6 inches from the bottom of keels. In addition to these, there were four uprights from each keel connected by cross-pieces and forming knees at a height of 6 feet 6 inches. The whole of these frames were constructed of deal scantling, 6 to 9 inches by 1½ inch.

Upon the floats themselves was built up a framework, covered with tarred canvas, stretched down to the tops of floats, and from each projecting end depended a "chick" of laths and stout twine.

The extreme length of target, including "chicks", was 36 feet; the canvas roof being 20 feet long, each top corner painted white. The target area for fire effect was 432 square feet. The keels or floats being 3 feet in depth, and the cross-pieces connecting the uprights being 6 feet 6 inches from the bottoms, all parts, except those running in the direction of movement, were at least 3 feet clear of the water—a very great advantage.

This target is cheap, seaworthy, and tows lightly. It records every hit, and can be severely punished before it becomes disabled.

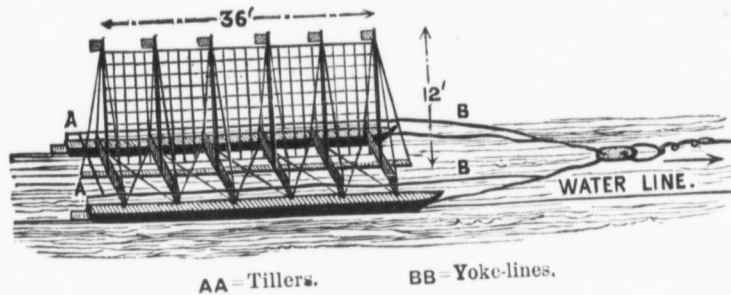
The Mitchell pattern target consists of a pair of long, narrow boats, placed parallel, and 10 feet apart. They are divided into water-tight compartments, and are covered in with tarred canvas. Its particular feature is the steering apparatus, which is ingenious.

At the stern of each boat is a rudder, whose tiller is connected to the bridle by yoke-lines—the two tillers are connected by an iron rod. The bridle runs freely through a rounded wooden float, to which is fastened the tow-rope. As the tow-rope veers, the float slides, carrying with it one or other yoke-line, thus steering the target into the wake of the towing steamer.

The superstructure, resting on wooden cross-pieces, about 1½ by 8 inches, of deal, and on edge, consist of light wooden masts, carrying a lattice-work of cotton webbing.

The tops of masts are ornamented with small flags. The length of target is 36 feet, and height above water-line is 12 feet.

### MITCHELL TARGET.



AA = Tillers.

BB = Yoke-lines.

The above is a rough hand sketch only, and is not drawn to scale.

This target answers fairly well as a record of hits, but has the failing, common to all webbing targets, that a shot may carry away a mast, and with it the whole of the webbing "bay," making an aperture through which subsequent shots may pass, leaving no record of perforation. It is also awkward to hoist in and out of the water without straining.

The writer has seen a single shot, 'twixt wind and water, completely wreck this target.

The boats, if perforated, are certain to settle down, which brings the cross-pieces into the water, and makes the target most difficult to tow.

Wooden buoys are provided to place at intervals along the tow-rope. They make it awkward to handle, and have not been used at this station, as it is often an advantage to allow the rope to sink a few feet, and so permit a fishing boat to cross between the launch and target.

The Ryder pattern target is cheap and simple in construction.

It consists of two long, narrow rafts of flat timber, pointed at the ends, and connected by flat wooden cross-pieces. It is in two sections, fastened together by chains and lashing.

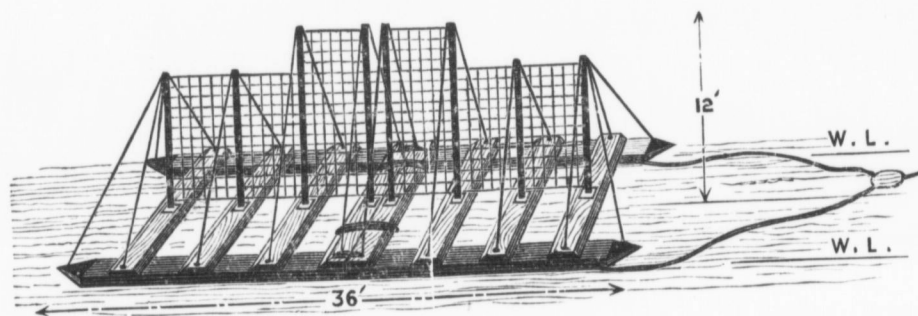
The superstructure is of the usual lattice webbing type, supported on eight wooden masts and iron rods.

It tows well and easily, and its being in two sections gives elasticity, and flexibility in riding over heavy seas.

Its greatest disadvantage is, that a single shot cutting the two centre masts will cause the whole two sections of webbing at the centre to collapse.

A direct hit on water-line, also, cuts cleanly through the rafts, almost invariably through both, as has happened more than once this season at Plymouth. Its length is 36 feet, and height above water-line is 12 feet. The annexed rough hand sketch is not drawn to scale.

THE RIDER TARGET.



In presenting the above notes, the writer puts them forward with no claim to originality, the details of these and other Coast Artillery targets being, no doubt, well known to Garrison Artillery officers.

He presents, however, the foregoing short description of those Record targets now in use, in the hope that it may not be uninteresting to some officers who have not had the same opportunities of seeing them used and comparing their points.

The late Commandant of the School of Gunnery, Major-General Richardson, laid down as his opinion, that the use of Record targets, which Coast Artillery should be encouraged to hit, is the best training for actual warfare, when every hit can alone be effective, and every miss but serve to encourage an enterprising enemy.

On one occasion only has the writer seen the Richardson target disabled.



It was struck 8 times in 12 rounds, being hit repeatedly on the angles of cross-pieces, and having the ridge twice cut through. The sea was rough, and it was blowing a whole gale of wind in squalls; the target gradually opened out, collapsed and turned over, the only portion which was saved being the two floats.

It was as severe a test, from wind, waves and fire effect, as could possibly occur to any target. Its final disappearance was almost inevitable and few targets could have lived as long under the circumstances.

An indestructible Record target remains still to be invented.



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