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CANADIAN

MILITARY GAZETTE

SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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NEWS OF THE SERVICE.

Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute promptly to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Unless we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, in an unsealed envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box 2179, Montreal, Que.

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS.

OTTAWA, March 14.—The establishment lists of Nos. 1 and 2 Garrison companies R.C.A. have been increased by one major and one captain each.

The long controversy over the rank of the deputies surgeon general has at last been settled. In future they will rank as lieutenant-colonels.

There have been times when non-combatant officers, owing to their relative rank, took seniority to their own commanding officers, which made it decidedly uncomfortable for the latter, but especially several of them who are particularly touchy on this point. In future, it makes no difference what their relative rank, non-combatants are not permitted to take precedence over their C. O.'s on any occasion.

The new Major General evidently intends that the militia are to keep in close touch with the regulars at home. Some recent amendments to the Queen's Regulations for Gymnastic Instruction and to the Infantry Drill of 1893, will be promulgated in Canada.

No announcement has yet been made as to whom the Government will appoint Adjutant General. For A.A.G. Brigade, Major Roy, of Montreal, is very favorably received here. He is regarded by the Department as one of the most enthusiastic men in the service.

Ottawa was visited on Monday, the 9th inst., by the officers of the 21st United States Infantry. On their arrival they lunched with Capt. A. Bate, and afterwards viewed the Houses of Parliament and were introduced to numerous Sena-

tors and members. In the evening Col. Lyster, Majors Jocelyn and Boyle dined with His Excellency the Governor-General at Rideau Hall, and after dinner attended with the other officers a smoking concert given by the G. G. Foot Guards at the Drill Hall. These concerts are too well known to need much comment. Music, singing and speeches were the order of the evening, which was most enjoyable, and appeared to give entire satisfaction to every guest present.

On Tuesday morning the officers of the 21st called at Rideau Hall and lunched with the Minister of Militia at the Rideau Club, leaving for Plattsburg that afternoon.

From the conversation that passed on Monday night there is every probability of a rifle match between the 21st and 43rd being arranged to take place shortly, and we may mention en passant that the Krag-Gorgensen rifle used by this regiment does not satisfy the majority; the verdict is that it is clumsy, and that the sighting is very erratic. As to the ammunition used in the States, Rifle is at the present time being tested and experimented with, and may become the adopted explosive for the United States army.

The report that the Government have decided to purchase the Lee-Enfield magazine rifle in preference to the single shot rifle has met with universal approval by the military force generally. There was a feeling of anxiety a few weeks ago lest the Government should be induced to purchase the non-magazine rifle and expressions of regret were heard on all sides.

If the report be true that the Lee-Enfield is agreed upon, every member of the force will highly applaud the decision. What soldier is there that would not feel more secure, in the event of an emergency, with two or three magazines in his pouch which could be attached in the twinkling of an eye. However, we shall hear more about this rifle when Col. Lake gets back to Ottawa the end of this month.

In England cycling clubs are attached to very many regiments, both regulars

and volunteers, and we now learn that cavalry are starting them. The Royal Scots Greys have just started a cycle club, and the sergeants of the regiment contemplate a ride to Edinburgh and back to Aldershot—about 800 miles—selecting their route so as to pass through various regimental depots, at which it is proposed to make the necessary halts. We hope the time is not far distant when the Ottawa regiments will follow this example. At the same time we are well aware that one of the difficulties to contend with lies in the state of the roads in Canada, and time and money only can remedy this.

Mrs. Gascoigne, the wife of General Gascoigne, is a true sportswoman. Not content with skating daily at the Rideau Rink, Mrs. Gascoigne on Friday morning last, having received a telegram from Kingston, started at a moment's notice for that town and spent all the afternoon on iceboats. Mrs. Gascoigne enjoyed herself immensely, as, since her first visit to Kingston in December, it has been her ambition to test this most exciting sport. She was heartily welcomed and entertained, and returned to Ottawa the following day.

Camps in all probability will be postponed till the autumn owing to the delay of the estimates and the election.

Lord Aberdeen on Monday evening last proposed the health of the President of the United States.

The Committee of the Dominion Artillery Association will meet in Montreal shortly to consider if it will be possible to make arrangements to send a team to Shoeburyness this year. When Australia can send teams to compete at the tournament, surely Canada can supply enough funds for the Shoeburyness meeting.

Mr. Bordon recently asked in the Commons for copies of all papers in any way relating to the charges preferred by Lieut.-Col. Worsley, late D.A.G. at Halifax, and others, against the late paymaster, Lt. Col. Murray, the investigation of the charges, etc., and he specifies no less than 74 different reports and letters which he wants brought down.

Major Sam Hughes, M.P., has asked

for a return that will prove interesting reading matter. He wants to know how much money was spent during the last ten years under the following heads :

A. Permanent Militia—

1. Headquarter and District Staff.
2. Royal Military College and Staff.
3. Permanent Force, including expenditures on buildings erected and repaired, intended for their use, and which would not be required for the Active Militia alone.
4. Ammunition Factory at Quebec, staff, etc.

B. Active Militia—

1. Rifle ranges and ammunition supplied.
2. Drill shed and armories.
3. Clothing.
4. Pay of rural corps, including camps.
5. Pay of city corps.

C. List and value of property of all kinds handed over by the Imperial Government on the withdrawal of the Imperial troops from Canada.

D. List of above property since sold or otherwise disposed of, and value realized.

E. List of remaining property now held by the Government in Canada, with its present value.

No. 1 Company, Governor-General's Foot Guards, is apparently trying to become a naval as well as a military organization, as it has purchased the yawl-rigged yacht, Gauntlet of Britannia, and will use her on Lake Deschenes during the coming summer. It is proposed that the crew wear red sweaters, with the G.G.F.G. crest on the breast.

A Cobourg deputation waited on the Minister of Militia Thursday to ask for the construction of a drill hall at that point. It is the headquarters of the 40th, and there is a troop of the P.W.D. there.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

KINGSTON, Mar. 14.—For some time past the great necessity for the establishment in Kingston of a school of instruction, at which officers and non-coms of the local militia corps, and of those of surrounding districts, could qualify for their respective ranks, has been painfully apparent. It has not always been possible for those desirous of qualifying to enter the permanent schools when their private affairs offered the opportunity, and the local corps has labored under a great disadvantage on this account. At last, however, the difficulty is to be removed. A deputation of officers of the 14th Batt., accompanied by several of their brothers in arms of the 43rd Batt., waited on the Minister of Militia and urged upon him the benefit to be derived from the establishment here of a school of instruction. So well was their case presented that the Minister granted their request, and in a few days the first class will be formed. The instructors, an officer and two non-coms are to be supplied by the Toronto company of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry, and the classes will meet in the 14th Battalion Armory in Artillery Park. The hours at which instruction will be given have not yet been fixed, but it is proposed that the classes shall meet at 9 a.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m., for an hour's work each time. This arrangement would give officers and non-coms a better chance to attend than if the time of instruction were made continuous. Neither the class

for officers nor that for non-coms will receive instruction in battalion drill; the course is to be confined to "the company"—company drill, interior economy, etc. If it could be arranged, a short course in "field training" would prove of inestimable practical benefit to both officers and non-coms. This is a branch of instruction that, in the ordinary drill, receives not the slightest attention, yet it is a most important subject. In case of active service, the man who knows how to go about the construction of a shelter trench, the defence of a bridge, a defile, or a wood, might be the means of rendering his country a priceless service by the practical application of his knowledge.

The establishment of the school of instruction here will greatly facilitate the formation of the proposed "city company" of the 47th Batt. as the one obstacle to the success of the scheme so far has been the difficulty of obtaining good officers. Several citizens were deterred from applying for commissions in the company by the impossibility of leaving their business for three months in order to qualify. This difficulty will now be removed, and we may expect to see the new company boom. A meeting of those interested is to be held shortly to take the initial steps towards organization.

A squad of men from "A" Battery, in charge of a non-com., will in future patrol the principal streets of the city on the nights of pay days at the barracks. The Artillerymen—the roistering spirits among them at least—have been in the habit of "getting jolly" after receiving their pay, and several disturbances have occurred in consequence. The patrol will arrest all Artillerymen found misconducting themselves.

In future the bugle band of the 14th Battalion, P.W.O.R., will consist of six buglers only.

The sentence of the court martial that tried Gunners Day, Kenny and Turner, of "A" Battery, for desertion, has been confirmed. Each offender gets 84 days' imprisonment, Day's term being reduced by 28 days, as the offence was his first.

Leslie Gray, who was recently discharged from "A" Battery, having been rendered unfit for military duty by an injury to his spine received while "skylarking" with a comrade, died in the General Hospital here last week, after undergoing a surgical operation for his injury.

Capt. Cochrane, R.E., R.M.C., delivered an illustrated lecture on the "New Photography" to a large audience in the Y.M.C.A. hall a few evenings ago.

Gr. Hall deserted from "A" Battery on the night of Monday, 2nd inst.

Br. McCully is acting provost-sergeant, and fits the position to a nicety.

Major Drury, commanding "A" Battery, has been laid up with la grippe for some days. Capt. Hudon has temporary charge of the corps. The major is a can-

didate for the wardenship of the penitentiary here.

Major L. W. Shannon, of Ottawa, was in the city last week.

Capt. Hora, of the 14th Battalion, has been elected a member of the Council of the Ontario Rifle Association. Capt. Cartwright, of the 47th, is secretary.

VEDETTE.

A VISIT TO THE CARTRIDGE FACTORY.

QUEBEC, March 13.—The Hon. A. Desjardins, Minister of Militia and Defence, accompanied by Col. C. E. Panet, the Deputy Minister, were in the city, and made an inspection of the Government cartridge factory. They were received by Capt. F. M. Gaudet, the superintendent, and Mr. De L. Panet. The factory was seen in full operation. A visit was then paid to the laboratory on the Cove Fields and afterwards to the Citadel, where the Minister was received by Lieut.-Cols. C. E. Montizambert and J. F. Wilson.

The Minister was entertained at lunch at the Garrison Club by some of the officers of the district. Among others were present: Lieut.-Cols. T. J. Duchesnay, D.A.G.; C. E. Montizambert, R.C.A.; J. F. Wilson, R.C.A.; Geo. R. White, 8th Royal Rifles; Majors A. A. Farley and R. W. Rutherford, R.C.A.; T. S. Hethrington, Q.O.C.H.; B. A. Scott, 61st Batt.; Deputy Surgeon-Major C. C. Sewell, R.C.A.; Capt. F. M. Gaudet and W. E. Imlah, R.C.A.; and Mr. H. C. Thacker, R.C.A.

The Queen's Own Canadian Hussars have lost Regimental Sergt.-Major John G. Gore. He was buried with military honors. The gun carriage was furnished by "B" Battery and the Q.O.C.H. supplied the band. The firing party was in charge of Troop Sergt.-Major McWilliam. The pall-bearers were: Reg. Troop Sergt.-Major Bertrand, 1st Field Battery; Reg. Sergt.-Major Trudel, 9th Batt.; Troop Sergt.-Major Ford and Sergt. Barrow, of the Q.O.C.H.; Quartermaster-Sergt. Timmons and Ambulance-Sergt. Griffith, 8th Royal Rifles. Among others in attendance were: Major T. S. Hethrington, Capt. R. E. W. Turner, Capt. Clint and Surgeon Elliott, of the Q.O.C.H.; Major J. S. Dunbar, 8th Royal Rifles, and Capt. Jos. Ouellet, 9th Batt.

On the afternoon of the 24th of February, Sergt. Percy Back, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, shot himself in his quarters in the Citadel. He had quarters by himself in a small building between the hospital and the stables. When he failed to turn up at supper at the sergeants' mess, some of his friends went in search of him. They found him lying on the floor, dead, with the top of his head blown off. Across his legs was his rifle. The inquest resulted in a verdict of suicide while laboring under a fit of tempor-

ary insanity. He was buried with military honors on the afternoon of the 27th inst. The band of the R.C.A., with muffled drums and a firing party of nineteen rank and file in charge of Sergt. Englefield, preceded the gun carriage. Floral tributes were presented by Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, "B" Field Battery and the staff sergeants and sergeants. The pallbearers were Sergts. Jordan, Sutherland, Coston and Croft, of the R.C.A., and Scott and Dynes, of the Q.O.C.H. Lieut.-Col. C. E. Montizambert and officers of the R.C.A. were in attendance, as well as Major Dunbar, 8th Royal Rifles. A floral offering was received from the members of "A" Field Battery, Kingston, Ont.

The 8th Royal Rifles commenced their annual training on the 3rd inst.

Captain Gaudet, superintendent of the cartridge factory, denies the story published in some of the western papers that he is making alterations at the factory for the introduction of more .303 ammunition machinery. When questioned here relative to the capacity of the factory, he said that it was fully equipped to turn out 10,000 rounds per day, or 3,500,000 per annum. This amount could be doubled with night work or more machinery, for which there was sufficient accommodation. The reference to the .303 ball cartridge is also misleading. Under the management of Mr. Dixon the Quebec factory can turn out all that is necessary for this year's use and a great deal more if required. Where the above report emanated is difficult to explain, as it certainly does not approach the truth.

PATROL.

THE SCHOOL A GREAT SUCCESS.

MONTREAL, March 14. — Matters military are beginning to show up very well here. With the advent of the temporary school military enthusiasm has been given an impetus unsurpassed in these latter years. The classes are largely attended by the officers of the various battalions in this district, and applications, we believe, are still coming in, but as the attaching at this period would only keep back those who joined at the beginning, it has been deemed advisable to reject the applications. Another reason, too, is that there are not enough instructors to handle any more, the instructors having at present their work cut out with officers now attending.

Besides the officers who attended regularly there are also a number who attend voluntarily. They have their certificates, but they desire that they should get "brushed up," so that they may be able to make a good showing with their companies. Words of praise are heard on all sides from the officers for the efficient way in which Capt. Macdougall is bringing them on. The way in which he imparts that "go" and "vim" which military officers should have is very much appreciated. In fact, as one officer remarked, "one had only to look at the

class and see some of the older veterans taking their part with the younger to show the interest taken in it."

The following attend regularly: Prince of Wales' Rifles—Capt. Simpson, Second Lieuts. L. Smith, Allan, Butler, G. F. Dobbin, W. E. Brown and W. Robinson. Victoria Rifles—Second Lieuts R. Starke, F. W. Fisher, G. C. H. Hian, W. T. Rudden and C. Stewart. Royal Scots—Second Lieuts. W. M. Evans and G. S. Oliver. 6th Fusiliers—Second Lieuts. J. H. Wilson, J. C. A. Heriot, W. A. Hamilton. 65th Battalion—Capt. F. S. Mackay and De Tonnacourt, Second Lieuts Gelinus, Dinsereau, Louranger, Desjardins and Ouimet. 85th Battalion—Capt. Rosinvinge, Carriere and Kelly, Second Lieuts. Lefebvre, Lachapelle, La Rochelle, Donhue and Brosseau. 86th Battalion—Capt. Demers. 11th Battalion—Second Lieut. Cushing. 9th Battalion—Second Lieut. Leduc.

The officers who are attending voluntarily are: 86th Battalion—Lieut.-Col. Dickson. Royal Scots—Major Lyndon, Capt. Ibbotson, Carson and Cameron and Lieut. Forbes. 6th Battalion—Capt. Andrews. 65th Battalion—Capt. Thibaudeau and Belletier and Lieut. Parent.

The regiments generally are getting pretty well into order for the coming drill season. At most of the quarters of the battalions recruiting is going on apace, as also classes for the instruction of men qualifying for non-commissioned officers. Drill will be general in the course of another three weeks. In fact, the Victoria Rifles have been drilling three nights a week in plain clothes. The Vics had a gathering on Thursday night, when about twelve men who had qualified for non-coms. were presented with their certificates. The Royal Scots are up to full strength. In fact, more recruits have come forward than they require. This no doubt is accounted for by the fact that this year the Scots are going to turn out in feather bonnets. They are expected to arrive next month; also the white jackets. The 6th Fusiliers expect to commence drill in another couple of weeks, and officers are instructing quite a large class that is qualifying for non-coms. In all the regiments there is every prospect for a good season's work.

The Reserve Association of the Victoria Rifles give a minstrel show in the Queen's Theatre Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, under the patronage of Major-Gen. Gascoigne.

The Hong Kong volunteer corps have the long service medal. Col. Pemberton, commanding that corps, has just made enquiry of Lieut.-Col. Cole, 2nd Regiment, C. A., asking for the record of a man formerly in the M.G.A., and who is an applicant for the long service medal. Why should this medal not be allowed to members of the Canadian militia who have completed 20 years' service, when it is allowed to volunteer corps in the colony of Hong Kong?

The officers and members of the 2nd Regiment Garrison Artillery express sincere regret over the death of Capt. Tom. Crathern, who some years ago was a most popular officer in that regiment. The officers attended the funeral on Saturday afternoon, and also sent a wreath as a token of their affection and remembrance.

The Royal Scots are doing great things in the way of pulling in the subscription for their "Feather Bonnet Fund." They now have \$3,400. The regiment is indeed to be

congratulated on the enthusiastic way in which they have gone about collecting for this very laudable purpose. Although still \$1,000 short of the needed amount to equip the regiment, there is every reason to shew that that too will be soon made up.

On Monday evening the G.A. commenced company drill. The regiment are to parade at the armory on Thursday and march to the Queen's to witness the minstrel show to be given by the Vics.

Although not yet able to leave Strong's Hospital, Lieut.-Col. Houghton is progressing favorably.

"E" Company, 6th Fusiliers, held their annual dinner on Friday night, in their armory in the Drill Hall. Of a tempting order was the menu. A long toasting list was gone through. The company was well represented, among those present being Lieut.-Col. Burland, Capt. Mitchell, Converse, Henderson. Col. Burland's trophy, open to the battalion for efficiency in drill, was presented to the company, they having come out ahead in this respect. Those who contributed to the evening's enjoyment were Col. Sergt. Donaldson, Col. Sergt. Lloyd, Corp'l Shaw, Ptes. Macpherson, Cole, and Donaldson.

Many in Montreal have kindly feelings towards Maj. Gen. Sir Wm. Butler, K.C.B., who recently took over the command of the South-eastern District, Dover. In the seventies he was quartered here as a lieutenant in the 69th, and went with Woleley on the Red River Expedition. He married Miss Thompson, who painted "The Roll Call," and many other canvasses of a military character.

The Daily Herald, here, is doing some clever editorial work in the interests of the militia. It is from the facile pen of Lieut. Burns, of the Royal Scots.

The Queen's Birthday will be celebrated Monday, May 25, and some action should at once be taken for a big field day. Everyone is in favor of it, but somehow no one is making a move. The accident to Col. Houghton is unfortunate, for on him would devolve the important work, but he has an able substitute in Brigade-Major Roy. Major Roy should at once get the D.A.G.'s permission to call the field officers together and discuss the matter. If another season is allowed to pass without such an outing we will begin to ask "What is the matter with this district anyway?"

Lieut.-Col. Henshaw, late commanding officer of the Victoria Rifles, is mentioned as a probable candidate for the House of Commons in the coming Dominion elections if Sir Donald Smith retires, and Lieut.-Col. Massey, formerly of the 6th Fusiliers, may be induced to oppose Hon. Mr. M. Shane in another ward. If either of them come out they will receive the strong support of military men regardless of party. They would make very good representatives. They still take an active interest in the militia. As they are both successful business men, with ample means, and not looking for a Government "job," they can be depended upon to pursue an independent course in the House.

Major Reid, Capt. Mitchell and Goddard have been appointed an Entertainment Committee of the Institute, and are arranging for a smoking concern on the last Saturday night of the month.

D.S. General Campbell will lecture on "War" at the Institute on March 21st.

It might be suggested that the militia officers at present attending the course of

instruction at the Drill Hall be thoroughly trained in the latest show-shovelling tactics, as taught at St. John's Military School. That their services may be useful as well as ornamental, they could be put to work on the roof of the Drill Hall or in cleaning off the Champ de Mars.—Herald.

NUMERALS FOR THE ARTILLERY.

HALIFAX, March 12.—On the 3rd the remains of Gunner Morgan, No. 3 Company 1st C.A., were buried with military honors. His late comrades in arms turned out in full force to do honor to a good soldier who had seen much service by sea and land in the Imperial and Canadian services. As a member of the Naval Brigade he took part in the capture of Coomassie in the Ashanti campaign of 1874, for which he received the medal and Coomassie bar. On leaving the Royal Navy he secured employment in H. M. dockyard at this station, and joined No. 3 Company 1st C. A., then H. G. A. In 1885 he accompanied the Halifax Provisional Battalion to the Northwest, and received a medal for that campaign also. He was a good soldier, a genial companion, and no mean shot at either artillery or rifle shooting.

Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., arrived here from Fredericton on the 3rd inst. to hold an investigation upon the "Interior Economy" of the 63rd Rifles. I suppose the result of the enquiry will become public property in good time. Till then silence is golden.

Private Loveday, of the Berkshire Regiment, died early on the morning of the 7th inst., after an illness of only three days. The deceased was 24 years of age, and his death was caused by pneumonia. He was buried with the usual military honors the same afternoon.

On the 7th the officers, staff sergeants and sergeants of the 66th P. L. F. dined at the Halifax Hotel, after which a good programme of music, singing, etc., was gone through, and they spent a very enjoyable evening.

Now that the Canadian artillery is known by regiments, I would suggest that each regiment be supplied with numerals and letters, as per Militia List, to be worn by the N. C. O.'s and gunners on the shoulder knots to indicate the regiment and service to which they belong. As things are now, supposing the five regiments of artillery met in a camp of instruction at Halifax or Isle of Orleans, how are you to distinguish one from the other? The N. C. O.'s and gunners of the C. A. here in Halifax are often mistaken for men of the R.A., and I must say the mistake is often embarrassing. I would suggest that the number be worn above and the letters C. A. underneath it.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

WITH THE ARMY.

LONDON, Eng., March 5.—Preparations are being pushed forward for the army manœuvres, which are to be on an unprecedentedly large scale for England. It is estimated that 40,000 troops will engage in mimic campaigning during July or August. The force will comprise regulars, militia and volunteers. It is expected that the Duke of Connaught will for a time command both the corps into which the force will be organized. There will be two or more brigades of militia and a like number of volunteers, with possibly a Scotch brigade.

Before thousands of spectators the Duke of Cambridge presented new colors to the North Staffordshire Regiment at Ghezireh.

The 2nd Gloucestershire Regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. T. W. Leatham, has just concluded a week's route marching under the new regulations. The distance covered was 122 miles, or an average of 20 miles per day. This is a good record, and shows that, although the men were heavily accoutred, they have still the stamina that stood the test in times past. This will act as an offset to the oft-repeated saying that our army is composed of boys. Only three men fell out during the week's march.

Of the £601,000 to be asked for as a supplementary estimate for the army, £120,000 is required for the Ashantee expedition. This sum, however, does not include the whole cost of the expedition. The bill is made up with such items as £3,000 for the pay of the general staff; £5,500 for regimental pay; £57,000 for the conveyance of troops by sea and land in England; £27,000 for provisions, field allowances and colonial allowances; clothing, £10,000; equipment stores, £4,000; miscellaneous services, £6,000. The pay of the native carriers amounts to £40,000 and is met out of the funds of the treasury of the Gold Coast.

Owing to the re-arranging of the date on which allowances are to be paid to the volunteer corps nearly half a million pounds is required for capitation grants to volunteers.

To encourage rifle practice among retired volunteers an effort is being made to induce the Government to relax the law with regard to gun licenses. If an ex-volunteer desires to keep up his shooting he is liable to prosecution and fine if he uses the ranges without first obtaining a gun license. Not that the Government object to the ex-volunteer practicing shooting, but the difficulty at present is to ascertain whether he uses his rifle for other than shooting at the ranges.

An Order-in-Council was issued on Thursday as a Parliamentary paper, defining the duties of the Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Inspector-General of Fortifications, the Inspector-General of Ordnance, and the Financial Secretary of the War Office, and revoking the Order-in-Council dated February 21st, 1888, defining the duties of the Commander-in-Chief and Financial Secretary of the War Office. The clauses relating to the duties of the Commander-in-Chief which have caused much discussion are: The Commander-in-Chief shall exercise general command over Her Majesty's military forces at home and abroad; shall issue army orders, and hold periodic inspection of the troops; shall be the principal adviser to the Secretary of State on all military questions, and shall be charged with the general supervision of the Military Department of the War Office. He is charged with the general

distribution of the army at home and abroad, with the preparation and maintenance of detailed plans for the mobilisation of the regular and auxiliary forces, with the preparation and maintenance of schemes of offensive and defensive operations, and with collecting and compiling military information, with selecting fit and proper persons to be recommended for appointment to commissions in the regular or auxiliary forces, for promotion for staff and other military appointments, and for military honors and rewards.

EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS RIFLES

HAMILTON, March 14.—A class for those wishing to qualify for non-commissioned officers is in progress under the instruction of Sergt.-Major Huggins, and is attended by a splendid lot of men desirous of promotion. This class is one of the best institutions in the 13th, as a man, to pass the examination, which is a stiff one, requires to be thoroughly posted in all marching, firing and manual exercises, besides possessing a knowledge of interior economy.

Captain and Brevet Major Stoneman, of "A" Company, the new major of the 13th, is a promotion well deserved and popular amongst all ranks, as the captain was a favorite. He is succeeded in "A" Company by Lieut. Herring, under whom the company will become if possible more efficient.

It is with regret I report the resignation of Mr. Witton, first lieutenant of "G" Company. Mr. Witton has been forced to take this step owing to his time being fully taken up by municipal matters pertaining to his position as alderman. He is succeeded by Second Lieut. Logie, a popular officer who, when he has read up a little more, will make a good first lieutenant. Ralph King, who becomes first lieutenant, is another very popular officer with the men of his company, as also with the regiment, and now that he is a first lieutenant Mr. King will no doubt work and sleep with his drill book beside him. J. W. Ambery and R. A. Robertson have been appointed second lieutenants provisionally.

In the purchasing of new rifles for the Canadian force a move has been made in the proper direction, as the present rifle, the Snider, is no doubt an ancient weapon compared to the more modern arms—the Lee-Metford, the Martini-Enfield and others; but would it not be advisable at the same time to purchase new valises and ball pouches, so as to properly equip the force? Imagine what a figure we would cut turning out for active service equipped as we are with a wooden box of a knapsack and ball pouches that lose more cartridges than they retain. Imagine us, I say, turning out with equipment discarded by the British militia after the Crimean War.

Our rifle, the Snider, is bad enough, but in its worst stage it is not so bad as the knapsack and pouch we now possess.

I can recall instances of sham battles in the ravines of High Park, Toronto, when the men lost 50 per cent. of the ammunition issued to them. Why, when you lie down to fire a shot the cartridges simply roll out of your pouch; there is nothing to retain them. And when at London last summer we participated in a sham battle with the R.R.C. Infantry, the same thing would have occurred, but the men received instructions to carry their ammunition in their tunic pockets, so as not to lose it. When you realize the uselessness of the equipment we possess, no doubt you will agree with us in saying that the force requires new equipment as well as new rifles.

Mrs. Villiers, wife of Col. Villiers, is at St. Joseph's Hospital suffering from nervous debility. The Colonel's many friends throughout Canada will be sorry to hear it.

THE STORY OF WATERLOO.

BELLEVILLE, March 13—Under the auspices of the 15th Battalion, Capt. Lee, of the Royal Military College, Kingston, delivered his lecture on "Waterloo" before a crowded and enthusiastic house on Friday. Mr. Thos. Ritchie presided. At the close Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., thanked Capt. Lee for his lecture, and spoke of the good such lectures were doing in inculcating patriotic sentiment in the minds of young Canadians.

The officers of the 15th gave a smoking concert in honor of the lecturer, in the officers' quarters. After partaking of the good things, the company adjourned to the large room, where a plentiful supply of pipes, tobaccos and cigars was ready. Lieut.-Col. Ponton acted as a director of ceremonies while Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., occupied the chair. Col. Ponton looked well after the guests and seemed to have the faculty of anticipating their wishes. The programme, which was thoroughly military, was enjoyed by all present. Miss T. Cunningham gave "Jessie's Dream" as a piano solo, while the following contributed solos in a skilful manner: Messrs. F. Lewis, S. Burrows, F. Eaton, G. E. Fax, Lieut.-Col. Hume. Rev. M. W. Maclean, chaplain of the battalion, gave a reading of a patriotic nature. In the course of the evening Lieut. Col's. Rogers and Bell, of Peterboro, extended, on behalf of the visitors, a hearty vote of thanks to the officers of the 15th Battalion for their kind invitation and hospitality. Col. Hendrick, U.S. Consul, also thanked the officers for their invitation. Col. Ponton said he had received a number of letters of regret from persons who were unable to be present, among them being Lieut. A. Robertson, of Findley, Ohio, an old 15th man; Majors J. E. Halwell and E. Harri on, of Ottawa.

Col. Bell extended a hearty invitation to the 15th to visit Peterboro on the 24th May. If this was done, the 57th Battalion would reciprocate and visit Belleville later. Col. Ponton said that if it were at all possible, the 15th would accept the kind invitation.

The visiting officers present were: Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., Kingston; Lieut.-Col. Bell, 57th, Peterboro; Lieut.-Col. Rogers, 3rd P.W.O. Dragoons, Peterboro; Lieut.-Col. MacDonnell, 16th, Picton; Lieut.-Col.

Brown, 49th H.R.; Surgeon Farley, 49th H.R.; Capt. Shaw, 49th H.R., and Capt. McGee, 49th H.R., Stirling; Lieut. Watts, 49th H.R.; Adjutant J. W. Johnson, 49th; Major Biggar, 16th; Sergt. Luscombe, 20th Foot; Major Caswell, late of Prince County volunteer force, P.E.I.; Lieut. Bell, 49th H.R.; Col. Hendrick, U.S. consul.

The Boys' Brigade of St. Andrew's Church, to the number of 40 and under the command of Capt. Black, fittingly represented young Canada.

Col. Bell, of Peterboro, stated that he had the sextant that was on board the Belleophon, which carried Napoleon from France to England after his surrender.

ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE members of the Ontario Rifle Association held their annual business meeting March 3, at the Military Institute, Toronto, the president, Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson, in the chair.

Among these present were: Lieut.-Cols. W. D. Otter, D.A.G.; Graveley, district paymaster; Jones, R.L.; White, 30th. Majors McLaren, 13th; Bruce, Grenadiers; Macdonald, 48th. Capts. Kirkpatrick, Q.O.R.; Orchard, 48th; Mercer, Q.O.R.; Curran, 12th. Lieuts. Pain, 13th; Elliott, 12th; Mitchell, 12th.

Officers were elected as follows:

President—Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson.

Vice-presidents—1st Military District: Lieut.-Col. White, 30th, Guelph; 2nd M.D.: Major J. J. Mason, 13th, Hamilton; 3rd M.D.: Major Sam Hughes, M.P., 45th, Lindsay; 4th M.D.: Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, militia staff, Ottawa.

Council—George Sleeman, Guelph; John Crowe, Guelph; Lieut. A. Pain, 13th; Lieut.-Col. Jones, R.L., Toronto; Major Delamere, Q.O.R.; Lieut.-Col. J. Hughes, 45th; Capt. Dennistoun, R.L., Scarborough; Lieut.-Col. W. E. Hodgins, G.G.F.G., Ottawa; Lieut.-Col. Wright, 43rd, Ottawa; Capt. Sutherland, 43rd, Ottawa; Major Robson, 26th; Capt. A. Wilson, 23rd; Lieut.-Col. Mason, R.G.; Capt. Hora, 14th P.W.O.R.; Capt. MacNachtan, Cobourg; Lieut.-Col. Anderson, Ottawa.

The annual report shows that an increasing interest is being taken in rifle shooting throughout the province, and that at last year's prize meeting there was a larger attendance of new shots than at any prior meeting. The financial position of the association has also been improved during the year. This, coupled with the fact that at the recent meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association in Ottawa, His Excellency the Governor-General and the Ministers of the Dominion Government, there present, expressed themselves strongly as to the good work being done by the Dominion and Provincial Associations in the cause of rifle shooting, augurs well for an increased interest during the coming season in everything appertaining to rifle shooting.

A meeting of the new Council was held immediately after the annual meeting, when the following officers were elected:

Chairman of the Council—Major J. J. Mason. Executive Committee—Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson, Lieut.-Col. White, 30th; Major Sam Hughes, 45th; Major W. C. Macdonald, 48th; Major J. Bruce, R.G.; Capt. M. S. Mercer, Q.O.R.; Capt. Curran, 12th; Lieut. A. Pain, 13th; John Crowe, Guelph. Treasurer—Lieut.-Col. J. Vance Graveley. Secretary—Lieut. A. D. Cartwright. Auditors—Capt. Curran, 12th; Lieut. W. G. Mitchell, Q.O.R.

Major J. J. Mason was appointed trustee for the Ontario Rifle Association

in the matter of the five years' lease of the Long Branch rifle ranges from the Dominion Government to the association that is being prepared by the authorities at Ottawa.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The Americans have suffered in many ways by the foolishness of their politicians in threatening to bring on a war with Great Britain over Venezuela. It has united the Canadians more closely. Canadian printers have been purchasing almost all their inks from American makers. Since the unpleasantness an agent in Toronto, who has done a large business for a New York firm, says he has been unable to sell because the Canadian buyers want Canadian or British inks and refuse to use American.

London Truth says the Dunraven controversy has developed the fact that "the British are 'sportsmen' and the Americans 'sports.'" The difference between these terms is the same as the difference between "gentlemen" and "gents."

Lieut.-Gen. H. C. Wilkinson, C.B., lately commanding the York District, succeeds the late Gen. Sir Charles Foster as Colonel of the 16th Lancers. Gen. Wilkinson has spent several months in Canada during the past few years visiting silver mines in the vicinity of Rat Portage and other properties in the Northwest in which he has a large financial interest.

William Knolland died at Torbrook Mines, Annapolis Co., N.S., last week at the age of 58. He came to Montreal with the 78th Highlanders, and left them to become a drill instructor to the Royal Scots when that regiment was reformed. He was born in Glasgow, and at an early age joined the East India Company's service. He went through the mutiny with the Bengal Horse Artillery, and was present at the Relief of Lucknow under Havelock and Outram. On his return to Scotland he joined the 78th Highlanders and was posted to Capt. Leckie's company. He was first garrisoned at Aberdeen and was among the body guard of Her Majesty while at Balmoral Castle. After this he was garrisoned in succession at Edinburgh, Aldershot, Shorncliffe Camp, Dover, Dublin, Gibraltar, Quebec, Montreal and Halifax. While in Halifax he was appointed drill instructor under Gen. Doyle. Capts. Roach, Phinney, Taylor, Parker, Forster and others received instruction from the deceased. He was in the employ of the Londonderry Iron Co., and for the past four years has been time-keeper at the Torbrook Iron Mines. His body was taken care of and buried by the Orange Lodge. With their permission, Mr. John Leckie, manager of the iron company, caused the coffin to be carried to the grave under the Union Jack, as a mark of military respect.

MODERN FIREARMS.

ADDRESS BY CAPT. J. CHARLES MACDOUGALL, R.R.C.I., BEFORE THE MONTREAL MILITARY INSTITUTE.

MAJOR J. E. IBBOTSON, Royal Scots, took the chair in presence of a crowded room, when Capt. Macdougall delivered an address before the members of the Montreal Military Institute on "Modern Firearms." He said:

About the year 1848 the Prussians adopted the breech-loading needle gun. This fact does not seem to have been regarded as important by the other European powers, who at that time were armed with muzzle-loaders, and so remained. It was not until the Danish war of 1864, and the short and decisive campaign of 1866 against Austria, that the superiority of the Prussian breech-loading rifle over muzzle-loaders and the advantages of rapid fire were fully demonstrated.

In England, after this, it was felt that no time should be lost in providing the army with a breech-loader. In June, 1864, a committee of officers assembled to consider and report upon the expediency of introducing breech-loading arms for general adoption in the army. After a few sittings the committee unanimously recommended that the system be immediately introduced. It was decided to convert the then existing stock of Enfield rifles into breech-loaders, and gunsmiths and manufacturers were invited to send in patterns of the modes in which they might propose to carry out the conversion. Nearly fifty methods of conversion were proposed, and the committee, after many and protracted experiments, recommended the plan proposed by Mr. Jacob Snider.

It was recognized in England at that time that what the army needed was a breech-loader using a metallic cartridge, which had not been adopted up to then by any foreign power. The principle of small arms was in a transition state, and it was decided to convert the muzzle-loading rifles into breech loaders using metal cartridges and to await the development of invention before adopting an entirely new arm. The whole stock of Enfields was converted on this principle and was exhausted before the question as to the future arm was settled, and a number of new arms on the Snider principle (but with steel, instead of iron, barrels) were also made. Thus it is seen that the Snider-Enfield was never intended for anything but a make-shift. The Prussian campaign of 1866 against Austria, in which the former had breech-loaders and the latter muzzle-loaders, proved conclusively the immense superiority of the breech-loader, and Europe generally proceeded to re-arm upon that principle.

The British army, being for the present armed with a breech-loader, the question of the best arm for the future was taken

into consideration. A special committee was appointed for the purpose in October, 1866, and proposals were advertised for. Although about 120 arms were submitted, none were approved by the committee, owing chiefly to the fact that accurate shooting had not been considered by the manufacturers so much as ingenious methods of closing the breech. None of the arms submitted had reached the standard of accuracy laid down by the War Office, a standard that could, it was known, be readily surpassed by muzzle-loaders under similar conditions, and which, it was thought, ought to be attainable by breech-loaders. It was also clear that the closing of the breech by one system of mechanism or another, if metal cartridges should be used, could not affect the accuracy of the arm, unless it precluded the use of a cartridge of suitable size. The questions, therefore, of bullet, bore, grooving, weight and description of barrel, charge of powder, and cartridge case, could be settled independently, and, having determined these points, it was considered that a decision on breech mechanisms would be more easily arrived at.

Before deciding their plans, however, the committee consulted many experts in the matter of small arms, and, supported by their opinion, separated the question of the barrel from that of breech mechanism. It was decided that the barrel competition should be confined to those systems of rifling which had been most satisfactory as muzzle-loaders, and that the breech action competition should be, so to speak, "open to all comers." After careful and elaborate trials, the committee, in 1869, reported in favor of a combination of the Martini breech-block and the Henry barrel, or the Martini-Henry rifle, which we know so well. After many tests and trials, discussions as to the cartridge, and the taking of evidence of eminent civil engineers as to the mechanical construction of the breech action, the rifle was finally approved in April, 1871,—five years after the subject had first been submitted to the committee.

The following are some of the particulars of the rifle:

Weight of rifle without bayonet	8 lbs. 12 oz.
Length of rifle (long butt).....	4 ft. 1½ in.
Weight of bullet (over 1 oz.).....	480 grs.
Weight of 1 packet of 10 cartridges	1½ lbs.
Mean muzzle velocity	1,315 f.s.
Greatest height of trajectory above line of sight for 800 yds., culminating at 500 yds.....	26.59 ft.
Bore45 in.

The barrel is made of solid steel, and it is rifled with seven grooves having a right-handed uniform twist, and making one complete turn in 22 inches. The body contains the breech action—which is the mechanism for closing the breech, firing the cartridge and extracting the empty cartridge case. The breech is

closed by a block which swings on a pin, passing through its upper rear end and the upper rear end of the body, but is so arranged that the recoil is taken by the back and sides of the body and not by the pin. The cartridge is fired by the striker, which is driven forward by the action of a strong spiral spring within the breech-block. The action of lowering the lever causes the block to fall and to strike the extremity of the lower arm of the extractor, thus ejecting the empty case. With the same motion, and at the same time, the action is cocked, the striker drawn back and the main-spring compressed.

The action of the extracting lever is so arranged as to give its greatest power at the commencement of the extraction, when the cartridge has been somewhat hammered into the chamber by the action of the striker on its base and expanded by the explosion, and its greatest velocity at the end to jerk the empty case out. It is evident that the constant falling of the block upon the extractor tends to flatten the latter. When this flattening has taken place the extractor loses its leverage on the empty cartridge, and this has been the chief cause of failures in extraction, erroneously attributed to the cartridge. In this connection Major Mayne, in 1888, wrote:

"There is a strong opinion * * * that we made a mistake in 1870 in adopting the falling block breech action for our rifle, not so much on account of its unsuitability for magazine purposes, the future use of which was not then realized, but on account of its inferior mechanical power for loading and extracting. Mechanically speaking, the direct action of a bolt for both loading and extracting is far superior to loading with the thumb and extracting with the indirect action of a lever operated on by a falling block, as we have in our present rifle. We have lately frequently heard from the Soudan of the want of extracting power that exists in our rifle for ejecting cartridges that have stuck for any reason. With a bolt breech action these complaints would not have occurred unless the base of the cartridge tore away from the body of it, an occurrence which is not likely to occur at any time if a good design and manufacture has been ensured. Further, a solid-drawn cartridge case is known to require a stronger extractor than the rolled sheet brass ones that we use, as the expansion of a solid-drawn cartridge case when fixed is more permanent than that of a rolled one, and this is another reason for introducing the bolt breech action in any future rifle for our service. Arguments have often been used in England against a bolt breech action on account of the frequent failures of the Prussian needle gun and the French chassepot in the Franco-German war. Metal cartridges were not used with these weapons, and the breech was so badly closed that a large escape of gas occurred when each cartridge was fired. The consequence was

that the barrel and breech action became so fouled that the cartridges could not be put into the barrel, and the working of the bolt became so laborious as to utterly destroy the steadiness of a man's hand by sending a tremor up his arm, which rapidly disqualified him from firing with accuracy. This state of things no longer exists, since a solid-drawn cartridge has been universally adopted abroad, and continental officers assert that a direct bolt action tires a man no more than the indirect lever action that we employ in our rifle."

The breech action is not, however, otherwise easily put out of order, and I quote, in this connection, the following from a clear and complete letter, which appeared in *The Montreal Star* of Feb. 1, signed "Mark IV":

"This rifle is the only one which made a satisfactory showing in the sand and rust tests at the time of its adoption. It is not easily put out of action, is easy to manipulate and easy to keep clean. The action cannot be jammed by rain, sand, or fouling. In the test which led to the adoption of this rifle one arm was exposed to rain, and water artificially applied, for seven days and nights, and in that time fired 400 rounds without cleaning, and then was fired 20 times in 1 min. 3 sec. Easily the best and quickest single military rifle of its day."

Col. Eden Baker, Royal Artillery, in his notes on Tactics, thus sums up the Martini-Henry:

"Sighted up to 1,400 yards. It is very effective up to 800 yards, but at large objects, such as columns and batteries, can be employed up to 2,000 yards range. A man can fire 10 to 12 aimed, and 20 to 24 unaimed, rounds a minute under favorable circumstances, and this rate, under good management with well-disciplined troops, is, in reality, quite fast enough for ordinary war requirements. Few men can fire more than 40 rounds quickly from the shoulder, as the exertion is too great. It was found, lately in India and also in Germany, that a man could fire off as many (and sometimes more) rounds in a given time, say 2 or 3 minutes, with the ordinary rifle as he could with the magazine."

The Martini-Henry continued to give general satisfaction until the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78; when, as in 1866, the war between Prussia and Austria demonstrated the immense superiority of the breech-loader over the muzzle-loader. The Russo-Turkish campaign, in which the Turks were armed with Winchesters, showed that repeating arms had great advantages over single loaders, owing to their greatly increased rapidity of fire. As a result, all the European powers took up the question of the desirability of introducing repeating or magazine rifles, or of increasing the rapidity of fire of existing patterns by the adoption of what was known as a "quick-loader," being a de-

vice hung upon the rifle near the breech to reduce the time necessary to obtain a cartridge and put it into the breech.

But the Russo-Turkish war was not the first in which a repeating arm was used. The Spencer magazine rifle was used in the American war with more or less success, but its mechanism was of a complicated and delicate nature, and, paper cartridges being then in use, the rifle did not promise much advantage for the future, and after this war the question of magazine arms fell into abeyance. In England six systems of repeating rifles were submitted to the committee (in 1867-69), which adopted the Martini-Henry. Of these systems they preferred the Winchester, but considered it too complicated and so liable to injury that it was not calculated to withstand the wear and tear of service. This committee, in its report, said that they were aware that occasion might arise when a magazine rifle might be useful, but considering the increase of weight when the magazine was loaded, and the great rapidity of fire of the Martini-Henry and other single loaders, they were not prepared to recommend a magazine arm for general adoption. In reference to this report the Text Book on small arms says: "The fact was that this description of arm was then in its infancy and the demand for it had not become pressing; it was then a question whether the practical value of magazine rifles would fulfil expectations; but of this there was no doubt, even at that time: that the moral effect of their possession by one army would oblige their adoption by all."

It was not until 1880 that decisive steps were taken in the matter by England. "The prevalent idea that the Martini-Henry was such a superior one as compared with continental rifles," writes Major Mayne, "might probably have been one cause of this delay, but official experiments made in England in 1880 dispelled this pleasant dream, when it was found that our rifle was no better than the French or German rifles, while it was inferior to the Russian one."

THE QUESTION OF A MAGAZINE ARM

was in 1880 referred to the then Machine Gun Committee, but this committee was dissolved in March of the same year, and nothing further of any importance occurred in the matter until 1883, when a committee was appointed to consider and work out details in connection with a new arm, a modification of the Martini-Henry, but not a magazine rifle. This committee was also instructed to take up the question of the desirability of introducing a magazine rifle, and the best form of such arm.

"Every improvement in firearms has had for its main object increase in rapidity of fire," and the advantage of magazines in this respect had long been seen. What are the tactical advantages of the magazine? Major Mayne writes: "The necessity for using magazine rifles in future

will be best seen by considering the tactical use to which they will be put. It has been frequently stated that the moral effect caused by an efficacious fire is greater, as the time in which the losses are effected is less; that is, according to the suddenness and rapidity with which they are inflicted. The objectives usually fired at in war are very variable and mobile, and are often only seen at intervals, and it is in order to pour a rapid fire on these short appearances that a magazine rifle is required to inflict the greatest loss possible in the shortest time."

Magazine rifles have the undoubted advantage of allowing, at any given instant, and especially at the decisive moment of the fight, the enemy to be overwhelmed with a mass of projectiles. "If fire is to be opened on any given object at any range, then while the fire lasts its useful effect should be as great as possible, and it is only by the use of magazines that the greatest possible mass of lead can be directed on an enemy at any given moment. The greater the useful effect the greater will be the moral effect on the enemy, and hence the power of being able to inflict sudden losses on an enemy will go far towards attaining victory."

Nowadays, from the moment when his masses arrive on the field of battle, we try to prevent the enemy coming to short distances. Hence all the power of the fire of the troops ought to be utilized as early as possible, in order to take away as soon as possible from the enemy the vigor that it is necessary for him to possess for the close of the fight. "We can only obtain decisive results by the quantity, as to time and place, as well as by the quality, of the fire. Therefore, we must try and obtain both. Quality can only be obtained by training in peace time, and quantity of fire, as to time and place, by means of magazine rifles. When men are tired and fatigued the greater the number of rounds they can fire under the same conditions the better, and the theoretical destructive effects of the fire of two different rifles will be proportionate to their rapidity of fire, and for this reason—for a fire lasting one to two minutes magazine rifles will have a great superiority."

To illustrate the value of volleys from magazine rifles Major Mayne quotes the following from a lecture on magazine rifles by Col. Fosbery, V.C.:

"I remember hearing a Confederate officer relate his first experience (in the American Civil War) of the Spencer magazine rifle. He stated that the Federals had occupied and stockaded a strong position on the top of a hill commanding the passage of one of their great rivers, a position from which it was necessary that they should be expelled if possible at once. A strong storming party was accordingly formed, and assembled at nightfall at the foot of the hill. When the moon rose they silently commenced their ascent until at last they saw just above

them the long black parapet against the sky line, apparently without a defender. On some sound being made, however, the alarm was given, and in an instant the parapet was lined with heads, and a volley poured into the assailants at close quarters, which was almost instantly followed by a second. This was a war of surprises, and, coming to the conclusion that their enemies had double-barrels and must now re-load, the stormers cheered and rushed at the work; but they had reckoned without the Spencer. Five more volleys followed the first two without a second's intermission, and the broken remains of the party took refuge at the bottom of the hill, to attempt that post no more. On another occasion, a Federal brigade which had already suffered severely in action, and was reduced to a fraction of its original numbers, came in sight of a vastly superior body of the enemy, which instantly made preparations to attack, and moved down on them full of confidence. For a moment everyone thought that all was lost. The officer in command, however, understood his business and his weapons. He ordered the magazines to be filled, the men to take such cover as they could find, and to wait for the word of command. Nearer and nearer came the enemy, and still the thin line waited in dead silence. When, however, they got within 100 paces, the order came out sharp and clear, and volley after volley from the repeaters mowed them down in an instant. The ranks fell one over the other in heaps, and the survivors panic struck at the sudden and unexampled slaughter, turned and fled, leaving the spoils of war to the enemy they had too soon despised."

The same author goes on to say: "One great point which must not be overlooked in making magazine rifles the future armament of infantry is the moral strength it will give to the side using them." Gen. Brialmont writes: "It is incontestable, however, that the magazine rifle augments the confidence of the soldier at the decisive moment which precedes the assault, and that this effect ought not to be disdained in war, where morale plays so great a role. It is thus certain that a magazine rifle will assure to any infantry a moral, material and tactical superiority over an enemy armed with an ordinary breech-loader. It must never be forgotten that the want of efficacy of the fire of one side increases the morale of the opponent."

We have seen, then, that the committee to which the advisability of adapting a magazine rifle for the British service had been referred had primarily been assembled for the purpose of considering improvements to the Martini-Henry. They came to a conclusion in this matter, but we heard nothing of it until lately. I will refer to this again. The magazine rifle became the chief work of the committee. All the old objections to the bolt system, as compared with the block sys-

tem, which resulted in 1871 in the adoption of the latter, were again urged, and would no doubt have had the same effect as before had it not been considered impossible to adapt it to a magazine arm, for it was looked upon as safer, as supporting the cartridge quite as well, and as admitting of equal, if not greater, rapidity of fire than the block system.

The objections to the bolt system which, the Text Book informs us, undoubtedly existed in its earlier forms, have been either entirely removed or their importance much reduced. And, I suppose, we may assume that this is the case, since all the great powers, including the United States, have adopted this system.

The objections were, however: 1. That the bolt was liable to catch in objects, and took away from the symmetry of the arm. 2. A considerable length of the rifle was taken up by the bolt action. 3. In the event of a cartridge case jamming there was no leverage to effect the extraction. 4. Should the breech action fail owing to a defective cartridge or other causes, the bolt being in line with the firer's eye would be more likely to cause him injury. 5. In the event of a projecting cap from the base of a cartridge or an over-sensitive one, the bolt from the direction of its motion would be more likely to explode it in closing the breech than in the block system. Another matter that this committee had to consider was the question of

SUITABLE CALIBRE FOR SMALL ARMS which had been re-opened in England. On the first adoption of magazine rifles no material alteration was made in the calibre of the old single loaders, but a decrease in the bore was considered necessary to increase the flatness of the trajectory, the range, the accuracy and the penetration of the projectile. A decrease in the weight of the bullet, and, consequently, in the weight and size of the whole cartridge, were further advantages to follow the reduction in calibre and result in an increase in the amount of ammunition which could be carried by the soldier and in the ammunition carts, a most important consideration under all circumstances, and especially with magazine arms. Another great advantage of the lighter bullet was the decrease in recoil. When the diameter of the bullet was reduced it became necessary, in order to obtain the proper weight, to increase its length; this increase in length would require a rapidity of rotation to which the old lead bullet was not adapted; this difficulty was overcome by encasing a core of 98 per cent. lead and 2 per cent. antimony in a solid drawn envelope of 80 per cent. copper and 20 per cent. nickel. The core is inserted from the rear end of the envelope, which is afterwards turned over the base of the core. The envelope being solid drawn, has, consequently, a solid point somewhat thicker than the sides.

But, to return to the rifle. The com-

mittee, after the usual exhaustive investigation, consideration, experiments and tests, in 1888 submitted a pattern of .303-inch calibre rifle, rifled on the Metford system and with the Lee bolt and magazine, and this pattern was approved to govern the issue of 350 rifles for extended trials by the troops. These rifles were sent out and were reported upon satisfactorily as regards the efficiency of the rifle. Minor improvements which, in the meantime suggested themselves, were accordingly made and the rifle was formally approved and issued, sealed as the Lee-Metford Mark I. Two years later a committee was appointed by the War Office to consider the reports on Mark I. The results of the deliberations of the committee were, among several minor details, to increase the capacity of the magazine from 8 to 10 cartridges, to simplify the bolt and to reduce the weight of the rifle 6 oz. These alterations were approved and the new production is known as the Lee-Metford Mark II.

Weight, Mark II., 9 lbs. 4 oz.

Length, over all, 4 feet 1½ inches.

Calibre, .303 inch.

Rifling, Metford.

Grooves, 7.

Twist, uniform, left handed, 1 in 10 inches, or 33 cal.

Muzzle vel., black powder 1,850 f.s., cordite 2,000.

Greatest height of trajectory above line of sight for 800 yards, 13 feet 6 inches.

Foresight vel., .023 inch to left to allow deflection due to the jump from cordite ammunition.

Now as to the necessity for extreme range sights. Some doubt seems to exist as to their value, owing to the limit of vision. It is true that a man or a bullseye would be a rather uncertain mark at 2,500 yards, even if they could be plainly seen. But a battalion of infantry or a battery of artillery unlimbering would be rather an easy target for a succession of volleys at that range. What do the tacticians say? General Clerly, writing of the apparently accidental nature of long range firing in the Franco-German war, says: "But the war of 1877 (Russo-Turkish) has now removed all doubt on this subject. The heavy losses constantly sustained by the Russians from infantry fire at distances up to 3,000 yards prove beyond question what this fire can effect. These results must, therefore, be acknowledged and their value recognized. To continue to theorise any longer against long-range infantry fire would be to advocate the surrender of an important element in the destructive force of an army. The drawbacks attending its use are considerable, as are also the difficulties to be overcome in regulating it; but the point for consideration is not the overcoming of difficulties, but the advantages to be gained by overcoming them. Its adoption becomes, therefore, a matter of necessity." The result of experiments in this nature of fire has confirmed its importance and made long range practice a matter of regulation. The Musketry Regulations have this to say about long-range volleys: "Such a fire would be required on massed infantry, artillery, cavalry, trains, camps, etc., and in the attack of a position from troops specially attached to a flank to

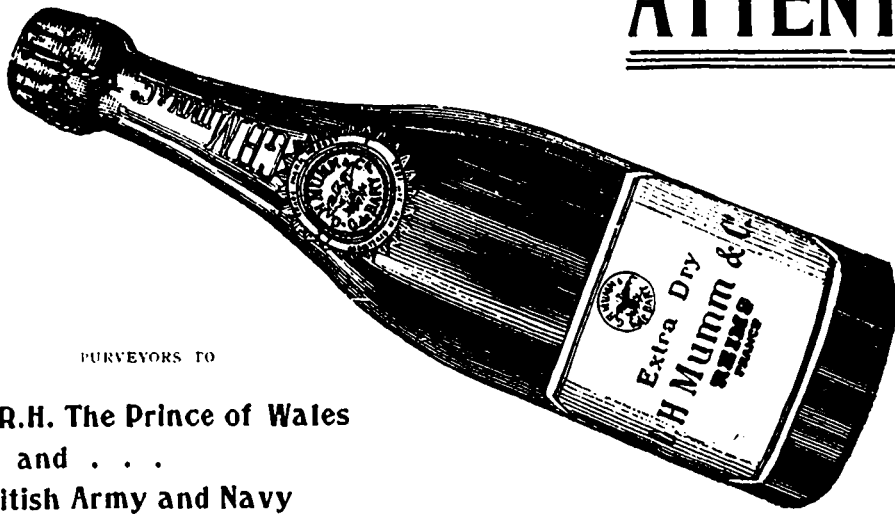
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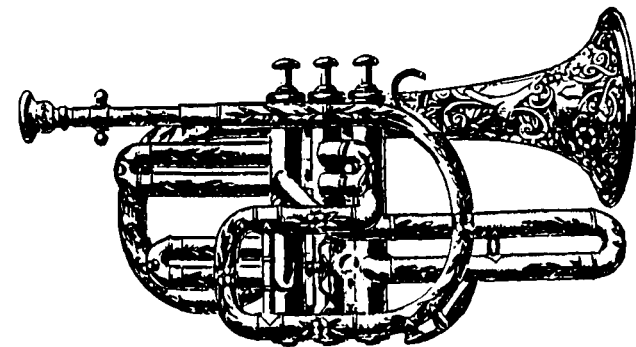
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THE CANADIAN

MILITARY GAZETTE

(Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)

ESTABLISHED 1885.

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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2179, Montreal.

MONTREAL-TORONTO, MARCH 15, 1896.

OURSELVES.

MANY flattering letters have come to THE GAZETTE since last issue from all parts of Canada, and a number of officers who gave up the paper some years ago because they did not think it properly voiced the military sentiment have sent in their subscriptions. Up to now nearly two hundred names have been added to the list, and the committee, who assumed considerable obligations in taking over the paper, feel very much encouraged.

We hope to still further merit the kind words. An enterprise such as THE GAZETTE cannot attain the position as a newspaper it aims at in the first, second or for many succeeding issues. Our friends should not overlook the fact that besides adding four pages, the columns have been widened, making the paper $6\frac{2}{3}$ pages larger than before.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE AGAIN.

Again political influence has been at work in the affairs of the permanent corps. Capt. Chinic has been stationed with No. 4 Company at Fredericton and Capt. Fiset with No. 3 at St. John's. The former for personal reasons wants to be near Montreal, so does the latter, and he refused to agree to an exchange. Capt. Chinic then got his political friends to "work" the Minister of Militia, who, in turn, would instruct the G.O.C. to order the exchange. Capt. Fiset's friends in politics brought what influence they could

to bear to prevent the exchange. Both sides worried the Minister for a while, but eventually the stronger "pull" of Capt. Chinic's friends won, and poor Capt. Fiset has been ordered to Fredericton. No claim was made that it was in the interests of the service. Capt. Fiset is married, and the removal means a serious expense to him.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell was indignant when it was suggested that politics interfered in military affairs. We gave some proof last week. This is another. We will have more next issue. We intend keeping at the question until military affairs are lifted from the political arena.

MUST BE INVESTIGATED.

INSUBORDINATION and mutiny are hard words, but they are the only ones which properly describe the recent trouble at St. John's. Discipline and obedience are as essential in a soldier as a knowledge of drill. Nothing can justify the refusal of the attached men to obey orders, and they should be punished in a way that will show clearly that disobedience under any circumstances will not be tolerated. But if we insist upon implicit obedience from the men we should see that they are not imposed upon by those in authority, as would seem to have been the case at St. John's.

It has for a long time been known to all interested in Canadian military matters that there is something radically wrong with the management of the company at St. John's. This was clearly seen when the corps joined the regiment at the Levis camp in 1894. Maj.-Gen. Herbert was very severe in his criticism. He was told that if the company had another adjutant things would improve. The best man in the permanent corps was sent there. Things have not improved, so the fault evidently does not lie with the adjutant.

We have in our possession letters from men in the company who say that they complained time and again, but that no attention was paid to them, and THE GAZETTE was about taking the matter up when the trouble referred to in another column brought affairs to a crisis. While the action of the men in refusing to obey orders is very wrong, yet it must be said that, owing to surrounding circumstances, they have the sympathy of their comrades in arms. The offenders seem quite willing to undergo trial by court-martial, but

they object to the board being composed of officers of the company.

The interests of the force demand a thorough and searching enquiry, for we cannot afford to allow a school of instruction to be anything but a good example for the rest of the force to follow.

WAR DEPARTMENT WAKING UP.

WHILE recent cable despatches show that immense sums of money are being spent in the building up of the navy, no reference is made to the volunteers. It is pleasing to note, however, that Great Britain is not neglecting the backbone of her defence, as is shown by the remarks of her Secretary of State for War, Lord Lansdowne, in his speech at the annual distribution of prizes to the Queen's Westminster Volunteers a few days ago. After speaking of the efficiency of this particular regiment his Lordship said that on this, the first occasion he had had since his return to the War Office of meeting a large body of volunteers, he wished to express the interest which he felt towards all volunteer regiments, and to congratulate them upon the great advance they had made in both official and public opinion. He said that he was informed on the best authority that never before in efficiency and discipline had the volunteers stood higher than now, and that in all schemes of defence they had a well-defined and honored position. He said that during the year 1895 20,000 more men attended brigade camps than in any previous year, and the War Office was inundated with applications to form new corps. In the particular corps which he was addressing he understood that 300 old volunteers had made applications of that kind, and he believed that a large number of efficiently trained men were ready to come back to the colors whenever their services might be required. He did not believe that the volunteers could have a better friend than the present commander-in-chief, Lord Wolseley, and he might say the civilian heads of the War Department were not behind him in wishing to do everything possible to advance the efficiency of the volunteer force. His Lordship further said that while he did not wish to anticipate any statement which was likely to be made in Parliament by-and-by, he would like to say that the Government was considering the question of re-arming the volunteer corps, and would not overlook the important

question of new ranges, which would be necessitated by the arming of the forces with a weapon of the great range of the .303 rifle.

These remarks of the Secretary of State for War are considered the most important made in many years to the volunteer force. They show the great value the new commander-in-chief places in the volunteers, and that the Imperial Government now considers them an important factor in the scheme of defence of the British Empire. In fact, suggestions for their improvement are receiving quite as much attention from the War Department as suggestions for improvement in the regular army or the navy.

FIVE-YEAR TERMS IN CANADA.

A CONSTANT source of friction in regiments is the question of promotions. In nearly every large centre it has come up. It led to much unpleasantness and nearly broke up the Grenadiers a few years ago. Now it is causing trouble in the Queen's Own Rifles. Some steps will have to be taken to remedy the grievance. It is not fair to junior officers with ambitions that seniors should grow grey in the service. At the same time the C.O.'s deserve a great deal of sympathy. They have for years worked hard, sacrificed time and money for their corps. It is but fair that the latter part of their career should be in a position which it was an honor for them to occupy.

There is but one way to overcome this. The militia should be divided into numerous two-regiment brigades. Five years in command of a regiment should be sufficient for most officers. There are exceptional cases where an officer might remain longer when the interests of the service demand it. When the five years expire an officer should be promoted to the command of the brigade, which he might retain for another five. From a brigade he might be placed in charge of a division. When he rises to the latter command there is no reason why he should not be given the rank of "colonel." Promotions might be more rapid than once in five years by resignations or death.

Such a change will come eventually, and the sooner the better for many corps. It will always ensure a steady supply of fresh, young, energetic officers who have a future to look forward to. At first promotions would be made regardless of qualifications. It would not be long be-

fore the interests of the militia would require that officers pass another examination to qualify them for the command of a brigade or larger body.

A CYCLE CORPS.

A MATTER that is engaging no little attention at present is the suggestion that has been made to form a military bicycle club. The formation of such a club should by all means be encouraged. In Great Britain all the volunteer battalions have a regular cycle corps attached, and they are drilled to act as scouts and to carry despatches when their battalions engage in mimic warfare. They are an ever-increasing part of the Old Country volunteers, and their services are looked upon with so much favour that many of the battalions provide wheels for the members of the corps. Wheelmen in this country are much more numerous than in the old land. There is no reason why the wheelmen that belong to the different battalions in the larger centres should not be formed into a cycling corps. There is plenty of material to work upon. If such a corps was formed it would act as a drawing card to the several regiments, as there are some young men who do not join because they would rather ride their wheel in the evening. Let the heads of the regiments give the cycle corps every encouragement and they will find that the strength of their regiments will gradually increase.

Wheelmen by being in such a corps would not only get exercise, but they would also be taught the tactics consequent on scout and despatch carrying duties.

PROVISIONAL SCHOOLS.

THE provisional school for unqualified officers, in Montreal, has commenced work and is largely attended by those for whose convenience it was established, as well as by older officers who desire to qualify for field rank. Some disappointment has been occasioned by the announcement that the certificate to be issued at the end of the course would qualify the holder for the rank of lieutenant only. This, although it may not come up to expectations, is quite as it should be. A school with such limited scope and accessories cannot give an officer the education he would receive by eye, as well as by ear, at one of the permanent establishments, where he would witness the daily administration of disci-

pline and the disposal of prisoners, be present at court-martials and courts of enquiry, see how companies are paid and supplied with messing, and learn by performing them and seeing them performed, the numerous regimental duties which are as important to a military unit as the functions of its works are to a watch.

Indeed, for a temporary school to send forth batch upon batch of semi-qualified officers with certificates of final qualification, would be a mistake and a calamity to the force, and would be returning half way to the old system of "military schools," which were good enough at first, as far as mere drill was concerned, but which, when the Imperial regiments left the country and deprived them of their vital force, soon became effete.

THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE condition of our medical staff requires the earnest attention of the Militia Department. Many of our surgeons are physically unfit for active service and all are inefficiently equipped and in no way prepared to fulfil the duties which they would be called upon to perform in the field, or even in camp. Unfortunately, we of the combatant staff have not in the past given them the support they deserve. Time and again our attention has been drawn to the needs of this most important department of the service, and we have answered, "They are a nuisance and want too much." A late major-general commanding actually made use of such an expression when approached by a senior medical officer who was urging the necessity of better provision being made for men who might meet with an accident or be taken ill in camps of instruction. Recently, when efforts were made to place the militia medical service on a more substantial footing, some of the high authorities objected very strongly to any of the medical men getting promotion to the higher ranks. The fact should not be overlooked that these men have really a much longer period of training to qualify them for appointment as surgeons than any of the other officers with whom they are associated. In all parts of Canada it takes from four to six years of hard work before a man can pass the examinations which will permit him to practise surgery. It is quite true that in some cases useless officers hold positions in the militia medical service, as we will have occasion to show in a future article, but the surgeons can rest assured that they

have the sympathy and support of a great majority of the officers and men, and they should continue to agitate for proper equipment and the placing of their branch of the service on a better footing.

THE FOUR DAYS PAY.

THERE is a good deal of anxiety among the officers of city corps over that four days pay which Hon. Mr. Foster said he would recommend the Government to grant. A few officers have given up hope of getting the extra amount and are feeling very much discouraged, but we cannot believe there is any reason for doubt. The Government would not dare to refuse the pay. Mr. Foster was given to understand that the members of the militia force were not in a mood to be trifled with. They had made many sacrifices and expected to make more. They had spent their time and money in the interests of the country, and to be treated as indifferently as they were by the Minister of Finance was more than their tempers would stand.

Our experience on this question has done good. The officers in the leading centres are combining for their mutual interests. Many of them are strong party men, but they nearly all place the interests of the militia above party, and the feeling is just intense enough now for them to throw their entire votes against Government candidates, even though they may be personally favorable. In most large centres this would mean certain defeat. In Toronto, for instance, there are about 2,500 military votes. Each one of these can influence several others. These votes are of even greater importance, for a large percentage of the active workers in the political associations are militia men. Besides their votes their assistance in a contest would be lost. They demonstrated their power when they made Surgeon Ryerson, of the Grenadiers, the nominee of the convention, and then elected him to the Local Legislature; and a clever representative he has made.

The Government will need their assistance in Montreal. Leading officers have been most active workers here, but in the recent bye-election they refused to give any assistance to either the Provincial or Dominion candidates, and they were both defeated. Local ward healers at that time warned the Government that they had made a great mistake and had estranged many of their best friends.

Military men are in politics now where they intend to stay, and one of the chief aims of THE GAZETTE will be to more thoroughly unite them from one end of Canada to the other. We intend keeping the agitation up until the force is put upon a proper basis. This we trust will not be long. None of us have any personal ends to serve, and when all good citizens under-

stand our wants we will have their hearty sympathy. The time will come when a politician who opposes anything that is in the best interests of the force will find himself very unpopular.

WHAT WILL THE COMMANDANT DO?

IT IS rumored among those who take a deep interest in the welfare of the Royal Military College that Sir Charles Tupper will keep Major-Gen. Cameron at the head of that institution.

We refuse to believe it possible. It is true that he is closely related to Sir Charles, but that gentleman is so thoroughly interested in the progress of everything Canadian that he would not allow anything that might effect the good work the College should be doing. No one is prouder than he of the brilliant records the graduates have made in the British service. How frequently has he referred to it in his speeches here and at home, when he pointed out what an excellent institution it is. We feel quite certain that immediately he reads the report of the commission, but especially the things which were considered so bad that they were submitted confidentially to the Government, he will strongly insist that a change be made at once.

This report was presented to Parliament some weeks ago, and ordered to be printed. As the printing could have been done in a day or two, but has not, and no one seems to know what has become of the original copy, some people are unkind enough to say that the Government is endeavoring to delay it. But of course, it is too honorable to do anything that way. As a matter of fact, Sir Charles Tupper took possession of it at once, intending no doubt to take immediate action. Everyone knows what a busy man he is. He has not had time to read it. It is now locked up in his desk. We are quite sure he is not aware that military men all over the country are anxious to learn its contents. If he had the slightest hint to that effect we are quite sure he would give it out at once.

It might be well, however, for him to send it to Major-General Cameron at Kingston. It is quite evident that he is not aware that the commission think his days of usefulness in the College are gone. If he were, nothing would induce him to remain at its head another day; not even many times its niggardly annual stipend of \$4,000 a year. The stipend is of no importance. We feel sorry for him. When one gets up in years it is very difficult for one to see that he has lost his hold on things in general. One feels that he is still as clever as ever. In fact, he thinks his long experience is much more valuable than the modern ideas of young enthusiasts. Unfortunately, the new generation insist on the new order of things.

TROUBLE AT ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL.

ST. JOHN'S, March 11.—There is serious trouble at No. 3 Company R.R.C.I. School of Instruction, St. John's, P.Q. The immediate cause has been that attached men were ordered to shovel snow, which they refused to do, and the leaders were put under arrest. There are other causes which led up to this.

It has always, until this present course, been the custom to relieve all the rank and file, attached, from the heavier part of the fatigue duties, such as cleaning the barracks square and shovelling snow, except as punishment, and through this the trouble has occurred.

On Saturday the orders of the day read, for the attached men: Kit inspection at 11 a.m., and guard mounting drill from 2 till 4 p.m., while Saturday after 1 p.m. has by custom become a half-holiday, which all the permanent men expect as a right. At a quarter to eleven the men had their kits all cleaned and spread out for the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. D'Orsennes, to inspect, when the order came that there would be no inspection of kits, but that the attached men would turn out for fatigue and shovel snow. This they did, in the rain and slush, and got wet to the skin, and the poor imitation of serviceable top-boots which the men have to pay \$4.75 for on joining for three months' instruction, were soaked through, and it is claimed were unfit to put on and badly shrunk in many cases until it was impossible for the men to get them on at all. An order was then given for the attached to parade at 2 p.m. and shovel snow again. The bugle sounded, but outside of the sergeants for duty not a man fell in.

The captain in command of the attached rank and file appeared at each squad room and gave the men two minutes to fall in, but not a man stirred. He then reported to Lieut.-Col. D'Orsennes, who immediately ordered the bugler to sound the assembly, when every man of the permanent corps and also the attached men turned out. The colonel ordered a man from each section of the attached under arrest and put them in the guard room, placing a charge against them of the serious crime of mutiny, ordering a court martial and marched the rest to shovel snow till he dismissed them fifteen minutes afterwards.

The men have been grumbling at having been made to shovel snow every Sunday morning but one since the course began January 1st, also two or three times a week, and this has usually been the work of the permanent men; in fact, on one occasion the permanent men were detailed for drill, while the short course men were set to work shovelling snow. The men of the course say they went to the school to improve themselves in their drill and not to learn to shovel snow, and with the number of the men in the company of the Royal Canadian Infantry, there should be no reason for it.

MUSKETRY.

CANADIAN MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

THIS circular has been sent to all interested. Officers and men everywhere should make an effort to organize teams. Even if they are not rifle shots themselves it is their duty to see that their units have an opportunity of competing. There were 125 teams entered last year :

MONTREAL, March 5, 1896.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to say that the League matches for 1896 will be fired on the 16th and 30th May, and the 13th and 27th June.

It has been decided to continue the Snider series for this season, but I hope that this will be the last year that the Snider rifle will be shot in the League matches. There will, therefore, again be three separate series, viz.: 1st, Martini, Martini-Metford, or Lee-Metford (range 200, 500 and 600 yards); 2nd, Snider (ranges 200, 400 and 500 yards); 3rd, Snider Carbine (ranges 200, 300 and 400 yards).

Teams to consist of ten men. Entrance fee, \$10 per team; but where more than one team from the same organization enters, \$10 for the first team, and \$5 for each additional team.

Entries, accompanied by fees, must be made to Capt. G. W. Cameron, treasurer, P.O. Box 267, Montreal, not later than April 15th, stating which series such entry is for.

Prize lists and score sheets and all necessary information for conducting the matches will be sent on receipt of entries.

The Department of Militia and Defence will issue free ammunition for these matches.

Arrangements have been made with the Canadian Pacific Telegraph Co. for telegraphing the results of matches, and the charge for such service will be paid by the League.

Immediately after each match the team number (if more than one team is competing), rifle and team total must be telegraphed to the secretary of the League (via C.P.R. Telegraph Co.), for example, "90th Batt., first team, Martini, 946." and a complete list will at once be telegraphed to all morning newspapers (they will, of course, not be ready in time for the evening papers of that day) at the following points: Victoria and Vancouver, B.C., Winnipeg, Man., London, Toronto and Ottawa, Ont., Montreal and Quebec, P.Q., St. John, N.B., and Halifax, N.S., and the official score will be published in the next issue of THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE, a copy of which will be sent to each captain of team. Captains of teams not telegraphing scores will be omitted from the list and will not receive THE MILITARY GAZETTE with official scores.

There is no doubt that the action of the Department of Militia and Defence in grant-

ing free ammunition to the League has greatly improved the shooting of the entire force. The Council, therefore, strongly urge upon all commanding officers and presidents of rifle associations that they should make arrangements for at least one team entry from each battalion to the League matches for 1896.

I hope, therefore, that you will give this matter your serious consideration, and that your battalion (association) will be represented this season.

Your obedient servant,

W. M. ANDREWS,

Capt. 6th Fus., Sec. C.M.R.L.

P.S. Should the person addressed not be the secretary of this association this year, he will confer a favor by forwarding to that officer. Score sheets and all necessary information for conducting the matches will be sent on receipt of entries.

A MILITARY RESERVE.

THERE are persons who say that the militia has no *raison d'être*, and that consequently the expenditure on that account is so much money wasted; who scoff at our gallant citizen soldiers as well-meaning but misguided enthusiasts, whose vanity is largely responsible for their devotion to soldiering. Such persons look upon patriotism as a form of bombastic selfishness, and upon patriots as self-seeking and noisy nuisances. To all such the outburst of patriotic utterances throughout the Empire must have been a rude shock. There was no mistaking the genuineness and reality of the sentiment. From Australia, Canada and the Cape came the message of fraternity and federation, the unanimous resolve to stand by the Empire to the death. Yet how are we in Canada to do so if our only force—the militia—is starved and stunted? If the militia is a necessity to our national welfare, so also is an increased expenditure to make it efficient. That the Government have announced they intend to make. While the necessity for an efficient force must be admitted, would it not be well to provide for a rainy day by creating a reserve that is available quickly; that is, a trained force, a tangible reserve? Under our present law nominally every man who is not in the active militia is in the reserve. Provision is made in the Act for the appointment of a lieutenant-colonel and two majors to each regimental reserve district. But the law is a dead-letter. If trouble should come upon us we should have immediately available for service a few city battalions, and in a short time a considerable number of rural corps. After that, should more men be required we should have to send the recruiting sergeant around, or put the ballot clause in operation. We have at the present time no reserve that is really available, and, what is worse, we have no idea of the existence or whereabouts of the young men who are trained in the active militia each year, and who, either through the completion of their engagements or for other causes, leave the colors and disappear in private life. There is reason to believe that the number of men who, for the reasons mentioned, leave the Queen's Own yearly is about three hundred, and a somewhat smaller number from the Grenadiers and Highlanders. Is it

not a waste, after the men have given their time, and the country its money, to allow these trained and efficient soldiers to be lost? Would it not be rather a mere matter of common sense to draft them into a reserve force of one or two battalions for each corps? At that rate the Queen's Own would have a reserve in five years of fifteen hundred trained men, and other regiments in proportion, supposing the term of reserve service to be made five years. Or, after three years' service in the active militia the soldier might pass two or three years in a first reserve and two more in a second. The officers would be dealt with in a similar manner. Besides having a trained force always available to supplement the active militia, good would be done by keeping up an interest in the force among those who have served the country well and faithfully. It would seem that such measures should be taken to prevent the waste of trained and efficient men by the creation of a readily available militia reserve.—Mail and Empire.

Ostend bids to rival Monte Carlo as a fashionable resort. With its grand Kurnsal, promenade and scenery, there are few more delightful spots in Europe. What strikes a stranger is the immense display of "Odol" in every chemist shop window. The German army officers are great users of this unique preparation, and they flock there in the season. The druggists, knowing this, take care to keep it under their notice, and thus stamp themselves as caterers for educated, high-class people.

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ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE CLUB OF CANADA.



THE twelfth annual meeting of the Royal Military College Club of Canada took place on the 29th of February at the Hotel Frontenac, Kingston, Ont., at which were present :

Lieut. Francis Joseph Dixon, U.L., president, Toronto, Ont.; Capt. P. G. Twining, R.E., vice-president, Kingston, Ont.; Capt. Ernest F. Wurtele, hon. sec.-treas., Quebec, Que.; Capt. F. M. Gaudet, R.C.A., member of Managing Committee, Quebec, Que.; Major John Houlston, 86th Batt., Three Rivers, Que.; Capt. J. B. Cochrane, U.L., R.M.C., Kingston, Ont.; Capt. W. E. Cooke, R.C.A., Kingston, Ont.; Capt. R. E. Kent, 14th Batt., Kingston, Ont.; Capt. G. H. Ogilvie, R.C.A., Kingston, Ont.; Capt. A. G. G. Wurtele, U.L., R.M.C., Kingston, Ont.; Lieut. C. J. Armstrong, 5th Batt., Montreal, Que.; Lieut. R. W. Brigstoeke, U.L., St. John, N.B.; Lieut. W. B. Carruthers, R.L., Kingston, Ont.; Lieut. L. Homfray Irving, R.L., Toronto, Ont.; Lieut. A. K. Kirkpatrick, U.L., Smith's Falls, Ont.; Lieut. G. E. Laidlaw, U.L., Victoria Road, Ont.; Lieut. R. W. Leonard, U.L., Beauharnois, Que.; Lieut. W. B. Leslie, R.E., R.M.C., Kingston, Ont.; Lieut. E. St. J. Maunsell, U.L., Fredericton, N.B.; Lieut. W. H. Sullivan, U.L., Cornwall, Ont.; Second Lieut. B. H. O. Armstrong, R.E., Aldershot, Eng.; Mr. Jas. A. Gunn, Kingston, Ont.

After the adoption of the minutes of the last annual meeting, the hon. secretary, Capt. Ernest F. Wurtele, read his annual report for the year 1895.

The report of the auditors was read by Capt. F. M. Gaudet, R.C.A.

A resolution was passed congratulating Capt. J. I. Lang, R.E., C.M.G., upon his investiture as a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George for distinguished service.

Resolutions of condolence with the families of the late Mr. N. S. Ridout, S. L. Patterson, and P. J. Newman were passed.

The thanks of the club were passed and tendered to Mr. W. A. H. Kerr, hon. solicitor, in connection with his work on behalf of the club.

An amendment to the by-laws was then carried.

Several letters were read from members and resolutions passed connected with the welfare of the members of the club.

The report of the Board of Visitors for 1895 was read and discussed at length and an expression of opinion arrived at with respect to the same.

An invitation was received from Major C. W. Drury and officers of the Royal Canadian Artillery, at Kingston, making the members of the club honorary members of their mess during their stay in town.

The afternoon session was opened at 2.30 by Mr. Dixon, the president.

After the reading of correspondence and a discussion of the same, Lieuts. A. K. Kirkpatrick and R. W. Leonard were elected scrutineers and the election of officers for 1896 proceeded with, resulting as follows :

President, Lieut. Francis Joseph Dixon, U.L., Toronto, re-elected. Vice-presidents, Lieut. A. K. Kirkpatrick, U.L., Smith's Falls, Ont., and Capt. P. G. Twining, R.E., Kings-

Canadian Military Gazette Hotel Directory.

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The following papers were presented and will be printed in the Proceedings. "Memories," by Capt. P. E. Gray, Royal Artillery, Plymouth, Eng; "A Subaltern's Life in the Northwest Mounted Police," by Inspector A. C. Macdonell, N.W.M.P., Moosomin, N.W.T.; "The Modern System of Fire Discipline and Coast Defence," by Capt. P. E. Gray, Royal Artillery, Plymouth, Eng

In the evening the annual dinner took place in the Frontenac Hotel, at which some 40 were present. The club guests being: Major-Gen. D. R. Cameron, Commandant R. M. College; Lieut.-Col. W. H. Cotton, D.A.G.; Prof. Forshaw Day, R.M. College, and Batt. Sergt.-Major Evans, R. M. College.

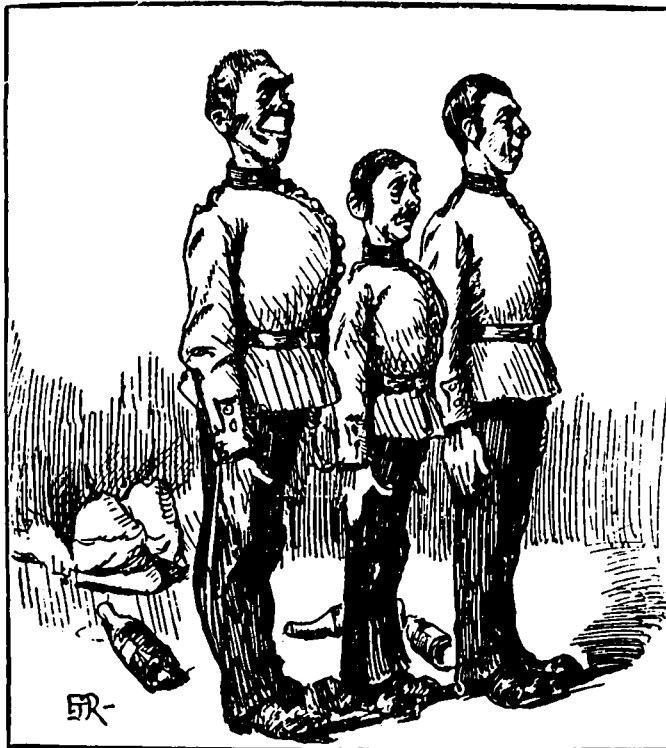
A very enjoyable evening was spent, and a number of speeches made and songs sung.

The next annual meeting will take place in Montreal.

At a complimentary banquet given to the Right Hon Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., Governor of Queensland, at the Hotel Metropole, London, January 21, 1896, the chairman was Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, and the guest were: His Excellency the Italian Ambassador, General Sir Henry Norman, Lord Amphil, the Right Hon. the Earl of Selborne, Sir. E. Dawes, K.C.M.G., the Right Hon. Geo. Curzon, M.P., Admiral

Kennedy and many others. G. H. Mumm & Co.'s extra dry was specially served; vintage, 1889. Same as now in consumption in Canada. The same wine was also served at a dinner to the Duke of Norfolk on his retirement from London County Council, January 29, 1896. Guests were: The Lord Mayor of London, Lieut.-Col. the Earl of Denbigh and Desmond, Sir Richard Webster, the Earl of Onslow, Sir Horace Farquhar, Bart., M.P., Sir F. Dixon Harland, etc., etc.

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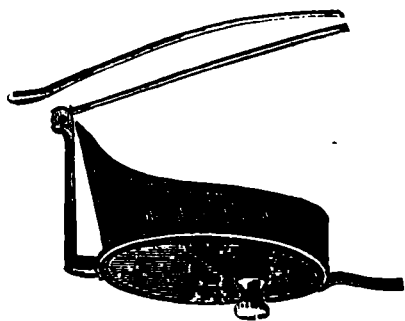


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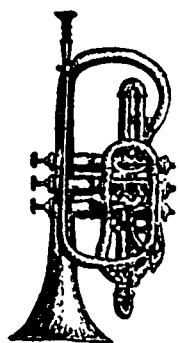
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