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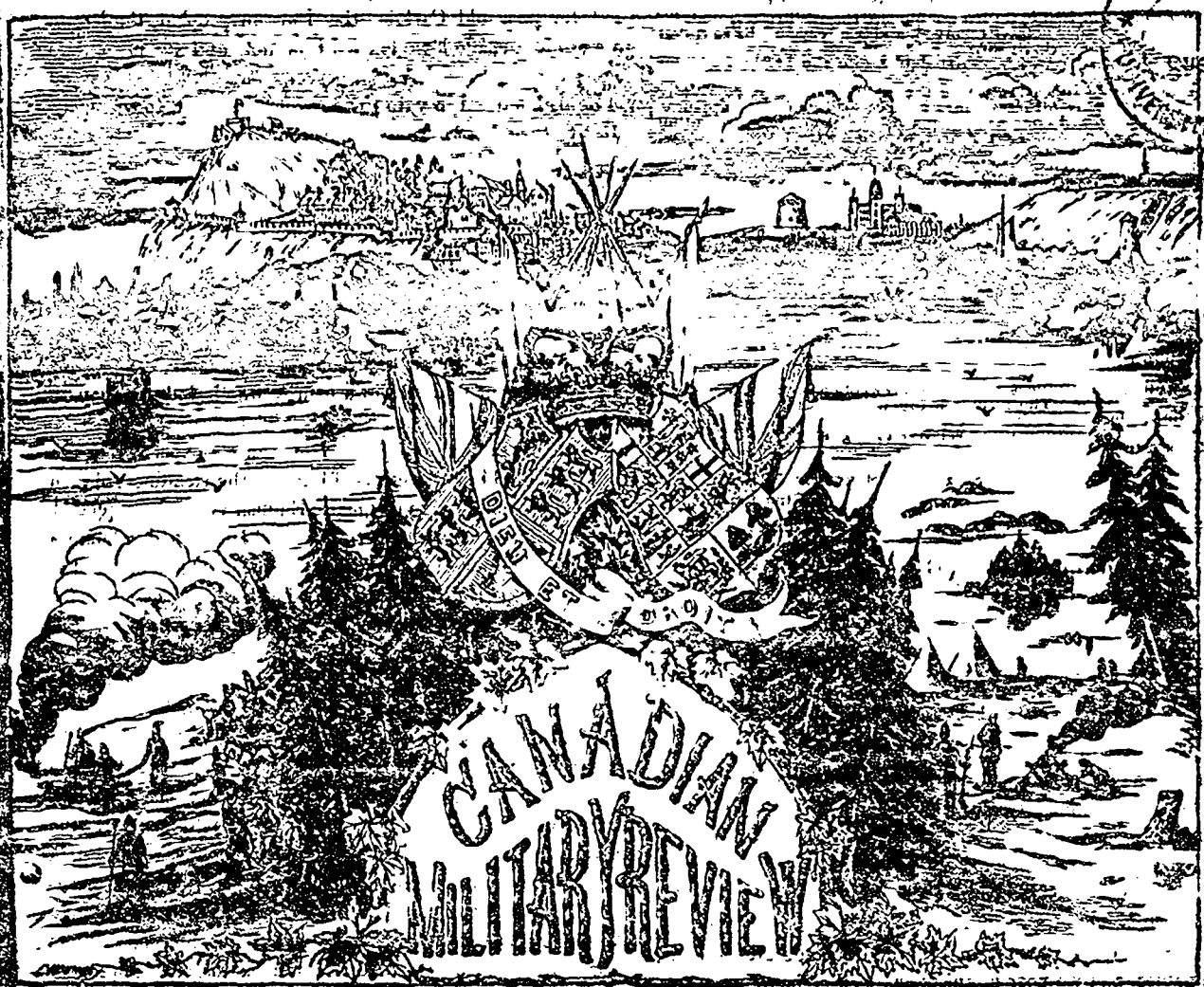
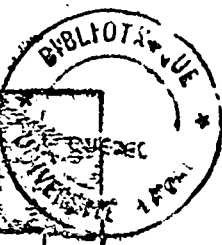
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**NOTICES**

All correspondence connected with the *C. M. Review* should be directed to the Secretary, R.S.G., Kingston.  
 Communications intended for publication in the next issue of the *C. M. Review*, must reach the Editor not later than the 20th of the month.

NOTE.—Officers of the Militia are requested to kindly forward the Editor, for insertion in the "Militia Item" column, any information respecting their own regiments which they think might be of interest to their brother officers.

List of useful scientific books for sale, published at the Royal School of Gunnery, Kingston, Ont. —

Canadian Militia Field Artillery Manual, (by Lt.-Col. T. Bland Strange).....	75
Prospect of the late Franco-German War (same author).....	60
Pr. Field Gun Drill, (extract from C.F.A.M.).....	10
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**AVIS**

Conformément à la loi, toute personne qui reçoit un journal et qui ne le renvoie pas, se trouve abonnée de droit.

Les personnes qui n'auraient quelques communications à nous adresser, sont priées d'en faire parvenir avant le 20 de chaque mois.

Les personnes qui désirent entrer dans la Batterie "B" sont priées de se présenter au Commandant, (Kingston), tous les jours de 10 heures à midi, ou de lui envoyer leur demande avec leurs certificats de bonne conduite. Il faut aussi qu'elles aient une bonne santé, qu'elles jouissent d'une bonne santé, que leur hauteur ne soit pas moindre de 5 pieds 4 pouces, la mesure de la poitrine de 34 pouces. Enfin, pour les prévenir que les ouvriers charpentiers, cabaretiers et forgerons ont une extra paie de 20 cents par jour.

La Batterie "B" informe le public militaire qu'elle tient à sa disposition les ouvrages de drill pour le smooth bore, le mortier, les canons rayés etc., ouvrages imprimés par les presses de l'Ecole Royale d'Artillerie sous la haute surveillance du commandant.



As for the general blood tax demanded from every man who desired to say *civis Romanus sum*, it would simply amount to compulsory qualification to bear arms for those physically fit, and submission to such discipline as even our every-day civil life demands. It would scarcely be felt for the following reasons:

1st. It is abundantly proved, even by the Royal Canadian Gunnery Schools, that an infantry soldier can be drilled in three months. To be disciplined takes longer—one year would suffice. If the officers to impart it are the suitable staff, always providing Parliament is not perpetually promulgating wordy incomprehensible army discipline acts subversive of all discipline. Therefore, the young Englishman need only give one year of his life, under ordinary circumstances, unless the nation is engaged in a life and death struggle, then, if he desires national existence, let him pay the patriot price, and bind himself to join the old standards under which he was trained; whether he would find his old comrades flocking. He should not find himself organized off by a deaky D. A. G. into some impossible army corps arrangement that could only exist on paper.

2nd. If we had a federated empire, the Colonies would follow the example of universal military training; short, sharp and decisive, involving a minimum waste of time and producing a maximum of good results to the individual and the State. Failing this, the colonies would have to cut the Imperial concern, and drift off into unknown responsibilities of their own.

3rd. The advantages of universal service would be the absolutely essential inculcation of habits of discipline, and the obligation of duty among our men, of all classes, without which we are rapidly drifting into discord, bred of selfishness.

4th. Universal conscription would render the recurrence of any but absolutely essential wars almost impossible, on the principle that "Let those who make the quarrels be the very ones to fight." The wars of England are now waged by two classes only. The younger sons of aristocratic or plutocratic families who monopolize the command of our armies since the real old soldier caste has been pushed out by wealthy competition wallahs, (for competitive education is expensive). Whether that is a survival of the fittest, we are practically learning! Such are the officers who lead our rank and file, composed solely of the conscripts of hunger who are feebler soldiers than the conscripts of crime, with whom we partially recruited our ranks in the old Peninsular wars. The whole nation, as represented in Parliament, votes that the above two classes should fight. Under conscription, every man would be fighting whether he himself should fight or not.

5th. I believe there would be an absolute economy, the few years taken for military training, between school, trade or profession, would be a positive gain to the nation and the individual.

6th. The army would be the school of the nation, and that same jealousy of soldiers that is latent, though always dead, would cease.

7th. We believe it is the only chance of restoring to Englishmen the manhood that seems lost in the worship of self or popularity—that prevents a parliament from acting with vigor, and makes soldiers defect from truth, when they recommend the huddling of whole troops to save expense before the wounds of war are healed—and refuse reinforcements or hospital

nurses for those under their command.

But stay, is *de mortuis nil nisi bonum* to be applied only in the case of the responsible? and the holocaust of dead to be disregarded to save the reputation of the leader; he had only one life to give, he gave it, but with it how many rank and file? Englishmen must awake—arise or be forever fallen! The practical question of an obligatory blood tax or abandonment of empire, has to be practically answered sooner or later—probably sooner than the complacent ones suppose. Meanwhile, it is satisfactory to hear the rumor that no staff college pet will be entrusted with the command in Africa, but General Roberts, a good, square soldier from the school of Indian war—the only school in which there is no prejudice as regards the color of a coat.

### A Canadian Artillery Team for Competition in England.

Report has it that the "powers that be" have in contemplation the sending of a team of Volunteer Field Artillery to join the annual camp of the National Artillery Association at Shoeburyness next summer.

The idea, we believe, has arisen from the fact of the great efficiency gained by the Dominion Field Batteries this year, and the high scores made at the 9 pr. competitions—a practical contradiction of the depreciating statement of our blue-nose gunner. Our friends of the infantry persuasion have long enjoyed the privilege of being represented each year at Wimbledon, and well have they kept up the credit of Canada.

This has been found to be an immense incentive to rifle shooting and general efficiency, and a like result would undoubtedly be the case with the gunners.

The riflemen of the mother country have always been most hospitable and generous, in allowing our men to compete for their prizes, and we have no doubt that the Canadian Volunteer Artillery would receive the same courtesy from the officers and men of their own kind.

The good to this branch of the service that such a yearly expedition as this, under the auspices of the Dominion Artillery Association, would do can hardly be overestimated, and the cost would be trifling.

We hear on good authority that one gallant artillery officer alone has offered \$100 towards the expenses of the team for this year.

Nothing could be more popular with the Volunteer services generally, and we trust that our young and energetic Minister of Militia—upon whom the mantle of Sir George Cartier seems to have fallen—may see his way to inaugurate his accession to power by such a graceful act.

We are sure that His Excellency the Governor-General, who is himself a Gunner, and takes great interest in that branch, would do everything to facilitate matters.

### Correspondence.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN MILITARY REVIEW.

Srs.—I notice in an editor's memo on a letter in your February issue, referring to Snider vs. Martini rifles for Canadian Militia, that some doubt is expressed as to the suitability of the mechanical arrangement of the Martini for the severe climate of Canada.



The Martini underwent a series of crucial experiments on this point before it was decided to adopt it for the British army.

Among other trials, Martins were exposed to the weather in Canada in the ditch of a fort for some six weeks during mid winter, with the result that they were found to be unaffected in any way other than that which must be the case with any metal weapons.

Half a dozen Martins have recently been tested at the Royal Military College, Kingston, by being exposed to extreme cold for over a week, and the action throughout was found not to be impeded in the slightest degree. The Martini is in every respect a greatly superior weapon to the Snider.

The decision to retain the Snider as the rifle of the Militia of Canada has, it may be presumed, been arrived at on other grounds than the comparative merit of the two weapons, but so serious a step cannot have been taken without due consideration and weighing the circumstances of the country.

OSERVER.

Feb. 24, 1881.

[We are very thankful for the above information and hope for more from the same source.—ED. C. M. R.]

### "How Not to do It."

A pamphlet that might have recommended itself to the notice of our legislators, were it not that our clever Bluenose author has yet to learn that no branch of our Anglo-Saxon family of nations with their modern forms of representative institutions (from the nature of such things) can have numerically efficient military forces. In spite of the bloody lessons the older members of the family have learnt in the past, and are learning at present in South Africa, neither Great Britain, the United States, or the practically independent colonies, have armies or militia that can be called such when compared with those of even third or fourth rate states who act on the principle that military efficiency is the duty of free men, who, for that end, must submit themselves to national discipline, and make sacrifices. What the end will be has yet to be seen. The people of Canada are occupied in the development of their country, and are not really alive to any great military necessity. The author of this clever brochure deserves well of his country for his effort to awaken it with his words of wit and wisdom. He has evidently the courage of youth, with our usual cis-Atlantic contempt for age and unbelief in experience either of war or peace. He evidently is undaunted by the fat of those profane young persons, who, after mocking the bald-headed prophets were devoured by bears. His scalp story, after Finimore Cooper, is good, and if he is descended from the hero of the damaged cheek the defect has not been hereditary. We can quite sympathize with him and the poor Canadian soldier he does not mention, who, when ordered on fatigue for the Colonel, indiscreetly remarked, "Which colonel? The hull darned place stinks of colonels!" We devoutly hope that the author himself so young (!) is not so depraved as to be a field officer, but after the Mosquito campaign, which certainly could not be called bloodless, let us hope he was gazetted to field rank. We are surprised at his feeling oppressed, as a "N. E. Loyalist," by the presence of the numerous bloated British Lieut. Colonels, (not Bruinmaged) who are shewn by the Army List to be employed as Schoolmasters to the Militia of Canada. We sincerely hope the National Policy, combined with a judicious deprivation of pensions, will preserve the young soldiers of this overshadowed country from any fresh importations, such as those to whom our young Canadian warrior of the Mosquito campaign evidently owes none of the military skill he has acquired. With true appreciation of the maxims of the great Frederick, he would treat these officers as oranges, "suck them and throw them aside." The honorable and practical system of a limit of

age for active service and compensation for past service, it does not seem to strike our young friend as ever likely to be desirable for himself as well as for his country. As for the armaments he expects from Great Britain we devoutly wish that Canada may get them, and it is a pity he confines his censures to the artillery, which is already the favoured arm, and universally admitted to be the least defective in consequence of the attention it has received.

### Gazetted Out.

We regret in common with every well wisher of the force to see the retirement in General Orders of Captain and Adjutant George Sully, Victoria Rifles of Canada, one of the three remaining original members of the Corps. Having rendered good and faithful service,—always present for duty when required,—during 20 years, his loss cannot fail to be seriously felt by the "Vics." Being most indefatigable and conscientious in every thing he undertakes he found military duties clash with his occupation and in the interests of his employers felt it his duty to retire, we trust the loss to the militia will be a gain to himself. Captain Sully will be known to most of our readers as the editor of the military column of the *Montreal Gazette*.

The *Canada Gazette* in simply publishing the retirement of such officers as Lt. Col. Price Lewis and Captain Sully conveys but a poor idea of the actual loss to the militia and to Canada.

### GENERAL ORDER.

#### ARTILLERY STAFF.

The resignation of Lt. Col. Price Lewis, Assistant Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores for the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New-Brunswick and Prince-Edward Island is hereby accepted, to take effect from 28th February instant.

With regret also we notice the above resignation of Lt. Col. Price Lewis, Assistant Inspector of Artillery in the Maritime Provinces. The logical or economic necessity for the inspection of the artillery of Canada by three different Inspectors may be questioned. Great Britain has but one Inspector General of Artillery. But then she is only Great Britain, we are going to be Greater Britain in our own estimation. There can be no question as to the energetic and able way Lt. Col. Price Lewis performed his duties, always loyal to his military superiors, courteous to his subordinates, *Suaviter in modo fortiter in re*, he worked hard and cheerfully. The improved condition of the artillery of the maritime provinces is proof positive that we have lost one of the few educated professional soldiers and gentlemen, who alone by the fortuitous combination of circumstances and character, are able to lead rather than drive. Such men alone are fit to work with our militia. An enthusiastic sportsman and soldier, he wished to remain in the country that had given him his fair bride and many happy days. But he is lost to Canada by the arbitrary and hitherto unprecedented decision of the Treasury or War Office, conducted in some of those little corner rooms, where the disintegration of the Empire is being quietly worked out by the white ant-officials, who are unobtrusively and unconsciously eating away the structure of the most glorious empire the world has seen. Lt. Col. Price Lewis had earned a pension of £200 per annum, by twenty years of service in the Royal Artillery, and demands it, but payment is refused unless he signs a document to the effect that he has resigned the service of Canada. Such a decision requires no comment, but the future effect of the action of the War Office white ants, had better be watched by those it concerns. There are yearly entering the Imperial service, four cadets from the *Royal Military*

*College paid by Canada.* Are these officers to be deprived of pensions they may have earned by faithful service to the Empire, should they at any time be required to serve in the defense of their native land? There is on the Staff of the R M College, an energetic officer, a Canadian by birth, who has also served the Empire in India and elsewhere for twenty years; is it intended also to make it penal for this officer to serve his native country? and is the service of Canada to be rendered penal to all native born Canadians or British subjects, who may have committed the error of giving their best years to the service of Great Britain.

### Short Tactical Lessons for all arms at the Ontario Gunnery School.

"B" Battery, Royal School of Gunnery, Kingston.

#### No. 3.

#### ADVANCED GUARD, PROPER AND MARCH OF THE MAIN BODY.

The advance guard marches two days or so in rear of the advance cavalry, according to circumstances. Their object is to give time for the main body to form the order of battle from the order of march, before it could be attacked by the enemy.

The Prussians use large advance guards, from one-fourth to one-sixth of the whole army composed of the three arms. They were able to fasten on and hold an enemy until the main body came up. The great retaining power conferred on infantry by breech-loading arms renders it feasible for a comparatively small force well posted to stop for a considerable time, and to inflict heavy loss upon a much superior force. This has greatly enhanced the value of large advance guards. If the advance guard is too far to the front it may be destroyed by the enemy before the main body can come up. If too close there will not be time for the main body in rear to deploy.

In a retreat, the advance guard, and in an advance, the rear guard should be a minimum.

The general of an advance guard should be an active and capable man. The commander of a rear guard, covering, as he does, the retreat of a dispirited army, requires the highest military qualities to be successful.

#### THE MARCH OF THE MAIN BODY.

In considering the order of march of the main body, three points have to be borne in mind.

- 1st. The extent of front.
- 2nd. The number of roads the troops should move by.
- 3rd. The order of march of the three arms.

The breadth of front of an army on the march should, under ordinary circumstances, be as great as possible, provided communication can be kept between the columns comprising it.

1st. Breadth of front in marching makes it easier to deploy for order of battle, unless the heads of the columns are so wide apart as to necessitate concentration before fighting.

2nd. The subsistence of an army is easier, the more widely it is separated, because they occupy a greater extent of country from which to draw supplies, and the pro-

vision and ammunition trains would be shorter when divided on different roads. The great Napoleon, in his wars, brought to perfection the system of making the country supply his troops, and this was one of the reasons for the division of his armies into army corps and divisions; as also the advantage of having the commanders and their staff mutually acquainted with each other and their troops during peace time.

3rd. The advance of an army along several roads is quicker than when they trail along in long columns by a single road.

The United States politicians wished to make McClellan invade the South along a single line, but he proved to them that it would take a week to deploy such a force in order of battle, and that the head of such a force could be crushed before it could deploy.

#### THE ORDER OF THE DIFFERENT ARMS MARCHING IN THE MAIN BODY.

That arm should march first that is first wanted, viz: *Artillery.*

For another reason, mounted troops should not, if possible be made to march in rear of infantry, as the walk of horses, especially in draught, is quicker than that of men, and horses are unnecessarily fatigued by having the pace continually checked. If columns of infantry march in front of guns their deployment would be checked unless covered by artillery fire, and under such circumstances the guns could not get to the front to cover the deployment.

In the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866, the Prussians were too careful of their guns and kept them so far to the rear that they effected very little in supporting their infantry.

In the war of 1870 they changed all this and put masses of guns to the front which produced powerful effects. The artillery should be accompanied by a body of sappers to prepare roads for them and strengthen bridges. The Russians employ mounted sappers for this purpose. The artillery should be accompanied by a sufficient force of cavalry to form an escort or support in case of rapid advance. Mounted riflemen would be the best arm for this purpose, and for many other purposes as the Boers have taught us.

After the artillery would come the main body of the *infantry.*

It should always be borne in mind that each arm of the service is comparatively helpless without the others, and that every body of troops advancing along a road in an enemy's country should be composed of a proportion of the three arms, otherwise the advance would resemble that of a man who, if it were practicable, tried to send his eyes and ears by one route, his arms and legs by another, and his head and body by a third.

It is rash and ungenerous to find fault with soldiers serving in a far off country, but we cannot help being amazed at the deplorable spectacle of the advance of the head quarters of Her Majesty's 94th Regiment, with the band playing as an advance guard, a long train of waggons in an enemy's country, and the commander himself

riding in front, apparently out of sight of him, receiving a notice to surrender in two minutes. A few colonial cavalry accompanying them to feel for the presence of an enemy in their front, and on their flanks might possibly have averted so terrible a catastrophe as the destruction of a force in a few minutes without a moment's warning. Artillery, under such circumstances and in such a country would manifestly be of no avail, and would only have increased the long line of waggons.

No fixed rules can be laid down, much has to depend on circumstances, the character of the country, and that of the enemy, and the number of troops available. In European warfare a division of two brigades, i.e., 6,000 to 8,000 infantry, is the smallest infantry unit in which it is possible for the three arms can be advantageously employed, or a little army dispersed over an enormous Empire, and the bodies have often to be considered as a marching and fighting unit.

The far-famed *Angamos's* gun is no more. After being the terror of the Peruvians and the admiration of all the neutral beholders of its performances for about the space of one year, it has disappeared from the scene of its triumphs, in a cloud of its own smoke. 305 rounds had been fired from it, at a longer range and with a greater degree of accuracy than any other gun has ever achieved in actual warfare. Even in its untimely end it has proved itself remarkable, for if the conclusions arrived at by those who have made a careful and minute examination of the remains are correct, it is still in a sound condition though at the bottom of the Bay of Callao. The *Angamos*, already described in our columns, is an armed merchant steamer carrying an 8-inch 11½-ton, B. L. Armstrong gun, 18 feet 4 inches long, with the "improved French" breech arrangement. It was placed between the fore-castle and a large deck-house, extending from side to side, connected to the fore-castle by a fore-and-aft bridge amidships. The gun was mounted in an ordinary carriage, on a central, pivoted slide, in the centre of the ship, so that it could be fired through large openings in the bulwarks, about 25° before and abaft each beam. On December 9, after a long silence, the *Angamos* renewed her attempts to sink the *Union* Peruvian corvette, inside the docks at Callao. With this object in view, she fired 12 rounds of 180-lb. common shell, with a 90-lb. charge of P-powder, at a distance of 8,002 yards, the elevation on the sights being 12½°. The practice was wonderfully accurate. In spite of the dock-walls and rampart of sand-bags, the *Union* was struck twice, and the rest of the projectiles fell so close that crowds of people assembled in perfect safety on each side of the corvette only 300 yards off, giving groans for each successful shot, and cheers of "Viva Peru," for those that harmlessly struck the water. On December 10 the same scene was enacted, but still the *Union* remained afloat. December 11, the fatal day, the *Angamos* steamed in to continue her efforts. Five rounds were fired without any defects being noticed in her gun, except that it recoiled rather violently. The gun was run out, loaded again, and this time laid for the *Athualpa*, which monitor had just appeared at the entrance of the docks, evidently coming out. More compression was given, to check the gun's recoil. Lieutenant Tomas Perez, of the *Huascar*, took aim along the right sights, and the captain of the gun stood in rear of the left sights, holding the tube lanyard. The gun was fired. Before those around could realize what happened, the gun shot to the rear out of its trunnion-ring, and striking the rear part of the compressor-bars, cleared 8 feet of deck and disappeared

through the ship's side in rear into 25 fathoms of water. When the gun's crew recovered themselves, the mangled and mangled bodies of Lieutenant Perez and the captain of the gun were found in rear of the gun, 65 lbs right and left respectively, but with the exception of being very slightly scorched, the remainder of the gun's crew were quite unharmed. The first impression was that the gun had burst, but that soon gave way to the opinion that it had broken into two parts but it will be seen that even this is probably erroneous. Those looking out for the effect of the shell heard only the usual report, and were quite unconscious that an accident had occurred, and only discovered it on looking round to say that the shell had fallen short. Captain Lynch, however, had seen a splash, under the smoke of the discharge. The slide was quite uninjured, but the compressor-bars had received a crushing blow in rear of the carriage. The carriage was also in perfect condition, though the cap-squares showed signs of severe strain. Of the gun nothing remained but the trunnions and trunnion-ring, and these were in their places in the carriage, quite perfect, showing no crack, indent or abrasion of any sort; indeed the tool-marks of the interior were sharp and well defined. The ship's side showed a large, irregular aperture, 8 feet in diameter, just abaft the opposite port, but, with the exception of the light bulkheads of the deck-house and fore-castle being slightly injured, no other damage was done, either by fire or fragments. Some more details might be mentioned, but as an official investigation will be held, it will be unnecessary to say more than that the general opinion arrived at was this: That the gun had shot back out of its trunnion-ring without bursting or being fractured, and that after striking the compressor-bars had gone clean overboard, with the exception of a small inter-jacket, shrunk on before and butting against the trunnion-ring, and that this, it is probable, fell overboard the same side the gun was fired. It is thought too that the breech-closing arrangement must have stood the explosion, and would be found, if the gun could be raised, quite uninjured. The question is this,—Was the accident due to the inner tubes not being secured to the trunnion-ring by reciprocally-recessed joints? and repeated discharges having loosened the coils, was the final catastrophe hastened by a too powerful compressor? The accident will not have been without its value, if these points are cleared up. The *Angamos*, now a harmless transport, beat a hasty retreat, the action being continued by the *Athualpa* and some gun vessels, on the Peruvian side, against the *Huascar*, *Chacabuco* corvette, and *Pileomayo* gun-vessel, on the part of the part of the Chileans. After a large expenditure of gunpowder, both parties withdrew, without any result.—*Army and Navy Gazette*, Feb. 5.

[It would appear that the breech-closing apparatus showed no defect in this instance, it is called the French system, but was offered to the British War Office by Sir William Palliser years before its adoption in France. Our illustration of this week shows the Palliser plan of breech-closing. The gun shooting itself to the rear out of its trunnion ring is a strong protest against the building up by bits—Armstrong's system—as opposed to the simple Palliser plan of a wrought iron coiled barrel to bear tangential strain in the direction of the fibre, and an outer side jacket of cast iron to take the longitudinal strain. The trunnions form part of the jacket, and there is no loose trunnion ring for the gun to jump itself out of. Let us hope the new Ordnance Committee will look at this important question with absolute impartiality, and treat the gun question *ab ovo*.—Ed. C. M. R.]

**Breech-Loading Ordnance.**

So much attention is now being concentrated on the systems of breech-loading guns, which find advocates in France and in Germany, that we give drawings of what may be termed the English system, and we would remark that the French system has been pushed in this country with zeal, power, and wealth, both in private and Government shops, without vouchsafing the English system a public trial; yet by the dates, we show it will be plain to our readers that the English system is long anterior to the French, and it will be remembered that its distinguished inventor declared at the last experiments that the French system was merely his—*apetit*.

We have always called attention to the various explosions of guns which have taken place from time to time, and we maintain that, after the bursting of the Krupp 9½-inch guns at the Bordenelles, Rustenberg, and on board the *Ranpun* (the two last of which destroyed a number of officers and men), the question of German breech-loading steel guns is finally and forever set at rest as far as England is concerned.

With regard to the French system, we lately showed that two 12-inch French steel breech-loading guns had burst at Garve, in France; and we are now informed that an English-made gun has burst on board a Chilean man-of-war at Calao, killing a number of seamen. We trust that an inquiry will be made with regard to this explosion. Not long since it was announced that some breech-loading guns on the French system had been ordered in England by the Chilean Government, in order that their navy might bombard the ports of Peru at such ranges as would secure the fleet against molestation from Peruvian ports.

It is known that our Admiralty have ordered fourteen of these guns; therefore we suggest that an inquiry should be made regarding the gun which has burst. Was it a new pattern French breech-loading gun, or was it an old muzzle-loading rifled gun? and in either case was the gun lined with a steel tube? If so, then another list of deaths may be laid to a cause which we have never ceased to condemn.

Mr. William Palliser's breech-loading gun, as shown in the drawing, is lined with a loose wrought iron, coiled barrel, and the longitudinal strain on firing the gun is not borne by the inner tube as in the French system, but is supported altogether by the heavy casing of the gun.

Before being converted to a breech-loader and fired as such, this gun was fired nine times doubly loaded; the last five rounds consisting of 10 lbs. of powder, then a 61 lbs. shot, then another charge of 10 lbs. of powder and another 61 lbs. shot. No steel lined gun of the same weight could withstand such a trial; the first round would be sufficient to blow it to pieces.

We understand that the 7-inch gun at Erith is again to be fired doubly loaded. This time the front projectile will be a shell into the rear of which will be fitted a pressure gauge. The last tremendous double charge of 22 lbs. of powder then 100 lb. shot, with 14 lbs. of powder and an 65 lb. shot in front, has hardshipped the gun, and a bulge exists over the seat of the front charge. So that, should the gun burst, it will still have been an interesting experiment proving extraordinary staying powder in the system of construction, and offering a favourable contrast to the gloomy list of explosions and deaths which it has been our duty to dwell on as they occurred, and thus to warn the authorities not to be carried away by the advocates of any foreign system till they have carefully tested English inventions which have been proved to be more scientific, safer and cheaper than foreign importations of more than doubtful character.

**Ordnance Select Committee.**

The arrangements for the formation of the new Ordnance Committee at the War Office have now been completed, and the Treasury has approved the proposals of the Secretary of State for War on the subject. A general officer of the Royal Artillery is to be appointed President of the Committee, with a special salary of £800 per annum, and will be assisted in his duties by an officer of the Royal Navy, of Admiral's rank, as Vice-President, who will draw £700 per annum. In addition to this, there are to be two naval members, two lieutenant-colonels of Artillery, one field officer of Royal Engineers, and two civil engineers, all drawing £500 per annum. Two officers of the Royal Artillery are to be allowed for the purposes of conducting experiments, who will be granted £250 per annum each; and there will be in addition a secretary and assistant-secretary—officers of the Royal Artillery—with salaries of £500 and £350 respectively. These salaries will all be independent of other pay, but will be considered to include allowances. The names of the members of the committee will not be known for some weeks to come.

**Dominion Artillery Association.**

MEETING OF COUNCIL, HELD ON 14TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

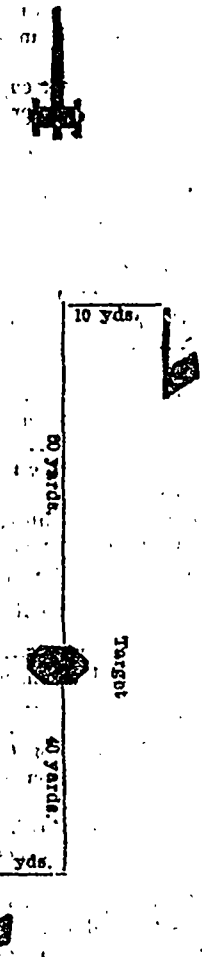
PRESENT:—Lt. Col. T. B. Strange, I. of A., President of Council, in the Chair.

Lt. Col. Irwin, I. of A., Vice-Pres.; Lt. Col. A. A. Stevenson; Lt. Col. Montagu; Lt. Col. Fraser; Major McKenzie; Capt. McCrae; Lieut. Evans; Lieut. Donaldson, Secretary.

The following being suggestions, or modifications, of suggestions submitted by Lieut. Col. Strange, were agreed to, subject to approval of Annual Meeting, viz:—

"That in future, in all scores for competitive practice, credit shall be given for Shrapnel shell as follows. — Direct hit, 2, ricochet, 1; elevation (if blind) as formerly, and only 1 for fuzo when it acts between banierol (nearest gun) and target, and not more than thirty feet above plane. Credit for direction, if in line, 2; inside limit, right and left, 1, 3 pr. M. L. R. common shell (except for direction) as formerly.

"That for all S. B. competitions of garrison batteries, the parallelogram of error be marked by two bannerols only, (suggested to Lt. Col. Strange, by Capt. Gibson, Commanding Toronto Garrison Battery,) thus:—



"That the following be the table of credits for S. B. competitions.

<b>S. B. Solid Shot:—</b>	
Direct hit, extra.....	6
Ricochet ".....	3
Elevation, under.....	3
" over.....	2
Direction, in line.....	2
" inside limit.....	1
<b>Common Shell, S.B.:—</b>	
Direct hit.....	2
Ricochet.....	1
Elevation.....	under 3 over 2
Fuze within limits not more than 30 feet above plane.....	
Direction, in line.....	2
" inside limit.....	1



Shrapnel Shell, S. B. :—	
Direct hit.....	2
Ricochet.....	1
Elevation.....	} under 3 over nothing.
Fuze between bannerol (nearest gun) and target, and not more than 80 feet above plane.....	
Direction, in line.....	1
"    inside limits.....	2
"    ".....	1
The errors in deviation with 9 pr. R. M. L. guns being so slight, and the Militia Field Artillery having improved so much in accurate shooting, it is proposed in future to have only one bannerol at 10 feet right and left of target, instead of one at 5 and one at 15 as formerly.	
Credit for direction being in line.....	2
"    within limit.....	1
" That ranges for S. B. field guns be assimilated to the above—yards instead of feet."	
" That in the competition for cups presented by His Excellency the following be with his approval the scale of credits.	

*Governor General's Garrison Artillery Competition.*

Clothing and Accoutrements.....	10
Company drill.....	10
Manual and firing Exercises.....	10
Standing gun drill.....	25
Answers to questions on artillery material and gunnery by Officers and Non-Comd. Officers.....	80
Answers to questions by Officers on application of heavy Artillery.....	50
Each Officer and man with an Artillery certificate 1st to 4th.....	4 to 1
Each man with an Efficiency badge gained during current year, i.e., between 1st January and 31st December, 1881, ....	0.25
Discipline and interior economy.....	10
One-fifth score at competitive practice....	

*Governor General's Field Artillery Competition.*

Clothing and Accoutrements.....	10
Guns, Carriages and Equipment.....	10
Horses.....	10
Harness and Harnessing.....	15
Marching past—Walk, Trot, Gallop.....	15
Standing gun drill, position and general duties.....	25
Answers to questions on Artillery by Officers and Non. Comd. Officers.....	50
Field Manœuvres.....	25
Selection of fighting positions and answers to questions from Manual (Field Artillery) on fighting tactics by Officers....	50
* Each N. C. O. or man with an Efficiency badge (gained during current year)....	0.25
† Each Officer, N.C. Officer or man with an Artillery certificate 1st to 4th.....	4 to 1
Sword drill with mounted Officers and N. C. Officers.....	5
Dismounting and disabled Ordnance.....	10
"    " (including camping details)....	10
"    " with total score at competitive practice.	

The Ontario Field Battery on account of exceptional advantages to count voluntary drills only to the extent of the highest number performed by any other militia battery.

† Certificates are only to count for those officers, N. C. officers or men who actually draw pay for the annual training.

J. B. DONALDSON, Lieut.,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

D. A. A.

PROCEEDING OF AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT  
OTTAWA ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

Major General R. G. A. Luard, President of the Association in the Chair.

The following officers and gentlemen were present: Lieut.-Col. Commandant Argyllshire Artillery His Excellency the Governor General, Marquis of Lorne and staff, Lt. Col. De Winton, R.A., the Hon. A. P. Caron, M. P., Minister of Militia and Defence, Lt. Col. the Hon. E. J. Panet, Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence; Lt. Col. T. B. Strange, R.A., I. of A., Pres. of Council; Lieut. Col. D. T. Irwin, I. of A., Vice-Pres. of Council; Lieut. Col. Straubenzie, D. A. G.; Lieut. Col. A. A. Stevenson, Comdg. Montreal Field Battery; Lieut. Col. E. F. Montizambert, "B" Battery, R. S. G.; Lieut. Col. D. T. Fraser, Comdg. Montreal Garrison Artillery; Lt. Col. Domville, M.P.; Major Macdonald, Comdg. 1st Provisional Brigade Field Artillery; Major McKenzie, Comdg. Gananoque Field Battery; Major Hebert, "B" By., R.S.G.; Capt. McCrae, Comdg. No. 2 Battery, 1st Provisional Brigade, Field Artillery; Lieut. Imlah, Halifax Field Battery; Lieut. Evans, Ottawa Field Battery; Mr. Creegan, Kingston; Lieut. Donaldson, Secretary.

Lieut. Colonel T. B. Strange, President of Council, submitted the suggestions already adopted by the Council, which, on motion of Lt. Col. Stevenson, seconded by Major McKenzie, were approved.

The Annual Report of the Secretary and Treasurer was adopted.

Lt. Col. Strange, in explaining the conditions under which His Excellency the Governor General had given a silver cup and \$100 for the most efficient Field Battery, read the credits obtained by each battery, and stated that "The Ontario Field Battery, commanded by Captain McCrae, had won the cup given by His Excellency the Governor General, it was composed of young men attending the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. It was difficult to overestimate the advantages that would result from giving an artillery training to these intelligent young men—the future yeomanry of Canada, who would be ever ready to defend their broad acres. Their very education and habits of field life, their knowledge of the management of horses, combined with the technical skill in artillery, which they had acquired, made an effective yeoman field artillery force such as no other country in the world could boast of. His Excellency had also given two prizes for general efficiency and shifting ordnance, to garrison artillery and in this respect His Excellency's practical knowledge as an artillery officer had rendered most valuable the aid he had given the Artillery Association in awarding his prizes for real artillery efficiency, instead of giving reward a which might fall to a comparatively ignorant man who made a chance shot with a somewhat inaccurate weapon.

His Excellency the Governor-General, in reply said:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have listened with great pleasure to the account given by Col Strange of the proceedings of this Association, and of what has been done during the year by our Artillery Militia. I hope I may be looked upon by those here in the light of a brother gunner having still under my command in the Old Country a volunteer regiment of artillery. The propinquity of Canada to Great Britain, and the ease with which passengers are now borne across the Atlantic was often proved to me at home when on enquiring the reason of the absence of some of my volunteers from inspections, the reply often was that they had crossed the waters to this side to work for a "spell" at their own occupations here, and that they would return and be present at the next inspection. They crossed the water to pursue their occupations for a time on this side of the Atlantic as a pleasant change. On the other hand I had the pleasure of meeting some of my old gunners in the Maritime Provinces who had permanently settled in Canada, and who, like most of those who come over here, myself amongst the number, were in feeling as Canadian, if not more Canadian than the Cana-

dians themselves, and although the training in my regiment may often have been defective, yet these men said that they certainly had made one good shot in their lives—in coming to Canada. The importance of your arm of the service seems to have been long recognized by successive Governments in Canada, for it is to be observed that the artillery alone of all our militia forces enjoy the privileges of having training schools at which those who bear Her Majesty's commission may attend to learn their duties—a privilege as yet denied to the infantry, cavalry and engineers. We have a good force of garrison artillery, to which, as Col. Strange has said, prizes have been offered, and at Montreal I was rejoiced to see that Mr. Gilbert is producing guns, for their size, as good as any that can be turned out anywhere. The increase in the field force of artillery has been very marked during the last few years, and Canada possesses now between seventy and eighty guns worked by fairly equipped batteries. In the Old Country it has been found difficult to train volunteers so perfectly as to have good field batteries; and officers coming from Canada who have seen the Field Artillery here have been questioned by the Pall Mall authorities with astonishment as to whether they really believed the force could be called an effective one. I am safe in referring for an answer to the opinion not only of the distinguished Canadian officers who have seen imperial service, but I may also quote the gallant officer who is at the head of my staff to bear me out in saying that the advantage taken by many batteries of the opportunities given them for training has produced most satisfactory results. I have now only to present the cup to Captain McCrae, whom I congratulate upon his success; and knowing as I do, the battery which came in second, and how well it is organized, I feel I am felicitating him upon no mean victory, and it will be my desire some day to attend the practice of his men.

The President, Major-General Luard, thanked His Excellency on behalf of the Association for the great interest he had shown in the welfare of the Association by attending its meeting and giving valuable prizes for competition.

On motion of Lt.-Col. Strange, seconded by Lt.-Col. Irwin, it was decided "that the essay should be discontinued in future."

It was moved by Lt.-Col. Irwin, seconded by Major Macdonald,—"That the money prizes be increased at discretion of Council.—Carried.

Moved by Lt.-Col. Irwin, seconded by Lt.-Col. Montzambert,—"That the prize for the highest general score be a field glass or money, at the discretion of the officer commanding; if the latter, the amount to be expended on the battery, and a statement of such expenditure sent to the Secretary of Association."—Carried.

Moved by Lt.-Col. Irwin, and seconded—"That the shifting ordnance competition, for "A" and "B" Batteries be chosen by the Inspector of Artillery at the station where the competition is held, and not be known previously by any of the competitors; also that the shift be of such a nature as to last at least 15 minutes."

Moved in amendment—"That the shift be chosen by the Assistant Inspector of Artillery, Maritime Provinces, one of the Professors Royal Military College, or other competent officer, and be of such a nature as to test the abilities of the competitors."—The amendment was carried.

It was proposed by Lieut.-Col. Irwin, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Stevenson,—"That the publication of the *Canadian Military Review* be continued under the auspices and patronage of the Dominion Artillery Association, the sum of one hundred dollars being contributed towards its support on the same conditions as last year, it being edited by an officer whose name shall appear."—Carried.

Moved by Lt.-Col. Strange, seconded by Lt.-Col. Irwin,—"That the thanks of the Association be accorded to Lieut. Donaldson for the efficient manner in which he has performed the duties of Secretary and Treasurer, and that he be re-elected."—Carried.

The thanks of the Association were voted to Lt.-Col. Macpherson and Major Wicksteed for acting as Auditors. They were re-elected.

Major General Luard signified his intention of presenting the sum of twenty dollars to be given in prizes, conditions to be fixed hereafter.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Irwin seconded by Capt. McCrae that a representation be made to Government for increase of subscription to Dominion Artillery Association for the purpose of enabling competitors to meet for practice at central ranges in the various provinces.—Carried.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Strange, seconded by Major Macdonald, that a special prize be presented to Sergt. Hastings, Montreal Field Battery, he having made the highest score in the competition between militia field batteries armed with 9 pr. R. M. L. guns, 2 years in succession.—Carried.

J. B. DONALDSON, Lieut.,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING OF DOMINION  
ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION COUNCIL HELD AT OTTAWA,  
16TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

Present:—Lt.-Col. T. B. Strange, R.A., I. of A., President of Council, in the Chair; Lt.-Col. D. T. Irwin, I. of A.; Lt.-Col. Montzambert; Lt.-Col. D. T. Fraser; Major Macdonald; Major McKenzie; Capt. McCrae; Lt. Donaldson, Secretary.

It was decided that in accordance with resolution passed at the annual meeting, the following places be recommended as central points for carrying out the annual practice of batteries:

*Field Batteries.*—London, Welland Canal, 1st Pivotal Brigade, (2 batteries), Hamilton, and Toronto Batteries at Toronto; Port Hope, Kingston, Gananoque and Ottawa Batteries at Kingston; Montreal, Sheffield, Quebec, Newcastle, Woodstock and Richmond Batteries at Quebec.

*Garrison Batteries.*—New Brunswick Brigade for practice and training at St. John, N. B.; 1st and 2nd Halifax Brigades for practice and training at Halifax, N.S.; Montreal Brigade and St. John, P. Q., Battery to train on St. Helen's Island and practice at Quebec; Prescott, Tranton, Napanea, Cobourg and Port Hope Batteries to train and practice at Fort Henry, Kingston; Toronto, Sarnia and Collingwood Batteries to train and practice at Toronto; St. Catherines' Battery at St. Catherines.

It was decided to send circulars to all officers commanding Garrison Batteries requesting them to affiliate with the Association with a view to competing for H. E. the Governor-General's prizes, informing them that if they will guarantee at least 10 voluntary drills of not less than 15 men each and agree to compete, they will be recommended to be supplied with material for shifting ordnance.

The following was agreed to as the operation for the shifting ordnance competition of Garrison Batteries: viz: A 24 pr. 50 cwt. or a 32 pr. 56 cwt. mounted on a garrison standing carriage, sights removed, to be dismounted over one side of carriage, moved round to the other side and remounted on the same carriage by parbuckling. The carriage not to be moved more than one foot.

Detachment to consist of 18 men for 24 pr. and 20 men for 32 pr. Material allowed:—

Two long skids 20 ft. x 3 in. x 8 in.

Two parbuckle ropes.

Two 3 ft. x 6 in. x 9 in. short skids.

Two 3 ft. x 4 in. x 4 in. " " "

Eight scotches.

Eight handspikes.

Two dragropes.

Field Batteries having the necessary material in the session may compete, but cannot obtain the prizes allowed Garrison Artillery.

In the case of batteries brigaded together material for shifting ordnance will only be supplied in the proportion of one set for three batteries.

In carrying out the annual practice competition, officers in command may advise the competitors as to the length of fuze, elevation, deflection, etc., in fact give any directions that may be deduced from observation at the battery,—such as could be made in actual war. They must not, however, look over or correct the laying of the gun, or bore the fuze.

No communications to be all wed between the range and the battery—except that the first two trials shots may be signalled; three other trial shots may be fired but not by competitors, nor the results signalled.

It was moved by Capt. McCrae, and seconded, that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the subject of improving the sights for rifled guns.—Carried.

The following officers were appointed—Lt. Col. T. B. Strange, I. of A.; Lt. Col. D. T. Irwin, I. of A.; Lt. Col. D. T. Fraser; Major Macdonald and Capt. McCrae.

It was decided at the suggestion of Lt. Col. Irwin to increase the money prizes for Field Batteries to the following amounts—1 @ \$15.00; 2 @ \$10.00, 3 @ \$8.00, 3 @ \$5.00, 4 @ \$4.00; 5 @ \$3.00; 10 @ \$2.00. Total, \$125.00.

Prizes to be in money or kind at option of winner.

That the individual prizes for garrison artillery be increased to the rate of \$5.00 per battery affilating

### The Chilean Gun Explosion.

Our readers have not long to wait for further proof of the soundness of our opinions regarding the guns which, backed by powerful interests, are being gradually pushed into Her Majesty's service, while worthy rivals do not even get a trial. We have now to draw attention to an explosion, the investigation of which will probably be directed with the utmost ingenuity towards making out the gun to be blameless. An article in a contemporary has already sounded the note, and given the key to the line of explanation likely to be adopted. We, however, predict further bursts with the certainty which bad construction, combined with attempts at producing great results, have entailed, and must again entail.

The burst gun, of which we gave an illustration elsewhere, was the sole armament of the Chilean steamer *Augamos*. It was an 8-inch breech-loader gun on the French system. It was constructed with a long steel tube, with wrought iron coils shrunk over it. These soft coils were therefore in a state of tension. The whole of the longitudinal strain was thrown on the steel tube by means of the French plug in the rear, and in fact, every preparation had been made from want of scientific knowledge to insure an explosion, in case of a hitch or accident in the bore of the gun. The whole piece was in a state of tension, with a tube inside it, which could not possibly bulge, and so ease the gun, but must fly if its limit of elasticity was exceeded. Fourteen of these dangerous weapons are, it is said in course of construction for our own Navy. It is, therefore, time to speak out, and not to calmly wait for the destruction of our officers and seamen under the most terrible of catastrophes—an explosion on boardship at sea. From the description in our contemporary we assert that the gun burst in front of the trunnions, the front part splashing, as seen by the captain of the ship, into the sea, while the breech was blown over board to the rear. The lieutenant in charge of the gun and the captain of the gun were smashed to pieces, and the gun crew scorched by the escaping powder flames, a distinct proof that the gun must have burst. We observe that *quoque* word of sympathy mentioned for the unfortunate dead, a whole column is filled

the explanation that it was indeed an excellent gun! This pleading is rather calculated to defeat its object. The questions the War Office and Admiralty must now consider are, whether, in view of such disasters, the gun of the *Dunlop* and *Augamos* type are fit for Her Majesty's service, and whether, considering that the Woolwich system and the

Armstrong system are practically one, the question of manufacturing guns by the unscientific method of shrinking soft coiled iron over hard and brittle steel tubes should be continued. It is said that the War Office will apply this year for £30,000 to be expended in preparing a place on the ramparts of Gibraltar for the four duplicates of the *Dunlop* gun, purchased by our Government at enormous cost. Members of Parliament will probably think this money might be laid out with more advantage in some other manner. We have mentioned the Admiralty order for fourteen guns on the *Augamos* system, we now protest that these weapons are not fit for our Navy, the authorities should pause in their action, and seriously consider the situation with the assistance of a carefully selected committee, ere they jeopardise the valuable lives of our officers and men, and spread a panic through the Fleet from some frightful, but not unforeseen calamity, such as shocked the nation when the gun burst on board H. M. S. *Thunderer*. We feel certain that a really good committee will hesitate to pronounce any system of gun construction fit for Her Majesty's service which cannot stand the two tests of double loading and of bursting shells in the bore of the guns. They are simple tests, and not unlikely to happen during the heat of an engagement.

—Recent remarks by Carlyle, as reported by the Rev. Dr. Cuyler:—"I would like to see America. You may talk about your democracy, or any other 'crncy, or any kind of political rubbish, but the secret of happiness in America is that ye have got a vast deal of land for a vast few people."

### Dominion Rifle Association.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING.

##### THE CONTENTS OF THE OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association was held in the Railway Rooms, at noon on the 16th ult. Among the gentlemen present were Lt. Col. Botsford, Lt. Col. Bacon, Col. Powell, D.A.G., Lieut. MacNachtan, Lt. Col. Fraser, Captain Costin, Major H. Smith, Lt. Col. Macdonald, Capt. Balsbur, Capt. Scott, M.P., Lt. Col. Bergin, M.P., Lt. Col. Worsley, Major Macdonald, Lt. Col. Thomas Ross, Major Mackenzie, Gananoque, Major Daly, M.P., Lt. Col. Irwin, Capt. Perley, Lt. Col. Williams, M.P., Lt. Col. Strange, Hon. Mr. Caron, Hon. H. J. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Girard, Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Thomas McKay, Royal, T. White, Jones, J. B. Plumb, M.P., Mr. J. Johnston, Halifax, Lt. Col. Stuart, Secretary, Mr. Currier, M.P., Mr. Newby, Capt. Casey, Lt. Col. A. Straubensie, D.A.G., Lt. Col. Taylor, D.A.G., Major Domville, M.P., Major General Luard, H. Cameron, M.P.

His Excellency the Governor General was also present, arriving just at the opening of the meeting.

The Hon. Senator Botsford occupied the chair. He regretted the absence of the President of the Association, and stated that the meeting was adjourned only. The business would be proceeded with as though held at the time originally prescribed.

The Secretary, Lt. Col. Stuart, read the minutes of the last meeting, which were adopted.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Macdonald, seconded by MacNachtan, the annual report, as printed, was accepted as read.

The Chairman stated that he would not go into the contents of the report, leaving that for the Chairman of the Executive Committee. The financial statement showed a small surplus, which was satisfactory. He moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. Kirkpatrick stated that the last meeting of the report was a most successful one, everything being well carried out. The object of the Association was to encourage marksmanship amongst the militiamen of Canada. He regretted that amongst the competitors of last season