

Pages Missing

THE CANADIAN

Military Gazette

Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.

VOL. IX. No. 7.

MONTREAL, APRIL 1, 1894.

Subscription \$2.00 Yearly. Single Copies 10 cents.

THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE, (Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.) ESTABLISHED 1885. PUBLISHED AT MONTREAL ON THE 1st and 15th of each Month. DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE MILITARY FORCES OF CANADA.

SUBSCRIPTION:

Canada and the United States, per annum, - \$2.00 Great Brit in, Ireland and Postal Union Countries, - 10s 6d. stg. Single Copies, - 10 cents

Subscriptions are in every instance payable in advance, and the publishers request the favor of prompt remittance.

Unpaid accounts are subject to sight draft. Remittances should be made by post-office order or registered letter. No responsibility is assumed for subscriptions paid to agents, and it is best to remit direct.

The date when the subscription expires is on the address label of each paper, the change of which to a subsequent date becomes a receipt for remittance. No other receipt is sent unless requested.

Immediate notice should be given of any delay or failure in the receipt of the GAZETTE.

No attention is paid to anonymous communications, but the wishes of contributors as to the use of their names will be scrupulously regarded.

All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 1937, Montreal.

MONTREAL, APRIL 1, 1894.

ABOUT OURSELVES.

Readers of the MILITARY GAZETTE will remark an improvement in the appearance and general make-up of the paper this number. We feel confident that the improvement will be generally appreciated, and that the continued support of our readers will enable us to carry other improvements we have in view. We are constantly receiving encouraging communications complimenting us on the work we are doing for the militia, and we shall continue to do the best we can. We would remind members of the forces that the more generous support we receive from them the more interesting and useful will our journal be made.

Note and Comment.

Military men throughout Canada will be glad to learn that the failure of the wholesale furrier firm of John Martin & Co. will not in the least affect the military outfitting business carried on with such conspicuous success by the firm for so many years. The military outfitting business is going on as usual, and will be considerably extended in the immediate future.

If hope deferred maketh the heart sick, there must be a good many badly affected organs beating under the jackets of the officers of the militia force, who have been looking forward to receiving the volunteer service decoration. It was announced over a year ago that the decoration was to be given to officers in the Canadian militia service, but that is all that has been heard about it. It will be recalled that at the time the matter was broached the MILITARY GAZETTE took exception to the granting of the same decoration as granted to British volunteers, taking the ground that either a special decoration for the Canadian militia should be instituted, or else the decoration proposed to be granted to the British militia given to the Canadian militiamen qualified to receive. We still firmly adhere to this opinion; but something should have been heard officially about the matter in the meantime.

Talking of decorations recalls to memory the agitation some years back in favor of securing a medal or some other recognition of the services performed by the militia in repelling the Fenian raids. The deputation that went to Ottawa were promised that if the Imperial Government refused to

institute a medal that the Dominion Government would consider the question of doing something to recognize the services of the militia on the occasion in question. Has not the Dominion Government had its considering cap on long enough to have decided the matter by this time?

Attention should be given to the devising of some scheme for stopping a most aggravating system of wasting public money in connection with the schools of military instruction. Many men attend these schools, especially during the winter course, for the sake of the pay, and care no more about obtaining certificates than they do about the occult sciences. The country goes to the expense of keeping and paying these attached men for the sake of giving them instruction in military work. If they will not try to benefit by the instructions they should be made examples of, either by stopping their pay or by imprisonment. To give an idea of how determined some men are to show that they do not attend the schools to try and learn anything it might be stated that it often happens that when the theoretical examinations take place some men merely fold up the questions and return them to the examiners without making any attempt to answer one question. One genius at one of the schools made a humorous attempt to answer one question out of twenty in the paper on military law. The question was: "By what laws are the Militia of Canada governed?" The sage reply being: "The laws of General Herbert, the Commandant and the Sergeant-Major." Meantime Commanding Officers can check this abuse of the school system by refusing to recommend for courses men who are not really anxious and competent to

learn. The recommending of loafers for admission to a military school is purely and simple a swindle.

Some months ago we appealed to our readers to send to this office collections of maple leaves to be sent to the Royal Canadian Regiment, now stationed at Deesa, India, for the men to wear in their caps next Dominion Day. There were some replies to our appeal at the time, and we desire all intending contributors to send in their leaves at once, as they have to travel a long distance before Dominion Day.

Among many other letters approving of our little scheme is one from an officer of the Royal Canadians, who writes: "Like very many others, I have read with the deepest interest in the columns of your paper of the patriotic interest taken by Canadians in their corps, the 'Old Hundredth Royal Canadians,' in providing that all ranks of the regiment may wear maple leaves in their helmets regularly every Dominion Day. I can but re-iterate that such interest is very greatly appreciated by all connected with the corps; but I think you will agree that a more lasting and further stride should be taken, which all Canadians would assuredly endorse, and that is that the Royal Canadians should wear on its uniform and appointments, etc., the beaver and maple leaf, and thus commemorate and evermore prominently bring to view, in whatever part of the world its officers and men may chance to serve, its famous and never to be forgotten origin."

Most assuredly we agree with our correspondent, and it must be gratifying to Canadians to find that the present officers of the Royal Canadians are so proud of their regiment. Our correspondent adds: "At present the only badge worn by the regiment on the collar of its uniform is the Prince of Wales' plume. It is quite superfluous for me to say that the introduction of such unique and most distinctive badges as the beaver and maple leaf, in addition to the Prince of Wales' plume, would be hailed with enthusiasm and more than proudly worn by all ranks of the Royal Canadians."

Now here is a chance for the Dominion House of Parliament now in session assembled to show that Canada still takes an interest in its own regiment in the Imperial service. It

may surprise many who are interested in the regiment to hear that the beaver is not worn as a badge, nor is it borne on the regimental colors at present. The maple leaf is worn in combination with the Prince of Wales' plume in the centre of the helmet plates, but it is so small as to be practically invisible. It is also worn on the sword-belt clasps of the officers, but as it is interwoven with a laurel wreath the maple leaves are greatly hidden. It is also borne on the colors of the regiment. The Prince of Wales' plume is worn and borne on everything.

Why should not Canada ask that her historic badges be worn once and for all on the uniforms of the regiment she raised and equipped, and that the beaver be also borne on the colors? In order to make the Canadian badges more distinctive they should be arranged thus:—The beaver and maple leaf should be worn on the collars of the uniforms of all ranks in the place of the Prince of Wales' plume; the beaver should be borne on the regimental colors in addition to the Prince of Wales' plume and the maple leaf.

The changes would do good in many ways. They would link up afresh the regiment with Canada more closely after all these years; they would make the Royal Canadians more distinctive than ever as the only corps in the whole British army bearing colonial badges and a colonial title; and above all, they would tend to foster a soldierly bond between the regular regiment and the Canadian militia. The move in the matter to be at all powerful and effective must emanate from Canada. We start the ball rolling, who will help it along?

There have been a few straggling questions bearing upon the militia brought up in the Dominion House so far this season, but they have not been productive of much good result. The trouble is that the service members and other honorable gentlemen interested in the welfare of the militia make no serious attempt to act in concert and to carry out a general scheme of militia improvement or re-organization. They have their own ideas and hobbies, and hammer away at those, and the government simply ignores them, and the policy of throwing public money away goes bravely on. It is a pity that the friends of the militia at Ottawa do not follow the

example of the service members in the Imperial House of Commons, and hold a caucus to determine upon some general scheme of service reform. Were the friends of the militia force in both houses at Ottawa to unite in some such way as this they would at once make themselves felt, and the militia force would receive in Parliament and at the Privy Council table the consideration it stands so dreadfully in need of.

The absurdities of the present system of selecting officers for the permanent corps and schools of military instruction by favoritism are constantly bobbing up serenely. Here is one of the latest called to the attention of the writer of this column:—There are two officers of permanent corps at Kingston at present qualifying for the commissions which they have held for several years, and during which time they have been supposed to instruct attached officers in the very subjects which they are trying to master the rudiments of at Kingston.

Although the government does not appear to be manifesting any unseemly haste in importing the promised Martini-Metford rifles for the re-arming of the militia, it would appear to be a reasonably sure thing that the re-arming of the force has been decided upon. So far so good; but the political heads of the department must not flatter themselves with the mistaken idea that modern rifles are all that is needed to put the militia force on a satisfactory footing so far as equipment is concerned. An almost complete outfit of accoutrements for the force is as necessary as new rifles. Apart from the permanent corps, there is not a regiment in Canada which could keep the field for three days. A fair proportion of the waist belts are in good order, thanks to the care of the militiamen themselves, but that is really about all that the militia corps have in the way of accoutrements that can be depended upon.

Some of the crack city regiments have provided water bottles and overcoat straps at their own expense, and a few have been fortunate enough to wheedle a complete equipment of haversacks out of the departmental stores. There are a few old canvas knapsacks knocking about in some of the armories, but their day of usefulness was gone before they were dis-

carded by the Imperial troops after the Crimean war. Still, some of these old boxes were served out to the militia called out at the time of Riel's little shindy, but it was realized that it would subject them to too severe a test to have them worn on the march, and they had to be carried in wag-gons. Then the other Crimean relics, the clumsy old cartridge boxes and absurd little bags are equally antiquated and rotten. Thanks to rotten leather and ripped seams every battlefield in the Northwest was thickly sewn with unused cartridges, and one could almost follow a force marching across the prairie by the cartridges dropped on the trail from broken cartridge boxes. The provision of a complete new outfit of accoutrements for the militia is an immediate and very pressing necessity.

The question of federating the armed forces of the Empire is becoming a live question in the British service papers. The *Broad Arrow* of a recent date said:—

"The military federation of the forces of the Empire is an important matter which is revived by Colonel E. R. Drury, of the Queensland Defence Force, in a letter to the *Times*. The subject has often been discussed, but as yet little or nothing has been done to give it real effect. It is a big question, but there should be no difficulty in drawing closer the bonds of race and sentiment which happily still keep the Colonies close to the heart of the mother country. Some years ago an article appeared in the *Army and Navy Magazine*, which went so far as to advocate the extension of the Territorial System to the Colonies, and the writer would have liked to see the Leinster Regiment resume entirely and solely its original title of "The Royal Canadians," with headquarters in Canada, and recruits raised there for Imperial service. Similarly, regiments could be formed in our other Colonial possessions; and with a South African Regiment, or a New Zealand Regiment, or Queensland, New South Wales or Victorian Regiments, we could indeed show an Imperial Regular Army, backed up by a host of auxiliaries, which would place the British Empire in a position of strength beyond all doubt.

"Whether we shall ever see these advanced views carried into effect or not, there appears to be no reason why something, as Col. Drury pleads, should not be done to weld all our forces into one Imperial Army, and similarly our naval forces into an Imperial Navy. It is true that after all it must of necessity be largely a matter of sentiment, but nations are governed by sentiment, and it is this feeling of unity, bound by the ties of blood and brotherhood, which should be encouraged in our empire as tending to ensure our future Imperial welfare. Col. Drury is hopeful that the problem is capable of easy solution, and says so in words which display a right loyal spirit:—

"Nothing need be changed; precedence, relative rank, and command would continue unaltered. Each self-governing colony would exercise the same control over its forces as at present. But a bond of union, a brotherhood of arms, would be created that might prove of inestimable value in the hour of danger if the mother country were to call upon her sons throughout the world to uphold her cause and preserve the integrity of her widely-scattered dominions."

News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without 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, so long as not enclosed in an 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, 387, Montreal, Que.

Toronto.

The *Evening Telegram* says:—No one seems to know the principle on which the first and second in command of the Canadian Bisley (once Wimbledon) team of riflemen are appointed. The nomination rests with the president of the Dominion Rifle Association, who has succeeded in generally appointing in command of the team those who, from a rifle-shooting point of view, have no claim to the position. There have been one or two notable exceptions, such as Colonels Otter and Gibson, who were as successful as they were worthy. In the majority of cases they have been political figureheads. The second position, and the most important one from a shooting standpoint, has for several years fallen on a capable man, but strange to say, he has always been of the correct shade of politics. Officers who have devoted much time and money to the furtherance of rifle shooting, but who vote "agin' the Government," complain that they have no show for the coveted position. They say, and surely with much force, that as the money for the expenses of the team is voted from the public coffers, there should be no distinction made as regards politics. It seems strange to anyone that politics should enter for a moment into military matters of any kind. They do, however.

At a recent meeting of one of the city corps the question of cheaper street railway transport for volunteers in uniform was discussed. One of the chief causes of slim parades was stated to be the distance travelled and time lost by the men in coming to and going from drill. This was stated to be particularly the case with those whose business is not over till six o'clock, and who live a long way from their work.

It was argued that as the police ride free, and that as the street railways are as likely to need the assistance of the troops in the case of trouble as that of the police, some special rate of travel should be granted them.

The idea appears very feasible. A cheap ticket might be issued to be used only by volunteers in uniform, or, as was mentioned at the meeting referred to, the company might assess the different corps according to their strength, and thus save the conductors the trouble of collecting tickets as well as the cost of the same. The uniform would be the ticket.

The usual neat appearance of our volunteers would not detract from the appearance of the cars, and anything that will produce a good feeling between the Street Railway Company and the volunteers who are brought into close contact with them in their marches through the streets, must have a salutary effect on both. Besides, our militiamen who give up their time for nothing, are deserving of any compliment that may be paid them.

As chairman of the recent meeting of the Canadian Military Institute, at which Col. Lindsay read his paper on "Rural Battalions," Col. Mason, of the Royal Grenadiers, stated that if the country wished to improve the militia system, more attention should be paid to the schools. The public schools of Toronto are the recruiting grounds for its regiments. Sixty per cent. of the Queen's Own learned the "goose step," the "salute" and the "present" at the public and high schools of the city, and this accounts for the efficiency of that regiment. Not only did the boys receive their rudiments of drill at these schools, but the military spirit instilled into their young minds never left them, and they became soldiers in mind as well as in body. The same principle would apply to every school section in the province. The government might provide on a small scale, arms, accoutrements and instruction in drill to every school in the Dominion, by dividing a little of the money that is now being wasted on the majority of the rural battalions. If to this were added a small amount of target practice—a source of great delight to boys—many thousands of dollars that are wasted in ammunition at the various camps of instruction would be saved. The commanding officer of the Royal Grenadiers knows what he is talking about.

The "march out" through the principal streets of the city the second week in March of the regular Infantry, stationed at Stanley barracks, reminded the citizens of the good old days of the 17th, 30th or 47th Regiments of the line. It was no uncommon occurrence to meet a battalion of men out for their morning exercise along the roads leading to and from the city. The chief feature, however, was the splendid band, and in this respect the recent parade was greatly lacking. The music was supplied by the bugle band, and was very fair.

The "march" was carried out under the new regulations, and many were surprised at the strange appearance of the men as they moved in single rank and column of sections. The arms and accoutrements appeared to be in the best of order, showing in this respect a good example to our own red coats. Frequent outings of this kind are heartily welcomed by the citizens, who are inclined to think that Col. Otter and

Col. Turnbull keep their forces too close to the barracks.

Col. Turnbull, of the Dragoons, sets the speed with his military "turn out." His "tiger" is a revelation to ordinary infantry men.

Captain Chambers, Adjutant of the 6th Fusiliers, Montreal, and Northwest war correspondent under Gen. Middleton, has been spending a few days in the city.

Mr. F. J. Dixon, graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston, has been appointed corresponding secretary of the Canadian Military Institute, vice Major Manley, who was elected to the Committee of Management.

As the physical training exercises are carried out under the new regulations with the rifle, the old and well-known extension motions have been re-introduced for the benefit of schools and those who do not use the rifle in their drill.

His many friends will be glad to learn that Lieut. R. C. Morris, a son of the late Lieut.-Governor, and an ex-pupil of the Toronto Collegiate Institute, has been successful in the service since graduating in the R.M.C. He is at present serving with the Field Artillery in Bombay, India.

Great preparations are being made for the tournament in connection with the opening of the new armory. The C. O.'s of the city are meeting at the Institute regularly and discussing the arrangements. The affair will be very similar to the recent military display by the old country soldiers and will occupy the first half of Queen's Birthday week.

The trouble in connection with the new rifle ranges is again breaking out. Colonel Otter has written to the City Council, requesting a completion of their promise. To carry this out will entail upon the city a more arduous task than at first imagined, especially as the finances are in a low state. At present the ranges are furnished only up to 600 yards, and to make them equal to modern requirements they must provide firing accommodation up to 1,200 yards. In the first place this cannot be obtained on the Port Credit site on account of the depth of the lot, and in the second place the cost will be very considerable. On the old Garrison Common range firing was carried on up to 1000 yards, and could have been practised up to 1,400 yards as far as space was concerned, and naturally enough the riflemen expect the same opportunities on the new range. As the Lake Shore road bounds the north end of the site, which cannot be more than 900 yards in length, the authorities must look to the lake for extension purposes, as crossing the road cannot be thought of.

The ranges at present are as perfect as can be desired, and no fault can be found as far as they go. The locality is charming, the targets are perfect and the arrangements for mark-

ing cannot be excelled. This is only what might be expected on any of the flat farms bordering the lake between Toronto and Oakville. A good many, however, are of the opinion that Col. Otter, on behalf of the military, and Chairman Score, on behalf of the city, between them paid nearly double what the site was worth, and that had a fair price been given, there would have been enough money left to put the ranges in order without asking for more.

During the past three months a class qualifying for non-commissioned officers' certificates, under the instruction of Drill-Sergeant Hollinger, was held in the old Upper Canada College building. This class was examined last week, and the following have been granted sergeants' certificates: C. Botsford, A company; W. R. Lee, A company; B. L. Monkhouse, C company; C. H. Phillips, G company; James Rae, E company; D. Rae, E company; A. C. F. Ridout, H company; Hugh Ritchie, H company; A. Wright, B company. The following have been granted corporal certificates: R. J. Bothwick, B company; J. Boyce, D company; J. C. Hill, A company; J. W. Kirkness, B company; A. Mack, A company; J. J. McDonald, B company; A. R. McGregor, A company; R. McRae, E company; J. J. Maher, F company; C. Rowarth, D company; J. Shaw, C company; J. Smeall, F company; J. C. Stamin, H company; J. Tutton, G company; W. E. Witt, B company.—*Empire, March 16th.*

A meeting of the ex-members of the Royal Grenadiers was held in Forum Hall last evening for the purpose of making arrangements for the celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of Batoche.—*Mail, March 17.*

The second annual banquet of the sergeants' mess of the 48th Highlanders was held the night of March 16th in the Walker House, and was a splendid success. Pipe-Major Ireland made the welkin ring as he ushered in the Haggis, and by several selections which he gave during the evening. Mr. T. Baker and others enlivened the proceedings with excellent songs. The toast of "The Queen" was honored right royally, after which came the following toasts: "Commanding Officers and Staff," responded to by Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Majors Crossby and Macdonald, and Capt. McGillivray; "Canadian Militia," response by Lieut.-Col. Hamilton; "Dominion Parliament and Local Legislature," responded to by Messrs. G. R. R. Cockburn, M.P., and Joseph Tait, M.P.P.; "Our Guests," brought up the Mayor, Lieut.-Col. Mason, Sergt. Hutchinson, of the First Lanark Rifle Volunteers, of Glasgow, Scotland, who appeared in the handsome grey uniform of his regiment; Capt. Stone, of the United States army, and Rev. G. M.

Milligan. "Our Brother Sergeants" was replied to by Sergt. Hopkins, 13th Battalion, Hamilton; Sergt.-Major Cummings, Stanley Barracks; Staff-Sergt. Hutchinson, Grenadiers; and Staff-Sergt. Sharp, of the Dufferin Rifles. Capt. Donald responded to the toast of "The Ladies." Sergeant-Major Robertson presided, and with those who so ably assisted in completing the arrangements deserves to be congratulated on the success of the gathering.

Montreal.

The annual meeting of D company. Kilt fund took place in the armory on Wednesday, the 28th March, the President Sgt. Kelly in the chair. The annual report of the secretary-treasurer being read, showed the company to be in a very flourishing condition financially, the company's bank book showing a very substantial balance to their credit. The election of officers for the ensuing term then took place and resulted as follows: President, Paymaster Sergt. Jas. Kelly, unanimously re-elected for the fifth term; vice-president, Pipe Sergt. Jas. Clark; secretary-treasurer, Sergt. A. Earby, re-elected; committee of management, Corp. Harbison and Gilmour, Ptes. Smith, Kent and Ricketts; auditors, Col. Sergt. Crawford, Sergt. Yardly and Pte. Woods. A hearty vote of thanks to officers for past services was passed.

The management of the Montreal Gazette, with a desire to promote rifle shooting, has decided this year to present five handsome cups for competition among the corps that send delegates to the Montreal Amalgamated Rifle Association, namely, Montreal Battalion Garrison Artillery, Prince of Wales Rifles, Victoria Rifles, Royal Scots and Sixth Fusiliers. As the idea in presenting these cups is to bring more shooting men into the field, they are restricted to competition among the green or maiden shots and the highest aggregate scorer in the monthly competitions of the different corps, as well as the annual match of their respective regiments, will be the winner of the cup, which is to become his absolute property. The cups will be handsome specimens of the silversmith's art, each one being engraved in gold with the coat of arms of the corps to which the winner belongs. The contract for their manufacture has been given to the firm of Messrs. Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co., and Mr. Whimby, the local manager of the firm, promises that they will be everything that could be desired.

Tuesday evening March 27, there was a large assemblage at the Montreal Garrison Artillery armory for a triple event; first, for the presentation of non-commissioned officers' certificates to the successful ones in the recent examinations, which were handed them by Lt.-Col. Gray, accompanied by many happy remarks. Then followed the presentation of prizes won at the annual shooting matches last summer. The first to be called up was Staff-Sergt. Bell, who, amid cheers, was presented by Mrs. Cole, mother of the corps' commanding officer, with Major Ogilvy's cup as the winner of the grand aggregate in the monthly and annual matches. The other prizes were presented to the lucky winners, those presenting them being Mr. Robert Reid, Miss Reid, Mrs. A. I. Hubbard, Mrs. Dowsley and Captain Ostel. After the presentation Lieut.-Col. Cole and his officers held an "at home" and a couple of hours were spent very pleasantly in the mazy dance. Among those present beside

those mentioned above were noticed, Captain Rankin, R.S.; Captain Dobbin, P. W. R.; Captain Brush, late M.G.A.; Miss Farley, St. Thomas; Miss Scott, Miss Adem, Miss Fisher, Miss Lamplough and Messrs. Phillips, Haycock, Cole, Dowley and Lockwood.

There was a jolly time at the Victoria Rifles' armory Tuesday evening March 27, when Lieut.-Col. Starke and his officers, besides others, wished good-by to the ranks of bachelorhood to their guest of the evening, Lieut.-Col. Henshaw, Lieut.-Col. Starke's predecessor in command of the "Vics." Lieut.-Col. Starke was the chairman of the affair, which took the form of a dinner in the newly-decorated officers' mess, and had on his right the guest of the evening, while among the others present were Lieut.-Col. Gray, superintendent of stores 5th military district; Lieut.-Col. Whitehead, another of the Vics' old C.O.'s; Lieut.-Col. Strathy, Royal Scots; Surgeon-Major Campbell, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry; Majors Simms, Busted and Radiger, Vics.; Capt. Wm. Stanley, and L. Sutherland, Victoria Rifles reserves; Capt. Clark, Duke of Connaught Royal Canadian Hussars; Captains Rodden, Meakins, Pope, Guy, Hamilton and Leslie, and Lieut. A. J. Hibbard, Vics.; Lieut. Mehaiger, Queen's Own, Toronto; Messrs. Charles Caseile, Phil. Scott, Geo. W. Hamilton, F. E. Green, Geo. Gillespie G. W. McDougall, Edgar McDougall and James Wardlow, Montreal, and J. E. Morin, Toronto. After the inner man had been attended to with substantial Lieut.-Col. Starke proposed the health of the guest of the evening, which was seconded by Captain W. Stanley, on behalf of the reserves. Lieut.-Colonel Henshaw made a happy response, and said he had always endeavored to do his best as a bachelor and would endeavor to do the same as a benedict. Other speeches and songs took up the evening, and the farewell concluded with the health of the Queen.

The Victoria Rifles have accepted the invitation of the Princess of Wales Own Rifles (14th battalion), Kingston, to pay a visit to that city on the Queen's Birthday and participate there in the celebration of the day, one of the features of which will be a military tournament. The Vics will leave here on the evening of the 23rd of May, and besides both bands, the Maxim gun and its detachment will go along.

The sergeants of the Prince of Wales Rifles celebrated the Easter season by holding a dance March 26th, at their armory, which was a success in every way. There were about forty couples present and all had a good time, thanks to the energetic committee composed of Col. Sergeants Dance and Cunningham, Staff-Sergeants Donaldson and Cooper and Sergeants Ferguson and Lindeay.

The annual meeting of the Sixth Fusilier's Rifle association, which was held April 2, at their armory, was one of the best attended for many years, Major Macaulay was the chairman. Over the Canadian Military Rifle league the members "practically all present" acted differently from those of other rifle associations which have held their meeting this year, for they passed a resolution that they would enter the league again whether Martini or Snider were shot, and then wound it up with a rider that they recommended the Sniders for the league matches. The first business before the meeting, after the minutes had been passed, was the presentation of the secretary's report as follows:

In presenting the report of the past year's work, I can refer with pleasure to the fact that our representatives have again main-

tained their long held record for first-class shooting. In all the open matches of the year where we had teams entered our scores won us honor, and we are to-day, as we have been for years, one of the best shooting battalions in the Dominion, as our record not only in local matches, but also in the P. Q. R. association meet, where we won that much coveted trophy, the Carlslake cup, and in the Military league matches, in which our aggregate gave us seventh place. We had our annual matches on the 12th August, the attendance being very good. In this connection I may say that the practice for some years past of presenting the prizes months after they have been won has been unsatisfactory and in future all prizes won at our annual matches will be presented within two weeks from the day they were shot for. This is a much needed reform and will be faithfully carried out. At the annual meet of the P.Q.R.A. our members covered themselves with glory, but we did not do so well at the Dominion Rifle association meet in Ottawa.

Instead of following the practice of the last few years of catering for ourselves in camp at Ottawa we stopped at the hotels, and I think it will be freely admitted that the latter course is much more satisfactory, and besides we save considerable money by doing so. The greatest social event during the D. R. A. meet was the ball given at the Russell, which not only gave pleasure to many, but also established a precedent which may be followed by other corps in the future.

A question which you will probably be called upon to discuss is whether we will enter a team in the Canadian Military league if the Snider rifle is to be used. This matter should be very carefully considered before any decision is made, as the question naturally arises; We will be justified in declining to enter because a certain rifle is used, when that rifle is the arm that we would be compelled to use to-morrow should we be called upon active service?

Before closing I want all members of the regiment to remember that they are also members of the rifle association and that their subscriptions are paid out of the regimental funds. I do not think that this fact has been generally understood, otherwise we would have had more members of the battalion take an interest in the association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. FINDLAY, Capt.,
Secretary-treasurer.

A discussion then ensued on the points enumerated above, and after these were passed the secretary's report was unanimously adopted with a vote of thanks for his hard work. Then new business came up and it was decided to hold the annual matches on August 11 if the P. Q. R. A. matches were not held in that month, and if they were, on the Saturday following the latter matches. Under the same head the *Gazette* was voted unanimously the thanks of the association for the presentation of a cup for the "green" shots of the regiment, and it was left to the to be elected committee to decide the classification of shots for the *Gazette's* prize. The election of officers followed, and resulted as follows: President, Lieut.-Col. Burland; first vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Masey; second vice-president, Major Macaulay; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. Henderson; captains of teams, Capt. E. J. Chambers and W. E. Findlay; executive committee, A. Co., Color-Sergt. Riddle; B Co., Color-Sergt. Howard; C Co., Color-Sergt. Morrison; D Co., Color-Sergt. Beatty; E Co., Color-Sergt. Marks; F Co., Color-Sergt. Pratt; Sergt. G. Lavers to represent the non commissioned staff; Pte. T. Scott to represent the fife and drum band; executive officer, Lt.-Col. Burland; delegates to the M. R. A., Major Macaulay, Capt. Findlay, Lieut. Henderson, Col.-Sergt. Howard and Private Jehu. After a vote of thanks to Lieut.-Col. Masey for providing quarters for the rifle association of the regiment and assistance in carrying on the work, and another to the chairman, the meeting adjourned.

St. Johns.

On Thursday evening, March 26th, the officers at the Royal School of Infantry, St. Johns, held their monthly guest night, and it was one of the largest and most enjoyable they have had for some time. Twenty-nine sat down to do justice to the menu which was all that could be desired. The band, under the able leadership of Bandmaster Ringuet, rendered several ex-

cellent selections. Among the number seated around the festive board were noticed: Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens, commandant; Lieut.-Col. Strathy, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut.-Col. Aubry, 85th Batt.; Surgeon-Major Campbell, R.R.C.I.; Major Young, R.R.C.I.; Major Ibbotson, 5th Royal Scots; Major Trotter, retired list; Capt. Chinic, Adj. R.R.C.I.; Captain Chambers, 6th Fusiliers; Capt. Findlay, 6th Fusiliers; Capt. Johnson, 84th Batt.; Lieut. Fages, R.R.C.I.; Lieut. Spearing, 53rd Batt.; Lieut. Taschereau, 87th Batt.; Lieut. Pare, 17th Batt.; Lieut. Rousseau, 84th Batt.; Lieut. Forbes, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. Meighan, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. Campbell, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. McAdam, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Lieut. W. B. Converse, 6th Fusiliers; Mr. Whatley, St. Johns, and Mr. Kelly, Montreal. The winter course, which finished March 31st, was a most successful one, there being 13 attached officers and about 40 rank and file.

Quebec.

For the first time since the Imperial Government withdrew its garrison a detachment of regular troops passed through Quebec on the night of March 20th, en route from England to the Pacific coast. Unusual as was the event it attracted but little attention, and very few people and not a single soldier were on hand to welcome them. The detachment consisted of 55 men of the Royal Marine Artillery under command of Major Rawstone. They came out by the Allan steamship "Laurentian," arriving at Halifax on the 20th ult, and after a somewhat long, but not unpleasant passage, they arrived at Levis shortly before 5 p.m. and crossed by ferry in the midst of a heavy snowstorm. The men were in heavy marching order, with overcoats strapped and without any protection from the weather other than the waterproof cape covering their shoulders. They, of course, wear the artillery uniform and white helmets, and the only difference between them and our own troops is that they wear white woollen gloves and have no spikes in their boots to give them a foothold in the snow. In spite of this they marched as if they had been accustomed to snow roads all their lives, although by their sunburned faces it was clear that they had been accustomed to warmer climates than that of Canada. They are fine, tall, well built men, every one of them, and would be a credit to any service. A more soldierlike body never trod the streets of Quebec. The Canadian Pacific railway had brought the commissariat cars down to within a quarter of a mile of the ferry and the men marched the intervening distance. Surgeon J. C. Wood, R.N., and Mrs. Rawstone and maid accompanied the detachment and with Maj. Rawstone dined at the Chateau Frontenac, the men being provided with supper aboard the cars. Major Rawstone and Surgeon Wood called on Colonel Montizambert, commandant at the Citadel, during the evening and left with the detachment by the Canadian Pacific railway train at 10 p.m. They are on their way to the fortifications at Equimaux to do garrison duty and mount guns on the new fortifications. This work is to be completed in five years. The men are all long service men, being enlisted for 21 years, short service not having been adopted in the Marines, and most of the men have put in from five to ten years in the service. Some have even put in from 15 to 20 years. Among them is a man who had a terrible experience. His name is James Sawyer and he was on board H. M. S. "Victoria" when she was run down and sunk. At the request of Major Rawstone he recounted his experience. He had just been relieved and gone to sleep when the accident occurred. He ran with

the rest to close the water-tight doors, and failing in that ran on deck. The collision nets were got out, but it was soon seen that the ship was doomed. All hands were piped aft, and soon the order was given, "every man for himself." The vessel had a heavy list, and those on deck had hardly time to climb over the upper side and jump into the sea when she toppled over and sunk, taking with her all the men who were below at the pumps. Sawyer says that on coming to the surface of the water he found himself badly bruised on the side and the clothing torn nearly off him. He, with some others got hold of a picket boat that had been upset, but too many of them got on one side of it and it turned over and sank, taking several men with it. Sawyer kept himself afloat till he got hold of a plank by which one of the sailors was sustaining himself and the both were picked up by one of the boats of the "Dreadnought." Mr. G. Blake, of the Canadian Pacific railway, accompanied the men to Vancouver, and all the railway officials have exerted themselves to the utmost to make the men as comfortable as possible and get them through with despatch.

Moosomin.

The old members of the Northwest Field Force living at Moosomin, N.W.T., met together on Monday, April 2nd, for dinner. The committee was composed as follows: Geo. B. Murphy, Transport; A. S. Christie, Midland Battalion; E. A. C. McLorg, Boulton's Scouts; Rev. W. Milton, Transport; B. A. G. Hamilton, Transport; French's Scouts, Hon. Secretary. The bill of fare was as follows:

- POTAGES.
Otter Soup. Strange Soup. Pea Soup.
 - POISSON.
Fish Creek Smelt. Hungry Souls from Clark's Crossing. Corned Beef on the half tin.
 - ENTREES.
Riel Cutlets. Big Bear Chops and Pound-maker sauce.
 - ROTI.
Roast Beef of Old England (Middledone). Irish Stew. Scotch Haggis. Chicago Grey Hound Pork.
 - GAME.
Red Legs a la Batoche. Green Lake Divers.
 - ENTREMETS.
Bois Prulee au Gratin. Les Buttes des hommes francals. Montizambert Cheese and Hard Tack.
 - DESSERT.
Grape Shot. Lead Plums
Ninepounder Pudding and Howard Sauce.
Cut Knives and Saskatchewan Forks sur la table.
 - WINES.
Guardposts Port. Saskatoon W(b)lne.
No Canned Brawn.
- "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

London.

One of the officers having kindly presented a silver dessert spoon to be shot for by the juniors, there was quite an interesting competition at the drill shed Tuesday, March 13th. The result was a tie between Color-Sergt. Jacobs and Sergt. Brown. After firing three shots at the longest distance it was still a tie, but the next shot Sergt. Jacobs scored a "bull" and his opponent only an "inner." The scores:

	200 Yards	500 Yards	T'l
2. Col.-Sergt. Jacobs.....	45455-23	33344-17	40
3. Sergt. Brown.....	44434-19	53343-18	3 40
2. Col.-Sergt. Allan.....	55344-23	45403-16	39
2. Lieut. Magee.....	44445-21	45340-16	37
2. Corp. Erskine.....	4444-20	43405-16	36
3. Corp. Shillington.....	44344-19	05045-14	3 36
2. Lieut. Allison.....	44535-21	04343-14	35
3. Corp. Becher.....	54344-20	30403-10	3 33
Tie shots—3 shots at 500 yards:			
Col.-Sergt. Jacobs.....	344-5	16	
Sergt. Brown.....	533-4	15	

Kingston.

Lieut.-Col. Straubenzie, who was second in command at Batoche, in the Northwest rebellion, says he thinks General Middleton should have been satisfied with \$20,000 voted him, and let the matter drop. Straubenzie says that when the proper time arrives he will take a hand in the Middleton-Houghton controversy. His statement is awaited with much eagerness.

OUR SERVICE CONTEMPORARIES.

In Forbes Mitchell's "Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny" we have a vivid picture of the valiant 93rd Regiment, the Sutherland Highlanders, a Highland regiment from top to bottom before it received an infusion of foreign elements after the "thin red line" had won their first honors in the Crimea. But even in the Balaclava epoch there was some infusion of English and Irish in the corps. More than one of the officers—Captain Cornwall, for example, and Dawson—were Irish, and there is mention made in Mr. Mitchell's work of several gallant deeds by privates of the same nationality belonging to the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders. In the "Reminiscences" we read of "Handy Andy, a thorough Paddy from Armagh, a soldier as true as the steel of a Damascus blade;" of "Tim Drury, a big stout fellow;" of "Clery, a most gallant soldier;" of "Patrick Doonan, a real Paddy of the Handy Andy type," &c., &c. Elsewhere will be found an extract from the *Observer* which states the sad truth respecting the present condition of the Highland regiments in the matter of recruiting. We believe a return of nationalities would show that the difficulties of recruiting Highland regiments in Scotland is increasing, and that the Lowlanders and the Hiberno-Scottish element in the large cities like Glasgow and Edinburgh contribute largely to the ranks of the so-called killed Highland corps.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

Lord Brassey argues in the *Times* in favor of "some limitation in the dimensions of our ships of war," and he offers for professional criticism the suggestion that "we may go back for the ideal of a fighting ship to that admiral example of the sea-keeping ironclad the *Alexandra*." He is in favor of:—

"Retaining all the leading features as they are represented in the *Alexandra*, from the bow to the central battery inclusive, the upper works abaft the battery might be cut down, and the after end of the ship armed with a well-armed turret, carrying a pair of heavy guns. The *Alexandra* is about 600 tons smaller than the *Centurion*. Keeping the dimensions at 10,000 tons, it might be possible to give some addition to length and to raise the indicated power from the 8,600 of the *Alexandra* to the 13,000 of the *Centurion*. Such an increase of power would probably secure a sufficient addition to the far from contemptible 14 knots which the *Alexandra* succeeded in maintaining with an admirable uniformity through a succession of commissions."

Passing in review the most recent addition to the fleets of France, Russia, Germany, the United States and Italy, Lord Brassey points out that the average displacement in each of these countries respectively is 9,990 tons, 9,720 tons, 10,033 tons, 9,656 tons and 9,862 tons. He asks, therefore, what are the reasons which

have led to the acceptance of a minimum standard of over 14,000 tons for ships of the British line of battle. He points out that whatever the size of the ship, the head of the officer in command remains, and must remain, as undefended in the heaviest ship as in the slenderest of torpedo boats. Thirdly, a like remark applies to the hull below the water line. He contends further that the fewer the ships—and of ships which cost over a million there must be comparatively few—the less chance of discovering those officers who are best qualified for command. He reminds us that in history will be found a warning that safety lies in numbers; and finally in support of the contention that in designing ships, hydrographical considerations cannot be entirely put aside, he instances the disadvantages under which ships labor if of great draught of water.

The adoption of smokeless powder in the Italian Army is likely to cost Italy dear. According to the *France Militaire*, the smokeless powder used by the Italian artillery has irreparably damaged a very large number of guns. The powder has produced such an effect upon the bores of the guns that some 500 have already been condemned and orders have been issued to considerably reduce the amount of gun practice. Enormous expense will in consequence be necessary to restore the Italian field artillery to its former state of efficiency, no less a sum than £8,000,000 being mentioned as the amount required. If the report as to guns being rendered practically useless through smokeless powder being used be correct, it will probably have an important effect on the development of these powders which has received such a stimulus of late years.

During the past year or two grave allegations have been made to the Secretary of War, by anonymous correspondents, to the effect that responsible officials at the Government Small Arms Repairing Works in Birmingham, known as the Tower, systematically received monetary considerations for setting men on as armorers, and that considerable sums were exacted from the men in order to ensure promotion and transference. In consequence of these complaints the War Secretary deputed Colonel W. H. King-Harman to make a thorough investigation on the spot. Many of the men employed at the Tower made statements, which were written down, and afterwards despatched to the War Office. This resulted in an order being sent on Tuesday to Lieut.-Col. Nuttall, who has charge of the Tower, to place Lieutenant and Quartermaster C. Locke and Sergt.-Major J. H. Murray under arrest. Sergt.-Major Murray is confined in the barracks at Birmingham, while Quartermaster Locke has been sent to Manchester. In the course of a few days a court of inquiry will be held, which will be presided over by an officer from Chester, and both Quartermaster Locke and Sergeant-Major Murray will be placed on trial. It should be stated that upon these officers devolved the appointment of men who wished to become armorers, while upon their recommendations depended the transference to the several regiments of the men who were skilled in their work.

Much adverse comment has been caused by the action of the Treasury in proposing to take advantage of the increased receipts of Chelsea Hospital by the letting of the sites for the Military and Naval Exhibitions of 1890-91, and the lease of the Gordon House grounds for building plots, which has been partly applied in

the giving additional bounties to in-pensioners. The country, it is thought, will not agree with the Treasury, that on the assumption that if the endowments of the hospital had been sufficient to provide the inmates with pocket money, the provision for the pay of in-pensioners now inserted in the Army Vote would not have been made; that some reduction should be made in the latter, and the in-pensioners deprived of part of the benefit the Chelsea Hospital Commissioners have by their efforts been able to confer on them.

The Navy Estimates for 1894-95 amount to a net total of £17,366,100, or £3,126,000 more than the sum voted for 1893-94. This large increase is due chiefly to ship-building, armaments, manning, victualling, new works, and Royal Naval Reserves.

In 1893-94 the net estimate of the numbers of officers, seamen, boys, Coastguard, and Royal Marines was 76,700. A force of 83,400 is proposed for 1894-95, being an increase of 6,700. Part of this increase (about 1,600) is automatic, and arises as the boys from the training ships (3,700 of whom are entered annually) are drafted into the Service. It is proposed to enter 800 seamen direct from the mercantile marine and other sources in order to meet present wants. It is proposed to add 350 engine-room artificers to the Fleet. The increase desired in the number of stokers amounts to 2,450. It is proposed to repeat the increase of 500 made last year in the Royal Marines, which will bring up the total to 15,500. The new torpedo-boat destroyers now being built will also involve a considerable increase, particularly in the engine-room rating.

The War Office has purchased a stretch of land three miles in length on the seashore, extending from Lydd to Dungeness Point, for the purpose of carrying out important experiments with machine guns and smokeless powder for heavy artillery. New ranges have been constructed at Holmstone Camp, and a number of new "revetments" for cannon have been placed on the seashore, and the camp, which has hitherto been used during the summer only, will be made a permanent military station, extensive barrack accommodation having been made for troops in the winter.

Major H. H. Prior would seem just to have got his command of the 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment, Royal Canadians, in time, for he became liable to retirement for age on the day following the announcement of his promotion in the *London Gazette*. There are reasons why Lieutenant-Colonel Prior should consider himself lucky in getting his command at all. As it was it took the military authorities some three months to fill the vacancy which was created by the lapse of Lieutenant-Colonel G. Poiguand's term of command on December 3 last.

Lieutenant-General J. W. Laurie, late 4th King's Own, will, we understand, contest the Pembroke Burghs at the next general election. He was formerly member of the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia. He served in the Crimean campaign, and came out with two wounds and a mention in despatches. He was staff officer of a field force during the latter period of the Indian mutiny. Major Laurie was one of the officers sent to Canada on special service in 1861. The Canadian war medal came to him for service in the North-West territories. As Red Cross Commissioner with the Servain Army, he went through the Bulgarian campaign of 1885-86. He

is brother of Colonel Julius Dyson-Laurie, late 34th Regiment, and is Master Saddlers' Company.—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

The discussion regarding the merits and disadvantages attendant on sponsons, which had of late greatly subsided, is being renewed with increased vigor as a result of the naval and dockyard officials at the several home ports having received directions from the Admiralty to fit sponsons in ships of the *Astræa* class for the two foremost and two aft 4 7-inch quick-firing guns. The re-introduction of the sponson system, which, it is noted, is to be adopted even for vessels of that class which are already completed, is believed to be due to the report of a special committee.

The opponents to the system point out that not only do sponsons cause vessels to roll considerably, but the large quantities of water consequently shipped cannot get clear of the decks owing to the wells formed by the sponsons. On the other hand, the example of France and other countries is pointed to, and the advantage insisted upon of the two foremost broadside guns being able to fire right ahead, and the two aft broadside guns right astern, instead of their fire being limited, as at present to 60 degrees before and aft the beam.

A telegram from Victoria, British Columbia, states that "the contracts for land transport in connection with the fortifications at Esquimalt have been awarded. The defences will consist of a number of Moncrieff pits, from which the guns will be brought up into firing position by means of elevators, the guns disappearing again into the pits after each discharge."

The Royal Canadians.

The following interesting paragraphs were published and circulated for the information of all ranks in the 1st Battalion Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians 100th), while stationed in Fort William, Calcutta, India, 1887-88:

"A copy of a report of a committee of the Honorable the Privy Council of Canada, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Canada, on the 27th of February, 1888, is published for information. On a report, dated 28th February, 1888, from the Minister of Militia and Defence, stating with reference to the 19th July, 1887, upon the subject of the offer to the Dominion of Canada of the original colors of the 1st Battalion, Leinster Regiment (the Prince of Wales' Royal Canadians), as mentioned in the despatch, dated 30th April, 1887, from the Right Honorable, the Secretary of State for the colonies, that he has received from the officer commanding the 1st Battalion of the regiment through the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State for Canada, the original colors of that regiment. The minister observes that Lieut.-Colonel Colium who was deputed on behalf of the Lieut.-Colonel commanding, the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the corps, to present the colors to the Canadian Government, has accompanied them with a very courteous letter, expressing the most cordial sentiments on the part of the regiment towards the country of its origin, and a desire that the ties of its connection may be bound closer by some practical means.

"The minister recommends that a copy of this letter be published in general orders, for the information, more especially of the militia force of the Dominion.

"The committee advise that your Excellency be moved to carry the cordial thanks of the Canadian Government, through the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the colonies, and the proper military channel, to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment (the Prince of Wales' Royal Canadians), together with the intimation that the Library of Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, at Ottawa, has been settled as the final resting place of these colors, which form such an interesting link in historical connection between Her Majesty's army and this portion of her empire.

"The committee further advise that the High Commissioner for Canada be informed of the action taken by the Canadian Government in answer to his despatch of the 12th September last, with reference to the subject under consideration.

"All of which is respectfully submitted for your Excellency's approval.

"(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE,
"Clerk Privy Council."

Tactics in Matabele Land. Luck or Skill?

(By Colonel F. Maurice, C.B., in the *United Service Magazine*.)

From many sources we have now received information which enables us to judge of the character of the operations which were conducted by the South African Company's forces against the Matabele. In particular, the graphic account by Sir Gerald Portal, published in the *Times*, gives most of the necessary details. They seem to be well worthy of study as a practical lesson in the conduct of such undertakings. The question in the first instance is whether the success which attended them was accidental and due to good luck alone, or whether there were sound reasons of good sense and right judgment, which determined the course pursued by the invaders, and whether it may be possible to apply in the future some of the experiences which the campaign has supplied.

When the first brief reports came to England of the movements of the columns, it appeared as if three separate bodies without any connection with one another had advanced towards the capital, Bulawayo. Not a few well-informed soldiers in England, and doubtless on the Continent also, were disposed to laugh at a method of warfare which appeared to violate every known principle of success. It is hardly too much to say that not soldiers only, but almost every well-informed Englishman is aware that the principle of which Napoleon continually availed himself in warfare was to take advantage of such a separation of his enemies, to concentrate his forces against one body, and having overwhelmed it, to turn with his still superior strength against each of the others in succession. Nor has experience failed to show us that in general terms the principle, thus exhibited on a large scale by Napoleon and many other soldiers, is true, also in cases where smaller bodies of troops are engaged. The inference was therefore not unnaturally drawn by many critics that the only cause of success of the colonial troops was the fact that their enemy did not understand the advantages of his position, and that the expedition would have failed if the whole Matabele army had been thrown upon one of the isolated

column. Now with all humility I venture to say that I do not think that that is so. If I set forth the reasons for my opinion, it may at least lead others to consider the question under different aspects from those under which they have hitherto treated it. Who actually thought out the conditions of the the movement we hardly at present know. Sir John Willoughby is said to have been the military advisor of Dr. Jameson. In my judgment, if Sir John Willoughby thought out the method of the advance, he has shown a very considerable capacity for the application of sound principles to peculiar circumstances. If Dr. Jameson was the real author of the movement, then I think that he deserves similar credit. In the first place, it must be remembered that in order that a concentrated force shall be able to take advantage of its superiority against three separate columns, it must be strong enough to be able to crush one of them, to break up its organization, and destroy it as a military force before the body so attacked can be supported by others. Secondly, it must be in a position such that it can reach one of the columns before that column has joined another. Even on the large scale, in considering the proposed invasion of France in 1815, Wellington laid it down as a maxim that the several armies of the allies advancing against Napoleon were perfectly safe as long as each of the bodies on which he was able to direct his attack was strong enough to hold its own against him. The common sense of that statement is so obvious that it is curious how often it is forgotten in discussing military operations.

I now turn to the consideration of the actual movement as it was made. Practically the real invading force, so far as Dr. Jameson and Sir J. Willoughby were concerned, was at first divided into two columns. The third column consisted of the Imperial troops, supported by a large body of native auxiliaries. It was very well able to hold its own against any force that was likely to be brought against it, and from the nature of the country through which it had to pass it was difficult for the enemy to approach this column before such pressure had been brought to bear by the other two columns as would necessarily draw off attack from it. As it in fact had very little share in the operations till Bulawayo was reached, the real question of interest concerns the other two columns, and their movements I now propose to consider.

In the first place, it is to be noted that an admirable system of scouting had been carried on prior to the advance of the two columns. The ground had been so thoroughly searched to such a distance in front that it had been ascertained that there was no enemy within several days' reach of the column, and that if they advanced from the two positions in which they were placed at Charter and Victoria they could reach a point of junction at the Ironstone Mountain, out of reach of the enemy's attack. It was much easier and quicker to move in separate bodies for the purposes of the march to this point, and, in view of the information thus obtained, there could be no risk in such a movement. Next note the constitution of the columns. Each was provided with sixteen waggons. By careful training each of the columns had been taught to be able, when on the march, to form an oval laager within six minutes. As soon as the two forces from Victoria and Charter had joined, they moved in two parallel columns, each being formed with two waggons abreast. The two columns of waggons kept at a distance from one another of 150 yards. The greatest caution was observed in the conduct of the march. If incidents occurred,

such as are common in South African movement, of a waggon from any cause breaking down, the whole force was halted or checked till the mischief had been repaired, so that the regularity of the formation was never broken. Between the two columns of waggons, with each of which there were some 280 well-armed burghers, there marched a native contingent of 500 Mashonas and a certain number of diemounted burghers. The natives had been trained, whilst each column was forming its oval laager, to cut down branches of prickly pear such as were everywhere available. With these the natives formed a strong abattis which closed the front and rear of the opening between the two ovals. When the whole defensive laager was complete, the Salisbury column of waggons formed the right oval, the Victoria column the left, the front and rear connecting them was closed by the abattis. The machine-guns and 7-lb. field-guns were distributed in assigned positions between the waggons, from beneath which the burghers were able to fire with their own repeating rifles in such a way as to cover the whole front. Even in the days of Boer invasion of Zululand, long before a breechloader or a repeating rifle had been heard of, a laager, much inferior to this, had proved altogether unassailable by the most gallant natives. With the advantage of Maxims, Gardiners, and Nordenfelta, and with repeating rifles, it was certain that the fire would be so deadly that no increase in the numbers of natives, that could be brought to attack it, would do more than add to the extent of the target for these terrible weapons, provided the laager could be placed in such a position that there was range for effective fire. As had been proved by prior colonial experience, and as might be judged as a matter of common sense, the only danger of defeat by the natives lay in the possibility of the columns being caught on the march whilst the oxen were still in the waggons, and while there would be no defensive position from which to pour out an effective fire. That danger was amply provided against in several ways. In the first place, by the distant scouting, which had been carried on by mounted parties detached from the columns for four or five days at a time, general information had been obtained as to the whereabouts of the enemy. Throughout the march mounted scouting parties moved five miles ahead of both columns. An advance guard of forty men marched one mile ahead a rear guard of similar numbers, and flanking parties each also of forty men moved at a distance of about a mile from the columns. Thus it was impossible that the column should be attacked without ample notice: and as six minutes only were required to change from the formation of movement to the formation of defence, it is difficult to see what risk the column ran in any emergency. As might have been seen beforehand, and, as the event proved, victory was certain, if only the column was laagered before it was attacked. So easy was the method adopted for forming the laager, that there was no inconvenience in taking up the defensive position whenever the halt was ordered, either by day or by night. All that was necessary was that the two leading waggons in both double columns should turn in towards one another; The two rearmost waggons doing the same, the other waggons widening out right and left so as to extend the oval; the machine guns being then run into their positions. The horses were then tethered to three or four parallel lines of cord running the long way of the oval, and the oxen and gun-mules strongly tethered between the two ovals.

Now not only were the two columns with their small number of less than 300 men

each safe under this arrangement against any attack that could be made upon them, but they were much safer than larger bodies would have been. A large force of several thousand men would have required hundreds of waggons. A long column of many waggons could not have been laagered without great delay. Therefore the risk of such a force being caught on the march, or caught unprepared, as our troops were at Isandlwana, would have been indefinitely increased. To me it seems that the method which was adopted against the Matabele would have equally succeeded against the Zulus, and that the vast numbers of troops that were employed in the earlier stages of the contest against Ketchwayo not only added unnecessarily and enormously to the expense of the campaign, but involved unnecessary risks which would have been avoided by the employment of a smaller force perfectly equipped, thoroughly trained in the use of their weapons and accustomed to the simple operations employed in the Matabele campaign. If I am right, very great credit attaches to the organiser of the expedition, and he ought to be unearthed, in this sense, that we want to know who the man was, whether Dr. Jameson or Sir John Willoughby, who so clearly saw through the conditions that were to be involved in the fighting of the campaign as to apply to them exactly the methods that were necessary for success.

Nor is that all. It seems to me that if the statement of facts which I have here set forth be correct, then it follows that the Matabele campaign was, in no wise whatever, as has been alleged, a brutal massacre, in which those who enlisted in the warfare could tell beforehand that they are going to have a simple walk over without serious risk of heavy loss. It depends, as the success of military operations generally does, upon the skill of the leader, the confidence of his men in him, and the perfection of the training given to them adapted to the particular circumstances of the case. If, as those who knew nothing of Dr. Jameson or Sir John Willoughby beforehand were naturally inclined to suspect might be the case, they had shown themselves incapable of organising and leading such an expedition, the burghers who embarked in it would almost certainly have been massacred by the by no means despicable enemy against whom they advanced.

It is usual in the judgment which is formed by people at home of the success of any of our campaigns, to take for granted that if everything has gone well then the enemy must have despicable. My own conviction is that in this instance, as in many more, the skill with which the operations have been conducted causes the rapid and comparatively bloodless success, and has thereby left an impression of feebleness or want of will on the part of the enemy, which is altogether out of keeping with what we have known of them in part African history. A very slight error in judgment on the part of the leaders of the expedition would have left a very different impression of the fighting qualities of the Matabele, who were a particularly warlike offshoot from the tribe which taught us at Isandlwana what formidable antagonists they could do.

Of course, the moment any misfortune occurs, everybody is disposed to say that it was a great mistake to have incurred the risk from which is resulted. I cannot, however myself, see that it was a mistake, after the complete defeat of the Matabele, to send out comparatively small parties in pursuit of the king. General experience has shown that when once the spirit of a warlike tribe has been broken, the former warriors are very little disposed to take advantage of the small numbers at

any given spot of those that have defeated them. During the pursuit of Ketchwayo, Lord Gifford and I, with only three men, were for several days following as close as we could upon the trail of the king, and as we were riding about forty miles a day with nothing with us but what we had on our saddles, we had to obtain our food from the villages filled with youths who had recently been fighting against us. During that time we never met with the smallest opposition, and should certainly have endeavoured to lay hands on the king wherever we found him, if we had been fortunate enough to come up with him. It seems to me, therefore, and I may here speak from tolerably direct personal experience, that the disaster to the pursuing column in Matabeleland was a bit of bad luck such as it is impossible to avoid in war; that at all events the heads of the expedition are in no way to blame for the misfortune. They did what was the right thing to do under the circumstances, and they could do no more.

DRILL BOOK BLUNDERS.

An observant militiaman here submits a few questions for the compilers of the Manual Firing and Bayonet Exercises for the use of the Canadian Militia.

MANUAL EXERCISES.

As there are no instructions for the right hand to assist in unfixing or returning the sword bayonet, do they expect that weapon to jump to the scabbard, or remain suspended in the air after it has been "gently raised off the muzzle of the rifle with the left hand?"

In performing the review exercise, the last order given is to "unfix bayonets (or swords)," although no order is given to fix them, how can the former be done without the latter?

Where can the instructions for the "recover arms" be found?

AT "THE PORT" ON THE CHARGE.

The instructions in the Infantry drill for this movement state distinctly that in charging, the rear rank will continue to move at the slope. The rifle exercise books say the rear rank will come to "the port," breaking into double-time, remaining at "the port."

Militia general order says both of those instructions are to be strictly adhered to; how can that be done?

FIRING EXERCISE.

How can a man get his ammunition to load with if he holds the rifle close above his pouch?

What is the difference between individual firing and independent firing? The writer can discover none except that the latter is not taught by numbers, and the instructor has to point out some object to be aimed at. If no other difference, why have two names for one exercise?

GUARD MOUNTING.

On page 192 the corporal of the old guard is instructed to bring in the old sentries and "dismiss" them, while on page 104 is stated every relief is to be regularly inspected before going to, and also on "returning" from its post. Which is correct?

BAYONET EXERCISE.

Review exercise, section 7, page 213.—For this exercise the company will be drawn up as in line.

Page 214.—When the exercise is completed line will be formed as follows: "Shoulder arms, form line, quick march. The ranks in rear will move to their proper places." As there is no command nor instructions for men to move to the rear, how did they get there?—*Toronto Telegram*.

Cromwell and the New Model.

At a meeting of the Military Society of Ireland, held in Dublin on February 28, Col. F. A. Le Mesurier, C.B., R.E., delivered a lecture on "Cromwell and the New Model." The chair was occupied by Viscount Wolseley.

The chairman said it was not very long since Judge O'Connor Morris had delivered a lecture on the same subject as that chosen by Colonel Le Mesurier, who, however, had pursued the subject still further, and he was sure they would all be interested in it.

Colonel Le Mesurier, in the course of his lecture, said the adoption of the new model certainly coincided with the turning point of the history of the civil war. To explain the amount of change effected in the army he proposed to inquire, first, what the old model really was, and then to compare its effect with the results that followed the introduction of the new. In those days there were four different kinds of mounted soldiers. Three were of cavalry, the Cuirassiers, the Arquebusiers, and the Carabiniers. The other mounted troop was called dragoons. The cavalry were armed with defensive armour from head to foot. Their offensive armour consisted of a sword and two pistols. Their horses were obliged to be, at least, 15 hands high, to carry the weight of the man and the armour. The Arquebusiers had defensive armour, but not to the same extent. They had an open casque and breastplate. They also had a sword and pistol, and an arquebuse, which was 30 inches long, and carried a bullet seventeen to the pound. The Carabiniers were armed in the same way as the Arquebusiers, except with regard to their firearm, which was a carbine 27 inches long. Then came the dragoons, who were merely infantry mounted. It was necessary that their horses should be swift, for, though they fought as infantry, they always worked with cavalry. They were armed as ordinary foot musketeers, part of them having muskets and part of them pikes. The lecturer read extracts from a drill-book published about this time, to show the cumbersome manipulation which the musket of that day required. He explained what the form of battle at this period was like, and then referred to the battle of Edge Hill, the relief of Gloucester, the battles of Newbury, Marston Moor, and Naseby, which he described in some detail. The new model was adopted in 1644. All members of Parliament were to resign their commissions in the army, which was no longer to be controlled by a Parliamentary Committee. A commander-in-chief was to be appointed, and Fairfax was the first chosen for that position. Cromwell was appointed Lieutenant-General of Horse, being second in command. How this new model grew under Cromwell afterwards and increased in power and unity and size, and became the most efficient army in Europe, was familiar to most of them. Cromwell was certainly the greatest cavalry officer of his time, and perhaps of all time. He knew well the power of his own army, but he also knew the limit of that power. One thing he did was to rid the army of politicians. In several other respects he left a mark upon the army the influence of which was felt even at the present time. The lecturer concluded by an eloquent tribute to the devotion of the modern British soldier to "the Queen's flag."

Viscount Wolseley expressed, on the part of all present, their acknowledgments for the interesting lecture which they had been favored with. Cromwell, he said, was the greatest ruler they had had in England, and whatever feeling they had about the House of Stuart, they must all agree upon this point. They had come to a period when they were not ashamed to

recognize that Cromwell was a great ruler, and was not the humbug and charlatan which some historians had called him. The military period to which the lecturer had referred was a very interesting one from an army point of view. The regiments in the British army did not date as far back as the time of Cromwell, but they dated back to the period of the Restoration. Many of their oldest regiments—for instance, the Royal Dragoons—dated from the time of the Restoration, and they were in many instances composed of men who had fought under Cromwell. Although the expression Dragoons was used at that period, the Dragoons were not really incorporated as a regiment till some years after. They were Mounted Infantry, and remained so for nearly a century. The arms to which the lecturer referred might be studied by anyone who paid a visit to the Royal Hospital, where there were specimens of early muskets, and pikes some fourteen or sixteen feet long. There were also at the Royal Hospital a number of helmets, or pots, as they were called; buff-jerkins, and swords of that period.

The proceedings then concluded.

The Late Baron de Rottenburg.

Baron George de Rottenburg, C. B., who died at Windsor on Sunday last in his 87th year, was a well-known man in days gone by. He was a great favourite in society, and possessed many rare and charming accomplishments. Born in 1807, he entered the British Service in 1825 as ensign in the 81st Regiment, and became a colonel in the Army in 1854. In his early days he served with Sir de Lacy Evans in Spain, and used to tell many interesting anecdotes of his experiences. He described how, on one occasion, he was present when a regiment was ordered to be decimated for cowardice before the enemy; each tenth man being called out from the line and shot. One of them, a French nobleman, was marked for execution. He was a brave man, and proudly met his death without a murmur, saying he willingly died in the cause of discipline. He had joined the ranks as a volunteer, and happened to be one of the few who had stood by his officers; but he was a "tenth" man in the line and met his fate without remonstrance. Colonel de Rottenburg did good service during the Canadian Rebellion of 1837-38, in command of a large force of militia; and was afterwards adjutant general in Canada. In 1859 he raised and commanded the 100th Royal Canadian Regiment, and retired in 1861. Beloved by the men, many of whom at that time were of good old English and French families, descendants of officers of the old British and French regiments, he brought his fine regiment up to a high standard of excellence notwithstanding the difficulties to had to encounter. A good many of the junior officers were Canadians, French and English, and at one time there was a little unpleasantness because the Canadians would speak French at mess. Finally, one of the senior officers, who had been promoted into the 100th from another regiment, complained to the commanding officer that the Canadians were in the habit of conversing in French, and the English officers imagined that they were the subjects of conversation in that unknown tongue. Baron de Rottenburg listened to the complaint, and remarked the Canadian officers were all true gentlemen and unlikely to make disparaging remarks, at the same time adding, "I regard it that to speak French is a very graceful accomplishment, and I recommend those who can't converse in that language to learn to do so as soon as possible." Colonel de Rottenburg married twice, but had no family.—*Broad Arrow*.

THE RIFLEMEN.

Rifle Shooting at Banff.

On Friday the 16th March, a friendly rifle match took place between the North West Mounted Police under Inspector Hooper's command and the Civilians of this place, which resulted in a victory for the former, by 13 points. The range was 200 yards, any military rifle. The following is the score:

POLICE.		CIVILIANS.	
Inspector Harper	22	N. B. Sanson	23
Sergt. Brookes	23	W. Jack	22
Corp Aston	22	F. E. Young	21
Const. Noice	21	Dr. H. Simpson	18
Const. McKellar	22	Sam Harrison	16
Const. Peckett	18	I. Jangea	15
	128		115

On St. Patrick's Day the return match between Banff and Canmore was shot off at Banff, the latter winning this time by 5 points. The shooting of some of the Banffites not being as good as heretofore. Mr. Jack unfortunately breaking his eyeglasses, was unable to bring his score up to his average. This match like the former was at 200 yards with any military rifle and for a sweepstake.

The weather was delightful, and a number of the fair sex from both Banff and Canmore were on the ground, much interested in their respective champions. A comfortable tent with a stove in it was pitched on the ground in which hot coffee, &c. was dispensed by the home riflemen to the ladies and guests.

The result of the match having made things equal between the rival marksmen, Banff having won previously, a deciding contest will take place at Canmore on the 28th inst., the result of which is looked forward to with much interest. The following is the score:

BANFF.		CANMORE.	
Inspector Harper	21	J. Stocks	23
N. B. Sanson	22	J. Brown	23
Const. Noice	22	Corp Aston N.W.M.P.	20
Sergt. Brookes	21	W. Brown	20
W. Jack	16	W. C. Stewart	17
F. E. Young	12	H. Baker	16
	114		119

The prizes which were 5 in number together with a box of cigars given by manager Scarth of the Sanitarium to the victorious team were won as follows: 1st J. Brown, Canmore; 2nd J. Stock, Canmore; 3rd N. B. Sanson, Banff; 4th Const. Noice, Banff; 5th Sergt. Brookes, Banff.

After the match the Banff riflemen entertained their guests at a most *recherche* dinner at the Sanitarium, and after the good things had been disposed of followed by the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the whole party adjourned to the sitting room, where, with Insep. Harper in the chair a most enthusiastic meeting was held for the purpose of forming a rifle association.

An association has consequently been formed called "The Rocky Mts. Rifle Ass'n." to be under the patronage of the Lieut. Governor of the N.W.T., and the following officers have been elected: President, Capt. Stewart, superintendent of the R.M. Parks; vice-president, Insep. Harper, N.W.M.P.; 1st vice-pres., Mr. John Cardell, Canmore; 2nd vice-pres., Dr. Simpson; treas. Mr. John Stocks, Canmore; Sec., Mr. N. B. Sanson, Banff. A large number of residents of the Parks and Bow River Valley, have already signified their intention of becoming members of the association, and Supt Stewart of the R. Mts. Parks has promised in the near future to lay out a first class range, which from the nature of the ground here several choice selections can be made. We hope therefore ere long, to see our riflemen returning from the east laden with trophies of victory won on the ranges of the Dominion association.

N. W. M. P. vs. Civilians.

A friendly rifle match between Capt. Harper's command N.W.M.P. and the Civilians was held at Banff, Friday 16th March, resulting in a victory for the Police. Range 200 yards, 5 shots. The following are the scores:

N. W. M. P.		CIVILIANS.	
Capt. Harper	22	N. B. Sanson	23
Sergt. Brookes	23	W. Jack	22
Corp. Aston	22	F. Young	21
Const. McKellar	22	Dr. H. Simpson	18
Const. F. Noice	21	S. Harrison	16
Const. Peckett	18	J. Jansen	15
Total	128		115

40th Batt Rifle Association.

The first annual meeting of the 40th Batt. Rifle Association was held in the council chamber, Ferris block, Campbellford, on Thursday evening, March 22. A constitution and set of by-laws was thoroughly discussed and upon motion, adopted. The association was then informed that the ranges would be at its disposal for the current year, upon the same very favorable terms as for 1893. The following was the result of the election of officers: Patron, Warden C. L. Owen; Hon. Pres., Lt.-Col. R. Z. Rogers; Pres., C. S. Gillispie; Vice-Pres., Capt. Bonnycastle; Sec.-Treas., Capt. Hamilton. Committee, J. L. Richmond, Sergt. Blue, M. Scott, T. G. Gillespie, John Johnson; Range Officer, E. A. Bog. This youngest of Rifle Association begins its career with every prospect of continued success.

Dominion Riflemen Meet.

Lord Aberdeen Speaks—He Wishes the Association All Possible Success. Minister of Militia on the New Rifle.

OTTAWA, April 4.—The annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association was held in the Railway committee room of the House of Commons, this morning, the president of the association, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, in the chair. The attendance was rather larger than usual, which was probably due to some extent to the fact that this was the first meeting since the appointment of Lord Aberdeen as Governor-General, and the members of the association appeared anxious to do honor to their new patron. His Excellency arrived promptly on time, and Col. Gibson at once proceeded to business by calling the meeting to order and calling for motions.

The annual report was received as read and adopted.

Col. Denieou, in moving the adoption, called attention, as commander of the Bisley team last year, to the disadvantages the team labored under, and suggested that, if possible, it be so arranged in future that the twenty men should not all start at the same time.

Major Hughes moved, seconded by Mr. J. B. Mills, M.P., a vote of thanks to His Excellency for his presence, and expressing satisfaction at his accepting the position of patron and for the interest he had already shown in rifle shooting.

Lord Aberdeen said that he was both gratified and surprised at the heartiness with which the vote was carried; but his surprise was somewhat lessened when he considered that perhaps the association would like to know what was to be ex-

pected from him. Well, he could only say that he would take his share in promoting what he regarded as a great national patriotic work. (Applause.) Anyone reviewing the work of the association cannot fail to be struck by the manner in which the association carried on its work. He referred to the Bisley team, which he described as "an embassy of honor," and expressed pleasure at the manner in which the team had acquitted itself. Although they had not carried off the great prize they had done exceedingly well, and taken some £80 in prizes. He thought the team should, if possible, be in England a few days before the matches commenced at Bisley, so as to get their land legs after the voyage. He hoped that next year the team would gain even greater distinction than last year, and do honor not only to themselves, but to the association and to Canada. (Applause.) It would be strange if anyone holding the high position he did should not feel an interest in rifle shooting, and he begged to assure the association that he heartily sympathized with its aims and objects, and would do all in his power to promote them. (Cheers.)

In putting the vote of thanks to the Hon. J. C. Patterson, Minister of Militia, moved by Lieut.-Col. Starke, the chairman said that in the Minister of Militia the D.R.A. had a true friend. The chairman also took occasion to express approval of the grants made by the Dominion Government, and suggested that a little further liberality would not be displeasing to either side of the House.

Hon. Mr. Patterson in reply acknowledged the cordial support given to him by members of the House, irrespective of politics.

General Herbert expressed his disappointment at not being able to lay on the table one of the new rifles, which were now on the way from the old country. He was certain that when the rifles arrived they would give satisfaction. Nine thousand of them would be available in the course of a few months. He hoped to make arrangements for conversion of Martini-Henris, which were the private property of individual riflemen, as well as those belonging to the force. From the experiments he had seen at Enfield, he formed a high opinion of the Martini-Metford rifle, and for the purposes of the Canadian militia he believed it was a superior weapon to the Lee-Netford, with which the forces were armed in the old country. General Herbert pointed out that the simple possession of rifles was no good unless the weapon was well looked after and ranges were provided for practice. Double the old training was required for a recruit in the British army nowadays, 200 rounds being required instead of 60. From a citizen force they could not expect so much, but he thought rifles, ranges and ammunition should be provided for practice. (Applause.)

Several votes of thanks were passed, including one to Messrs. S. Davis & Sons, of Montreal, for the gift of a challenge

prize worth \$200. A vote of thanks to Col. F. Henshaw, of Montreal, president of the council, for subscription of \$100, was accompanied by a happy reference to his approaching marriage, which provoked from Col. Henshaw an equally happy response. With a partner in life, his interest in the work of the association would be doubled, and he should always be glad to do anything he could. (Applause.) He hoped the deficit of last year would be wiped out, and that the wealthy men of the Dominion would double the income of the association. He made an earnest appeal for increased subscriptions.

The proceedings closed with the election of officers, which resulted in the selection of Lieutenant-Colonel Gibson as president, and the same vice-presidents as last year, with the exception of Lieutenant-Colonel Beard being substituted for the late Lieutenant-Colonel Botsford in New Brunswick, Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Macdonald for Mr. Kaulbach, M.P., in Nova Scotia, and Lieutenant-Colonel Prior in place of Senator Macdonald in British Columbia. After the meeting the council met and re-elected Lieutenant-Colonel Henshaw as chairman.

After the D. R. A. meeting to day Lieutenant-Colonel Gibson, president of the association, entertained His Excellency the Governor-General and about one hundred other guests at luncheon in the Senate restaurant. Amongst those present were: Hon. J. C. Patterson, minister of militia; Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. L. H. Davies.

Reminiscences of Wimbledon

FREDERICTON, 6th April, 1894.

Editor Canadian Military Gazette:

In reading over the last issue of the GAZETTE I notice some comments on the life of the late Major Pearse, the Queen's prizeman of 1875, at Wimbledon, and events of years ago came back to memory. I was a member of the Canadian team of that year, which you will perhaps remember was a red letter year for the Canadian team, for we won the Kolapore Cup, roll-up the largest majority in the history of the match. Canadians, 635; mother country, 601; besides getting several men into the Queen's 60, as it was then. Major Pearse as the winner of Queen's of that year was the hero of the hour. It was common talk on the range that Pearse had a presentiment he was to win the Queen's and I believe expressed himself so before the match, but, be that as it may, he carried off his honors well and his tall handsome bearing and kindly manner won the admiration of all, certainly a strong contrast to a canny Scot who was the winner some years before. The story goes, in fact I was almost an eye witness myself, that when the presentation was made by Princess May of Teck, he, after receiving the bag of sovereigns from royal hands, made bold to count them in the presence of the whole assemblage. Another reminiscence in the life of Major Pearse occurred in the year 1878, at Wimbledon. We had been

unluckily firing the Kolapore match at the conclusion of which, by the way, one of our team Sgt. Weyman made a magnificent score of 91 points at Queen's ranges, Snider rifle. It was a very hot day with dancing light, and as a result such a score as above was nothing less than a marvel, especially as the weapon used was an ordinary rack rifle, with the browning all worn off, and the stock presenting that appearance usually to be seen in country armouries after a twelve days camp. Addressing Pearse I said, "Major, have you anything like this?" for it was the finest score with Snider rifle made at Wimbledon that year. He replied excitedly, "show the man that made that score in such a light and I will show you the best man on Wimbledon common." It is useless to say how proud I was to do honors, and although we lost the cup, Weyman's score was a solace in an hour of disappointment.

T. G. LOGGIE.

48th Highlanders.

"Company, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, had a very enjoyable smoking concert on March 20th, right in the ambulance room at old Upper Canada College Barracks. There was a large attendance of the members of the regiment. Capt. Currie and Lieut. Campbell, the company officers, presided. An excellent programme of songs, recitations, and instrumental music was furnished by the members of the company and their friends. Piper Trenam gave some fine bagpipe music. The affair was very successful.

The first annual banquet of the Bugle Corps of the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, was held in Webb's parlours in that city on March 21st, and was a great success.

The chair was occupied by Bugle-Major Robertson, who performed his duties in a soldier-like manner. Among the guests were Major Macdonald, Capt. McGillivray, Lieut. Ramsay, Mr. Alex. Muir, author of "The Maple Leaf Forever," Piper-Major Ireland, Trumpet-Major Belcher, G.G.B.G., Bugle-Major C. Swift, Q.O.R., Bugle-Major Farmer, R.G., Professor Carkeek, Messrs. R. Bennett, Bert Kennedy, and others. The members of the band present were, besides the chairman, Sergt. McKim, Corporals F. Kennedy and D. Collie, Buglers C. Lamb, C. Asher, J. Thomson, J. Parkinson, T. Dobie, J. Banks, J. Russell, R. Kerr, A. McKenzie, D. Stewart, B. L. Selby, H. Urquhart, A. Kemp, J. Miller, F. Taylor, F. Ford, and A. Shedden. Lieut.-Col. Davidson was unable to be present, and sent a letter of regret. The toasts were "The Queen and Royal Family," "Our Commanding Officers," drunk with Highland honors, and responded to by Major Macdonald and Capt. McGillivray. "Canada" was responded to by Mr. Alex. Muir in a rousing patriotic speech. "Canadian Militia" brought speeches from Major Macdonald and Lieut. Ramsay. "Our Brother Buglers" was suitably acknowledged by Trumpet-Major Belcher, G.G.B.G., Bugle-Major Swift, Q.O.R., and Drum-Major Farmer, R.G. "Our Guests" was responded to by Pipe-Major Ireland and Mr. Bert Kennedy. Bugler Thomson responded for "The Ladies," and the toast of "The Press" concluded a most enjoyable and enthusiastic gathering. During the evening Professor Carkeek rendered some excellent piano solos, Mr. Bennett sang some fine comic songs, Messrs. Anderson and Parkinson gave guitar and mandolin solos, Piper Tramholm a violin solo, and piano and guitar solos by Messrs. Williams and Kennedy.

The Grenadiers.

After the long Lenten abstinence the Grenadiers' assembly, almost the sole joy from society's point of view, of Easter week, came off March 27th with all the greater zest on account of the relief. For the first time the event took place in the new Confederation Life Building, Toronto, where Mrs. Blackstock gave her charming dance last winter. The hall was artistically adorned. Some 300 guests were present, but among them were missed the faces of the Government house party, owing to Lady Macpherson's death. On this account the formality of the opening lancers was dispensed with. There were several new numbers on the programme, including a two-step by Sousa, the master of two-step composition, entitled "Liberty Bell." The committee was composed of Major Bruce, Capt. Tassie (chairman), Capt. Cameron, Capt. Irving (honorary secretary), Lieut. Lehman, Assist. Surgeon King, Lieut. Willis. Amongst the guests were: Col. and Mrs. Otter, Col. Turnbull, Col. and Mrs. Mason, Col. and Mrs. Hamilton, Capt. and Mrs. Barlow Cumberland, Mrs. Cockburn, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Blackstock, Major and Mrs. Bruce, the Misses Boulton, Mrs. A. B. Cameron, Mr. Victor Cawthra, Lieut. and Miss Cadwick, Col. and Mrs. Grassett, Capt. and Mrs. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gooderham, Mrs. and Miss Gzoweki, Major and Mrs. Hay, Mr. and the Misses Kingsmill, Surgeon and Mrs. King, Mrs. C. T. Long, Miss Long, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Osborne, Major and Mrs. Pellatt, Dr. Ryerson, M.P.P., Surgeon-Major Strange, Dr. C. Temple, Mrs. and Miss Turner. From a distance were present: Mrs. Archer Martin, Winnipeg; Capt. Lester, Mr. H. E. Gates, Mrs. McKay, Miss Donville, Hamilton; Miss Sullivan, Sault. Ste. Marie; Mrs. Ruttan, Winnipeg; Mr. and Miss Gilmore, Mr. G. S. Morrice, Montreal; Miss Alice Misner, Buffalo; and Mr. R. F. Morkhill, 5th Dragoons.

The 48th Highlanders.

The 48th Highlanders, 406 strong, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Davidson, paraded for the first time this season at the old Upper Canada College ground. Curiosity exists among the men as to where the regiment will go for the 24th of May (Queen's birthday), but it has not been decided yet. Quite a number of invitations have been received from different towns. The following regimental orders have been issued by Lieut.-Col. Davidson: Orderly officer for week, Second Lieut. Cosby; next for duty, Second Lieut. Thompson; orderly sergeant, Sergt. Fraser, F. Company. The resignation of Lieut. D. H. McLean has been accepted. The regiment will parade at headquarters on Friday, April 9, at 8 p. m., and will continue to parade weekly at the same time and place until further orders.

Dufferin Rifles

An important meeting of the Dufferin Rifles, Ottawa, took place on March 16th, Lieut.-Col. Jones presiding. The main business of the meeting was to discuss the appointment of a permanent drill instructor. After some discussion it was unanimously decided to engage Sergt.-Instructor Belau, of the Toronto School of Infantry. He is probably one of the best drill instructors in Canada, and will reside in the city permanently. Under his instructions the regiment should have no difficulty at all in taking first place. Members of the battalion will be delighted to hear of this move, and the 38th will doubtless take a large-sized boom.

The question of a band also came forward, and it was decided to organize one for the regiment apart altogether from any other bands in the city.

Comparative Efficiency Returns.

Editor Canadian Military Gazette:

The system lately adopted of marking the comparative standing of the different corps is susceptible of much unfairness, and has given cause for dissatisfaction.

A return to the former method of the inspecting officer making a concise report of his inspection, would, in my humble opinion, be fairer all round.

In the first place, under the new system of marking, each military district having a different inspecting officer, it follows that the return he makes of the corps in his district will bear relatively little comparison with the report of another inspecting officer in *his* district.

All men do not look through the same glasses.

A corps fortunate enough to be inspected by a D.A.G., who is a good fellow and views everything *couleur de rose*, will, in the natural course of things, receive high marks; while a corps in another district, just as efficient, inspected by a martinet who is also commandant of a military school, and accustomed to the performance of regulars, will be marked lower.

This is manifestly unfair, disheartens all ranks, and conveys a bad impression to the public, without any corresponding benefit.

The following incidents which have come under my personal observation will perhaps bear out the above:

INCIDENT No. 1.—(Maximum No. of marks for horses in troop of cavalry is 20.) A troop of cavalry recruited from a city and far better mounted than any other troop in the regiment, is given 15 points; the other troops recruited in different sections of the surrounding country are each given the same.

INCIDENT No. 2.—(Maximum No. of marks for officers answering questions, 8, as appears by circular issued from headquarters, although in the returns it would appear that 24 is the maximum number; however, after considerable study, I take it that 24 marks is intended to include 3 officers, either on the staff or per company, but if this supposition is correct, it is impossible to ascertain the No. of marks obtained by each individual officer, which is obviously unfair. It looks rather absurd to find that where the maximum is given as 24, some city colonels are credited with 32 marks.) A captain of a troop of cavalry appeared before the inspecting officer to be questioned. As the questions are, for some reason that a fellow can't understand, printed and given to each officer some days before the examination, the latter should, if he takes any pains at all to consult his book, readily answer. The captain was the only officer in his troop questioned—13 points were given. Query: Why should this officer receive 13 points when the maximum is only 8? An infantry regiment from same city was shortly after inspected, and the *captain of a company who was absent without leave* and

consequently not questioned, gets credited individually with full marks.

INCIDENT No. 3.—(Maximum marks for arms and armouries, 20.) A troop of cavalry having armoury in city, tended by a paid government caretaker, accoutrements and saddlery in as good condition as it was possible to have them—points given, 15; four country troops of same regiment, who had not half the conveniences and whose accoutrements were in no better shape than they should have been, get each the same No. of marks.

INCIDENT No. 4.—(Maximum marks for infantry, 150.) A city corps inspected in 1892 obtained 86½ points, *not including target returns*. Inspected in 1893 by a different inspecting officer, battalion being as efficient, if not more so, marks given, *including target returns*, 58.71. This battalion is the only city corps of its district, and the marks given, probably the lowest returns for any city corps in the Dominion.

INCIDENT No. 5.—(Maximum No. of marks for answering questions, say 8.) An officer present at last inspection was not questioned at all and received full marks.

Added to this the fact that some inspecting officers deduct points for absentees, including vacancies of commissioned officers, and even officers and men absent from inspection with leave, on account of sickness, vouched for by medical certificate, or necessary absence from home, whereas other inspecting officers are more lenient, and do not insist upon these deductions.

If these absurd returns must be made, let the department spend a little more for paper and printer's ink, so that they can at least be understood. VEDETTE.

Women as Volunteers.

Some months ago a spirited correspondence was maintained in these columns, as the outcome of an article which we published on "A Volunteer Corps for Women," from the pen of Miss Ethel Stokes. As was natural to expect, the most diverse ideas were expressed in reference to the practicability of carrying the writer's views into effect. Somewhere were who endorsed the lady's ideas without question, whilst others, without going so far as to be ungallant, satirized her proposals with more or less severity. As the correspondence proceeded suggestions were made to the effect that it was woman's mission to cure rather than to kill, and that there was ample scope for the exercise of such military instincts as she might be disposed to display in nursing the sick and wounded, who by the mischances of war would yearn for gentle hands and tender hearts to alleviate their sufferings. Even those that ventured to scoff at the idea of women soldiers were amongst the foremost to admit the principle, so admirably put into words by Sir Walter Scott, in "Marmion":—"When pain and anguish wring the brow a ministering angel thou." Whilst giving the various contributors to the controversy all needed scope for the expression of their opinions, we, ourselves, gathered up some fringes of the arguments put forward, and

expressed approval of Miss Stokes' objects, in so far as she aimed at the improvement of the physique of her sex. We were, however, constrained to take exception to the proposal that ladies should be armed and drilled for fighting purposes only. During a later phase of the discussion Miss Stokes again entered the arena. Without entirely abandoning the principle which she first enunciated, she, in effect, admitted that much really useful work might be accomplished by a medical staff corps composed of women. In this connection, our lady contributor pointed out that the present medical staff corps numbers under 2,000, out of a total of some 220,000 volunteers. As this body—so totally disproportionate to the whole force—would probably never be available at one time, an auxiliary corps of trained women would, she thought, be a welcome assistance. In due course the last word was said on the matter, and it has slumbered until now, so far as it affected the columns of this paper.

That the military-medical scheme for women was not dead, but only temporarily dormant, is evidenced by the circular which we print on another page of our present impression. Like the article which gave rise to the correspondence mentioned above, the article we print to-day emanates from Miss Stokes. This lady now, however, comes before our readers in a character which differs somewhat from that of her first appearance. Her original suggestion of a combatant corps, pure and simple, has been modified in conformity with what, we think, will be generally considered wiser counsels. The project in its revised form is for the establishment of a Women's Volunteer Medical Staff Corps. In launching her proposal in its present shape, Miss Stokes, and those engaged with her in starting the new movement, cannot fail to command much sympathetic interest. Whether they will succeed in their endeavors to enlist that measure of personal and pecuniary support, which they appear hopeful of securing, is another matter, and one on which we have not ventured to form an opinion. We are fully cognizant of the need of a more adequate medical and nursing staff to meet the possible requirements of a mobilization of the volunteer army for active service. We are also aware that there are hundreds and thousands of women in our midst who would be willing, nay anxious, to render service to the cause of humanity and to the state if a plan could be formulated that would square workably with the combining of sentiment and utility. The question is, in these circumstances, can our military requirements, and the desire of a numerous section of our female relatives to be useful, be focussed in such a manner as shall result in the formation of a Women's Volunteer Medical Staff Corps? We leave the answer to Miss Stokes and her coadjutors, as being the most competent judges of the psychical side of their own sex. As will be gathered from a perusal of the circular issued by the executive committee, the intention is not merely to form a band of auxiliary nurses to the V.M.J.C. of the other—we may no longer say *sterner*—sex. The promoters of this new forward movement purpose going much farther than this. They stick in one respect to the first idea of making the corps a military body, which, besides being medically trained, shall march, drill with arms, encamp, be self-existent, competent to take care of itself, and moreover earn a capitation grant. A corps formed on the foregoing lines would, if accepted, be of more practical value than any body of purely civilian nurses, however zealous and highly trained, owing to its disciplined character, and to the fact that the authorities could in times of need command their services instead of inviting them.—*Volunteer Record*.