THE CANADIAN MILITIA

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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History has been making, in so far as concerns the North-west campaign at least, very rapidly during the past week; for, since the date of our first number, not only has General Middleton's force achieved complete success in the field, but that success has been crowned by the capture of Louis Riel, the head and front of the insurrection, and with this double event armed resistance of the half-breeds is in all probability at an end, and the question of their claims becomes a matter, as it should always have remained, for constitutional decision. The question of the disposition of the prisoner is an interesting one, but does not concern us, being a civil, and not a military matter. The General has finished an admirably conducted campaign by an admirable coup, and when he has handed over Riel to the civil authorities his responsibility on that score ceases.

We wish we could think that this was the end of the whole trouble, but it seems manifest that though the Indians were incited to revolt by the half-breeds, these are now powerless to control the aids they have invoked, which will require to be dealt with independently by our forces. The perpetrators of the Frog Lake massacre are yet unpunished, and the future security of the district demands that they should be whipped into a sense of their crime, and suffer a just retribution for that wanton destruction of life. The unsuccessful sortie on Poundmaker's braves requires to be backed up by a more decisive

blow before that doughty chieftain will be brought to an understanding of the hopelessness of his revolt, and the prospective difficulties of such an Indian campaign are far greater than those of the half-breed one, and may, if the Indians, without coming to heavy fighting, retire into the northern fastnesses where no troops could follow them, have to end in the militia occupying the country until the rebellious tribes are starved into submission. Mcanwhile General Strange is descending the North Saskatchewan from Edmonton towards Fort Pitt, while the victory at Batoche will probably release most of General Middleton's column, as well as the Mounted Police at Prince Albert, to reinforce Col. Otter at Battleford.

Does it not seem unfair that so many remarks upon the action-or rather inaction-of the Mounted Police in question should be appearing in the press, when there is absolutely no evidence on which to base a judgment. This force has hitherto maintained the confidence of the settlers, who should be best qualified to judge of their capability, and the officers at Prince Albert have the best of records, and these facts alone should lead us to expect that good reasons for the course pursued will be shown. In any case, as has already been remarked, there is no evidence, as yet, to show that the reasons for their action were not sufficient.

Not only has the proportion of arms of precision amongst the half. breed insurgents been overestimated, but the skill of these frontiersmen with the rifle has been greatly exaggerated. Any yarns that may have been told respecting half-breeds making up bags of prairie hens by shooting their heads off at a hundred yards, or killing deer or buffalo at a gallop at four or five hundred yards may be promptly categoried as drafts on the imagination. There are so many experienced shots amongst us who know the impossibility of keeping inside an eight-inch circle at 200 yards, and the facility with which a six-foot square target may be missed at five or six hundred yards, even with the best arms, and under a conjunction of favorable circumstances such as could not possibly occur in hunting, that it seems incredible how such absurd stories could gain currency. As a matter of fact the plain hunters are very good shots, but most of their hunting is done at short ranges, seldom, if ever, reaching 200 yards, or exceeding the distance at which buckshot will take effect, and their experience in allowing for the motion of their target will be found to be restricted to some such limited range. Under these circumstances it is evident that facility for reloading to allow of a succession of rapid shots in case of failure at first would be a greater desideratum with them than extension of range, and we consequently find repeating rifles in general demand with them, and now held in respectful and even awful dread by their enemies.

The average repeating rifle cannot compare in accuracy and range with even the well-abused Snider, but it is evidently held in high esteem by our scouts, as well as the half-breeds, and it becomes a question whether it would not be a preferable weapon for the present campaign—whether, in short, the best arm for one mode of warfare is the best for another. Where large continental armies are operating against each other in masses of hundreds or thousands in comparatively open country, long range and low trajectory are of great importance, and the British authorities are doing their utmost to improve their arms, in these respects, not being satisfied even with the Martini-Henry, which is so much superior to the Snider; but where a few scattered guerrillas are concealed in a thick bush whence they have to be driven foot by foot by careful skirmishing, where a range of more than a few yards is in the nature of things an impossibility, and where the only shot they are likely to get is, figuratively speaking, a flying one, then the rifle that can fire the most shots in the least time is tho best weapon, as our brave boys have lately learned to their cost.

The D. R. A. should take a lesson from this campaign and organize matches for the encouragement of skilful skirmishing. Something they have done in this direction already by the establishment of the military matches, but not enough. The restriction of these matches to teams, the firing over the regular range, where every distance can be estimated within ten yards, and the large size and clear color of the targets, all present conditions differing from those which men would meet in action; and in so far fail to fulfil the object they have in view, yet the difficulties of making thoroughly satisfactory arrangements are obvious. It was intended last year to have fitted up a running man, but several circumstances combined to prevent the carrying out of the scheme; this year we trust the association will be able to introduce the novelty. We suggest that practical shots should think out some methods of introducing upon the Rideau range competitions that would to a reasonable extent simulate the conditions of such warfare as our militia are likely to be engaged in, and publish them in these columns, a course that would probably ensure for them full discussion and consideration.

THE WEEKS MOVEMENTS OF CORPS ON ACTUAL SERVICE.

When we went to press last week news had just arrived that General Middleton's column, having been reinforced by four companies of the Midland battalion and by supplies received on the arrival of the Northcote, had advanced on Batoche, and had engaged the insurgents on the 9th; the Northcote acting as a gunboat and co-operating in the rear. On Sunday the engagement was renewed and the outworks of Batoche taken, and on Monday the troops, further reinforced by the D, L. S. scouts, continued to advance fighting until at last it was decided to charge the place, which was taken at the point of the bayonet, the rebela being totally routed and their forces permanently scattered. All this was not accomplished without further loss, there being eight killed in the three days' fight and about thirty wounded, of whom at least two have since died. On Saturday Riel was taken prisoner by General Middleton's scouts. This column has probably ere this reached Prince Albert, which has been in a state of siege since the 26th March. The 7th Fusiliers have been moved to Saskatchewan Crossing, it having been the intention to take them down the river to General Middleton's support, but this plan may now be changed. Col. Scott's Winnipeg battalion is also said to be marching on Clark's Crossing from Fort Qu'Appelle.

No movements of troops have occurred in connection with the Battleford contingent since last week, and the only event to chronicle is the capture by Poundmaker of a large quantity of supplies in transit to that point.

General Strange's contingent having occupied Edmonton, was reinforced by Col. Smith's Winnipeg battalion on the 9th, and on the

same day the General, with part of the 65th Batt., left for Fort Pitt by boat, Steele's scouts and police keeping him company along the bank. He proposes to re-garrison Fort Pitt, and to make that his base of operations against the neighboring hostiles.

The Montreal Garrison Artillery, which left on Monday last, has not yet reached Winnipeg, having been delayed longer than anticipated at the gap in the railway.

Three other battalions were ordered out previous to the General's victory and will probably go forward this week. They are the 32nd "Bruce" battalion of infantry from Western Ontario, consisting of eight companies, under command of Lieut.-Col. J. G. Cooper; the 1st Battalion, "Prince of Wales' Regiment" of Rifles, of Montreal, under Lieut.-Col. Frank Bond, six companies; and a provisional battalion of eight companies of infantry from New Brunswick, under Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, Commandant of "C" Infantry school, made up of four companies of the 62nd St. John Fusiliers, and one each from the 67th Carleton Light Infantry, 71st York Infantry, 73rd Northumberland Infantry and 74th Infantry.

RIFLES AND RIFLE SHOOTING.-I.

BY CAPTAIN HENRY F. PERLEY, HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

Some years ago four lectures were prepared for the information and instruction of the members of the New Brunswick Engineers at St. John, N.B., and they are now presented, amended to suit the changes which have taken place since their compilation, in the hope that with the prominence now given to them they may be productive of good in creating a desire, on the part of every member of the active force into whose hands this paper may fall, to learn, and learn thoroughly, the use of his rifle, and in stimulating those who have attained a certain degree of proficiency to strive to attain a higher standard. The lectures were not written as a literary effort, nor for the benefit of first-class shots, but for the benefit of those who were desirous of knowing what they had to do to become such, and it may be here stated that the writer was amply repaid for his trouble by the results which were obtained.

The first lecture treated of the history of arms, etc., and was written for the purpose of showing the changes that have taken place between the sling and the bow of earliest times and the Martini of to-day. The second lecture treated of explosives and projectiles and their manufacture. The third dipped lightly into theoretical principles, and the fourth took up the subject of shooting; and of the whole it must be said that the information they contain has been carefully selected from standard works, and is not given as being in any way original, and free use has been - ...de of the portions selected, though no credit has been given to the original writer.

HISTORY OF ARMS, ETC.

Arms, whether for aggression, defence or hunting have existed since time immemorial, and are coeval with man. In the beginning stone was the material out of which arrow and spear heads, axes, hammers, knives, and farming and household implements were formed, and these have continued in uso amongst barbarous tribes and nations up to the present day.

The stages in the progress of a nation from barbarism to civilization have been placed at three in number, and are defined as those of "stone," "bronze" and "iron;" and it is maintained that ages or periods existed in which only implements of stone were in use; that with the discovery of copper and tin, the constituents of bronze, and also of the method of melting and combining them, bronze took the place of stone; while it in turn gave way to iron and its product steel.

The name of the "stone age" is therefore given to the period when weapons and household implements were made of stone, wood, bone, or some such easily wrought material, and during which but little knowledge existed relative to the useful metals.

As the world progressed in knowledge and skill, the "bronze age" succeeded; weapons and implements were made of copper or of bronze, and most of the articles that have been found appear to have been cast, and where the marks of a hammer are apparent it has been surmised that the forging must have been done by a stone hammer on a stone anvil.

Bronze was displaced with the advent of iron, and it and its great product steel maintain the foremost rank to the exclusion, it may be said, of every other metal, for the production of engines of war.

The first weapons used were the bow and arrow, the dart or lance, and the sling—all primitive enough. These were followed by the axe, mace, sword, dagger, and scythe to be attached to the axles of chariots; and for artillery there were the ballista, catapulta and battering ram. After the introduction of gunpowder two classes of weapons came into use; first, those that could be held in the hand and fired; and, second, those that were heavy and had to be discharged from a rest.

As the world progressed and people multiplied nation became arrayed against nation, and war—then a rude service—became, as it were, the pastime of kings. We are told that Sesostris, who lived 1,600 years before the Christian era or nearly 3,500 years ago, when he became king of Egypt formed a sort of militia, and to each soldier gave a piece of land on which to maintain himself and family. When the militia had been drilled into a state of efficiency Sesostris headed them as an army for conquest in Asia.

During the great days of the Persian empire the cavalry was considered the flower of the army, and the foot soldiers, who were the greatest in point of numbers and formed the bulk of the army, were armed with pikes, axes and maces.

The Lacedemonians were celebrated for their "phalanx" in which the soldiers stood eight deep. The Athenian phalanx was reduced to four deep, and the men were armed with spears, corslets and shields; and it was covered by a species of light infantry armed with javelins, who acted as skirmishers; besides which there was also a set of irregular infantry armed with bows and arrows and slings. In the Macedonian army the phalanx was sixteen deep, and the men were armed with pikes or spears 24 fect in length, which were held so that a length of 18 feet projected in front, and as each soldier with his shield occupied 3 feet the phalaux as it advanced had six tiers of spear points in front, a wall of steel no troops could withstand, especially as the spearmen in front were pressed forward by ten ranks in their rear.

(To be Continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE FRONT.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM THE MIDLAND BATTALION.

SWIFT CURRENT, Friday, 17th April, 1885.

To day opened raw and cold, with stiff northerly winds, compelling all hands to take to their overcoats, notwithstanding which all are shivering, no doubt, chiefly in consequence of our exposure on Lake Superior, as almost every man got a deep-seated cold that will not leave him until fine weather sets in. In the matter of newspaper reports, I hope you will not feel the least uneasiness about our command, as I can assure you that you can safely put a discount of 95 per cent. on all you read. As an instance of this they have already had our hair lifted several times, and also had our battalion massacred west of Brandon, when the truth is that we have not seen the face of a dusky or a breed since we left Qu'Appelle. Our duties in camp to-day were confined to light infantry, firing, and judging distance drill, and to-night our outlying pickets will crown the surrounding hills about a mile distant. The Queen's Own are situate at a point 28 miles to the north of us at the crossing of the South Saskatchewan, and as there is only a very small scow ferry, the cable for which reached them but a few days since, the last of them are only getting across at this date. Should we move northward towards Battleford our track will lead for some forty miles through a thickly wooded country, right through the middle of the reserve of Red Pheasant, who, if you remember, is one of the restless and untrustworthy chiefs. However I do not feel uneasy, as the number of military now out here, although scattered, ought to be sufficient to "smash" any of the enemy who may give trouble.

SWIFT CURRENT, 27th April.

Two companies of ours, "G" and "H," are still held at this station loading and unloading supplies and assisting in their transport to the South Saskatchewan by teams. We are also doing guard duty over the ammunition, a very large quantity being here awaiting transport to the front. "E" and "F" Cos. went forward some days ago, followed by "A," "B," "C" and "D" Cos. on Tuesday last, together with the C. O. and regimental staff. Under the circumstances our detachment (90) was light until the arrival of the 7th Fusiliers and 9th (Quebec) on Friday, which battalions are now lying alongside of us. The former corps is in first-rate shape and the latter very passable, though both battalions are much under our strength. Through being second senior to Lt.-Col. Deacon I had a taste of staff duty on Thursday last. At about 8 a.m. I had a note from the staff adjutant to report to General Laurie at once. I immediately went over to staff headquarters and found the general writing a despatch to a captain of scouts fifteen miles up the river, which he wished me to bear to its destination at once. He told me that I should require to go well armed, and asked me how long it would take me to get ready. I replied that I was ready then, and showed him my "bulldog" from under my cloak. I left here at a little after 8 o'clock, and got to the scouts' camp, baited my pony, repaired my buckboard, had dinner, and got back, to the General's astonishment, while he was eating his dinner, which elicted a compliment for my celerity. Amongst the scouts that I went out to see were Jack and Harry Dennis, of Ottawa. Speaking of scouts, there are enough of them here to serve an army three times the size of our forces. They are all well mounted upon Indian ponics and most thoroughly equipped with Winchesters and revolvers.

We did not like the idea at all of being left at this point as a rear guard to our battalion. However we were not long in finding out that we were the best off, as those who have preceded us are now at the ferry doing fatigue, such as cutting wood for the *Northcote*, our transport steamer, and building a mud fort that has been laid out by the engineers for the defence of the stores at that point. Their "chuck" comprises har l-tack and canned beef, the latter of which the men have tired of long since, while we can vary our grub by purchasing at the stores here. Bliss came down the lines yesterday to get, as he said, a square meal, and to lay in a stock of eatables in order to make life bearable.

Col. Williams will not allow his command to be discounted in point of marching, and the long tramps we had on Lake Superior do not seem to have satisfied him, for when leaving here with the right half-battalion the other day he made a speech in which he stated that thirty-two miles lay between them and their halting-place for the night, but from the past exploits of the battalion he confidently expected that not a man would fall out on the march. He was as good as his word, for he pushed them through the entire journey, reaching the ferry at 8 p.m. with some of the fellows pretty thoroughly exhausted. This march was, however, admitted to have been far less severe than some of the previous tramps, as it was on land instead of ice, while the men were without their overcoats and unbuttoned their tunics when very warm, &c. Fancy one at home thinking of marching 35 or 40 miles a day. But that it has been done by the Midland battalion is pretty vividly realized by all ranks, and [think it is largely owing to the rapidity with which the men, through strong food and continued exposure, hardened up to their work, as well as their admirable desire to do and face anything. I see that the Toronto papers are still howling over the terrible sufferings of the Queen's Own, just as if there were none others who got it as well as they. I am free to admit that the weather and exposure were extremely severe, also that the marches were terribly long and trying, but I feel and know that from the admirable spirit pervading the force (or at least this portion of it) they would be willing to go through it all again were it necessary, and even though it were doubly as severe. Col. Deacon and Barney Hodgins (both of whom were through the Crimean campaign from first to last) say that they saw nothing there more trying than one march of ours of 27 miles in which we tramped all night long. I am in hopes that before this reaches you we will have left this point for the ferry and will be moving northward by steamer on the Saskatchewan. There are sail to be bluffs for several hundred miles on either side of the river, very favorable to the enemy, and from which they can harrass a boat; however, as part of our supplies consists of hay in bales the steamer can be made pretty well ball-proof. You will of course have heard some days ago of the skirmish between General Middleton's command and the rebels, in which the general had rather a close call. The halfbreeds and Indians had entrenched themselves in a ravine, the particular nature of which only those who have been out in this country can understand. When thus under cover one man is about as good as six in point of destructive powers, as he fires quite under cover, unseen and from a dead rest, &c. As a consequence it is a foregone conclusion that we must lose a good many men if the work continues any time, and from present prospects it is assumed that it will. The 90th, as luck would have it, (and who like all the Winnipeggers are a little jealous of eastern troops) came in for the major share of the work but suffered in proportion. It is wonderful how little impression news of the skirmishes and loss of life creates amongst troops in the field. Why, a good dog fight in the street at home would create more excitement than did General Middleton's brush with the breeds, in fact our fellows have so hardened up in mind as well as in body as to hear with little concern of any breeze at the front. They take a practical view of it and know that to obtain certain gains proportionate losses must occur, and that it is folly to expect otherwise. Our fellows, as I before stated, felt chafed at not having left this to go northward before. However, we feel now that we have the advantage, as some four of our companies have been stuck in the mud on board the steamer "Northcote" for the past two or three days, and so far as we can ascertain are unable to move either way. After this unfortunate delay I fancy Col. Williams will hardly feel satisfied with himself at having made the forced march of 32 miles to catch the steamer, which did not leave to go down the Saskatchewan for thirty hours after the command reached her. It is fearful to contemplate the bill of expense that this campaign is piling up. A transport team carries from this point westward in addition to its complement of supplies, five bales of hay. Two of these are consumed on the way up and two returning, while one is left at the point of destination, from which it may be seen that it costs four bales to land one at its destination. Transport teams can be numbered by the hundred, costing at the rate of \$7 or \$8 each per day, while both men and horses (or mules) move at a rate that would point to their aim being that of simply killing time; indeed the rebellion is looked upon up here as simply a godsend, to counteract the period of dull times. Send me one of Allen's duck callers from Hunton & Living's; we find they help fill our camp kettles.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM ONE OF STEWART'S RANGERS.

The three of us have engaged in Capt. Stewart's corps of Rocky Mountain Rangers. There are 65 men, nearly all cowboys and old prairie men, and it is said to be the best fitted corps for Indian fighting in the North-West. We engaged for two months at \$55.00 per month for a man and horse. I bought the horse I use for \$100; he is a noted half-mile race horse. We are each furnished with clothing, three pairs of blankets, Mexican saddle and spurs, 1876-model Winchester rifle, two belts for cartridges, one over the shoulder and one round the waist, with bowie knifo and sheath, and about two-thirds of us wear chaps, that is, leather breeches fringed down the seam. The above, with sombrero hats, is our outfit. Everything is the best of its kind and must have cost a lot of money, as the saddles and bridles cost \$50 each.

We are living in the police barracks, and are going to move down to Medicine Hat and cover the Cypress Hills country to cut off rebel refugees. Six of us went out the other day to act as Indians. We made an ambush, and when the rest of the troop got among the hills we charged down upon them, firing blank cartridges and yelling. I lay over upon the side of my horse and fired under his neck, and the Captain said I made the finest exhibition of horsemanship he had ever seen. We expected to stampede half the horses, as they were not used to fire, but they acted beautifully, to our great disappointment.

AMERICAN ARMS AND FOREIGN WAR.

Will the war in Europe, which is now so imminent, bring any grist to America's small-arm shops? This is a question which has often been asked during the past few weeks, and answered by seeming experts, by directly opposing replies. It is undoubtedly true that the private armories are now working along under double pressure, turning out weapons and ammunition. Where all the product is to go is, of course, kept a deep mystery, and it is not at all unlikely that there is a bit of speculation going on by the manufacturers who are making up stock in anticipation of expected orders.

It should be borne in mind that both England and Russia have rifle-making plants of the most extensive sort. In Russia the army is provided with the Berdan and Mauser rifles, made up after German models, though much of the machinery came from this country. These rifles are somewhat antiquated, being complicated in construction, carrying cartridges which give a very high trajectory and consequent limited

killing space, while the low initial velocity and large bore make them very unsatisfactory as an arm of precision.

England has been making certain changes in her small-arm supply. The Snider has been discarded, and even the Martini-Henry, fine weapon that it was, has been crowded from a portion of the regular army to make way for later models supposed to be of superior design. The result is that the resources of the Woolwich arsenal would prove far too limited to meet the great demand which would come upon this great firearm factory if war should be declared. It has been discovered that the practice of putting inferior arms into the hands of the native troops, such as those of the Indian regiments, is not a wise one. These allies of England have found out that to do the best work they need the best tools, and are no longer to be put off with such rifles as have been condemned for use by English troops.

Another point of more than ordinary importance in all this discussion is the trouble which constantly threatens from the confusion of ammunition. Each rifle carries its special cartridge, which will not serve any other weapon. The result is that in the hurry and scurry of train dispatching, it very often happens that the wrong cartridge cases are sent to the fighting men in the front, and they are left with magnificent rifles, yet of no more use than so many hay-sticks. This condition of affairs was met again and again during our late civil war, and it would require the most careful sort of management of the supply trains to prevent its happening along the enormous fighting line which would open with an Anglo-Russian war.

America's opportunity will come in supplementing the arm producing capacity of the European arsenals, or in furnishing the machinery to be put in charge of English or Russian workmen. The supply of fixed ammunition for both sides in the war could all come from the American Cartridge Company pool, with prompt delivery guaranteed.

The war would be doubly interesting to those who have made small arms a study if it tends to settle many of the open questions in this branch of ordnance practice. The new rifle for the English regulars has had no end of adverse criticism directed against it, some dubbing it the M. M. (miserable malformation) rifle, and it is described by one of the war correspondents who saw its use at the Soudan, as certain to jam after firing a few rounds. It is to be hoped that the new models magazine rifles may be given a fair trial in the hands of picked troops. These rifles certainly represent the best result of the inventive efforts of late years, and it only remains to give them that last and final test which only actual warfare and firing at living targets can give. Then it will be seen whether they are really as destructive as theory points out they should be. This class of weapon has received the special attention of American inventors, and none of the foreign models can compare with those offered in this country. Should they be found to fulfil expectations, it will only prove that this country is still in the front rank and unrivalled in this branch of manufacture.-Forest and Stream.

THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

The appointment of a Surgeon-General to the Militia Force in the person of Dr. Bergin, M.P., Lt.-Colonel of the 59th Battalion, was in all respects a wise move. In the first place the appointee has always evinced a keen interest in all matters appertaining to the militia service, and his long connection therewith peculiarly fits him to efficiently discharge the duties now required of him, and the medical department now on active service may rest assured that nothing will be left undone at headquarters that will tend to lighten their arduous labors on the field. In the next place the already overworked chiefs in the Department will be relieved of overseeing and conducting a branch of the work necessarily requiring a professional head. It cannot be doubted for a moment that the ambulance and station. hospitals have been efficiently organized for their all-important work, and the wisdom of such prompt action at the outset is now fully borno out. Until recently, when few surgical casualties were anticipated, it may have appeared to many minds that unnecessary display was made and needless expense created in the organization of the ambulance, but recent events have proven the necessity that always exists in matters of this nature of being well prepared against all emergencies.

As to the sick and wounded, we have every confidence that they are in excellent hands, not alone in the field hospitals, but also in the trying moments of their first agonies on the field of battle, cared for by the surgeons of their respective battalions.

We trust that the numerous aid societies now in active operation in the various centres whence our volunteers have gone, in carrying out their humane task with such commendable energy, will see to it that the sick and wounded are not overlooked, and that they may soon be in receipt of "medical comforts" to supplement the State's "medical necessaries."

PERSONAL.

The following sketch of the career of the late Lieut.-Col. Kennedy is taken from the Ottawa *Citizen*, and should have appeared with the notice in our last issue:

"He was reared in Peterborough, Ontario, and belonged to a military family, his grandfather having been a military officer and his father a lieutenant-colonel. He went to the North-west under General Lord (then Colonel) Wolseley, as ensign, and when the rebellion was suppressed, settled in Winnipeg. IIe opened the first registry office in that city, having been appointed to the position by the Dominion government in 1871. Subsequently he was chosen a member of the North-west council, in which capacity he displayed much ability, He was afterwards elected twice to the office of mayor of Winnipeg, being the second chief magistrate of the city. An enthusiastic Freemason and Orangeman, he took an active part in those societies, and was twice elected to the chair of Most worshipful grand master of the former. Still retaining his military ardor, he was captain of the Field battery for many years, until he resigned his command to accept the colonelcy of the 90th battalion, which is now in the North-west nnder General Middleton, and in which several of his sons are engaged in the struggle for the maintenance of law and order. When the call came from the mother country for voyageurs to conduct the troops on the Nile expedition, Colonel Kennedy organized the Winnipeg contingent, and accompanied them to Egypt as paymaster under General Lord Wolseley. He interested himself in every movement calculated to develop Winnipeg and facilitate her advance, and was a director in a number of companies doing business there. He leaves a wife and seven children to mourn his loss."

The Viscount Melgund, Secretary to the Governor-General, who proceeded to the front with General Middleton, and who had not previously held any rank in the Canadian militia, although a Major in the 1st Roxburgh Mounted Rifles, was, by general order of the 25th ult., appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, as a special case, from the 5th ult. Lord Melgund has been in command of General Middleton's advance scouts, and on the day of the Fish Creek fight, was in command of the column which advanced down the west bank of the river. He is now on his way back to Ottawa on a private mission.

Two rather uncommon militia appointments have lately been made in Montreal. Major Blaiklock, the indefatigable Secretary of the P. Q. R. A., who was a full major in the 6th Fusileers, has stepped down and out, having joined the 5th Royal Scots as a lieutenant, the department allowing him, however, to retain his majority in the militia. As a contrast to this left-handed promotion we have the case of Major Bond, who had retired from a majority in the 1st P. W. R., and who returns to his old battalion, now that they are ordered on actual service, as Adjutant with the rank of Major, and with the consent of the two other majors, is to rank next in seniority to his brother the commanding officer. These two cases show very forcibly the broad line that exists between commissions in the Militia and in the British regular service, where neither of these arrangements would have been possible.

DOINGS OF CORPS AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS.

MONTREAL, 14th May.—I had the good fortune to see the Montreal Garrison Artillery march through St. James street on Monday on their way to the station, en route for the North-west. With their white helmets, strong uniform boots and leggings, with their old-fashioned knapsacks and all the paraphernalia of heavy marching order, they presented an exceedingly neat appearance, and looked in every respect "fit," although their average height seemed low, and the majority of the men were young. I think every commanding officer in the city, as well as the district staff, was present, in uniform and mounted, to escort the gallant corps, and they received an ovation which their soldierly bearing certainly deserved. 'The streets were crowded, and cheers met them at every corner.

No. 5 Co. 3rd Batt. Victoria Rifles gives a concert in Nordheimer's Hall on the 19th, for the laudable object of benefiting by the funds realized the wounded in the North-west. 'The programme is most attractive, including songs, recitations, and an exhibition of bayonet exercise, and the entertainment will undoubtedly be a success.

OTTAWA, 16th May.—The Governor-General's Foot Guards had a march out last night, headed by their fine band. The corps looked well, as it always does, but the absence possibly of the majority of A company at the front made the battalion look somewhat weak.

THE TARGET.

We are reluctantly compelled to hold over the description of a cheap target, promised last week, but will publish it at an early date.

MONTREAL.—The first match of the season of the Grand Trunk Rifle Association was held at the Point St. Charles range on the 9th, under rather unfavorable circumstances, the range, owing to the spring freshet, being in a very bad condition. The prizes were a medal and twelve money prizes, the highest score also winning the D.R.A. medal. Ranges, 200, 400, and 500 yards, 7 shots at each. The following were the winning scores:—

J. W. Marks 31	34	24	89	T. Patterson27	29	14	70
J. C. Wilson 30	26	25	81	A. Harrison	14	24	69
James Riddle 30	30	21	81	J. Pitt25	24	19	68
J. Higginson 30	26	20	76	J. McDonald 29	23	15	67
E. Pratt				J. Dougherty25	23	15	63
J. Farrah	24	21	73	W. frving	18	19	62
J. Scott 29	20	22	71				

QUEBEC.—The Stadacona R.A. took advantage of the holiday afforded by Ascension day to open their range at Levis for the season by a practice, at which there was an attendance of 37. 6 shots at 200, 7 each at 500 and 600 yards, without sighting shots, in accordance with the rule of the Association. Despite fine weather the scoring was very poor, 67 being the highest number of points obtained.

EXTRACTS FROM MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

SPECIAL CORPS ON ACTUAL SERVICE IN THE NORTH-WEST. FROM ORDERS OF 24TH APRIL.

The following are the officers, with the ranks in which they are respectively serving in these corps :--

"YORK AND SIMCOE" BATTALION.

Lieut.-Colonel-

Lt.-Colonel William E. O'Brien, M.P., 35th Battalicn.

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Majors	
Bt. Lt. Colonel Richard Trywhitt, M.P.,	35th Battalion
Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Wyndham,	12th do
Captains-	
Major William J. Graham,	35th do
	35th do
Captain Alison Leadley,	35th do
Captain Richard G. Campbell,	35th do
Captain John T. Thompson,	12th do
Captain George H. C. Brooke,	12th do
Captain Joseph F. Smith,	12th do
Major James Wayling,	12th• do
Lieutenants	
Captain John Landrigan,	35th do
Lieutenant Thomas H. Drinkwater,	35th do
2nd Lieutenant Samuel L. Shannon, G. C	
Lieutenant Chas. S. F. Spry,	35th Battalion
do George Vennell,	12th do
do John T. Symons,	12th do
do Thomas Booth,	12th do
do John K. Leslie,	12th do
2nd Lieutenants :	
	35th do
	35th do
Lieut. Robert D. Ramsay-Ramsay,	35th do
do Ignatius T. Lennon,	35th do
do – William J. Flury, –	12th do
2nd Lieut. John A. W. Allan,	12th do
Paymaster :	
Honorary Captain William Hunter (late	35th Batt).
Adjutant :	
Brevet-Major James Ward,	35th Battalior
Quarter-Master :	
Lieut. Lionel L. F. Smith,	12th do
Surgeon :	
Assistant-Surgeon John L. G. McCarthy,	35th do

" HALIFAX " PROVISIONAL BATTALION.

LieutColonel	
Lt. Colonel James J. Bremner,	66th Battaliop.
Majors	
Bt. Lt. Colonel Chas. J. McDonald,	66th do
Major Thomas J. Walsh	63rd do
Captains :	
Captain James E. Curren,	Halifax Br. Gar. Art.
do Byron A. Weston,	66th Battalion.
do James Fortune,	63rd do
do Henry Hechler,	63rd do
do George A. Cunningham,	63rd do
do Robert H. Humphrey,	66th do
do Charles H. Mackinlay,	66th do
	Ialifax Br. Garrison Art.
Lieutenants :	•
Licutenant John T. Twining,	63rd Battalion.
do Harold St. C. Silver,	63rd do
do James A. Bremmer,	66th do
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Halifax Br. Gar. Art.
do James P. Fairbanks,	do
do Alfred Whitman,	66th Battalion.
do Crawford J. McKie,	63rd do
do Beaumont Boggs,	66th do
2nd Lieutenants :-	
Lieutenant J. Austin McCarthy,	66th do
2nd Lieut. Charles R. Fletcher,	63rd do
	63rd do
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
8,	63rd Battalion.
do Cyrus K. Fiske, do Alex. Anderson,	Halifax Br. Gar. Art.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	66th Battalion.
Lieutenant Hubert A. Hensley, do Conway E. Cartwright	
¥ 0'	, 0001 00
Paymaster-	Halifax Br. Gar. Art.
Captain W. A. Garrison,	Hallan Di, Gai, Alt
Abjutant-	66th Battalion.
Captain Edward G. Kenny,	UVIII DAMAIIOI
Quarter-Master-	63r] do
Honorary Captain John G. Corbin.	

Surgeon—		
Surgeon William Tobin,	66th Battalion.	
Assistant Surgeon		
AssSurg. Daniel D. Harrington,	66th do	

The following corps has been authorized to be raised in Manitoba

FROM ORDERS OF 15TH MAY.

NO. |-ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADS.

Additional Commissions in Her Majesty's Army,

In addition to the four commissions :—One in the Royal Engineers, one in the Royal Artille y, one in the Cavalry, and one in the Infantry of the Line, granted annually by the Imperial Government to graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada, the Imperial Government proposes to grant, for this year, twenty-six further commissions, viz:—Six in the Royal Artillery, ten in the Royal Engineers and ten in the Cavalry and Infantry making a total of thirty commissions for this year.

All graduates are eligible for the additional commissions; if complying with the tollowing regulations :--

- (a) Applications are to be made through the commandant of the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., and if received by that officer before the 15th June next, will be taken into consideration.
- (b) Applicants must not be over twenty-two years of age on 1st January, 1885, and must not te married.
- (c) Applicants to specify their preference for Boyal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Cavalry or Lufinity, by figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and the word "no" to any branch of the service in which they do not desire commissions.
- (d) Recommendations for commissions in the various branches of service will be made entirely according to qualifications for those corps, without reference to date of graduation.
- (c) Of applicants recommended for commissions in any particular corps, the seniority in that corps will be determined according to date and position of graduation.

NO. 2—Major-General Thomas Bland Strange, late an inspector of artillory of the Dominion of Canada, has been appointed temporarily to the rank of colonel in the Militia, from 27th April, 1885, during the period that the Active Militia now in the North-west Territories is on actual service.

ND. 3-MILITIA ON ACTUAL SERVICE IN THE NORTH-WEST.

Assignment of pay by officers and men to their wives and families.

Applications for assignment of pay by officers, non-commissioned officers and men on active service in the North-west Territories to their wives and families must tear the signature of the individual wishing to make the assignment, the number of days pay per month assigned, and the name in full of the \bullet person to whom the assignment is made.

Regimental assignment lists so prepared, certified to by the Lt.-Colonel commanding, by the captains of companies, and countersigned by the regimental paymaster that the amounts of pay so assigned shall not be included in any pay-list, except the "assignment pay-list," will receive the attention of the Minister of Militia and Defence, who at his discretion will issue the necessary order to meet the wishes of the officers and men concerned.

These lists of assigned pay must be transmitted by the officer commanding in *quadruplicate*, as follows:—One copy to the principal supply and pay officer in the North-west Territories, one copy to the brigade or divisional paymaster of the field force to which the corps may be attached, one copy to the Minister of Militia and Defence (Account Branch), Ottawa, and one copy to the paymaster of the military district to which the corps belongs.

Each captain of a company shall retain a copy of his company "assignment pay-list, and each regimental paymaster shall keep the regiment 1 list of "assigned pay" on file in his office.

The monthly regimental pay-lists must show the name of every officer and man, with the pay due him for every day he has served during the month, and in the column of stoppages must be shown the amount of "assigned pay" to be deducted; and in the column of remarks the number of days assigned pay deducted must be stated.

NO. 4-Special Corps on Actual Service in the North-West.

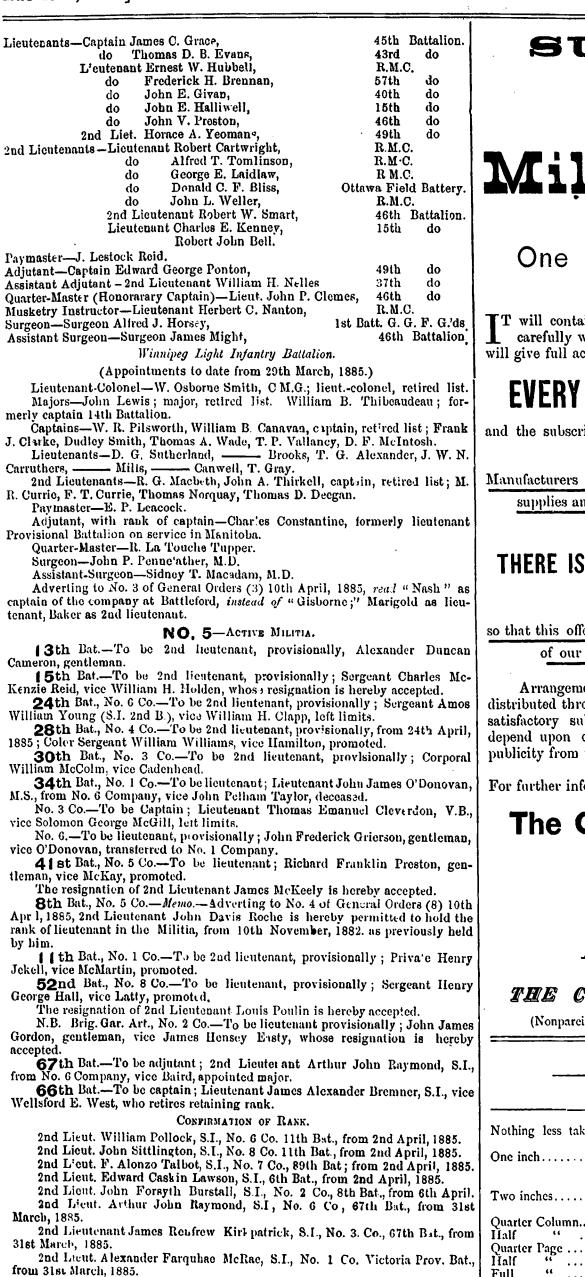
The following are the officers, with the ranks in which they are respectively, temporarily, serving in these corps :---

" York and Simcoe Battalion.

" Midland" Battalion.		
LtColonelLtColonel Arthur T. H. Williams, M.P.,	46th	do
Majors-Major Heary R. Smith,	47th	do
Bt. LtColonel James Deacon,	45th	do
Captains-Bt. Major Roderick Dingwall,	40th	do
do John Hughes,	45th	do
Captain Richard H. Bonnycastle,	40th	do
do Thomas Kelly,	47th	do
do Edward Harrison,	49th	do
do Thomas Burke,	47th	do
do Robert E. Lazier,	15th	do
do Charles H. Winslow,	46th	do

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2nd Lieut. Loring A. Read, S.I., No. 7 Co. 68th Bat., from 31st March, 1885. 2nd Lieut. James Fletcher Neary, S.I., No. 3 Co., 68th Bat., from 14th April. 2nd Lieut. Lindy Vail Shaw, S.I., No. 9 Co., 69th Bat., from 30th April, 1885.

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