

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MILITIA GAZETTE aims at being the recognized medium of instruction and information for Canadian militiamen and rifle shots. Communications on the subjects to which its pages are devoted are respectfully invited. Anonymous communications will not be regarded. No name will be published, except with the writer's consent. The editors will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.

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NOTICE.

SUBSCRIBERS will not in future be sent receipts for moneys remitted for subscription fees. The number on each printed address label indicates the last issue for which payment has been received, and a change of this number will be equivalent to a receipt. Our friends are reminded that all subscriptions are payable in advance, so that the second year's subscription of any one whose label shows a less number than 70 is now due. We have to thank many for responding to this notice in past issues; but there are great numbers yet in arrears, and we would be greatly obliged if they will not let this matter escape their attention. Please strengthen our hands by remitting promptly.

Comment and Criticism.

WE have several times referred to the only partly successful effort that was made this summer to buy horses in the Dominion for the home forces, and we have to some extent explained why these efforts were not attended with complete success. Col. Ravenhill has, however, left behind him a memorandum explaining clearly what classes of horses are wanted, what prices will be paid for them, and whence arose the difficulty of obtaining the necessary supply, and this statement we publish in another column. All stock raisers in Canada should study that document carefully, and make up their minds whether the market offered is sufficiently good to make it worth their whiles to produce the class of animals desired in England. For ourselves we are convinced that "there's

millions in it," and that those who enter the field first will succeed the best.

IN our issue of the 16th September, we published the general orders of 31st July last, but in them we made two errors affecting the same gentleman, one too, who is well known as a successful officer, and deserved better treatment. How this occurred we cannot understand, it was certainly unintentional, but we wish to correct them. The following item was entirely omitted: "Permanent corps—Lieutenant and Captain James Alexander Bremner, A Company, Infantry School Corps, having passed the required examination, and obtained a 'first class long course grade A certificate,' his appointment as an officer of the permanent corps is hereby confirmed." In the list of certificates granted, Capt. Bremner and Capt. Bowen are entered as having taken second-class short course certificates; it should have been *first-class long course*, grade A.

A REMARK that we made two weeks ago, to the effect that the scheme of sending troops to participate in the Queen's jubilee seemed to be no longer creating interest in Canada, has brought forth explanations, and we find that more than one corps would be prepared to go at their own charges, provided the permission of the authorities were forthcoming. It is hard to see what objections could be raised to regiments going under these conditions, especially as the Horse Guards and other home authorities seem to favour the scheme, and we at least hope that if other distant parts of the empire are similarly represented, Canada will not be missing from the pageant.

ON Thursday evening last General Sir Fred. Middleton delivered an interesting lecture on outpost duties to all the officers of the Ottawa garrison, in the drill hall here, which was a success in every respect. His audience was appreciative and the lecture eminently practical, being the result of personal experience as well as embodying the principles laid down by authority. We hope at a future time to reprint the salient points of the address. The lecturer kindly promised to supplement this lecture by others on kindred topics during the coming winter, and suggested that other officers in his audience might also, with advantage to themselves and the city regiments, deliver lectures on military topics from time to time.

WHY should not officers in other cities prepare and deliver lectures this winter to all the militiamen they can reach, both commissioned and in the ranks? There is a vast variety of subjects to choose from, beginning with musketry instruction and ending with minor tactics, and we think better of the force than to believe that competent lecturers could not be found in every city or town corps in the Dominion. A precise literary style would not be demanded; practical common sense, a fair knowledge of the subject, and the ability to express what one means in plain words, would be the requisites, and as we said before we feel sure that these could be found combined in every town that is a

battalion headquarters. Fortunately for Canada she has numbers of enthusiastic men on her list of officers, else the volunteer movement would have fallen through long ago, and these should turn their energy into this new direction while the nights are long and the cold makes drill impracticable.

THERE never were mortals so unreasonable as the Canadian militia—they are always wanting something. The last want that has been discovered, and by a city corps too, of all things, is a want of trenching tools. Now in the name of common sense what would a city corps do with picks and shovels. Do they suppose for a moment that these will enable them to march past better at inspection or increase their aptitude for the manual? My correspondent says: "I have tried to start a class for shelter trench drill, but am met at the start by the want of tools. Now would it not be possible to issue a few sets of trenching tools, say six to each company of the city corps. The cost would not be very serious, and the benefit conferred on those corps wishing to learn the work would be very great. The combination tool served out to the Imperial army is as near perfection as possible, very light, handy, and cheap. The experiment is worth trying at all events. This winter I intend taking my class out with snow shovels and snowshoes to practise shelter trench and field firing, but would like the tools for the long summer evenings." It is quite plain that this iconoclast must be suppressed; it would be manifestly unsafe to leave him to work his own sweet will on his unoffending subordinates, and shatter all the traditions of the service at one blow to boot.

HAPPY thought!—Might not a little drill on snowshoes this winter, in the localities where the snow lies deep enough, be good fun, if nothing else. The boys are always ready for a moonlight tramp, and why not let it take the form of a military march out on snow shoes? It would teach a company to keep its dressing without touch or crowding to a flank, for the punishment of crowding would be prompt disorganization, and it would yet allow the execution of many movements that would be useful in the face of an enemy. It cannot be objected that marching on snow shoes would never be needed; no one can tell that, and we have a dim idea that Imperial troops once marched on snow shoes all the way from New Brunswick to Quebec; but even granting that it would never be required, the pleasure and exhilaration of the tramp remain, and every drill means an extra lesson on military discipline and obedience to orders. Try it next month, and write us a full account of how it succeeds.

Personals.

Lt.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., Winnipeg, is back at his office again.

Lt. Currie, of the 90th, is taking a special course in the school of mounted infantry, Winnipeg.

Color-Sergeant Lethbridge, of the 90th, has been appointed orderly room sergeant, vice George Broughall.

General Sir Fred. Middleton, accompanied by his aide-de-camp, Captain Wise, has gone to Winnipeg on official duty.

Lt.-Col. Taylor, commandant of the mounted infantry school at Winnipeg, met with an accident recently that has given him a bad shaking up.

Lt.-Colonel Peck, who was placed on the retired list from the command of the 29th battalion in 1882, is dead, and was interred at Galt, Ont., recently, with military honors.

Major Andrew J. Armstong, who was last week gazetted to substantive rank in the N. B. Brigade of Garrison Artillery has been an officer of that corps since 1872. On the 19th June, 1873, he was gazetted as second lieutenant of No. 1 battery. Shortly afterwards Capt. King, the commander of No. 10 battery, now known as No. 4, died, and he was asked to accept the captaincy. With the consent of Capt. Kane of No. 1 battery and Lieut.-Col. Foster he accepted the command, and on August the 1st, 1873, his appointment was gazetted, so that for over 13

years he had been in the same command, and he claims that, while he was connected with it his battery carried off the lion's share of prizes for which the brigade competed. Under these circumstances it is pleasing to see his battery bearing such testimony to his popularity as is evidenced by the presentation chronicled in another column.

The Dress Regulations.

THE militia of Canada have for several years been sadly in want of a properly compiled set of dress regulations, for the guidance of officers in procuring uniform, and any irregularity in the dress of officers was always excused on the plea that the regulations were so vague that no one knew what to wear. Articles have appeared in this paper from time to time showing the necessity for a guide in the dress of our officers, but as it was understood that the matter was under consideration at headquarters, the different regiments patiently waited for a balm for all their troubles, in the general order relating to dress. In May last the long-looked-for regulations were published, but they have not, as it was hoped, thereby ended all queries and discussions regarding cut, style, trimming, buttons and such like, but only caused further questions and puzzled the brains of officers more than ever; the plain fact is the new regulations are a mistake, and fall far short of supplying the want so long felt in Canada; instead of detailing full particulars for every branch of the militia and each regiment of that branch, a great deal is still left to conjecture, while some of the paragraphs are so ambiguous, or so opposed to the reading of Imperial dress regulations in similar cases, that it is almost impossible for two officers of the same arm of the service to be dressed exactly alike. This is much to be regretted, for containing, as our militia does, many officers who cannot afford to obtain a new fit-out every year or two one should know exactly what to get, and whether the purchaser of a uniform or any part thereof is strictly regulation or not; further, the regulations should be so explicit that any inspecting officer or c. o. could know at once whether an officer is properly dressed, and all holding commissions should be compelled to furnish themselves with uniforms correct in even the minutest details.

In reviewing the general order of 1st May it is impossible in a short article to point out *all* the inaccuracies; but enough will be touched upon to show the fallacy of attempting to benefit by a study or following of the order, in fact even the proof reading appears to have been carelessly done, as many errors in spelling, etc., occur. The general instructions appear to have been copied word for word from the Imperial army dress regulations without regard to their adaptability to Canada, and the same may also be said of several other paragraphs, as will be shown later on. Under the heading winter greatcoats, these garments are detailed at length, with color of cloth and fur for certain branches, though why cavalry and engineers should wear grey cloth and fur the same as infantry is a puzzle; moreover the paragraph concludes by allowing any corps to wear what they like, after particulars have been specified, thereby cancelling the first part of the paragraph. It is also puzzling to read that badges of rank will be gold *for winter wear*; is it understood that other badges are worn on fur coats in summer? Buttons are described as "gilt" without any reference to pattern; and lace is stated to be "maple leaf pattern," while further on in the regulations lace is described as "staff pattern," "universal pattern," and in other cases left to discretion or fancy of regiments. Under the heading regimental staff there are many inaccuracies; medical officers are referred to army medical department for particulars of certain articles, and as very few officers have copies of the Imperial dress regulations in their possession, they will find it difficult to know whether they are right or wrong in obtaining uniform; the same may be said of paymasters, with the addition that the undress sword belt and pouch belt in the army are white, while in Canada this staff officer must wear black.

The uniform of the cavalry in Canada has long been thought too expensive, being the same as the 13th Hussars, and it was hoped when new dress regulations were issued that the expense of officers in this arm would be lightened; not so, however, for again the army regulations have been copied, though many important and necessary details have been omitted; for instance, the pouch ornaments are to be silver, while those of the 13th are gold, the undress sword belt and pouch belt are to be white and the sabetache black while the principal cavalry corps in Canada have been using buff leather for some years, and find it much better than anything else; the mess waistcoat is stated as "regimental pattern" instead of that used by 13th Hussars being described in full: a frock coat *only* for undress is authorized, whereas for the work our cavalry must do in camp a patrol jacket would be much more serviceable and less expensive, the regulations for horse furniture are confined to throat ornament, and valise, and nothing is laid down for regimental staff, while in the dragoons, horse furniture is described at length, and staff of the regiment is also mentioned.

In the regulations for the artillery the winter cap is described at

length and is to be of "Persian lamb" as also the trimmings on the winter greatcoat, which by the bye is same pattern as the patrol, though the latter seems to be a special distinction for the permanent corps, and is at variance with general instructions. No false collar is mentioned to be worn with the patrol jacket, which is done by the royal artillery and also by the permanent corps here, but now these officers evidently must cease wearing this part of their uniform; the badge on the undress abretache is allowed to be of regimental pattern, while that on the full dress sabretache is the royal arms; no undress sword belt is provided for, and the description of ornaments on the pouch is ambiguous, the grenades on collar of stable jacket are to be small, while those of the royal artillery are $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, and grenades are not mentioned to be worn on the tunic collar at all: by way of finishing off the artillery the fur cap is again described.

In the engineers the lace and buttons are again detailed as being of regimental pattern, while in Canada we only have three companies of this important branch of the service; the description of helmet plate is not found for the same or any branch of the service in the Imperial dress regulations.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards are a highly favored corps, as they have a page and a half devoted to their dress, and everything is mentioned, even a summer patrol jacket, and they are allowed a regimental pattern in nearly everything, even winter caps; their regulations have been copied in part from dress regulations for foot guards at home, and notwithstanding their length do not comprise all that is necessary for our one regiment of guards.

The uniform of the infantry of the line in Canada is so simple and easily described that this is the last branch of the service in which it would be supposed mistakes would have been made, but really, if an officer dared to appear on parade dressed in accordance with the regulations he would either be looked upon as a lunatic or placed under arrest; to begin with, the tunic is to be ornamented with lace, but whether gold or silver is left to conjecture, on the collar $\frac{5}{8}$ inch, and on the cuffs $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, the latter is a printer's error in the Imperial book and so copied for Canadian militia, then there is to be "a gold square cord loop on each shoulder," and a few lines further on is read "shoulder straps of twisted round gold cord, universal pattern, lined with scarlet," so that an infantry tunic has a *double set* of shoulder cords or straps; the buttons are described as "gilt," so that any kind presumably may be worn, the gold lace for full dress trousers is described as " $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch in width with $\frac{7}{8}$ inch crimson silk stripe in the centre"; officers of the regulars are content with trouser lace $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in width, and silk stripe $\frac{1}{8}$ inch only. The helmet plate is twice described, and the peak back and front, "somewhat shorter;" here again discretion is allowed to step in. The undress sash is abolished and a shoulder belt and pouch substituted therefor, but the latter is ornamented with royal cypher and crown, while regimental staff officers can wear on *their* pouches a device of regimental pattern; further, some few corps in the Dominion some time ago adopted the pouch belt and obtained permission to wear their device according to regiment. The scarlet patrol jacket will supply a want long felt, especially by rural corps, but the regulations as to trimming are not sufficiently explicit, and the braiding for different ranks should follow more after the mess jacket, a difference being made between captains and subalterns. The forage cap comes next in order, and it is here twice stated "black netted button and braided figure on the crown"; the band is black lace, and only those regiments styled "royal" can wear scarlet bands, but the facings of our militia are *blue* (only worn in the army by royal regiments), therefore the scarlet band should still obtain, or the facings should be changed, or better still, let the whole militia force be termed "royal"; the artillery schools have it already and the infantry schools are asking for it. The shell jacket, like the tunic, is also to be ornamented with *double* shoulder straps. The winter cap is stated to be black fur, while in general instructions, infantry are to wear winter greatcoats trimmed with gray astrachan; a cap and coat of different fur will certainly look most unsightly.

The dress of rifles is fairly well copied from the Imperial, except sword belt and pouch belt, which are goat skin instead of patent leather, and the breast ornament is left to fancy of each regiment; no mention is made of bushies, while it is well known several rifle battalions are wearing them and they are much preferred to helmets.

The dress regulations taken as a whole fall far short of what is required for our militia, too much is left to open conjecture and regimental or individual fancy, and we will still see men of the same arm of the service, yes, and of the same regiment too, dressed far differently from each other; what is wanted is thorough uniformity, and to insure this the different regiments should be consulted and their peculiar distinctions in ornaments, etc., gazetted; is it to be supposed that a regiment or troop of cavalry going into camp would be expected to provide themselves with expensive uniforms costing from \$500 to \$1,000 each? then, in the case of the artillery, there is no difference made between field and garrison. There are, moreover, two battalions of grenadiers

some half dozen of fusiliers, and several of light infantry, besides the Royal Scots, yet these are not even given a place in the regulations, while all wear something different from the line in headdress, cap ornaments, collar grenades, etc. Buttons should also be specified as well as lace, all being accurately mentioned, and the winter uniform should be more fully described, taking in everything from boots to cap. The permanent corps also are barely mentioned when it is well known that all have some peculiar distinction in the way of dress, such as cap badges, collar ornaments, etc. Lastly, the militia want a distinction between them and the regular army, either a maple leaf on the collar of tunics and jackets or the letters "D.C." or "Canada" on the shoulder straps; as at present a casual observer would certainly find it hard to distinguish a well dressed Canadian militia officer from one of Her Majesty's army.

These remarks are written in no feeling of idle fault finding but only that our officers may have something definite to guide them, and that the authorities may awake to the necessity of helping a force which already does much to help itself, and thus make each officer proud of himself and of the service to which he belongs.

GRENADIER.

The Canadian Militia:—A Historical Sketch.

BY LIEUT.-COL. W. R. OSWALD,

Commanding Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

(Continued from page 548.)

AS we rapidly scan over the pages of our history we find nothing of a sufficiently absorbing interest in connection with Canadian militia matters to call for special remark until we come to the next eventful epoch, that commonly known as the rebellion of 1837.

The troubles which led to the rebellion are matters more of civil than of military history. The principal event in the latter connection was undoubtedly the battle of St. Eustache. As probably the parents or near relatives of many of you, and possibly some who are here to-night, were there, we will take this opportunity of doing what old soldiers dearly love, fighting the battle over again. From the *Montreal Gazette* of December 16, 1837, I take the following extract:—

"The troops took up their quarters at St. Martin's during the night of Wednesday, the day on which they left the city, whence they departed at about seven on Thursday morning, towards St. Eustache, but not in a direct line, for it was understood that the ice on the river in that way was not sufficiently strong to bear the weight of so heavy a body as the artillery and cavalry. A detour was in consequence taken towards St. Rose, where the ice was crossed from Ile Jesus to the mainland. The line of march then proceeded upwards along the right bank of the river until the troops approached the village of St. Eustache, making a march from St. Martin of about twelve miles, whereas in a direct line it would only consist of about six or seven. The troops were first fired upon by the rebels from the church of St. Eustache, a considerable time before any position had been taken up. On coming within the proper range two field pieces were planted on the northeast side of the church and began to play upon them in excellent style, while another field piece was sent round in rear of the village and stationed where it commanded a street leading directly to the front door of the same edifice. The three regiments and the cavalry in the meantime made a circuit round the village in the rear, and took up positions to intercept the rebels when they should be compelled to abandon their position. The church having at length been set on fire the rebels were seen flying in every direction, not without many of them having been killed and taken prisoners. The nunnery and presbytere, situated on either side of the church, which were occupied by the rebels, were also destroyed, as well as several other houses in the village, particularly those of Scott and Chenier. The loss sustained on either side has not been actually ascertained, but it is reported that eighty of the rebels had been killed and more than 100 taken prisoners. Dr. J. O. Chenier was killed in the yard of the church, and Fereol Peltier and the Commander-in-chief Girod are said to have taken to flight towards St. Benoit immediately after the first fire. On the part of the troops we have no account of any being killed except two men. Mr. A. Gagy, whilst storming the sacristy, was severely but not dangerously wounded in the left shoulder. The blaze arising from the burning houses of St. Eustache was distinctly seen the same night from the rising ground in rear of this city towards the old race course. From a minute survey taken at the time, the number of houses destroyed by the conflagration, exclusive of the church and presbytere, which were reduced to ashes, amounted to about sixty. A wounded prisoner, one Major, from St. Benoit, stated that when the attack was made upon St. Eustache the rebel force at that place amounted to about 1,000 men. It is supposed that nearly 200 of the rebels fell or were suffocated in the flames of the buildings which had been fired and from which they defended themselves. Upwards of twenty bodies were found in the churchyard

and in the garden attached to the nunnery; forty rebels were killed in attempting to make their escape towards the woods. In imitation of General T. S. Brown at St. Charles, upon the pretence of bringing up reinforcements, the rebel commanders, Girod and Peltier, are said to have made their escape soon after the fire of the troops commenced, but they have not since been heard of, except calling at Inglis' tavern, about four miles from St. Fustache, where they stated that the troops had been completely defeated. These heroes are now supposed to have taken refuge in the woods, but it is probable they will soon be traced out." The regiments engaged were apparently the Royal artillery, Royal and 83rd regiments and the Montreal cavalry and rifle (volunteer) corps. I have given a pretty full account of this engagement for the reasons already given, as also to enable you better to understand the few views of the affair which I am going to try and show you after these remarks are finished. I am indebted to another veteran soldier, Colonel Wily, of the 88th regular regiment in those days, and as you all know for a long time holding important positions on the militia staff, for a sketch of the different engagements at that time, viz.: The first blow struck in November, at Longueuil, in which the Montreal cavalry were roughly handled. Then the fiasco under Colonel Gore at St. Denis, a few days afterwards, Colonel Wetherall's smashing the rebels at St. Charles where they suffered some loss. But "you cannot make omelettes without breaking eggs," comments the gallant colonel. Later on, in 1838-9, there were troubles along the frontier by American sympathizers, two engagements taking place at Lacolle and Odelltown, both repulsed with loss, and in Upper Canada a landing was effected at Prescott under one Hindenburg, a Pole, who was captured and afterwards tried by court martial and shot. That was the way they treated rebels in those days. But we must pass on, although there is much subject matter gleaned from my reading connected with the events of these years that I should have gladly brought before you, inasmuch as, apart from the historical, there is to many of you a strong personal interest connected with them. I find the names of McGill, Moffatt, R. (Judge) Mackay, Routh, Molson, Geddes, J. G. McKenzie, Hugh Allan, Fletcher, Greenshields, John Grant, Gogy, Esdaile, A. Clark, Meredith (chief Justice), and many others—some in our midst to-day, many, the majority, gathered to their fathers—signing a document for a public meeting for Monday, the 3rd July, 1837, for the purpose of giving expression to their disapproval of certain resolutions adopted at certain public meetings, apparently those disloyal meetings held by Papineau and others. Capital speeches were made and stirring times they must have been. Several of those whom I have mentioned, and many more whom I have not time to mention, but whose names are household words amongst us to-day, were also present at the battles of St. Denis and St. Eustache. Not well—indeed, according to our notions of military equipment nowadays not at all—fitted out for warfare, but with brave hearts and stalwart arms, ready to do and, if need be, to die, for the preservation of the peace and safety of their homes and the rights and privileges of their race. From the concluding pages of an interesting book called "Trifles from My Portfolio," written by a staff officer, Dr. Henry, who had seen a great deal of service in the British army, and who took part in the campaign of '37, I quote the following terse sentences, which, although written almost fifty years ago, give good advice to us to-day:—

"You are a French-Canadian; 'tis well. You are descended from one illustrious nation and adopted by another. It is probable that from strong attachment to your old country, a principle, abstractly considered, most honorable, and a misconception of the policy of Great Britain, you have been long fondly imagining that you could build up a new France on this continent under the wing of England. Now, my dear fellow, you must disabuse yourself of this gross delusion without delay, totally and irrevocably. The thing is physically and absolutely impossible; and you might as reasonably expect that the dark tribute poured from the St. Maurice into your mighty river would be able to retain its hue, or change the broad current to its own tint, as that you can continue French amidst the great Anglo-Saxon family to which you now belong. You are an Anglo-Canadian. Pardon me, if I say that you, my dear loyal sir, would also do well to get rid of some prejudices and erroneous notions. You are rather too much of a monopolizer of loyalty, and too apt to offend your fellow-citizens of French origin, classing them indiscriminately, and thus unwisely confounding the bad with the good. Now you may be sure that the great majority of them, although they will not come forward as prominently as yourself, which is not in their nature, are still sound at heart and well affected to the government. There is, no doubt, an active and mischievous portion, reckless and unprincipled, but those who have property and a stake in the country, the commercial classes, the seigneurs, the clergy and eight-tenths of the habitants, making allowance for their peculiar manner, are as loyal as yourself." Very pertinent remarks these seem to me to be. It is true that the population of Canada is to a great extent cosmopolitan, but we should all be at

heart Canadians, and join together in working out the destiny of the land we love and live in.

"Whether from England's fields of bloom,
Or Erin's lanes of emerald green;
Whether from Scotland's hills of broom;
Or France's vine-clad capes serene;
United on St. Lawrence brink,
Stand we together man to man,
And all these various titles sink
Into one name, Canadian."

(To be continued.)

Figure Targets.

"FIGURE TARGETS," it is stated, are to be introduced in the volunteer musketry course, and in future all volunteers will be required to fire their classes at targets on which figures are painted to represent one or more men. A "Marksman," writing on the subject, questions the advisability of the change, and fears that it will tend to lower the present standard of shooting efficiency. While the figures hide from view the parts of the target which the firer is expected to hit, hitting them is not considered essential, for the anomaly exists that at every distance, from the shortest to the longest, the firer may obtain as many points by missing the figures altogether as he can if he hits a figure with every shot he fires. To illustrate this seeming paradox, let us take a third-class target. The centre ring includes two large spaces not touched by the figure, so that a hit anywhere within these spaces is worth three points; but as the head of the figure is outside the ring, the firer may actually earn one more point by missing the figure than by planting a shot in his head. On the second-class target are two spaces outside the figures which are included in the bull's-eye, so that when shooting his second-class the firer may positively earn as many points by missing all three figures as he could obtain by hitting two of them in the head. The first-class targets contain four spaces outside all the figures yet included in the centre, and one space forming part of the bull's-eye similarly situated; so that at 800 yards it will be possible for a firer to earn 16 points in his five shots for missing all the figures, while if he struck the greater part of the flank figures he may only earn 10 points. If there be anything practical in the above arrangement, confessedly at present it is occult, and does not commend itself to ordinary commonsense. Nothing should be adopted tending to diminish the keen interest happily taken in volunteer rifle practice, and this recreation is not likely to grow more popular when it is guided by regulations which at first sight seem ridiculous.—*United Service Gazette.*

Horses for the Imperial Army.

THE following statement of the requirements of the service was prepared by Col. Ravenhill, the officer who visited Canada this year, with a view of ascertaining the capabilities of the Dominion as a remount producing centre:—

"As the stock raisers do not seem to be aware of the prices paid or the class of horses required, they are as follows, viz.: For cavalry horses up to \$150, and for artillery horses up to \$175, geldings preferred. Color—bay, brown, black or chestnut, with a few riding greys. Age—between four and eight years. Weight—riding horses, for the light, medium and heavy cavalry between 1,000 and 1,150 lbs. For artillery or engineer horses for riding, between 1,100 and 1,250 lbs. For draught, between 1,200 and 1,400 lbs. These horses must be sound, fresh, unblemished stock, and may be in the rough straight from the plow or farmer's yard, so long as they are the right shape, make and action. Now, as regards soundness, I would draw attention to the two principal causes of the many cases of unsoundness that must be only too apparent to even any casual observer of the horses bred in this country. 1st—A great deal of it is hereditary, and caused by breeding from unsound sires and mares. 2nd—The habit of driving three and four year old horses long distances and at a rapid rate, as is done by the farmers in this country in their buggies and wagons, is a certain way of producing premature unsoundness among the horses. If the farmers of this country are alive to their own interests, a large market is open in Europe for well bred horses, independent of the requirements of the Imperial army: 17,000 are yearly imported into Great Britain from other countries, and Canada supplies none. What is required to produce the riding and driving horses, always in great demand all over Europe, is the importation to this country of thoroughbred sires, horses with plenty of bone, good deep shoulders, long rein, powerful quarters, and good back and loins, and short legs. Nothing requires more care and attention than horse breeding, that is to produce the animals that command prices in the European market ranging from \$500 to \$4,000.

A great injury is being done to the horse-breeding of this country by crossing the small mares with the large Clyde, Shire and Percheron sires. The produce is often an impossible brute, fit for nothing, and if the Imperial army is to be supplied it can only be done from the produce of thoroughbred sires and three-parts bred mares. Each year must show farmers how precarious a living is that which depends solely on grain, and if only the same attention be paid to the rearing of good horses as is being paid to other stock, the result will be beyond all expectation; every day the class of vessels carrying cattle to Europe is improving, and horses can be landed as safe and sound in Liverpool and London as in New York, with this difference, that for every dollar paid by American dealers, the dealers in Europe can afford to give a pound sterling."

Canadian Horses for the Army.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge expressed himself satisfied with the Canadian horses inspected by him at the new remount establishment, Woolwich, on Tuesday. The horses in question have been recently purchased by Col. Ravenhill and Col. Phipps for military purposes, and both officers may be warmly congratulated on the result of their labors, and for many reasons. The first is that the farmers of the United Kingdom have ceased trying to supply horses suitable for cavalry purposes—the Government price does not attract them. Our best horses are exported and sold at prices higher than obtainable in this country, and the leggy, weedy residue is not fitted for the wear and tear which service in the cavalry and artillery entails. To make up the deficiency some 17,000 foreign horses are annually imported to supply our army wants from Russia, Spain, Germany and France. The question has for long been discussed whether state aid and the establishment of government *haras* in this country might not remedy the defect of being obliged to trust to foreigners for our supply of army horses. Whatever may be the consensus of opinion on this head, nothing has been done to stimulate the breeding of horses among British farmers, and an important difficulty has been solved by the united efforts of Cols. Ravenhill and Phipps. Both officers went out to Canada in June last to buy and send over a sample of horses from the Dominion, and these—some 80 in number—passed muster on Tuesday by the Duke of Cambridge, who expressed his approval of these first-fruits. Col. Ravenhill stated that most of the horses were taken out of timber waggons. Some of them were almost thoroughbred, and, although in poor condition when purchased, they had, with food and rest, developed into fine troopers. In their native country the animals were all draught-horses, but are capable of being broken in for riding purposes. It is a matter on which the nation may be congratulated that we have at last found a field for the supply of our military horses. To be dependent for them on the foreigner entails a drain of money out of the country in time of peace and the closure of the markets in time of war. So long as England remains mistress of the seas we may look to our colonies to supply that which is unremunerative to native industry. The maximum Home Government price is £45 per cavalry horse, while the Canadian horses were purchased at prices varying from £25 to £35. To this must be added £8, the cost of transit from Quebec to England. The Duke of Cambridge incidentally remarked that the War Department had shown the Canadian farmers the practicability of delivering horses on the Thames under government price, and he hoped that the colonies would be encouraged to breed and send over horses for military purposes. Australia, possibly, may be stimulated in this direction, and in these days of projected Imperial Federation all must be glad to see that the discovery of a fresh field for the supply of our military wants will tend to divert money from the pockets of foreigners and turn the Pactolean stream into the purses of our own flesh and blood.—*U. Service Gazette.*

Commanding Officers.

THE probability, nay, the certainty, of the adoption by the military authorities of a system of selection for the position of officer commanding a regiment leads us to make a few remarks on what we may consider the expiring genus. In the adoption of any system of selection certain rules will have to be formulated, which, it may be supposed, will bring the class of commanding officers to something approaching a uniform standard—of course they will all be good under the expected military millennium! Under the expiring system commanding officers have been of all types—some good, some bad, some neither the one nor the other, some with ideas, some without. But we must confess that all have, more or less, honestly attempted to do their duty according to their lights. The rarest type of all is the popular commanding officer. We heard a commanding officer say once with a melancholy sigh, that if an angel came down from heaven to command his regiment he would not be popular. When we talk of this type we mean the commanding officer who drives the regimental coach with a firm hand, and whilst he makes

everybody do his duty is popular with the officers and men. The strict disciplinarian will, we think, be more popular with the men than with the officers. There are some commanding officers that are popular because they are easy-going and let things slide. The commonest kind of commanding officer is the one that is popular *outside* his regiment, and who reserves all his imperfections for the bosom of his regimental circle. It is very hard in such a case, when an outsider remarks to one of his officers, "What a charming man your colonel is," for him to answer with a truthful countenance, "Yes—very." Yet it must be a very bad regiment where a different answer would be given, and where the officers are always grumbling abroad about the shortcomings of their commanding officer. This is an instance of the much-derided *esprit de corps* which, in our opinion, is one of the strongest supporters of discipline. Then there is the colonel who lives in the orderly-room, and would be only too happy to sleep in it. Such a man delights in sounding the "officers' call," and keeping them hanging about the orderly-room, whether they have any business there or not, whilst he tells off the prisoners. As his mind is of rather a discursive tendency, when a prisoner and the witnesses are before him, and they introduce irrelevant matter, he keenly follows them—"Sergeant So-and-so said something,"—"Send for Sergeant So-and-so." One name introduces another until there is a *queue* of witnesses outside the orderly-room, like that at a popular theatre before the pit door is opened. This kind of commanding officer is never popular. He wastes his own and his officers' time, and much as a prisoner hates cells or pack drill, he hates it still more when the process of awarding it takes half-an-hour instead of two minutes. The jocular commanding officer is generally liked, more especially when his jokes have no malice in them.

There are some commanding officers, and accounted good ones too, who never know any drill, and who can never remember what movements have been abolished and which retained; such men are very often good sportsmen, smart looking fellows on horseback, look well after their regiments, and not easily disconcerted by a huffy general on parade. As they generally have a good word of command and a smart adjutant, they get very well through an inspection. There is the commanding officer who has been the best of comrades and good fellows as a major, a leading sportsman of his regiment, first across country, and an excellent shot, getting as much leave as he can, who, when he gets command, develops into quite a different being, forgets that he ever was young, and looks upon leave as an institution of the devil. Such a man, when the best meet of the season takes place in the neighborhood, and his youngsters want to go, finds that it is the only day on which he can have an all-present parade or kit inspection. Another sort of commanding officer—we do not think there are many of them—are those that sleep with Julius Cæsar under their pillows, and read Hamley and their drill books by day, but whose knowledge evaporates when the general hustles them, and begs them to "get on with the Royal Wessex," or whatever their regiments may be.

How few really good drills there are! It does not seem a very hard thing to drill well, to have a good voice, a tolerable memory, and a clear idea which is your right hand and which is your left. We say nothing about tactics; that is quite a different art. The class of commanding officers who, if not bearded like the pard, yet are full of strange oaths, is almost extinct; they have, however, existed since the days of Flanders, and a few remain in the higher ranks. Such a man was he, of another generation, who was reported to have gone down on his knees on parade and prayed that a fresh oath might be given him to swear at such a lot of idiots as he had to handle. We must not forget the society commanding officer, generally very popular with the young ladies, who is always ready to start a regimental dance or luncheon. The youngsters complain that he is the only one who reaps the benefit of it, as it is he, and not they, who is asked to the country houses and to the pheasant shooting. Among the best of the various types is the sporting commanding officer, who hunts, shoots and fishes when he can spare time, and what is more, likes to see his officers hunt, shoot and fish too. Such a man may not be a brilliant drill, or an eminent military lawyer, but he can generally hold his own on the parade ground as well as he can across country or on the moor. The only temptation which, if he is a wise man he will do well to avoid, is to take part in those sports which require youth and suppleness. It is sad to see the middle-aged commanding officer swathed in flannels, and perspiring at every pore, pursuing the lively ball at lawn tennis, or who, after vast preparation and much padding, returns sadly from the wickets with a duck's egg, because a certain stiffness in the back did not permit him to stop the fatal shooter. But on such occasions just listen to those good-natured sycophants, his subalterns, "Oh! colonel, I am sorry; we depended on you for a score, but that was a clipping ball that bowled you—best bowled to-day." Such, alas, is human nature. The last type of commanding officer which we have in view is the one who is overwhelmed by his family. Such a warrior is generally henpecked, and his "lady" is really the commanding officer. His sorry charger's life is made a burden to him by having to

drag the family waggonette, whilst the wretched colonel either drives or sits beside the moustachoed Jehu and seeks consolation in the only pleasure he has left him—his well-smoked pipe.

But now, as a new *regime* is about to arrive, shall we venture to describe, for the benefit of the military authorities, the sealed pattern of commanding officer? A smart, well-sep-up man of *any age*, so long as he is in full possession of the faculties of mind and body; equally at home in drill ground and the orderly-room, above all, a gentleman; considerate towards his officers and thoughtful to his men; a strict disciplinarian, but no military pedant. We say nothing about his being a good horseman, for some men would consider Von Moltke a duffer if he could not jump a five-barred gate. But our ideal should not require to be tied on his horse. He should be a man who cheerfully accepts and makes the best of the decisions of his countrymen with regard to military matters, and who does not require to be shoved and pushed along from one movement to another, or go about grumbling and shaking his head because repeating rifles, or balloons, or a variation in drill, are to be introduced into the service. Such a man is required, as the seniors respect and the youngsters love, and who has a friendly word for every man, woman and child in his regiment, and consideration even for the greatest blackguard in it. If by any system of selection the authorities can find this sort of man let them promote him as soon as possible, he will not disgrace their choice when serious business is going on.—*Broad Arrow.*

Outpost Duty.

BY direction of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, Viscount Wolseley, G.C.B., adjutant-general, has issued a memorandum to the general officers commanding military districts, in which it is pointed out that His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge has recently noticed that many officers of all ranks evince a considerable lack of information in those field duties—such as outpost and reconnaissance work—a thorough and practical knowledge of which is vitally important to all military efficiency. The memorandum recalls that the yearly course of military training prescribed by the Queen's regulations was laid down with the object of affording officers sufficient opportunities to practise these duties, and teach them to their men; and the commander-in-chief has been disappointed to find that little progress has been made in this respect. The general officers addressed are ordered to impress upon officers commanding regiments or battalions that His Royal Highness holds them personally responsible for the efficiency of their corps in every particular. The necessity of devoting a great deal more time and attention to the instruction of troops is pointed out very strongly, especially in field duties, upon the proper and intelligent performance of which in time of war the credit of corps and the lives of men must in no small measure depend. The officers commanding the districts are requested themselves to see that corps under their command are frequently practised in outpost and reconnaissance duties; and the commander-in-chief considers that in winter route marches much practical instruction may be given, though large drill grounds be not available, and movements have to be restricted to the road.—*United Service Gazette.*

Queries and Replies.

- Q. 1. Will the Martini take a more prominent place in the matches of the D. R. A. next year?
 2. Can you inform me what would be the price of a box of M.-H. ammunition? I want one for next year. G. C.
- A. 1. That will be decided by the new council to be elected this winter; the probability is that very little change will be made in this year's programme.
 2. A box containing 500 rounds will cost \$12; a deposit receipt should be got as described for books last week; but in this case the application should be made to the Director of Stores here, or the Superintendent of Stores, if there is one where you live.

Correspondence.

QUEBEC AMMUNITION.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—Your remarks on Snider ammunition of Canadian manufacture, I cannot understand. I see by the GAZETTE of the 28th October, that the five highest scores for the season at Ottawa, with the Snider rifle, are 382 points, the second 380 points. I enclose a list of competitions held at Quebec this season, by which you will see that the highest five scores there for the season aggregated 411 points, and the second 400 points, with D. C. ammunition. The four highest scores with the Martini-Henry at Ottawa, are 347 points, the second 333 points. The four highest scores with the Snider rifle at Quebec, D. C. ammunition, are 329, the second 321 points. The difference for the first being eighteen points and the second four points better for the Martini, which I think is very insignificant considering the small bore of the Martini and its renown for accuracy. I cannot see that the Ottawa club's season's record is a proof of the difference in quality of the two ammunitions, for their first spoon competition was with English ammunition, Snider rifle, and highest scores were 84, 83, and 80 points. Their last spoon competition was with D. C. ammunition, Snider

rifle, scores being 89, 86, and 86 points, D. C. ammunition being 14 points better than the English ammunition.

I don't think the Ottawa club has any room to talk of the D. C. ammunition, as there are other clubs using the same ammunition and making good scores. As for the average 7 points per score less than last year, I think it is on account of having no sighting shots this year.

A RIFLEMAN.

Synopsis of this year's shooting of the 8th Royal Rifles of Quebec, showing nine club days; Snider rifle; D. C. ammunition:

NAMES.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL BEST FIVE.	GRAND TOTAL.
Sergt. J. Goudie.....	75	76	77	79	82	82	82	82	83	411	718
Col. Sergt Thomson.....	70	70	72	72	79	79	79	81	82	400	684
Corpl. Hartley.....	67	69	70	71	75	73	67	84	78	381	654
Pte. Norton.....	62	62	65	63	65	68	71	75	76	355	607
Corpl. Douglas.....	53	56	62	63	67	69	69	76	72	353	587
Sergt. Dewfall.....	59	59	59	60	63	67	72	72	74	348	585
Sergt. Thomson.....	59	59	64	66	66	67	67	68	71	339	587
Sergt. Mountain.....	57	57	61	62	63	64	66	68	78	339	576

The Target.

Waterdown, Ont.—The first annual matches of the Waterdown rifle association and of No. 2 Co., 77th Batt. were held conjointly on the Lansdowne ranges, Waterdown, on the 3rd inst. Dr. O. McGregor is president, and Mr. Geo. Baker secretary of the association, and there were about fifty competitors. Nearly all are beginners, and deserve great encouragement for the hearty manner in which they have taken to military shooting. A well known crack shot prophesies that the Waterdown marksmen will be heard from to some purpose in the near future, and that the enthusiasm of Dr. McGregor and Mr. Robertson is rapidly leading them especially to the front. The day was cold and unfavorable for good scores. A hot coffee canteen added materially to the comfort of the marksmen.

FIRST—VOLUNTEER.

Restricted to the volunteers of No. 2 Co., 77th Batt. 7 shots at 200 yards.

Prize.	Pts.	Prize.	Pts.
\$6 00 Capt. McMonies.....	24	\$2 00 Bugler Metzger.....	10
5 00 Pte. John Cleaves.....	16	1 00 Pte. James Cleaves.....	9
4 00 Pte. Clarke.....	14	1 00 Paul Arnold.....	6
3 00 Pte. Mullock.....	13	1 00 Sergt. L. Mullock.....	5
2 50 Pte. O. W. Cummins.....	11	1 00 Pte. A. Brown.....	4
2 00 Sergt. Davis.....	11	75 Charles Brown.....	4

SECOND—CIVILIAN.

Restricted to the civilians of Waterdown and vicinity. 7 shots at 500 yards.

\$6 00 Ed. Rymal.....	22	\$1 50 Thomas English.....	15
5 00 Alex. Robertson.....	20	1 00 J. W. Tunnis.....	15
4 00 Wm. Rickman.....	17	1 00 Thomas Curtis.....	13
3 00 T. O. Page.....	17	1 00 Wm. Hughes.....	12
2 50 Dr. O. McGregor.....	16	1 00 John Tunnis.....	12
2 00 W. Gallon.....	15	75 Wm. Stock.....	11

THIRD—VOLUNTEER AND CIVILIAN.

7 rounds; range 500 yards.

\$6 00 A. Robertson.....	27	\$1 00 Sergt. C. Brown.....	14
5 00 T. O. Page.....	20	1 00 Dr. McGregor.....	14
4 00 J. Easterbrook.....	20	0 75 Geo. Batsler.....	13
3 00 A. Carey.....	19	0 75 W. Gallon.....	13
2 50 T. Mullock.....	19	0 75 R. McDonald.....	13
2 00 W. Stock.....	16	0 75 N. Arnold.....	13
1 50 Wm. Ryckman.....	16	0 75 Jas. Hunter.....	12
1 50 C. Nicholson.....	14	0 75 Rev. W. Robertson.....	11
1 00 P. Arnold.....	14	0 50 Pte. Luke Mullock.....	11
1 00 J. W. Tunnis.....	14	0 25 Pte. Metzger.....	11

FOURTH—AGGREGATE.

\$3 25 Alex. Robertson.....	47	\$1 25 Ed. Rymal.....	12
3 00 T. O. Page.....	37	1 10 T. Mullock.....	12
2 00 Capt. McMonies.....	35	1 00 J. Easterbrook.....	11
1 50 Wm. Ryckman.....	33	0 75 Dr. McGregor.....	11

Most bull's eyes in aggregate scores.....	A. Robertson.....	\$1 50
Most inners.....	E. Rymal.....	1 10
Most magpies.....	T. O. Page.....	2 00
Most outers.....	W. Stock.....	1 00

FIFTH—EXTRA SERIES.

10 shots, kneeling, at 200 yards; prizes in kind.

A. Robertson.....	45	W. Gallon.....
Pte. John Cleaves.....	44	John Tunis.....
Dr. McGregor.....	43	

Port Arthur.—The rifle association's annual matches are fixed for Thanksgiving day, if the ammunition telegraphed from Ottawa does not get stuck on the C.P.R.

Portage la Prairie.—The members of Portage rifle association are preparing a match between eight civilians and eight military men to come off on Thanksgiving day if the weather proves favorable. At a late meeting of the association the financial report by secretary R. C. Brown showed a small balance in favor of the association. The McIntyre cup was won by Jno. McKenzie, the Woodside trophy clock by Lieut. R. C. Brown, and the association gold medal by Jno. J. McKenzie.

Gibraltar.—The latest innovation in rifle shooting comes to us from Gibraltar, where at a late prize meeting a match was included in the programme for a "Ladies' Prize," given by officers of the garrison, seven shots with the government rifle, used with the Morris tube at 25 yards at a very diminutive target. There was a large number of fair competitors, and a good attendance of spectators. The result was that three ladies tied, viz., Mrs. Tuson, Miss Ethel and Miss Eva Adye, who made 11 points. There was just sufficient daylight left to shoot off the tie, and Miss Ethel Adye won the first prize by making a bull's-eye, and the other two each missed. They had therefore to fire again for second prize, and Mrs. Tuson was victorious, leaving Miss Eva Adye with the third prize. The prizes were presented by His Excellency the Governor, who did so with an appropriate speech, in the course of which he said that as the ladies' tastes were varied; the officers of the garrison had thought it best to give the prizes in money, and he hoped that they would buy something which would remind them of the occasion.

Regimental Notes.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

Shoal Lake, Man.—It is reported that A. H. Scouten has been authorized to organize a company of rifles here.

Portage la Prairie.—Major Street inspected the arms and equipments of C company, 95th battalion, in charge of Capt. Sheppard, on the 9th, and found them in perfect order.

Peterborough.—The 57th battalion turned out for regular drill on Thursday the 11th inst. There was a fairly good attendance of Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 companies. The battalion was put through evolutions by Major Grover, which indicated that the men are improving in drill. From this date until the inspection, which will take place on Nov. 24th, the battalion will drill every Monday and Thursday evening.

Hamilton.—There was a good muster of the 13th on the 4th for the weekly battalion parade. The band was present in full strength and played the regiment through the streets, after which various battalion movements were executed in the gore under Col. Gibson, a marked improvement in drill from the previous week was shown. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evenings are devoted to company drill, two companies drilling each evening. Several of the companies are now up to their full strength, and there is no doubt that the next few drill nights will see the whole regiment in the same satisfactory condition.

Fredericton.—The following notes, from a well known western field officer who has been visiting A school, were written before the description in our issue of the 4th was seen. We gladly insert it as an evidence of the favorable impression being made by the corps of instruction:—

"A" school is beautifully situated on the banks of the river St. John in the centre of the city, having a fine view for miles around. The strength of this little garrison is, I am informed, about 140 rank and file under the command of Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, in whom you will find a soldier as well as a gentleman. He is ably assisted by Major Gordon, captain of the school, who is very popular with the officers and men under him, as well as with the citizens of Fredericton. The barracks and rooms of the men are as clean as a new pin; the kits and accoutrements are as bright as elbow grease can make them; the band is a good one and ably conducted. Having had the pleasure of hearing them dispense some very choice selections, I am under the impression that A school has the "premier" band, the men are well set up and well drilled. I am informed that two thirds of the officers and men are teetotallers, which speaks well for them. There is very little or any crime, and empty cells. There are quite a number of attached officers and men, a fact that I, as one interested in the Canadian militia, am glad to see. Any one visiting Fredericton should make a point of going through the school, and I am sure will be well repaid for his visit, as he will meet with the utmost courtesy from all, from the commandant down, and see a well conducted military establishment doing good work for the militia. VISITOR.

St. John, N.B.—Major A. J. Armstrong gave an oyster supper in the Reform Club hall on the 5th to the members of No. 4 battery, N.B.B.G.A., on the occasion of his promotion from the captaincy of the battery to the majority of the brigade. In addition to the members of the battery, there were present a number of the officers of the brigade and other friends. Major Armstrong was chairman, with Lieut.-Col. Armstrong on his right and Surgeon Andrews on his left. The vice chair was occupied by Capt. Geo. W. Jones, who succeeds Major Armstrong as captain of the battery, who had Adjutant Fred. Langan on his right and Capt. Geo. B. Seely on his left. Capt. Botsford was chairman at another table, and Lieut. Ritchie vice-chairman. The band of the brigade sat down at a third table. After supper the usual toasts were proposed and suitably responded to. On the toast of the evening being proposed, Sergt.-Major Su is, the senior n.c.o. of the battery, read an address from Major Armstrong's former command, congratulating him upon his promotion, expressing their regret at losing him as captain, and bearing testimony to his zeal in that capacity. The address was accompanied by the presentation of a walking stick. The cane is of ebony, with a gold head, handsomely carved and bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Major A. J. Armstrong, by the n.c. officers and gunners, No. 4 battery N.B. B.G.A., Nov. 5, 1886.

News Notes.

In the North-West Council, at Regina, on the 3rd, the question of the right of the mounted police to participate in the grant of medals for the suppression of the rebellion was brought up by Lord Boyle, who asked:—Were not the police as worthy of medals as the militia? He thought they were, and more so. (Hear, hear.) For his own part he could tell the council that the company in which he himself had served received scrip and medals, yet they never saw a shot fired! (Laughter.)

Col. Irvine said the North-West mounted police and Prince Albert volunteers were as much entitled to medals as any of the militia. For his part he would do all he could to see that the police got justice. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Turriff—Did the Quebec school of cavalry get scrip?

Mr. Hayter Reed—Yes, all the eastern militia got scrip.

Mr. Turriff—Surely if the Quebec school of cavalry got scrip I cannot see why the North-West mounted police should be left out in the cold.

Mr. Ross thought the police had as good a right to scrip as the volunteers.

The motion was then referred to a select committee which reported later, as follows:—

"That in the opinion of this committee, the N.W.M.P. are thoroughly deserving of both the scrip and the medal.

"That in a large number of cases they were engaged in some of the severest engagements that were fought.

"That in all cases they performed the same duties as the other regular corps when called on to do so.

"That the argument advanced against their receiving such awards and distinctions of their having been a regular force employed for their regular duties, would hardly hold good, taking into account the position of A and B batteries, the Quebec school of cavalry and C school of infantry on the same point.

"Your committee would therefore recommend that the following resolution be passed by the council, and forwarded by the lieutenant-governor to the government at Ottawa."

"That this council is of opinion that the valuable services rendered by the North-West mounted police during the late outbreak should be rewarded by their receiving the same awards and distinction as were conferred on the other regular corps on

service at that time. We would beg leave to respectfully point out that in a great measure the services of this force were insufficiently appreciated in Canada, that the arguments advanced against their receiving such awards and distinctions are, in our opinion, to a great extent fallacious, and that we are confident such a bestowal will be hailed throughout the North-West with satisfaction as an act of justice."

This resolution, on motion of Lord Boyle, was then unanimously adopted.

Colonel William Lenny, late of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, who served under Lord Seaton in the Canadian revolt in 1838-9, died in London on the 5th ult., Aged 82. He served for 36 years in command of either the 1st or of the reserve battalion.

The Schulof Rifle.—No sooner had the Austrian government officially sanctioned the adoption of the Mannlicher repeating rifle in its army, and given orders for over a million stand of this arm to be manufactured, than an inventor comes forward prepared to supply not only a better rifle, but one which he claims to be the best repeating weapon in the field. The new gun—the invention of Her Joseph Schulof, of Vienna—has been tested there at the rifle butts, and is said to have proved its efficiency and superiority at the trial. The weapon can be used as a single-shooting or as a repeating rifle. Employed in the first capacity it can discharge twenty-four shots per minute. On being changed into a repeater—which is effected by simply touching a spring, thereby setting the repeating action in motion—fifty shots per minute can be fired, and this includes loading, the magazine holding only ten rounds. Before many months all the armies of the continent will have repeating rifles, and so important does the question of re-armament appear to the German military authorities that all the great arsenals of the empire—Spandau, Erfurt, and Danzig—are at work converting Mausers day and night. *verb. sat. sap!—United Service Gazette.*

Our Trading Column.

This column is established for the purpose of enabling our friends to exchange, purchase, sell, or otherwise advertise articles they desire either to acquire or dispose of. It is not available for commercial purposes.

The cost of announcements in this column for each insertion will be **one cent per word for the first ten words one-half cent for each additional word.** Each advertisement will have a register number in our books, and all communications regarding it must be forwarded through the GAZETTE, but it must be distinctly understood that this office incurs no other responsibility or liability in connection therewith. Address, with stamp for return postage, **Canadian Militia Gazette, Box 316, Ottawa.**

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Rifle mounted officer's saddlery. Describe and quote prices. Register No. 3.

RIFLE OFFICER'S UNIFORM.—Tunic—regulation English made mess suit, new, for height 5 ft. 7 1/2 in.—Morocco cross and sword belt—sword—will be sold cheap. Register No. 4.

INFANTRY OFFICER'S UNIFORM.—Complete—latest regulations (full dress, only worn once), chest measure 42 inches. Whole or part for sale cheap. Register No. 5.

FOR SALE.—Two pairs of new black silk stars for rifle tunic or patrol badges. Price one dollar per pair. Register No. 6.



Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Du Lievre Works," will be received until **FRIDAY**, the 26th day of **NOVEMBER**, next, inclusively, for the construction of a Lock and Dam and works in connection therewith, on the River Du Lievre at Little Rapids, Ottawa County, Quebec, in accordance with a plan and specification to be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after Friday, the 5th of November next, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

Persons desirous of tendering are requested to make personal enquiry relative to the work to be done, and to examine the locality themselves, and are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. GOBEIL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, 30th October, 1886. }

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Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned will be received at this office until **Friday**, the 19th inst., for the Clearing and Removal of Snow, &c., from the public buildings, Ottawa; and also for the Removal of Snow, &c., from the roofs of buildings, out-buildings, walks, avenues or roads, &c., &c., at Rideau Hall.

Forms of Tender and Specifications can be had at this office where all necessary information can be obtained.

Separate Tenders will be required for each work, and must be endorsed "Tender for removal of Snow, Public Buildings," and "Removal of Snow, Rideau Hall," respectively.

Each tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, *equal to five per cent.* of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. GOBEIL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, 12th Nov., 1886. }

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For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

A. CAMPBELL,

Postmaster-General.

Post Office Department,
Ottawa, 21st May, 1886.