

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

Fourth Year.
VOL. IV, No. 5.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 31st JANUARY, 1889.

\$1.50 per annum in advance
Single Copies Five Cents.

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The Report of the Militia Department.

The Annual Report of the Department of Militia and Defence, for the year 1888, was issued this week, and we publish elsewhere liberal extracts from it. These are from only the reports of the chief officers of the two main branches of the department—the Deputy Minister and the Major General Commanding. In succeeding issues we will deal with other portions of the annual report.

It will be noticed with pleasure that the Deputy Minister, Col. Panet, joins in the request for an increase in the annual parliamentary grant, and emphasizes the fact, so often pointed out in these columns, that if there have been obstacles in the way of the proper development of our militia system these have arisen mainly from lack of money.

Of the total ordinary militia expenditure for 1888, more than one-third is shown to have been spent upon the permanent corps. The proportion appears larger than it ought to be; for the services of the 36,000 more or less trained men comprising the rest of the militia are certainly worth to the country more than twice the sum paid for 1,000 men of the permanent corps. Yet for every one dollar paid for the latter there are only two for the former. The force would be sorry to lose the schools, and we do not see how the expenditure for them can easily be reduced, even though \$1,300 is spent for each qualifying certificate granted. But it is quite within the range of possibility that the schools should be made vastly more useful than at present. In fact, it is imperative that something in this direction should at once be attempted; for whereas the total number of certificates granted to officers and non-commissioned officers during 1888 was 334, there are at present on the militia roll about 750 officers not possessing certificates of any kind, and who can only get them from these schools.

Col. Panet notes that three times during the year the militia were called upon for service in aid of the civil power, and in this connection points out that on every such occasion the conduct of the troops has evoked warm praise from their superior officers.

In General Middleton's report attention is given mainly to the Royal Military College and the Permanent Corps. In connection with the report upon the college he devotes to the rules governing the issue of Imperial commissions to cadets who have put in only two years at the college, a paragraph which will doubtless be instructive to those newspaper critics who in the desire to find fault, have lately taken the government to task for recommending such cadets for commissions offered.

The General's recommendations respecting the schools are as usual very interesting. He asks for an augmentation in the numbers of the Cavalry School Corps, and favours a rearrangement of the artillery schools, so as to have district branches in each for field and garrison artillery respectively. Concerning the recommendation that the garrison branch

of the Kingston School should be abolished, there being only one garrison battery in Ontario at present, it will be noted that he expresses the hope to have more garrison artillery in Ontario shortly, a hope which we trust is well founded. "C" Battery of the R. C. A., and also the Mounted Infantry Corps, receive high praise for the services rendered during the year when called out in aid of the civil power. The Infantry Schools are dismissed very briefly, but the General's report is satisfactory.

The subject of shooting receives a good deal of attention from General Middleton, and he recommends increased grants of ammunition and money prizes for the permanent corps and the ordinary militia alike. The necessity for some such step being taken to increase the shooting efficiency of the force becomes apparent from the perusal of the reports of the Deputy-Adjutant Generals in command of the several districts. To the riflemen it will be good news to note that the worn-out Sniders are about to be replaced by the new ones lying idle in the stores.

On the whole, General Middleton's report is well worth perusal, and we hope that action will be taken shortly in furtherance of its recommendations. This would be strengthening several weak points in the defensive system, about which much has been written of late. It will be good news indeed if, when the state of the Militia is brought under discussion in the Parliament which opens to-day, the Minister of Militia in answer quotes the recommendations of the General commanding upon the points raised, and announces that those recommendations are about to be carried out.

There is a siege scene in the handsome carnival number just issued by the *Montreal Witness*, which that paper thus describes: "The Storming of the Political Ice Castle", by the great Canadian caricaturist Bengough, is just full of hits. Sir John, in armour clad, holds the main tower with his comrades, Sir Adolphe perching himself on the topmost pinnacle with the great two-letter standard. From separate windows just below the Prohibitionist and Brewing Cabinet Ministers are firing artillery, of different strength, but both as characteristic as they are unique. Mr. Mowat now holds the keep, and Mr. Mercier has captured an important tower, from which the ex-Premier is suspended in a terrible situation. The Manitoba tower has also been taken, and another ex-Premier flutters in that region. But the defenders have themselves made a capture, and a gentleman well known in Montreal and Laprairie dangles from an improvised gallows high in air."

The *Halifax Critic* prints this very complimentary notice of a militia officer:—"Capt. Jolly, commanding the Yarmouth Battery, ought to be mentioned as one of the most efficient and energetic officers the excellent militia of our province can boast of. Capt. Jolly has, we are informed on the best authority, built a drill shed for his battery at his own expense, paying ground rent for the land on which it is erected. It is not every corps commander who could stand such an expense on behalf of the service to which he does honour, but such a man is emphatically the right sort of officer."

Imperial authorities are fully aware of, and duly appreciate, the value of this institution, and the high standard in military training of its graduates. Our other Royal Schools of Military Instruction, in the respective arms of the service have continued to give satisfaction, and have become popular with the Force. They all appear to have done good work, and are reported on in complimentary terms by the general officer commanding. The influence maintained by the sound training of so many of our officers in these excellent schools cannot but be perceptibly felt in raising the standard of the whole Force in point of military education.

The following synopsis of the certificates reported to have been granted at these schools during the year shows briefly the extent of the work which they are accomplishing:

Royal School of Cavalry, Quebec.....	19
"A" Battery, Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, Ont....	29
"B" " " " " " " " " " Quebec.....	47
"C" " " " " " " " " " Victoria, B. C.....
Royal School of Mounted Infantry, Winnipeg, Man.....	13
"A" Company, Royal School of Infantry, Fredericton, N.B	57
"B" " " " " " " " " " St. John's, Que...	38
"C" " " " " " " " " " Toronto, Ont.....	86
"D" " " " " " " " " " London, Ont.....	45
Total.....	334

Four 9-pr. rifled guns with carriages, etc., complete, purchased from the Imperial authorities, were issued to No. 2 Battery of the 1st Brigade of Field Artillery, at Guelph, in exchange for obsolete smooth-bore guns. The whole of our field artillery is now armed with rifled guns, except the Sydney battery, which, I hope, will be supplied at an early day with this improved armament.

AIDING THE CIVIL POWER.

The militia force of Canada has been called upon in aid of the civil power during the year 1888, upon the three occasions under-mentioned:

Trouble with Indians on the Skeena River (Province of British Columbia), from 16th July to 25th August; "C" Battery, Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

Anticipated riot, Canadian Pacific Railway and Red River Valley Railway (Province of Manitoba), from 26th September to 3rd October; Mounted Infantry School Corps.

Strike on the Hereford Railway (Province of Quebec), from 31st October to 7th November; No. 1 Troop of the 5th Regiment of Cavalry, and part of the 58th "Compton" Battalion of Infantry.

A special report upon the first named and most important of these services is published. Upon this occasion, and upon the second named, our permanent troops were employed, and in every instance the conduct of the Canadian militia has been up to its, uniformly excellent standard. The report of the Deputy Adjutant General of Military District No. 10 to the general officer commanding, upon the calling out of the mounted infantry in anticipation of rioting at Winnipeg, not being of sufficient importance to require printing in *extenso*, I beg to quote two brief paragraphs therefrom:—

" From the 20th to the 31st all were confined to barracks. On the evening of the 31st, at 7.30 o'clock, the magistrates demanded the presence of the mounted infantry at the scene of the anticipated riot; and ten minutes after my handing Col. Taylor the order, the men rode out of barracks. I may here remark that the night was pitch black and the state of the roads fearful. Notwithstanding this, officers and men were delighted to turn out

" During the time the men were confined to barracks (eleven days) their conduct was very good; and I have great pleasure in bringing this before your notice."

The presence of the active militia for a few days having proved sufficient to prevent any riotous proceedings on the part of the Italian laborers on the line of the Hereford Railway, the detailed reports of our officers on the occasion do not require printing in full; but the following brief extract from the report of the Deputy Adjutant General of Military District No. 5, I beg leave to append as a matter of general interest: "I have much pleasure in reporting that during the whole affair the troops conducted themselves in a soldierly and temperate manner, such as to reflect credit on themselves and their officers." The general officer commanding, in forwarding the above mentioned report, says that credit is due particularly to Lt.-Colonel Pope, 58th Battalion.

It is gratifying indeed to note that on every occasion where the Canadian militia are called upon for service, such is invariably the praise which their conduct, while on duty, evokes from their superior officers, and from the country at large.

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING.

General Middleton submits with his report those of the different responsible staff officers under his command viz: The commandant Royal Military College, the Inspector of Artillery, the Inspecting Officer of Engineer Militia, the commandants of the Royal Schools of Instruction, and the Deputy Adjutants-General of the several military districts.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

I inspected the Royal Military College on the 10th and 11th of May, and found everything progressing most satisfactorily. Major General Olivier, the commandant, reported favourably of the professors and instructors and the non-commissioned staff.

The cadets are still crowded as to their dormitories, but I trust the ensuing year will see a great improvement in this respect. An hospital is required, and is absolutely necessary. The unsightly building now used as a gymnasium ought to be pulled down and a new gymnasium erected on another site. This I also consider very necessary, the course of gymnastics being most important for the health and the development of the physique of the cadets.

I was also able to be present at the distribution of prizes on the 27th June. On this occasion the premier, Sir John A. Macdonald, was good enough to be present, and to distribute the prizes to the satisfaction and pleasure of the whole college. The cadets marched past and went through the manual, firing and bayonet exercise and Sir John was pleased to express his gratification at his visit and his conviction that the institution was of great value to the country in general.

This year an unusual number of commissions were offered in the Imperial army to the cadets of this college, besides the four annually offered, so that five received commissions in the Royal Engineers, three in the Royal Artillery, one in the Cavalry and one in the Infantry. This alone proves that the Imperial government is fully satisfied with those graduates who have already obtained commissions in the Imperial service. Most gratifying articles have appeared in the English press on the supply of officers to the British army from the Royal Military College, Kingston, showing that the value of the education given them is fully appreciated in England, as I believe it is now in Canada.

I would here beg to draw attention to the rules promulgated by the Imperial authorities, governing the obtaining of commissions through the Canadian militia with reference to cadets who have put in two years at the Royal Military College and then left. The regulations provide for the granting of six commissions in the Imperial army to officers of the Canadian militia who have served two trainings and are between 19 and 22 years of age and pass certain qualifying examinations. It very often happens that cadets for personal and private reasons leave the college after two years, and provided they satisfy certain requirements they are given a certificate of military qualification entitling them to commissions in the militia. I would recommend that these certificates be accepted in lieu of the trainings, as were these cadets required to perform these trainings, it would in many instances, render them intelligible by reason of ages; and further, I consider the possession of such certificate guarantees a more extensive knowledge of drill and military duties than could possibly be obtained by two military trainings. These gentlemen would, of course, have to undergo the competitive qualifying examinations required by the regulations and satisfy the other required conditions, and no injustice would consequently be done to other militia officers by this concession, and commissions in the Imperial service would thus be open to a class of men possessing high qualifications and eminently eligible.

SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION.

I visited the different schools of instruction during the past year and found no falling off in their general efficiency, and am satisfied they continue to fully justify their *raison d'etre*.

CAVALRY.—I inspected the Cavalry School Corps under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull on the 20th July, and was perfectly satisfied with the result. The horses were in first rate order, and the men smart and soldierlike and well set up. The manoeuvres, including skirmishing and dismounted practice were well executed. The new barracks and stables are excellent, requiring only a few slight additions, mere matters of detail. The Riding School built out of the materials of the old drill shed is also now completed and will prove of immense utility. The interior economy seems to be everything I could wish, and Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull seems to have been able to imbue his small command with an esprit de corps which is equal to his and their credit. I only wish that the troop could be augmented in numbers and I must again urge that it be at least increased to 50 men and horses. It is also absolutely necessary in my opinion that an addition of one subaltern, a riding master and a quartermaster sergeant should be made at once, and that the senior duty officer should hold the rank of Captain, as is the case in all the other school corps. This would enable me to depute Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull to inspect at some of the camps, which will be

of great advantage to the Cavalry branch of the force. I hope also that you will see your way to forming the second Cavalry School at Toronto, with a detachment at Kingston, where the Battery is very much overtaxed in having to furnish horses for the lessons in equitation of the gentlemen cadets and the officers of the long course.

ARTILLERY.

I visited three Schools of Artillery on the several dates as follows: "A" Battery, at Kingston, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Cotton, 11th May. "B" Quebec, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Montzambert on the 19th May. "C" Battery, at Victoria, B.C., under the command of Lieut.-Col. Holmes on the 1st of October. I found the two first mentioned, as usual, in good order, both officers and men, but am far from satisfied with the present organization, and must reiterate my last recommendation that each School should have four guns fully horsed.

It has been suggested that the Kingston School should only be constituted as Field Artillery, their being only one Garrison Battery in Ontario at present, while the School at the Citadel for Quebec and Maritime Provinces, where Garrison Artillery is predominant, should be organized as two Batteries of Garrison Artillery, but I am not quite prepared to agree with this suggestion. It must be borne in mind that these bodies of Artillery are not only to be considered as School of Instruction, but as nuclei, around which to form an Artillery Force, if, unhappily, such should at any time become necessary; and though Militia Garrison Artillerymen could soon be made efficient enough in an emergency, it is not so easy to make efficient Field Artillerymen, especially drivers, and I hope to have more Garrison Artillery in Ontario.

I therefore would like to see each School consist of two district parts, viz., a Field Battery of four guns fully horsed and a Battery of Garrison Artillery, with a captain for the Field Battery and two subalters for each part, and an adjutant for the School, the Major, as at present, to command the whole, which for interior economy, &c., would be considered as one Battery. If this cannot be carried out I would urge that the Kingston School alone should have four guns fully horsed, the Quebec School remaining as at present.

I found "C" Battery at Victoria, B.C., laboring under very disadvantageous circumstances. Having as yet no regular barrack accommodation, they had been quartered in the Provincial Exhibition building, from which they had, just prior to my arrival, been turned out to make way for an exhibition. I found them encamped in a convenient spot near by, and the camp looked clean and neat. This School is altogether for the purpose of giving instruction in Garrison Artillery, and is formed as such, but as yet has no heavy guns and I saw them on parade simply as an Infantry company. They looked clean and soldier-like; moved well on parade and seemed none the worse for their late trip to the Skeena in aid of the civil power. Happily their services were not required in the field, but I am informed that the news of their being in the harbor with a man-of-war was quickly conveyed up the river to the Indians, on whom it had a remarkably quieting effect. I was also informed that the conduct of the troops during the time was very good. A separate report of this has been already sent in. I hope the barracks for this School will be finished next year, as they are at a great disadvantage at present. I still think that some addition should be granted to the allowance of this Battery, as a special case, the general cost of living in Victoria being greater than in the rest of the Dominion, the addition being in the shape of an allowance to cover increased cost of messing and to be regulated by a sliding scale for the several ranks.

MOUNTED INFANTRY.—I visited this school on the 21st September, and on 22nd inspected the barracks, &c., and found a great improvement in the barrack, but as shown in the yearly report of the Commandant, a great deal remains to be done, which I hope will be done soon; notably a riding school, which is very necessary at a station where the weather is so severe in winter; also I would urge the advisability of having gas put into the stables. It would, I believe, be cheaper, or as cheap as the oil now used, with the advantage of there being less danger of fire. In the afternoon I saw the mounted part of the School on the prairie, and was much pleased with their evident improvement since I saw them last year. One of the important qualifications of a Mounted Infantry man's horse is that he should lead well, as every fourth man of the fours has frequently to lead the horses of the other three men. Their horses have been admirably trained in this respect, the dismounted horses led as above stated, walking trotting and galloping past in a very fair line. On my return from British Columbia, I stopped again at Winnipeg, and finding that Major-General Godfrey Clark, Deputy Adjutant General of the Imperial Army, was there, I was able to show him the Mounted Infantry on the prairie, and he was, I think, surprised and pleased at their movements and field firing. This School Corps, as you are aware, was, on the requisition of three magistrates, according to law, held in readiness in October last to turn out in aid of the civil

power, actually doing so on the 31st October and remaining out until 6th November when they returned to their barracks, luckily not having been required to act physically, though I am given to understand that their presence had a good moral effect, and prevented what might have been serious trouble. In reference to this, I am glad to say, I have received very good reports of the conduct of both officers and men, during what is generally a trying and thankless duty to soldiers. A separate report of this has been sent in.

INFANTRY.—I visited the different Schools of Infantry as follows: July 13th, "A" School at Fredericton, N.B., Lieut.-Col. Mansell, Commandant; July 25th "B" School at St. John's, P.Q., Lieut.-Col. D'Orrsonens, Commandant; September 11th, "C" School at Toronto, Ont., Lieut.-Col. Otter, Commandant; September 14th, "D" School, London, Ont., Lieut.-Col. Smith, Commandant. As before stated I was satisfied with my inspections. I found the interior economy well carried out, the men well set up and drilled, and the officers acquainted with their drill and able to command the parade for batallion movements. "D" School, as you know, has only been organized a year and this was my first inspection of it, and I feel bound to say that new as its organization is, it was not one whit behind the other schools, which I consider principally attributable to the untiring zeal and military knowledge of its Commandant, Lieut.-Col. Smith, formerly Captain of "C" Company.

REMARKS.—I have little to add to my general remarks and recommendations on the schools of instruction in my last year's report, but beg to draw particular attention to the following points:

Increase of combatant officers for purposes of discipline and efficiency—each corps to have a quartermaster, as some have already, and a riding master for the Cavalry School.

Supply of Hospital clothing.

Increased amount of ammunition and small grants of money for marksmen pay, &c.

Arrangements for gymnastic instruction.

Issue of Martini Henry rifles, sufficient sniders being retained for the instruction of attached officers and men.

I regret to be obliged to draw attention to the number of desertions during the past year, as being greater than usual. I have endeavored to ascertain the causes of this and am afraid the chief one is the demand and high wages given for labor. As was the case with the Imperial forces, the desertion is more rife when the station is near the frontier. I am also inclined to think that owing, to the smallness of the force, the work at the schools is of a nature to try the men a good deal. The constant drilling for the purpose of instructing others must be wearisome to a soldier who knows his drill perfectly, and in the case of the artillery school at Kingston, the work is particularly hard for the reasons I have already given. Altogether it seems worthy of consideration as to whether the number of courses in the year should not be reduced to 2 instead of 3.

As far as I can see everything is done by the Commandants and Officers of the different schools to make the men comfortable in their barracks and afford them amusement for their leisure hours, which ought to tend to decrease desertion. I would also recommend that a ration should be allowed to the wives and children of men married with leave, not exceeding the number allowed by regulation. I also consider it advisable that the rank of Color Sergeant should be recognized in the Permanent Corps, with the same status as in the Imperial service. Good Drill Sheds are much required for the use of "B" and "D" schools and the Corps in their locality, also targets and ranges. More ammunition and Morris tubes should also be allowed for each school; our small force of permanent troops should at least be all good shots.

Captains Freer and Sears of the South Staffordshire Regiment, Imperial Army, have just completed their 5 years' service, for which they were lent by the Imperial Government, with Infantry School Corps. These officers are, as you know, both Canadians and Graduates of the Royal Military College, and I cannot refrain from saying that they do both their country and the College credit. Their knowledge gained in the Imperial service and their conduct and example have all been of infinite service to the schools they were attached to, and they leave universally respected and regretted by their brother officers and all with whom they have been brought into contact.

REGIMENTAL INSPECTIONS.

I inspected the following City Corps:—Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, June 30, Ottawa; Prince of Wales Own Rifles, July 2, Ottawa; Dufferin Rifles, November 1, Brantford. These Corps were all in a very creditable state and went through the Troop and Batallion movements very well. The officers seemed zealous and very correctly dressed, and the men clean and smart looking, but I do not consider the mere parade movements a sufficient test of the worth of a regiment for active service, and as I have before said I should

much like to see the City Regiments in Camp, as well as the Rural Regiments, if not in the Camp for the District, then in one of their own near the city, where they could practice route marching, out-post work, advanced, rear and flank guards, fire tactics, &c. If the Government would allow transport and Camp equipage for this purpose I believe many of the City Regiments would infinitely prefer this arrangement to parading about the country for show and picnicing. I may remark here that a City Regiment, the 65th Mount Royal Rifles actually did join the Camp at Three Rivers for a short time, for which they deserved great credit.

CAMPS.

I visited the following Camps during the year:—June 20, Niagara; do. 22, Stratford; do. 26, Gananoque; July 4, Three Rivers; do. 5, Sherbrooke; do. 10, St. Thomas. As usual I was struck with the zeal and anxiety of both officers and men to make the most of the too short time allowed them. By discontinuing the mere parade movements I was enabled to get more rifle drill and instruction performed, and by the few alterations in the firing practice we were able to get more satisfactory results, but still far from what it ought to be. I found by taking at hap-hazard so many squads of 25 men in each Camp that on an average of 6 to 8 men in each had never fired any description of fire arm.

I would again urge the advisability of the Government authorising a small sum of money to be given as prizes for shooting in each Camp. It is true Government makes a handsome allowance to the different Rifle Associations, but I would also again urge that though these associations doubtless do a certain amount of good, they do not add to the efficiency as riflemen of the whole force. This is forcibly pointed out by Lieut.-Col. Worsley, Deputy Adjutant General, District No. 9, in his report, to which I beg to draw your attention in connection with my general remarks on this subject in my last year's report. I again strongly recommend the adoption of fixed Camps in each District as being more satisfactory, and I believe, more economical than constantly changing the locality. Special care should be taken to provide good rifle ranges close to the camps. Also I would again draw attention to the necessity of having properly equipped medical Field Panniers for each Camp.

With regard to the Artillery attending camps, as I find that owing to their having to get horses together, pack the guns and waggons, fit harness, &c., a day is fully taken up, I would beg to recommend that the officers, sergeants, drivers and horses be allowed pay for the day before going into Camp, as well as the days in camp.

With regard to canteens in camp, it appears to me that the following would be a suitable arrangement:—There should be but one canteen to each camp, and the privilege of establishing such canteen should be awarded by tender, and the money so obtained be devoted to assisting in providing prizes for rifle shooting at that camp. The tender to be called for and accepted by the Deputy-Adjutant General of the district, who will send in a statement with his yearly report of the amount received and its distribution. The canteen to be restricted of course to the sale of groceries, &c., beer, ginger beer, soda-water, &c.; no wine or spirits.

DRILL HALLS.

Since my last report the Montreal, Quebec and Hamilton halls have been completed and are in use, and are all handsome and suitable buildings. I am in hopes that the Toronto hall will soon be commenced, but am sorry such delay should have occurred about it, as the two excellent regiments there are justly entitled to every facility for having their drill, &c., which at present is done under difficulties.

A good many of the different halls require repairing, &c., in some cases rebuilding, and I would beg that they may be considered this coming year, they being not only necessary for drilling purposes, but also for the safe custody of stores, arms, &c.

EQUIPMENT.—I beg to refer you to the remarks under this head in my last year's report. I may add as regards the rifle that since my last report the Imperial Government have, I believe, decided on the rifle of the future—it being a magazine rifle, and they have also approved of the system introduced by Captain Hartson, 10th Royal Grenadiers, converting the Martini-Henry into a magazine rifle.

I would beg to suggest that a certain number of Martini-Henry rifles in addition to those we now have be purchased from the Imperial authorities year by year, and that the rights of using Captain Hartson's patent be secured at the same time, with a view to issuing them by degrees to the force; in the meantime I propose with your sanction to call in all the Sniders now in possession of the corps, that are not in good order, and replace them with the new and good ones already in store. I would also urge the necessity of getting some of the valise equipment from the Imperial government, so many every year. I am quite aware of the difficulties a young country must have in keeping up quantities of

military stores that may not be used for years, or haply at all, and I believe that if our immediate wants in guns, arms and accoutrements can be supplied within 2 or 3 years that no very great reserve would be necessary.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I have no reason to alter my opinions expressed in former reports in the following points:

The advisability of reducing the number of the Militia and the necessity of calling out every corps every year. The advisability of giving more encouragement to the Engineer Branch of the Force.

The necessity of more guns of position and new field Battery guns.

The question of rifle instruction for the force in general, including the necessity of more ammunition for rifle and use of Morris or other tubes for winter practice.

Personal.

In celebration of the completion of the new drill shed the citizens of Montreal last week honoured the Minister of Public Works, Sir Hector Langevin, with a grand reception in it, and presented to him a bronze statue of himself, modelled and cast in Paris by G. Hébert expressly for the occasion. Among the distinguished people at the reception were Sir John Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Costigan, Sir Adolphe Caron, Hon. Mr. Foster, Mayor Abbott, Messrs. A. F. Gault, R. S. White, M.P., Senator Drummond, A. T. Lepine, M.P., Col. Lebellesfeuille, Col. Mattice, Col. Caverhill, Col. Lyman, Ald. Cunningham, Capt. Prevost, A.D.C., Col. Massey, Col. Bond and many others. After Sir Hector replied to the address presented all his colleagues in the Cabinet were called upon to speak.

It is reported from Halifax that the 66th Batt. Princess Louise Fusiliers are about to lose their able and popular commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Chas. Macdonald. He will be succeeded by Major Humphrey, who also has the good fortune to be exceedingly popular with the command, and to combine efficiency with popularity.

Regimental News.

Daniel Wilson died at Halifax last week, aged 60. His father fought at Waterloo, and his son enlisted in the Royal Artillery and afterwards in the Eleventh Hussars. He was close beside Lords Lucan and Cardigan, heard the fatal order given, and rode into the valley of death. His horse was disembowelled, but he seized another and continued the fight. The second was killed and Wilson himself wounded, but he managed to retreat with the other handful of heroes. He afterwards served through the Indian mutiny and was present at Cawnpore and Lucknow and took part in thirteen other Indian engagements. After serving his time he came to Halifax and joined the Princess Louise Fusiliers (militia), of which he was paymaster-sergeant at his death.

Brantford.

At the annual meeting of the Dufferin Rifles' Rifle Association, recently held, Capt. W. A. Wilkes, the Secretary, presented a report from the council, from which the following extracts are made:—

"Your council regrets that a large number of the members of the regiment do not avail themselves of the advantages of weekly target practice, nor do they turn out in such large numbers at the annual matches as is desirable, although more were present this year than at previous matches. No regiment is considered thoroughly efficient unless it is known as a good shooting regiment, and efficiency with the rifle can only be attained by constant practice. To meet objections of a good many the prize meeting has for the past few years been held on one day instead of two, and the "regimental" match has been so arranged that only half a day need be taken up by those who cannot spare a whole day from business. Your council hopes that representative teams will this year be sent to both the Ontario and Dominion Rifle Association matches, and with this end in view steady practice will be undertaken during the spring and summer months. The prizes won at the matches were distributed at the Armory by His Honor Judge Jones on October 4th. A large number of citizens were present, in addition to a full parade of the regiment, showing the interest taken by the citizens in the association. Your council has again to thank His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin and Ava for his continued kindness in sending to the regiment each year the handsome bronze medal for rifle competition. His name will always be linked with the best wishes of the association and regiment."

Major Rothwell submitted the report of the Treasurer, showing a balance in hand of \$68.75. The following are the officers for the coming year:—Lt.-Col. C. S. Jones, President; Major T. H. Jones, Capt. McGlashan, Vice-Presidents; Major B. H. Rothwell, Treasurer; Asst.-Surgeon Bishop, Secretary; William T. Harris, M.D., E. R. Bishop,

M.D., Surgeons; Surgeon Wm. T. Harris, Executive Officer; Major Géo. Smartt, Capt. E. Sweet, Auditors; Executive Committee, Lt.-Col. Jones, Surgeon Harris and Capt. W. A. Wilkes; Finance Committee, Lt.-Capt. J. H. McLean, Capt. A. E. Christie and Lieut. W. G. Killmaster; Council, Lt.-Col. Jones, Major Jones, Surgeon Harrison, Capt. Leonard, Capt. McGlashan and Asst.-Surgeon Bishop; Range Officers, Major Jones, Capt. Harris, Capt. McGlashan and Capt. Leonard.

Montreal.

On Friday, 10th inst., the Annual dinner of "E" Co. 6th Fusiliers was held at the Merchants Lunch Room, Hospital street, the establishment of Color-Sergt. Upton of "E" Co. The artistic style of the dinner was much praised, and the way in which the good things were disposed of showed that good appetites were not wanting. The guests present were Lt.-Col. Massey, Major Mooney, the Paymaster, Capt. Seath; Quartermaster, Capt. McLaren; Adjutant, Capt. Pettigrew, and Mr. Elliott, brother of the late captain. The officer commanding the company, Lieut. Macaulay, presided, being assisted by Sergets. Upton, Marks and Norris. The "Queen" having been honored, addresses, songs, dances, and instrumental performances followed, the Colonel, Major Mooney, other officers and Mr. Elliott giving a few words each, and Color-Sergt. Upton, Pioneer Brighton, Ptes. Hunt, J. and M. Rutherford, Jenkins and Upton contributing songs, dances, etc. The healths of "The Commanding Officer and Staff" and Lieutenant Macaulay were proposed and suitably acknowledged. Lt.-Col. Massey was called on to present to Pte. R. Hunt a pair of handsome vases (the gift of a former captain of the Company, F. E. Nelson), the first company prize won at a match shot at the Morris tube ranges of the battalion.

"E" Company has just reason to be proud of its record for the past year. Having at the beginning of the drill season lost through a lamentable accident Raleigh J. Elliott, its captain, the command devolved on Lieut. Macaulay, a young officer, but one who has shown himself energetic and capable in a marked degree. Under his command "E" Company was successful in carrying off the company prize (\$50) for bayonet competition, and stands to-day second to none in all respects in the battalion. A successful ball was given by "E" Company a few weeks back in their armory; those present thereat are on the *qui vive* for the next, which takes place shortly.

New Military Books.

(Published by Wm. Clowes & Sons (Ld.), 13, Charing Cross, S.W., London, England.)

A POCKET TREATISE OF AMMUNITION.—By Chas. G. Du Pré, F.L.S., late Captain 3rd Middlesex Artillery, author of "Lectures and Notes on Artillery," "Guide for all Ranks of the Auxiliary Artillery," etc.; pp. 141, price 1s.

A most useful little handbook for all artillery officers, and small enough to be carried in the waistcoat pocket. The author has condensed an immense amount of necessary information into a compact space, and the arrangement is clear and concise. Officers of the militia artillery who desire to keep posted in the latest changes in *materiel* should possess a copy. It describes the various kinds of gunpowder, gun cotton, mines, charges and other explosive compounds; ingredients used in laboratory compositions; cannon cartridges of all kinds; friction and other tubes; fuses; electric fuses and tubes; gas checks; driving bands; remarks on projectiles for rifled ordnance; breech-loading guns; heavy guns; medium and siege guns and howitzers; field and mountain guns and smooth-bore guns; ammunition for breech-loading guns; quick-firing and machine guns; small arms and revolvers; rockets, lights and combustible compositions for laboratory stores.

GUIDE TO STRETCHER AND BEARER CORPS DRILL.—By Staff-Sergt. W. K. Waterson, 1st Div. Volunteer Medical Staff Corps; pp. 132, illustrated with plates.

We heartily commend this little book to surgeons of regiments who already have ambulance corps, to commanding officers and surgeons who may contemplate the organization of this very necessary adjunct to their regiments, and also to members of ambulance or hospital corps. It supplies the place of the Manual for the Medical Staff Corps, 1885 (now out of print). The work of the medical staff and ambulance corps particularly calls for intelligence and forethought, and unless each man is educated in its details his training will be useless. The smaller details omitted in the manual before mentioned, and which are essential to the precision and uniformity of movement necessary in drill and display, are added, together with the various directions which experience has proved useful in securing mutual understanding and uniformity of movement. In the Canadian militia, where we possess no regularly organized hospital corps, this little manual will be found most useful, and we hope a glance at and perusal of its contents will stimulate the work of the regimental detachments already organized and induce the

formation of others. The author has been at great pains to make his book as full and complete as possible. Among the subjects dealt with are:—1. Duties of the medical corps in the field, including the bearer corps, collecting and dressing stations, field, base and stationary hospitals. 2. Bearer corps drill. 3. Movements with folded stretchers, (a) in close order, (b) in extended order; preparing stretchers for use; lifting, conveying and lowering stretchers. 4. Movements with prepared stretchers. 5. Drill with ambulance waggons. 6. Mule pack equipments. 7. Drill with litters. 8. Drill for hand seats, carrying patients, changing bearers and patients. 9. Bandages, and how applied and used. The book also contains many useful hints, and gives a list of the medicines and instruments which should be contained in medical field panniers, field medical companion and the surgical haversack; also the details of the medical personnel of a bearer corps. The plates which accompany the book are:—1. Plan of a dressing station. 2. Plan of a moveable field hospital. 3. Plan of a stationary hospital. 4. Plan of the new pattern stretcher and sling.

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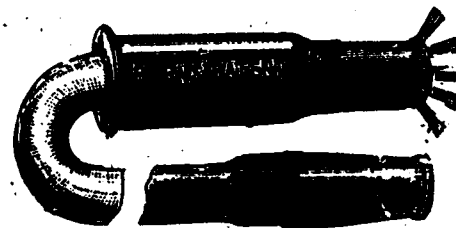
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ONTARIO Artillery Association

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF the Ontario Artillery Association for consideration of Annual Reports and transaction of General Business will be held at the ROSSIN HOUSE, at TORONTO, on TUESDAY, the 5th day of FEBRUARY, 1889, at 11 o'clock a.m.

L. HOMFRAY IRVING,
Secretary.

Toronto, 15th December, 1888.

ONTARIO ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS IN CONSTITUTION.

In conformity with Section 8 of the Constitution of the Ontario Artillery Association, notice to members thereof is hereby given that I am in receipt of a notice of motion, that it is intended to propose the following changes in the Constitution at the General Meeting to be held at Toronto on the 5th February, 1889.

"That all the words in Section 5 from 'and shall be entitled' to the end of the Section be omitted, and that 'the affiliation fees of Batteries must be paid on or before the 1st June of each year, to entitle participation in any prize offered by the Association' be added in lieu thereof.

"That the last clause of Section 9 be amended so as to read 'The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the Committee.'"

And "That Section 25 be amended so as to read 'that officers of the Association, and members of the Committee, not being life members, must pay the annual subscription to remain as such.'"

L. HOMFRAY IRVING,
Secretary.

Toronto, 10th January, 1889.

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