

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Major General Laurie's election.  
Hamilton's parliamentary representatives.  
The Loyal Hundredth.  
Common sense clothing.  
Recruiting and training.  
Major Richard's system of musketry instruction.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.  
Returns for general efficiency competition.

MODERN TACTICS—Capt. H. R. Gall  
Chapter I—Part II.—Continued.

MILITIA NEWS AND NOTES.

POETRY—"Contentment."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

## Notice.

WE have to thank those of our friends who, taking advantage of the club rates advertised on the last page, have paid for the renewal of their own subscriptions by securing new subscribers to the MILITIA GAZETTE. Quite a number of names have been added to our list in this way, and we have therefore decided to extend until further notice the time during which the offer holds good, which was to expire on the 31st inst. The arrangement is mutually advantageous, and we hope as many of our present subscribers as can possibly do so will avail themselves of the opportunity to secure their own papers free and at the same time render us material service. Our offer is that any present subscriber obtaining two new ones for us, and remitting \$3, their subscriptions for one year, will receive his own copy free for that period, and new subscribers forming clubs of three or upwards will receive the paper for one year for only One Dollar each.

To our subscribers in general we would say to each, look at the date upon your address label. It shows to what time you have paid. If you are in arrear, kindly forward the amount, by P. O. order or registered letter.

The change of the date upon the label after money has been sent, constitutes a receipt of the amount necessary to cover subscription up to the time indicated.

## Current Topics.

NOTHING can more speedily bring about a due recognition of the importance and necessities of the militia than having the force well represented in Parliament—having in that body a sufficient number of military men to make their influence felt when an increase in the militia estimates is desired. Many of the foremost men in the militia already have won places in the Commons, and these will hail with pleasure the advent of another able representative in the person of Major-General Laurie, the victor in the bye-election held last week in Shelburne, N.S. The new M. P. was born in 1835. He entered the Imperial army as an ensign in the 2nd (Queen's) in 1853; became lieut.-col. in 1866; colonel in 1871; and major-general in 1882. He served during the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny, with the expedition to the Transvaal in 1881; was appointed a colonel in the militia in 1862; inspecting field officer of the militia of Nova Scotia in 1862; D. A. G. of the militia of Canada at a later date; and served in the North-West campaign in 1885, commanding the base of supplies and line of communication. He saw service in connection with the Servo-Bulgarian war in 1885-86, and was made a Red Cross Commander. Major-General Laurie contested Shelburne unsuccessfully at the last general election, but his opponent, Mr. Robertson, having been unseated the two again contested, with the result

that the small majority against Major-General Laurie was changed, becoming six in his favour.

HAMILTON militiamen appear to be fortunate in their legislative representatives. Lt.-Col. Gibson, the exceedingly live and popular commanding officer of the Thirteenth Battalion, represents the city in the Ontario legislature; and, doubtless on account of his example, the representatives in the Commons, Messrs. Brown and McKay, take an active interest in military affairs. At least they are to be found in attendance whenever any public event of military importance is transpiring. While the militiamen of other cities are endeavouring, with varying success, to secure the sympathy of their parliamentary representatives, Hamilton enterprise has been successful in enlisting the services of its spokesmen in both houses.

THOSE interested in H. M. Hundredth Regiment (formerly "Royal Canadians") will relish the following story told of them in a recent number of the *Volunteer Service Gazette*, which says:—"A correspondent in Ireland, whose views are evidently tinged with the biliousness with which so many so-called Nationalists are just now suffering, sent to one of the London papers an exciting account of a scene in Ennis Court house, where some soldiers of the Leinster Regiment, according to him, cheered and waved their helmets in response to some very revolutionary sentiments. As the 'Old Hundredth' now rejoices in an Irish name, this correspondent evidently thought they should be Parnellites to a man, and, in the version he gave, perhaps the wish was father to the thought. The helmets he thought he saw were probably only bilious spots. Following the indignant telegram from the commanding officer, the Adjutant now sends a letter in which he gives a most unqualified denial to the fabrication. He says a detachment of this regiment were on the day in question for upwards of seven hours on duty in aid of the civil power at Ennis, and had been permitted to sit in one of the galleries of the Court-house. At the time the prisoner Doughty called out "God save Ireland" they were moving out with their helmets in their hands, but to say that they waved them or cheered is untrue. The men have always behaved in a loyal and soldierlike manner, and invariably maintain the credit of Her Majesty's Service."

THE present Quartermaster-General of the United States army has given much attention to improving the clothing of the enlisted men, and there is now no better clad soldier in the world than the American soldier. But it would seem from a recent report by Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Vollum, Surgeon, U.S.A., Medical Director of the Department of Texas, that the clothing is not so well adapted to the climate of some sections as it might be. Colonel Vollum says: "The army on this tropical border, where it has been for nearly fifty years, is like the English were when they first went into India, where, for some years, they stuck obstinately to their home thick woollen uniform, and sweltered in it for regulations' sake, but in less time than we have been subjected to as trying a climate as that of India, they gradually imitated one thing after another that the natives had adopted as suitable to the climate,

until finally they came to a manner of living, as to clothing, food, and architecture, essentially like the people among whom they were serving, who had, for generations, adopted the suggestions of the climate in these matters. Let us do likewise." The Canadian militiamen: "Us too."

COLONEL SMITH'S lecture before the sergeants of the Queen's Own Rifles, appears, from the synopsis furnished by our Toronto correspondent, to have been not only interesting but of great practical value. In offering advice on the important subjects with which he dealt, the lecturer was sowing seed in good mental soil. We would be glad to have our readers informed concerning the steps to be taken to nurture the seed.

IN answer to inquiries as to why we have not mentioned the "new discovery" in rifle shooting with which the daily press has been regaling its readers during the past few weeks, we refer those seeking information to our issue of 2nd September 1886, in which Major Richard's system was fully described. The representations alleged to have been made to the Militia Department were made about that time, not lately, and the item which has lately been going the rounds was

clipped from an English paper. The principle of the system is that of the Morris tube, already procured at their own expense by the members of several city corps. There is no doubt but that the supply of a small number of such tubes by the government to those corps desiring to make use of them, would have a beneficial result in securing greater proficiency in rifle shooting.

A Brussels correspondent of the New York *Herald* discusses the question: "Should war break out how would Belgium stand against an invader, and how would the latter fare?" After considering the present military condition of Belgium, the correspondent says: "There are two distinct opinions and schools in the high military circles of Belgium. One is in favor of shutting up the army within the fortified points and making a stand there, according to the old fashioned ideas which prevailed before 1870. The other, which reckons General Brialmont and General Vandersmissen (of Mexican fame) among its foremost supporters, is for using the fortresses merely as a basis of operations on which to fall back, and meeting the enemy boldly in the open, after outflanking them. This is probably the method which would be adopted, as it is gaining fresh adherents every day. The query is whether fifty or sixty thousand Belgians—perhaps a smaller number, as shewn above—could bear the sudden rush of a French or a German army five or six times more numerous, whose officers are certainly superior, as far as practical experience goes, although the Belgians may be a match for them with regard to the theory of war. A few Belgian officers speak hopefully on the subject; they are confident that their forces would arrest the progress of the foe sufficiently to allow his adversary to come up and assist in arresting it altogether; but the larger number of military authorities shake their heads ominously when the subject is broached, while the opinion of King Leopold himself may be gathered from the seriousness with which His Majesty has of late advocated an increase of the military forces by the method of 'personal service.'"

THE MOST EFFICIENT BATTERIES.

Hamilton F. B. and No. 2 Battery P. E. I. G. A. awarded the Cups presented by His Excellency the Governor-General, for general efficiency.

RETURNS received from the field and garrison batteries entered for the general efficiency competition of the Dominion Artillery Association, have just been made up, and may be found in full below. They show that the Hamilton Field Battery and No. 2 Battery P. E. I. G. A. have this year, each in its class, won the proud distinction of being the most efficient batteries in Canada, and have won the handsome cups, value \$75 each, presented by his Excellency the Governor-General. The following are the complete scores:—

GENERAL EFFICIENCY—FIELD BATTERIES.

	Full credits.	Hamilton Battery.	Welland Canal Battery.	Toronto Battery.	London Battery.	No. 1 Battery, 1st Bde.	No. 2 Battery, 1st Bde.	Ottawa Battery.	Newcastle Battery.	Durham Battery.	Gananoque Battery.	Kingston Battery.	Winnipeg Battery.	Montreal Battery.	Richmond Battery.	Shefford Battery.	Quebec Battery.
Clothing and accoutrements.....	12	12	10	12	10	10	11	11	9	6	9	11	11	12	6	8	11
Guns, carriages and equipment.....	16	15	15	14	15	13	15	15	10	9	8	12	8	16	10	12	16
Horses.....	12	10	8	9	12	9	10	10	9	11	8	7	12	10	6	8	8
Harness and harnessing.....	16	14	11	12	11	13	15	11	10	14	14	15	14	16	8	8	14
Marching past.....	15	14	13	12	10	14	15	14	12	14	14	15	12	12	11	12	14
Gun drill.....	28	26	24	26	18	25	26	26	23	14	18	15	10	24	16	25	26
Sword drill.....	8	8	3	7	5	7	8	6	..	3	8	5	..	6	..	..	6
Manœuvres.....	16	15	11	10	13	13	13	12	11	9	12	9	6	14	10	12	15
Discipline camping.....	12	12	10	7	10	12	12	8	10	10	10	10	6	10	7	10	10
Questions { Officers.....	40	37	26	35	28	28	24	32	17	24	28	22.5	15	39	31	30	37
{ N. C. Officers.....	64	60	44	30	29	32	43	38	19	45	13	17	24	52	26	33	58
One-fifth score.....	..	88.4	91.8	73.4	90	91.6	88.6	90.2	70	95.8	60.4	81.2	57.4	85	46.6	55.8	89.4
Total.....	..	311.4	266.8	247.4	251	267.6	280.6	273.2	200	254.8	197.4	219.7	175.4	296	177.6	213.8	304.4

GENERAL EFFICIENCY—GARRISON BATTERIES.

	Full credits.	No. 1 Bat., P. E. I. Bde.	No. 2 Bat., P. E. I. Bde.	No. 1 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 2 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 3 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 4 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 5 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 6 Bat., Halifax Bde.	No. 7 Bat., Halifax Bde.	Yarmouth Battery.	No. 1 Bat., N.S. Bde.	No. 2 Bat., N.S. Bde.	No. 3 Bat., N.S. Bde.	No. 4 Bat., N.S. Bde.	No. 5 Bat., N.S. Bde.	No. 2 Battery, Quebec.	No. 1 Battery, Levis.	No. 2 Battery, Levis.
Clothing and accoutrements....	5	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	3½	3½	3½
Manual and firing.....	10	7	8	6	6	7	5	7	7	7	7	8	5	8	9	6	7	8	7
Company drill.....	10	8	7	6	..	..	..	6	7	7	8	6	4	6	9	3	8	7	7
Gun drill.....	40	35	38	9	8	8	7	7	8	15	30	25	14	15	36	15	32	32	28
Discipline and interior economy	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4
Questions { Officers.....	30	7	23	19	18	17	..	10	19	18	7	26	21	25	9	13	24	22	28
{ N. C. Officers.....	48	19	42	33	23	26	7	26	27	26	38	26	10	26	41	27	29	21	15
Totals.....	..	84	127	80	62	65	25	63	76	81	100	101	63	89	114	72	107½	96½	82½

## Modern Tactics:

[By Capt. H. R. Gall—From Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine.]

(Continued from Page 189.)

### Chapter I.—Part II, Continued.

WHEN a reconnaissance in force is composed of cavalry and artillery only, greater latitude may be given to its commander. A good instance was afforded during the American War, and is mentioned in Colonel Denison's work entitled *Modern Cavalry*: "General Stuart of the confederate army made a magnificent armed reconnaissance in front of Richmond in 1862, by which he gained information as to the position of the enemies' lines, which enabled General Stonewall Jackson a few days afterwards to fall upon the flank and rear of General McClellan's army with confidence and effect." In this reconnaissance, which, after obtaining its first object, *yiz.* information, assumed the form of a raid, General Stuart with his cavalry and artillery made a complete circuit round the Federal army, going round their left flank along their rear, and returning by their right flank, cutting in all directions the enemies' communications, burning and destroying a large amount of property, and capturing a number of horses. Thus showing that a bold cavalry leader may get right round an enemy's position, while a less daring commander might be haggling for information, and engaging his light troops in front, and on the flanks, and possibly gaining none.

The second class of armed reconnaissances are what are called reconnoitring parties, or patrols. Reconnoitring patrols are sent out when armies are within striking distance of each other. Cavalry or infantry, or a small force of both arms combined, may furnish a reconnoitring party.

The normal distance that a cavalry patrol would be sent is about ten miles, and an infantry patrol about four miles from the outposts.

The principles which guide their action, making allowance for the different tactics of the arms, are similar.

The general instructions given to the commander of a reconnoitring party, whether composed of cavalry or infantry, would be: Reconnoitre the country along such and such a road, or between such and such roads, note carefully the general features of the country, question the inhabitants, and correct your map and obtain all the information you can about the enemy's movements and force. Special instructions for a cavalry patrol: Avoid all engagements, as far as possible, unless with inferior bodies of the enemy's cavalry. Special instructions for an infantry patrol: Avoid, as much as possible, engagements with the enemy's infantry, but push back any parties of his cavalry you meet with.

A reconnoitring patrol may consist of from ten men up to a squadron or a company, or of a squadron and company combined, the infantry holding defiles, bridges, or the entrance to a village in rear of the cavalry, in order to protect their retreat, and enable them to act with greater boldness in a difficult country.

The formation of a patrol, either cavalry or infantry, is the same; the distances alone being altered to suit the different arms. As a general rule, cavalry distances may be taken to be treble those of infantry.

A patrol should always consist of a point and flankers, main body, rear-guard. If strong enough add a head, and if of full strength, as in the case of a squadron or company, add a support. The principle being to push forward small bodies towards the enemy with ever increasing stronger bodies in the rear, and is based entirely on that of an ordinary advanced guard preceding a battalion.

Although the information brought back by a single patrol may be little, it must be borne in mind that a general would probably send out a dozen patrols in different directions, and the information thus obtained may be very complete.

After a victory, especially in bad weather, cavalry patrols should be sent along all the roads to discover what line of retreat the enemy has taken.

General Hamley points out that a reconnaissance made on every road after the battle of Ligny would have saved Napoleon at Waterloo, which battle he fought under the impression that the Prussians were routed and closely pursued by Grouchy. Grouchy, pursuing with 20,000 troops, mistook the road, and Blucher appeared on the field at Waterloo with 60,000 fresh troops, on the right flank of the French.

Again, General Hamley points out how Wellington, pursuing a wrong road line under a false impression, failed to gather the proper fruits of the victory of Salamanka. The Prussians, after the battle of Worth, in which they had completely routed the French, failing to send out reconnoitring patrols, lost touch with their defeated opponents, and did not know, next day, in what direction the French had retreated.

No officer should ever start on a reconnaissance of any sort without the best map procurable, or a rough sketch of one, for the want of a better; and as he goes along he should compare it with the country, and note errors, making any additions he thinks likely to be useful.

Colonel Denison relates how, on the map used by General Lee before Richmond, there was an inaccuracy which, in spite of the careful reconnaissances he had made, was not corrected. There were two roads, one called the Quaker Road, and the other had no name; on General Lee's map the latter was wrongly marked as the Quaker Road. General Lee, making his plans by this map, ordered General Magruder to march by the Quaker road to a certain position. General Magruder was conducted at night by his guide by the real Quaker Road, and found out his mistake too late to take part in one of the most critical junctures of that memorable series of battles.

Secret or individual reconnaissances are conducted by stealth, and are of three kinds:

1. To discover the enemy's whereabouts, numbers and movements.
2. To report upon a position occupied by an enemy.

3. To make a military survey of the country an army is operating in.

It requires experience, study, and thought, and presence of mind to perform these duties satisfactorily.

As an instance of the presence of mind required Colonel Denison relates the following anecdote. Before the battle of Koniggratz, a Prussian officer reconnoitring, left his escort, consisting of two troopers, hidden in a safe place as near to the Austrian outposts as he deemed it advisable to approach on horseback, and thence proceeded alone on foot, and, not being challenged, passed through the Austrian outposts, actually entering the fortress before his uniform attracted attention. Made prisoner, and taken before the Austrian commandant, he said he had come to summon the garrison to surrender, as the Prussians would shortly be in a position to bombard the town. The offer was refused, and the Prussian officer, who had obtained a great deal of important information, was conducted back through the Austrian outposts.

Another good instance of the importance of secret reconnaissance in connection with the enemy's whereabouts and movements was furnished when the Duke of Wellington, during the siege of Badajos, heard that Marshal Marmont was approaching Ciudad Rodrigo, which fortified place Wellington had recently captured from the French.

Wellington sent an officer secretly to observe Marmont's movements. A few days afterwards, on entering a town which the French had just quitted, this officer discovered that they had left their scaling ladders behind.

As their siege train had been captured at Rodrigo, Wellington, who might otherwise have been drawn away to reinforce Rodrigo, had no fears for the safety of that place, and remained before Badajos.

A fatal instance of neglecting to obtain information of the enemy's movements was furnished during the campaign of 1866 between the Austrians and Prussians. Before the battle of Koniggratz any qualified officer lying hidden in a fir-wood there was close to the position, could have counted every Prussian battalion and squadron that the Crown Prince of Prussia moved towards Miletin on the Austrian right flank, and, if properly trained, could have estimated their strength.

Marshal Benedek's ignorance of the Prussian movements showed a total absence of reconnoitring.

In making a reconnaissance to find out and report upon an enemy's movements and numbers, a knowledge of the rate of marching and the space occupied by the different arms is indispensable. An enemy encamped or bivouacked in rear of a position he intends to fight on will cover that position by his outposts, and all the approaches will be carefully guarded; but by creeping along in the dark, and avoiding direct roads, an officer employed on secret reconnaissance can usually get much closer than would appear possible. One reason is that the sentries are stationary, and only the patrols moving in front of them will have to be avoided. Having concealed himself under cover of darkness, an officer can wait for daybreak and gather a deal of information about the outposts and what is going on in his immediate front.

It must be borne in mind that half-a-dozen or more other officers will probably be sent out on similar expeditions, and the sum total of information they bring in about the enemy's positions and disposition of his troops may often be very considerable.

Napoleon always made use of the information he obtained by secret reconnaissances. No hard and fast rules can be laid down for the guidance of those employed on these duties. A thorough knowledge of the principles of tactics is absolutely essential. Sportsmen generally are men of resource, and acquire a quick eye for country. An officer should endeavour to select his escort from men of this class, and take them completely into his confidence. In case of accident, the safety of the report must be carefully provided for. The report should be framed as clearly and concisely as circumstances permit. Places marked on the map or sketch should be mentioned in the report, and the data on which calculations are based must always be given, due allowance being made for the appearance of roads, fords, &c., in fine and wet weather.

The third class of individual reconnaissance is a military survey of the seat of war, or the country immediately surrounding an army in the field. So important a duty would usually be entrusted to a specially selected staff or engineer officer; but it may devolve on any officer or non-commissioned officer to perform, or at any rate to materially help to perform.

A military survey or sketch is a map or plan of country made expressly with a view to give the information required for military purposes. Ordinary maps do not supply the information required by the commander of a force in order to take advantage of the accidents of ground and the amount of cover procurable. Owing to the increased accuracy of modern firearms, cover even for a few companies is often of the utmost importance.

In a military survey the following are some of the principal points to be specially noted:—

- I. Surface of the country, close or open, situation of suitable camping grounds, and ground for artillery positions. Mountainous, hilly or wooded.
- II. Roads, state of repair, width, appearance in wet or dry weather. Lateral roads, where they branch off and lead to.
- III. Towns and villages, construction of houses and situation of principal buildings.
- IV. Rivers and streams, depth, breadth, current, command of banks, approaches, fords, bottom, boats procurable, tributary streams, bridges, wood procurable. Easy and difficult crossing places, islands.
- V. Railways, rolling stock, staff of employees, &c.
- VI. Probable amount of supplies procurable on requisition.

(To be Continued.)

## TO EQUIP THE ENGINEERS.

### Liberally Disposed Millionaires urgently in Demand.

Hamilton corps in the Ascendant—Sound advice to the Queen's Own—The

Guards' Sharpshooters' Honoured Dead—Montreal Crack Shots

Feast together—Sir Adolphe Caron Praises the Militia—

Miscellaneous Notes of one Week's Happenings.

**P**PRIVATE WM. McCLAY, of the 71st Batt., died on Saturday the 12th inst., and his funeral took place from his late residence, West End, Fredericton, last Monday afternoon. The firing party, thirteen rank and file, was under the command of Colour-Sergt. George Edney, Corpl. William Gray leading. The full band of the battalion was present under Sergt. Offen, as were also Capt. Cropley and Licut. Perkins of No. 7 company, of which the deceased had been a member since its formation. The services at the house and the grave were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Payson, Methodist clergyman. The coffin was carried from the house to the hearse, and at the cemetery gate, from the hearse to the grave, by the following men belonging to the Royal School of Infantry, viz.: Ptes. J. Verdun, S. J. Brown, S. McLaughlin and C. Nason. The interment was at the Protestant cemetery, near the Hermitage. A large number of the n.c.o's and men of the Royal School of Infantry attended the funeral, thus testifying to the feeling of good comradeship which exists between the school corps and the 71st.

Capt. Harry King Stewart, of the Gordon Highlanders, who is a son of Col. Stewart, of Halifax, N.S., was married last month to Miss Gertrude Emily Romily, youngest daughter of Lady Elizabeth Romily and niece of the Earl of Minto. The ceremony was performed at St. Gabriel's Church, Warwick Square, London, Eng., in the presence of an exceedingly fashionable gathering.

A Fredericton despatch to the St. John *Star* tells of a matrimonial mishap to John Thomas Walsh, said to be a colour-sergeant in the 62nd Fusiliers, and to have served in the North-West with an Ontario regiment, receiving three wounds at the fight at Batoche. The trouble arose out of the discovery that his newly wedded wife, Mary Ann Bates, had another husband living. She has fled to avoid arrest.

Hector McGinnis, of Antigonish, gave himself up last week to a police officer of St. John, as a deserter from "B" Battery. He says he enlisted several years ago, and in June last ran away from Quebec. Since then he has been working on the Short Line railway. He thought that the authorities would deal leniently with him if he gave himself up.

The Militia Department is still playing the sphinx on the rifle range question, neither saying nor doing anything. In view of this official inactivity the prospect of being able to make shift of the present ranges is being considered, but scarcely seriously as yet. The butts have been incorporated in the levee, and it would necessitate a considerable expense to get the targets re-equipped on the old field. As the levee curtains some of the ranges, and there is always a prospect of the proprietors disposing of the field in building lots, the acquisition of a new range appears the only reasonable solution of the difficulty.—*Star*.

#### Montreal.

**N**OTHING has yet been done in furtherance of Major Atkinson's suggestion, published some weeks ago, that a course of lectures should be delivered to the Montreal brigade during the coming winter. A writer in the *Star* says:—"Many volunteer officers spoken to enthusiastically favour the proposal, and it only requires some one to take the matter in hand to secure its success. The little force at Ottawa has had several successful affairs of the kind suggested and there appears no reason why they could not be made equally successful by the largest city brigade in the Dominion. If the matter was taken up there is no doubt but that Sir Fred Middleton would gladly consent to deliver at least one of the lectures, and the gallant Deputy Adjutant-General of the district would do his share. In addition, there are many officers of the force well qualified to lecture on the various topics of military education, whose services could be enlisted if the work is gone about in the right way."

The company and officers' rooms of the Victoria Rifles' Armoury have been completed and now form as fine a suite of rooms as can be found anywhere. The Armoury is nightly patronized as well as any club in the city. At the invitation of Col. Henshaw His Excellency the Governor-General visited the armoury during his stay in Montreal last week.

Lieut.-Col. Henshaw and officers of the Victoria Rifles are to hold a reception for the men of the regiment, at the Armoury on New Year's Day, from eleven to one o'clock.

The first annual dinner of the Montreal Rifle Association took place at Hall & Scott's on Saturday evening, and was a very enjoyable affair. Captain Hood, president of the association, presided, Major Edwards and Captain Win. Abbott occupying the vice-chairs. After the good things had been disposed of and the usual loyal toasts honoured, Sir Donald Smith presented the prizes won in the affiliated associations season's aggregate series, including the ram's horn trophy, won by the Royal Scots, and cash prizes of \$30 and \$20 won by the 6th Fusiliers and Victoria Rifles respectively. The toasts of the Montreal Rifle Association and the Governor-General having been honoured, the prizes for the association's monthly competitions were distributed. Mr. J. J. Curran, Q.C., M.P., in presenting the prizes for the May and June competitions, made a characteristic speech overflowing with humour. Sir Donald Smith presented the aggregate prizes, as follows: N.R.A. medal, J. W. Marks, 6th Fusiliers; D.R.A. medal, J. R. Wynne, 5th Royal Scots; O.R.A. medal, Mr. Brown, 5th Royal Scots; P.Q.R.A. badge, Mr. Vaughan, 5th Royal Scots; silver cup for best aggregate of season with Martini-Henry rifle, presented by Captain Newton, won by J. W. Marks, 6th Fusiliers; aggregate for the season at 600 yards (Martini-Henry rifle), prize also presented by Captain Newton, won by J. W. Marks, 6th Fusiliers; the Association cup for the best open aggregate for the season, also won by J. W. Marks, 6th Fusiliers. The proceeding terminated with the singing of "God save the Queen."

#### Ottawa.

**A**T a meeting of the Sharpshooters' Memorial Committee on Monday evening the executive presented a report showing that they had awarded to the Canadian Granite Company the contract for the decoration of the graves of the two Sharpshooters, Privates Osgood and Rogers, who fell at Cut Knife Hill on the 2nd of May, 1885, and were buried in Beechwood Cemetery. The executive decided that the most suitable enclosure and headstone would be a moulded limestone curb, set on posts sunk in the ground, with a grey granite double tablet, polished face, set on a granite block resting on a limestone base, the whole to cost \$348. This work has been executed, and the foundation having been put in, will be transferred to the cemetery as soon as the weather permits. Of the several proposals that the committee have had for the erection of a monument in the city, that of Mr. Percy Wood was recommended for acceptance. It is briefly as follows:—A bronze statue and two bass reliefs. The statue to be seven or eight feet in height, emblematic of a Guardsman in uniform, in a posture of repose, together with portraits in bronze of Privates Osgood and Rogers, the whole to be delivered in Ottawa free of charge for \$3,000, payable after delivery. The committee further reported that it would be necessary to raise the sum of \$1,500 to provide for a suitable pedestal in granite, the design for which Mr. Wood will furnish free of cost.

Pte. Joseph Aughey, of No. 3 Co., G.G.F.G., died in this city on Friday last, aged 56 years. The deceased was a veteran who had seen considerable service in the Imperial Army, in India and elsewhere. He had been connected with the Guards for many years, having at first belonged to the band. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon. No. 3 Co. paraded at the drill hall, under Captain Aumond, and headed by the band proceeded to the deceased's late residence on Kent street. The service was read at St. Patrick's Church by Rev. Father Whalen, after which the remains were removed to a hearse, and the cortege proceeded to Notre Dame Cemetery, headed by the band; next followed the firing party, then the remains, followed by members of the company and members of other city bands, and many friends of the deceased.

No. 6 Co. of the Guards received their annual drill pay last Thursday evening, and were subsequently entertained at the Terrapin restaurant by Capt. Waldo. Here the election of several non-coms. took place to fill existing vacancies. Sergt. Elmitt having been appointed Hospital Sergeant, Corp. Luke Williams, who has been in the regiment for thirteen years, was next for promotion, but could not accept, as he is about to leave town. He retired in favour of Corp. Wm. Staples, who in turn also retired in favour of Pte. Heinrichs, who was unanimously elected. Sergt. Heinrichs lately attended a course of instruction at the St. John's School of Infantry and passed very creditably. Privates Shea and Hagan were elected lance-corporals.

The annual dinner of No. 1 Co. G.G.F.G., took place on Saturday last at Aylmer, whither the men had marched in good time from the drill hall, starting at 3.30 p.m. At Aylmer they were on this occasion the guests of their popular captain, Major Todd, who had provided a sumptuous repast at Ogilvie's (formerly Holt's) hotel. Besides the members of No. 1, there were present by special invitation Lieuts. Bell and Lawless of the 43rd Batt., Lieut. Taylor, Guards, and Sergt. Gallwey, No. 5 Co. The whole affair was unanimously voted the pleasantest outing the company has yet had.

The snowshoeing season was inaugurated on Monday evening, when the Rifles turned out in force for their first weekly tramp. The Guards Club had their first outing on Tuesday evening, winding up at the Coffee House, where they were hospitably entertained by Lieut. John Hodgins, the captain of the club.

#### Hamilton.

**T**HE inspection of the 13th Battalion came off on the night of the 16th inst. with great *eclat*. Very few outside of the officers themselves have any idea of the difficulties they have had in keeping up the status of the regiment. After the old drill shed was burnt the men seemed to have lost all interest in military matters, and consequently the parades of the battalion for drill were not attended by the men in numbers to encourage the officers with hopes of making a good display when the inspection came off. A few months ago, however, a determined effort was made by the officers, aided by several of the leading citizens, to resuscitate the regiment, and their appearance in line on the Gore Friday night proved that the effort made was far more successful than the most sanguine expected. They were not only a credit to themselves but also to the city to which they belong.

At 7.30 p.m. they paraded at the armoury on James street south, and at eight formed up, and headed by their brass and bugle bands, marched to King street, near John. The field, staff and company officers comprised the following gentlemen:—Lieut.-Col. Gibson, M.P.P., in command, with Majors Moore and McLaren, and Captain Stuart, adjutant; Surgeon-Major Ryall and Assistant-Surgeon Griffin; Major Armstrong, paymaster; Major Masor, quartermaster; and Captain Adam, musketry instructor. The company officers were: A company, Captain Stoneman and Lieuts. Tidswell and Donville; B company, Major Barnard and Lieut. Ross; C company, Captain Zealand; D company, Lieut. Watson; E company, Capt. Reid and Lieut. Carpenter; F company, Capt. Gillespie, Lieuts. Hendrie and Osborne; G company, Lieuts. Mewburn and Chapman; H company, Capt. Moore and Lieuts. Cameron and Bowman. Some of the companies were over strength. The battalion numbered in all 369 officers, non-commissioned officers and men. Lieut.-Col. Gibson promptly proceeded to put the battalion through several difficult movements, which were performed in a very creditable manner, and shortly after the parade formed the inspecting officer. Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., appeared, attended by Lieut.-Col. Alger, D.P.M., Major Van Wagner and Capt. Hendrie, H.F.B. Messrs. Brown and McKay, the city M.P's, were present to witness the drill. The latter gentlemen have always taken a kindly interest in the regiment and helped it in every way in their power. For fully an hour and a half the regiment was exercised in field movements by Col. Gibson, Majors Moore, McLaren and Barnard, and at the request of the inspecting officer, Captains Zealand and Mewburn brought their respective companies to the front and drilled them in the manual and platoon and company formations. It was quite apparent that the officers and men were well up in their drill, as the several movements were performed in a very steady manner. The battalion movements were exceedingly creditable, the march past in open column, and the double and wheeling into line from the double, were nearly perfect and drew from those best able to judge remarks of "Well done 13th." After a long and hard night's drill the regiment marched to the new drill hall to the music of the brass and bugle bands. On arriving there they were formed up in close column and addressed by Col. Otter. He said it gave him much pleasure to notice a decided improvement since last year. The manual exercise of the companies was really very fair and far ahead of what they had exhibited on a former occasion, while the marching was very regular indeed. He was aware of the disadvantages the battalion had laboured under for the last eighteen months, and if the citizens had had an opportunity of witnessing their movements in daylight, instead of being compelled to be satisfied with a vague glimpse by lamplight, it would be far



more satisfactory. To the officers in command he had much pleasure in complimenting them for the clear and precise tones in which the words of command were given. Another year he hoped to see the battalion under more favourable auspices, so far as accommodation and comfort were concerned. He would urge his recommendation that every city regiment should go to camp every third year, that they might have a better opportunity of perfecting themselves in field movements than was possible in the confined space of a drill hall. He closed by saying that they must not from anything he had said run away with the idea that they were perfect, but that with a little more attention to drill the 13th would again be, as they had been in the past, one of the crack regiments of the Dominion. The annual muster parade then took place before the district paymaster, after which the battalion was marched to the temporary quarters on James street south, where Col. Gibson made a short congratulatory address to the officers and men, complimenting them on the high praise that had been bestowed on them by the Deputy Adjutant-General, and said that they deserved credit for the attention and interest they had taken in their drill under the most adverse circumstances. There was not much pleasure in drilling through the slush of the public streets, and without a proper armoury, but a brighter day was dawning, and if the men would only stick properly to their companies and hold their own this winter, they would begin the spring drill in such a shape as to be made perfect in half the time that would be required if the battalion was again allowed to fall back, and when the next inspection came around they would give even greater satisfaction to the inspecting officer than they had done now. The battalion was then dismissed. So terminated the most successful inspection that the regiment have had for fifteen years.

#### THE MOST EFFICIENT BATTERY.

Major VanWagner has received the following letter from Ottawa:

INSPECTOR OF ARTILLERY'S OFFICE,  
OTTAWA, Dec. 13, 1887.

Major VanWagner, Com. H.F.B.:

DEAR SIR,—I am very pleased to be able to inform you that your battery has gained the highest place in the efficiency list for this year by a majority of seven points over the Quebec F. B. You and your officers worked hard, and deserved the success which I am glad to be able to congratulate you upon.—Sincerely yours,

D. T. IRWIN.

To say that the Major is pleased would be drawing it mild. Through his untiring exertions his battery obtained third place in the Gzowski prize competitions this year, and for the past two years has come within twelve points of winning the prize that has just been awarded his command. The officers, non-com. officers and gunners, all of whom worked diligently to attain their present standing, also Instructor Kerley, for the proficient manner in which he has worked drilling the men, and the patience shown in instructing the recruits, are worthy of praise. Certainly with such a record the H.F.B. deserves the highest praise, and the citizens of the Ambitious City should not withhold any assistance that they could give in order to maintain this corps in its present state of efficiency. The present officers of the battery are Major H. P. VanWagner, Capt. J. S. Hendrie, Lieuts. P. M. Bankier and A. T. Duncan. Non-Com. Officers—Sergt.-Instructor Kerley, Sergts. Fernside, Coombs, Trumbull, Omand, Homer, Sergt.-Major Wholton and Quarter-Master Sergt. Madgwick. The inspection was a very rigid one and the battery had seventeen competitors. They get Lord Lansdowne's cup besides money prizes.—Hamilton Times.

#### Toronto.

THE third annual meeting of the Ontario Artillery Association will be held, so I am told, on Tuesday the 7th February, 1888.

The Governor-General's Body Guard are following in the footsteps of the Queen's Own and Grenadiers in establishing a sergeants' mess. I hope it will be a lasting affair and not a case of "to-day we blossom, to-morrow we die."

Mr. A. E. Gooderham intends severing his connection with the Grenadiers. He has had charge of "E" company during the absence of Capt. Greville-Harstone in England.

"E" Company R.G. held their third annual dinner on the 13th inst., at Hughes' restaurant. Mr. Gooderham occupied the chair. An enjoyable evening was spent in smoke, song and speech—in fact in the 3 "S's."

Capt. McMurrich and his retired officers of the Toronto Garrison Battery I hear are going to give the men a supper sometime during the Xmas holidays.

The same faults that I found with the tournament of the Queen's Own were noticeable in that of the Grenadiers, which was held in the Metropolitan rink on the 16th instant. The quarter-mile race was won by Sergt. Creighton, Q.O.R. The potato race by Corpl. Watts, Q.O.R. The tug-of-war between the Q.O.R. and Grenadiers team was won after a good pull by the latter. Taylor's Safe Works' team won the tug open to any organization.

The *Mail* says: "The presentation of prizes won at the annual rifle match of the Q.O.R. buglers took place on Saturday evening at their rooms, 50 Adelaide street east. Lieut.-Col. Miller presented the prizes, after which refreshments, speeches and music were the order of the evening. A very pleasing feature of the entertainment was the presentation of a gold-headed walking stick to Lieut.-Col. Miller by the buglers, as a slight token of the esteem in which he was held by them during his service in the regiment."

#### QUEEN'S OWN EX-MEMBERS' DINNER.

Had you been present at the inaugural dinner of the ex-members of the Queen's Own at Victoria Hall on the 15th instant, you would have had the pleasure of seeing "The Boar's Head" carried in state by four Heralds. The banquetting hall was tastefully decorated, the chief motto being "The Boys of the Old Brigade, 1863, 1866, 1875, 1885,"—1863 being the year in which the present regiment was organized; 1866, the affair at Limestone Ridge; 1875, the Engine Drivers' Strike and riot at Belleville, and 1885, the Relief of Battleford and the engagement with Poundmaker,—not the bull, mind you. The chair was ably filled by Major Dixon. Other ex-members present were Lt.-Cols. Gillmor, Jarvis and Miller, Majors Chadwick, Lee and Ellis, Capts. Douglas, Miller and Fahey (the secretary of the association), Messrs. McCormack, Piper and Adams. Amongst those present now serving in the regiment were Col. Allan, Capt. Mutton, Lieuts. Knifton and Nelson. The opening toasts were "The Queen" and "The Army, Navy and Militia," the latter responded to in a humorous speech by Capt. Mutton.

The toast of the evening was, of course, "Our Old Regiment," and brought Col. Allan, the present c.o., to his feet. Col. Gillmor who responded to the toast "Our Honorary President," was received with enthusiastic applause. "The Colonel" touched upon Commercial Union, which in his estimation meant annexation and should be opposed. Colour-Sergt. McCormack and Capt. Adams made suitable replies to the toast "The Original members of the Regiment."

Take it all through the dinner was a great success, and the ex-members are to be complimented upon it.

#### ENLISTMENT AND TRAINING OF CITY CORPS.

The sergeants of the Queen's Own having arranged for a series of lectures on military subjects to be delivered during the present winter, the first of the series was delivered on the 13th instant by Lieut.-Colonel H. Smith, Commandant of "D" School of Infantry. The subject he selected was, "Hints as to the best mode of enlisting and training a city corps under existing conditions." The lecturer, who was listened to throughout with great interest, after suggesting that a paid staff should be attached to each city corps; that the period for training should be extended; that there should be an increase in pay, and that if we did not have enthusiastic men to come forward and serve, the country would be compelled to support a force at greater expense; launched into his lecture proper. He spoke of the present system of recruiting men for companies, not for the regiment. He said that as the commanding officer of the corps was the person directly responsible to the country, the enlisting and approving of recruits should not be left in the hands of company officers, but that the men should be approved of and enlisted by the c. o., after a careful examination by the surgeon. That under the present company system the c. o. has no choice as to the rank and file. Another point Col. Smith laid emphasis upon was the insufficient training of recruits; this matter is also in the hands of the company officers, who are compelled from force of necessity to put men in the ranks without any, or at best, a small knowledge of drill, in order to keep their ranks up to the proper strength. The necessity of a thorough instruction in the principal sections of squad drill, arm drill, extended order and theoretical musketry practice was also pointed out. The recruits should at least, according to the lecturer, each fire 20 rounds of ball ammunition before being posted to a company. They should be trained by the very best instructors obtainable, but as Col. Smith said, a good instructor is a very rare article; the officers, in his opinion, should be the best drilled men in the regiment, the c. o. especially so. He next referred to the time wasted on battalion drill in teaching officers and markers their proper duties; he strongly advocated skeleton drill in order to avoid this. Col. Smith pointed out the objectionable element of any civil organization creeping into a corps, such as electing n. c. o., etc.

#### ENGINEER STRENGTH AND EQUIPMENT.

Which branch of the service shall I take up first—one being as deficient as the other in stores, equipment, etc. I shall tackle the engineers this week, as being the most scientific, as the branch we hear least of, as the branch which the regulations hardly notice, and as the branch which cannot be made in a day, nor after the so-called 12 days' drill.

Before quoting from reports let me say a few words for the engineers. According to the Militia Act, the number of men that can be trained is limited to 45,000. About two per cent. of this number should be engineers. Instead of having say 1,000 engineers we boast of 179. Just about the strength of one R. E. company. We know from experience the great difficulties that even the most favoured of our militia have to contend with, but with the sappers it is perhaps quadrupled. At the best, the engineers consist of three isolated independent companies—promotion extremely slow—a scientific branch with no encouragement, excepting that generously offered by Col. Gzowski—the most intelligent sapper receiving the same pay as the useless gunner, trooper or private—the officers virtually limited in promotion to the rank of captain—and so the thing goes on.

We know that in the cavalry, artillery and infantry, officers and men are constantly putting their hands into their pockets to pay for what the country ought to be doing; but with the engineers, stores are very numerous and expensive, and for three officers to undertake to equip even a company of 42 men is altogether out of the question, unless they are liberally disposed millionaires. Once we had in Toronto an engineer corps which, to the shame of the country it must be said, actually made their pontoons, etc., which with labour cost them about \$2,000.

Supply engineers with *even picks and shovels* and they will give a good account of themselves, but would you be surprised (I never am at things concerning the militia) to hear that *all* that one company could muster in stores were, *1 axe, 1 handsaw, 3 billhooks and 6 gabion knives*. Not even a pick nor a shovel. The above extensive equipment was not new either; they were worn stores received from the New Brunswick engineers. After the inspector had reported on this corps you would have thought that things would have improved; but no—we have a better way of doing things in Canada. We are told that "the greatest difficulty was again experienced in carrying on work for want of the *commonest tools*." A requisition for stores to the amount of \$150 had been put in but was not sanctioned—it may have been by now.

Before going further I might say that the engineers, in addition to company drill and everything else incidental to an infantry corps, have a large amount of work to learn peculiar to themselves, fascine and gabion making, tracing of field works, hasty entrenchments, obstacles, bridging in all shapes and forms, etc., etc. And all this is supposed to be accomplished in 12 days. A 12 days composed of 1 Sunday, 1 day coming to camp, 1 day returning, and 1 day's inspection, leaving 8 days for drill, of say 5 hours each—a total of *forty hours*. I have omitted time laid out for so-called musketry practice. *Forty hours!* I imagine myself employing a lawyer of 40 hours' standing!

The engineers, notwithstanding recommendations to the contrary, are "deficient in even picks and shovels," and "the deficiency of the most necessary tools is simply deplorable."

LINCOLN.

#### British Columbia.

THE remarks of Sir Adolphe Caron concerning the militia, made by him in his speech at the banquet tendered by the citizens of Victoria on the 1st inst., will doubtless be of interest to the readers of the MILITIA GAZETTE, so I send you a summary: "In 1881," he said, "when I took charge of the department of militia our permanent organization was composed of batteries 'A' and 'B,' or about 350 men. I must tell you that 'A' and 'B' and 'C' (the last of which is installed in your midst) are really the training schools of Canada. Our forces are defensive and not aggressive; we don't want an army in Canada, but wish to be busy building up our future and to avoid those wars which have been so disastrous to other countries. It has been my privilege and good fortune since I have taken charge of this department to be helped by one of the best officers of whom Canada can boast. Adjt.-Gen. Powell, who accompanies me, is, I must remark, a most indispensable adjunct to myself as Minister of Militia—being both a friend and military adviser. And it is by the experience of such as my Adjutant-General (applause) that I have been able to bring the force up to its present standard, and instead of having 350 men forming a permanent force, we have to-day, when the infantry school at London will have been organized, a force of 1,000 men, who, in case of emergency, can be widely distributed and depended upon as pivot men who can drill 10,000 or 12,000 others. 'C' Battery, which is now with you, will become not only the instructors of your excellent volunteer force, but I may express the sincere hope that they will become the men who will aid in forming new ties of friendship between British Columbia and the older provinces and add to the good-fellowship which I am pleased to see exists between this province and the Dominion."

ion. I also express the hope that the officers of that corps will become a model of the discipline which must always exist in every well-regulated body of soldiers. I may say that every branch is represented by training schools: We have a cavalry school at Quebec; we have the veteran batteries "A" and "B"; a corps of mounted infantry in Winnipeg and the promising baby of the forces we have sent out to British Columbia; we have the Royal Military College at Kingston—and when one of the known critics on military matters, Sir Andrew Clark, was consulted by one of the Australian colonies to know what kind of organization that colony should adopt, he said, over and above everything start a Royal Military College on the model of the Royal Military College of Kingston."

In the recent annual target practice of the Victoria Rifle Company, Sergeant Mallandaine made the highest score, 61 points, which entitles him to wear the silver cross muskets for the year. Corporal D. Roper and Pte. J. Henley were next with 58 points each. Corp. D. Roper, however, takes the second prize (bronze cross muskets), having made the best score at the longest distance. This year fourteen of the men got into the first class, which is an improvement on last year's shooting. The practice was under the superintendence of Capt. Woollacott.

General satisfaction is expressed at the site chosen for "C" Battery barracks. The *Colonist* says on the subject: "No better location could have been made and the Minister of Militia has, as we said when he arrived here, been guided throughout the negotiations by his usual good sense. If all ministers who visited Victoria consulted the reasonable views and wishes of Victoria as Sir Adolphe Caron has done the deep feeling of confidence in the present government which has always characterized the capital city would be, if possible, enlarged and extended."

### Contentment.

"Man wants but little here below."

LITTLE I ask; my wants are few;  
I only wish a hut of stone,  
(A very plain brown stone will do),  
That I may call my own;  
And close at hand is such a one,  
In yonder street that fronts the sun.

Plain food is quite enough for me;  
Three courses are as good as ten;  
If nature can subsist on three,  
Thank Heaven for three. Amen!  
I always thought cold victuals nice,  
My choice would be vanilla ice.

I care not much for gold or land—  
Give me a mortgage here and there,  
Some good bank stock, some note of hand,  
Or trifling railroad share—  
I only ask that fortune send  
A little more than I shall spend.

Honours are silly toys, I know,  
And titles are but empty names;  
I would, perhaps, be Plenipo—  
But only near St. James;  
I'm very sure I should not care  
To fill our Gubernator's chair.

Jewels are baubles; 'tis a sin  
To care for such unfruitful things;  
One good sized diamond in a pin,  
Some not so large in rings;  
A ruby and a pearl or so,  
Will do for me—I laugh at show.

My dame should dress in cheap attire,  
(Good, heavy silks are never dear);  
I own perhaps I might desire  
Some shawls of true cashmere—  
Some narrow crapes of China silk,  
Like wrinkled skins on scalded milk.

Wealth's wayful tricks I will not learn.  
Nor ape the glittering upstart fool;  
Shall not carved tables serve my turn,  
But all must be of huhl?  
Give grasping pomp its double care,—  
I ask but one recumbent chair.

Thus humble let me live and die,  
Nor long for Midas' golden touch;  
If Heaven more generous gifts deny,  
I shall not miss them much,—  
Too grateful for the blessings lent  
Of simple tastes and mind content!

### The Target.

The annual turkey match in connection with the 8th Royal Rifle Association, and open to all comers, took place at the Beauport rifle ranges on Saturday, 17th inst. Notwithstanding the heavy wind which prevailed, twenty marksmen faced the targets. The light was dull and very trying, only the first two pairs being able to distinguish the target with any clearness at the 600 yards range, those following firing at a shadow where it was almost impossible to distinguish the spotting disc.

Ranges 200, 400, 500 and 600 yards, 5 shots at each.  
200 yards.—Pte. McLaughlin 22, Pte. Thomson 22, Sergt. Goudie 19, Staff-Sergt. Cote, 9th Vol., 19, Lieut.-Col. Miller 18, Pte. Davidson 18.  
400 yards.—Lieut.-Col. Miller 22, Pte. Thomson 20, Bugler Kennedy 18, Colour-Sergt. Ross 18, Pte. Douglas 18, Corpl. Norton 17.  
500 yards.—Sergt. Dewfall 17, Pte. Thomson 17, Lieut.-Col. Miller 17, Staff-Sergt. Cote, 9th, 16, Pte. McLaughlin 16, Corpl. Norton 15.  
600 yards.—Corpl. Norton 19, Pte. Thomson 17, Sergt. Goudie 16, Lieut.-Col. Miller 13, Staff-Sergt. Cote, 9th, 6, Bugler Kennedy 6.  
Aggregate Prize.—Pte. Thomson 76, Lieut.-Col. Miller 70, Corpl. Norton 67, Sergt. Goudie 60, Colour-Sergt. Ross 55, Pte. McLaughlin 54.  
Special prizes for the greatest number of bull's eyes.—1st Pte. Thomson, 2nd Colour-Sergt. Ross, 3rd Pte. McLaughlin. Prize for the lowest aggregate (goose).—Pte. Clark, 8 points.

The idea of placing a civilian at the head of the French War Department is gaining ground, and the papers discuss it as admissible and desirable.

### Gleanings.

The whole of the Martini-Henry rifles and carbines, together with the swords and bayonets, in the possession of the regular regiments and battalions composing the 1st English army corps for active service, are to be examined at once by experts from the Royal Small Arms Factory at Birmingham.

A China correspondent states that a memorial has been submitted by the viceroy of the Two Kwangs and the governor of Kwangtung recommending the establishment and endowment of a naval and military school at Canton, and the selection of a board of suitable European officers and professors, with a view to the training of young men for the service of China.

The complete introduction of the new light haversacks and equipments into the German army must, by order, be terminated at the end of March next year. The recruits presently and hereafter summoned to the flag have been warned to purchase beforehand the small effects and necessities on the regulation pattern, to conform with the kits adapted for stowage about their bodies.

The *Revue du Cercle Militaire* (Paris) gives the following estimate of the strength of the Russian army last year:—Active army, 824,762; reserve, 1,600,000; 1st ban of the Opoltschenie, 2,160,000. There are, besides, 30,665 officers—giving a grand total of about four and a half million men. The Cossacks at the same date numbered 2,220 officers and 51,194 men.

Not only is the manufacture of Lebel rifles proceeding rapidly in France, but the troops are being rapidly armed with this weapon. In several districts one or more regiments are already supplied with it, and there are said to be enough in store for meeting the requirements of the reserve also. Three thousand Lebel rifles arrived at Bar-le-duc in one day, and the whole of the 6th army corps is said to have received its new armament.

The *Baltimore Sun* says: "There are no less than 35 widows of revolutionary soldiers on the pension list. As several of them are under 80, it is not improbable that we shall still in 1900 be paying pensions to the wives of men who fought in a war that closed before 1783. We now have 322,756 pensioners on the rolls, and will probably have some 500,000 by the year 1900. The older the veterans get the more attractive they become to young women desirous of insuring themselves a comfortable income the rest of their days. It will, therefore, be well on to the year 2000 before we shall be done paying the cost of the civil war." It does seem rather hard to complain of the veterans for being attractive; they were born so.



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A HOME LUXURY FOR CAMPING OUT.

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FULL DIRECTIONS WITH EACH BOTTLE

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ARTILLERY Field Officer's Tunic, Helmet and Forage Cap, all in very good order. Also undress belts, sabretache, etc.

Apply by letter to X, at the office of this paper.

## THE NEW PAPER.

The new Conservative Journal about to be started in Toronto, to be called

## The Empire,

Will make its appearance on or about the 27th of December.

No pains are being spared to make the paper worthy of Canada, and of the great party of whose views it will be the exponent. It will start with a

### Staff of Brilliant Writers,

And able Journalists in every department. The public may expect

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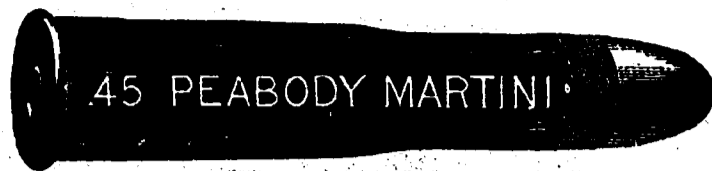
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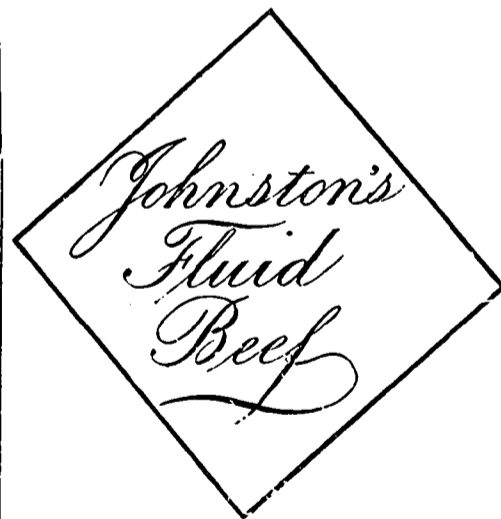
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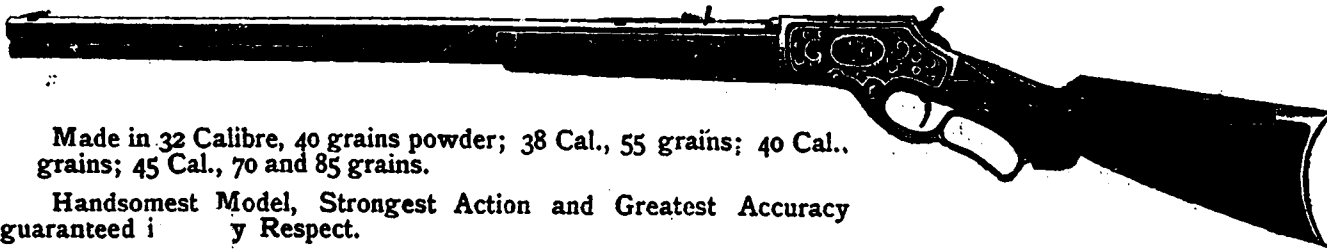
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