

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## Topics of the Week.

Parliament has been summoned for the 16th of January, a month earlier than usual. This means that there will be more time available, before the warm weather, for the discussion of the public business. The military members should avail themselves of the opportunity to speak on behalf of desired changes in the system. There will be no lack of opportunity early in the session, and a general expression of opinion could not fail to be interesting. We do not mean a flood of fault-finding for political effect, but rather a non political discussion in which the military men on both sides can lay their views before the House and country.

At a meeting of the Imperial Federation League held in London, Eng., on the 15th inst., one of Canada's representatives was Lt.-General Laurie, M.P. He moved a vote of thanks to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor "for his patriotic desire to further the cause of Imperial Federation by granting the use of the Mansion House, and for his kindness in presiding on this occasion." Representing as he did, he said, the Imperial Federation in Canada, he felt that he might be permitted to say a few words in moving this vote of thanks. There was some misapprehension as to the objects of the League. The concessions would have to come very largely from them. It was true that they had local government in Canada, but they were still looked upon in some sense as a dependency. They were not prepared to remain for ever a dependency. They demanded and insisted that they should be citizens of a common empire, not merely subjects of the British Empire, but members of a common Empire. That was the Canadian ambition, and they meant to attain it.

They do not seem to have a very happy way of managing their military forces in the United States, at least so far as the regular army and navy are concerned. Henry George's paper, the *Standard*, which probably voices the sentiments of a considerable proportion of those whose taxes go to maintain the services, a few weeks ago characterized the military and naval service as a "disgrace to the Republic." Coming down to particulars, we are told that the enlisted men are deserting by wholesale, "because they have poor pay, hard times, and are treated like dogs"; that men can scarcely be obtained for the services, and when in are only retained "by guarding and treating them like convicts." The officers are mainly blamed: "The graduates of Annapolis and West Point form a privileged class of life office holders whom taxpayers are

obliged to support for the rest of their days, and who regard the American citizen who enters the army and navy by enlistment as the noble of four quarterings regarded the peasant." The article from which we quote thus concludes: "If we are to have an army and navy this whole system ought to be broken up. There should be but one entrance to army or navy, by enlistment, and West Point and Annapolis ought to be retained for the supplementary instruction of officers who have risen from the ranks. Abolish all rewards for capturing deserters and let all the enlisted men go. We have enough officers in the navy to man, from stem to stern, all vessels that there is any excuse for keeping at sea, and enough commissioned officers in the army to do all the Indian fighting now needed. The truth is that the American republic needs no army or navy. We are so strong and so situated that we can have no war with a foreign power unless we go to work to kick somebody into fighting us, and even in that case our army and navy would be of no use."

A Toronto man speaking the other day on the subject of the Garrison Common range, thus openly expressed himself: "We want that ground for a mile track; there are more people in this town interested in horse racing than in rifle shooting, and the range has got to be closed." The common, however, is the property of a Government in whose estimation rifle shooting ranks far enough ahead to ensure that the military men shall not be jockeyed out of the only available practice ground.

The report of the annual rifle meeting of the lately re-organized Seventh Fusiliers, appears elsewhere in this issue, and gives evidence that there is no lack of interest in the new corps. Col. Tracy has been very highly spoken of as a commanding officer, and apparently with good reason. The presence of the School of Infantry at London no doubt has had a stimulating effect, and if the rivalry already noticeable between the two corps so far as rifle shooting is concerned, can be extended so as to include other branches of military efficiency, the Seventh will become one of the smartest corps in the service.

If present indications may be relied upon, and we see no reason why they should not, the military rifle league proposed for next season will be an immense affair. Inquiry elicits the information that the acting secretary of the Montreal Rifle Association has already received intimation of the probable entry of no less than twenty-seven teams, and several of the large shooting centres are not yet heard from at all. These are the teams promised: Prince Edward Island—One team each from the 82nd Battalion, the P.E.I. Garrison Artillery and the Charlottetown Engineers. Nova Scotia—Two teams from the 63rd Rifles, two from the Halifax Garrison Artillery, and one each from the 66th Fusiliers, the West Riding (Imperial) Regiment, and from Truro. New Brunswick—Two teams from the 62nd Fusiliers, one from the St. John Rifles, and one from Moncton. Of the Montreal corps, the 3rd Victoria Rifles promise three teams, the 5th Royal Scots two, the 6th Fusiliers two, and the 65th Battalion one. In Ontario, the Royal Military College, A

Battery of the R.C.A., the 14th, 15th and 49th Battalions have all promised teams. In looking over this list, one will readily notice that the greater number of the crack shooting corps are yet unheard from, and if they enter in proportion, the chances are good for upwards of fifty teams of ten men each in the competition. These figures are large almost beyond belief, but it is to be hoped they may be realized. We would be pleased to hear from the corps not included in the above list, what are their ideas about participating.

### Regimental and Other News.

The uniformed naval corps promoted by the Sons of England Benevolent Society is making great progress in Toronto. The services of Mr. Tyler, late drill instructor of the Royal Navy, have been secured, and nearly two hundred men are now being regularly trained. It is intended that next Dominion Day the corps shall take part in the procession dressed in British naval uniform. There is every prospect that at an early date the Brigade will number five hundred trained men.

The Montreal Garrison Artillery Snowshoe Club have elected officers as follows: Hon. presidents, Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, Capt. C. H. Levin; hon. vice-presidents, Majors Laurie and Cole; president, Capt. Crathern; vice-presidents, Capt. Ogilvy, Lieut. Costigan, Br. Sergt.-Major Benton; secretary-treasurer, Sergt. James Cooper, jr.; assistant-secretary, Corp. Pool; pianist, Robert D. Cooper; committee, Sergts. Norris, Jones and McDonald, Corpals. Pingle, F. Cooper and C. Gardiner. The club decided to use the Athletic Club House during the season.

It is understood that Lieut. Eric Streatfield, of the 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders, formerly of the 92nd foot, will be appointed A.D.C. to the major-general commanding. Mr. Streatfield cannot take a staff appointment until he has completed four years service, and therefore will not join until the end of April next year. He is a brother of Capt. Streatfield, A.D.C. to Lord Lansdowne. He is also a brother to the Hon. Mrs. Colville, wife of Capt. the Hon. C. R. Colville, military secretary to His Excellency Lord Stanley. He is said to be a good soldier, and promises to be an addition to Ottawa society.

The Peterborough *Review* contains an account of a felicitous event which transpired at the drill hall there last week, when a number of the non-commissioned officers and men of No. 1 Company of the 57th Battalion presented Capt. E. A. Mason with a congratulatory and highly flattering address accompanied by a handsome sword. The presentation made by Sergt. J. H. Smith, and Corp. D. S. Harvie read the address. Capt. Mason is spoken of as one of the best officers the battalion possesses. He was recently promoted to the captaincy of No. 1 Company. He has made himself very popular with the men of his company, and the kind address of which he was the recipient voices the general sentiment of the battalion.

#### THE CUMBERLAND CUP.

The members of the Tenth Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, always look forward to the company competition. Capt. F. B. Cumberland annually offers for competition a silver cup, and this is supplemented from the funds of the regiment by the sum of \$50. The prize was competed for at the Drill shed on Tuesday evening, 26th inst. Capt. Macdougall acted as judge, and to the marks obtained were also added the points granted for regular attendance on parades. "F" Company won the cup last year, and companies "A," "B," "E" and "H" appeared on this occasion eager to distinguish themselves. The marks given were, in order of merit, as follows:

Drill.	Attendance.	Total.	Drill.	Attendance.	Total.		
"A" Co...	587	651	1,238	"E" Co...	575	588	1,163
"H" Co...	582	587	1,169	"B" Co...	579	575	1,154

Colonel Dawson announced the result of the competition, and declared the cup and prize to be won by "A" Company. The winning company was in charge of Capt. McLean and Lieut. Lamb; "B" Co. under command of Capt. Howard and Lieut. Cameron; "E" Co., Capt. Harston and Lieuts. McKay and Dixon; and "H" Co., Capt. Trotter and Lieut. Macdonnell.

#### THE THIRTEENTH BATTALION.

This corps was inspected in the Hamilton Armoury on the 18th instant by Lt.-Col. Otter, D.A.G. The parade state showed over 350 men, and it is safe to say that a much neater or smarter-looking battalion never stood to attention. The uniforms were well fitting and clean, the arms and accoutrements shone like silver, and the helmets were white as snow. The old regiment never looked so well before, and can hardly

excel its appearance. The roll was read by Lt. Col. Alger, District Paymaster, and the battalion then formed into a hollow square, when Col. Otter addressed it, complimenting the men on their appearance, praising their work and conduct in Toronto on Thanksgiving Day, and predicting a successful future for the regiment. He impressed upon all present the absolute necessity of working together without jealousy or fault-finding, but as one man to make the battalion the best in Canada.

The prizes won during the past season were then presented. In a brief address by the officer commanding, Lt.-Col. the Hon. J. M. Gibson, he referred with pride to the proud position the 13th held among the regiments of the Dominion as a corps of crack riflemen. He referred to the fact that the 13th team had won the Lansdowne prize for the highest aggregate score at Ottawa; with the Victoria Rifle Club, also composed of 13th men, second. Capt. Zealand received the Dominion medal in the battalion matches, Capt. Ross the Ontario medal and Sergt. Goodwin the National medal. Col. Otter also complimented the battalion on its reputation for marksmen.

The inspection of the armoury took place in the morning at eleven o'clock. Lt.-Col. Otter was accompanied by Lt.-Col. Gibson, Majors Moore, McLaren and Mason, and Capt. and Adjutant J. J. Stuart. Everything in the armoury looked neat and clean, and the inspecting officer expressed himself as well pleased.

#### INSPECTION OF THE "PETERBOROUGH RANGERS."

The 57th Batt. "Peterborough Rangers" were inspected by Lt.-Col. Van Straubensee, D.A.G., assisted by Lt.-Col. Lewis, Brigade Major, and Capt. Strange, District Paymaster, on Thanksgiving Day, November 7th.

The men looked clean and bright, and were much improved in appearance by the leggings which have been purchased since last inspection. Every company was full, and the band, which is thirty strong, would do credit to any of the older city corps. The D. A. G. was received with the customary salute, and after he had inspected the line, column was formed to the right and a minute inspection by companies followed. When this was over the companies formed line to the left, and having received orders to march past formed quarter column by the right on No. 1, and proceeded to march past in column, quarter column and at the double. Major Bell then put the battalion through the manual and firing exercises, and Major Edwards and Capt. and Adjutant Dennistoun in turn followed with a number of evolutions. Column of route was then formed and the Drill Shed soon reached, where the muster roll was called and the parade dismissed.

The D. A. G. and staff were entertained at dinner in the evening by the commanding officer and officers of the 57th.

#### Winnipeg.

The following interesting paragraphs are taken from the military column of last week's *Siftings*:

The Winnipeg Field Battery is still drilling. Recruits are joining very freely. We are pleased to see this corps doing so well; they are, we hear, getting in a fine class of young men, and the commanding officer is sparing no effort to place his battery high in the list of field batteries of Canada. Looking over the efficiency returns of field batteries, we see they stand a very good comparison with the crack batteries of the east, who have every advantage; and the boys of the Winnipeg Field Battery are determined to support in every possible way the efforts of their commanding officer, to place the battery at the head of the efficiency return next year. Corp. Stack gained the cross guns and \$2 prize for his score in the gunnery competition. Very high scores were the rule in this competition, and it speaks well for Corporal Stack, who is a young man, that he got into the prize list where such high scores were the rule. Driver Edwards got the badge in the driving competition.

The Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry are not drilling at present. They deserve a rest after their very successful season, and we believe they will come up in the spring as fresh and enthusiastic as ever. This troop will bear comparison with the best cavalry troop in Canada, every man in it taking a pride in his appearance and in drill. It is a pity that the authorities could not see their way to raise another troop, making a squadron in this city, of this popular arm; the troop is now, we believe, over its authorized strength.

Major General Sir Fred Middleton arrived here on Monday by the east train. He was met at the station by Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D.A.G., Lieut.-Col. Taylor, commanding the R.S.M.I., Major Buchan and the subaltern officers of the staff, who escorted him to Government House. On Tuesday morning he inspected the interior economy of the school, and expressed himself as highly satisfied. In the afternoon the corps paraded in winter uniform on the prairie west of the city, where they went through the mounted infantry drill to the satisfaction of the Major General commanding.

### Field Artillery Practice.

The following extracts from the "Instructions for Horse and Field Artillery Practice," issued to the Royal Artillery, may be profitably perused by those Canadian artillerymen who would labour to the best advantage next season :

#### PREPARATORY INSTRUCTION.

1. The results obtained at practice depend very largely, if not mainly, upon the thoroughness of the preliminary training of a battery before proceeding to carry it out.

2. The most important points to be attended to at practice are : (a) Accuracy of fire ; (b) Rapidity of fire. The attainment of both of these depends to a great extent upon the sufficiency of the preparatory instruction of the battery.

3. Accuracy of fire is dependent upon (a) Good laying ; (b) Correct observation of fire. Of these the latter can be acquired only while practice is going on, but the former must be insisted on before the battery joins the practice camp.

4. In order that the officer commanding a battery may be able to range his battery at once accurately and quickly, he must make sure that his non-commissioned officers (layers or Nos. 1) can lay time after time on the same spot with the same sight, and that the laying of them all is exactly uniform. He must moreover make certain that they can be trusted to lay steadily according to order, without attempting to make any corrections of their own ; such corrections must be based on very insufficient observations of fire, and must never under any circumstances be permitted, as they practically render it impossible for the officer commanding to range his battery.

When the Nos. 1 (or layers) of a battery have been fully trained in uniform laying, they should be encouraged to strive after rapidity of laying, both on standing and on moving targets. The targets selected should be such as would be met with on service, and not conspicuous objects such as church towers, high trees, etc. ; the range of such objects should not be, if possible, under 2,500 yards.

It should be remembered that when firing at infantry or cavalry, especially when in motion, it is more important that the laying shall be correct for elevation than that it should be so for line, since the formations of the enemy will in most cases have considerable breadth but very little depth ; but when engaged with artillery the guns must be carefully laid on individual guns of the enemy.

5. The observation of fire cannot form any part of the preparatory training, as skill in it can be acquired at actual practice only. It will therefore be considered later on.

6. Laying by an auxiliary mark should form part of the programme of the preliminary instruction.

7. Rapidity of fire depends upon the excellence of the general service of the guns, the rapid handling of the ammunition, on skill in boring or setting fuzes, and in action, upon the readiness with which the renewal of ammunition is carried out. All these matters should be assiduously practised before a battery appears on the practice ground.

#### ELEMENTARY PRACTICE.

(Vide Vol. II, Field Artillery Drill)

13. The principal objects of elementary practice are—

- i. To teach observation of fire, and to enable the officer commanding the battery to judge as to the capabilities of the various observers.
- ii. To instruct the officers of the battery in picking up and verifying ranges, and in deciding upon the length of fuse.
- iii. To accustom the battery to fire discipline.
- iv. To show the effect upon a target of all the service projectiles.
- v. To instruct in laying by an auxiliary mark.
- vi. To test the uniformity of the telescopic sights and brackets by shooting, according to the method prescribed in the handbook for the telescopic sight.
- vii. To practise supply of ammunition, as laid down in Volume II, "Field Artillery Drill."
- viii. One day at least should be devoted to drill at ranging on a moving target, with blank ammunition.

14. It is of the very first importance that the officer commanding, and some men of the battery, shall be skilled observers of fire. It is the duty of the officers commanding batteries to discover practically those among their men who may be trusted to observe, and to work those men up to the highest pitch of perfection.

As observing parties would rarely be possible on service (except in case of a battery acting alone), the officer commanding a battery should train his observers to use the battery telescope from a point close beside him (unless he is prepared to undertake the observation himself), and to give an immediate decision as to whether any shell is "plus" or "minus."

No estimate of actual amount is trustworthy, unless either the range be very short, or the observer be at such a distance from the battery as would be impossible on service. Observation with the naked eye is valueless.

When training, or judging the observers at elementary practice, the correct report of each round should be signalled in by the range party after each group of six shell ; the judgment of each observer and the true range should be noted and recorded.

15. It is further necessary that the observers shall be trained to judge of the height of burst of shrapnel shell. They should report this height to the commanding officer in feet ; he will then be able, knowing the maximum height, which must not be exceeded, to judge the efficiency of the fire against any particular nature of target. Trial fuzes should invariably be observed by means of the sights, according to the rule laid down.

16. The officers of the battery should be instructed in the conduct of fire, in order that they may, if necessary, be capable of replacing the officer commanding.

But neither (ii) nor (iii) can be satisfactorily carried out, unless the battery practises with at least four guns.

17. The Elementary practice should be throughout in the hands of the officer commanding the battery, but the details should be submitted to the camp commandant or the commanding officer, for his approval. The results need not be permanently recorded by batteries using the A scale of ammunition, but the commandant of a camp or the officer commanding may call for any reports which he may consider necessary.

#### SERVICE PRACTICE.

(Vide Vol. II, Field Artillery Drill.)

18. Service practice of the Battery is to be carried out under service conditions ; the officer commanding the battery is not to concern himself with petty details regarding the duties of his officers, non-commissioned officers and men ; all this should have been seen to during the preparatory instruction and the elementary practice. If it be observed that such interference is necessary, the camp commandant shall be empowered to order the battery to return to elementary practice, until it is in a condition to work without the constant attention of the commanding officer to details which are not within his province.

An exception may perhaps be made during the first few days of service practice, but it should be the endeavour of every officer commanding a battery to get his battery into working service condition as quickly as possible.

19. The duties of all the officers and of the Nos. 1 are laid down in the Field Artillery Drill, and each will, at service practice, adhere strictly to those duties.

20. The method of bringing up a battery into position will also be found laid down in the Field Artillery Drill. Great care must be taken that the instructions there given for the precedence of the battery by the range-takers and ground-scouts be strictly obeyed.

The officer commanding a battery will, before coming into action, give the following information to his officers and Nos. 1, halting it for this purpose under cover, viz. : the exact part of the target on which the battery is to be ranged, and subsequent distribution of fire, the range, and the flank from which the fire will commence.

Every gun will be laid at once, with the given elevation, as soon as it is in action.

21. The range-takers, having preceded the battery, should be careful to take up such a position as will not interfere with its coming into action ; they should also, as far as possible, keep themselves out of the sight of the enemy.

Officers commanding batteries are at liberty to accept the range as found, and proceed at once to find the short bracket, or to find the long bracket first, as may seem to them preferable. A certain number of ranges should be found on each principle by every battery.

Instructions on ranging a battery may be found in Volume II of the Field Artillery Drill.

The use of observing parties is not recommended, except with a single battery, as under other circumstances they would seldom be possible on service. If they are used, they should not be more than 5 per cent. of the range from the battery.

The selected observer, if other than commanding officer, will place himself, with the battery telescope, by the side of the officer commanding, on whichever flank of the battery the latter may select.

22. The system for battery service practice will be founded upon two principles :—A, ranging ; and B, effect. In carrying out A—

- i. A battery which opens fire on a target should not change to another target until it has correctly ranged itself both with common and shrapnel shell.
- ii. When once this has been done, that target has lost all instructive value to the battery, which should at once range itself on another.

iii. The relative efficiency of the fire of batteries may thus be judged by the number of targets on which each of them shall have fired.

23. The mode of proceeding will be as follows:—

- i. A battery, having been ordered to fire on a certain target, will open fire with common shell (using any necessary number of rounds), until the officer commanding considers that he knows the exact range. It will then open fire with shrapnel, and continue until the commanding officer considers that he has got three effective shell. When this is the case he will cease firing.

It should be decided before the practice commences whether he is to fire the shrapnel with time or percussion fuzes.

- ii. An umpire with the range party (either the major of another battery, a staff officer, or a lieutenant-colonel) will then inform him as to the effect of his fire.
- iii. If the range was incorrectly found with common shell the series will re-commence.

If the number of effective shrapnel shall be less than three, the practice will continue at the same target, until the officer commanding the battery considers that he has made up that number, and is found to have done so.

- iv. No battery, under any circumstances, will be permitted to change to another target until the desired effect has been obtained, however great may be the number of rounds which may be required to attain that result.

24. The course of service practice will therefore be as follows:—

- i. Advance of the range-takers and ground-scouts.
- ii. Advance of the battery into action.
- iii. Ranging the battery.
- iv. Verifying the range.
- v. Change to shrapnel, distribution of fire, and verification of fuzes.
- vi. Continuance of fire until three effective shrapnel have been obtained.
- vii. Change of target or of position, after the receipt of the sanction of the umpire.

Every gun limber should be inspected before changing target or position (if not throughout the entire practice, at any rate until the commanding officer is satisfied that there is no occasion for such inspection), to ascertain that its complement of ammunition has been completed from the first line of waggons.

25. Lieutenant-Colonels will duly record, and forward to the camp commandant, their opinion of the character of the practice, noticing especially any faults which they would wish to see corrected, and will return the practice reports to the officers commanding batteries, for their information and guidance, in sufficient time to allow them to correct such errors on the next day of practice. These criticisms will be in writing and accompany the reports when forwarded to the Deputy Adjutant General, Royal Artillery.

The battery should be able to range itself accurately and quickly before the rounds allowed for the service practice are exhausted. If it cannot, ranging is to be persevered with, and practice of effect is not to be undertaken.

B. With regard to this latter, towards the end of service practice, some groups are to be fired to test the power of the battery in maintaining practice, the rapidity of its fire, and the effect it can produce. For this purpose it should be ordered either (a) at the end of a ranging group when the fire is perfect to carry it on for a certain number of rounds; or (b) to attack a given target, without approaching within a certain range, ceasing fire within a given time. The results to be carefully noted and recorded.

The question of effect produced should never be lost sight of; it is the only real test of excellence. Officers commanding should never rest content unless the results obtained are in advance of those of former years, and should make every possible endeavour both to perfect our service systems and introduce improved ones.

The Chinese are far from being reassured respecting the situation in Corea, and they attach the utmost importance to vigilance and preparation in that country. The first powerful squadron the Chinese possess is that which has been formed under the superintendence of Li Hung Chang, and which has its headquarters at the arsenal of Port Arthur, in the Yellow Sea. It has of late become noticeable all over the East that this strong squadron is constantly on the move backwards and forwards along the coast between Tientsin and Vladivostock. It is always hovering round the Corean coasts and harbours, while despatch vessels, gunboats, and the like, are perpetually dropping into the Russian harbour of Vladivostock.—*United Services Gazette*.

## The Rifle.

It is reported that in recent experiments with smokeless powder in the new British magazine rifle, the soft bullet is frequently broken up. The result of using hardened bullets has been to injure the barrel, especially in rapid firing.

For a rifle shot to wind up the season with such a sequence as 92, 93, 97, 98, 91, 97 and 95—an aggregate of 663 points in seven consecutive shoots—nearly 95 per shoot, is a performance worthy of mention. This has been done, says the *Volunteer Record*, by Lieut. Richardson, of the 5th V. B. Light Infantry. The conditions as to sighting shots were variable. 92, 97 and 91, were made without sighters, 93 and 98 with one sighter, and 95 and 92 with two sighters—all in military positions.

The new pattern foresight on the Mark IV Martinis now being issued in England, is said to have no apparent block when taking aim. To one London corps a good proportion of the so-called improved rifles have been issued with the old familiar foresight. In many instances these rifles are being selected by the shooting men of that corps, in preference to those with the new sight. As to the relative merits of the old and new foresights, there is a very common opinion that the latter may be the better for rapid firing in the field, but that it has no advantage over the old one for target shooting.

The British military authorities are considering the waste of cartridges which fall from the pouches as men lie down to fire, or are taken out and laid on the ground to be within easy reach, and then as the line advances are left behind and forgotten. From experience of what mounted men can do when armed with magazine rifles, Capt. E. Palliser predicts an extraordinary development of power in the British cavalry and mounted infantry. The detachable magazines will be carried on bandoliers, four magazines in front and four behind, besides a reserve of ammunition. From careful tests made in the 10th Hussars, the empty magazine can be shot out of its place and a full one pushed in with ease at full gallop.

A correspondent of *Shooting and Fishing*, writes from Paris, says: "I have formed the opinion that, as rifle shots, the average Frenchman is far below the American; in fact, I have not a very high opinion of his skill, and think he has much to learn. But, although the Frenchman is, as a rule, such a miserable shot with the rifle, there are many of them very expert with pistol and revolver; in fact, I believe they can teach us a great deal—that is, at short distance shooting; for the majority of pistol shots here seldom have a chance to practice at more than thirty yards, and most of the shooting is done at sixteen yards. One of the expert pistol shots of Paris is Viscount Clary. This gentleman, with a revolver in each hand, and shooting rapidly, has put all the bullets in the bull's-eye. This may seem incredible to some, but it is a fact; he has done it repeatedly; and I believe he is not considered the best pistol shot in Paris."

The British Government is pushing the production of the new Lee-Metford rifle with all the resources at its command. At the Royal Enfield Armoury 3,200 men are now employed, and the extraordinary output of 1,500 stand daily will be soon be raised to 2,000. At the time the Lee system was practically settled upon by the Committee on Small Arms—now something more than a twelvemonth ago—the combined capacity of the Royal Armoury, the Birmingham Arms Co., and one or two small shops in London, did not exceed 600 rifles per day. The committee was, however, at that early stage so well assured of its final decision as to the type of arm to be adopted that a large addition to the machine plant at Enfield was at once ordered and the master mechanic instructed to proceed with the production of such special tools as could be anticipated. This explains the remarkable increase in the productive capacity of the English gun shops, which otherwise would be incredible.

Capt. Philip Reade, U. S. Army, from whose interesting writings on topics of interest to riflemen the *MILITIA GAZETTE* has frequently quoted, has attained new prominence in the world of letters. On Nov. 1, 1888, the *Public Service Review* offered for the best essay on a military or naval topic of current interest a building lot in Barnegat Park (the Army and Navy Home), with \$500, as a prize; each competitor to select his own subject and to send a copy of his essay, not to exceed 10,000 words, in a sealed envelope on or before Nov. 1, 1889. The award has been made to Captain Philip Reade, Third U. S. Infantry, whose subject was "Military Rifles and Service Ammunition in Europe and America." Capt. Reade has just been promoted to that rank, and on his promotion he relinquished the position of Inspector of Small Arms Practice for his division, which for many years he has held, with the rank of First Lieutenant. That position, it was some years ago decided, could not be held by a Colonel or a Captain.

**Seventh Fusiliers Rifle Association.**

This association was re-organized a few months since by the election of the following officers:—Honorary President, Hon. John Carling, Minister of Agriculture; Honorary Patrons, Lt. Col. Smith, D.A.G. No. 1 District, Lt. Col. Lewis; Lt. Col. Aylmer, Brigade Major, Mr. W. J. Reid, President, Lt. Col. Tracy; 1st Vice President, Major Marshall; 2nd Vice President, Capt. Payne; Secretary, W. E. Hiscott, Bandmaster; Treasurer, Colour Sergt. Macbeth.

The annual matches of the association commenced on Thanksgiving Day, at the D Co. I. S. C. Range, use of which had been kindly granted by Lt. Col. Smith, D.A.G. The attendance was large, consequently it took two days to complete the matches. Great interest was taken in the competition between D Co. and 7th Fusiliers for the Carling Challenge Cup, and the scoring was good, the cup being won by the 7th Fusiliers after a hard struggle. The Battalion are quite elated over the victory, from the fact of D Co. having defeated all their previous competitors in various matches and having been looked on as certain winners in this competition. Everything passed off harmoniously, and the association feel gratified at the excellent and pleasant manner in which the matches terminated.

The following are the scores and prizes in the various matches, with names of winners:

Challenge Cup presented by the Hon. John Carling, Minister of Agriculture, with \$20 added by the association. To be competed for by eight officers, non-com. officers and men of D Co., I. S. C., and a similar number from the Seventh Fusiliers. Seven shots at 200, 300 and 400 yards:—

7TH FUSILIERS.				"D" COMPANY, I. S. C.					
Pte. Butterworth	31	31	28	90	Pte. Allen	30	29	29	88
Pte. T. Hiscott	28	27	33	88	Sergt.-Major Munroe	29	27	29	85
Pte. Noble	29	29	30	88	Pte. Evans	31	25	29	85
Capt. Hayes	30	28	29	87	Sergt. Beaumont	28	26	29	83
Capt. Payne	28	26	30	84	Lieut. Cartwright	27	27	25	79
Col. Tracy	29	29	26	84	Pte. Hodgins	23	26	28	77
Sergt. Pitt	29	23	24	76	Capt. Young	29	21	25	75
Bdmr. W. E. Hiscott	26	24	20	70	Pte. McCann	25	22	25	72
Totals	230	217	220	667	Totals	222	203	219	644

Cup presented by Mr. J. W. Reid to be shot for by five men per company with \$12 cash for winning team, \$8 for 2nd, and \$4 for 3rd. Conditions, 5 shots at 200, 300 and 400 yards:—

"A" COMPANY.				"B" COMPANY.					
Pte. A. Hiscott	19	20	22	61	Capt. Hayes	21	21	22	64
Capt. Payne	22	16	22	60	Pte. T. Hiscott	20	20	21	61
Bdmr. W. E. Hiscott	21	18	21	60	Pte. W. Hiscott	20	20	16	56
Pte. A. Butterworth	21	16	14	51	Pte. Watson	17	15	9	41
Pte. Farrell	15	11	6	32	Pte. Allen	11	7	2	20
Totals	98	81	85	264	Totals	89	83	70	242

"E" COMPANY.				"D" COMPANY.					
Pte. Noble	22	19	22	63	Capt. Ashplant	18	19	13	50
Sergt. Pitt	21	19	17	57	Sergt.-Major Ironsides	17	11	11	39
Pte. Leadbeater	19	10	8	37	Sergt. McCrimmon	18	10	11	39
Sergt. Goodburne	11	6	17	34	Pte. Hayman	17	11	10	38
Lieut. Howie	13	10	6	29	Corp. Magee	15	6	11	32
Totals	86	64	70	220	Totals	85	57	56	198

Pte. A. Hiscott wins gold medal presented by Capt. Payne for best shot in "A" Co. Pte. T. Hiscott wins silver cup presented by Capt. Hayes for best shot in "B" Co.

**NURSERY MATCH.**—Open to bona fide members of the battalion who have never won a prize exceeding \$2.50 at any rifle match. Five shots at 200 and 400 yards.

\$ 10 Lce. Sergt. Freeland	19	19	38	\$ 1 Lieut. Howie	13	6	19
7 Pte. Jacobs	17	19	36	1 Sergt. Conroy	19	0	19
5 Col.-Sergt. O'Brien	19	16	35	-1 Pte. Wilson	12	6	18
5 Pte. Butterworth	21	14	35	1 Corp. Gray	16	2	18
5 Pte. McCrimmon	13	18	31	1 Pte. Beckley	12	5	17
4 Capt. Ashplant	18	31	31	1 Pte. Irvine	17	0	17
3 Col.-Sergt. McCrimmon	18	11	29	1 Sergt. Webb	11	5	16
2 Sergt. Goodburn	11	17	28	1 Pte. Abel	12	4	16
2 Pte. Howe	10	17	29	1 Sergt. Essex	13	3	16
2 Pte. Hayman	17	10	27	1 Pte. Beal	16	0	16
2 Sergt. Leadbeater	19	8	27	1 Pte. Gardiner	6	9	15
2 Corp. Magee	15	11	26	1 Pte. Toll	9	5	14
2 Pte. Watson	17	9	26	1 Pte. Kingsworth	4	9	13
2 Pte. Macnamara	15	9	24	1 Pte. Jeffrey	9	4	13
2 Pte. Higham	8	15	23	1 Col.-Sergt. Anderson	9	4	13
2 Lce. Sergt. Thompson	10	13	23	1 Pte. Allen	11	2	13
2 Sergt. Nial	13	9	22	1 Pte. Knight	5	7	12
1 50 Pte. Galpin	18	4	22	1 Corp. Parkinson	8	2	10
1 50 Lieut. Graham	8	12	20	50c. Sergt. Garside	0	9	9
1 Col.-Sergt. Macbeth	10	9	19	50c. Pte. Cahill	4	4	8
1 Pte. Mitchell	10	9	19				

**ALL COMERS' MATCH.**—Five shots at 200, 300 and 400 yards.

\$7 Capt. Hayes, 7th	21	21	22	64	\$1 Pte. Hodgins, D Co.				
6 Pte. Noble, 7th	22	19	22	63	I.S.C.	14	19	20	53
5 Sergt.-Maj. Munroe, D Co., I.S.C.	22	21	19	62	1 Pte. Butterworth, 7th	21	16	14	51
5 Pte. A. Hiscott, 7th	19	20	22	61	1 Sergt. Tapsley, 12th	15	15	20	50
4 Col. Tracy, 7th	20	19	22	61	1 Pte. Jacobs, 7th	17	14	19	50
3 Pte. T. Hiscott, 7th	20	20	21	61	1 Capt. Ashplant, 7th	18	19	13	50
2 Capt. Payne, 7th	22	16	22	60	1 Pte. McCrimmon, 7th	13	18	18	49
2 Lt. Brown, 12th Batt.	20	18	22	60	1 Capt. Young, D Co.				
2 Pte. Allen, D Co. I.S.C.	20	19	21	60	I.S.C.	18	15	16	49
2 W. E. Hiscott, B.M. 7th	21	18	21	60	1 Pte. Atwell, D Co.				
2 Sergt. Beaumont, D Co. I.S.C.	22	19	18	59	I.S.C.	18	15	15	48
2 Pte. McCann, D Co. I.S.C.	16	22	20	58	1 Pte. Galbraith, D Co.				
2 Sergt. Pitt, 7th	21	19	17	57	I.S.C.	6	19	22	47
2 Pte. W. C. Hiscott, 7th	20	20	16	56	1 Col.-Sergt. O'Brien, 7th	19	12	16	47
1 Lt. Cartwright, D Co. I.S.C.	21	16	18	55	1 Pte. Evans, D Co. I.S.C	21	12	14	47
					1 Pte. Watson, 7th	17	15	11	43
					1 Pte. Higham, 7th	8	17	15	40
					75c. Col.-Sgt. McCrimmon, 7th	18	10	11	39

T. Gilbeau gave gold medal (value, \$10), to highest score in all-comers' match. This was won by Capt. Hayes, 7th Fusiliers.

**Correspondence.**

(This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.)

**THE CAVALRY SCHOOL CORPS.**

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I understand it is the intention of the militia authorities to increase the strength of the Royal School of Cavalry by the formation of a new school at Toronto. This will necessitate the appointment of one or more officers. No doubt there are a large number of applicants, and the question arises, will the rights of the graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada be recognized in this instance or be ignored as has been done in former appointments to the permanent force of Canada.

In looking over the militia list corrected to 1st January, 1889, I find that out of some twenty-five appointments made since 1880 (the year the college first sent out its graduates) only six have been given to them. (This does not include those borrowed from the Imperial army.) This is not by any means encouraging to young men who have spent four years qualifying themselves for such positions, and particularly when their rights are entirely overlooked as was done at the time that several unqualified men were provisionally appointed.

I trust that in this case the applications of the graduates will receive due consideration and result in the appointment of one at least, considering there are none of them on the strength of the corps at present. X.Y.Z.

The training of dogs for military purposes is being proceeded with in the Australian Army, and satisfactory results have been obtained. According to instructions being issued by the Vienna War Office, the best breeds for warlike occupations are pointers, sheep dogs and poodles. Bloodhounds are too expensive. The dogs are trained to carry messages and ammunition, to guard places and depots, and to perform outpost duty.

Herr Fricke, who was at Khartoum when Gen. Gordon was killed, states that Gen. Gordon was convinced till a short time before his death that he would be able by his own influence to gain his objects without fighting. He did not realize his danger, and the messages that he sent were such as to mislead the British military authorities as to the critical nature of his position. He might, however, in Herr Fricke's opinion, have escaped even two days before his death. He was killed, during the usual morning inspection of his troops, by some of his soldiers, and he was unarmed at the time.

The December number of "Outing" is one of the best ever issued. There is a wealth of illustrations of a high grade. Some of Henry Sandham's best work is shown, and sterling artists like Dalziel and Hoskin have furnished most beautiful wood engravings. The opening article, Wabun Anung, by F. Houghton, is a clever description of a tour in the region of the Great Lakes, beautifully illustrated. Another very noteworthy article is the Merits and Defects of the National Guard, by the eminent authority Lieut. W. R. Hamilton. The criticism will assuredly call forth much discussion. We note further the Game of Curling, by James Hedley; Wheeling through the Land of Evangeline; Game protection; a very interesting illustrated article by W. I. Lincoln Adams on Instantaneous Photography; Women and their Guns; The Yale Stroke; Alligator Shooting in Florida and Na-ma-go-os, a fishing sketch. Our Vista, Snow Sculpture, The Age of Sail, and A Skating Interlude, are poems of much merit. The editorial departments present authoritative opinions on questions of the day, while the records show what has been accomplished in the various pastimes.

### In the Mother Country.

The application made for permission to change the uniform of the Civil Service Rifle Corps from the sombre grey so long the characteristic outer covering of its members, to another grey of a lighter hue, has been granted by the Duke of Cambridge. Unlike the Artists, who wear brown belts, the Civil Service will retain those at present in use.

The appointment of a volunteer officer certificated at Hythe as instructor in musketry in each battalion is now formally sanctioned in the Army Orders of this month. The officers in question should be subalterns, but may be captains. The adjutant remains responsible for the musketry training of his corps, but will be assisted in the performance of his duties, especially, it would appear, in regard to class-firing, by the instructor in musketry.

Some important modifications are made in the November Army Orders as to the Artillery School of Instruction. Volunteer officers who subdivide the course into two periods of a month each will be allowed their travelling expenses (on the usual conditions) to and from the school *on both occasions*. And volunteer officers belonging to batteries of position who have attended the school as garrison artillery officers will be allowed their travelling expenses if they require the school for a "position" artillery course.

We fail to see, says the *United Services Gazette*, why the militia colonels should be dissatisfied with the new order of the War Office directing that in future the appointment of Aide-de-Camp to the Queen will only be for a period of ten years. Hitherto there has been no rule as to the time during which a man might retain the post. It might be for ten, fifteen, twenty or more years. This is hardly fair—the appointments set apart for the militia being so limited—to other deserving militia officers, and we think that generally the new order will be well received.

A great meeting was held at Stafford a few weeks ago to promote the raising of a county fund for the supply of the equipments which the Government considers necessary for the efficiency of the volunteers, but for which it declines to pay. The tone of the speeches made at the Stafford meeting appears to have been patriotic and dignified. Almost every speaker assumed that the great county of Stafford must not hesitate a moment to provide its magnificent body of volunteers with all that the military authorities declared to be necessary, and almost every speaker intimated, more or less plainly, his opinion that it was the state as a whole, and not the county, that ought to have been called upon to provide them.

The United Kingdom is in future to be divided into ten "Musketry Districts," each with an "Inspector of Musketry," who is to assist general officers in the supervision of all matters connected with the musketry instruction of the troops in their command. Among other duties, the musketry inspectors are to visit each corps (regulars and auxiliaries) in their respective districts, at least once in three months, and report to the generals on irregularities in training, making or keeping of returns, etc., which may come to their notice. If these and the various other duties specified in the Army Order are intelligently, as well as zealously, carried out, it is probable that improvements may soon be found in the shooting of the whole of the British infantry at home—regulars, militia and volunteers.

It has been announced in a general order to the army that the Queen has approved the revision of the Regulations for the Army which has just been completed, and that the same will be issued very shortly to all concerned. The regulations have been grouped into two parts, the first applicable to service either in peace or war, and the second containing those regulations and orders which it is considered unnecessary for officers generally to carry with them when proceeding on active service, though requisite for the Staff. The new issue will include changes made by general and army orders up to the present time, and the regulations pertaining to military training, duties in the field, recruiting, and other special subjects have been removed, in order to be grouped separately. The regulations for recruiting have been approved, and will also be issued immediately.

The Secretary for War has, after the fullest investigation, felt it to be his duty to advise the Queen to disband three batteries of Volunteer Artillery at Portland, for grievous insubordination. It appears that the non-commissioned officers and men of these batteries had a grievance, respecting the award of a prize at the brigade competition of this year. In order to evince their dissatisfaction they were ill-advised enough to stay away *en masse* from the annual inspection last September—at least, besides the officers, only one man (a gunner, who is said not to belong to Portland) was present on parade to receive the inspecting officer. The officers, to whom no blame is imputed, retain their commissions in the brigade (the 2nd V.B. Southern Division R.A.) of which the disbanded batteries formed part. Those non-commissioned officers and men who may turn out to have been less guilty than the rest, will probably have some *locus pœnitentiæ* given to them, but the others will be in the position of Volunteers dismissed for misconduct, and disqualified from enrolling themselves in any volunteer corps.

The Lord Mayor of London, whose great services to the Metropolitan volunteers and in other ways the Queen has recognized by creating him a baronet, entertained the Metropolitan Commanding Officers, the officers of the English Twenty, and a large number of other guests at a splendid feast on Tuesday, the 5th inst. It is usual when the national challenge match or the Elcho match is won by the English team, for the trophy or shield to be formally handed over for the year to the Lord Mayor of London. This year, the shield having gone to Dublin, the trophy only had to be committed to the charge of the Lord Mayor—who, true to the traditions of civic hospitality, invited the winners to a feast. And very opportunely the occasion was taken advantage of to celebrate the success of his Lordship's great exertions on behalf of the whole of the Metropolitan volunteers. Before the banquet took place the Duke of Westminster presented to the Lord Mayor a service of plate on behalf of the Metropolitan Commanding Officers, whose corps have so much to thank Sir James Whitehead for.

The first merit of artillery—after the courage of the gunners and the exactness of their aim—is its mobility.—*Marmont*.

Nor should infantry and artillery be on the same alignment, for one important function of the guns will be to protect the front of the infantry, which they will in that case do but inadequately; nor could the guns readily throw back a flank in echelon; so that, on approaching within a certain distance of the infantry, the enemy would no longer be exposed to artillery fire.—*Hamley*.

### To Our Subscribers.

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Department of Public Works, Ottawa, 14th Nov., 1889.

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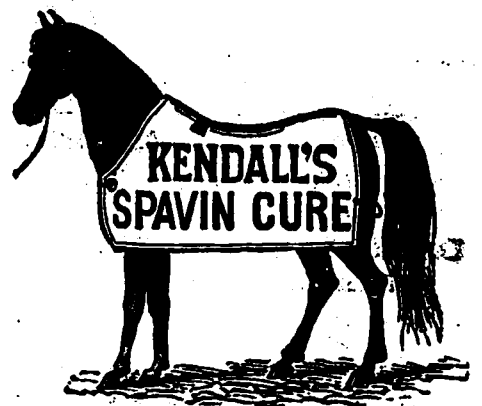
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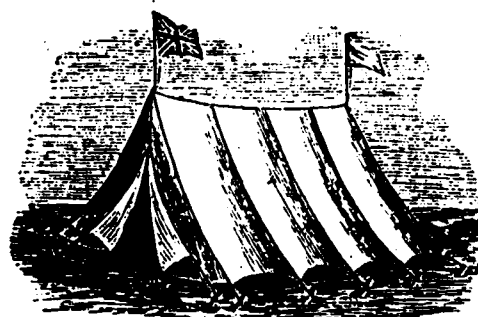
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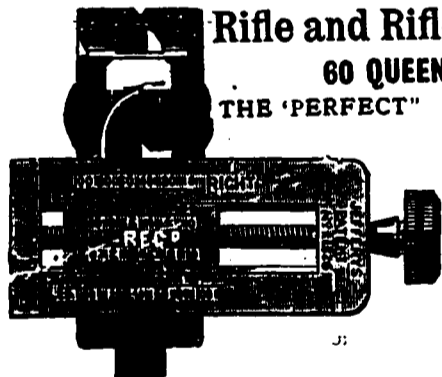
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