

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

Nothing shows more conclusively the opinion of the country that the active campaign is virtually over, than the loss of interest that is apparent in the doings of our troops, and the scarcity of news concerning them in the daily journals. It is neither particularly interesting nor particularly satisfying to read of flying columns making excursions of one or two days into the woods in one direction, then in another, and failing in every case to meet the enemy, and yet this action is necessary, and will have one of two effects: either to keep Big Bear moving so quickly that he will have to drop his supplies as he has already given up his wagons, and finally succumb to hunger, or to drive him altogether into the northern wilds, if he cannot be beaten, he can do us no harm. The particularly good news, however, has just reached us, as we go to press, that the McLeans are released from their imprisonment and are expected at Fort Pitt immediately. The chase no doubt will be now wholly relinquished, Big Bear left to his own devices, and some of the troops sent home at once.

A bad precedent was established when the Militia Department consented to bring home the bodies of any of the victims, though it is quite easy to understand why it was done. Like the country at large, the Minister of Militia felt that nothing he could do was too much to mark his appreciation of the achievements of our active service contin-

gent, and the assistance given to one could not in fairness be refused to others. Fortunately the number of casualties has been comparatively small, for if there had been a long death roll the return of the bodies would have become an embarrassing undertaking. Although the feelings of the relatives of the deceased are worthy of all respect and admiration, it would have been best if the old rule of making the battlefield the soldier's fittest and most glorious burial place had never been departed from, and if by any unhappy chance the Canadian Militia are ever again called to fire a shot in anger it would be well to have it distinctly understood beforehand that the removal home of dead soldiers would receive no encouragement from headquarters.

A correspondent suggests a good way of marking tangibly the indebtedness that all feel to those who fell in defence of their country in the late fights, by having memorial tablets, suitably inscribed, erected in some public place. He refers particularly to Ottawa, the locality in which he is specially interested, and where the fine brick drill hall lends itself admirably to the carrying out of his scheme, but the suggestion is evidently equally applicable to every town which has suffered a similar loss; if it cannot be placed in a drill hall, there will always be some public building which can be utilized. Visitors to Toronto will have been impressed by the handsome monument erected in the Park to the memory of those who died for Canada at Ridgeway. All towns cannot afford such memorials, but the smallest can compass a mural tablet, and every town that has lost a citizen will wish to mark their gratitude in some way, and in what way better could it be done?

In another column will be found a short article from one of the principal officers in New Brunswick pointing out some facts which were borne in upon the inhabitants of that province by the call to arms of their provisional battalion. It may be that the ill-fortune of New Brunswick in not sending forward a provincial contingent emphasized these facts, but there is no doubt the same lessons have been learned by every province of the Dominion: That in times of danger all her young men are ready and eager to spring to her defence; and that the policy adopted by the successive Governments of retaining a small permanent force as a nucleus around which the remainder of the militia might rally and from which they might derive such instruction as to justify their motto of "In pace paratus," has been the most beneficial that could have been adopted for a large country with a small population.

It is a question whether Canada has not been following British army regulations too closely in other things besides headdress; for instance, in the matter of tents. The bell tent has many good points, but it has one very bad one; it is too heavy and cumbersome. In a campaign like our present one, where every pound's weight is a matter of grave importance this must have been a serious drawback. Take our North-west surveyors, who are proverbial for making camp life comfortable, and they say unanimously that they "would not be bothered" with bell tents. Ridge-pole tents, with walls three feet high and semi-circular backs, technically known as "wells," made of light

cotton, are the kind favored by surveyors, and these seem in every way preferable to the circular tent. As they are largely manufactured in Canada why should not a few be obtained, say sufficient for a battalion's use, and tried at the next annual camp? Other advantages which they possess are that they are readily pitched, they occupy less space, and they lend themselves to more systematic arrangement than those of a circular shape.

One direction in which the MILITIA GAZETTE hopes to benefit the force is by chronicling the doings in all parts and bringing before it collectively for imitation the good example set by some individual portions. In "The Target" this week will be found a summary of the Eighth Royal Rifles company matches, in which the shots competed separately for company prizes and the winners of these afterwards competed for a battalion prize. Such a course is calculated to foster shooting throughout the battalion, for the members of the worst shooting companies have an equal representation with the crack shots for the battalion championship. And it will be noticed that in this instance the battalion prize was won by a man who made a low score in the company firing. The great object to be aimed at is to induce every enrolled man to practice shooting, not perfunctorily, but with such interest as will lead him to strive for an assured position as "a shot," and the plan adopted by the Eighth is certainly a step in that direction.

Colonel Howard Vincent's article in the *Contemporary Review* on the needs of the volunteer force is well worthy of careful study; and in classifying the defects of the English volunteers one might imagine that he had in mind our own militia. He enumerates these defects as follows: (1) The want of cavalry and field artillery; (2) the want of great coats and proper equipments; (3) the insufficiency of funds; (4) the difficulty of finding officers; (5) the absence of any civil advantages to the volunteers; (6) the scarcity of drill sheds; (7) the want of space for drill; (8) the want of accessible ranges. It is probable that in the matter of cavalry and field artillery we are better off than the English, and we have certainly better facilities for procuring rifle ranges. If they have not been established it is usually because the will has been wanting, for now that canvas targets have been adopted the cost is no obstacle, and we know of few villages in Canada where a suitable piece of ground cannot be had within reasonable distance. To the consideration of other points raised we may return at a more convenient opportunity.

And now Prince Edward county has come to the help of her militiamen, and, like Lincoln, has provided helmets, and thinks of adding water bottles to her gift. Well done! What county will be next?

THE WEEKS' MOVEMENTS OF CORPS ON ACTUAL SERVICE

We left General Middleton last week, checked in his pursuit of Big Bear by Loon Lake, whence he returned to Fort Pitt on the 11th with his mounted column thoroughly exhausted. Since then he has gone to Beaver River, and he proposes making the mission station there his headquarters for future operations against Big Bear. It is rumoured that he has again started in pursuit of that slippery warrior, but this lacks confirmation, and it is more probable that he is awaiting definite information as to this Cree chief's whereabouts, some being of opinion that he has already reached Green Lake, north of Prince Albert. The General has at his disposal for pursuit when desirable 300 mounted men, including police, 300 infantry and artillery, 2 field pieces and 2 gatlings. Col. Otter, with the Queen's Own and Ottawa Sharpshooters, is still making eastward on the north side of the river, the men suffering greatly from the attacks of mosquitoes and having discarded their tunics

for shirtsleeves in consequence of the heat. The Midland battalion seems to have joined General Strange's column, from which Col. Smith with 3 companies has gone north to Cold Lake and Devil Lake. The 2 last companies of the Midland have gone on to the front from Telegraph Coulee, where they had been for some time, and where they were relieved by two companies of the Seventh Fusiliers.

It is already proposed, in the event of Big Bear not falling into any of the traps that have been so deftly prepared for him, to place strong garrisons at Battleford, Fort Pitt, Prince Albert, and either Humboldt or Fort Qu'Appelle, and indeed the necessity for such a step has from the first been recognized. The question is where is the garrison to be obtained? Volunteers have been invited from the troops already there, but without favourable response. In the meantime the Mounted Police force is being increased, there being now 359 recruits drilling at Regina.

Among the troops left along the line of railway there have been no movements to note; the exact disposition of the Halifax battalion will be found in another column. All three of the battalions last called out have been dismissed from active service, after a stay in camp in each case that will well represent their annual drill.

IN THE HOUSE.

Under this heading it is proposed to mention from week to week any action that is taken in the Canadian Parliament having reference to our militia force. Up to the present, in consequence of the continuance of the debate upon the Franchise bill very little has been accomplished since the initiation of the GAZETTE, with the one exception of a heated debate about ten days ago on a resolution introduced by Sir John Macdonald authorizing an increase in the North-west Mounted Police force to one thousand men. Mr. Blake, in a long and carefully prepared speech, used copious extracts from militia reports in support of his argument that the local militia force had been discouraged out of existence; that the increased police force would involve the extra expenditure of at least half a million per annum, and that before the resolution was adopted the House had a right to know definitely what the Government proposed doing in the matter of increasing the police force and of forming and encouraging local corps respectively. Mr. Caron accused the Opposition of having systematically cut down the vote necessary for the proper equipment of the militia, which Mr. Blake denied. Mr. Watson (Man.) thought if the Duck Lake, Battleford and Prince Albert companies had been kept up the rebellion would never have occurred, and preferred volunteers to mounted police on the score alike of economy and efficiency.

Some time ago a private member asked what the Government proposed doing in the direction of rewarding personal valor during the fights, by the award of Victoria crosses or similar distinctions, to which the Minister of Militia replied that the Victoria cross was not under the control of the Government.

On the 15th instant Mr. Bowell, in Mr. Caron's absence, moved the House into committee on a resolution to provide \$1,700,000 to defray the expenses in connection with the troubles in the North-west, which provoked a request from the Opposition for a statement of the total cost of the expedition, which Mr. Caron promised to give as soon as it was obtainable. The resolution was passed and a bill based on it was next day read a first time. It is probable that at its second reading there will be some further debate.

WHAT THE REBELLION HAS TAUGHT OUR MARITIME CONFRÈRES.

Practical illustration has lately been given in this eastern province of New Brunswick on some important points consequent upon the western rebellion, in the prompt response to the call for active service of its representative battalion—a battalion based on the Infantry School corps for the Maritime Provinces and with eight complete companies added, drawn in proper proportions from the city and country battalions of the district. The enthusiasm displayed at St. John and Fredericton at the prospect of the troops proceeding to the front was such as has never before been witnessed in this loyal province. At the shortest possible notice every man of the fine battalion thus formed was at his post, and instead of a battalion, the province was eager to send a brigade. Nor is the Militia

Department undeserving of a word of praise for the manner in which this battalion was thus speedily sent forward, although its services were ultimately not required. Every article of their accoutrements and clothing, rations, camp equipments and ammunition was either on the train with the battalion, or, as in the case of underclothing, socks and boots, provided for *en route*. And when assembled in camp, representing as the men did, the varied industries of the province, as well as the different corps, Infantry School, city and country militia, it was marvellous how smoothly the whole machine worked—the following lessons remaining when the corps quitted the camp at Sussex to return home, not being required to take part in the operations in the field with their more fortunate brethren in the west.

1. The loyalty of Canadians east and west when put to the test; differences of opinion and grievances, real or imaginary, are scattered to the winds—united action, as a thing of necessity, remains.

2. The wisdom of the establishment of schools of infantry as a continuation of the artillery branch of the permanent force. In this case, it will be observed, the School of Infantry was the foundation of the speedily formed battalion, and its machinery, from the commandant downwards, served to complete the internal arrangements of the corps, each individual member of the permanent corps serving as an example in drill, in military bearing and in the manner of performing duties.

3. The necessity for care being taken “not to develop the head at the expense of the feet.” Here city and country corps were serving side by side, each having its work to do, each man doing honor to his country. And as the General, of whom we are so proud, would not dream of extending for attack any force under his command without keeping well in hand “fighting line,” “support” and “reserve” (apart from all other questions of offence and defence), neither will our authorities lose sight of any part of our Canadian organization, but will trust in a combination of our permanent force our city corps and our rural battalions.

RIFLES AND RIFLE SHOOTING.—VI.

BY CAPTAIN HENRY F. PERLEY, HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

A musketeer's hat was rather an important affair in “ye olden tyme,” for it is said “Every musketeer should know how to carry his “match dry in wet weather, by putting the lighted match between his “head and his hat, etc.” This hat, as would appear from an English Manual, published by royal command in 1690, was further utilized thus: “Instruction 24: Take with your right hand some of the wad that “sticks between your hat and hat band; tell slowly 1, 2, and bring the “same as you did your bullet, to the muzzell, etc.”

The fusil was a successor to the musket. It was shorter and of less calibre, consequently was a handier weapon. It was fitted with a flint lock, and was fired from the shoulder, whereas the musket was fired from the breast. The term fusil was for brevity pronounced fusee, which name it retained as well as the lighter firearms borne by all sergeants of infantry after the suppression of halberts, and until the issue of Enfield rifles in 1853. The company officers of the Fusilier regiments, and those of the flank companies of all other regiments carried fusils after the discontinuance of spontons.

The barrel of the old musket, or “Brown Bess,” was derisively called “an iron tube but little better than a piece of gas piping, plugged “at one end.” To allow of facility in loading, the bullet was made smaller than the bore, and it fitted so loosely that it dropped freely down a clean barrel to the breech. This difference between the diameters of the ball and the bore was the cause of a great amount of windage, and caused a great loss of propelling power from the escape of the gas formed by the explosion of the powder. The difference between the calibres of the ball and the barrel was also the cause of the erratic shooting for which “Brown Bess” was famous, for the ball, instead of being propelled in a straight line along the bore, rebounded from side to side, and generally took the direction in its flight due to the last rebound when leaving the muzzle. Another cause of its wild shooting was the use of *cast* balls. It has been found nearly impossible to cast a ball which should be perfectly solid or homogeneous, a cavity or air-hole is almost invariably found to exist; and according to the part of the ball in which it may be found, so the position of the centre of gravity would be affected, which of itself was sufficient to cause the eccentricity in its movement alluded to. So bad were the capabilities of this weapon that a gallant veteran once observed that “he believed a man could safely sit “in a chair 200 yards distant from another, who might blaze away at “him all day with one of these muskets, on the sole condition that he “should be bound, on his honour, to aim carefully at him every time.”

The French musket was a worse weapon, for whilst 1 ball in 470 fired from “Brown Bess” took effect, it has been computed that, during

the wars of the Revolution and Empire (1790 to 1800), 3,000 cartridges were fired for every enemy killed or wounded; and it may not be out of place here to state that at the battle of Cherubusco, the Mexicans killed or wounded one American soldier for every 800 balls expended; and in turn the Americans killed or wounded one Mexican for every 125 balls fired. During the Russo-Turkish war of 1878 the Turks are reported to have lost nearly 150,000 in dead and wounded, and, from the returns, the expenditure of small arms ammunition by the Russians was 67 rounds for each man placed *hors de combat*, not taking into account the effects produced by the artillery, though the proportion of the latter was as 1 to 49 rifles.

With the invention of the rifle, and teaching the soldier how to shoot, wars have become more bloody and the loss of life greater than before, and it cannot now be said, as in the days of old, that every enemy killed or wounded cost his weight in lead, or ten times his weight in iron when killed by artillery.

The invention of rifling a gun barrel has been attributed to Gaspard Zoller, or Zollner, of Vienna, about the end of the 15th century. As originally practised it consisted of ploughing a number of straight grooves or channels from the breech to the muzzle, simply to allow of facility in loading, and to afford an opportunity for the deposition of fouling without a diminution of the bore. Probably by accident, or from fancy, a certain degree of spirality was given to this grooving, which was found to add to precision in firing. Koster, of Nuremberg, is said to have been the first who, in 1520, adopted the spiral grooves in the rifles manufactured by him. For many years rifles were only esteemed as curiosities or used for amusement; and though in 1680 each troop of Life Guards was supplied with eight rifled carbines, it was not until 1800 that the 95th Regiment, now the Rifle Brigade, was armed with a rifle known as “Baker's Rifle,” which had only two grooves, and carried a spherical ball having a band around it which in loading was placed in the grooves.

In the Artillery Museum at Paris there is a collection of old rifles, and amongst them a great variety of grooving is to be found. Thus:—

- 19 have straight grooves.
- 131 “ grooves uniformly inclined.
- 87 “ an increasing twist near the breech.
- 29 “ “ “ towards the muzzle.
- 83 “ “ “ “ middle of the barrel.
- 67 “ grooves making half a turn and under in the length of the barrel.
- 219 “ grooves making from half to a whole turn in the length of the barrel, and
- 55 “ grooves making from one to two entire turns in the length of the barrel.

The theory of rifling a barrel is that the position of the axis of rotation of the bullet not being dependent upon any accidental circumstances, but being rendered coincident with its line of flight, the resistance which the fore part of the bullet encounters from the air acting equally on all sides, is evenly distributed around the centre of gravity. If, moreover, there should be any irregularities in the surface of the bullet, its rotation on its axis presents them successively to the action of gravity and the air, and thus neutralizes the deflection to which these defects give rise.

Up to the present the long and short Enfield is the only rifle placed in the hands of the Active Militia of Canada. Though there are a number of Martini-Henry's in the Dominion, no regular issue has been made. The “long” Snider is 54 inches in length, and weighs without the bayonet, 9 lbs. 12½ oz. The barrel is 39 inches in length, .577 inches diameter of bore, grooved with three grooves, which make one turn in 78 inches, or half a turn in the length of the barrel. The Martini is 49 inches in length, weighs 8 lbs. 12 oz., is .45 inch diameter of bore, grooved with seven grooves, which make one turn in 22 inches.

Originally all rifles were loaded at the muzzle, but as soon as they were recognized as an arm of precision, attention was called to the advisability of simplifying and accelerating the operation of loading, and this was done by inserting the charge at the breech. The invention of breech loading dates back to 1500, and a description of many curious specimens will be found in “The Gun and its Development” by Greener. Many years ago the Prussians adopted into their service the “needle gun,” and their successes against the Danes, Austrians and French, were attributed in a great measure to the rapidity with which their troops were enabled to fire upon the enemy. In the British service the first use of breech loaders was to arm the cavalry, as it was a matter of importance to simplify the operations of loading on horseback, and in 1857 some Sharp breech loading rifles were issued to the regiments. The charge for this arm was inserted bodily at the breech, and as the “block” ascended it cut off the end of the paper cartridge,

thus exposing the powder, and the arm was capped and fired in the usual way.

As before stated Koster, of Nuremburg, in 1520 adopted spiral grooving. In 1742 Robins, the father of English gunnery, ascertained that one of the greatest causes of error was the imperfect rotation of the bullet, and he found during the course of his experiments that where the bullet became moulded, as it were, to the grooving, the greater was the accuracy of the rifle. Following out this idea the "Baker Rifle," before referred to, was brought into use, but it was found that though the bullet partook of the required rotatory motion, it was ill adapted for piercing the atmosphere. When it left the muzzle the belted side went foremost; but it quickly obeyed the ordinary mechanical laws and revolved in its shorter axis, thus presenting a larger area, or flat side to the air. To equalize this defect a four-grooved rifle was introduced, with two belts around the bullets, at right angles to each other, but it was not successful. In another system a bullet smaller than the bore was used, which was wrapped in an envelope or patch which filled the grooves and gave a rotatory motion. But this too was imperfect, and it is said that the rifle as a military arm would have fallen into disuse in Europe, had not a French officer, Mons. Delvigne, suggested the construction of a barrel with a breech chamber of a slightly less diameter than the barrel, in which the powder would be deposited, and a projection or shoulder upon which the cartridge could rest. This cartridge was composed of a *sabot* of wood, flat on the bottom and hollowed out on the top to receive a spherical ball, the whole enclosed in a patch of greased serge. The *sabot* allowed the ball a fixed support, and a few taps of the rammer were sufficient to flatten it slightly, thus forcing the lead into the grooves. Mons. Thouvenin and Minie improved this rifle by placing an iron stem (*tige*), screwed into the breech, about which the powder was placed, and upon which the ball rested while receiving the blows of the rammer. The *spherical* ball was abandoned and the conical one adopted, and by forcing it down on to the stem its base was expanded into the grooves. Many experiments were made with this system, and out of them grew the Enfield rifle in which the *tige* is dispensed with, and the bullet is expanded into the grooves by the action of a plug forced forward by the explosion of the powder.

(To be Continued.)

THE DUTIES OF THE PERSONNEL OF A BATTERY OF
FIELD ARTILLERY IN ACTION, FROM THE TIME IT
TAKES UP A GIVEN POSITION UNTIL "CEASE
FIRING" IS SOUNDED.

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL W. KEMMIS, R.A.

"England expects that every man will do his duty."

THE SILVER MEDAL PRIZE ESSAY.

The arm artillery, as a whole, or any particular branch of it—field artillery, for example—may be regarded as a powerful machine: one which, in its primary parts, is becoming, day by day, more developed, and therefore more perfectly adapted towards fulfilling its rôle.

In the application of any machine to the performance of work we well know that, to do its task efficiently and economically, not only must the machine itself be as complete and perfect as possible, but it must be applied with skill, the workman, or men, performing his or their, particular part in the right way, at the right spot and at the right instant; and if this be not so, the advantages to be gained by the use of the machine cannot be realized. The same truth holds good in principle in the case of field artillery, though the results are incomparable in magnitude from the mightiness of the machinery of the latter, the multitude of its motors and the grave issues involved.

It is therefore a very pertinent enquiry, and particularly so at the present time, when a notable advance is being made in the power of ordnance, "whether the personnel of field (or other) artillery, in itself, its organization, tactics and training, is fitted to utilize to the utmost degree possible that *matériel* with which its work is performed."

A very cursory glance at the records of our modern wars should satisfy anyone inclined to be sceptical on the subject,—if there be such,—that our officers and soldiers in the present day are no way inferior, in fighting and enduring qualities, to those, of whom it was said at the beginning of this century, that "they never knew when they were beaten," and we may safely conclude that the raw material at our disposal is in itself as fitted as ever for conversion to the skilled gunner. True, the standard to which he must be brought, in order to meet modern requirements and to make proper use of the now more perfected *matériel*, is much higher than formerly; but, even so, if the man

only possesses the spirit and physique proper for a soldier, his being made to come up to that standard can be but a question of organization and training. The discussion of these subjects it is not our province to enter upon, in passing we may, however, be permitted to express a doubt as to whether the grave changes of recent years are conducive to obtaining in the personnel that high standard of proficiency, self-reliance, readiness to obey and to command, which might and therefore ought to be reached.¹

The definite purpose for which guns in the field are brought into action varies: it may be for the attack, or defence, of a position, or in forming part of an advanced or rear guard, or again, upon outpost duty; and according to the general circumstances prevailing, or it may be, to the manner in which events of the moment fall out, the pieces may be brought into action deliberately and with more or less preparation, or, on the contrary, without opportunity for improving the position to be taken up, without much time for the exercise of judgment, and not unfrequently even upon the spur of the moment. But whatever the grand end in view may be, however events may influence the plan sketched out and the actual method employed, what though the minor tactics of a battery must vary to meet particular circumstances, yet its rôle from the time of taking up a position for action until "cease firing" sounds may be said to be "to deliver its fire with maximum effect;" consequently the individual duties of the personnel must, in the main, stand constant, though circumstances may at one time add slightly thereto, or at another diminish a little therefrom. From this it follows, that our purpose will be served by setting out the duties of the personnel with respect only to what may be considered as a commonly prevailing state of affairs.

In order, partly, to the right grasping of our subject at the outset and to its proper completeness and, partly, to the absence of recognized rule on certain points, some notice of the dispositions, which lead up to the commencement of the duties of the personnel in action, seem called for.

It is always desirable, though not always possible, to select with deliberation the position which artillery is to occupy for action. When this can be done and a definite spot has been assigned to a battery commander for his guns, he should have the opportunity of riding forward to examine the place, the bearing of the objective from it; etc., with a view to bringing his guns into it in the readiest manner and disposing them, when there, to the best advantage. This duty of examining the position, for the proper and effective application of the power in his hand, the battery commander should never delegate to another; in riding forward to examine it, he should be accompanied by one of his staff N.-C. officers² and by the battery range-takers:³ these latter, however, need not be brought actually into the position but left, until required, as near to it as regard to exposure of purpose permits. The staff N.-C. officer is required with the commander in order that, having been instructed as to the spot to be occupied by the guns and limbers in action, he may return, while the commander remains occupied with the range-takers, to the second in command with the information and with any special directions the commander may think well to send respecting the road to the position,⁴ halting anywhere previous to final movement into it, etc.; also, if the second in command has not already had instructions on the point, with regard to the intended post for the wagons and the best line for them to take to it;⁵ having conveyed these, or such like, orders, the staff N.-C. officer may be useful in guiding the leading gun along the route, or afterwards a particular gun in taking up the exact position determined for it. Meanwhile the commander, knowing exactly what he requires from his examination of the position, etc., and being for the moment free, gives instructions to the range-takers and to the officer commanding the escort of the battery, if there is one, or, if he has to rely upon his own vedettes, he points out to them their individual posts and gives them their orders; he then rejoins his battery either at the place where he directed its halt, or, at latest, before it comes into the position for action, so that this final movement may be under his own direction.

¹We have a standing committee to take cognizance of, and to advise those in authority upon, questions relating to artillery *matériel*, with a view to improvement: why should we not have a similar committee to weigh all matters connected with the *personnel*, such as organization, training, etc.?

²The senior, or battery sergeant-major.

³Not by the trumpeter. The commander of the battery escort, if there is one, should be at hand to receive his instructions as soon as the battery commander has made up his mind as to his dispositions. If there is no escort, and the battery is not immediately supported by other troops, the commander should take with him a few of his own spare men to post as vedettes for the proper safety of his guns in action.

⁴When it can be done previous to the guns taking up their final position, it is well for the battery commander to assemble, for a few minutes, his officers and Nos. 1 and give them such insight into the object to be attained by the battery fire and the tactics meant to be pursued, as may enable them to grasp the whole and so, afterwards, work their guns not only the more readily but the more intelligently.

⁵When the battery is acting in conjunction with others, this, in the same manner as the position for the guns, would be determined by the commander of the whole.

It is sometimes desirable, and possible, for the better protection of the gunners and guns, to dig pits: on such occasions, having been informed of the objective and the positions for the guns, the Nos. 1 of the detachments, checked by their officers, should each, first mark out the line of fire for his gun, then roughly trace the form of the pit and set the men to work.

We assume, then, the guns in the position, the limbers retiring to such place as may have been appointed for them; the ammunition wagons detached and moving to the spot they are to occupy; the forge, store and remaining wagons of the battery on the line of march, in camp, or it may be at some previously arranged place, when the duties of the personnel in action commence, as follows:—

THE BATTERY COMMANDER.

The battery commander must be considered as entirely responsible for his battery at all times, following the orders of the officer commanding the troops, with which the battery, if single, is acting, or those of the divisional, or corps, artillery commander, if it forms part of divisional, or corps, artillery.

Under any circumstances then, that his responsibility be not curtailed, the actual working, or internal management of the battery for a particular end in view, should remain entirely in its commander's hands, notwithstanding that he may, and at times must, be restricted by superior orders in acting upon his own judgment with regard to those points which lead up to the particular work required; thus, while the time, place and objective for the action of his battery may, and must in the case of united action, be ordered for him, he should be left entirely untrammelled in the command of his guns in dealing with the objective.

As has already been stated, the great aim of a battery in action may be said to be "to produce the maximum fire effect:" hence this must be the commander's primary care and to insure it his first duty expressed in general terms.

We assume that before bringing his battery into action, or, at latest, where lack of time forbids previous deliberation, on bringing it into action, the commander has made up his mind as to the precise manner in which it will be best to deal with the objective, with regard to nature of ammunition, distribution of fire, etc.¹

A battery is composed of a certain number of guns, any one of which in action may be worked independently of, and without regard to, the others, yet the whole form a tactical unit of which the commander is the head; consequently, and also because of his responsibility to which we have already alluded, he should be able to wield the whole as a single weapon, and apply the whole, as such, in that manner which for the moment is the most fitting: in short, he must as a rule, have the fire of the battery at all times in his absolute control. That he may attain this he must himself determine and order all those points which are common to the guns as a whole, not delegating them to the officers and N.C. officers in immediate charge of their working, unless exceptionally under special circumstances.

Following this principle the commander, having satisfied himself, so far as he may, of the general preparedness of the whole and having taken up that position himself from which he can best order the fire, observe its effect and take in the whole situation of affairs, commences the detail of his duties in action by giving the command to load,² specifying the nature of ammunition, the range,³ or the elevation for the range, and the target,⁴ at the same time naming, if necessary, any particular portion of the latter.

The guns are thus prepared to open fire, but before the commander commits them, as a whole, to this, he has perhaps the most important point of his duty, with respect to fire effect, to attend to, namely, the checking and ascertaining with accuracy the range, or rather the elevation at which the guns require to be laid to obtain the required range. In doing this he is obliged to give the order "to fire" to the individual gun himself, as he may find it necessary, from observation of the round previous, to have the elevation altered from that which he first named.

(To be continued.)

¹These are questions of minor tactics, and therefore outside our present enquiry: for information respecting them, see *R.A.I. Prize Essay, 1871*, by Lieut. (now Major) H. W. L. Hime, R.A.

²In certain prepared positions he may, previous to this, find it possible and convenient to have a proportion of ammunition removed from the limbers and deposited in the gun pits.

³Ascertained already by the range-takers. The commander ought, however, to be a perfect judge of distance in case of failure of the range-finder, or inability to use it.

⁴This gives all that is necessary for loading and laying, except the deflection which, varying for each gun, the commander cannot lay down.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN.

To the Editor of the Militia Gazette,

SIR,—If it is not deemed advisable by the friends and comrades of Messrs. Osgoode and Rogers, whose lives were lost in the attack upon Poundmaker, to bring back their bodies for interment at Ottawa, and in this manner show the respect and honor they feel for the victims who so gallantly fought during our North-West trouble, would it not be acceptable and creditable for the comrades with whom they fought and the Volunteers of the Ottawa district to combine and erect in the Drill Hall at Ottawa a tablet bearing an appropriate inscription; also the names of those who fought so bravely with them? I think if a suggestion for such a tablet, for a monument on some such place as Cartier Square, or something else of a similar nature, were put properly before the volunteers of Ottawa, a prompt and satisfactory response would be the result.

EX-VOLUNTEER.

PERSONAL.

Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne is hard at work again at his duties as D.A.G. of No. 4 district. In our last issue we inadvertently stated that he had been occupying the position of supply officer at Winnipeg, while as a matter of fact he was called on to fill many important staff appointments, acting as brigade major, and, during the illness of Lieut.-Col. Jackson, as chief commissariat officer and D.A.G., positions for which he was well qualified by his long experience on the permanent staff.

As we go to press we learn that the command of the Wimbledon team for 1885 has been offered to Lt.-Col. Thos. Ross, G. G. F. G., and that he has accepted the position notwithstanding such short notice. The cause of the retirement of Lt.-Col. Landry at the last moment, we regret to hear, was due to illness in his family.

Captain Corbin, Quartermaster of the 63rd Rifles and of the Halifax Provisional Battalion and winner of the Governor General's prize last year, arrived in Ottawa on Saturday from Medicine Hat to join the Wimbledon team. He looks, like all who have returned from the front, very brown and very vigorous, fit for any quantity of shooting. He reports the Halifax battalion as garrisoning three different points; Col. Bremner and the staff with the three companies of the 66th at Medicine Hat; Col. McDonald with the two batteries of garrison artillery and one company of the 63rd at Moose Jaw; and Major Walsh with the remaining two companies of the Rifles at Saskatchewan keeping the steamers supplied with firewood.

The Hon. Edgar Dewdney, who is a civil engineer by profession, was born in Devonshire, Eng., in the year 1835, and emigrated to British Columbia in 1859, the year in which the mainland was constituted a new crown colony. In the year 1864 he married the eldest daughter of Stratton Moir, Esq., of Colombo, Ceylon, but then a resident of Hope, B.C. Mr. Dewdney first entered political life as a representative of Kootenay in the Legislative Assembly of the Pacific Province (1868-1869), and he sat in the House of Commons for Yale-Kootenay from 1872 until 1879, when he was appointed Indian Commissioner. He received his appointment as Lieut.-Governor of the North-west Territories Dec. 3, 1881, on the expiration of the term of the Hon. David Laird, whose administration had been highly successful. The seat of Government is at Regina, which assumes extra importance in the eyes of Canada just now from the fact that Louis Riel is confined there pending his trial, the place being securely garrisoned by the Montreal Garrison Artillery as well as by a small force of Mounted Police.—*Mon. Witness.*

DOINGS OF CORPS AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS.

PICTON, ONT.—Through the efforts of Lieut.-Colonel Bog, the 16th Prince Edward Battalion will soon be supplied with white helmets. A sufficient amount has been raised to pay for them by grants from the County Council of Prince Edward, the council of the Town of Picton, and several of the township councils. The helmets have been ordered from England and are expected to arrive this week. An effort is also being made to raise a sufficient amount to purchase water bottles for the men.

MONTREAL.—The Veteran Corps, which has been organized in connection with the 3rd Victoria Rifles, has adopted the rifle green as the color of their uniform, after a long discussion. Grey was the competing color. Col. Crawford was received with enthusiasm by the assembled veterans, and the latter were invited to join the Victoria Rifles on the occasion of their trip to Ottawa on Dominion Day.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—The Garrison Artillery and Rifles have not yet received any orders to begin annual drill, though the latter corps have two drills a week. The Artillery having lately been reorganized, with several new officers, have opened a school of instruction under Lieut.-Col. Armstrong, which has kept the officers fully occupied for the past two months. The course embraces infantry and gun drill, the instructors being Adjutant Langan, G. S. and Sergt.-Major Hughes, formerly of the R. A. The officers who have lately joined are young and enthusiastic, and

It is expected the Garrison Artillery will, ere long, even more than regain its former standing.

A branch school of instruction is now held here under Staff-Sergt. Billman, "A" Co. I. S. C., for the benefit of a few provisional officers of the Fusiliers, who are making good progress. The course will occupy three months, and will be the same as is carried out at the school at Fredericton. Instruction is held every night for three hours, with occasional lectures in the afternoons. Several of the older officers have also joined for the purpose of obtaining first-class certificates and instruction in army signalling.

The 62nd Fusiliers had a route march on Wednesday evening, headed by the brass, and five and drum bands. While passing through the streets the Battalion was put through several formations, and on reaching the Royal Hotel square two deep was formed on the front company, after which the march was resumed to the drill shed. The marching was good, but was spoilt several times by the band not playing in proper cadence and stepping too short.

HAMILTON.—There was a good turn out of the Thirteenth on the evening of the 16th for company drill. Four companies drilled outside and four in the shed. After an hour of company drill the battalion was formed up for battalion drill, and the general salute, marching past and a few simple movements executed. It was announced that the inspection would take place next week, and every man was expected to attend the few remaining parades. After parade the officers were busy in the stores department receiving necessary issues to complete clothing and equipment of men for inspection, as far as possible.

COUNCIL OF THE DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

HELD AT OTTAWA ON TUESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 1885.

Present: Lieut.-Col. Irwin, I. of A.; Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne, D.A.G.; Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Dir. of Stores; Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, Comd'g Gananoque Field Battery; Major Stewart, Comd'g Ottawa Field Battery; Captain Donaldson, Militia Department.

Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, Vice-President, in the absence of Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, President of Council, took the chair.

The notice calling the meeting having been read—Lieut.-Col. Irwin proposed, seconded by Major Stewart: "That in view of the circumstances of the case, viz: The Adjutants and several of the proposed competitors from "A" and "B" Batteries, Montreal Brigade, and Halifax Brigade being still on active service in the North-West, it is not considered advisable to take any further steps in the arrangements proposed, relative to an artillery team being sent to take part in the artillery competitions at Shoeburyness this year.—Carried.

Written votes in support of the above were received from Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Major Nicoll and Major Hood, 1st Brigade Field Artillery, and from the officers Halifax Brigade Garrison Artillery.

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, seconded by Major Stewart: "That the Executive Committee be instructed to put themselves in communication with the Department of Militia with a view to obtaining an increase of the annual grant for the year 1885, from nine hundred dollars to fifteen hundred dollars, in order to give an increased stimulus to the competitive gun practice and artillery competitions for field and garrison artillery.

OUR EXCHANGES.

The English military weeklies for the 6th have reached us, and we have to thank the *Broad Arrow* and the *Volunteer Service Review* for their kind notices of our new venture.

Amongst the editorials in the *Broad Arrow* is one congratulating the Dominion on the completion of the Pacific railway (a point on which they are somewhat premature, having doubtless been misled by a late announcement that the completion of that section east of the Rocky Mountains) and pointing out the importance from an Imperial standpoint, in view of possible eventualities in the east of a very short route to the Pacific entirely through British territory. The other editorials are not specially applicable to Canada, though they, with the shorter news notes, are, as usual, full of general naval and military information.

The chief article in the *V. S. Gazette* is a copy of the reports of the experts on the Easter Monday review, from which we Canadians can gather much consolation, finding that our English cousins are not above such weaknesses as advancing in close formation under fire, losing distance and direction when extended, irregularity in firing, indecision and delay on the part of commanders and very erratic movements by regimental bands, weaknesses of which there have been some indications nearer home.

The cream of the *V. S. Review* is in the short and pithy editorials which show a decided tendency for hitting out straight from the shoulder.

Forest and Stream for the 18th contains some curious facts about bullets, one being elongated .058 inch with the diameter correspondingly reduced. Another indicating that upsetting had occurred before the bullet left the shell, while yet another showed it occurring after it had

gone partly through the grooving. These are interesting theoretical points for further investigation. A synopsis of the Creedmoor full programme is also given.

The *Toronto Daily Mail* of the 13th contains an excellent and valuable epitome of the operations of the militia authorities from the outbreak of the rebellion to date. In it there are, as might be expected, some party allusions, but those who wish to get the whole progress of events in a nutshell will find it there.

THE TARGET.

WIMBLEDON TEAM.

The members of the Wimbledon team assembled on the Rideau Rifle Range, Ottawa, for five days practice on Monday morning, June 22nd. The personnel of the team remains the same as that given in our issue of June 9th. Sergt. Curzon of the 10th Royals, however, has not yet arrived from the North-west, where he has been on active service. In the event of his not arriving in time Pte. W. A. Jamieson, 43rd O & C Rifles will be substituted for him, having signified his acceptance of a place on the team if required.

Through the kindness of Col. Bacon, Secretary of the D.R.A., we are enabled to publish the first day's score of the Wimbledon team practice on the Rideau rifle range. The weather was very unfavourable for good scoring, the rear wind lasting all day in gusts. The scoring, as a whole, was rather erratic, but considering the heel wind and the fact of its being the first day's practice we are led to hope better things of the team during the balance of the week. In the morning the top score was made by Lt. A. P. Sherwood, G.G.F.G., 79, Captain Macdonald, 1st Brig. F. Art. and Pte. Kimmerly, 49th, coming next with 78 each and Sergt. Ashall, Q.O.R., 76. In the afternoon Lieut. Jameson, 60th Batt., headed the score with 88 points, Pte. W. C. King, 45th, coming next with 84, and Staff-Sergt. Wynne, 5th Royal Scots, 83, and Lt. Patterson, 85th Batt., following close on him with 82.

MORNING PRACTICE. (QUEEN'S RANGES.)

Pte. Cooke, 5th R. S.	29 19 23 71	Staff-Sgt. Allan, 82nd Bat.	22 19 17 58
Staff-Sergt. Wynne, R. S. .	24 16 19 59	Corp. Miner, 71st Bat. . .	28 16 11 55
Lt. Patterson, 85th Batt. .	27 13 24 64	Lt. Kirkpatrick, 67th Bat.	25 14 25 64
Co.-Sg. Dalrymple, 5th R.S	26 24 19 69	Capt. Thomas, 54th Bat. .	25 28 16 69
Pte. C. King, 45th Ba t. . .	27 20 13 60	Capt. Macdonald, 1st Brig.	
A-s Sur. McLaughlin, 45th	27 23 18 68	Field Art.	29 23 26 78
Lt. Sherwood, G.G.F.G. . .	29 28 22 79	Sgt. Ashall, Q.O.R.	28 29 19 76
Lt. Jameson, 60th Batt. . .	28 19 18 65	Pte. Marris, 13th Batt. . . .	31 25 14 70
Sergt. Short, G.G.F.G. . . .	24 26 14 64	Pte. Kimmerly, 49th Batt. .	28 29 21 78
Pte. Jamieson, 43rd Batt. .	25 16 13 54	Corp. Hilton, 49th Bat. . . .	25 27 14 66

AFTERNOON PRACTICE. (QUEEN'S RANGES.)

Pte. Cooke, 5th R. S.	28 24 24 76	Stf-Serg. Allan, 82nd Batt.	21 22 23 66
Stf-Serg. J. R. Wynne, R.S.	30 26 27 83	Corp. Miner, 71st Batt. . . .	31 21 8 60
Lt. Patterson, 85th Batt. . .	30 33 19 82	Lt. Kirkpatrick, 67th Batt	25 22 28 75
Co.-Sg. Dalrymple, 5th R.S	28 24 15 67	Capt. Thomas, 54th Batt	30 23 25 78
Pte. C. King, 45th Batt. . .	29 32 23 84	Capt. Macdonald, 1st Brig.	
Ass-Sur. McLaughlin, 45th	28 21 20 69	Field Art.	28 27 18 73
Lt. Sherwood, G.G.F.G. . . .	29 20 22 71	Sergt. Ashall, Q.O.R.	29 27 24 80
Lt. Jameson, 60th Batt. . . .	31 31 26 88	Pte. Marris, 13th Batt. . . .	28 32 20 80
Sergt. Short, G.G.F.G.	28 15 26 69	Corp. Hilton, 49th Batt. . .	29 29 22 80
Pte. Jamieson, 43rd Batt. .	29 26 15 70	Pte. Kimmerly, 49th Batt	26 25 26 77

Full details of the Wimbledon team's practice will be found in this column in next week's number.

Capt. Corbin has gone on to Halifax and will join the Wimbledon team at Rimouski, having obtained leave, in consideration of his absence on active service and of the urgency of his private affairs, to absent himself from the practice here.

OTTAWA, Ont.—The fourth Snider spoon competition of the Ottawa Rifle Club was held on the 20th. The day was exceedingly fine, but a very strong 3 o'clock wind blew across the range to the detriment of many of the competitors. Seven rounds at 200, 500 and 600 yards.

Lieut. Sherwood.	29 34 23 86	A. F. Cotton.	25 20 23 68
(First spoon)		Lieut. Chamberlin.	28 19 20 67
H. Walters.	29 29 24 82	T. Carroll.	23 23 20 66
(Second spoon)		E. D. Sutherland.	27 26 13 66
Major Anderson.	24 30 25 79	A. Pink.	29 25 12 66
R. Beardon.	24 25 28 77	T. McJanet.	24 21 18 63
Captain Waldo.	27 29 20 76	Lieut. Wright.	28 14 20 62
T. L. Hutchison.	31 29 16 76	W. Short.	17 24 20 61
Captain Perley.	30 25 19 74	R. N. Slater.	25 18 18 61
W. A. Jamieson.	29 27 18 74	Wm. Mallene.	29 20 10 59
N. Morrison.	28 26 19 73	F. W. Dawson.	19 22 15 56
T. A. Armstrong.	30 20 20 70	R. Gallway.	26 14 14 54
Dr. Hutchison.	28 27 15 70	T. Cunningham.	22 15 19 53

The second pairs of the Club tournament were shot off at the same time, except in one case, where the pair had shot off previously by mutual consent, and resulted as follows:—

Perley, 74 beat Chamberlin, 67	Cotton, 81 beat Anderson, 69
Sherwood, 86 " J. Hutchison, 76	Jamieson, 74 " Armstrong, 70
Morrison, 73 " Whitely,	

The pairs for the future shoots off have all been arranged as follow, third drawing to be shot before next Snider spoon day:—

1. Perley against Jamieson, 3. Morrison, bye.
2. Sherwood " Cotton,

Fourth drawing—time for shooting which will be decided by mutual consent, but must not be later than sixth Snider spoon day.

4. Winner of 2 against Morrison.

5. Winner of 1, bye.

Fifth drawing—the conqueror in which will win the tournament prize:—

Winner of 4 against 5.

The Club shooting was witnessed by Lieut.-Col. Bacon, Capt. Corbin, Capt. Kirkpatrick, Corpl. Miner, and Staff Sergt. Allan, of the Wimbledon team, besides the Ottawa members of the team, who, it will be seen, gave a good account of themselves, and also by Pvt. Cunningham, G.G.F.G., who has just returned from Battleford, and who was in the fight with Poundmaker.

METROPOLITAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of this association was held on Monday evening 15th inst. Mr. G. B. Pattee, the treasurer, occupied the chair. After the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting and the financial statement for the past year, which showed a satisfactory balance at the credit of the association, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, when the following were elected:—Mr. G. B. Pattee, president, re-elected; Lieut.-Col. Bacon and Mr. Allan Gilmour, jr., first and second vice-presidents, re-elected; Lieut. H. H. Gray, secretary-treasurer; Mr. E. D. Sutherland, assistant secretary-treasurer; Major Anderson, Capts. Perley, Todd and Waldo, and Mr. Jas. Grant, managing committee; Mr. H. LeB. Ross, auditor. It was decided to hold the annual prize meeting on Friday and Saturday, 7th and 8th August, when it is expected that the usual liberal programme will be offered. The matches are open to all.

Major Anderson has received several letters from officers of rifle associations desiring to establish ranges, with reference to the target which he described in a late issue. He has left Ottawa for a few days on departmental business, but any further enquiries addressed to the GAZETTE will be promptly forwarded to him.

BOWMANVILLE.—At the weekly association practice at Bowmanville rifle range, on Saturday afternoon last, the following scores were secured with Martini rifles at Queen's ranges:

Dr. McLaughlin	32	27	27	86	T. Nowell	24	26	23	73
W. C. King	31	29	21	81	J. Morris	25	21	23	69
W. S. Russell	26	28	24	78	N. S. Young	30	16	19	66
J. B. Mitchell	31	26	19	76					

This match was for the National Rifle Association medal, and the winner is entitled to shoot in the Prince of Wales' match at Wimbledon.

WINNIPEG.—The first of a proposed series of weekly rifle practice by the city police took place on the 13th inst. on the Stony Mountain range, 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each. Ten fired. The best scores were, P. C. Huston, 31, 19, 11—61; P. C. Cox, 12, 18, 25—55.

MONTREAL.—At the tenth annual prize meeting of the 5th Royal Scots, held here yesterday, the scoring was below the average, the Secretary-Treasurer, Capt. Hood, stating that this was owing to the bad ammunition, which is manufactured in this province, and that, as a result, the scores were very small in all the matches in which this ammunition was used, as an instance, at the 500 and 600 yards ranges in the battalion match in which the Canadian ammunition was used, Pte. Smith, one of our crack shots, scored 33, while in the open match, in which the English ammunition was used, the same gentleman scored 60 points at 500 and 600 yards. There were several other similar instances. Capt. Hood himself, who is also a crack shot, missed 7 out of 21 rounds, mostly owing to the weakness of the cartridges, the ball falling short of the range. He has also in his possession some half dozen cartridges which missed fire altogether. He says he intends to make a report through the Brigade office to Ottawa on the matter.

At the Montreal Rifle Association match yesterday J. Anthony won first prize with a score of 90 points out of a possible 105, and Staff Sergt. Wynne came in second with 88 points.

The Victoria Rifle Club will have sweepstake matches on the 1st of July, open to all.

QUEBEC.—The 8th Royal Rifles' annual regimental company prizes were shot for at the Levis ranges on the 4th June. Six rounds at 200 yards, and seven rounds each at 400 and 500 yards. The following are the two highest scores among the prize winners of each company:—

Pvt. Bell, "A" Co.	19	21	19	59	Pvt. Phillips, "D" Co.	27	24	25	76
Sergt. Morgan, "A" Co.	14	24	16	54	Sergt. Colley, "D" Co.	21	27	22	70
Corp. Goudie, "B" Co.	23	31	28	82	Sergt. Dewfall, "E" Co.	24	25	29	78
St. Mountain, "B" Co.	19	22	32	73	Pvt. Hartley, "E" Co.	26	24	16	66
Pvt. Douglas, "C" Co.	18	26	25	69	Corp. Thompson, "F" Co.	26	23	28	77
Pvt. Morton, "C" Co.	22	26	14	62	St. Thompson, "F" Co.	21	25	27	73

There were 82 competitors, averaging 45.56 points per man. Weather fine.

On Saturday, 13th, the above named twelve competed for the regimental prize of cross-gun badge and \$10. Six rounds at 200 yards, and seven rounds each at 500 and 600 yards, no sighters. The scoring was poor owing to the bad light and high wind caused by an approaching thunder storm, during the whole of the firing at 600 yards. Pvt. Hartley, "E" Co., was the lucky man, scoring 23 22 22 67 points.

Sergt. Mountain, "E" Co., was second with 63 points.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—The 62nd Fusiliers commenced their annual target practice at Drury Range on the 15th. In the afternoon companies "A" and "B," Capts. Godard and Sturdee, marched from the drill shed headed by the fife and drum band, and proceeded to the range. The men shot at the 200, 400 and 500 yard ranges. The highest scores were made by Color Sergt. Jones, "B" Co., who secured 64 points, and Corp. Henderson, "A" Co., who made 56 points. At eight o'clock the following morning companies "C" and "D" started from the drill shed for the range.

GLEANINGS.

The Corporal's guard has been discontinued at Fort Frederick, Kingston.

Col. Irwin, Dominion Inspector of Artillery, will make his annual inspection of the stores, &c., at Fort Henry, Kingston, to-morrow.

A grant of \$300 for the better equipment of the volunteers of the County of Peterboro has been made by the Finance Committee of the County Council.

The civic authorities of Winnipeg have decided to present an address to Gen. Middleton on his return from the front, and a committee has been appointed to prepare it.

Lieut.-Col. W. H. Noble, of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich, England, has communicated to the London Times the curious story that a nest was built and a brood of sparrows brought up in the axle-tree box of a heavy gun that was regularly fired every night and morning.

A motion was made in the Kingston Council last Wednesday night to discontinue the aid to the families of the volunteers at the front at the close of the present month, but the motion was defeated by a close majority. The Government will be asked, however, to recoup the city the expenditure so far incurred.

Pte. Kilvert, of Company "F," 13th Battalion, Hamilton, who was charged by Lieut. Tisdale with a breach of the Militia Act in absenting himself from drill eighteen times, was before the Police Magistrate recently, and was fined \$5 for each parade, \$90 in all, but at the request of Adjutant Stuart the fine was reduced to \$5.

The Smithsonian Institution, having been requested by Lord Truro to obtain information as to where firearms, especially rifles, were first manufactured in North America, Prof. Spencer F. Baird, their distinguished secretary, is making enquiries in the matter. Here is a chance for one of our historical societies to distinguish itself.

The pronunciation of the words "aide-de-camp" and "reveille" has lately been referred to Generals Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, some purists insisting that "aidekong" and "revalya" was the proper way. All the Generals agreed upon aide-de-camp and reveille, the army and West Point constituting the authority in the United States.

A public meeting was held in Toronto on the 15th to consider the reception to be given our volunteers on their return from the front, the Mayor presiding. A motion was passed that a proper reception be given them, and the City Council was requested to place a sum in the estimates to cover the expenses. The Mayor stated that while in Ottawa last week the Minister of Militia informed him that he would endeavor to allow the Toronto men to return as soon as possible, and the Department would do its utmost to permit the Grenadiers and Queen's Own to return at the same time.

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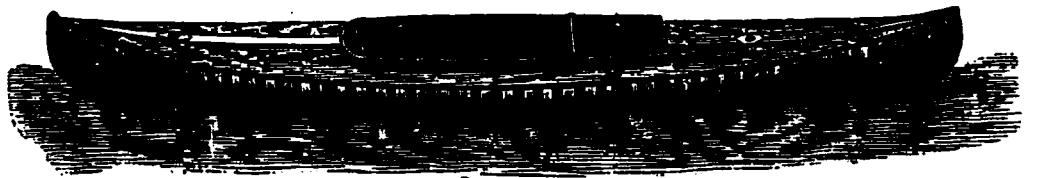
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POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, OTTAWA, 1st May, 1885.



Statutes of Canada.

THE Statutes of Canada are for sale at the Queen's Printer's Office, here; also separate Acts since 1874. Price lists will be sent to any person applying for them.

B. CHAMBERLIN, Q. P.

Ottawa, May, 1885.



North-West Mounted Police

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2nd	"	50	5c.	55
3rd	"	50	10	60
4th	"	50	15	65
5th	"	50	20	70

Extra pay is allowed to a limited number of blacksmiths, carpenters and other artisans.

Members of the force are supplied with free rations, a free kit on joining, and periodical issues during the term of service. OTTAWA, May 8th, 1885.

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Specifications can be seen and forms of Tender obtained, on and after Monday, the 15th inst., at this office, where all necessary information can be had on application; also at the office of James Nelson, architect, Montreal, and at the Dominion Public Works Office, Post Office Building, Quebec.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$250.00, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

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

By order, A. GOBEIL, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, 11th June, 1885. }

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