

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

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NOTICE.

WE will continue our offer for one week more: We will send the *Century Magazine* for 1887, with the numbers for November and December last included, and the *CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE* for a year, to any subscriber not already on our list, for four dollars and a half, one dollar less than regular rates; or we will send *St. Nicholas* for 1887 and the *GAZETTE* for a year for three dollars and a half; or the whole three for seven dollars. The *Century* this year, with its quarter of a million of circulation, its history of Lincoln, and its stories of the American civil war, and *St. Nicholas*, with its high class literature for children, young and old, need no commendation, and the chance we now offer for securing them and the *MILITIA GAZETTE* at reduced rates is one which should not be neglected.

Comment and Criticism.

GENERAL BOULANGER, the fire-eating French Minister of War, has been playing some queer pranks, but his madness appears to have method in it; at least two of his latest propositions must commend themselves as eminently practical. For one thing, he has recommended the wearing of a beard—a full beard—close cropped. He has set the example by cultivating one upon his own chin and cheeks. Since the beginning of the third empire the Frenchman has worn a mustache and

imperial in the fashion set by the late emperor, and this involved considerable shaving and waxing, and consequent loss of time. Therefore, says Boulanger, let the soldier wear a full beard and save all this time. The changes in uniform proposed by the Minister of War have been carefully looked into by a military board, recommended, and submitted to the French assembly for approval. The recommendations are that the round jacket be abolished altogether, and the tunic serve for all occasions. This tunic is large and loose, rendering movements and respiration easy. It will be roomy enough to permit a woolen waistcoat to be worn underneath. It has pockets interior and exterior. The infantry are to wear epaulettes. Cartridges are to be carried in an outside pocket of the tunic.

WE have received from Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, of the Quebec School of Cavalry, an excellent compilation of the objects and duties of outposts. This handy little work, which is printed on a double sheet of card-board, comprises all necessary instruction for out-posts—officers, non-coms., and men, and is sure to prove a great boon to the cavalry force in Canada. The mass of information to be found in the red books has sometimes a discouraging effect upon a student who tackles it for the first time, but no cavalryman who carries this useful card in his pocket can, upon that plea, be excused from having a fair knowledge of this most important department of his branch of the service. The card includes so much in so small a compass, that we reproduce it in another column for the benefit of the whole Dominion mounted force.

THE paper upon the use of machine guns, read by Major A. D. Anderson, R. H. A., before the Royal United Service Institution, a synopsis of which we reproduce, is worthy of the closest study, for it seems particularly applicable to our Dominion force, and the soundness of the conclusions he comes to seems to be beyond question. With our very small force we ought to have every possible means of increasing our fighting power, and of training our men to reserve their individual fire until it could be employed with the greatest effect, and in no way does this seem to be so feasible as by supplementing our infantry force by the issue of machine guns managed by them and firing the same ammunition. The first step to be taken in this direction is obviously the issue of a machine gun to each of the infantry school corps, including the Mounted Infantry School, and the organization of a detachment to work it, and this only as the nucleus of a greater extension of the system. This matter is deserving of careful and immediate attention.

WILL our readers kindly make the following emendations in the articles an "Simplification of Drill," published in our last two issues. Our valued contributor writes us:—"With reference to my articles on the Simplification of Drill, it is found, by experiment, that drill in double ranks by 'fours' is more convenient in a great many respects than in single ranks by 'eights.' Consequently the first article and the paragraph at the head of the second article on this subject should be amended accordingly."—A SOLDIER.

WE wonder if we ever get as far from the correct facts in giving items about forces in other countries as a contemporary south of 45° has got in the following paragraph about us: "There are 45,000 volunteers in Canada, about 30,000 of whom are drilled and armed. There are 2,000 regular troops; Battery A, stationed at Quebec; Battery B, at Kingston, and Battery B in British Columbia, and the Winnipeg Mounted Infantry." One thing to be said in favor of the paragraph is that wherein it errs, most of the mistakes are in our favor, but why have our unfortunate permanent cavalry and infantry corps been left out in the cold?

THE question of horse raising for army purposes is of so great importance to the Dominion that we feel it our duty to refer to it again and again, and wish every newspaper in the country, and particularly every rural one, would keep the subject before our farmers. Not only does our own Imperial army find it difficult to obtain suitable remounts, but the same scarcity of good sound horseflesh is met with in every country requiring any considerable numbers of cavalry. It is gravely asserted in the United States that ten per cent. of the horses purchased for their cavalry are condemned on arriving at their posts, and that a large proportion of those employed in the West break down as soon as they have to "rustle" for food. In France a like complaint is made, and the cry is for grass-fed stock that has been accustomed to roughing it. As we have many times pointed out there is no place in the world so well adapted for raising just such animals as are required as our western plains, and yet our farmers and agricultural societies seem woefully slow in taking advantage of this their great opportunity.

THE associated press has decided the pattern of the new rifle for the British army two or three times lately to its own satisfaction, but so far as we can see the question is as far from a solution as ever. The latest reports have been in favor of some combination of the Lee magazine rifle with some other American breech action. These may for the present be put down as successful advertisements—whether the advertising has been done wittingly or not we are not prepared to say—but are very unlikely to be founded on fact. In the first place England is not in the habit of arriving at hasty conclusions, and it is comparatively so short a time since the Martini-Enfield was abandoned that it is improbable that any new candidate for official favor has taken the field. Secondly, the Lee gun has a detachable magazine, and a committee appointed to report on the best form of magazine has decided that a gun with a magazine as a permanent arrangement afforded certain tactical advantages over the other systems; and lastly, all the prejudices of the English small arms factories are opposed to the bolt system, and in favor of a hinged block, and the Lee is a bolt gun.

ONE thing should be recorded in favor of the Lee magazine rifle. In a very exhaustive trial of many principles, made in 1881-2 by a military committee appointed by the United States War Department, it came out triumphantly ahead. It is true that the trial was one for durability, safety and rapidity only, and that trajectory, balance, grip, recoil and all the mysteries that would appeal to a marksman's sympathies were left out of consideration, but these would not affect the mechanism, which could be adapted to any system of rifling or sighting. The breech action of the Lee rifle of that date is on the same principle as the needle gun, the firing pin being in the breech bolt, which is moved backwards and forwards by a knob and locked by turning. The magazine, a tin case containing five rounds, is affixed under the trigger guard in a mortice extending through the breech, and the cartridges are fed up to the breech by flat springs. Another recommendation of the same committee is well worth noting, it was that all arms of the service

should be armed with the same rifle. Will the Imperial authorities kindly say why horse, foot and artillery, blue jackets and marines should not have one rifle and one rifle exercise?

Personal.

Lieut.-Col. A. A. Miller, the late commander of the Queen's Own Rifles, has a militia record running back 24 years. His first experience was in the naval branch of the service, he having joined the Toronto Naval Brigade in 1863. During the Fenian troubles of 1866 he served as a midshipman on board the "Rescue," under command of Capt. W. F. Macmaster. The same fall he joined the Queen's Own Rifles as a private. In 1868 he was gazetted to a lieutenancy, was promoted to his company in 1872, five years later obtained his brevet majority, obtaining substantive rank in 1882, and when Col. Otter was gazetted to the infantry school in 1884 he was promoted to the command of the regiment. During the rebellion Col. Miller commanded the 250 men of the regiment who formed part of the Battleford column. An officer who was brigaded with him at that time speaks thus highly of him: "As a commanding officer Col. Miller was thoroughly liked by officers and men because he had the interests of his regiment at heart. He knew when to be strict and when to be lenient. Of a genial temperament, he was always accessible to his officers, a most desirable state of things in the interests of a regiment—more particularly when in the field. I always found him a true and straightforward man, possessing qualifications that eminently fitted him to be a soldier for active service."

Recent Deaths.

Col. David died at Coaticooke last week, aged 75. He commanded the Montreal Cavalry in the rebellion of 1837, and was the sole surviving commander of that rebellion.

All those who followed the fortunes of the volunteers in the late rebellion, and that includes all our readers, will be filled with unfeigned regret at the news of the sudden death of Lt.-Col. McKeand, the commanding officer of the gallant Ninetieth, which occurred in Winnipeg last week. The Ninetieth will have the sympathy of the whole country in losing its first two commanders by death within so brief a period.

Information has been received of the recent death in England of William Gardner, the inventor of the Gardner gun. Nineteen years ago his father died, and from that time he worked assiduously to make the patent a success. He endeavored to awaken an interest on the part of the War Department in his invention, but he failed. He finally succeeded in getting up a stock company in Cleveland and eventually obtained a foothold in England, whose government adopted it. A factory was recently built in London, and a large number of the guns turned out annually. Lately a misunderstanding sprang up between Captain Gardner and his company, of which he was superintendent and general manager. The result of this was that he went to Germany where he remained for some months working on a new patent.—*A. & N. Journal.*

Miss Isabella Valancy Crawford, a promising Canadian poetess, died in Toronto on Saturday. Her chief claim to remembrance by our militia is the authorship of "The Rose of a Nation's Thanks," referring to our feelings towards the returned North-West volunteers. In anyone who recalls the enthusiasm with which the boys were received, and the way in which staid grandfathers and schoolboys alike were stirred to the depths of their souls as they proudly received the men who had once more shown of what stuff Canadians were made, the following verse will even yet make the pulse beat faster and the eye flash:

A welcome? why, what do you mean by that, when the very stones must sing
As our men march over them home again—the walls of the city ring
With the thunder of throats and the tramp and tread of feet that rush and run:
I think in my heart that the very trees must shout for the bold work done?
Why, what would ye have? There is not a lad that treads in the gallant ranks
Who does not already bear on his breast the rose of a nation's thanks!

Mr. James Shirley Rispin, 2nd lieutenant of No. 5 company Dufferin Rifles, is, we are sorry to learn from the Brantford *Expositor*, dead. His remains were, on the 12th, escorted to the G. T. R. depot with military honors, *en route* for Chatham, where the interment took place. A firing party, made up of representatives of all the companies, with arms reversed, in command of Lieut. J. C. Sullivan, and the band, preceded the remains. Col. Jones, Major Ballachey, Capts. T. Harry Jones, Will D. Jones, and Sweet, and Adjutant Harry Nelles followed the hearse. The bearers were Lieutenants S. Alf. Jones, J. P. Hemp-

hill, Jos. Ruddy, J. H. McLean, W. G. Killmaster and E. P. Park. The floral offerings were exceedingly beautiful, and everything demonstrated the high esteem in which Mr. Rispin had been held.

Contents of our Contemporaries.

Colburn's United Service Magazine for February is exceedingly interesting, the first article being Part II of a review, by Col. W. W. Knollys, of a German officer's article on infantry tactics. This is well worth more than the attention ordinarily given to a magazine article, as it deals with rules that have always until lately been deemed to be beyond question correct, thus showing that in this age of pregression infantry tactics are being changed as much as other things. This article is followed by "Are We Ready," by E. Garel, being a continuation of a criticism on the British navy. Capt. O'Callaghan contributes two of his delightful historical stories, one being the repulse at Ticonderoga in 1758, the other, anniversaries of British victories, including the end of the siege of Gibraltar, the action near Sauree in Guzerat in 1803, and the defence of Fort St. George, Madras, 1758-9. Admiral Vincent has an article on torpedoes and national defence, which is followed by a veteran with "Military Snowshoeing, from experiences in Canada." The usual reviews, editorial notes, and record of naval and military events, December and January, together with a short story, conclude the monthly number.

The English weeklies for the 29th ulto., have been received. The following articles are mentioned as likely to be of general interest:

Broad Arrow.—Machine-guns; the defence of our commercial ports; the awakening of China; Sir Gerald Graham's last words with General Gordon; a proposed naval kriegspiel; the record of the 2nd Batt. South Staffordshire regiment (late 80th). The usual interesting short notes.

United Service Gazette.—Melinite (the new French explosive.) The Frontal Attack of Infantry; Egypt and the Soudan; the Royal Warrant—its effect; Naval Medical Department; Naval Strategy; Foreign Service Gossip; Life in Dresden; The Victoria Fund.

Volunteer Service Gazette.—"Truth" on Easter Manœuvres; Machine-Guns in the Field; Col. Methuen on the Duties of Volunteer Officers.

Volunteer Record.—Elements of Tactics, No. VIII, on the Spade and Pickaxe; Gossip. Short notes and sketches.

School of Cavalry.

OBJECTS OF OUTPOSTS.

Object of an outpost is to prevent the troops encamped in rear being taken by surprise, and to enable them to rest; to report his movements, to repulse small detachments of the enemy, and hold large ones in check.

OUTPOST DUTIES.

Officers should have with them a watch, field glasses, pencil, paper and a compass.

DAY DUTIES.—A squadron parades; support and picquet are detailed.

Squadron marches off with advance and rear guards; flank parties in patrolling order.

Officer sends small detached party forward in direction where picquet is to be posted to reconnoitre.

Arrives at post for support; sends patrols to communicate with patrols from supports on flank.

Proceeds to post for picquet, and under cover of reconnoiters in front.

Details vedettes, and numbers them continuously; examining party; patrol; posts dismounted sentries.

Rides forward with sergeant to reconnoitre; selects position for examining party and right vedette.

N. B.—The vedette party must keep at a distance from the officer; but within sight.

Signals with sword.

Right vedette comes quickly up.

Posts vedettes successively.

As each vedette is posted the sergeant remains with it until the next is posted. Vedettes may dismount occasionally, one always remaining mounted. Each double vedette must be posted with about 20 yards interval between each man.

Vedettes must be instructed that any report to be made to the camp, must be sent along the line of vedettes to the examining party, and all information must be sent through this party; except in case of sudden attack, when notice must be given by discharging a carbine.

Having posted vedettes, receives report of parties patrolling in front, and returns to picquet.

Communications with the flanks should be done from the support; patrols assisting each other, so as to meet half way.

On report from flank picquets that their vedettes are posted, and from own patrols that all is quiet in front, and flanks tell off next reliefs for vedettes, patrols examining party and sentries.

Dismounts.

EXAMINING PARTY.—One from each picquet should be sufficient, of a n.c.o. and 4 men, posted on the main approach to camp, and from 200 to 300 paces in rear of one of the vedettes.

RELIEF OF VEDETTES.—Vedettes should be paraded in front of picquet, numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., and directed to march independently on the vedettes they relieve, and halt in rear until posted.

PATROLS.—Patrols must be frequently sent out at short intervals to feel to front and flanks, and must question and obtain information from those they relieve

If it is necessary to send out the same man again on patrol duty, he should have a fresh horse, but his own carbine.

RELIEF OF OUTPOSTS.—Relieved officer goes round vedettes with relieving officer.

When all are posted, patrols returned, etc., picquet joins main body.

ATTACKS.—When attacked picquet forms line of skirmishers in rear of vedettes.

Vedettes fall back through skirmishers to the side of supports, but not directly on them.

When the picquet has to leave its ground to assist a picquet on its flank, a few men must be left to watch the ground, and report if the enemy advances.

NIGHT DUTIES.—After dark the position of picquet and support be changed, and vedettes drawn in to about 100 yards apart. Patrols must be continuous, and push well forward in the direction from which the enemy may come.

One vedette must, if the night is dark, move towards the next vedette to his right, the other remaining stationary.

It must be impressed on the minds of everyone that the essence of outpost duty is good patrolling, and at night this should be so carried on that it practically makes vedettes unnecessary.

Support must relieve picquet at intervals to rest horses and men.

Patrolling must invariably be done in open order as under, according to number of men.

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OFFICER'S INSTRUCTIONS.

In posting a Vedette Officers should be careful to explain fully—

- 1.—That his object is to see and not be seen.
- 2.—The direction of the enemy, and what is known of his force, probable movements, etc.
- 3.—The exact position of ground to be specially watched by each vedette.
- 4.—The number of his post and of the picquet to which he belongs.
- 5.—The position of the vedettes and their numbers on each side of him.
- 6.—The position of his own picquet and of the nearest examining post.
- 7.—In the case of a double vedette, that one man should occasionally patrol any unseen ground near the post, and should bring in a report of anything unusual, to the picquet, the other remaining on his post.
- 8.—The names of neighboring villages, rivers, etc., and where roads and paths lead to.
- 9.—The parole and countersign, and method of allowing strangers only to enter the line by the examining post.
- 10.—See that he understands his orders by asking him the five answers as on next page.

Duties of a Vedette.

- 1.—To keep a sharp look out towards the front and flanks, and to repeat the signals made by other vedettes.
- 2.—Not to give up the parole or countersign to any person not entitled to receive it.
- 3.—To stop all persons by day or by night approaching their posts, either from front or rear, and to signal to the picquet in the ordinary way.
- 4.—By day vedettes are not to stop patrols or officers whom they know.

5.—Vedettes are not to fire except after challenging twice and receiving no answer, or to give an alarm in case of a sudden attack.

6.—If cavalry approach, circle to the right; if infantry, to the left; if both arms of the service, circle right and left, so as to describe a figure 8, at the same pace as that at which the enemy are approaching.

7.—In case of a flag of truce from the enemy, halt him at once and blindfold him, and pass him to the vedette nearest the examining party. In case of a deserter from the enemy halt him at once and disarm him. If mounted, dismount him and pass him on to the vedette nearest the examining party, by riding behind him with a loaded carbine.

8.—Vedettes are to watch the enemy's movements, at the same time concealing their own. Vedettes should be twenty yards apart—the right vedette looking half-right, the left vedette looking half-left.

9.—Vedettes pay no compliments to officers.

What every Vedette is expected to know.

- 1.—His number.
- 2.—Where the examining party is.
- 3.—Where his picquet is and who commands it.
- 4.—The parole and countersign.
- 5.—If a flank vedette, what regiment is on his flank, or what squadron of his own regiment.

What every Vedette is expected to see.

- 1.—The right vedette and the vedette on his right.
- 2.—The left vedette and the vedette on his left.
- 3.—Everything that goes on in his front and flanks.

What every Vedette is expected to do.

- 1.—Fire if suddenly attacked.
- 2.—Repeat all signals.
- 3.—Stop all persons whom they do not know approaching the posts.

At Night.

Challenge all who approach and demand the countersign from them.

Communicate with the vedette on his right and left, one vedette remaining stationary while the other patrols.

SIGNALS FOR VEDETTES, PATROLS AND SCOUTS.

No Enemy in Sight.—Carbine or sword to be held perpendicularly overhead in the right hand.

Enemy in Sight.—Carbine or sword to be held horizontally over the head in the right hand:

Enemy in Small Bodies.—Carbine or sword to be held perpendicularly at the full extent of the right arm, to the right.

Enemy in Large Bodies.—Carbine or sword to be raised and lowered perpendicularly.

Reinforcements Wanted.—Carbine or sword to be swung round the head.

Advance.—Right hand to be carried out in the direction.

Halt.—Right hand to be raised at full extent of arm, and sword or carbine to be passed into bridle hand.

J. F. TURNBULL, Lt.-Col.,
Commandant.

Mounted Infantry.—II.

BY COL. H. B. HANNA.

THE manner in which the carbine should be carried by cavalry has always been a vexed question, and cannot receive too careful consideration. I myself strongly deprecate the man being separated from his weapon under any plea whatsoever. Cavalry should, therefore, I think, carry their carbines slung on their backs, for, if carried on the saddle, a man may at any moment be accidentally separated from his firearm. The Punjab cavalry and all irregular cavalry in the pre-mutiny days carried their carbines without inconvenience on their back, and many an ugly cut was warded off by them. If this is important for cavalry, of how much greater importance is it for mounted infantry, where the rifle is practically their only weapon, either for offence or defence. The Germans, who in all military matters are perhaps the most practical people in the world, have fully recognized the importance of not separating the men from their weapons, and have introduced a new method of carrying the cavalry carbine, which would also be very suitable for mounted infantry.—Some sketches, published in the *Naval and Military Magazine* for January, 1885, clearly illustrate the principle. Pouch and shoulder belts may be dispensed with, while the ammunition should be carried in two bags attached to the waist-belt on runners for shifting them from the front to the rear as required. This equipment is said to be more than a third lighter than the old style used by the Germans.

In the first place, it should be a *sine qua non* that every man entered should be a well-trained infantry soldier and a fair rider. As far as cavalry drill is concerned, he should be only taught to increase and diminish the front; take ground to the flanks, and practised in a few simple manœuvres "on the move;" great precision should not be expected, and would not be necessary. He should, however, be constantly practised to dismount, tether his pony, and remount with all practicable speed. Every man should also be accustomed to lead and to take charge of three other ponies besides his own. He should be practised at this, both in and out of the saddle. I shall again refer to this matter. He should also be thoroughly instructed in the theory and practise of scouting, patrolling and piquet duty. A few theoretical lessons, with the daily practice in the field, would in a few weeks make him an efficient mounted infantryman, for it should not be forgotten that he is already a trained soldier, and consequently his new duties would be soon acquired.

In discussing equipment and the general efficiency of mounted infantry, I must draw attention to the very serious disadvantage under which both mounted infantry and cavalry labour when acting on foot, and every endeavor should be made to reduce this evil to a minimum. The evil I refer to is the number of men rendered non-effective when looking after the spare horses. In practice one man cannot look after more than four, i.e., his own and three others, consequently, in a body of 400 men, 100 are rendered non-effective when their comrades are acting on foot; but I think the suggestion I am about to make will set a very much larger number free. In every eight men one of the eight should be specially trained to take charge of his own horse and the seven remaining horses belonging to his comrades, and with the aid of the following simple apparatus he might, I think, successfully do so. For this purpose the man in question should be provided with what I call a flexible or jointed ring, 16 ft. in circumference: each joint should be 2 ft. long, and should be fitted with a hook to receive a corresponding eyelet inserted in the head-piece of the pony. Being jointed, the ring would be foldable and very portable. When folded it would only be about 2 ft. long and about 6 in. in diameter. If constructed of bamboo and shod with iron it would be sufficiently strong, and would by no means be heavy. The man, after hooking on his own pony, would stand in the centre of the ring, and help to hook on the remaining ponies as they were brought up to him by their riders, who would then be free to dismount.

This arrangement would enable the man in charge, without further help, to lead away the eight horses. He would merely have to unhook the opening link, seize the leather strap, and lead forward the pony attached to it. The other ponies must at once involuntarily fall into their places, and the most vicious animal would, owing to the close packing and the rigidity of the links, be quite incapacitated from doing mischief. No animal could kick or bite, and must, *volens volens*, follow the rest. It may be asked, then, why the ponies should ever be put into the ring formation? The answer to this question is, that in the ring formation the ponies are more manageable, and, as their heads are all turned inwards, they are less liable to be startled by what may be going on around them; and again, at a pinch, the man in charge may be employed in either the defence or offence, as on some occasions it might be even advisable to leave the ponies to themselves, so that every available man might be put into the fighting line.

If the contrivance proved practicable it would reduce the non-effectives by one-half, only forty being required for a body of 320 men instead of eighty men; we should thus have only a loss of 12 per cent. The spare animals should never, as a rule, be left without an escort, and it should not be less than one-third of the effective dismounted force, i.e., one-third of the force after deducting the men in charge of the ponies, in this case the effective force would be 280, hence the escort should be about ninety men. This escort would usually be sufficient to protect the horses, but in the event of being out-numbered, they must take to their ponies to secure their safety; one mounted man taking charge of three ponies, the unemployed portion of the escort, so fifty men covering the retreat, either mounted or on foot, according to the nature of the ground, and other circumstances. The ponies, too, may have to be brought up to the main body acting on foot, in which case the escort will at once untether them, and take them quickly forward to where required, or if the flexible ring I propose was adopted, then the ponies would be moved forward, still linked together as suggested.

Mounted infantry should be under the immediate command of the general commanding the army or division, and should not therefore be attached to the divisional cavalry. The duties of divisional cavalry, which is sometimes several marches in advance of the army, would be better performed by ordinary cavalry. The mounted infantry would rather hamper them than otherwise, especially if the country was very open and our troops were manœuvring against a strong and well appointed cavalry. Mounted infantry may sometimes with advantage be

attached to the cavalry of the division, which is never at any great distance from the main body of the army, and is always more or less under the immediate control of the general officer commanding the division.* The mounted infantry should therefore be purely a divisional corps similar to that of a pioneer regiment, and, as a rule, should not be brigaded with other regiments. The mounted infantry might also, under some circumstances, be employed in keeping up communications with troops marching parallel to either flank, or in front and rear. When acting with cavalry they should seize and occupy villages and woods, hold defiles and bridges, or any other obstacles that might be met with on the march. This would secure the cavalry's communications, and enable them to push on, and examine the country beyond the obstacles with greater confidence and impunity. The occasions when mounted infantry may with advantage be employed on dismounted service are as follow:—(a) In open undulating ground where rapid movements can be effected, shelter obtained, and cavalry or artillery harassed. (b) On ground where the advanced or rear guard can harass or keep in check the cavalry or artillery, owing to some obstacle, such as a bridge, ford, etc., intervening, which the enemy cannot cross without delay and exposure. (c) On roads and enclosed country where cavalry is exposed to direct fire in column at long range, prior to attack mounted; or, where, from banks or fences intervening, a flank fire can be brought to bear on an enemy moving on a parallel line. (d) In out-buildings or farm-yards, where an inferior force might keep cavalry in check without danger of being out-flanked or surrounded. (e) In fortified posts on a line of communications, or in intrenchments, like the Sherepore cantonments, near Cabul, where the cavalry in 1879 aided materially in the defence of the place. (f) Where patrols or scouts fall in with opposing detached bodies sent out to reconnoitre.

On all such occasions, if isolated bodies of troops were already engaged, the mounted infantry should be speedily pushed forward to reinforce them; and on occasions of this kind they would unquestionably be a far better support than cavalry. On the other hand, the following general rules should regulate the employment of mounted infantry on dismounted service:—(a) Mounted infantry should never be dismounted in any position where cavalry have a chance of attacking them before they can remount and make good their escape. (b) They should never dismount in a position where their led horses would be under direct fire. (c) The nearer they are to their led horses when dismounted the better, as they can more rapidly rally and mount; their fire will also be more effective, as they can safely allow the enemy to approach within easy range. (d) Rapidity of movement is essential in preparing for dismounted service, in order, if possible, to surprise the enemy in close formation, before they can bring a fire to bear in return, or retire under cover, or out of range.

When mounted infantry is attached to infantry on the line of march they should always form part of the advance and rear guards, and should furnish reconnoitreers and flankers, patrol and throw out pickets, &c.—in a word, they should perform the duties usually undertaken by cavalry when attached to infantry. Mounted infantry may also give escorts to field and horse artillery when the country is very close, and unsuitable for cavalry, but, when the country is open, cavalry should be employed. Mounted infantry under these circumstances would only delay horse artillery, and would not be a sufficient protection against the assault of cavalry.

Mounted infantry would be invaluable to a force detached to out-flank an enemy, and might also be employed with advantage in a variety of minor duties, such as night patrolling, foraging, raiding, &c., &c. For such duties they are better fitted than cavalry or infantry, especially when the ground was ill-adapted to cavalry, and the distance to be traversed by the infantry was considerable. Their speed would leave them nothing to fear from infantry, and their rifles would be an effectual stopper to cavalry in an enclosed country. But, perhaps, the most important rôle of mounted infantry on active service is their rôle in a general action. Here they should be employed in quickly reinforcing threatened points, in seizing points of vantage, such as bridges, fords, detached buildings, woods, villages, or commanding ground. When employed in this manner they should at once throw up hasty entrenchments to secure the points thus obtained until reinforcements could reach them. They should also hover on the flanks, and threaten the communications of the enemy, attack his baggage, cut off and make prisoners of detached parties—in fact, perform all the multitudinous and important operations, which might be, unquestionably, undertaken by a branch of the service combining speed with accuracy of fire, under the command of an able

and enterprising commander, assisted by good officers and well selected men. If mounted infantry can efficiently perform all the duties set forth in this paper, which I have not the smallest doubt in my own mind they can, then I say that mounted infantry would be no "myth" or "phantom," but a very disagreeable reality to the enemy.—A. J. H. G. Gazette.

Machine-Guns in the Field.

AT a fully attended meeting of the Royal United Service Institution, held in London, General Sir E. B. Hamley in the chair, a paper on "Suggestions as to the Use of Machine-guns in the Field, in Combination with Infantry," by Major A. D. Anderson, R.H.A., was read, from which we reproduce the following extracts:—

Students of military history cannot fail to recognise the importance to the *moral* of an army, and its consequent bearing on the results of the campaign, of the possession of an improved class of weapon, or adaptation of some advance in tactics: as instance the massing of guns and the introduction of rifled cannon by Napoleon; use of breech-loading rifles; an extended formation of attack, and the application of the enveloping or flank attack by the Germans; while at the present moment, we find the larger European armies keenly alive to the necessity of arming their troops with repeating rifles, so as not to embark in the next campaign at a disadvantage. All, however, for the present appear to hold back from the machine-gun, probably owing to difficulties in the mechanism of the weapon, and doubts as to its use; but we cannot but feel convinced that just as certainly as the needle-gun gave to the Prussians a decided advantage in the 1866 campaign, so will an intelligent and bold use of machine-guns operate in favor of the nation that first utilises them in a future campaign.

General Brackenbury writes:—"But their advocates have never yet put forth a complete scheme, showing how they are to accompany infantry in the field, acting on the offensive over all sorts of ground, and this must be done before they can be accepted for that purpose."

This, I would urge, is what we are now in a position to do: evolve a scheme for working them in the field.

It is not necessary here to discuss why they should not become part of the artillery or cavalry, or be formed into separate corps, though for exceptional purposes they might do any of these; but a little thought will lead to the conviction that machine-gun fire should be a multiple of infantry fire, and that as a rule it must be worked in the closest combination and connection with it.

The points to be decided towards carrying this into effect are:—

(a) The transport of the gun.

(b) The number, allotment, and working of them.

(a) *The Transport of the Gun.*—When we consider what is aimed at—viz. the closest connection between battalions and machine-guns, that the latter shall be able to go everywhere with the former, at the same pace, for the same or a greater distance, and without entailing extra labor on the men, we realize that the guns should not be on wheels, and that they must not be moved by manual labor, and this of itself suggests to us that they must be worked on tripods and carried on packs. A machine-gun with spare pieces, implements, etc., would form the load for a mule, while a second carried ammunition, and the whole would thus be capable of being taken up and down the steepest hills, over the roughest ground, through narrow lanes, and practically everywhere that a battalion of infantry could go, at the same pace, and without fear of being left behind.

Mule transport offers no difficulty in packing and unpacking the loads, and one of the men (probably three or four per piece) told off to attend to the gun, would lead and look after the animals.

(b) *The Number, Allotment, and Working of them.*—Opinions here will probably differ; some may be found to advocate their retention under the commanding officer, and entire control by him, but all tends to prove that here, as in many other cases, "decentralisation" is the sound theory. Place them with the different companies to the extent of one apiece, to be managed and manned by them and worked as company commanders deem necessary, the battalion commander having, as in all other points, the power of utilizing them, or directing their use as he deems requisite. We thus ensure all the companies in the regiment taking an interest in their own gun and training men for work with it: it is ready to the hand of the captain of the company, not requiring to be sent for, or applied for, in the numerous instances when a company detached or in want of assistance would be thankful for its support, and very valuable would be the aid it would afford in nine cases out of ten, if worked by properly instructed men, pushed forward, and, if necessary, used and exposed as freely and boldly as a section of the company; while at any moment the battalion, brigade, or divisional commander, would be in a position to order the whole or a portion of them to mass on some suitable spot in support of an advance, an attack, or a threatened point.

*Note here the difference between the cavalry division and the cavalry attached to a division. The bulk of the cavalry is formed into one or more divisions, which act independently, at least a march in advance of the mass of infantry. This is the divisional cavalry, whereas the cavalry of the division is a regiment, which is under the immediate control of the general commanding, and is the connecting link between the divisional cavalry covering the front of the army and the main body.

As regards the class of gun, Gardner, Gatling, Nordenfelt or Hotchkiss, we would leave that to those who have best tried all and each of them, while probably three or four selected men per company would be found equal to working them and attending to these mules, the company officers looking after and controlling their own piece; and should the eight per battalion be called for by the commanding officer, one of the majors or a senior officer should be placed in command, the supply of ammunition, beyond the one mule load per gun, being as for the remainder of the battalion, but on an increased scale.

The paper proceeded to point out the advantages hoped for from the addition of machine-gun fire to that of the weapons now in use, viz:—

- (a) A murderously powerful fire.
 - (b) Relief to the infantry, in furnishing for them a powerful support, and one admitting of their withholding their fire till the last moment.
 - (c) Increase of volume of fire.
- Long-range fire is at the same time a very necessary portion of a battle. Your enemy cannot be permitted unmolested to concentrate the whole of his rifle fire on your advancing infantry, and to harass him and endeavor to keep his fire under. You must do one of three things:

I. Devote one-half of your infantry to long-range rifle fire.
 II. Open fire with your infantry at 1,200 or 1,000 yards, and keep it up throughout the advance.

III. Use machine-guns for long-range firing, and of these three the last, if efficiently performed, has all and everything to recommend it, for it admits of the whole of the infantry going forward complete in the formations most suited to the locality, without firing a shot, devoting their whole attention to rapid advances, and gaining cover until within say 500 yards of the enemy, when the fire from the defence would probably necessitate a commencement of fire from those advancing. Not that this need follow as a matter of course, for it is certain that in the majority of instances some features of the country will admit of a point even nearer than 500 yards being gained without firing, especially when we bear in mind the volume of machine-gun fire that can be brought in support; this, in the case of a division at the rate of eight pieces per battalion, amounting to fifty-six machine-guns, which, discharging at the rate of even 100 shots per minute, yield a shower of lead that if directed on the infantry of the defence from any moderately protected spot, at 1,200 or 1,000 yards range with any pretence at accuracy, will far surpass in effect what could be obtained from three battalions, in the same position, if withdrawn from the attack for this purpose.

Probably sections of four guns (eight mules), worked much on the mounted battery drill principle, and only for movements of the simplest description, would be all that would be requisite, while during manœuvres they would join their own companies.

Let us now as an example imagine the case of two divisions of all arms (A and B) of equal strength, meeting on the march in ordinarily open country, and follow the course of attack of the one (A) whose infantry companies are strengthened by one machine-gun apiece, their opponents being without them; but to simplify matters consider that neither force uses any cavalry, as their presence is not requisite to prove or disprove the argument.

The commander (A), having reconnoitred his enemy's advance, resolves on attack, brings up his eighteen guns to a knoll and opens on the opposing advance guard, which falls back towards a ridge of hills it has just descended from, upon which its artillery having arrived, are brought into action, range 2,000 yards, and an artillery duel from equal altitudes is commenced.

Commander A, owing to the fact that a succession of undulations leads towards the left of B's position, decides on advancing his infantry by the right of his guns, and leaving two companies on his extreme left as escort for the artillery, pushes the remainder forward towards B's left, having brought all the machine-guns under his own guidance. At 1,200 yards from B's position the reverse slope of a hill, affording protection from possible fire from their opponents' artillery, a portion of the machine-guns (thirty-two) are halted with two companies in support and instructions to open fire on B's infantry, just beginning to occupy the crest of the ridge and hedgerows below on the left of his position. The remaining six battalions make the best of their way forward, and, now that the enemy's infantry fire begins to be felt, break into small columns or short lines and take every advantage of ground till they gain the shelter of a small hill facing the left front of B's position, and about 400 yards from it; here a pause is made for rest and to complete the formation for the attack.

The remainder of the machine-guns, twenty-four in number, with four companies in support, have at the same time been advanced to the extreme right, keeping out of range of infantry fire and occupying a favorable position behind a wall in the vicinity of a village about 100 yards from the enemy's extreme left, open fire on his infantry, and support with all vigor the attack about to be delivered by their own infantry.

—U. Service Gazette.

Correspondence.

The Editor desires it distinctly understood that he does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

THE RECOVERY OF THE BODY OF GUNNER PHILLIPS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—I quote from Capt. Worsop's letter, written some time back to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the following:—

"In regard to Dr. Codd's gallant rescue of poor Gunner Phillips, all who saw it agree in stating it was one of the most gallant, &c., &c., &c."

Now, sir, when I inform you that the late Gunner Phillips belonged to "A" battery, Regt. C.A., a corps which I had the honor of commanding during the rebellion, you will pardon my presuming on valuable space during election times; but I am fast becoming exasperated. Hitherto neither my men nor myself have in any way interfered with the Heroes that have so numerously sprung into existence since the troubles.

I have read the tale written away back in the *zareba* by some reporter, "that my men deserted their guns," and have let it pass; I have also restrained myself on many occasions during the recital of how "A" battery, with guns, horses and men, was rescued from certain capture by Capt. Howard; although sorely irritated I generally succeeded in cooling without rushing into print, and possibly might have done so on this occasion, had I not before fumed for a week over another story describing the same rescue of the body of my unfortunate gunner. I was only aware on reading the above quoted extract from Capt. Worsop's letter that he had been rescued a second time, and as I am about to describe another rescue, you will understand that there is still a number of heroes to swell the present startling list. The first dare-devil exploit in quest of our man was performed by the late Lieut.-Col. Williams and his Midland men. I forget the exact number who risked certain death in the operation, but if rewarded there will be a pile of Victoria Crosses. As there was never a red coat near us at the time, I may be excused for getting riled. Now, I read that Dr. Codd also took a hand in, at what moment it is not stated, and the problem I wish to determine is when did the rescue begin, and where did it end. I hope to prove to you that the first men who removed the body to a place of safety, and finally buried it, were his own comrades, who crouched by his side in the brushwood where he fell. Let me tell my story, and when I finish you will be convinced that bad as I am I cannot be described as a hero. On the day in question when "A" battery was ordered to go back and prepare the *zareba* for the night, I called for a stretcher party to bring out Phillips' body; this was quickly ready, and Dr. Codd, hearing the request, very gallantly said, "I will go to." We then went forward till we reached the edge of the crest, on the reverse side of which, exposed to the enemy, lay the body, about seventy-five yards away. Here, however, came the halt, there was a mixed assortment of our troops lying along the brow, exchanging shots with the enemy. This spot had been occupied by us all day, and there was no danger on the near side of the slope. There was a general dropping of the stretcher party as they reached this point, and all, Dr. Codd and myself included, were so far part of the gallant rescuers. I wish to impress you with the fact that this place was quite safe, in order to convince the public that there existed here and there isolated spots where bullets were not falling in copious showers, a truth, I fear, most difficult to float after the war literature that followed Batoche.

We had lain here a short time only when Gunner Coyne, a great friend of the late Phillips, said, "I guess I can get Joe." With another comrade named Beaudry, he crawled over the crest and down the slope to the body, under the admiring eyes of us all, including Dr. Codd and myself, they grasped the body by the heels and so crawled back again, where they were gladly welcomed by us. The body was then put on a stretcher, and I saw it not again till it was buried that evening. How many times it was rescued during the interval I do not know. At all events, Coyne and his comrade opened the ball, and no other living being went down that slope but the two mentioned. How many took part in the triumphant return on the stretcher from the safe spot I do not know, nor are my men or myself jealous of it. In conclusion, please see what Sir Fred. Middleton says of this affair in his report, it took place under his own eyes. This is the truth, which Dr. Codd will himself acknowledge, for I lay close beside him. I am sorry to trouble you, Mr. Editor, but I must claim for the corps to which I belong the right to stand to our guns, and protect them ourselves without the aid of an American militia officer, and least of all to rescue our own dead.

J. PETERS, Capt.,
Regt. C.A.

Mess Room Yarns.

"That reminds me."

SCIENCE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

The following was published in the German papers some years ago, and is now reproduced by the New York *Army and Navy Journal* for the amusement of its readers:

On the morning of an eclipse of the sun, Capt. Von S—, of the — Fusiliers, issued the following verbal order to his company through his 1st sergeant, to be communicated to the men after morning parade: "This afternoon a solar eclipse will take place. At 3 o'clock the whole company will parade in the barrack yard. Fatigue caps and jackets. I shall explain the eclipse to the men. Should it rain they will assemble in the drill shed." The 1st sergeant having set down his commanding officer's instructions in writing, as he had understood them, formed the company into a hollow square at the conclusion of the morning drill, and read his version of the order to them, thus: "This afternoon a solar eclipse will take place in the barrack yard, by order of the captain, and will be attended by the whole company in fatigue jackets and caps. The captain will conduct the eclipse in person. Should it rain the eclipse will take place in the drill shed."

CASUS BELLI AGAIN.

"Casus Belli has been the cause of more wars than all the other foreigners in this country put together," said the driver of a Blue Island avenue car as he leaned heavily upon his brake. "Who brought on the revolution? Casus Belli. Who started the war of 1812? Same cuss. Who was it that made us fit the south in '61? Casus Belli. Who was it tried his darndest to git up a war with Mexico? Belli. I see by the mornin' paper that the same beast is figgerin' on a war with England over a mess of fish. In the country where I lived a feller named Bostwick used to go round stirrin' up fights between his neighbors. He had heaps of fun as long as it lasted, but one day late in the fall an uncle of mine and the Kendrick family squatted themselves in a brush heap, and when Bostwick came along they filled him so full of holes that he fell

to pieces when they picked him up. I'm for chokin' the gizzard out of this Belli, even if he does come from Roman and Italian stock. He's got no bus'ness in a free country. He's wuss'n Satan. How old is he, anyhow?—*Chicago Herald.*

Queries and Replies.

WHO ADMINISTERS THE OATH?

Q.—Can the senior officer of a city battalion, on parade, administer the oath to a militiamen when the C.O. is in the city, although not on parade? Sec. 35, R. & O., 1883, says the oath may (not shall) be administered by the C. O., from which it appears that some one else besides the C.O. has the power.—*ENQUIRER.*

[A.—The regulations certainly are not so definite as they might be on the point, but this is the fault of the act (46 Vic., Cap. 11), as it was necessary to follow the wording there given, and which can only be changed by an amending act. The intention of the act plainly is that the C.O. alone shall administer the oath, and it is desirable that this supervision of the men enlisted should be jealously guarded in any corps which wishes to maintain a high standard. As a matter of fact the C.O. often does delegate the power to his majors and captains, but it should be done sparingly, if at all, and the legality of the substitution may be questioned. In the enquiry one point is suggested, which, although not bearing directly on the question asked, deserves notice. No man should be allowed on parade until he has taken the oath and signed the roll, so that the case put by Enquirer should never arise. The enrolment should be completed before a man does the most trivial active militia duty, and in the best corps a recruit must formally apply to join and be notified of the acceptance of his application before he can be sworn in. Although the act does not make the administration of the oath compulsory on any officer, it makes the taking of it compulsory on every militiaman, which virtually amounts to the same thing, for the Departments insists on the maxim "no oath, no pay."—*ED.]*

Regimental Notes.

L'Original.—The funeral of the 18th battalion took place last week. Though the battalion has been dead for several years past, the ceremony of burial only took place lately. The chief mourners, Lieut.-Col. Butterfield and staff, heaved a deep sigh of regret as the long coffin-like boxes containing the rifles vanquished from their sight towards their destination at headquarters. It is said the battalion is soon to be re-organized under its old officers.—*The Advertiser.*

Charlottetown, P.E.I.—The announcement in the MILITIA GAZETTE of the success of Capt. Moore's garrison battery in the general efficiency competition was copied into the daily papers of the city, and gave a general feeling of satisfaction at the continued success of the Islanders. This is the third consecutive year in which Capt. Moore's battery stands at the head of the list.

Quebec.—Invitations have been issued by Lieut.-Col. Miller and the officers of the 8th Royal Rifles, for a ball to be given to the N.C. officers and men of the regiment, at the Academy of Music, on Monday evening, 21st February, 1887, at 8.30 o'clock, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the regiment.

Ottawa.—The "Colonel's night" of the 43rd Rifles' snowshoe club was held on Monday evening and proved an unqualified success, some seventy-five members taking part. The club left the drill hall at eight o'clock, and put in a good hour and a-half's work in Stewart's bush, the tramping being varied by a series of field and skirmishing movements, which proved that the boys were well up in their work. The city was again reached at 9.30 o'clock, and at the corner of Rideau and Nicholas streets the column was met by the full band of the regiment, and played up in good style to the Coffee House, where the club was entertained to a magnificent spread by its gallant and popular honorary president, Lieut.-Col. White. During the evening the health of Col. White was drunk with great enthusiasm, and replied to in a happy manner. Dancing and song were indulged in for a couple of hours, assisted by the 43rd battalion string band, and shortly before midnight "lights out" was sounded on the most pleasant night's sport in the history of the club.

The following is from a recent *Evening Journal*: The commanding officer of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, Lieut.-Col. Pennington Macpherson, intends this summer to form two new companies in connection with the regiment. The colonel will take companies Nos. 3, 4 and 5 and form them into one company. Then two distinct companies, to be called Nos. 4 and 5, will be formed. The object of this action is to improve the strength and efficiency of the regiment. The Queen's Own also, which has companies entirely composed of young men in the same line of business, such as a lawyers' company, a company composed of merchants, &c., will be imitated in this respect. It is the intention of the officers to induce some of the most prominent merchants and lawyers in the city to join these companies.

Gleanings.

Some idea of the cost of modern armaments and the expense attending their use may be obtained from the following facts, gleaned from the pages of the authorized Imperial price lists:

The 17.72-inch 100-ton. R.M.L. gun costs.....	£16,500
Its carriage about.....	4,000
Platform about.....	5,000
Total cost.....	£25,500 or \$124,200.
A Shrapnel shell, 2000 lbs., filled, cost about....	£28 10s
A cartridge, 500 lbs. Prism powder.....	£23 5s
Fuze, tube, etc.....	5s
Total per round.....	£52 00s or \$253.25.

We trust the gallant conduct of the private of the 1st Bombay Lancers will not be allowed to go unrecognized. To attack almost single-handed—for he was only accompanied by a few Burmese villagers, of very little use for real fighting—a village held by a party of Dacoits, drive them out at the expense of one shot, and capture 11 of their number, is certainly one of the most daring incidents of the campaign. The event, however, shows that the Dacoits are beginning to feel a wholesome dread of our troops, and when this is thoroughly instilled into them the pacification of the country will not long be delayed.

The memorandum recently sent round by order of the commander-in-chief calling attention to the clauses in the Queen's regulations respecting the punishment of offenders is, we think, calculated to add to the growing tendency to impose much lighter penalties than used to be awarded. Leniency, especially in the case of young soldiers guilty of trivial offences, often does much good, many a promising young soldier having been spoiled by severity and harsh treatment. The practice of remitting large portions of the sentences awarded by courts-martial is, however, we think, indulged in to a far greater extent than is advisable. Trial by court-martial is not looked upon in the present day with half the awe with which it was once regarded, and much of its moral effect has been lost, and this we attribute to the manner in which many confirming officers ride rough-shod over the votes of those who ought to be the best judges of the merits of the case.—*A. & H. G. Gazette.*

Our Trading Column.

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

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

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

FOR SALE.—Officer's Uniform, Lieut.-Col., R. Artillery. Half price, except a few articles brand new. List on application; all in good condition. Register No. 8.

FOR SALE.—Rifle Officer's Uniform; height 5 ft. 9 in., chest 37 inches; Tunic Mess-suit, Patrol, Nickled Sword, &c., cheap. List on application. Register No. 10.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Copies of vols. 1 for 1867, and 9 for 1875, with any remaining volumes to the close of its existence, of the *Volunteer Review*, formerly published at Ottawa by Dawson Kerr. State price, condition, etc. Register No. 11.



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Notice to Contractors.

CHANGE OF TIME.

THE time for seeing the Plans and Specifications for the

NEW EXAMINING WAREHOUSE

AT OTTAWA

is hereby extended to Monday, the 21st February, and the time for receiving tenders to Tuesday, the 8th March.

By order,
A. GOBELL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 12th February, 1887.

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Now ready, contains 2 colored plates, hundreds of illustrations, and nearly 200 pages—32 pertaining to gardening and flower culture, and over 150 containing an illustrated list of nearly all the flowers and vegetables grown, with directions how to grow them, where the best seeds, plants and bulbs can be procured, with prices of each. This book mailed free on receipt of 10 cents, and the 10 cents may be deducted from the first order sent us. Every one interested in a garden, or who desires good, fresh seeds, should have this work. We refer to the millions who have used our seeds. Buy only Vick's seeds at headquarters. JAMES VICK, Seedsman, Rochester, N.Y.



Mail Contract.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on 11th March, 1887, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, six times a week each way, between North Gower and Osgoode Ry. Station from the 1st April next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of North Gower, Kar and Osgoode Station, and at this office.

T. P. FRENCH,
Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,
Ottawa, 11th Feb., 1887.

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Profits divided in ten occasions, \$17,500,000.

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SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on 11th March, 1887, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, eighteen times per week each way, between Aylmer and Ottawa from the 1st April next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen, and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Aylmer, Tetrauville, Hull and Ottawa, and at this office.

T. P. FRENCH,
Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,
Ottawa, Feb. 11th, 1887.

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DOMINION LANDS REGULATIONS.

Under the Dominion Lands Regulations all surveyed even-numbered sections, excepting 8 and 26, in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are to be held exclusively for homesteads and pre-emptions.

Upon payment of an office fee of ten dollars, surveyed agricultural land, of the class open to homestead entry, may be homesteaded in any one of the three following methods:—

1. The homesteader shall begin actual residence on his homestead and cultivation of a reasonable portion thereof within six months from date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the 1st day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land for at least six months out of every twelve months for three years from date of homestead entry.

2. The homesteader shall begin actual residence, as above, within a radius of two miles of his homestead, and continue to make his home within such radius for at least six months out of every twelve months for the three years next succeeding the date of homestead entry; and shall within the first year from date of entry, break and prepare for crop ten acres of his homestead quarter section, and shall within the second year crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional; making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional, so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and shall have erected on the land a habitable house in which he shall have lived during the three months next preceding his application for homestead patent.

3. The homesteader shall begin the cultivation of his homestead within six months after the date of entry, or if the entry was obtained after the first day of September in any year, then before the first day of June following; shall within the first year break and prepare for crop not less than five acres of his homestead; shall within the second year crop the said five acres, and break and prepare for crop not less than ten acres in addition, making not less than fifteen acres in all; shall have erected a habitable house on his homestead before the expiration of the second year, and on or before the commencement of the third year shall have begun to reside in the said house, and shall have continued to reside therein and cultivate his homestead for not less than three years next prior to the date of his application for patent.

In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead, or homestead and pre-emption, as the case may be, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the homestead for at least twelve months subsequent to date of entry, and in case entry was made after the 25th day of May, 1883, has cultivated thirty acres thereof.

PRE-EMPTIONS.

Any homesteader may at the same time as he makes his homestead entry, obtain entry for an adjoining unoccupied quarter-section as a pre-emption, on payment of a fee of ten dollars.

The pre-emption right entitles the homesteader to purchase the land so pre-empted on becoming entitled to his homestead patent, but a failure to fulfil the homestead conditions forfeits the pre-emption right.

INFORMATION.

Full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of the Regulations, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario; the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Land Agents in Manitoba or the North-West Territories.

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