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# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada

VOL. VII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1873.

No 20.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

English advices from 10th to 14th May state that a despatch from Rome says the Pope was too ill to receive a party of pilgrims from France.

Advices from Cape Town, south of Africa, just received here, state that the King of Ashantee, one of the most extensive and powerful kingdoms of Western Africa, has declared war against Great Britain. An Ashantee army 46,000 strong has marched from Coomassie, their capital, and it is now threatening Elmina, a fortified town of the Guinea coast. Much alarm exists and preparations are being made for their defence.

It is reported that Gouillard has informed Thiers that he has resolved to resign the Ministry of the Interior, unless Jules Simon, Minister of Public Instruction, retires.

*Le Soir* says Gouillard and Simon have tendered their resignations to Thiers because of their incompatibility to serve in the same Cabinet.

The bourse of the principal cities of Germany are extremely depressed in consequence of the panic in Vienna. The Government, with a view to their relief, will introduce a measure into the Diet, applying Prussia's share of the war contribution to purchase bills and public securities to advances for the accommodation of merchants and the redemption of the debt for railway works.

From Madrid we learn that the Ministers have agreed upon an election bill for the Island of Cuba to be submitted to the constituent Cortes.

General Nouvallas, Minister of War, who is now in Navarre, demands reinforcements for the troops now in that province.

A *Herald* London special says, the battle at Puerto de Evault, near Stella, in Navarre, on May 5th, was the most important yet fought, and was a most complete victory for Derroquay. Four days previously the Carlist troops were surprised at Penna Correa by the Government column, and retreated with the greatest precipitation towards the mountains. Other Government forces cooperating joined in the pursuit; thus five

columns encouraged by the Carlist's flight, pursued them with such energy, that Derroquay marched forty eight out of sixty hours. On the fourth day the Carlist troops were completely broken down, but the Government troops were distanced, excepting only one column under Col. Nevarre, composed of regular troops, with a battery of artillery. Derroquay contrived to turn suddenly, probably to deliver a blow to cripple this force; consequently, when he formed a line of battle at Puerta de Evault, he had about three thousand men in position.

The Government troops in coming up, occupied a higher ground which gave their artillery command of the Carlist position. The Carlists had no artillery. At 3 p. m. the Government troops advanced handsomely supported by the fire from their battery, which, however, was not destructive. When the Government troops advanced within range, the Carlists then opened from the chaparral bushes, an exceedingly destructive fire which staggered the line, and broke the advance of the force, and compelled them to relinquish the ground already gained, but the troops preserved perfect order. Elio managed to get well on the flank of the force and Lissanagas kept up a vigorous fire from the chapparal bushes. The fight continued in this way nearly an hour; both sides losing men. The Carlist Cavalry then made a furious charge on the Government troops who broke and fled in complete route in every direction.

The voting throughout Spain on Saturday and Sunday last for deputies to the Constituent Cortes resulted in the election of 310 Ministerial Federalists, 20 Extreme Radicals, 8 Internationalists, 10 Independent Republicans, and 10 Monarchists.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, will, by command of the Queen, hold a levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, on Monday, the 26th day of May next, at two o'clock. It is the Queen's pleasure that presentations to His Royal Highness at this levee shall be considered as equivalent to presentations to Her Majesty.

Special despatches from Calcutta to the 1st inst., say the Russian Expeditionary

Force has occupied Corghens, a village of Khiva:

The same despatch says that Abdul Rahmal has been summoned to St. Petersburg.

A *Herald's* special from Rome, dated the 12th inst, says the Pope has passed a sleepless night. He is much disturbed by coughing. Audiences are absolutely forbidden. He received some cardinals to day, but the Archbishop of Palermo was not admitted.

The Pope was very feeble yesterday (May 13). He had a fainting fit which lasted an hour. To-day his condition is rather worse, showing excessive debility. This is the 81st birthday of His Holiness, but he is unable to give audiences to deputations which called at the Vatican to tender congratulations.

A special despatch from Calcutta on the 13th inst. says the Russian expeditionary force has occupied Oorghen, a village of Khiva. The same despatch reports that Abdool Rahwal has been summoned to St. Petersburg.

Despatches from Kasalinsk bring intelligence that detachments and reconnoitring parties from the Russian expeditionary columns report that the Khivans are throwing up entrenchments at Klytsh and Danko'ra. They are also sending out a vanguard to meet the Russians at Minbulak. There has been an engagement at Igda between the Russians and a force of Turcomans, in which the latter were defeated. Twenty two Turcomans were killed, and 1,000 camels captured by the Russians.

Recent advices from the West Indies received here, state that a drought had settled on the south side of the plains in Jamaica, which was doing much injury. The weather has been favorable for sugar making, with fine showers of rain and irrigation of comparatively poor land by the utilizing of the water which is allowed to waste, is attracting attention.

The planters of St. Kitts have had fine weather lately and are rapidly taking off their crops. The colonists find confederation distasteful.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF  
THE MILITIA FOR 1872.

(Continued from Page 218.)

The Province of Nova Scotia, figure of merit 12.88, was the best shooting Province. Military District No. 4, figure of merit 13.12, the best shooting district; the 3rd Battalion G.F.R.B. figure of merit, 20.07, the best shooting Battalion. No. 4 Company (Richmond P.Q.) Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, figure of merit 33.67, the best shooting Company; and Sergeant Major J. Lemonde, No. 1 Company, Charlevoix Provisional Battalion, in Military District No. 7, who obtained 57 points out of a possible score of 60, making at 200 yards 20 points, at 400 yards 19 points, and at 600 yards 18 points, was the best shot in the Active Militia of the Dominion of Canada at the Annual Drill of 1872.

Sergeant Major Lemonde thus winning in addition to the company, battalion, and Military district prizes, the Adjutant General's Prize of a silver medal with \$50, awarded annually by the Adjutant General with a view to promote efficiency and skill at arms to the best shot among the non-commissioned officers and men in the Militia of the Dominion at the time of the annual training.

The Reports of Major G. H. Dartnell, Military District No. 2, and Major Vanco Gravelly, 40th Battalion, the Officers who acted as Musketry Instructors to the Corps assembled in the camps near Niagara and Kingston respectively, will be found in the Appendix, and these officers discharged their duties with much zeal and assiduity. The officers who acted as Musketry Instructors at the other Camps were equally attentive. No casualty, or accident is reported to have occurred last year to any men whilst at target practice in the various camps of exercise, and the firing regulations contained in the General Orders of 31st May last, carefully framed to prevent carelessness and guard the men from accident, were found complete.

During the past year a proposal was made to the Government by Lieut. Colonel Casimir Stanislas Gzowski, President of the Dominion Rifle Association, (an officer who has rendered good public services by promoting the formation and success of rifle Associations in Canada) to obtain Government aid and support in sending a body of Canadian representative marksmen belonging to corps of the Active Militia to compete at Wimbledon, England against the marksmen of the mother country.

This proposal met with approval, and I received instructions from the Government to organize and despatch the body as an accredited military body.

The reception and welcome given to this Canadian Detachment by our fellow countrymen in the mother country was most gratifying.

All ranks and classes vied to do them honor.

On arrival at Wimbledon, the Canadian camp was formed and the tents pitched by a detachment of Her Majesty's Foot Guards.

From the hands of royalty the Canadian victors received their prizes, and the Premier Minister of England was among the first to congratulate them on their success.

The individual and collective efficiency of the Canadian Detachment was the theme of universal admiration. Eight Canadian marksmen out of the Detachment competed for the Raja of Kolapore's prize against the eight best marksmen of the mother country,

brought forward for the trial, and obtained a victory.

The prize given by the Secretary of State for War, was gained by Sergeant Turnbull of the Grand Trunk Rifles, and it is reported that the Canadian detachment as a body, exhibited a skill in rifle shooting never before displayed at Wimbledon.

It is beyond doubt that an excellent effect would be produced by the Annual despatch of a Canadian detachment to compete at Wimbledon, irrespective of the stimulus thereby given towards promoting the efficiency of the Militia.

The good conduct and discipline observed by the Canadian detachment at Wimbledon last year reflected as much honor on their country, as the skill at arms displayed by them.

The officer directed to proceed in charge of the party, Major P. W. Worsley, Brigade Major of the Grand Trunk Brigade, discharged his duty with tact and ability, and the instructions issued for his guidance were found complete.

The Report of Major P. W. Worsley contains an interesting and detailed account of the whole proceedings, with the list of prizes won, and the names of the winners, and as the subject is one of great interest to the militia and people of Canada, it is published in the Appendix for general information.

The skillful shooting of the eight Canadians was almost unexampled, and to commemorate this, eight gold medals have been recently ordered by the Dominion Government for presentation to the successful winners.

The total cost connected with the performance of this service including all incidental expenses incurred previous to the departure of the party from Canada, and subsequent to their return home, amounted to \$5,250, probably no sum of money connected with the militia was ever laid out to more advantage.

The sum of \$5,000 was contributed out of the public funds to aid the Dominion Rifle Association in carrying out this laudable object, and the balance \$250, was subscribed by the Dominion Rifle Association.

## ARTILLERY.

The Regimental Command and annual training of Artillery Corps in the Province of Ontario is under Lieut. Colonel G. French, the senior inspector of Artillery and Warlike stores for the Dominion.

The Regimental Command and annual training of Artillery corps in the Province of Quebec is under Lieut. Col. T.B. Strange, and Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores for the Dominion.

The Regimental annual training of Artillery corps in the Province of New Brunswick for last year, was superintended by Lieut. Col. Darel R. Iago, A.A.G.A.

In the Province of Nova Scotia the officer commanding the Militia in that province reports that 12 batteries of Garrison Artillery performed their gun practice from a Battery belonging to the Imperial Artillery kindly placed at their disposal by Lieut. General Sir Haslings Doyle K.C.M.G., Commanding Her Majesty's Regular Army in British North America, and the practice made by the Halifax battery, with their Six Pounder Armstrong guns, at 1,800 yards range, as well as the efficiency of the Corps appears to have been considered satisfactory by Colonel Gibbon, C.B., Commanding the Imperial Artillery at Halifax.

In addition to reporting on the State of the Artillery in the Province of Ontario, I directed Lieut. Colonel G. French as the Se-

nior Artillery Inspector in the Militia of the Dominion, to report generally, for my information, on Artillery matters connected with the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Lieut. Col. French reports for my information as follows:—

## FIELD ARTILLERY, ONTARIO.

"The force of this arm in this Province is 9 batteries.

"The Durham and Gananoque batteries have only recently been raised; they performed their drill at the school of Gunnery, Kingston, this year, not having as yet received any equipment.

"The other batteries performed their drill in camp, with the infantry and cavalry of their districts. They were all inspected by me, and the particulars connected therewith will be found in the annexed inspection report.

"In addition to the above field batteries the St. Catharines Garrison battery has received two 18 pounder guns of position, which, I understand the captain will be able to find horses for. Two such guns on the Niagara Frontier properly horsed form a valuable addition to the defensive force of the Province.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

"There is only one battery in this Province viz., at Newcastle. It had not turned out for annual training at the time I inspected the New Brunswick Garrison Artillery in August.

"I am informed that another field battery is about to be raised at Woodstock. This town being situated in the centre of a fine farming country, good horses will doubtless be available for the battery; the situation also is far preferable to Newcastle, the latter being much further from the frontier.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

The only approach to a field battery in this Province is the 6 pounder Armstrong Battery, reported on fully last year. I did not see the battery this year, but Colonel Gibbon, C. B. commanding the Imperial Artillery in British North America, informed me that he inspected the battery at practice—that he thought the shooting excellent, and that he was quite surprised at the ready manner in which all his questions were answered by the officers. Such an encomium, from so high an authority is a sufficient proof of the efficiency of this battery as at present organized.

"During the past year fourteen 9-pounder muzzle-loading rifle guns have been purchased. One complete battery was given to the London field battery, and this corps took them to camp at Windsor in July last.

"I pointed out last year the fact that our field batteries, although equipped with only four guns each, have to learn their field drill from a book which treats only of drill from a six gun battery; taking this into account with the additional fact that the new guns being fitted with axletree seats, a change in the drill must necessarily ensue. I have resolved should time and circumstances admit to draw up and submit for your approval, a small manual of field artillery exercises suitable for our batteries.

"The appointment of a Major to each field battery as recommended in your two last reports will, I trust, be adopted before the next annual training. This change has been carried out in the Imperial Artillery, and with us there is the additional reason

that at present our officers are debarred from promotion beyond the regimental rank of captain.

The increase of the total establishment to 100 is also urgently required.

#### GARRISON ARTILLERY.

The following is the strength of this arm of the service:—

Of the batteries in Ontario ten performed their drill at Kingston, one at Toronto two at their own headquarters, viz., the Sarnia and Goderich Batteries.

Nearly half of the men who come to Kingston were recruits.

The following batteries did not turn out for drill, viz:

The Iroquois Garrison Battery, No. 4 District.

Napanee Garrison Battery, No. 3 District.

The Trenton Garrison Battery, No. 5 District.

The Cobourg Garrison Battery, No. 3 District.

#### FORTIFICATIONS.

I have but little to add this year to what I reported last year respecting the fortifications.

"At Kingston the fortifications being mainly of stone, a large amount of pointing, &c. is annually required; but nothing has been done since the summer of 1870, and probably not for some time previous thereto."

"At St. John, N. B., the two new works on which it was proposed to mount heavy rifled guns, remain in the same unfinished state as when visited by you in July, 1871. It would appear advisable to use every endeavour to have those works completed and armed as soon as possible; for as the works are at present, it would take some months to complete and arm them, though every exertion might be made; in the meantime, the shipping and city might be burned by any enemy's vessels, in the event of hostilities, as the old cast iron guns remaining on the works are no protection against modern vessels, and the British fleet would probably have sufficient work to do without detaching vessels which ought to be able to defend itself."

"While at Halifax this summer, by the kindness of the officer commanding the Imperial Artillery, I was permitted to visit the new works erected there. They are, without doubt the most complete and formidable works on this continent. Some of the forts have shields of iron 15 inches thick in front of the guns; these latter are 7-ton, 12-ton and 18-ton rifled guns, throwing shell of 115, 250 and 400 lbs. respectively. Some 25-ton guns, throwing 600 lb. shells are yet to be mounted; but even without them, it would be utterly impossible for the strongest ironclads of any navy in the world to approach within range of the City of Halifax. I mention these matters as I conclude they will interest you, and also that you will be more able to see the necessity of further and more extended instruction for the 15 Batteries of Militia Artillery in the vicinity of Halifax, who in the event of war would be largely employed in the above works."

#### WARLIKE STORES.

I have made only a partial inspection of warlike stores, not having been called to make any general inspection.

(To be Continued)

## THE MUSKETRY INSTRUCTION OF THE GERMAN INFANTRY.

(From the Revue Militaire.)

The needle gun which until lately has been in use in the Prussian army, and to which a great part of the success of 1865 may be attributed, was in the war of 1870, acknowledged to be greatly inferior to the chasépot. The Germans themselves allowed this to be the case. Also immediately after the conclusion of peace, they set to work with that ardour which characterizes all their endeavours to effect progress in military matters, to find some new type of infantry small arm superior to the latest patterns adopted by other nations. If certain papers are to be credited, these investigations are about to bear fruit in the weapon as yet imperfectly known by the name of the "Muser" till resembling a simultaneous transformation of the Chasépot with a metallic cartridge available for the two systems. Moreover, the old needle gun has, as one knows, received some improvements which had been adopted before the war, but events prevented their being carried out except in a small number of weapons.

But is it sufficient to possess an excellent weapon alone? Is it not of far greater importance to know how to make use of it, and with great superiority? This is exactly the question which appeals to us to give great interest to three articles published in the *Allgemeine Militair Zeitung* with the title, "The Musketry Practice of the German Infantry."

There is no doubt that in this respect, we (the French) have been sadly behindhand, and that the greater number of the neighboring powers have long ago gone ahead of us, and this avowal ought not to be painful to us if we make the firm resolution to regain that position which we ought never to have lost. For many years shooting has been looked upon in our army as a totally secondary consideration—simply as an accessory, so to speak. Some corps (*chasseurs a pied*, amongst others) have retained good and wholesome traditions in this respect; but it would have been easy to count the regiments of infantry who took that zeal and interest in this branch of the service which it deserves. Since the adoption of more accurately shooting weapons, there has, perhaps, been some slight improvement in this respect; but one may without urging too much, say that up to the present time the instruction of our infantry as regards their shooting has left much to be desired, and that, with the exception of a few individuals rare enough in the different corps, our men are no shots.

One may, moreover, allege that it is not only in the Army that shooting is neglected, but that the entire nation (with the exception of some provinces) must share in the responsibility of this cause of inferiority. Shooting is neither liked or practised as it ought to be. One cannot deny the truth of this assertion, when one considers the bad or negative results of all the attempts which have been made in this respect for the last thirty years. It is quite otherwise not only in Prussia, but in many other countries, shooting is there held in great estimation in all classes of society; from the earliest age, the art of handling, loading, and firing a firearm is known; and consequently it is not surprising to see this exercise properly appreciated in the army, especially when the army is only the reunion, the rendezvous of all classes of the population.

On the other hand, in spite of all their good will, can our soldiers do much better than they have already done? How many garrisons are there that the ranges are too small, and altogether unsuited for musketry practice? And how often has it not happened that some infantry regiments could not even fire during the whole year the amount of ball ammunition granted to them by regulation? And how many others are there not who finished their firing in fifteen days, and never fired another round during the rest of the whole year—that is to say, during the remaining eleven months and a half.

Without entering into a detailed comparison between the Prussian method of instruction and our own, we think it interesting to show how our neighbors endeavor to make their soldiers good shots, and how they find that their old regulations are no longer in accordance with the arms in use and with the fighting of the present day.

Their last regulation for musketry instruction was not very old, since it dated from the 2nd November, 1864; nevertheless they find that whilst containing many excellent ideas, this regulation has had its day—that is to say that it no longer suffices with the arms which ought to be put in men's hands. "If in 1870," says the author, "the results have appeared satisfactory, it is now no longer so, and whatever may be said to the contrary, it must be allowed that our musketry instruction in peace time no longer sufficiently prepares the soldier for the real shooting of war." In order that our readers may thoroughly understand the observations contained in the three articles of the *Allgemeine Militair Zeitung*, which we propose to analyse, we think it indispensable to point out the general principles which regulate musketry instruction in Prussia.

The first exercises for bringing the rifle up to the shoulder call for no particular remarks, as they are similar to those in use with us and with other armies. But together with first exercise there is another frequently practised in the Prussian Army even for shooting with ball cartridge; it is that of the position with the rest, the weapon, or rather the left hand, resting against a picket. It is not this that we call firing from a support, since the musket should never, as a principle, rest on any support, whatsoever when shooting; it remains always placed in the fork formed by the first finger and thumb, which presses steadily, but without stiffness, against the picket in question, the left arm slightly curved, the left hand as high as the shoulder, the little finger serving to catch hold of the support. This stake or picket must be round and not too thick, in order that the little finger of the left hand may encircle it; the best kind are simple hedge stakes which have still got their bark; they should not be driven into the ground, but should be fastened on to a stud in the shape of a cross, in order that the men may not get into the habit of leaning the whole weight against it.

The position with a rest, the man being recumbent, sitting or kneeling does not differ, so to speak, from our own, and we have no particular remarks to offer upon this point.

Such is not the case as regards the drill for aiming at a moving object, which plays an important part in the musketry instruction of the Prussian infantry soldier, as we shall see further on. In this respect, the weapon is recommended to be directed against the moving object with the left hand, and not by moving the back or the haunches. The further off the object is,

or the quicker it is moving, the further one must aim in front of it; thus, for a target moving at the charge 100 paces distant, one should aim about half the breadth of a man in advance of it; at 150 paces the whole breadth; at 200 paces a breadth and a half, &c. Then follows aiming with the sights at different elevations, subsequently the knowledge and use of the tangent scale. The principles for this shooting at long ranges, with regard to the manner of placing the rifle against the shoulder, and of holding the head against the butt, are the same as with us.

Different appliances for aiming: In order to make their men as perfect in aiming as possible, the company commanders in Prussia may make use of several means and of different apparatus, of which we intend to give an idea.

Dreyse's apparatus: The weapon is placed on a support with two arms, fixed upon a pivot in such way that the weapon may be placed upon it accordingly as may be required, in every horizontal and vertical position, and may be kept fixed in it. It is our aiming support, but improved.

The Alvensleben apparatus: This is an iron instrument ingeniously constructed, which screws on to the weapon, and which indicates by means of a glass and a pendulum the vertical and horizontal deviations of the weapon when aimed for a certain given distance.

Aiming glass: These glasses differ from ordinary glasses, the left hand aperture is filled with an ordinary glass, and the right hand one with a looking glass in which there is a small ring, intended to act as a back sight, in the midst of the tin foil which has been scraped off the necessary space. These glasses having been fixed in the ordinary manner, the man rests his weapon against the picket, and looks through the small circle which has been left transparent; so as to get the bottom of the notch of the back sight, the top of the foresight, and the object into one line. When he considers he has well sighted the object, he says so to the instructor. The latter then examines the exterior of the reflecting glass, which reflects the weapon and the object aimed at, and he can thus ascertain whether the man has aimed properly, or whether he has made any error.

Aiming at the instructor's eye.—If there is no aiming apparatus the soldier is told to aim at the instructor's eye, who can thus see whether his aim is correct or not. A small metal level is also made use of, about the size of a card, on which the target is represented, with three holes in the centre instead of the anchors (a description of the targets will be given further on). The instructor looks through these apertures, and can remark any mistakes the man may have made.

Aiming on Sandbags: Should there be no aiming horse, bags filled with earth or sawdust, one foot broad and one and a half feet long, may be used. The weapon is placed in equilibrium upon them.

Dart rifles and the Wegner arm: Indispensable and important as aiming drill is, still there is no doubt that when continued for any length of time, it is both fatiguing to the man and to the instructor, because no immediate visible results ensue therefrom. Therefore it is highly advantageous to alternate these drills with firing with the Dart rifle, or still better, with the Wegner arm, which is a needle gun into which a second barrel of a smaller calibre is introduced.

We will not say anything as regards judg-

ing distance, which is done in Prussia very nearly the same as with us. Preparatory firing with blank cartridge (*platz-patronen*) is carried on in the same manner as with us, with this difference, that when firing the weapon is supported against the jacket in the manner previously mentioned. If now we pass to target practice, properly so called we shall find in the Prussian instructions the following particulars:—

The Ranges: An infantry regiment should have at its disposition at least one range of 300 paces, six ranges of 400 paces, and, if circumstances require it, a special decision can provide a regiment with two ranges of 600 paces.

A battalion by itself ought to have—1st, a range of 300 paces; 2nd, two ranges of 400 paces; and occasionally, a range of 600 paces. For a rifle battalion, there should be a range of from 1,000 to 1,200 yards, and three ranges of 600 paces. The ranges which are next to one another, should be separated by banks of earth from eight to nine feet high, and about twenty-one feet broad at the bottom; if this is not practicable, the central lines of fire should be at least twenty paces from one another. We shall not enter into all the details relating to the setting up of butts to catch the bullets, &c.; it is sufficient to say that every precaution is taken to avoid accidents, and that the shooting is carried on with the best possible conditions that can be obtained.

Ammunition: The troops receive yearly, first for the recruits drill, four blank cartridges per man. For target shooting (officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers), 100 ball cartridges per man. The author of the article in the *Allgemeine Militair Zeitung* says that last year, 1872, the number was increased to 150. Besides this for experimental firing ordered by the war minister for a battalion of above 600 men strong, 4,000 ball cartridges; for a battalion below 600 men, 3,000 ball cartridges. Besides this there is a certain amount of special ammunition (explosive cartridges, fulminating caps, fulminating paper powder, for the annual manœuvres, &c.) are placed at the officers' disposal. The following particular disposition appears to us to be worthy of attention. The lead which is recovered by the various corps becomes State property, and has to be either returned to the artillery depots or else employed for the further instruction of the troops.

For a battalion of infantry one-half the lead fired during the year has to be returned without compensation being given for it. For any surplus that may be handed in the battalion receives at will either an equivalent in cartridges and balls, or materials for making these cartridges, or else in money, or partly in one or the other according to the following rates.

For a cwt. of old lead, 625 ball cartridges, or else 14lbs. of powder and 980 bullet and cartridge-cases. When the weight of lead is less than 16lbs. it is given to the artillery without any compensation.

In money, for a cwt. of lead, 13s. 6d.; this money is to be exclusively employed in repairing the ranges, *matériel*, and targets.

Arrangements are in progress for a great rifle meeting, open to all England, to be held at Gloucester on the 13th and 14th of May, when prizes of the value of £1,000 will be offered for competition with the government Snider rifle.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

FROM BROCKVILLE.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

As the time draws near for the usual yearly drill, and as the question is often asked in the locality where it will be put in this year? I would beg to suggest to those in authority, the advisability of bringing the force together at Ottawa.

For several reasons this place is preferable, it being the most central, considering the location of the different companies composing the several Battalions, it being the head quarters of the 43rd Battalion, and the Field Battery; also one company of the 56th, and the other companies of that Battalion could be taken to Ottawa as cheaply as to its own headquarters; the 18th Battalion can come up for a very small expenditure.

The 41st and 42nd Battalions can assemble at Ottawa at less expense than at their own headquarters. Capt. M. Menzie's Field Battery could be brought to Ottawa, and have the benefit of one year's drill from Capt. Stewart's guns.

The 59th Battalion will be the only one that will have to go out of its way to be there, but the saving in transporting stores would more than make up the cost of bringing that battalion to Ottawa. And would it not be well if Ottawa was made the place of a permanent camp for the force in this district, the Government furnishing the land necessary for camp and drill purposes, and also target ground; and if the necessary guns was provided, earth works could be thrown up, and there would be no necessity of taking Col. Forrest's fine Brigade out of the district, saving the expense, and giving us an opportunity of witnessing the workings of all arms of the service. And another advantage which I nearly forgot, it would give us all an opportunity of seeing the flower of our Canadian army (the Guards) and realizing how much superior they are to us ordinary *sogers*.

OLD VOLUNTEER.

England spends annually nearly ten millions sterling upon her navy, France less than five, the United States under four, and Italy scarcely one and a half; but this economy is explained by the fact that the Italian naval establishment is in a frightful state of neglect. Considerable additions are being made to the arsenals of Venice and Spezia; a naval school has recently been opened at Genoa, and it is anticipated that within a few years the Italian navy will only be inferior to those of England and the United States.

## DOMINION OF CANADA.



## MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

## HEAD QUARTERS,

Ottawa, 16th May, 1873.

## GENERAL ORDERS (10).

No 1.

## ACTIVE MILITA.

*Corps on Service in Manitoba.*

One hundred and fifty-six men being required to replace a similar number about to be released from Military duty in the North West territories, on expiration of their period of service, Volunteers belonging to the 1st Class of the Militia (men between the ages of 18 and 30, who are unmarried or widowers without children) are called for as follows:—

50 men from Military District No. 8 (New Brunswick), 50 men from Military District No. 9 (Nova Scotia), 56 Artillery Volunteers from the Schools of Gunnery, in the following proportion, viz:— 2 Sergeants, 2 Corporals, 32 Gunners and Drivers from the Kingston School, and 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal and 18 Gunners and Drivers from the Quebec School.

Should the number of volunteers required from the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia not be completed by 30th Instant, the number required to complete will be called for from the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

All volunteers, previous to being attested, will be required to pass a satisfactory military medical examination, and preference will be given to young farmers or skilled mechanics who, in addition to respectability of character, are desirous of settling in Manitoba.

The terms of enlistment for both the Artillery and Infantry Corps are as follows:— Period of service and duty, twelve months from date of attestation and for a further period of twelve additional months if required by their commanding officers. The rates of pay, per month, are as follows: Sergeants sixteen dollars, Corporals fourteen dollars, Privates twelve dollars and full rations, without deduction from pay, of bread, meat, groceries, fuel, light, with lodging, &c., whilst serving, in addition to the usual annual issue of uniform clothing, which consists of

- 1 Cloth Tunic,
- 1 pair Cloth Trowsers,
- 1 Serge Jacket,
- 1 pair Serge Trowsers,
- 2 pairs Boots,
- 1 Forage Cap.

The following Free Kit, on joining, will be issued to each man after he has been attested:—

- 2 Flannel Shirts,
- 1 Pair Braces,
- 2 Pair Socks,
- 2 Linen Towels,
- 1 Knife, Fork and Spoon with Hold-all,
- 1 Cloth Brush,
- 1 Comb,
- 2 Blacking Brushes,
- 1 Box Blacking,
- 1 Tin Waterproof Blacking,
- 1 Piece Soap.

And for winter use:—

- 2 Knitted under shirts,
- 2 Pairs Knitted Drawers,
- 1 Muffler,
- 1 Fur Cap,
- 1 Pair Mitts.

Each officer and man who completes satisfactorily the full period of service for which he has engaged and is required, and who had not already become entitled to a grant of land for previous military service in the Depot companies or in the Dominion Forces in Manitoba, will be entitled to a quarter section, or one hundred and sixty acres of land in the Province of Manitoba.

To enable any man to receive his grant of land for military service it will be necessary that a satisfactory report from his commanding officer be forwarded to the Adjutant General, and his duplicate certificate of discharge filed in the office of the Surveyor General of Dominion Lands at Ottawa.

When the men required for this service have been finally approved, they will hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Collingwood, Ontario, the Port of embarkation, under charge of certain Staff officers, in time to arrive there about 10th June next. Arms, uniforms and the necessary equipment will be served out at Collingwood, previous to departure for Manitoba, via the Canadian Route. The officers conducting this Detachment will hand over charge of the men proceeding to Fort Garry, at Fort Francis, Rainy River, to the officers from Fort Garry, and take in charge those men returning to the Eastern Provinces on completion of period of service.

No. 2.

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

*Durham Field Battery of Artillery.*

To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Joseph Richardson, Gentleman, vice Percy R. Ricardo, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

*"A" Battery of Artillery, and School of Gunnery, Kingston.*

Captain and Adjutant James Walker, 77th Battalion, is authorized to join the School of Gunnery, Kingston, on probation, for a three months course of instruction.

*2nd Battalion or "Queen's Own Rifles," Toronto.*

The resignation of Ensign Frank McDougall is hereby accepted.

*12th Battalion of Infantry or "York Rangers."*

Ensign and Adjutant Edward George Girden, M.S., to have the rank of lieutenant.

*25th "Elgin" Battalion of Infantry.*

No. 5 Company, Iona.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally:

Sergeant Richard Burwell, vice Duncan Decow, left limits.

To be Ensign, provisionally:

Charles Waters, Gentleman, vice Dugald Campbell, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

*28th "Perth" Battalion of Infantry.*

Adverting to No. 1 of G. O. (16) 28th June, 1871, read, "Major Charles James is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank, as a special case," instead of "The resignation of Major Charles James is hereby accepted."

*30th "Wellington" Battalion of Rifles.*

No. 5 Company, Mount Forest.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign James Colcleugh, V.B., vice Robert Smith, left limits.

*33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry.*

No. 2 Company.

The Head Quarters of this Company are hereby changed from Goderich to Wingham and the Company is also changed from Rifles to Infantry.

*35th Battalion of Infantry, or "The Simcoe Foresters."*

No. 3 Company, Cookstown.

Captain Thomas Bailey is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

No. 4 Company Bradford.

The resignation of Lieutenant William Neilly is hereby accepted.

*45th "West Durham" Battalion of Infantry.*

No. 3 Company, Bartonville

To be Lieutenant:

Sergeant Major Samuel Hughes, V.B., M.S. vice Masson, retired.

*46th "East Durham" Battalion of Infantry.*

No. 4 Company, Millbrooke.

To be Captain:

Lieutenant John Hunter, M.S., vice William Graham, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

To be Lieutenant:

Ensign John Watson Wallace, M.S., vice Hunter, promoted.

(For Continuation see Page 240.)

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## The Volunteer Review,

AND

### MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,  
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1873.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and in the corner the words "Printer's copy" written; and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

THE Military system of every civilized State have undergone serious modifications within the last *twenty years*; previous to that period an army was looked on as a costly and complex *machine* which it was a matter of first importance to separate in all its working parts from the considerations of civil life, and to make its individual units understand that they were but parts of a mechanical structure to be moved at the will of one mind. That in order to accomplish this, the said units, individually and collectively, were brought together to learn the precise *mechanical* duties required of them, and those were so complicated that it would require the devotion of a lifetime to master all their details, therefore, they were to be a separate class, apart from their fellow citizens who were to be for the time under the protec-

tion of the great machine known as the Army.

Like all other human inventions this conception has been liable to the law of modification; first, by the progress of science and unrivalled mechanical skill it has called into life; and secondly, because their conditions compelled the extension of the number of units in the machine, called an army to such an extent that it would, in a great measure, absorb the vital man power of the State; and as this could in no way be paid for, it became necessary in order to provide for the defence of the people to fall back on a well known but long disused social political axiom—"that the first duty a citizen owed to the State was military service."

This principle has been practically recognized in most of the leading States of Europe; fully, only in a small State, Switzerland, and on this continent by Canada. It is true that Prussia by anticipating all others in the partial recognition of its value could lay claim to the credit of adopting it entirely, but it has only been used as an auxiliary to her system of a standing army, or military machine apart from the people, and therefore her claim is not good. It is in Canada, however, that the system has received its true development, because there is no compulsory service, the law merely affirms the principle which the people fully recognize.

Under the old regime of standing armies a terribly complicated system of administration had sprung up dividing the service into two essential, but at least in Great Britain totally independent parts, called the civil and military branches, and the resultants might have been looked for—there was responsibility nowhere. Reform, modification, destruction, and lastly, re-construction, has been tried after a fashion with similar results which may be fairly summed up by the term inefficiency, with utter and irretrievable confusion, because a separation of the incongruities had not been effected in the first instance.

Happily in Canada we have had no repetition of those blunders, although the recent *Point Levis camp scandal*, as it has been called, warns us of the folly of placing civil clerks in a military departmental office. The Department of Minister of Militia is very properly filled with civil clerks of great ability, but the same thing should not be allowed in the office of the Adjutant-General. Of the whole force (some six or seven) there are only the Adjutant General and Deputy Adjutant General at head-quarters, military men amenable to military discipline, the remainder highly estimable gentlemen, and thoroughly competent, are civilians. It is not to be inferred from this that the fact of documents of importance being mislaid (as in the case referred to) should be actually charged to difference of status, but it in a very material manner weakens the hold of the Commander-in-Chief

on his subordinates when they know he has not the power to punish neglect of duty.

In order to have an effective army there must be no *non-combatants* in its ranks; the commissary should be perfectly able to provide bread, meat, forage and transport for troops, and if necessary command them in the rank he held as a regimental officer—and this should extend through the whole service, the civil branch belonging to the Minister of Militia alone.

While the case referred to is the only one of the kind which has yet occurred, and would be of little import indeed except for the party clamour to which it gave rise, still the occasion affords the opportunity of preventing the possibility of a repetition by drawing a wider line of demarcation between the civil and military departments; and as it would in no case increase expense, there can be no reasonable objection to remove what is in reality the only weak link in the chain of military responsibility.

The irregularities disclosed by the late investigation before the Committee on Public Accounts shows that a fraud was attempted to be carried out at Point Levis Camp which, if successful, would have resulted in a direct money loss to the public of 160 dollars all told; but it was not successful, and it is a legitimate subject of inquiry as to how much public money has been wasted by the committee in ascertaining a fact too notorious for repetition not to talk of the labor and ink by the *Globe* and other journals of its stamp in retailing falsehoods connected therewith; that documents being a copy of the proceedings of the court of inquiry *five months* previous was mislaid in the office of the Adjutant General's Department, and that the results of the whole proceedings shew that fraud maybe attempted, but is not at all likely to succeed under our present system of military administration, that it is possible to have some trouble with a *missing document* of no real importance to the public interests, and that even a recurrence of such a *contra tems* can be prevented by making the department or branch in which it occurred—military in fact as well as name.

It must be painfully apparent to all thinking men that the cry of *economy and efficiency* in connection with the military source of this country is a delusion, a mockery and a snare, both qualities can exist relatively but not in the way generally understood, we have the cheapest and most efficient military force in the world for our purpose; but its support involves an outlay of 5 per cent on the revenue of the country; imposes a fearful tax on the commanding officers of companies and battalions irrespective altogether of the sum Parliament votes each year for the support of the Active Force, and it is this circumstance that leads to attempted frauds; it was actually pleaded by the man whose action caused the inquiry referred to as an excuse for an inexcusable act, and our only wonder is that

volunteer officers will encounter such liabilities without remonstrance from year to year.

Partizan journals in their eager anxiety to find some fault, don't seem to care how much they injure many of their own friends who must be serving as officers and incurring those responsibilities for which the country should pay, or how complicated or difficult it will become by and by when this evil will attain sufficient magnitude to demand redress—to either advocate or accord it.

As far as the Volunteer Force is concerned Canada owes the whole race of politicians nothing, it exists wholly by the patriotism and military spirit of its officers and rank and file, and if the continued ill usage accorded to both compels a resort to the ballot the cost of this measure alone will be more than twice the pittance now accorded, inasmuch as pay in proportion for service rendered must be provided for all ranks. It is the boast of those people that Canada is a free country and we should like to see the experiments tried of compelling any of her people to serve against their consent for any sum below the current wages of the day, while we would at the same time warn those who appear to be endeavouring to break down the present system under the idea of the *millenium* having arrived, that as there is a risk of life in becoming a soldier something greater than in remaining as a farmer or merchant, it is quite likely that the risk will be taken into account in any future arrangements and an addition asked to the current rate of wages.

If those journals who have as a labor of love undertaken to see that strict justice is meted out in the case of attempted frauds and petty mistakes in departmental offices, would lend their great energies to the task of placing the chief security of society—the Army—in its proper position, they would be doing the State service which would pay better in the end than ink slinging on subjects they are totally incompetent to form an opinion about.

As it is of the utmost importance that the Canadian soldier should be a quick, ready and steady marksman with the rifle, and as the practice of rifle shooting depends on accurate and careful training. We have given in another column an article on "The Musketry Instruction of the German Infantry," as interesting as it is novel and which cannot fail to be instructive as well as useful to our own troops; not that we think our system of natural rests for the rifle should be changed for *hedge stakes* with the "bark one," or, that any of those complicated mechanical arrangements for aiming is superior to natural intelligence and quickness of manipulative skill, but they are all useful hints which it would be as well to recognize and understand, although too complex for our purposes.

The pains taken to make the mass of the

rank and file of the infantry good shots is highly creditable to the patience and intelligence of the German people, and it illustrates in the application of mechanical power to enhance the effects of rifle shooting that economy for which they are famous, but we think our mode of training to be immeasurably superior in every respect because the soldier is taught to accommodate himself to the position he may occupy to use the material at hand and to be wholly independent of adventitious aid, *cover* being the chief principle governing all the rest whether in attack or defence.

The recommendation for shooting ranges is very good, but the distances over 600 yards of little account, a mitrailleuse will range up to 1,200 yards, artillery from that to over 3,000 yards; as the infantry fire could not reach either effectively, the value of wasting time and teaching the rank and file practice at those ranges is doubtful, the supply of ammunition and the regulations relating thereto are very good, and some of them might be initiated with advantage into our service.

The following extract from the *Army and Navy Gazette* is another instance of the uncertainty connected with the *Battle of the Guns*, it would really appear that in this respect mechanical skill and ability will leave no chance of deciding this question during the present generation at least, nor furnish a point at which artillerists can say they will rest and be thankful; for our own part we have been convinced from the first that the system of *monster artillery* as developed in England was not applicable to naval purposes, and in that opinion we have been sustained by experience and by every practical seaman who has given the subject consideration.

"It is not very satisfactory to hear that after our costly equipments and prolonged investigation of the subject, the French have, with an inferior material, produced a more powerful plate-piercing gun than the famous "Woolwich Infant." The latter which is built of wrought iron, with a steel lining, on the Armstrong system, weighs 35 tons, and projects a 700lb. shot with 110lbs. of pebble powder at a velocity of 1,300 feet per second. The French gun weighs a ton less; it consists of a steel inner tube, with a cast-iron casing and steel hoops over all. It throws an 820lb. shot, with 137lbs. of French pebble powder, at a velocity of about 1,317 feet. No one who is acquainted with this subject will fail to perceive that the French gun is far the more powerful weapon of the two. In fact the French gun would be about as powerful at 1,000 yards range as the "Woolwich Infant" at the muzzle. If we seek the cause of this success we shall find it without much difficulty. It is due, in the first place to the French having properly recognized the fact, that for exceptionally heavy charges a special pebble powder becomes necessary—just as pebble powder itself became necessary in the place of "R. L. G." when the charge exceeded a certain limit. It is as irrational to suppose that one kind of pebble powder will serve indefinitely for all charges over 40lbs. or 50lbs. as it would

be to assume that "R. L. G." or any other sort of powder will cover all possible variations of weight of charge. There comes a limit at which even pebble powder is too small in grain or otherwise unsuitable; that limit is merely so many pounds or tens of pounds in advance of the limit at which "R. L. G." proved unsuitable. If we are not mistaken, the Committee on Explosions recommended that 110lb. should be considered the limit for the present pebble powder, and that for heavier charges a special pebble should be introduced. This is exactly what the French have done. They have introduced a powder for these heavy charges with a grain like an egg. But, in the second place, they have adopted what has been repeatedly advocated in these columns, viz., a proper diameter of bore. Their 'infant' has a calibre of 12½ inches, as against the 12 inch bore of our gun; it is therefore able to consume all its powder, with the result which we have described. Now, it is no secret that those who had the conduct of the experiments with the English 35-ton gun were most anxious to enlarge the bore of that weapon to 12½ inches, because their experiments pointed to the conclusion that a vast accession of power would result from such increase. Unfortunately, the recommendation was overruled, and the bore 12 of inches was formally adopted, with the mortifying result which we now see in this easy French victory. We say "easy," because all that it was necessary for the French artillerists to do was to go on from the point where the subject has been most unwisely dropped in this country, and prosecute experiments in the direction to which the English published results appeared to point. The foundation has been laid by the long series of experiments in this country, and competent observers must readily have perceived that neither the English pebble powder, nor the English 12-inch bore was suitable for getting the greatest effect out of a mass of 35 tons of metal. So they simply altered the powder and the bore—did, in fact, what the Committee charged with the investigation of this subject would have done long since to our gun if they had had their way—and straightway were rewarded with a signal success. The best thing for us to do now would appear to be to set to work to build an 'infant' on sound principles, and so to supply it with a suitable powder.

Observe, that there is no question of breech or muzzle loading here. We know that the *Pall Mall Gazette* would sooner be killed by a muzzle-loader than kill his enemy with a breech loader any day. It is really comforting to us to see that the duties of Olympus are somewhat ruffled. Col. Reilly has disturbed them by a cracker or two, and his "notes" have sounded an alarm, which has perhaps, caused General Ayo to drop his felicitous pen in the midst of that ever recurring report in which he assures Mr. Cardwell that we have "the hardest-hitting, furthest-ranging, flattest trajectory gun in the world," but nothing like an article by an artilleryman in the *Pall Mall* on the superiority of a French gun, no matter how gained, can be a satisfactory proof that the "divine calm" and intense complacency of our gunner guns is disturbed. We are heretical enough to think that the quality of our field guns is of small consequence in comparison with that of the guns for the floating batteries of our ships. Can we hope ever to be in a position where our own field artillery will play such a part that the difference between muzzle loaders and breech loaders shall determine a field in our



favor? Can we expect that we will ever be in a position in an action at sea in which the difference between the power of guns to pierce armor will not be a matter of vital importance? Now, we have no motive in trying to depreciate our artillery. We only wish to disturb the certainty and serenity of our authorities. If they be disturbed to the end of satisfactory results, all is well. There is a sad tradition in our minds about their self-satisfaction in whatever is Woolwich born and bred, or whatever is once adopted there. We remember they sneered at Mammoth powder and at Rodman's cakes at first. "Ha! ha!" they exclaimed "these poor Yankee guns! They can't stand our powder. We have the hardest hitting etc." Now they have fallen away in a pebble, and are going in for special pebbles, and may come over to perforated cake. So they yield in the long run. We perceive that General Adye has run over with Colonel Reilly to see the French experiments, and has taken Majors Brackonbury and Alderson with him; so he is evidently bent on full inquiry; and in the case of such an able officer, who is only anxious to come to sound conclusions, we have no doubt of good resulting from personal observation.

The account given in our last of a collision between the Blackfeet Indians and a band of American desperadoes, who had crossed the line, is confirmed. The Americans, who are outlaws, were selling liquor to the Indians on British territory when a fight took place in which three at least of the traders were killed and a much larger number of Indians—some account speaks of fifty. The affair took place in the neighborhood of Belly River.

The above paragraph is taken from the *Manitoban* of the 5th inst. It shows the dangers of complications arising on our North Western frontier, and the necessity of providing means to prevent a recurrence of such transactions. The Adjutant General's commendation is about being partially acted upon; fifty men of the troops now in garrison at Fort Garry, are to be sent to Fort Ellice, at the junction of the Que'd'Appelle with the Assiniboine River, 230 miles west of Fort Garry.

From the same Journal we learn the following:

"When Hon. Mr. Breland was last heard from, he was within five days travel of the Sioux camps. A rumor has been sent off from another source that the Sioux had been attacked on this side of the line by U. S. troops and that "Little Knife" and "Sitting Buffalo," the two leading chiefs, had been killed. We do not credit this story."

Our readers will remember that the Honorable Gentleman left Fort Garry for the purpose of ascertaining the intentions of the Sioux, who were reported to be gathering in force on the Upper Saskatchewan and threatening some of the Hudson Bay Company's Forts in that direction, as well as imperilling the existence of some scattered *Metis* settlements in their vicinity.

The character of the traders from the United States territory, whose business it is to smuggle bad whiskey and cheat the Indians, is of the most lawless and desperate description. There can be

only one way of dealing with those people, and that is to confiscate their goods and drive them by force from Canadian soil. They are both the blot on the face of the peculiar civilization of the United States, and the curse of the poor Indians. It is our business to prevent any such outrages as are commonly perpetrated south of the forty ninth parallel—on the aboriginal inhabitants—and to protect them from the selfish actions of individual interest, in their own interest alone.

THE State of Louisiana, one of the sovereign units of the *Model Republic*, the United States, is in a fearful state of anarchy and confusion. The inevitable conflict between the colored and white races has commenced, and there is every indication of its being fought out to the bitter end. We have noticed the collision of authority between the Government and Legislature elected by the people, and those forced on by the troops of the United States, acting under the direct orders of the President. The complications of authority has culminated in a massacre of one hundred and thirty five negroes at Colfax Court House, the capital of Grant County or Parish, and now the news reaches us that the agitation and excitement is sensibly felt in New Orleans. The people's Governor and Legislature is supported by the white population in the United States; in traders, by the negroes. Hence the danger of a collision which may spread over more than one state. The whole transaction is a living commentary on the fallacies involved in the Republicanism of our neighbors.

SERGEON COLLINS, Scotch Fusilier Guards, lady and child has arrived in Montreal and are on a visit to J. H. JOSEPH, Esq.

#### QUEBEC SQUADRON OF CAVALRY.

This fine old squadron turned out in full strength on Saturday the 10th inst. for their annual inspection on the Plains of Abraham. Lt. Colonel Lamontagne, Brigade Major, in the absence of Lt. Col. Cassault, C.M.G. Deputy Adjutant General, was the inspecting officer. The inspection was a rigid one, and it reflects the highest credit on the officers, non commissioned officers and men of this gallant corps, to know that although they were kept in the saddle seven hours altogether that day, they acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of the inspecting officer. The *esprit de corps* which has long existed in this Regiment, is still kept up, and their records show that from 1805 when the Regiment was raised, (by the Honorable Matthew Bell, grandfather of the present commanding officer), to this day they have ever been able to turn out at an hours' notice, when danger threatens the peace of the country or of the city.

The permanent Riding School establishment in connection with the corps, is still kept up, where a dozen horses are stabled for the instruction of the men in charge of Regimental Sergeant Major Maguire (late of 13th Hussars)—another sergeant of the 10th Hussars acts as an Assistant Drill Instructor—while a third sergeant from the 13th Hussars is daily expected to arrive, and take charge of the Regimental gymnasium.

The officers at present belonging to the Regiment are Lt. Col. Forsyth; Majors Turnbull and Gray; Captains MacDonald and Forsyth; Lieutenants Brown and Flanagan, Cornets Desbrats, Kent, and Martin; Surgeon Stanfield; Paymaster Matto; Quartermaster Julien; Riding Master Brown.

The following are the officers of the "Manitoba Rifle Association" for the current year.

A very comprehensive constitution, and judicious bye laws have been adopted, and the institution is in fair working order.

#### OFFICERS.

Patron.—His Excellency Lieut. Governor of the Province.

Vice Patron.—The Honorable Donald A. Smith.

President—Major A. G. Irvine.  
1st Vice President—G. B. Spencer, Esq.  
2nd Vice President—Major A. Peables.  
Council—Capt. Shultz, M. P., Capt. Plainval, Dr. J. C. Bird, Hon. Capt. Howard, Capt. Carruthers Dr Roy.  
Secretary—Major W. N. Kennedy  
Treasurer—Capt. C. D. F. Gagnier.

#### HASTINGS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the above Association, held on 13th May, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President—Lieut. Colonel Brown, M.P., 49th Battalion.  
1st Vice President—E. R. Benjamin, Esq.,  
2nd Vice President—Capt. John A. J. Crozier, 15th Batt.  
Treasurer—Major Hambly, 49th Batt.  
Secretary—Capt. Bogart, 15th Batt.  
Council—The Warden, Hon. B. Flint, Senator; the Mayor, Thos. Holden, Esq.; Lieut. Col. Campbell, 15th Batt.; Lieut. Col. Howell, M.P., 49th Batt.; Lt. Col. Sutherland; Major T. C. Wallbridge; Major John Bell, G. T. R., Major Boulter, M. D., M. P. P. 49th Batt.; Surgeon Lister, 15th Batt.; Captain Day, M. D., 49th Batt., Capt. Crowther, G. T. R.; Lieut. Harrison 49th Batt.; Lieut. Marshall, G. T. R.; Hon. R. Read, Senator; K. Graham, Esq., M. P. P., H. Corby, Esq., M. P. P.; George Denmark, Esq.; C. J. Starling, Esq.; D. Price, Esq.; R. P. Jellet, Esq.; Thos. Kelso, Esq.; W. C. Nunn, Esq.; Prof. Dawson, Albert Col lege; Dr. Palmer, Principal Deaf and Dumb Asylum; George Ritchie, Esq., E. Burrell, Esq.

It is the intention of the Association to expend a large sum of money this year, for the most approved marking butts and other wise improving the ranges, as well as adding two more targets to the present number. There will be a marker always in attendance to mark for members of the Association, and as the membership fee is only \$1, we hope to see a large number of the young men of the town cultivate a better use of the Rifle—Canada's defence.—*Belle ville Intelligencer*.

## REVIEWS.

*Westminster Review* for April contains:—The National Importance of Scientific Research; Mr. Gladstone's defence of the Faith; Venetian Painting; Henry Mergo the Bohemian; Charity schools; Irresponsible Ministers—Baron Stockmar; Our Seamen; Irish University Education, and the Ministerial Crisis; Contemporary Literature. Republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton Street, New York.

We have to thank Lieut. Colonel Stuart Assistant Adjutant General for a copy of the Report of "Proceedings of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association" for the year 1872.

A prospectus and specimen of what by those indications will be a most valuable book, has been sent to us. It is entitled "Ocean to Ocean.—Sandford Fleming's expedition through Canada, in 1872," by the Rev. George M. Grant of Halifax, N. S., Secretary to the Expedition.

The *Science of Health* for June has been received. Also the *New Dominion Monthly* for May

"At the ordinary meeting of the Junior Naval Professional Association, held in Portsmouth Dockyard on Friday even'g.—Lieutenant Grenfell (of H.M.S. *Excellent*) in the chair—Staff-Commander Going, R.N., read a paper on "Ramming, as a mode of Naval Warfare." Having remarked that there were four different Modes of attack, viz., by guns, torpedoes, by ramming, and by boring, he maintained that ramming was of the first importance, and that by it an enemy's ship might be struck, and if not disabled at all events seriously injured. By the aid of diagrams, he explained at great length the manoeuvres should be studied scientifically in connection with ramming. He contended that there was an intelligible system by which a ship might be manoeuvred, and that these manoeuvres should be studied scientifically in connection with practice. A discussion followed the reading of the paper.—The Chairman announced himself as an opponent of ramming if it were adopted at the expense of other modes of attack. For many years guns had performed valuable services; but the position of the gentlemen who advocated ramming was based on no experience. There had been but one battle, in which one ship had been sent to the bottom; and as a practical seaman, he scarcely thought that many people would believe that the many niceties on which ramming depended would be found practicable in battle. A man must nerve himself to an almost superhuman extent to be prepared for sending down a ship with all her crew in a few seconds, while his own vessel might be subjected to that fate by the miscalculation of a few seconds. He (the chairman) thought ramming shared too much of the public attention. They had magnificent artillery, which would always decide a battle. Captain Colomb had reduced the effect of the gun to almost nothing at all; but his calculations were based on one day's experi-

mental firing. If they could have a series of experiments in the Sound or at Spithead, he believed the results would astonish the advocates of ramming, and that the whole of their theories would crumble to nothing. It was on the development and use of heavy artillery, he believed, that success in future warfare would depend.—Commander Stewart agreed with the chairman. He considered ramming would be one of the most difficult things in the world with two vessels of equal speed; and if all these intricate angles, bearing, and calculations were to be made, and the speed of an adversary were to be judged, appeared to him, from what he had seen of their ironclads, that the position of the officers would be an extremely difficult one. He would like to ask Staff-Commander Going for his opinion as to what should be done with the engines at the moment of collision—should they continue their movement ahead, stop, or reverse? If he might offer an opinion, he (Commander Stewart) was totally against the engines being stopped, because he was satisfied they would come to most tremendous grief, if not in motion. Shortly after the battle of Lissa, the fleet in the Mediterranean met the Austrian squadron; and he remembered there was a very strong discussion as to the recent ramming. He (Commander Stewart) heard Admiral Tegetoff say that one of the ships of his squadron had rammed an Italian, and sunk her; but he looked on it almost as an accident. There were no previous calculations or manoeuvring; but it was only a dash though the Italian squadron which brought about the collision. The question put by the English admiral was—In what position were the engines at the moment of the collision? Admiral Tegetoff said, "At that moment they were going ahead"; and in the admiral's opinion, that was the reason they did not come to grief. He (Commander Stewart) believed it would be more beneficial to the engines to move ahead, because there would be less shock, and if they were going astern, the speed of the ship would be reduced slightly. Commander Stewart also expressed his opinion that if a ship struck another before the beam, the ship ramming would incur almost as great injury to herself as the ship struck; and he suggested that the shock should be either fair abeam, or abaft it.—Mr. Blank (engineer) maintained that the ramming would depend entirely on the judgment and nerve of the officer in command, and suggested the desirability of evolutions—not with two full-sized ships, but that one should be of the smaller size—whereby they would gain the same experience as in actual warfare.—Lieutenant Acland thought the only use of the ram would be to make a dash at the nearest ship after the commencement of the action, to get out as quickly as possible, and to rush in again.—Lieutenant McIlwaine (of the Royal Marines), did not agree that ramming was of no use at all, nor did he go with its advocates that it was above everything. The form of the bow was of great importance. He thought the present form, the protruding snout, so far forward and so far down, was the best, but that the swan-shaped bow was the most effective.—Com. McHardy hoped it would be shown that the gun was the first arm for the British Navy, if it were only for the sake of the *Excellent*. He thought ramming was only a secondary arm; but he hoped gentlemen would favour him with their arguments on the paper he was about to read in favour of the gun *versus* the ram.—Mr. G. A. Tuck (chief engineer) remarked that not a word had been said as to the engine room compartment in this discussion. It had been taken

for granted that everything could be done; but where a ship's progress was being frequently changed by turning to starboard and port, it had a great influence on the speed, and he doubted if the latter could be calculated with anything like accuracy. He presumed, therefore, the great power in the engine-room would fail in the manoeuvres; or at all events that the captain must allow for great discrepancies. Mr. Tuck next dealt with the question as to the injury the engines would receive by the act of ramming. He believed little or none. In all his experience of collisions and running on rocks, he never found that the engines were affected by the blow except on one occasion, when the ship broke. This altered her shape. He would rather have the engines going (he did not care whether ahead or astern), because they would then have a certain momentum, and be, in his opinion, safer. If the blow did affect the engine-room, the parts most likely to give way would be the steam pipes; and then good bye to the ship. But he confessed he had great faith in ramming; and he thought they might judge of its effect by the recent case of the *Northfleet*. There was a ship rammed; but it was scarcely known on board the steamer—in fact, only by the crush and the sound.—The Rev. Professor Main (who had been called on) agreed with Mr. Tuck as to the injury to the engines, especially if the ship wore an iron one, and not likely, therefore, to yield. If a fleet met another, no doubt a great deal might be done by ramming; but he believed it would be almost impossible with single ships. It had often appeared to him that their iron clad ships were not so strong to receive ramming as some imagined. They had not been made to resist so large a mass striking the whole broadside, with a swan bow, or something of that kind; and it appeared to him that if a 600lb. shot would penetrate an iron side at 1400ft. velocity, a ram at a certain speed, would go through the iron defence of a ship.—Staff-Commander Going, in reply, remarked that before one ship struck another, she might be going at the rate of eight knots. The engines could be put full-speed astern, which would reduce the speed to four or five knots; and they might continue full-speed astern till the ram had cleared the vessel she struck. With regard to taking the angle in time, he observed that if the ships were 3000 yards asunder before ramming, the angles might be taken before they got into very close proximity.—The discussion then terminated.

Commander Harvey R.N., has perfected an important improvement in torpedoes, the adaptation of an electrical explosive arrangement in addition to the present mechanical appliances for explosion by contact. The Austrian government, among others, has given orders for these torpedoes now in course of execution. Application has been made to the British Admiralty for a trial of the Electric Harvey torpedo; but their response has not yet been made known.

Commander Archibald Douglas is about to proceed from England, with the sanction of the Admiralty, to Japan, with the view of reorganizing the navy of that country.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 20th inst.—  
 London, Ont.—Lt. Colonel P. Attwood, (per Colonel Lovelace).....\$3.00  
 Preston, Ont.—Cornet J. P. Thorn..... 2.00  
 St. John's Q.—Lt. Colonel R. Douglas..... 4.00

"The Bivouac of the Dead" was written by Theodore O'Hara, of Kentucky, at the time of the removal of the remains of the Kentuckians killed in the Mexican war, to Frankfort, and the erection there of a monument to their memory. O'Hara served in the Confederate army during the late war, and it is supposed he died either during the war or soon after its close.—*U.S. Army and Navy Journal*, 26th April, 1873.

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo;  
No more on Life's parade shall meet  
The brave and fallen few.  
On Fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread,  
And Glory guards with solemn round,  
The bivouac of the dead!

No rumor of the foe's advance  
Now sweeps upon the wind;  
No troubled thoughts at midnight haunts  
Of loved ones left behind.  
No vision of the morrow's strife  
The warrior's dream alarms;  
Nor braying horn, nor screaming file,  
At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shivered swords are red with rust,  
Their plumed heads are bowed;  
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,  
Is now their martial shroud.  
And piteous funeral tears have washed  
The red stains from each brow,  
And the proud forms, by battle gashed,  
Are freed from anguish now.

The neighbouring troop, the flashing blade,  
The bugle's stirring blast,  
The charge, the dreadful cannonade,  
The din and shout, are past;  
Nor war's wild note, nor glory's peal,  
Shall thrill with fresh delight  
Those breasts that nevermore may feel  
The raptures of the fight.

For, like the dreadful hurricane  
That sweeps the wild plateau,  
Flushed with the triumph yet to gain,  
Came down the serried foe,  
Who heard the tempest of the fray  
Break o'er the field beneath,  
Knew well the watchword of the day  
Was "Victory or Death!"

Long had the doubtful conflict raged  
Across the surging plain,  
For ne'er such fights before had waged,  
The fiery sons of Spain;  
And still the storm of battle blew,  
Still swelled the gory tide—  
Not long, our stout old chieftan knew,  
Such odds his strength could bide.

'Twas in that hour his stern command  
Called to a martyr's grave  
The flower of his own beloved land,  
The nation's flag to save,  
By rivers of their father's gore  
His first-born laurels grew,  
And well he deemed the sons would pour  
Their lives for glory too!

Full many a Northern breath hath swept  
O'er Angostura's plain,  
And long the pitying eye hath wept  
Above her mouldering slain;  
The raven's scream, or eagle's flight,  
Or shepherd's pensive lay,  
Alone awakes each sullen height  
That frowned on that dark day.

Sons of the "dark and bloody ground,"  
Ye should not slumber there,  
Where stranger steps and tongues resound  
Along the heedless air;  
Your own proud land's heroic soil  
Must be your filter grave;  
She claims from war her richest spoil—  
The ashes of the brave!

Now, 'neath their parent turf, they rest,  
Far from the glory field,  
Born to a Spartan mother's breast—  
On many a bloody shield;  
The sunshine of their native sky  
Smiles sadly on them here,  
And kindred eyes and hearts watch by  
The soldier's sepulchre.

Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead,  
Dear as the blood ye gave!  
No implous footsteps here shall tread  
The herbage of your grave;  
Nor shall your glory be forgot  
While Fame her record keeps,  
Or Honor points the hallowed spot  
Where valor proudly sleeps.

Yon faithful herald's blazoned stone,  
With mournful pride shall tell,  
When many a vanished age hath flown,  
The story how ye fell;  
Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's flight,  
Nor Time's remorseless doom,  
Shall mar one ray of glory's light  
That gilds your deathless tomb.

## FORMATIONS FOR ATTACK.

By a General Order specially issued on the 22nd ultimo, His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief desires general officers to cause the following instructions on formations for attack on the half battalion system, which have suggested themselves to His Royal Highness, and been prepared under his orders, to be practised experimentally by the troops under their command.

I.—In the case of a battalion acting singly the battalion will be formed either (1) in line of half battalion company quarter columns at deploying interval, covered by the first company of each half battalion skirmishing and the second in support. Or (2) one half battalion will extend, two companies skirmishing and two in support, and be followed by the other half battalion in quarter columns of companies or double companies, or in line, according to circumstances.—In either case, the supports will be about 300 or 400 yards (according to the ground) in front of the main body, the skirmishers 200 or 300 yards in front of the supports may, when necessary, at the discretion of captains be with open files, viz., with two paces' interval between each file. The main body will always be deployed when under fire.

II. *A brigade acting singly*—(1.) Two half battalions of the same battalion will cover the front of the brigade, each with two companies skirmishing and two in support.—This battalion may be taken either from one of the flanks, or from the centre, of the brigade. When the brigade consist of an old number of battalions, and the formation for attack is made from line, or line of columns at deploying intervals, the latter course will often be found the quickest and best.—When circumstances of ground render it advisable, the skirmishers may advance by ranks—the front rank 100 yards or so in advance of the rear rank. On any check occurring, the rear rank will at once reinforce the front rank. The supports will be (with open files, if necessary) 200 or 300 yards in rear of the skirmishers. (2.) The remaining battalions will be in line of half-battalion quarter-columns of companies (see Appendix) at deploying intervals—or, if necessary, deployed—200 or 400 yards in rear of the supports. (3.) When it is intended to attack direct to the front, which two battalions will each be found as when acting singly; the remaining battalion as in (2). (4.) The half battalions will be commanded by the majors. The lieutenant-colonel of each battalion will take a general charge of the whole; he will repeat the brigadier's cautions. (5.) When the brigade is composed of four battalions, one battalion will be placed as a reserve 500 or 600 yards in rear of the centre, if possible under cover, and either in battalion or half battalion quarter columns of companies or double-companies.

III.—*Division*—(1.) When the division is composed of two brigades one brigade will be found in front as in No. II. (1.) to (3); the other will be in reserve, if possible under cover, 400 to 600 yards in rear of the centre, in line of battalion or half battalion quarter columns of companies or double-companies, at 30 paces' interval or more if required; or the two brigades will be in one line, each having a battalion in reserve. (2.) When there are three brigades, two brigades will be in one line in the formation described in No. II. (1.) to (3), the brigade reserves not being required. The third brigade will be in reserve, 400 or 600 yards in rear of the cen-

tre, forward as above described. N.B.—In advancing, a half battalion will be named to direct. The support in front of this half battalion will be the support of direction; the skirmishers in front of it the skirmishers of direction.

IV. *Of the Cavalry and Artillery of a Division*—When a division is formed for attack in open ground, in the order described in No. III., there should be one or more batteries of artillery in any favourable position with reference to the main line, and such battery for batteries should have a squadron, or (if a squadron is not available) a troop of cavalry in rear of the most exposed flank of each battery, as an immediate support to the guns. These supports should be at least 100 yards from the guns, towards the flank, but everything must depend on the nature of the ground and the shelter to be obtained.—The cavalry regiment attached to the division will be posted wherever the general officer may direct at the time, so as to be ready to act at once and support the attack of the infantry.—The reserve artillery should be posted in rear of the centre of the division, in any favourable position, covered from fire and observation.—The reserve cavalry, leaving a squadron or troop with each battery, should be so placed, according to the nature of the ground, as to be able immediately to act towards the flank most exposed without having to pass to the front through the infantry, thereby hampering their movement.—They should, if possible, always remain under cover till required; squadrons may be detached a short distance to gain shelter, if necessary, but they must keep near enough to the squadron of direction to rally and act together at once.—When the reserve artillery or cavalry are required for action, the artillery with their immediate support; of cavalry should come to the front by the flanks, or, in case of emergency, they may pass straight through the intervals between the half battalion columns of the infantry line.—The cavalry (main body) should, if practicable, advance round the flank; but they must be guided by opportunities which offer at the moment, taking advantage of cover, avoiding as much as possible deep column formation, and never crossing, unless during an actual attack, the line of fire of their own guns or infantry. They must be specially careful on this point if acting during a change of front of the infantry.—If a battery is open to the change of attack from the flanks, the officer commanding it should order scouts from his cavalry supports to reconnoitre and give intelligence of any flank movement of the enemy.—It will be found that artillery, if compelled to pass through the infantry, can do so most readily by moving in half batteries. There is always room for a half battery to pass between the half battalion columns of the weakest line battalion.—When artillery have once got into action in a good position they should be moved as seldom as possible.—The advance of the infantry should always be preceded by a concentrated fire of artillery on the point selected for attack.

CONDUCT OF THE ATTACK OF A DIVISION IN THE ABOVE FORMATION.—1 The attack will usually commence with a general advance and when the skirmishers at any point are unable to continue their advance they will at once be reinforced by the supports. It may occasionally happen that the configuration of the ground and presence of cover will permit the supports, to fire over the heads of the skirmishers. 2. If both the skirmishers and supports,—and the reserve, if formed as in II. (3),—are unable to make

any way, they will take up the best position they can from which to keep up a continuous fire on the enemy, and the line, either in whole or in part, will be brought into action. 3. If there appears any likelihood of forcing the enemy by a front attack, the half battalions, if still in column, will deploy (if possible under cover) and advance in line, passing through the skirmishers.—If the enemy's fire is heavy and but little cover is attainable, and if there is room to the flanks, the line may advance with files opened to one pace from each other.—If the fire is very severe, the line may come up in a succession of rushes. When it is being brought up in this manner, it is not necessary that the half battalions should be halted in an exact alignment with each other at the end of each rush. On the contrary, their commanders should take advantage of any folds of ground, &c. which may occur to get their men under cover. In case of having to halt in the open, the men will be ordered to lie down. Movements must, however, invariably be regulated by the half battalion of direction, on which it should be possible at any moment to reform line.—When the line is clear of the skirmishers it will open fire, advancing as opportunity offers, either in a general line, by alternate half battalions in echelon, or in such other formations as may be ordered.—The skirmishers, &c., will, as soon as the line passes over them, unite in half battalion and take post (under cover if possible) as a reserve, either in rear of the centre, or what will usually be better, behind the outer flank of the advancing line.—If there appears little change of the enemy's position being carried by a front attack, it will be advisable, instead of passing the line over the skirmishers, to try and gain his flank by pushing the half battalion columns in succession around the outer flank of the skirmishing line. These half battalion columns will usually adopt the formation laid down for a battalion attacking singly (No. 1, above). If more than two battalions are thus used to prolong the line and envelop the enemy's flank, one battalion should follow in second line as support.—When an attack of this kind—which must always weaken the centre of the original line—is being attempted, care must be taken to bring up one or more battalions from the reserve to the rear of the weakened part, to meet the contingency of a counter attack there.—It will generally be found that a combination of the two preceding forms of attack will be the most effective. In this case it is advisable not to push home the front attack until the flank attack is ready to be developed. 5. When a flank attack with a wider sweep and on a more extended scale than the preceding is designed, the reserve brigades, in whole or in part, should be employed to carry it out. And if this attack is resolved on from the first, the troops intended for it should usually be brought up supporting in echelon on the flank from which it is to be made. 3. When there is any expectation of receiving a flank attack, the division will advance with a brigade or battalion supporting in echelon on that flank. Should an attack by the enemy be developed, such brigade or battalion will at once change front to meet it, throwing out skirmishing and supports in the usual way. The old skirmishing battalions will hold the enemy in check on the original front, and the reserve will be at once brought up to extend or strengthen the flank threatened. Any battalion disposable from the opposite flank of the original line will be immediately got together, and brought

to the rear of the centre to constitute a new reserve.

*Cavalry and Artillery.*—7. When dispositions are made to meet a flank attack, the cavalry on the threatened flank, with its reserve, will advance with the object of attacking the enemy's flank as he throws it forward or opposing such of his cavalry as may be sent to support the movement.—The cavalry on the other flank will advance, remaining ready to operate as opportunity offers, towards the original front, or on the flank which is thrown forward, after the change of front has been effected. 8. As the services of the batteries already in action may be required to their original front, the reserve artillery should advance towards the threatened flank, and take up a position so as to operate on the enemy's flank, leaving the batteries already engaged free to sustain a continuous fire. When the change of front has been completed, the latter can conform to and support the movements of the infantry. 9. Guns should be so placed as to be able from a distance to bring a concentrated fire on the point where the attack is to be made, and this fire should be kept up until the last moment possible. The batteries may, when specially ordered, fire over the heads of the infantry; but the practice is attended with risk, and should only be resorted to in cases of great emergency. 10. Considerable use may often be made of a few troops or squadrons of cavalry, if they can be brought forward under cover of woods or irregularities of ground. A sudden rush by a small body of horse on a line of skirmishers will probably force them at once to run into rallying squares, and when in that formation they present themselves as targets to their opponents. The cavalry must, however, be careful to fall back the moment their charge by forcing the enemy into square, has produced its intended effect.

*GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.*—In conducting an attack, much will depend upon the readiness shown by majors in command of half battalions to adapt their movements to the nature of the ground and the exigencies of the moment. They must clearly understand that it is their duty to profit by any opening which may occur, without waiting for orders.—Officers commanding brigades and divisions must clearly understand that the "formations for attack" laid down are not intended to be adhered to, unless the features of the ground and the numbers and dispositions of the enemy suit. In every case they must exercise their own judgment in adopting the formation best adapted to the actual circumstances.—As the formations are only to be practised experimentally, and may probably require modification after having been reported on, minute detail has been avoided. General officers, in furnishing their reports, will be pleased to state the manner in which they recommend that any detail not mentioned should be carried out.

*Appendix on the formation of half battalion quarter columns of double companies, &c.*

1. Battalions will usually be first formed in eight companies. When in line, they will be told off into four double companies as follows.—Nos. 1. and 2. companies, 1st double company; 3. and 4.—2nd double company; and so on. 2. As a general rule column of doubles companies will be formed in rear of one of the flank double companies. One half battalion will, thus be the front, and the other the rear half of the column. 3. When battalions are so weak that they cannot be formed into eight companies, they will be told off into

six. In this case, double companies should seldom be formed—when it is considered necessary to adopt that formation, one double company of each half battalion will be in front, with the remaining company of the half battalion in rear of its directing company. 4. When a brigade in line of battalion double company columns is ordered to deploy into line of half battalion double company columns at deploying intervals, to the left, the leading half battalion of the right column will stand fast, the remainder will form "fours left" and march off, and each half battalion will take up its proper position in the alignment.—When a line of battalion quarter columns is ordered to deploy into line of half battalion double company quarter columns, at deploying intervals, it will be done as follows:—The leading half battalion of each battalion will deploy into double companies, and the rear double company will then close to quarter distance, the rear half battalion will move to its position in the alignment, forming double companies on the march in the same way as for marching past. Each half battalion will take the word from the major commanding it. 6. The adjutants will in each case, as usual, give the points when the outer flanks of their respective battalions will rest. 7. There will be the usual interval of thirty paces between battalions, but only deploying intervals between half battalions unless it is intended that the latter should go on acting independently when deployed, in which case twelve paces' interval in addition will be ordered. 8. Officers commanding half battalions will generally judge their own intervals; but when great accuracy is necessary, foot points for each half battalion column will be given by its base markers (in the same way as for a line of battalion columns at less than deploying intervals). 9. Half battalion double columns deploy into line to a flank, unless otherwise specially ordered. 10. When half battalions deploy into line and no interval between them has been ordered, the lieutenant-colonel will resume the command, and they will become one battalion. But if twelve paces, in addition to deploying interval, has been ordered, the majors will still continue in command of their respective half battalions, under the orders of the lieutenant-colonel. 11. When a single battalion is moving in line of half battalion quarter columns at deploying intervals, the half battalions will march by their right or left, and the right or left half battalion will direct according as the columns were formed on the right or left of half battalions. The major of the directing half battalion will superintend its direction; the major of the other half battalion will look to its intervals, the adjutant moving at its deploying interval from its outer flank. 12. When half battalions are formed, the Queen's colour, with the sergeant covering it and the front-rank centre sergeant, will go with the right half battalion, the remainder of the colour-party with the left. The colour-party of each half battalion will be placed in rear of the usual files from the inner flank (i.e. the flank nearer the centre of the battalion when deployed) of its rear company or double company. When in brigade the half battalions are formed at deploying interval plus twelve paces, the colour-party of each half battalion will be in its centre when deployed.—*Broad Arrow.*

The strength of the Italian army amounts to 10,414, officers of every rank, 193,213 non-commissioned officers, corporals, and soldiers; in total, 203,827 men, and 30,600 horses,

(Continued from Page. 233.)

*47th Frontenac Battalion of Infantry.*

*No. 1 Company, Millburn.*

Lieutenant Samuel Hamilton, M. S., is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

*No. 4 Company, Portsmouth.*

To be Ensign :

Edwin Abrahams, Gentleman, M.S., vice Wilson attached to Kingston Field Battery.

*No. 6 Company, Wolfe Island.*

Lieutenant Geo. T. Murray, M. S., is hereby permitted to retire retaining rank.

BREVET.

To be Majors :

Captain Benjamin Hogle Vandervoort, V. B., No. 3 Company, 49th Battalion, from 14th July, 1872.

Captain Theodore Thompson, V.B., No. 2 Company, -19th Battalion, from 31st January, 1873.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Captain Arthur Coleman, 10th Battalion, for 3 months, from 6th Instant, on private affairs.

Captain Peter Burnet, No. 7 Company, 35th Battalion, for 3 months, from 10th Instant., on private affairs.

Lieutenant John S. Dennis, 1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards, for 5 months from 1st Instant, on private affairs.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

*Missisquoi Troop of Cavalry.*

To be 1st Lieutenant, provisionally :  
Sergeant Herman B. Salls.

To be Cornet, provisionally :  
Sergeant Edgar E. Smith.

*23rd "Beauce" Battalion of Infantry.*

*No. 5 Company, Ste. Marie.*

To be Lieutenant :

Ensign George Morisset, M.S., vice Edmund Juchereau Duchesnay, whose resignation is hereby accepted,

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

*63rd "Halifax" Battalion of Rifles.*

The resignation of Assistant Surgeon Thomas Walsh is hereby accepted.

*78th "Colchester and Hants" or "Highlanders" Battalion of Infantry.*

No. 1 Company, (Truro) and No. 3 Company (Truro) having become non-effective are hereby removed from the list of Corps of the Active Militia. As no blame is attached to the officers of those Companies, Captain George A. Layton, No. 1 Company, and Captain Leander J. Crowe, No. 3 Company, who respectively qualified under the

former Militia organization, are hereby permitted to retire retaining rank ; but the following officers not having qualified are removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia ; Lieutenant Thomas McKay and Ensign Henry Cock of No. 1 Company ; and Lieutenant David H. Muir and Ensign E. A. Cock of No. 2 Company.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor General.

P. ROBERTSON-ROSS, Colonel,  
Commanding the Militia of the Dominion  
and Adjutant General.

RECONNAISSANCE OF THE NORTH WEST PROVINCES AND INDIAN TERRITORIES OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

(Continued from Page 228.)

At the time of departure from Fort Garry, some doubt was expressed as to the propriety of so small a party travelling without a guard through the Indian territory, and especially through the country of the Black-foot tribe, and I have to thank the Government very much for the authority conveyed by your telegram to Fort Garry, to take with me, if desired, a personal escort of six soldiers from the battalion on duty in Manitoba.

On full consideration, however, and with the advice of those best able to judge, I did not think it advisable to do so. A military escort of only six men would be inadequate to afford protection in case of any real danger from the Prairie Indians, and might possibly invite attack. Considerable additional expense, moreover, would have been entailed for their transport and subsistence.

Proceeding from Fort Garry through the Swan River and Saskatchewan districts, viz., the Hudson's Bay Company's posts of Fort Ellice, Carlton, Pitt, Victoria, and Edmonton, I arrived at the Rocky Mountain House—about twelve hundred (1,200) miles distance from Fort Garry—in thirty one days, of which twenty-five days only were occupied in actual travel.

The prairie road or cart trail extending the whole way from Fort Garry to the Rocky Mountain House, and which has been used for many years by the Hudson's Bay Company, was at that season of the year in excellent order. Many of the streams have been roughly bridged by the Hudson's Bay Company's servants ; and except at the crossing of South Saskatchewan River, where we lost a whole day from the necessity of swimming our horses across, and repairing a damaged scow on which to convey over the carts and baggage, we met with very little difficulty or trouble at any time. For great distances the road led over prairie ground almost as level as a race course.

It would be desirable to bridge the Little Saskatchewan River, Bird tail Creek and Snake Creek, between Fort Garry and Fort Ellice, and to improve the descent to and ascent from the Assiniboine River at Fort Ellice, as owing to the steepness of the road it is somewhat difficult to pass at this point during rainy weather with loaded carts. In addition to this, some repairs and improvements are desirable on the road between Forts Pitt, Victoria, and Edmonton, and across one or two swamps near the Rocky Mountain House ; but on the whole a very trifling amount of labour is all that is at present required.

On the journey from Fort Carlton to Edmonton, a distance of between three and four hundred miles, we were accompanied by the wife of our guide (an employe of the Hudson's Bay Company), who with her three young children travelled in a light four wheeled canvas covered waggon, driving the vehicle herself nearly the whole way.

It was my intention to overtake at Edmonton, if possible, Mr. Fleming, Chief Engineer of the Pacific Railway, who had started from Fort Garry ten days before me for British Columbia, and in company with him to cross the Rocky Mountains by the "Tête Jaune Pass." on arrival at Edmonton, however, I found that he had quitted that point seven days previously.

As no guides could be obtained at Edmonton either for the Tête Jaune or any other pass, it was necessary to proceed to the Rocky Mountain House, a trading post for the Blackfoot Indians, distant about 180 miles South West from Edmonton, in sight of, and about forty five miles distant from the first range of the Rocky Mountains.

Between Fort Garry and Fort Ellice, a distance of 230 miles, the country is diversified and undulating, generally speaking very good and fertile. In some parts alkali lakes are occasionally met with. The open expanses of prairie are relieved with numerous clumps or patches of wood, termed "bluffs." There is plenty of wood suitable for fuel, or for sheltering stock. The wood consists of spruce, willows, birch and poplar, and in the valley of the Assiniboine there is a good deal of oak.

The land in the lower part of the valley of the Assiniboine, for nearly one hundred miles before its junction with the Red River, is of great richness and fertility.

Between the western boundary of the Province of Manitoba and Fort Ellice, the country in the vicinity of Pine Creek, the Little Saskatchewan River, Shoal Lake, Bird-tail Creek, and Snake Creek, is well suited for settlement and farming purposes, more particularly for the raising of stock, but I do not think the soil, generally speaking, so well suited for wheat crops as along the lower parts of the valley of the Assiniboine and Red River.

Fort Ellice is situated a short distance from the junction of the Qu'appelle with the Assiniboine River, on the right bank of the latter stream.

It is well placed in a military point of view, being built on a plateau at the top of a high, steep and thickly wooded bank, about two hundred feet above the river. The river is here about sixty yards in breadth and about fifteen feet in depth. The banks are thickly wooded. The Hudson's Bay Company have erected a bridge across the river.

The Valley of the Assiniboine is depressed about 250 feet below the Prairie level, and is about three quarters of a mile in breadth.

The country around the immediate vicinity of Fort Ellice is well wooded and suitable for settlement.

The wood consist chiefly of poplar of no great size, and there is some oak.

The Fort itself merely consists of some wooden houses, built of poplar, and surrounded by a stockade, but it might easily be made very defensible, and accommodation for 50 soldiers in addition to the present occupants, readily created.

[To be Continued.]