THE CANADIAN MILITI AZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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NOTICE.

NCE more we have the opportunity of offering the Century magazine and St. Nicholas as premiums, and these are such valuable publications that we think the offer should be largely taken advantage of. We will send the Cnetury and the MILITIA GAZETTE for a year to any new subscriber for four dollars and a half; St. Nicholas and the MILITIA GAZETTE for a year for three dollars and a half, or all three for seven dollars, in each case a reduction of half a dollar on the price of each periodical. The Century is one of the two best illustrated magazines in the world; St. Nicholas is the best children's monthly. Need we say more. If you want them subscribe at once.

Comment and Criticism.

THE Executive Committee of the Dominion rifle association at its meeting on the 18th instant, decided, as we anticipated, to serve out the Snider ammunition to the competitors on the butts, and to include the price of it in the entrance fees. Arrangements have been made with the Militia department to have the cartridges put up in special packages, each containing the number of rounds required for the range at which it is served out. This course, together with the intention of the association to provide machinery for more rigidly enforcing the rules, will undoubtedly remove a great deal of the dissatisfaction expressed last year, and will put all competitors on an equal footing as regards ammunition. If only now we can depend on good powder and good weighing, Snider shooting will go up once more with a boom.

*OLONEL GZOWSKI has kindly consented, in accordance with the views expressed by competitors on the grounds last year, as well as by the members at the annual meeting, to alter the conditions under which his cup is competed for by skirmishing teams in such a way as to permit the firing to be done in drill order, and has moreover volunteered to negotiate with the Marquis of Lorne for a similar concession in the British Challenge Shield match. This will make both competitions more nearly approach the conditions experienced in actual warfare as at present conducted, and will tend to increase greatly the popularity of these important team competitions. We should like to see the association supplement Col. Gzowski's action by bringing on the matches before the conclusion of the aggregate series. In this way alone can a large number of entries be obtained, for by postponing them to the end of the shooting many competitors are more interested in leaving town than in remaining for them, and then it is only by the most strenuous efforts on the part of team captains that teams can be got, or kept, together.

THE silver cup generously donated to the D. R. A. by Mr. J. H. Steward, optician, &c., has been added to the first prize in the Martini Extra Series at 500 yards, or rather it replaces ten dollars of that prize, the money deducted therefrom being made into two additional prizes.

THE Volunteer Service Gazette of the 14th contains the preliminary prize list of the Wimbledon meeting. There are many changes, but few of them affect our Canadian shots. Many of the special condition matches have been transferred to the regular M. H. series. Into the Volunteer Cadet Corps match, files from corps in the colonies will be admitted, for the money prizes only. The £1,000 Hop Bitters jubilee cup takes the place of the volunteer aggregate in name, though the conditions and money prizes are the same, and the Corporation of the City of London prizes, reserved for Indian and Colouial volunteers, will be given for the highest qualified scores in the grand aggregate, instead of for a separate match as last year. There are two revolver matches, open to all members, the one at a moving the other at a disappearing target.

"ENTURION," in our correspondence columns, draws a vivid picture of the unprepared state of the militia force in case of a sudden call to arms, which, even if it be to some extent exaggerated, has enough truth in it to set us considering whether something could not be done to improve our equipment without adding to the country's financial burden. In pace paratus is the motto of our force, yet it has strayed far from that text. If we must have showy and withal uncomfortable uniforms and equipments to attract the boys—and the girls—why should we not reserve these for special functions and have something comfortable and serviceable for ordinary drills or active work. The question is too extensive to discuss fully now, but it deserves serious consideration. From time to time it has come up in these columns; the "Notions of a noodle," criticising the equipment used during the rebellion, and several editorials drawing attention to improved or simplified equipment may be cited as examples, but the fact that no steps have been taken by the department seems to give "Centurion" a sufficient answer to his enquiry of what has been done, and to indicate the grave need for improved equipments.

A CORRESPONDENT urges the claims of the members of the first Red River expedition to recognition for their services, and certainly if the government intend considering any previous services, the work done by these men should not be overlooked. The way in which the expedition pushed over the Dawson route, building its roads as it went in many places, and transporting its heavy boats and full supplies, is beyond all praise, but can only be appreciated by those who have been over the same difficult country and have seen the roads and works they left behind them as a permanent record of their prowess. So far as difficulties overcome, and work accomplished go, never an expedition achieved more signal distinction.

THE dates and location for the annual camps of instruction have been fixed as follows: No. 1 district at London and No. 2 at Niagara, on the 14th June; No. 3 at Kingston, No. 4 at Ottawa, No. 5 at Granby and No. 6 at Laprairie, on the 21st; No. 7 at Levis and No. 8 at St. Andrews, on the 28th June, and No. 9 at Aldershot on the 1st September.

CAPT. EDWARDS' memorandum suggesting examinations in tactics and kindred topics, for officers who had technically qualified, is a paper submitted by him to the Militia department last year, but never in any way acknowledged. The proposition appears to be a good one, and would, we think, if adopted, tend to increase the efficiency of the force. A somewhat similar arrangement is in existence in the English volunteer system. It is not proposed that such an examination should in any way interfere with the work of the schools, or count as a qualifying one, but should simply be a means by which those who wished might show that they understood something more than the bare requirements of the law. The scheme is certainly worth consideration.

Personal.

We learn from the Jersey Express that a Mr. Le Noir, a recipient of the Northwest medal, is now a member of B Co., 3rd Jersey militia. The Express is in error in saying that he received his medal from the Canadian government, as the decoration is an Imperial one, furnished and paid for by the home government, and the Canadian troops feel very proud of the consideration thus shown them.

Recent Deaths.

Lieutenant-Colonel William Osborne Smith, C.M.G., lately commanding the 91st Winnipeg light infantry, and for many years past intimately associated with Canada's militia in several important capacities, died suddenly in England on the 14th instant. Col. Smith was descended from a family of soldiers, his great grandfather having served at Culloden, and his father at Waterloo. He was born in 1833, and entered the 39th Imperial regiment of foot in 1854, just in time to come in for the end of the Crimean war. While his regiment was in Canada later he retired from the service, and remained in this country. During the Trent affair he organized the Victoria Rifles in Montreal, becoming their first lieutenant-colonel, and in 1864, after the St. Alban's raid, he was suddenly ordered to the western frontier of Ontario to command a considerable force called out for active service, and in this position was signally successful. The next year Col. Smith was appointed assistant adjutant-general and was placed in command of the Montreal volunteers, with instructions to raise additional corps on the frontier. During the Fenian raid of 1866 Col. Smith had charge of the Huntingdon frontier, and in 1870 was in command at the Eccles Hill fight, where the Fenians were repulsed. It was for his services here that he received the C.M.G. Late in 1871 he assumed command of the second expedition to Fort Garry and in 1872 returned to Montreal, but only to go back over the Dawson route the same fall with the third expedition. In 1874 he took a force to Qu'Appelle as a guard for the treaty commissioners, making one of the quickest marches on record, and being the first officer to take British infantry into the North-west. In May, 1879, when the men on contract 15, C.P.R., to the number of about a thousand, struck, he proceeded to Cross Lake with a small force, and quickly quelled the disturbance. In the fall of that year he visited Duck Lake, Carleton, Battleford and Prince Albert for the purpose of establishing military companies. In 1881 he resigned the deputy adjutant generalship of military district No. 10 and turned his attention to commercial affairs. On the outbreak of the North-west rebellion in 1885 he raised the 91st battalion, which he commanded during the campaign, forming part of Gen. Strange's column, and taking part in the engagement at Frenchman's Butte. On two occasions he was an unsuccessful candidate for political honors, in 1882 when he contested Winnipeg for the Commons, and in 1886 when he ran for Morris for the local house. Col. Smith's death will be deeply regretted by his numerous friends both in Manitoba and in Eastern Canada, where his skill as a soldier and good qualities as a man were thoroughly appreciated.

In Parliament.

In the House of Commons on the 12th Sir Charles Tupper made his budget speech. The following items in the estimates refer to militia matters:

Under the head of civil government are the following salaries:

Deputy head	\$3,200
1st class clerk	1,800
2nd do 2 at \$1,400, 1 at \$1,350	4,150
3rd do	700
Chief clerk, accountant	2,350
1st class clerks, 1 at \$1,800, 1 at \$1,650	3,450
2nd do 1 at \$1,400, 1 at \$1,250	2,650
3rd do 1 at \$1,000, 1 at \$550	1,550
Chief clerk, director of stores	3,000
1st class clerk	1,600
2nd " 1 at \$1,250, 1 at \$1,110	2,350
3rd " 2 at \$1,000, I at \$550	2,650
Chief clerk, military branch	2,400
1st class clerk	1,550
2nd " 1 at \$1,400, 1 at \$1,200	2,600
3rd "	Soo
Architect, engineer's branch	1,700
2nd class clerk	1,100
3rd class clerk	Abolished.
Messengers, 4 at \$500	2,000
Allowance for private secretary	600
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Contingencies of civil government in the Militia department are put down at \$8,000, the same as last year.

Among pensions are the following items:

Mrs. Delaney, wife of Indian agent killed at Frog Lake	\$ 400
Pensions payable on account of Fenian Raid	3,701
To meet probable amount required for veterans of war of 1812.	6,630
Compensation to pensioners in lieu of land	2,400
Pensions payable on account of rebellion of 1885, to militiamen.	20,000
do do to M. Police, P. Albert volunteers & P. Scouts.	10,000
For militiamen and widows of militiamen, U. C. (war of 1812).	3,920
For militiamen and widows of militiamen, L. C. (war of 1812).	60
Military Asylum Pensions, expenditure authorized by V. 44, c. 18	408

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Military Asylum Pensions, expenditure authorized by V. 44, c. 18	408
	•
The estimates for militia expenditures proper are as follows:	ows:
Salaries, military branch and district staff as follows:	
Major-General commanding the militia—pay and allowance 4,000	
Adjutant-General at headquarters-pay	
Aide-de Camp to the general officer commanding	
District Deputy Adjutants-General, at \$1,200 each9,600	
Allowance to Adjutant-General at headquarters600	
Allowance to District Deputy Adjutants-General, 8 at \$500.4,000	
Inspector of artillery and warlike stores for the Domin-	
ion of Canada—pay	
Staff Allowance 500	
	24,100
Brigade majors' salaries, transport expenses, etc	12,700
Ammunition, including artiilery ammunition, and manufacture of	
small arm ammunition at the C. Factory of Que\$55,000	
Clothing and great coats	
Military stores	
	205,000
Public armories and care of arms, including pay of storekeepers,	•
caretakers, storemen and armorers	60,000
Drill instruction\$40,000	
Drill pay and other incidental expenses connected with	
the drill and training of the militia250,000	
•	200,000
Contingencies and general services not otherwise provided for,	• .
including grants to artillery an rifle associations and bands	
of efficient corps	38,000
Government grant to the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association.	10,000
D.A.A.—Government grant towards artillery competition to be	•
held in Canada, or for sending a team of D. M. artillerymen	
As a series of the above and the	

to compete at Shoeburyness, Eng

2,000

R.M.C. of Canada at Kingston. Permanent corps-Pay and maintenance of A, B and C bat.eries, schools of artillery, at Quebec, Kingston and Victoria, B.C.... 172,700 Cavalry and infantry schools at Quebec, Fredericton, Toronto, St. John's, P.Q., Winnipeg and London. Improved rifled ordnance 3,000 Drill sheds and rifle ranges.

Care and maintenance of military properties transferred from the 10,000 Ordnance and Imperial government 12,000 Construction and repairs of military properties 75,000 Barracks in British Columbia....

During the course of the budget speech Sir Charles explained that under the head of pensions, the increase of \$13,000 was chiefly due to the new item for pensions to Mounted Police, Prince Arthur Volunteers and Police Scouts in connection with the rebellion of 1885; an increase of \$47,000 was asked for the maintenance of the permanent corps, and \$10,000 for Barracks in British Columbia. In the North-West Mounted Police estimates a reduction of \$16,500 was made, saved in the items for repairs, renewals, replacement of horses, &c., and this notwithstanding the increase of the force.

Records of Our Militia Corps.—VI.

The Quebec Volunteer Cavalry.

(Continued from page 763.)

THE LAST SURVIVOR OF BELL'S CAVALRY IN 1812.

(From my Diary.)

A MONG more than one strange meeting, which that welcome haven of the wearied wayfarer, the wayside inn, has brought me, in the course of my many perigrinations through the length and breadth of the Province of Quebec, none can I recall less anticipated, stranger, than the one which happened to me this 22nd March, 1881, on reaching from the Kennebec railway the parlor of Monsieur Lessard's Temperance Hotel at St. Joseph, Beauce, (such was the euphonious name the License Act awards to the fallacious emblems of comfort and good cheer.) lengthy interview, I have this day parted, possibly for ever, with an old and withered sabreur of 1812, the last survivor, I have no doubt, of that dashing volunteer cavalry corps raised by Col. the Hon. Matthew Bell, at Quebec, in 1812. I have had the rare luck of having from the very lips of this nonagenarian, an account of the share he had in conducting, as one of the cavalry detachment detailed to escort Colonel Winfield Scott and brother officers from Beauport, where they were confined as prisoners on parole, to the District Prison in St. Stanislas street (the Morrin College), from whence the "big" Colonel and his comrades were taken and lodged in Colonel Coffin's house in St. Louis street. How different the careers. Scott in time became the hero of the war with Mexico, and the dashing cavalry soldier who escorted him, at the age of 89, after 30 years tenure of office, still occupies the position of village postmaster, in the township of Broughton, Beauce. Among the incidents of which my ancient acquaintance seems proud, is the fact of his having played at cards with General Scott and his captive comrades.

Chas. Hy. J. Hall, for such is the clear and well written autograph authenticating the memorandum I drew up for him—a roystering militaire, in our good city, seventy years ago—presents in his person a rare instance of mental and physical faculties preserved until the end—

I felt so interested when he informed me that he had been one of Col. Bell's cavalry, (I felt convinced that, of all the members of this dashing corps, he was the last survivor,) that I questioned him very closely, and cross-examined him on such matters of detail as an eyewitness alone could know. Mr. Hall, the son of the late Wm. Hall, of Fabrique street, Quebec, is connected with several of our most noted families. His father came to Canada about 1783, from the adjoining provinces, a United Empire Loyalist, and became wealthy. Subjoined will be found a short statement taken down as it fell from the lips of my aged new acquaintance, and authenticated by his signature. Mr. Chas. Hall is Postmaster of Broughton, County of Beauce.

I am now 89 years of age. My father, the late William Hall, a well-to-do Quebecer, whose partner in business I subsequently was, lived at what I should call No. I Fabrique street (the house recently vacated by Behan Bros). I was born in St. John street. I loved to roam—have travelled the world over and received some hard knocks in my day. As to that part of my career which seems particularly to interest you—the war of 1812—I regret I cannot tell you as much as you wish to know. In 1812 I joined Colonel the Hon. Matthew Bell's volunteer cavalry; we numbered between 90 and 100 men. Our uniform was blue coat, red collar, silver braid; arms: a sabre and holster pistols. As volunteers every man furnished his horse, suit, etc. My horse, which cost me

thirty guineas, I refused sixty for from Col. McNeil; our mounts were of Canadian, American and English pedigree.

We were commanded by Col. Bell, Hon. Wm. Shepperd (late o Woodfield) was our major, Mr. Hale our captain, Hedley Anderson our lieutenant. I cannot say, in reply to your question, whether the late Hammond Gowen was our cornet. Our house stood next to that where General Brock had lived, in Fabrique street. I was in 1812 one of the escort who took Gen. Winfield Scott, and Col. Winder—from Beauport; I remember well the big Col. Scott, as I played cards with the American officers who were, on their parole, quartered in Judge De Bonne's house, on the site of which a wing of the lunatic asylum has since been erected. I formed part of the escort which conducted the American officers to the Quebec jail, in St. Stanislas street, previous to their being located in a St. Louis street house. During the war, under Sir George Prevost, I formed, in March, part of the detachment of cavalry sent with a company of the 103rd to the parish of St. Joseph, Beauce, to arrest some militiamen who had refused to enlist. The ice-bridge before Quebec started a few minutes after our last horse crossed. CHAS. HY. J. HALL.

St. Joseph, Beauce, 23rd March, 1881.

N.B.—I can read yet without glasses; I reckon I am the last survivor of Bell's cavalry.

It will interest our readers to see some of the general orders at the opening and closing of Parliament, and a review on the Esplanade on the day appointed to celebrate the King's birthday, 23rd April, 1824, when our volunteers, consisting of the Quebec Cavalry, commanded by Major Bell, an Artillery company, commanded by Lieut. Ceuigal, a Rifle corps by Capt. Dunn, the Grenadiers and Light Infantry of the 3rd battalion of Quebec militia, commanded by Capts. Cary and Melville respectively, marched past His Excellency.

HEADQUARTERS,

Quebec, 24th November, 1823.

"M.-General Orders.—His Lordship the Governor in Chief intending to open the session of the Provincial Parliament to-morrow, a guard of honor, consisting of the grenadier company of the senior regiment in the garrison, with the regimental color and band, will mount at the Palace at half-past one o'clock.

"The men to parade with their greatcoats over their accourrements, but will take them off when they receive the Governor-in-Chief.

"The captain of the guard will receive the usual instructions from the brigade-major with respect to placing the guard at the Palace.

"The officer commanding the Royal artillery will give the necessary directions that a salute of 19 guns be fired on his Lordship's leaving the castle, and a second on his quitting the palace to return.

"His Lordship dispenses with the procession, but the officers usually composing it will be ready to receive him at the palace and will proceed upstairs, the staff officers preceding His Lordship and ranging themselves on the right of the chair, and the officer commanding the garrison with the field officers of the garrison on the left.

"His Lordship will leave the castle at two o'clock precisely.

"(Signed,) J. HARVEY, D.A.G."

In the Spring following the next general order upon the closing of the Provincial Parliament speaks for itself:

HEADQUARTERS,

Quebec, 5th March, 1824.

"G.O.—His Lordship the Governor-in-Chief intending to go down to the Provincial Parliament on Tuesday next at 3 o'clock, the same ceremonial will be observed as was directed in the general order of the 24th November last.

"The Voluntee rifle company, under Capt. Dunn, having expressed their wish to attend the Governor-in-Chief on this occasion, His Lordship has much pleasure in availing himself of their services.

"The major of brigade will accordingly receive from the deputy adjutant general the necessary instructions for posting the guard of honor from the line and the volunteers of the rifle company at the palace.

"(Signed,) J. HARVEY, A.D.C."

The following are the general orders for celebrating His Majesty's birthday on the Esplanade, and the Earl of Dalhousie's very complimentary remarks thereon:

"G. O.—Commencing to-morrow the tattoo gun will fire at 9 o'clock until further orders.

"To-morrow being the day appointed for the celebration of His Majesty's birthday the Royal Standard will be hoisted at sunrise and the Royal artillery will fire a salute at noon. The troops will be formed in the following order at half-past eleven o'clock:

"Major Bell's troop of cavalry will parade at the castle at the same hour for the purpose of escorting His Lordship the commander of the forces to the Esplanade, and will then form on the road in front of the

house occupied by the chief justice.

"The volunteer artillery will form on the ground pointed out yesterday, Capt. Dunn's rifle company on the right of the flank companies to be formed in the centre of the line, on the left of the 37th regiment. As soon as the Royal artillery has fired 21 guns the Quebec artillery company will repeat the same number by signal to be given by seven guns in succession, waiting for a roudd of musketry from the infantry

"After the firing the troops will march past by companies, the cavalry leading in column of ranks of threes followed by the Quebec

artillery.

"The picquet will parade at quarter-past eleven for the purpose of keeping the ground.

"The guards will mount at two o'clock to-morrow.

In conclusion, the general order of the Earl of Dalhousic should be learnt by heart by every volunteer in Canada.

Headquarters,

Quebec, 24th April, 1824.

"General Order.—The formation and appearance of the troops in garrison yesterday, in honor of His Majesty's birthday, call upon the commander of the forces to express in general orders his unqualified approbation to all officers commanding.

"His Excellency feels it incumbent upon him to notice in a particular manner the volunteer troop of Quebec cavalry, commanded by Major Bell; the artillery company, by Lieut. Ceuigal; the rifle corps, by Capt. Dunn; the Grenadiers and light infantry of the 3rd battalion of Quebec militia, by Capts. Carry and Melville respectively; their appearance in line with His Majesty's troops, completely drilled and admirably appointed during the three last months, bore ample testimony of their zeal

"The governor-in-chief is delighted to see such corps forming in the cities of this province; they do honor to the country; they do honor to those who have stepped forward and shown a good example to young men; they unite all classes of society and lead to general happiness; these are the motives of the governor-in-chief in promoting and encouraging the volunteer corps, and His Excellency feels peculiar pleasure in offering this record of his approbation and thanks to the officers above-

"By command of His Excellency the governor-in-chief and commander of the forces.

J. HARVEY, D.A.G." "(Signed,) (To be continued.)

Suggested Examinations in Tactics.

T is a well known fact, and the experience of the majority of the officers of the force, that after the examination for a first-class certificate has been gone through, study of the different subjects connected with drill, interior economy, &c., is to a great extent discontinued, a hurried revision of such as is absolutely necessary for a coming parade being in many cases the only reading given to military matters, and such being the case it is not surprising that the more uncommon—but in many cases the most essential—subjects treated in the several official books on drill and discipline are forgotten in a year or two.

In view of this I would respectfully advocate that a written examination in the higher branches of military study be occasionally held at Ottawa or Kingston, open to all officers holding first-class certificates. That it be an optional examination, but that those who passed should have some special mark denoting the fact appended to their names in the militia list. That the examination comprise subjects such as the

following:

1. The more unusual formations for attack and defence in extended order (bridges, defiles, &c.)

2. The movements a battalion in brigade.

3. Outposts—advanced and rear guards.

4. Manœuvres and tactics.

5. A résumé of many of the subjects treated in regulations and orders, such as active service, aid to civil power, transport, &c.

6. The geography of the frontier in the candidates' district, the roads, streams, bridges, &c., and favorable points for defence or con-

7. Some set studiess in "Clery on Minor Tactics," or any similar similar work.

No disadvantages can accrue by holding such an examination, while the benefit to those who would go in for it would be very great; it would also bring before the department those men who having sufficient interest in the military profession to devote extra study and time to its higher branches, might be specially wanted in an emergency. The very fact of

the existence of such an examination would no doubt be an incentive to many zealous officers to go on with their studies after obtaining ordinary first-class certificates, and would show that the government were determined to foster and develop the military spirit in the force by providing. for its officers all reasonable means of improvement in their duties.

The expense would practically be nil, owing to the number of excellent staff and permanent officers thoroughly competent to conduct such an examination.

In hoping that the above meagre outline will be elaborated and carried into effect, the writer submits all with the utmost deference, actuated only by a sincere desire for the greater efficiency of the Canadian militia.

J. P. EDWARDS, CAPT., 3rd Batt. V.R.C.

Montreal, May, 1886.

Correspondence.

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

A PROTEST AGAINST OUR EQUIPMENTS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

DEAR SIR,-The usual Spring rumors of Indian trouble have sprung up again simultaneously with the grass on the western plains.

Should the country unfortunately awake some morning with a Blackfoot war on its hands to what extent outside the "schools" and mounted police is it ready for a

quick, sharp fight?

To what extent has the militia benefitted in its equipment and arms, as a result of the experience gained in 1885? What brigade is ready now to get on the cars en route for Lethbridge, Maple Creek and McLeod? Does the civil branch of the militia department intend that as in 1885 so in 1887 the men shall be plenty and on time, but the equipment disgraceful, rotten and obsolete? Are the men—the choice and pick of our cities and country districts—again to face an enemy with rotten belts and knapsacks that were old when the Crimea was fought? Are we to face a foe which has the latest ammunition belts, with our antediluvian cross belts and pouches? Must we, as we did at Batoche, carry ammunition anywhere, everywhere, except in our pouches? Must the skirmish line at every advance leave hundreds of rounds behind it because the pouches cannot be used?

This matter of proper personal equipment for each soldier is a matter of no small importance, and at least a few regiments should be at once as well provided for in that

respect as the "schools."

Is there not possible danger also at the present time from misguided men "over the border," and should we not be ready for whatever may come either in the west or the south? Our infantry and rifle equipment is horrible, our cavalry equipment is as bad, and where is there (unless at Ottawa) a battery of artillery that could leave its headquarters ready for service and with enough ammunition to last it through anything of a fight?

We have the commander, the staff, the men, the money and the brains and pluck, but where is the equipment? That cannot be created or fitted in a moment, yet that CENTURION.

is absolutely necessary to make all the rest successful.

MEDALS FOR THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—Can you tell me whether the volunteers who took part in the Red River expedition of 1870 for the suppression of the first Riel rebellion, are claimants to a special honorary reward for their services as well as the "veterans of '66 and '70?" This Red River expedition has been truly described by military writers as one of the most arduous and difficult expeditions undertaken by British troops in modern times, and also one of the most successful; it is true unaccompanied by brilliant feats of arms and bloodshed. All it was intended to accomplish was accomplished promptly and effectively. The newspapers of the time are filled with praises of the leaders of the expedition and of the troops who took part in it, about 500 men of the 60th Royal Rifles and 600 Canadian volunteers specially enlisted for this service and taken in equal numbers from the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. To these brave men the Dominion owes the retention of Manitoba, and in-fact of the whole Northwest. The "veterans of '66-'70," certainly deserve the honor of a medal, but if this medal is granted a fortiori the honor should be extended to the Red River men of 1870, for their claim to recognition is greatly more substantial. Justus.

Regimental Intelligence.

We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

Montreal. The 65th battalion are making rapid advances in their drill. The resignation of Sergt. Major Labranche having been accepted, Sergt. Major Gauthier (late of St. John's infantry school) has been appointed in his place and the battalion is hard at work three times a week getting ready for the review at Quebec. It is expected that the new sergt, major will be a great acquisition to the battalion, which is now recruiting among the best class of men. At the battalion church parade the appearance of the men and their steady marching were much admired. We have every reason to believe that the 65th will be, before long, up to full strength.

The Witness gives the following account of the 5th Royal Scots' Jubilee entertainment at the Academy on the 20th inst.: Instrumental music was rendered by Pipe Major Mathieson, Pipers Riddell and McLennan, arrayed in full Highland costume, and the regimental band. The pipers' playing aroused much enthusiasm. Mr. Robt. Lloyd, Miss Earle, of New York, and Mr. Finlay McGregor delighted the audince with patriotic and other songs. Mr. McGregor's rendering of "Draw Your Sword. Scotland," was a soul-stirring effort, and thrilled the assemblage. Mr. Neil Warner recited the "Charge of the Light Brigade," and Mr. R. P. Niven gave a sailor's hornpipe. The events of the evening were the tugs of war, which were manfully contested and gallantly won. The first trial was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was between a team from the 65th and their was a soul-stirring effort, and their was a soul-stirring effort, and their was a soul-stirring effort, and thrilled the assemblage. Mr. Neil Warner recited the "Charge of the Light Brigade," and Mr. R. P. Niven gave a sailor's hornpipe. the "Vics."—won by the latter. The Prince of Wales teams defaulted, and their

rivals, the garrison artillery, were twice during the evening awarded a bye. The contest between the 5th Royal Scots and the 6th Fusiliers was won by the former. The second tug, between the "Vics" and the "Scots," proved another victory for the latter. The final tug was contested by the Royal Scots and the garrison artillery; and a *desperate tug it proved,—but after vigorous straining and pulling the "Scots" succeeded in defeating their rivals. The entertainment closed with the National Anthem.

Port Arthur.—No 1 Co. of the 96th Batt., Algoma Rifles, has been drilling regularly at the city rink. On the 17th a meeting was held after drill to decide regarding the funds of \$125 on hand. As Major Ray is not at the present time a member of the company he wished to relinquish them, and they have been placed in charge of a committee, and deposited in a bank to the credit of the company. A class of instruction and lectures for the non-commissioned officers will meet once a week, when

Major Ray will lecture on drill, discipline and the duties of n.c.o's.

At the last meeting of the n.c.o's the company was divided into squads under the command of Color-Sergt. Davidson, Sergt. Woodside, Sergt. Hodder, Corpl. Arnold and Corpl. Williams, each to use every effort to have a full attendance of his squad at drill. It was decided to return the round caps at present in use, and apply to the government for Glengarries for the whole company. A recruit class will be formed, and drill will be practised every Tuesday and Wednesday evening. After acquiring a certain proficiency in drill the members will be given uniforms, and when the requisite period has been put in in drill with the uniforms recruits will be admitted to the

Quebec.—There was a commanding officer's inspection of the 8th Royal Rifles on the 17th at the drill shed. The men looked neat and trim, and were put through several evolutions, which were executed with precision. The band and pioneers also paraded. The regiment was inspected by the D.A.G. on the Plains at 3 p.m., on the 18th inst. After the inspection on the 17th there was another tug of war, ten men a side, between Nos. 4 and 6 companies. No. 4 won twice consecutively, after a hard struggle, in the first trial only having about three feet of the rope at the end of the five minutes time limit. The following are the names of the respective teams:—No. 4, Sergt. Van Felson, Corpls. Enright, Champion, Ptes. C. C. Smith, R. J. Davidson, Pelletier. H. Bignell, Hossack, C. Elliott, Price, captained by Sergt. Herliert Carbray. No. 6—Col.-Sergt. T. Ross, Sergt. Giblin, Corpls. Hatch and Stevens, Ptes. Hughes, Crawford, Matthews, Ellison, Edwards, A. Thomson, captained by Sergt. R. Presho. Umpire, Licut.-Col. II. J. Miller.

Ottawa.—Nos. 1, 2, and 4 companies of the 43rd battalion, with the band and staff, left Ottawa by the five o'clock train on Monday afternoon en route to Arnprior. At Almonte they were joined by Capt. Williams' company of the 42nd battalion. On arrival at their destination they were received by the local company-No. 5 Co., 43rd--and an immense concourse of citizens, and escorted to the beautiful camping grounds on the banks of Chats Lake. A lively night was spent fighting the mosquitoes, the boys getting the worst of the battle, being largely outnumbered by the enemy. The morning opened with a steady downpour of rain, which fortunately ceased about ten o'clock, thus enabling the regiment to form up on parade. A feu de joie, march past and sham fight composed the morning's programme, and everything went off in splendid style, reflecting great credit upon the regiments and drawing rounds of applause from the spectators. The military sports, lacrosse match and regatta in the afternoon drew an immense crowd of spectators, who fully enjoyed the different contests. The team from No. 1 company won in the bayonet competition. At six o'clock tents were struck and the regiment marched to the town hall, where baggage and accoutrements were deposited and the men dismissed until ten o'clock. On the way to town the rain came down in torrents and all hands received a thorough soaking. At eleven o'clock a start was made for Ottawa, which was reached at two o'clock a.m. Notwithstanding the bad weather and mosquitoes the trip was exceedingly enjoyed by the members of the regiment. The town was beautifully decorated with arches, flags, &c., and illuminated in honor of the occasion.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards celebrated the Queen's Birthday by a trip to Kingston, where three days, from the 22nd to the 24th were spent very pleasantly. The regiment left Ottawa by C.P.R. special on Saturday night, and at Prescott took the steamer St. Lawrence for Kingston, where they arrived Sunday morning, being met by the mayor. Major Wilson, of A Battery, and several other officers of the local corps. The Guards went into camp on the drill hall common. On Sunday afternoon they had a church parade, at which the 14th also attended. On Monday the citizens gave them an excursion on the St. Lawrence, and on Tuesday after the review enter-tained the Guards at luncheon in the drill hall. The officers were entertained at a ball on Monday evening, and at an at-home at the residence of Col. Smith on Tuesday afternoon, and the sergeants attended a dinner given by the sergeants of the 14th in the Widsor Hotel, Monday evenings. The guards also received individual attention from members of the 14th and A Battery and cadets of the R.M.G. The return was made by the same route, Ottawa being reached at noon on Wedesday.

The Target.

[We will gladly publish all scores sent in properly vouched for. Correspondents will remember that scores unaccompanied by full details as to conditions are useless. When no range or rifle is mentioned the record will be the result of seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards, kneeling at 200, Snider rifles, no sighting shots.)

ORGANIZATION OF WESTERN MANITOBA R. A.

Brandon.--There assembled in the Langham Hotel, Brandon, on the 11th inst., a number of gentlemen, representing the following rifle clubs and associations, for the purpose of organizing a "Western Manitoba Rifle Association."

The Carberry association which has a membership of sixty was represented by N. Dickie Sec.; Elton, 35—By A. Campbell, President and J. Dickson, Sec.; Souris, 25—Dr. Stogte, Council, W. R. George, V.P.; Brandon, 90—F. W. Peters, President, Capt. T. Wastie; Co. Dennis, 80—Dr. Young, President, W. M. Cushing, V.P.; Moosomin, 70 - Dr. Harris, President, R. Millar, T. Beer; P. la Prairie, 80-Captain Sheppard; which give a total membership of 440.

The association was regularly organized and the clubs above named were affiliated,

and the following gentlemen were elected as officers for the present year:

Parron—The Hon. J. C. Aikins, Lieut.-Gov. of Manitoba. Vice-patrons—The Hon. L. Dewdney, Lieut.-Gov. of N.W.T., Hon. Frank Bouverie, J. M. Daly, M.P., Major D. H. McEillan and Hon. Judge Walker. Capt. T. Wastie, President; Capt. Sheppard, Dr. Young, D. R. Taylor, Vice-presidents. Council—Portage la Prairie—Lieut. R. K. Brown, 95th battalion. Carberry—N. Dickie. Elton—J. Dickson. Souris—W. R. George. Brandon—Dr. McDiarmid, Dr. Macdonald, Jos. M. Robinson, C. Cavelle, A. Carbard, E. G. A. Handargen. Co. Dennis, Thos. Routledge. son, G. Cassells, A. Gothard, F. G. A. Henderson. Co. Dennis-Thos. Routledge. Moosomin-R. Millar. A. Gothard, secretary; F. G. A. Henderson, treasurer; W. F. Rose, range officer; Dr. Gilbert, T. Beer, Auditors.

The association will hold their annual meeting to compete for prizes about the end of July. A good number of the members composing this association are old shots, who have been at one time or another connected with English or eastern Canadian military or rifle institutions.

MONTREAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Montreal.—The first competition of the Montreal R. A. took place on Saturday the 21st. inst., at the Point St. Charle. nges, 48 members turning out. The prizes were silver ladle, table, desert and teaspoon respectfully for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th places, with other prizes in kind by the association. The following is the list of prize winners and best scores:

D. Smith, 5th Royal Scots	82	G. Cooke, 5th Royal Scots	**
D. McCrae, 1st P.W.R	80	F. Vaughan, do	75
W. Marks, oth Fusiliers	70	Mr. W. C. Lawless	
R. Keough, 1st P.W.R	7 8	J. R. Wynne, 5th Royal Scots	74

The day was fine, bright and with but little wind and large scores were looked for, but though the half hundred shooting include the best shots in the 5th and 6th military district corps, but 20 men, including outsiders, got over 60 points—a useful commentary on the quality of the ammunition supplied. With all due deference to the effort made by the authorities to give us a good article the fact remains that the 1887 make is inferior to that of 1886. The cry against it was universal and "drop" shots were the order of the day, though previous practice had demonstrated that 1887 was at least 4 degrees, vernier, weaker than 1886, and allowance was made accordingly. As matters now stand, with the ammunition supplied, all pleasure to the individual and profit to the country by rifle practice is at an end, so far as regards Snider matches. The same men now averaging "outers" with Snider rifles find no difficulty in running over "inners" with the M.-Henry, proving that the fault does not lie with the shooter.

The next M.R.A. match will be shot on 11th June; rifles optional, Snider or

M. Henry. At this meeting the first score for teams entered for the handsome jubilee trophy will be made. MONTREAL.

Gleanings.

Referring to some points that have come up in the GAZETTE at one time or another, a well informed officer writing from England, sends us the following brief memoranda: I think that the folks in Canada do not know that the kit is no longer carried in the valise. The valise is worn rather higher than in old days, the middle of it is on a line with the waist belt. The great coat is put into the valise and the tin is on top. A few cleaning things are also in the valise. When the great coat is taken out by the men it is folded and worn on the back. The kits are carried in squad bags, and when on active service the valises are also carried by the regimental transport. Gaiters are never worn except the men parade in heavy marching order, never at church parades, etc. With respect to a regiment forming up for a general officer's parade: The company markers take up their covering so that the senior captain has the right, and so on. The second in rank does not take the left flank but number two; the reasons which caused this rule to be followed are too many to state now.

Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell & Ço., of New York, have just issued the nineteenth annual edition of their standard publication, the "American Newspaper Directory." The new volume contains an exhaustive list of all class publications so admirably arranged that any one of the three thousand papers represented there can be readily referred to and all important facts concerning it, together with its circulation rating, easily obtained. The newspaper directory will be used principally by publishers, advertisers and advertising agents, but the vast fund of information it contains makes it valuable to persons of almost every trade and profession. As a gazetter alone it is well worth the price charged, \$5.00, for it fully describes every town in which a newspaper is issued, and few people care to know about any place where one is not. The whole volume shows that great care has been taken to sustain its reputation as the most comprehensive work of the kind yet published, and to insure accuracy in every detail. Anything less than a complete compendium of American newspapers and periodicals would surprise those who are familiar with the former efforts of this firm, who are so well known as the oldest, and largest of all the American advertising agencies.

In an article on cavalry distance rides the Broad Arrow refers to the following good individual rides:-Lieut. General Sir Samuel Browne, K.C.B., V.C., when commanding the "Guides," rode on relays of horses from Rajanpur to Hoti Murdan and back in 10 days, or an average of 100 miles a day. Colonel J. H. Green, 12th Bengal Cavalry, in 1878 rode a horse from Jhelam to Pindi and back, 140 miles, within 36 hours. The horse was a thoroughbred entire Waler, about 15 hands, and was put through a preparatory training of six weeks. The horse was in no way distressed by the journey, and was, his owner assured me, quite equal to repeating the ride the next day.

Militia General Orders, No. 7, of 13th May, 1887.—Concluded.

BREVET.

To be majors: Capt. Robt. Cox, M.S., No. 8 Co., 47th B2tt.; from 6th April,

Capt. Jos. Rorke, S.I., No. 7 Co., 31st Batt.; from 31st Oct., 1886.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Capt. Albert Lee Pomroy, S.C., No. 4 Troop, 5th Reg. Cav., from 30th April, 1887.

Lieut, Jos. G. Paquin, S.I., No. 4 Co., 81st Batt., from 31st March, 1887. Lieut, Alfred Eugene Labelle, S.I., 65th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.

Lieut. Geo. W. Bliss, S.C., No. 4 Troop, 5th Reg. Cav., from 3oth April, 1887. 2nd Lieut. Ernest John Chambers, S.L., 6th Batt., from 31st March 1887.

and Lieut. Charles Arthur Adhemar Laframboise, S.I., 65th Batt., from 31st

March, 1887. and Lieut. Marie George Charles Eugène Desnoyers, S.I., 65th Batt., from 31st

March, 1887. 2nd Lieut. Zéphirin Joseph Raoul Herbert, S. I., 65th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.

2nd Lieut, Joseph Thomas Ostell, S.I., 65th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.

2nd Lieut. Edward Desbarats, S.I., 3rd Batt., from 31st March, 1887.

2nd Lieut. William Molson Dobell, S.I., 8th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.

2nd Lieut. Charles John Dunn, S.I., 8th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.
2nd Lieut. François Samuel Mackay, S.I., 65th Batt., from 31st March, 1887.
2nd Lieut. James Henry Howden, S.M.I., 90th Batt., from 16th April, 1887.
2nd Lieut. James Henry Howden, S.M.I., 90th Batt., from 16th April, 1887.
2nd Lieut. James William Coorga Braughall, S.M.I., 90th Batt., from 18

2nd Lieut. Lewis William George Broughall, S.M.I., 90th Batt., from 18th

No. 4.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

SCHOOL OF CAVALRY.

First Class Short Course Grade A.

and Lieut. D. Sutton, 3rd regiment; Capt. A. L. Pomroy, 5th do; Lieut. G. W. Bliss, do.

Second Class Short Course, Grade B.

Pte. M. W. Tufford, 2nd regiment; Pte. C. Hewson, 8th do.

SCHOOL OF MOUNTED INFANTRY.

First Class Short Course, Grade A.

2nd Lieut. A. H. Talbot, 90th battalion.

First Class Special Course.

2nd Lieut. J. H. Howden, 90th batt.; 2nd Lieut. L. W. G. Broughall. 90th do. First Class Short Course, Grade B.

L.-Sergt. T. R. Flett, 90th batt.; Sergt. E. S. Kirkman, 95th batt.; Corpl. T. W. Brondgeest, 50th batt.

Second Class Short Course, Grade B.

Pte. H. Barton, 95th battalion.

SCHOOLS OF INFANTRY.

First Class Short Course, Grade A.

2nd Lieut. W. M. Dobell, 8th battalion; Capt. G. B. Martin, 11th do.

Second Class Short Course, Grade A.

Capt. J. G. Côté, 81st battalion; Lieut. J. G. Paquin, 81st do.

First Class Special Course.

2nd Lieut. C. J. Dunn, 8th battalion; Lieut. A. E. Labelle, 65th do.; 2nd Lieut. C. A. A. Laframboise, 65th do.; 2nd Lieut. Z. J. R. Hébert, 65th do.; 2nd Lieut. J. T. Ostell, 65th do.

Second Class Special Course.

2nd Lieut. E. Desbarats, 3rd battalion; 2nd Lieut. E. J. Chambers, 6th do., 2nd Lieut. M. G. C. E. Desnoyers, 65th do.; 2nd Lieut. F. S. Mackay, 65th do.

First Class Short Caurce, Grade B.

Pte. Stroulger, G.G.F.G; Sergt. H. A. Sturton, 61st battalion; Sergt. J. Sullivan, 64th do.; Sergt. A. Rochon, 81st do.

Second Class Short Course, Grade B.

Pte. F. McCarty, Pte. J. Ward, Pte. E. Shea, G. G. F. G.; Sergt. E. Ferry, 1st battalion; Sergt. R. McCaskill, Sergt. C. Calder, Pte. J. Wilson, 11th do.; Corpl. C. O. Wood, 43rd do.; Corpl. J. McManus, 54th do.; Pte. R. Maxwell, 55th do.; Sergt. H. Savard, 61st do.; Sergt. J. Girard, 64th do; Pte. W. Monette, 64th do.; Sergt. J. Farrier, 81st do.; Pte. H. Perreault, 81st do.

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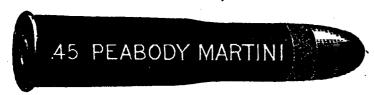
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DOMINION LANDS REGULATIONS.

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

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

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

- 2. The homesteader shall begin actual residence, as above, within a radius of two miles of his homestead, and continue to make his home within such radius for at least six months out of every twelve months for the three years next succeeding the date of homestead entry; and shall within the first year from date of entry, break and prepare for crop ten acres of his homestead quarter section, and shall within the second year crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional; making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional, so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and shall have erected on the land a habitable house in which he shall have lived during the three months next preceding his application for homestead patent. ing his application for homestead patent.
- 3. The homesteader shall begin the cultivation of his homestead within six months after the date of entry, or if the entry was obtained after the first day of September in any year, then before the first day of June following; shall within the first year break and prepare for crop not less than five acres of his homestead; shall within the second year crop the said five acres, and break and prepare for crop not less than ten acres in addition, making not less than fifteen acres in all; shall have erected a habitable house on his homestead before the expiration of the second year, and on or before the commencement of the third year shall have begun to reside in the said house, and shall have continued to reside therein and cultivate his homestead for not less than three years next prior to the date of his application for patent.

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

PRE-EMPTIONS.

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

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

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

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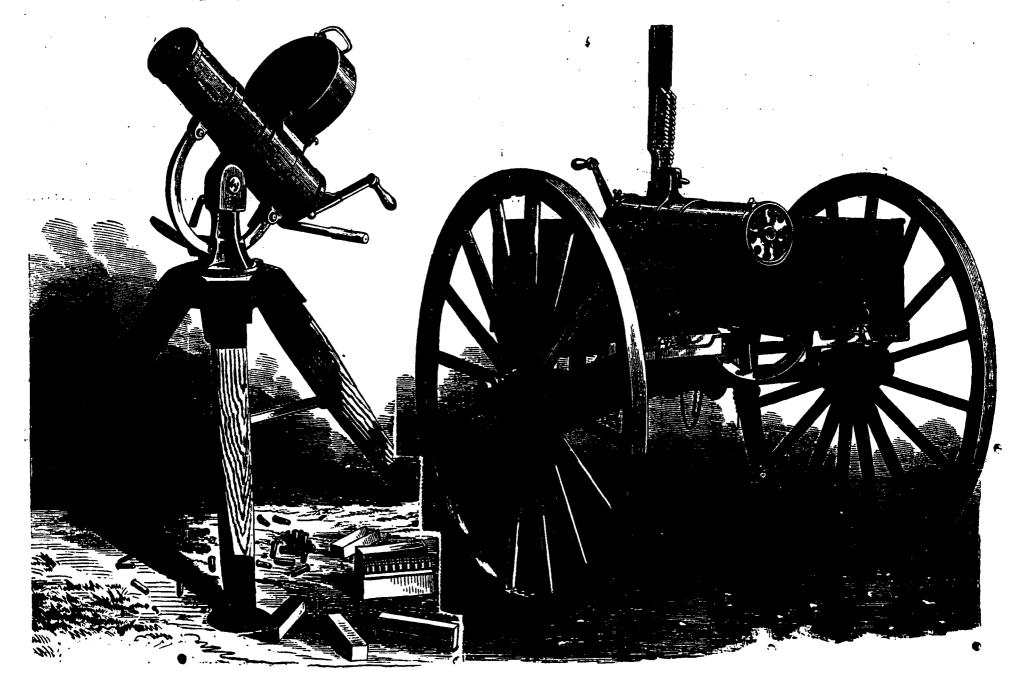
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