

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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Comment and Criticism.

THE prize meeting of the Dominion rifle association, the scores of the opening days' shooting at which appear in another place in this issue has been fairly successful. The attendance again shows a gratifying increase, and the weather has been pleasant, except to the competitors when trying to gauge the wind with Snider rifles, and the arrangements have been carried out pretty smoothly. Several grievances have existed, however, which owing to the late hour at which the competitors' business meeting opened, and the long time occupied on that occasion in expounding the merits of the Snider ammunition, could not there be brought up and discussed. To some of these we propose to refer next week, when the balance of the report of the annual meeting will appear.

PROMOTION comes so slowly in the Canadian permanent force that it would be a very great injustice to the deserving officers serving in it were outsiders appointed to the higher commands upon the occurrence of vacancies. It would be greatly to be regretted were political considerations to cause any officer, no matter how well qualified, to be placed upon joining the force in any of the higher positions to which subalterns fitted for promotions might have reasonably expected to succeed. "Justice" refers to this matter in our correspondence columns.

THE British service papers seem fully alive to the importance of the Canadian Pacific Railway as a military route, and lose no opportunity to put in a word on its behalf. The *United Service Gazette*, in a leading article in the last issue to hand says:—"Recently we drew attention to a proposal made to Government for establishing steam communication between Canada and Hong Kong across the Pacific Ocean, in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway. As a question of Imperial importance, from a naval and military as well as from a commercial point of view, this proposal should meet with material support from the authorities. On this subject we notice that a memorial has been forwarded to the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the Council of the Royal Colonial Institute. Premising that the construction of the railway across Canada has cost the Dominion £25,000,000, the memorialists press upon Government the three following points:—1. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have, with the support of the Canadian Government, offered to supply fast steam communication between Vancouver and Hong Kong—the service to be performed by vessels to be built under the supervision of the admiralty. 2. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company are prepared to establish this service across the Pacific and to carry Her Majesty's mails for an annual subsidy of £60,000, of which the Canadian Government have, it is stated, offered to provide £15,000, leaving the sum of

£45,000 only as the proportion that Her Majesty's Government are asked to contribute. In addition, the company undertake to convey men and material by their steamers, when required, by Her Majesty's Government, at actual cost. 3. The value of the North Pacific station, both for its coaling facilities and for refitting ships, is well known and recognized. Consequently anything that can be done to strengthen it must be an advantage to the empire, and it is believed that the establishment of the proposed line of steamers would have a most beneficial result in this direction.

THE article above quoted concludes vigorously as follows: "It is unnecessary to say that in any other country in the world the above very liberal offer would immediately be accepted. Government in this country, however, has been so carefully trained to strain at gnats and swallow camels, that it higgles over an insignificant sum required to promote a branch of national and colonial industry, while it does not hesitate to squander public money in all directions. Were Parliament asked for the above sum it would be cheerfully voted, for the matter is of the utmost importance to the empire, whether regarded in its political or defensive or in its purely commercial aspect."

IN connection with the talked of re-organization of the British war office, *Truth* says: "In France the war minister is supreme head of the army. He is commander-in-chief as well as minister. There is no one over him. Parliament is his only master. The chief of the French general staff is under his orders; so are the commanders of army corps districts. In case of war, the commander-in-chief in the field reports direct to the war minister. Under this system the French chamber can, and does, exercise, through the responsible minister, a proper control over both the *comptabilité* and *commandement* of the national army."

THE subject of regular autumnal manoeuvres for the army has of late occupied considerable attention in the United States. The following from an article in the *Philadelphia Ledger* may prove interesting to our readers: "We want active service for the experience and valuable instruction to be derived, and in order that the dead wood that now encumbers the army may be cut off. If congress would do something, even to retire from the army the blind, the lame and the halt officers, the efficiency of the military service would be increased and its *esprit de corps* materially advanced. The establishment of fall manoeuvres, provided all officers were required to exercise their proper command, would make plain the absolute necessity for a closer inspection of the regular army and the weeding out of the inefficient. Of course, the state militia would be assisted and improved by mingling for a period with the regular troops, but the latter would derive more benefit from such association than the former. A majority of the young officers of the army have never seen a thousand men under arms at one time, and few of them have ever had opportunity to command a full company. The assembly of a large body of men would therefore be of great service to these young officers, and would enable them to apply their knowledge and training acquired at West Point."

Obituary.

Death last week robbed the Canadian force of a zealous and promising young cavalry officer in the person of Capt. H. Weller, the officer commanding "B" troop of the Prince of Wales Canadian Dragoons...

The Ontario Provincial Matches.

THE annual prize meeting of the Ontario provincial rifle association was brought to a close on Thursday afternoon last. The scores of the first two days' shooting appeared in last issue.

5TH MATCH—WALKER, 500 AND 600 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Table of Team Prizes for the 5th match, including Ladies' Challenge Cup, Hamilton Rifle Association, Metropolitan R. A., and 13th and 37th battalions.

The scores of other competing teams were as follows:—

Table listing scores for various teams such as Queen's Own Rifles, Bowmanville Rifle Association, Guelph Rifle Association, etc.

Individual Prizes.

Table of individual prize winners and scores, including Staff-sergeant T Mitchell, Corporal H Marris, and others.

6TH MATCH—TAIT-BRASSEY—200, 500 AND 600 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Battalion Team Prizes.

Table of Battalion Team Prizes for the 6th match, including Tait Cup and 5th Royal Scots.

Table of scores for 10th Royal Grenadiers and 12th battalion.

Table of scores for 13th battalion and other battalion scores.

Company Prizes.

Table of Company Prizes including Brasseley Cup and scores for various companies.

Individual Prizes.

Table of Individual Prizes listing names, ranks, and scores for various individuals.

7. ONTARIO—THE AGGREGATES.

First Series—Restricted to Ontario.

Highest aggregates in 3rd, 4th, 5th and 500 and 600 yards of 6th matches.

Table of highest aggregates for the first series.

Second Series—Restricted to Ontario.

Highest aggregate in 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th matches.

Table of highest aggregate for the second series.

Third Series—Open to the Dominion.

Aggregate of scores in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th matches.

Table of aggregate scores for the third series across different battalions and individuals.

8. GIBSON—MARTINI.

First stage, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots.

Table of scores for the first stage of the Gibson-Martini competition, listing names and scores for various ranks and units.

Second Stage—800 and 900 yards, 7 shots.

Open to the twenty-five highest scorers in first stage.

Table of scores for the second stage of the Gibson-Martini competition, listing names and scores for the top performers.

10. GZOWSKI.

First Series—Skirmishing.

Five rounds advancing, and five retiring, at ranges from 100 to 500.

Table of scores for the first series of the Gzowski competition, listing units and scores.

Second Series.—Volley Firing.

200 and 400 yards, 5 rounds at each.

Table of scores for the second series of the Gzowski competition, listing units and scores.

The silver cup presented by Col. Gzowski for the highest aggregate in both the above competitions was won by the Royal Grenadiers, whose total was 240 points. There were only five teams entered for each of these competitions.

11. REVOLVER—25 YARDS, 7 ROUNDS.

Table of scores for the Revolver competition, listing names and scores for various ranks.

12. FRODSHAM—EXTRA SERIES.

No. 1.—Snider, 500 yards.

No. 2.—Martini, 500 yards.

Table of scores for the FrodsHAM Extra Series, Nos. 1 and 2, listing names and scores.

No. 3.—Snider, 600 yards.

No. 4.—Martini, 600 yards.

Table of scores for the FrodsHAM Extra Series, Nos. 3 and 4, listing names and scores.

Extra Series—Aggregates.

For highest aggregate in Nos. 1 and 3, a silver watch, value \$50.

For highest aggregate in Nos. 2 and 4, a silver watch, value \$75.

Table showing the winners of the silver watches for the aggregate scores.

THE STAFF MATCH.

On Thursday afternoon, the regular matches having been completed, the register-keepers and markers had their usual competition which resulted in the prizes being taken by those named below. The range was 400 yards, seven rounds.

Table of scores for the Staff Match, listing names and scores.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

A meeting of the council of the association was held on Wednesday afternoon, Lt.-Col. Gibson presiding. The chief business was the election of officers, regarding which the chairman expressed the opinion that nominations for the presidency ought not to be confined to gentlemen officially connected with the association or to shooting men.

Lt.-Col. Otter was, notwithstanding his protestations, unanimously elected, but having declined to accept the position, Lt.-Col. Gibson was re-elected. He also declined to act and several other names having been suggested, officers were finally elected as follows:—President, Wm. Mulock, M.P., vice-presidents, 1st Military District, Lt.-Col. Aylmer; 2nd Military District, Lt.-Col. Jones, Dufferin Rifles; 3rd Military District, Lieut. Macnachten, Cobourg garrison artillery; 4th Military District, Lt.-Col. Macpherson, Militia Staff. Treasurer, Lt.-Col. Alger, District Paymaster. Auditors, Capt. Boomer, retired list; Seymour Porter, Esq., Toronto. Secretary, Capt. W. G. Mutton, Q.O.R.

THE RANGE QUESTION.

Lt.-Col. Otter explained his position on the range question. He said he was one of the members of the council who had opposed any negotiations with the city council or the Industrial Exhibition Association. He opposed their overtures because he was firmly convinced that if the exhibition association once got a foothold the grounds would soon be lost entirely.

The president suggested that a committee, consisting of the president, Lt.-Cols. Otter, Gibson, Macdonald (Guelph), and Capt. Bruce, should be appointed to receive communications from the city or exhibition association to act in the matter generally, and to report to a future meeting of the council. The suggestion was agreed to.

The president intimated that the board of enquiry into the state of the ranges would meet on September 8, and would make recommendations as to the adoption of rules providing for the future use of the ranges, if such were found necessary; upon which the meeting agreed that the ranges would be declared closed from the close of the O. R. A. matches at present going on until the report of the board of enquiry should have been submitted.

Dominion Rifle Association Prize Meeting.

THE annual prize competition of the Dominion Rifle Association opened on Monday morning under very happy auspices, the weather being fine, and the outlook in all respects good. The competitors from a distance had nearly all arrived in Ottawa early enough to secure their tickets and make other arrangements on Saturday, and thus a great amount of confusion was avoided on the opening morning.

At half-past eight Monday morning the first gun was fired, and upon the sound of the second, fifteen minutes later, the thirty-five targets provided for the meeting rose into view and the firing commenced, simultaneously at the 500 yards range for the Nursery match and Extra series, at 600 and at 800 yards for extra series. The following were the prize winners in the matches, fired during the first two days, which is all that time will permit of being published in this issue:—

Monday, 29th August.

I. NURSERY MATCH—500 YARDS, 5 ROUNDS.

Table of scores for the Nursery Match, listing names and scores for various ranks and units.

Nursery Match—continued.

Table listing names and scores for Nursery Match, including Lieut Longworth, P E I G A., Capt Asselstine, 41st, etc.

Table listing names and scores for Nursery Match, including Lieut Johnson, Q O C., Hill, 57th, etc.

2. MACDOUGALL MATCH.—400

Table listing names and scores for MacDougall Match, including Lt Vaughan, 5th, Lieut Gray, Guards, etc.

AND 600 YARDS, 5 ROUNDS.

Table listing names and scores for MacDougall Match, including Bomb Faulkner, H G A., Corpl Currie, 5th, etc.

3. RIDEAU MATCH—600 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Table listing names and scores for Rideau Match, including Pte Wilson, 31st, Pte A Harrison, 6th, etc.

Table listing names and scores for Rideau Match, including Lt Longworth, P E I G A., Lt W Mitchell, 32nd, etc.

Tuesday, 30th August.

4. MANUFACTURERS' MATCH—500 YARDS, 7 ROUNDS.

Table listing names and scores for Manufacturers' Match, including Staff-sergt Ross, 1st, Pte Burns, 62nd, etc.

Table listing names and scores for Manufacturers' Match, including Sgt Mumford, 63rd, Pte Morrison, Guards, etc.

5. OUIMET MATCH—600 YARDS, 7 ROUNDS.

Table listing names and scores for Ouimet Match, including Pte Hayes, 7th, Sando, 45th, etc.

Table listing names and scores for Ouimet Match, including Sgt Adams, 63rd, Col-sergt Hughill, Q O R, etc.

THE COMPETITORS' MEETING.

There was a very large attendance at the annual meeting of the competitors, held in the drill hall on Tuesday evening.

Capt. Walter Macdonald, R.L., opened the ball by a reference to the disfavor into which the use of the Snider rifle at 600 yards has fallen.

Pte. Sutherland, G.G.F.G., spoke in its support, calling to the remembrance of the meeting that he had made a similar suggestion last year.

THE SNIDER AMMUNITION.

Major Delamere, Q.O.R., inquired if there were any prospect of Snider ammunition of a better quality being supplied.

The chairman called upon Major Perley, H.Q.S., a member of the recent cartridge commission, as one who was likely to be able to give information on the subject.

Major Perley explained that it was no longer possible to provide ammunition of English manufacture; as to the Canadian, he had as late as last week had an opportunity of interviewing, at the factory at Quebec, Major Prevost, the superintendent.

Sergt. Goudie, 8th R.R., having expressed the opinion that the Canadian Snider ammunition was shot when it was too fresh, being used in the same month almost of its manufacture, a brief and fruitless discussion took place as to relative merits of new and old ammunition.

Lieut. Dimock, 78th, said he had been informed when at the butts this day that there were this year an unusually large number of cartridges which went through the targets sideways, in place of point foremost, and the markers allowed these as good shots, not considering them ricochets unless earth thrown into the hut showed clearly that the bullets had struck the ground before the target, before reaching it.

Capt. Weston, 66th, considered that the Canadian ammunition had on the whole been satisfactory, and he was glad to know that the government was anxious to locate

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the defects which it was manifest did exist. He thought Major Perley had touched the keynote when he had mentioned that the late Prof. Bain of the Royal Military College, had considered the trouble to be in the bullet. He was opposed to the suggestion that sighting shots should be tried as a remedy, for a time might come when this ammunition would be required to do execution from the first shot—when there would be no time for sighting shots.

Major Anderson, 43rd, thought that there was more than a want of confidence at the bottom of the poor Snider shooting. No want of confidence would, he said, put a bullet six feet below the target at 500 yards.

Capt. Hartt, St. John rifles, while complimenting Major Perley on his interesting explanation on the ammunition question, thought this explanation was anything but satisfactory, as it failed to point out where lies the defect, which apparently exists in the ammunition. He moved, seconded by Capt. Adam, that in the opinion of the competitors, it is desirable to introduce the Martini rifle at distances over 500 yards, as the Snider ammunition furnished is not satisfactory.

Lieut.-Col. Beer, 74th, moved in amendment, that in the opinion of the competitors the Snider arm should be abolished from the meetings of the D.R.A. (Applause.) He thought the Canadian force should be placed upon an equality with that of other colonies, and with the militia of England, and this was the proper time for the shooting men of the country to express their opinion concerning this weapon. He thought it was the desire of the government to do the best it could for the force, and that if such a request as that suggested were passed it would be complied with.

Major Perley said we had gone through all this before, and the answer had been that the Snider was the arm of the force, and as such had to be used, otherwise the government grant of \$10,000 could not be obtained. Without this grant it would really make very little difference whether the Snider or Martini rifle were used.

Major Tilton, G.G.F.G., suggested that a strong delegation from the association should be appointed to wait upon the Minister of Militia to urge upon him the desirability of making the D.R.A. gathering at Ottawa a Martini meeting.

Lieut.-Col. Gibson, 13th, thought that as this was one of very few occasions when representatives of the force from all parts of Canada came together, it was fitting that an expression of opinion should be made as to the arm with which that force was equipped. He thought this was an opportune occasion also to suggest to the council of the Dominion rifle association that another year the spirit of the resolution passed at last meeting of the competitors, respecting the use of the Martini, should be more fully carried out. He did not think the spirit of that resolution was that the competitors wanted to fire with the Martini standing at 200 yards. They would rather enjoy using the old Snider at that distance, but they would like to see the Martini used at 600 yards.

After some further discussion Capt. Hartt's motion and the amendment by Col. Beer were withdrawn, and the following was substituted:—

"Moved by Lieut.-Col. Beer, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Gibson, that in the opinion of this meeting of riflemen, representative of all parts of the Dominion, the time has arrived when the active militia should be armed with the Martini-Henry rifle; and that a committee be appointed to wait upon the minister of Militia to urge upon him the adoption of the views of this meeting."

This resolution was carried unanimously, and the following committee, comprising one representative from each province, was then chosen, with power to add to their number: Ontario, Lieut.-Col. Gibson; Quebec, Capt. Sims; Nova Scotia, Capt. Weston; New Brunswick, Lieut.-Col. Beer; Prince Edward Island, Lieut. Longworth; Manitoba, Capt. Balfour; British Columbia, Gunner Sargisson.

OTHER GRIEVANCES AISED.

Major Delamere, Q.O.R., suggested that a paid officer be stationed at the butts, so as to ensure that when a competitor challenged a shot he might be awarded whatever appeared on the target. The chairman promised to bring the matter before the executive.

Capt. Abbott, P.W.R., complained that the the system of opening the extra series targets concurrently with the commencement of firing in the regular matches worked disadvantageously for those who had to shoot in the first pairs each morning, as these could not possibly get sighting shots in the extra series, while a few of the more lucky ones did, and had this opportunity of making higher scores in the matches. He suggested that either all be given an opportunity to fire or else that the extra series be not opened at all.

Capt. Balfour complained that the extra series targets were closed unnecessarily long preparatory to the skirmishing matches.

Lieut. Russell advocated the adoption of a time system for the extra series, so that a competitor would not have to spend hours beside a target waiting his turn to shoot.

Lieut.-Col. Gibson pointed out that the accommodation in the way of targets of the first-class was altogether insufficient.

Capt. Weston urged that in view of the probability that the government may not much longer maintain Rideau range without purchasing the location, the council should in the interests of the association see whether or not the range was large enough to continue to meet the constantly increasing requirements of the association, before its purchase be urged upon the government.

In connection with the complaint about loss of time to the great bulk of the competitors while the military matches were in progress, Major Delamere suggested that unlimited team entries from any corps be allowed, so that a greater number of the competitors might engage in these matches.

The hour being late, this important subject was not discussed, and the meeting adjourned at eleven o'clock.

The Target.

Halifax.—A match took place on Bedford range on Saturday the 20th August, between a team of non-commissioned officers and men of the 63rd rifles and a team from H. M. S. Bellerophon. The rifle was the Martini, and the ranges were 200, 500 and 600 yards. It resulted in a win for the 63rd by 38 points. Another match is to take place between these teams. Following were the scores:

63RD RIFLES.				H. M. S. BELLEROPHON.					
Staff-Sergt Corbin	28	27	30	85	— Barter, A. B	30	31	21	85
Sergt Myers	26	27	28	81	Sergt Mills	26	28	23	82
Corpl Taylor	28	29	24	81	— Farley, 2nd el. po.	29	31	20	80
Sergt major Lochart	27	31	23	81	Capt Primrose	26	29	24	79
Sergt Mumford	30	27	23	80	Qr-Mr Darton	25	30	20	75
Sergt Dixon	30	25	23	78	Rev Mr Todd	25	28	16	70
Pte Longeile	29	27	19	75	— Burford, ldg seaman	28	24	17	69
Staff-Sergt Power	27	28	19	74	— Aplin, A. B	31	23	15	69
Pte Flowers	27	26	18	71	Pte Everard	31	22	14	67
Sergt Stenhouse	27	27	13	67	— Cole, grs. mate	21	18	21	60

Total..... 270 274 220 773

Total..... 272 264 199 735

THE COBOURG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Cobourg.—The twentieth annual prize meeting of the Cobourg rifle association was held on Thursday the 18th August. The meeting was one of the most successful ever held. There were some fifty competitors in attendance. There were two matches—one restricted to the militia of the county, and one open.

The ranges of the military match were 200 and 400 yards, five shots being fired at each. The prizes for the teams, of five men each, were won the first by the Cobourg garrison artillery (Capt. Dumble), who received \$10; 2nd, No. 2 Co. 40th Batt. (Capt. Snelgrove), \$5. The individual winners, whose prizes ranged from \$5 to \$1, were in the following order:—Sergt. Geo. Archer, Patroness' challenge cup and \$5; Gr. N. F. Macnachten, C.G.A.; Lieut. W. J. Hamilton, 40th Batt.; Lieut. McNaughton, Corpl. R. Lunn, Gunner H. L. Macnachten, Bombardier Wm. Tripp, C.G.A.; Lieut. W. Richardson, Capt. J. McCaughey, 40th Batt.; Trooper Charles Bull, 3rd Cavalry; Pte. E. Lacey, Pte. R. Graham, Sergt. H. Payne, Capt. H. J. Snelgrove, and Pte R. Black, 40th Batt.

The second match was at 200, 500 and 600 yards, five shots at each, and the following were the winners of the individual prizes offered, these prizes ranging from \$12 to \$1:—Geo. Archer, N. F. Macnachten, R. Lunn, D. McNaughtan, Wm. Tripp, W. J. Hamilton, Captain H. J. Snelgrove, E. Lacey, H. L. Macnachten, Robert Graham, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Gravely, Charles. Bull, W. Richardson, Captain J. McCaughey, W. McBriie, Fred. Dumble.

The aggregate prizes were won by Geo. Archer, who took the D.C.R.A. medal, with 109 points; N. F. Macnachten, Ontario medal, 107 points; R. Lunn, 87; and D. McNaughton, 86.

The Cobourg *World* says: The prizes were presented in the counties council chamber. Lieut.-Col. Graveley, president of the association occupied the chair, and Capt. E. A. Macnachten, "the first rifleman in the Dominion," acted as secretary. Among those by whose presence the members of the association felt themselves honored on this occasion were Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D.A.G.; C. C. Field, M.P.P.; and R. Mulholland, ex-M.P.P.

The Patronesses' Challenge Cup was presented to Sergt. Archer by the donor, Mrs. Graveley, while the other prize winners received their trophies at the hands of the popular deputy-adjutant general.

The distribution of the prizes having been completed, Col. Graveley said he wished to call the attention of the meeting, and especially of the officers of the Cobourg garrison, to the pressing necessity of a drill shed for Cobourg. At present there was no place in the town in which a single company could be paraded under cover, and it was next to impossible to maintain the organization of military corps without offering facilities to our young men to perfect themselves in the use of arms, and the drill and discipline required for efficiency. Cobourg—the headquarters of the 40th battalion—the county regiment of which all loyal citizens were justly proud, had a right to demand from the authorities at Ottawa the reconstruction of the drill shed destroyed by fire years ago, as the Dominion government by its action in compelling the title to the property—on which the old shed stood, to be vested in the Crown, had entirely deprived the town of her insurable interest in the buildings, although Cobourg and the county had contributed between them the principal part of the cost of construction, in addition to owning the site. He said he found that the town council had passed the by-law granting the money in December, 1866; that the town deeded to the Crown lots 16 and 47, block D, Queen street, on March 26th, 1866; and that the cost of the shed was \$2,550—of which sum the government contributed \$1,000 and the county council \$400, the town of Cobourg appropriating the balance in addition to the land. He claimed that the government should be called on to reconstruct a new drill shed on the old site, or on a more suitable one, if the old site could be disposed of on such terms as would realize sufficient money to purchase another. He suggested the appointment of a committee to proceed to Ottawa to lay the case before the Minister of Militia.

A resolution was immediately passed appointing Major Guillet, M.P., Capt. E. A. Macnachten, and Lt.-Col. Graveley, a deputation to proceed to Ottawa to lay the justice of the town's claim before the Minister of Militia and the government and urge upon them the necessity of making an appropriation for the erection of a drill shed in Cobourg.

The D. A. G. said he would do all he could to induce the Government to build a drill shed in Cobourg—an assurance that was received with loud applause. The meeting then adjourned.

Regimental Intelligence.

St. John, N.B.—The *Telegraph* has the following account of the annual inspection of the New Brunswick brigade of artillery, which took place on Barrack square on the afternoon of Monday, the 22nd inst. The inspector, Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., and Major Tucker, Major Hartt and other officers of the 62nd were amongst those present. The five batteries of artillery assembled in the drill shed, where they fell into column by the left, battery by battery, and were put through firing exercises by Cols. Irwin and Armstrong. The men then marched to the field and several brigade movements having been performed the rolls were called battery by battery, each man coming to the front as called and ordering arms. Col. Irwin having inspected each battery in company drill, the brigade marched to the drill shed where he examined each non-commissioned officer in gunnery, artillery and ammunition. The batteries were next put through gun drill in detachments. No. 1 company furnished three detachments; Nos. 2 and 3 two detachments each; No. 4 four detachments, and No. 5 two. A great improvement in gun drill was noticed in the latter. Col. Irwin asked each man his duties in gun drill and stores, and had good reason to be satisfied.

The batteries all formed in review order when they were addressed by Col. Armstrong. He said that Col. Irwin had concluded not to address them, but was well pleased with their drill and appearance. The many little things that have to be looked after to enable a soldier to present a good appearance had been attended to by the men. Col. Irwin thought that the drill, with the exception of Nos. 1 and 4 batteries was hardly as good as that of last year. Col. Armstrong was sorry that there was not a larger turnout, although the district orders of the year restricted this a little. He hoped to see larger turnouts at church parades, reviews, etc., and in future would ask the men to account for their absence. They had had an excellent sermon preached to them on Sunday, he said, one that should make every man proud to think that he was a soldier, and of their particular corps, and make them feel that the country depended upon them. While the companies were formed in marching order Col. Irwin presented Gunner Edwards, of Portland battery, with a gold locket, given by Mr. Harrison for the man who attended drill most regular.

In the evening the officers of the brigade, with Lieut.-Col. Irwin, inspector of artillery; Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G.; Gen. Warner, Warden Peters, Rev. Dr. Macrae, and a number of other invited guests, making in all a company of 60 gentlemen, sat down at the regimental dinner, at the Hotel Dufferin. Lieut.-Col. Armstrong had on his right the deputy-adjutant general, and at his left the inspector of artillery, the vice chairs being filled by Paymaster Smith and Capt. Harrison. The table, on which was spread a splendid repast, was variously ornamented, on the centre being displayed the cup bequeathed by the late Warden Botsford, of Westmoreland. Lieut.-Col. Armstrong called attention to this splendid trophy which had been designed by Capt. Botsford, of Halifax, son of the donor. The cup is in the form of a shell supported on a pedestal of miniature cannon, the cover being surmounted by a pyramid of cannon balls. Two bottles of champagne accompanied the cup, from which the health of Capt. Botsford was very enthusiastically toasted.

During the speaking, Lieut.-Col. Armstrong and the officers of the brigade received many hearty compliments from the officers of the other corps and other guests present, in regard to the efficiency and soldierly appearance of the brigade, and the self-sacrificing efforts that have brought it to its present position.

Correspondence.

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

PROMOTIONS IN THE PERMANENT FORCE.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—I understand that certain officers of the active militia are trying to obtain commissions in the permanent corps, over the heads of deserving subalterns, many of whom, are not only thoroughly qualified for promotion, but have seen active service, both here and in Europe, which some of these officers have not. I wish that you, sir, who endeavor to lead the militia in the way it should go, would strongly point out, not only the hardship, but the want of propriety and justice of such a step, if carried out, on the part of those in authority. I have no hesitation in asserting, that instead of raising the tone and *esprit de corps* of the permanent force, it will, if decided on, thoroughly demoralize it; as officers who have zealously performed their duty and studied their profession, will be made to feel that *politics only* are the road to promotion, in a profession in which capability coupled with justice, has always been considered the desideratum.

JUSTICE.

Lewis Appleton, of the British and foreign arbitration society, has just published a pamphlet containing some statistics in regard to the cost of war. They are intended, of course, to aid the cause of international arbitration and the disbanding of the immense standing armies that are eating up a large share of the substance of Europe. The annual expenditure of all the European powers for their armies and navies is \$3,867,500,000. The national debt of Europe, which was incurred by war nearly altogether, aggregate \$24,113,057,650. Nearly \$1,000,000,000 annually is paid out for interest. There are at present actually under arms 4,123,675 men, and the number trained for war and subject to call is 16,697,484. Besides these there are 291,253 men in the navies, comprising 304 ironclads and monitors and 1,972 frigates.

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(PUBLISHED WEEKLY.)

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This is the sole military publication in Canada. Its aim has been and will continue to be to voice the sentiments of the militia force of Canada upon all matters affecting the welfare of that body; to secure full discussion, through its columns, of all such topics; and to preserve a record of all important events in connection with the Canadian militia and of occurrences in military circles abroad in which our readers are likely to be interested.

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There ought to be few members of a volunteer force such as that of Canada so little interested in it as a whole that they should not be glad to make themselves acquainted with its doings in all parts of the country, and to possess in a handy form a record of notable events in their immediate districts, invaluable for future reference. The MILITIA GAZETTE supplies such a record—of annual inspections, of sports and games, of contests with the rifle and gun, company, regimental, provincial and Dominion; at Wimbledon and at Shoberyness as well as at home in Canada.

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Subscribers who do not receive their papers regularly should promptly notify us. Missing numbers will gladly be supplied, so that files may be complete.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Dealers in military requisites of all kinds can find no better means of advertising them than through our columns. Not only military requisites, but also other goods in demand by the class—the best portion of the population—constituting the militia force may be profitably advertised in the MILITIA GAZETTE. We respectfully invite our readers to assist us by patronizing our advertisers whenever convenient to do so. Advertising rates, which are low, forwarded on application.

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When plans, specifications and other documents are prepared due notice will be given, Contractor will then have an opportunity of examining them and be furnished with blank forms of tender, etc.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 24th August, 1887.

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Terms of Sale.—Bonus for timber payable in cash, price of land payable in cash, a license fee also payable in cash and dues to be paid according to Tariff upon the timber when cut.

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For full particulars please apply to Jas. C. Phipps, Esq., Indian Superintendent, Manitowaning, or to the undersigned.

No other paper to insert this advertisement without authority through the Queen's Printer.

L. VANKOUGHNET,
Deputy of the Supt. Gen'l.
of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, 2nd June, 1887.

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Ottawa, March 23rd, 1887.

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A. CAMPBELL,
Postmaster-General.

Post Office Department,
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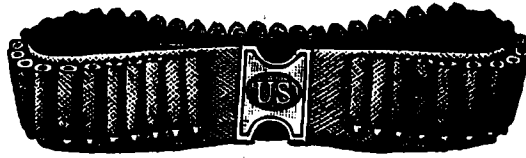
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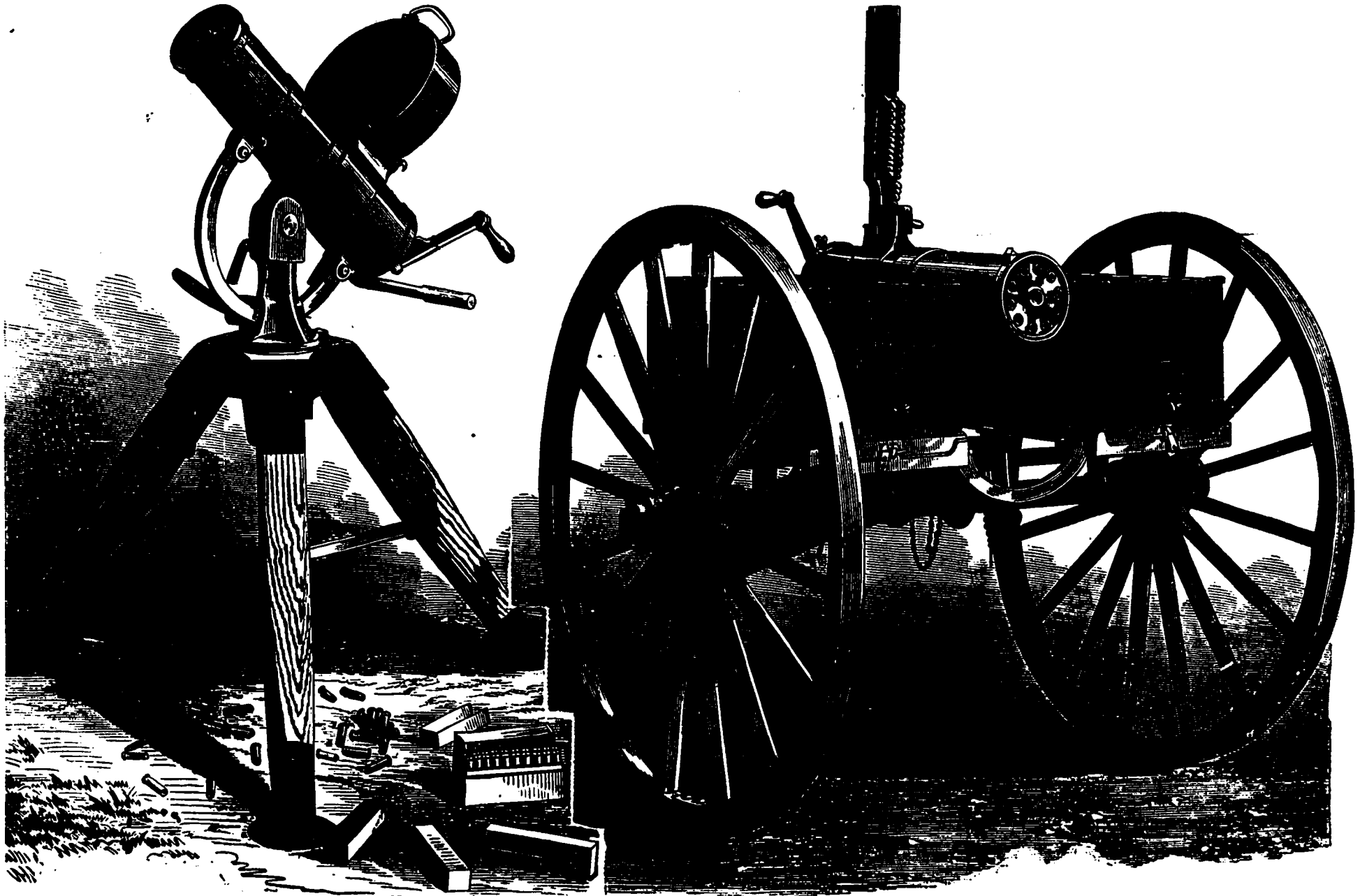
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