

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The one thing wanting to make a complete success of the North-west expedition was the capture of Big Bear; and now, when the troops were already on their way home after having scattered the bulk of his followers, and when the country had made up its mind that the hunt was virtually abandoned, word comes most unexpectedly that this last of the active heads of the rebellion has been secured. If Canada was entitled to congratulate herself on the achievements of her field force before this event, she may now be pardoned for pointing with a great deal of pride to this further proof of good judgment on the part of the officers entrusted with the management of affairs, backed by efficient action on the part of the men they commanded. The active operations are now emphatically closed, and we are all waiting to welcome home officers and men alike with the enthusiasm which they have so honorably earned.

Preparations are on foot throughout the Dominion, and especially at the headquarters of the various corps on service with this end in view. We have no fear but that the progress of the troops from the most westerly town they encounter to the farthest east they reach will be one triumphal march, with all classes vying to do them honor, and we may safely leave the details of their reception in the hands of those most interested. But the celebrations should also embrace, as returns of larger armies invariably do, some military display, and there is

already much discussion as to where and how this should be conducted. Every city wants a share in it, and if the wishes of all were acceded to some of the regiments would scarcely reach home before autumn. Under these circumstances, the arrangement suggested by the Minister of Militia at the closing of the Royal Military College, of having a review of the western troops in Toronto and of the eastern contingent in Montreal, would seem to promise the greatest satisfaction with the least expense and delay. Now let this scheme be elaborated as the official programme for the reception, and let each regimental headquarters make such additional arrangements as may seem to it most suitable.

While we are thus able to congratulate ourselves on the successful issue of our Indian rising, the United States seems just on the point of beginning an Indian fight that looks exceedingly serious. The Apaches of Arizona and New Mexico, who some time ago murdered a lot of settlers, inhabit a country so broken and rugged that their subjection is a sufficiently difficult military problem; but now the Cheyennes in Indian territory threaten to give additional trouble to the War Department. Just what the cause of the outbreak is no one seems to know; but the Cheyennes would hardly have taken to the warpath, after nine years of peace, for a trifle. We in Canada will watch with interest and sympathy the steps taken for the restoration of peace by the Republic which accorded to us in our late campaign such lavish and generous praise.

The Royal Military College has closed another year's work by the graduation of eleven cadets, who, as will be seen by the result of their examinations published in full in another column, acquitted themselves most creditably. For the thirty commissions offered this year by the Imperial service, all the members of the three senior classes in the College who desired such appointments, as well as four graduates of previous years, have been recommended. It is most probable that these prizes would have been eagerly accepted by former graduates, had not such a limit of age been fixed as to exclude the majority of them; the result being that for three of the commissions offered no recommendations have been made.

In discussing the future of the British yeomanry force, which now consists of 14,000 men, the *Broad Arrow* strongly advocates that they should be transformed into mounted riflemen, a change which would probably meet with great opposition from the yeomanry themselves, where "successive generations of families have ridden knee to knee in the ranks, the tenants of successive generations of landlords who have been their officers"; notwithstanding the assurance that "the object is not to convert the men into infantry soldiers, but so to modify their equipment and training that they would be enabled to act on foot and to shoot well." "They should do their cavalry work as they do now, and improve the dismounted service so as to combine the useful features of the existing organization with the new duties which it is

proposed they should undertake." It is suggested in this connection that as the use of the rifle is in the ascendant, and that of the sword on the wane, the rifle should be carried on the person and the sword strapped to the saddle, reversing the present arrangement. The description of rifle most appropriate for the service, and the possibility of extending a system of schools of instruction, are also discussed.

If such a reorganization of the yeomanry is advisable in England, the organization of mounted infantry corps in Canada is much more needful, as has been demonstrated by the late campaign, where duties were performed by the Mounted Police and by the hastily equipped scouts that could not have been accomplished either by ordinary cavalry or by infantry. Any future warfare in Canada is likely to occur in country so obstructed as to prevent the employment of legitimate cavalry operations, while the same features that forbade the utilization of the sabre would make corps that could be quickly moved, and then used as skirmishers or scouts, indispensable.

The question of a rifle for mounted corps would require nice consideration. No practical shot could be found to advocate the carbines formerly used, while there are not wanting advocates of the magazine rifle, whose use seems a question of discipline in firing. It has certainly not been proved that increased capacity and speed in loading a rifle have led to waste of ammunition by properly handled troops. The question of arm is affected also by the number of rounds which cavalry can carry, because if they have only thirty to fifty rounds it would be absurd to open fire at very long ranges, and hence the long rifle would be needless. It would therefore seem that an arm between the two extremes here indicated would be best, but the details of this as well as of drill and equipment would require long deliberation and careful working out.

THE WEEKS' MOVEMENTS OF CORPS ON ACTUAL SERVICE.

This week, like last, has been spent in collecting the troops for the return trip, preparations for which are pretty well completed. That the men were not altogether absorbed in quitting the country is most satisfactorily proved by yesterday's news of Big Bear's capture, which was achieved near Carlton by a party of Mounted Police. Col. Irvine has secured several more of the same band, and the Intelligence corps have added to their Batoche laurels by taking a hand in. How much more satisfactory such a finale is to leaving the country with Big Bear's whereabouts undetermined only those who have engaged in his pursuit can realize. The McLeans and their companions in captivity reached Pitt on the 27th, and Gen. Strange's contingent, for which teams had been sent, arrived there on the same day.

A steamer has gone to Edmonton to pick up the few troops left in garrison between that point and Fort Pitt. Major Steele's force of police has been left to garrison Pitt, and all the other mounted troops have left on their way to Qu'Appelle, where French's Scouts, the Intelligence Corps and Boulton's Scouts will be paid off. Col. Herchmer's force of police will escort all prisoners from Pitt and Battleford to Regina. The Gatling detachment and the batteries will be taken to Battleford in the Marquis when that steamer has taken down a load of infantry. The infantry were to have left Pitt on the 2nd as follows: On the Marquis, the 10th, Queen's Own, and Ottawa Sharpshooters; on the North-west, the 65th and Midlanders; on the Baroness the 90th and part of the Winnipeg Light Infantry, a part of the latter corps remaining to garrison Pitt. The Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry are *en route* home from the Touchwood Hills, and the Moose Mountain Scouts were being disbanded on the 3rd.

Two batteries of the M. G. A. are to remain at Regina until the conclusion of all the trials. One hundred men volunteered for this purpose at once, who will be under Major Baynes. The remainder of the brigade is to await the arrival of General Middleton at Winnipeg, where also the Halifax Battalion, the 9th, and Col. Scott's battalion will be assembled. It is probable that all the troops will have reached Winnipeg by the middle of the month.

IN THE HOUSE.

On the 30th ult. Mr. Caron, in reply to a question by Sir Richard Cartwright, stated that twenty-six graduates of the Royal Military College were attached to the forces in the North-west.

On the 2nd Mr. Charlton drew attention to a report that some of the members of the 65th Batt., who were Protestants, had been punished for refusing to attend the Roman Catholic service, on the feast of Corpus Christi, one of them being placed for eight days on bread and water. This, he pointed out, was a gross violation on the provisions of the Queen's regulations in this matter. Mr. Caron said the Department had no information in the case, but the Premier had drawn his attention on the previous day to the complaint and he at once telegraphed for particulars. He might say, though, that the regulations were perfectly clear, and that every man had a right to worship in the church to which he belonged. Sir John Macdonald remarked that if the report was true the case was an outrage, and stated that the question of the religious worship of the soldiers was settled long ago in Canada, when the 79th Highland regiment was at Montreal. The men were ordered to march to a church to hear a chaplain who was a clergyman of the Church of England. They grumbled a good deal, but they marched to church, the band playing, "This is not my ain house." After that they were not asked to attend any service but their own.

Mr. Blake understood that ministers of religion were not permitted to see the prisoners at Regina, upon which the Premier explained that as the means of keeping them secure were not the most reliable he had forbidden the reception of visitors. He had not intended to deprive the prisoners of religious instructions, and had promptly removed the misapprehension.

Mr. Desjardins enquired into the truth of the report that the troops had carried away valuables from the Metis houses at Batoche as mementoes, and claimed that if true the Government should do more than report on the affair. Mr. Caron stated that General Middleton had given most stringent orders against looting, that his attention had been drawn to the charge that looting had been indulged in, and his reply was that, as far as he could ascertain, the charge was not true.

On the third, before agreeing to the second reading of the Militia Act Amendment bill, Mr. Blake recorded his opinion that instead of increasing the permanent militia force the Government should organize corps in the North-west.

On the sixth the Minister of Militia and the leader of the Opposition united in paying a tribute of respect to the late Col. Williams, whose untimely death it was Mr. Caron's painful duty to announce. Mr. Caron also laid on the table General Middleton's official report of the battle of Batoche.

Want of space has hitherto prevented us from giving the militia estimates. We hope to present them in detail in our next issue.

RIFLES AND RIFLE SHOOTING.—VIII.

BY CAPTAIN HENRY F. PERLEY, HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

When wood is heated in properly prepared piles in the open air, only the more volatile matters burn away, leaving the carbon behind, and this residue is called charcoal. In the preparation of charcoal for the manufacture of gunpowder, the wood is placed in cast-iron cylinders, and submitted to a process of dry distillation, by which the operation is performed with more uniformity and economy, and the charcoal kept more free from particles of grit or earthy matter. A light but spongy wood, not more than three or four years old, and about an inch in diameter, is esteemed the best for the preparation of charcoal, as the quality of the charcoal exercises the greatest influence upon the rate of combustion, so that both the description of wood used and the mode of burning are of the utmost importance. Dogwood (so-called—but in reality it is alder-buckthorn—*rhamnus frangula*, the French *bourdaine*) only is used in England and on the Continent, for all military and small-arm powders, as well as the best descriptions of sporting gunpowder. Alder and willow charcoal are used for making gunpowders for field and heavy ordnance, as well as for the commoner kind of commercial gunpowder.

For the manufacture of gunpowder, only the crystalline electro-negative variety of sulphur, soluble in bi-sulphide of carbon is used. Sublimed sulphur, commonly called "flowers of sulphur," which consists of minute granules of insoluble sulphur enclosing the soluble variety, is considered unfit for gunpowder; the reason assigned being that, from the mode of manufacture, it is impregnated with sulphurous and sulphuric acids. Sulphur performs the part of a second "combustible" in gunpowder; and its chief value arises from its great inflammability, owing to its tendency to combine with oxygen at a moderate temperature, as it inflames at about 560° Fahr., thus facilitating the ignition

of the powder. Its oxidation by saltpetre appears also to produce a higher temperature than is made by charcoal, thus accelerating combustion, and increasing by expansion the volume of gas generated.

Powders made from exactly the same materials, mixed in the same proportions, will differ greatly in "explosiveness," which has been defined as the rate at which powder burns, or is converted into gas. This quality depends chiefly upon the following properties:—The extent of evaporation; the purity of the powder; its hardness; the size of the grains or pieces; the shape of the grains; and the amount of glaze. In the manufacture of powder it has to pass through ten processes—and finally, proof. After the ingredients have been purified, and the charcoal and sulphur pulverized and sifted, they are brought to the mixing house, where they are very accurately weighed out in 50-lb. charges—that is 37½ lbs. of saltpetre, 7½ lbs. of charcoal, and 5 lbs. of sulphur—as this is the largest charge authorized for the incorporating mill, which is placed in a hollow drum containing a fly fan, which rotates in an opposite direction, and with three times the speed of the drum. This rotatory motion is kept up for five minutes, when a complete mixture has been effected, and the charge is removed and passed through a copper sieve into bags. The composition is next taken to the incorporating mill, which consists of a pair of iron or stone circular runners, revolving on a flat plate or bed, about 7 ft. in diameter; the stone runners weighing about 3½ tons, and the iron about 4½ tons, both kinds making eight revolutions per minute. From two to six or seven pints of distilled water are required to facilitate incorporation, and to reduce the effects of an explosion. As the goodness of the powder depends upon this process, only experienced men are employed, and the mills work by day-light. At this stage the "cake" is proved, and, after a small piece has been corned, about half-an-ounce is flashed on a glass plate, and if any white or yellow spots are found, it is a sign that proper incorporation has not taken place. The ingredients for the Snider-Enfield rifle, known as R.F.G., are worked for 5½ hours under the stone, or 4 hours under the iron runners; whilst for the Martini-Henry rifle, known as R.F.G.² they are worked for 7 hours. Common service powder is only worked from 2½ to 3½ hours. There is more danger of an explosion during incorporation than in any other process of manufacture. The machinery is automatic; the charge in one mill cannot exceed 50 lbs.; and the mill-men only enter the mill occasionally to add water to the charge, or to give it a shove over; whilst, at the Government works at Waltham Abbey, they wear incombustible clothing, with a cap fitting over the ears, and gauntlets of the same material. The roof and front, and rear sides of the mills, are usually constructed of very light boards, or even of canvas on a wood frame; whilst the partitions between each set of runners are of solid masonry. Directly over the bed of each mill is a flat lever-board or "shutter," in gear with a tank of water, so arranged that when the "shutter" is raised on its pivot by an explosion, the water is upset into the bed. A horizontal shaft connects all the "shutters" in a group of mills, so that the explosion of one mill at once drowns all the remaining charges; whilst, if necessity requires, the whole of the tanks can be emptied by hand.

(To be continued.)

PERSONAL.

Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D. A. G. of M. D. No. 3, was at Port Hope on Dominion Day. He witnessed a representation of the bayonet charge at Batoche.

Surgeon-Major Neilson, of "B" Battery, lately returned from the Soudan, has been granted two months' leave of absence.

Lieut. Halliwell, Sergt. Christie, Col. Sergt. Wrighton, Corp. Halliwell, and Pte. Downer, wounded at Batoche, and Capt. Lazier, of the Midland Battalion, arrived in Winnipeg on the 2nd, having left Saskatoon about a week previous. They came via Moose Jaw, and had a very pleasant trip. There also arrived at the same time, on leave, Capt. Trotter, Montreal Gar. Art., from Regina; Capt. Dillon, 7th Fusiliers, from Clarke's Crossing; Corp. Thompson and Pte. Johnson, of the Queen's Own from Battleford. They all left for the east the next day.

The French Senate has voted 10,000 fr. for a public funeral to the late Admiral Courbet.

The Montreal volunteer officers have decided to give a grand picnic at St Helen's Island to the North-west volunteers on their return to that city.

General Crooks has organized his campaign against the rebellious Apaches. With scouts and infantry he will enter the Sierra Madres and endeavor to capture or kill Geronimo and his band. Should they attempt to return to the reservations in Arizona or New Mexico they will be intercepted by cavalry stationed along the line.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM GENERAL MIDDLETON'S COLUMN.

FROG LAKE, JUNE 16, 1885.

To the Editor of the Militia Gazette,

SIR,—I shall commence at Prince Albert, where we went into camp on May 19th, and try to give you an account of our travels and adventures since that date. At Prince Albert our column—Gen. Middleton's—consisting of the Grenadiers, Midland, 90th, "A" Battery and Winnipeg Field Battery, camped for three rainy days in as muddy a spot as it would be possible to imagine. There was no drill, and the duties, such as guards, piquets, &c., were made as light as possible, for Gen. Middleton is practical in the extreme, and knowing there was no enemy within fifty miles of us, and appreciating the hard work his men had been doing during the past few weeks, takes every opportunity of giving them needed rest. On Friday morning we—the Midlanders—started on the steamer *Northcote* for Battleford, with the General and his staff on board; the Grenadiers and 90th followed on the same evening on the steamers *Baroness* and *Marquis*. We arrived at Battleford on Sunday evening, May 24th, after a very pleasant trip, but did not disembark until morning, as it was after nine when the boat landed. Colonel Otter's column turned out strong to receive us, and as the steamer sailed up towards the beautifully situated town of Battleford, cheer after cheer greeted us, and we returned them with vigor. The Ottawa contingent of our battalion at once rushed ashore and in a moment were in the arms of our fellow citizens the Sharpshooters. It was a joyful meeting. Reveille sounded at four next morning; and at six o'clock, having had an early breakfast, we marched up and pitched our tents on the finest military camping ground it has been my fortune to see. Orders were at once read, calling a parade at 11 o'clock to do honor to the birthday of our beloved Queen. The parade was a grand success, and consisted of "horse, foot and artillery," about 700 strong. Before we arrived in Battleford Col. Otter's column were in the habit of throwing out very large piquets, the number of men required each day for duty being 130, but on our arrival they were reduced to 90. The large proportion consisted of outlying piquets, which went on duty at 6 p.m. and came off at 6 a.m., the men parading with great coat and one blanket and a rubber sheet apiece. It was miserably cold work for the men, but the second day after our arrival they were discontinued by order of the General, and the hearts of many were filled with joy. On Tuesday Poundmaker and his chiefs surrendered. The scene in front of the General's tent was one which will be long remembered by those who had the pleasure of witnessing it. Within the rope-enclosed square, in an armchair, sat our General, stern and severe of mien, surrounded by a brilliantly uniformed circle of officers, and opposite him, sitting upon the ground, was Poundmaker, handsome, dignified and impassive, with all his blanket-clad chiefs squatting around him, and closest of all the old Indian queen, his mother. Poundmaker and his brother are remarkably fine looking specimens of their race, but the others were a most villainous looking collection. The pow-wow lasted for three hours, and was listened to with intense interest by us all, and long before this will reach you you will have known the result. We spent the rest of the week in Battleford, doing two hours' drill a day, and enjoying ourselves immensely. The monotony of camp life was varied by football and cricket matches, and the chief topic of conversation among all ranks was our early return home, which seemed very imminent, as an order had come out calling for volunteers to remain behind. On Saturday all prospects of an early break up of the campaign were swept away by the receipt of news of Gen. Strange's fight with Big Bear, and the additional news that Big Bear was in camp 18 miles north of the river, a few miles from Fort Pitt. We were all up at four o'clock next morning, and at half past five we marched down to our old steamer, the *Northwest*, the 90th and Grenadiers taking the *Marquis* and *Alberta* respectively. As only a short absence was expected we only brought half our tents with us—three per company—and all extra baggage was left at Battleford. Everyone was enthusiastic at the near prospect of a brush with the enemy, and when I tell you that the sight of the hospital sergeants cutting out bandages upon the cabin table did not dampen our ardor in the least you can judge how bloodthirsty we had all become. During the trip up the river we were hailed by numerous scouts, who gave us the latest information, but we saw no sign of Indians. On Tuesday morning a scout came on board, who informed us that Big Bear had fled—news that filled us all with the deepest disgust, for we had hoped to capture the old fiend this time and thus wind up the campaign and restore the prisoners to their friends. At noon we came across the scow that had come down the river from Gen. Strange's camp, and took it in tow. There were about a dozen of the 65th men upon it, and none of them seemed any the worse for their adventure. We spent the night on the steamer and went into camp early next morning. We were seven miles from Fort Pitt—the men packing in fourteen to each tent, while there was only one tent for tea officers; a great change for both officers and men, but nobody grumbled, for we are old hands at campaigning now. Before noon the camp presented a very novel and beautiful appearance, as our men utilized their time in building "tepees" of young poplars, which abound in this part of the country, and in which leafy habitations they seemed to derive as much comfort as the occupants of the tents. Envyng the proprietors of the leafy houses their happiness, I constructed a "one man tepee" of poplar branches, with my white canvas sheet for a roof, and when I crawled out of it in the morning after a delightful sleep I found a large cross erected at the head of it, and my epitaph written in staring black letters upon the white canvass roof. I enjoyed the joke immensely in spite of its rather ghastly appearance. I shall stop here, as I think I have written enough for one letter, but before closing I shall tell you a few facts upon the all important subject of our rations. Our commissariat on the whole has been excellent, especially when the difficulties of transportation are taken into consideration. Our bill of fare is not by any means varied, but at no period of the campaign have we been reduced to anything like short rations; the worst being an occasional absence for a couple of days of such articles as sugar, beans or bacon, but that was in the earlier part of the campaign. Our clothing is in a fearful state, and a large number of our men are almost without footwear of any kind. All spare out sacks are used for patching clothes, and the appearance of the men smacks very much of convicts. A new issue of uniform is daily expected. Tobacco cannot be had for love or money. In my next letter I shall give you an account of our Bear hunting expedition out north, which I hope will prove interesting to our friends at home.

FORTYTH READER.

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR AT THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

The close of the tenth scholastic year of the Royal Military College was celebrated in Kingston in the usual way on the 30th June; the results of the annual examinations having been announced the previous day as follows:

STANDING AND MARKS OF THE GRADUATING CLASS.

	MARKS.		MARKS.
Company Sergeant-Major Ridout...	51,550	Sergeant A. C. Macdonald.....	32,807
" " Von Hugel	49,912	Company Sergeant-Major Almon..	32,804
Battalion Sergeant-Major Moren..	46,858	Sergeant C. R. Hodgins.....	32,036
Corporal F. C. Skinner.....	45,110	Sergeant E. Duffus.....	31,847
Sergeant A. Bremner.....	35,598	Corporal P. Primrose.....	29,712
Company Sergeant-Major Tilley..	34,984		

These are the aggregate marks gained by the graduates throughout their college course. The standing of the several classes for the past year, including the graduating class, is as follows:

FIRST CLASS.

Co. S.-M. Ridout, first in chemistry, fortification, geology, military topography, military history, first equal in French, 20,344. Co. S. M. Von Hugel, second in fortification, freehand drawing, physics, civil engineering, military topography, first in drills and exercises, second in conduct, n.-c.-o. discipline and military history, 19,014. Bat. S.-M. Moren, first equal in French, first in conduct, n.-c.-o. discipline, architecture, second in chemistry, 17,251. Corpl. T. C. Skinner, first in civil engineering, 14,410. Sergt. A. P. Bremner, second in German, 13,928. Lc.-Corpl. A. Macdonald, first in German, second in geology, 13,150. Co. S.-M. W. F. Tilley, first in freehand drawing, 12,676. Co. S.-M. C. Almon, 12,389. Lc. Corpl. E. Duffus, first in physics, 12,238. Sergt. C. Hodgins, second in drills and exercises, 11,478. Corp. P. Primrose, 11,156.

SECOND CLASS.

Sergt. H. Sloggett, first in physics, mathematics, freehand drawing, chemistry, first equal in drills and exercises, second in military history, 14,426 marks. Sergt. G. Cartwright, second equal in conduct, first equal in n.-c.-o. discipline, 12,669. Sergt. W. Yorston, second in geometrical drawing, second in chemistry, and first equal in n.-c.-o. discipline, 12,476. Corpl. G. Kirkpatrick, first in military history, second in theory and construction of artillery, 12,437. Cadet Newman, second in mathematics, 10,956. Lc. Corpl. J. Kennedy, first in geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry, second in physics, 10,913. Sergt. H. Smith, 10,855. Corpl. Girouard, first in French, second in military topography and freehand drawing, 10,649. Lc.-Corpl. J. Newcomb, first in military topography, first equal in drills in exercises, 10,545. Cadet Cadet R. C. Coutlee first in fortification and in theory and construction of artillery, 9,116. Cadet R. McCall, 9,063. Sergt. A. Macdonell, second in conduct and first in n.-c.-o. discipline, 9,035. Lc. Corpl. C. Maxwell, second in French, 8,956. Cadet C. Hensley, first in conduct, 8,824. Cadet J. Laurie, 8,759. Sergt. C. Perry, 8,541. Cadet R. Roe, 8,494. Lc.-Corpl. G. Worsley, 8,254.

THIRD CLASS.

Cadet A. Davis first in fortification, English, geometrical drawing, descriptive geometry, military topography, second in theory and construction of artillery, and first in mathematics, 10,428. Cadet F. Gaudet, first in French, second in fortification and mathematics, 9,448. Lc.-Corpl. H. P. Leader, first equal in drills and exercises, second in geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry, first in conduct, first equal in free hand drawing, second in military topography, and first in n.-c.-o. discipline, 8,978. Cadet R. Jack, 7,385. Cadet C. Straubenzee, first in military history, 7,658. Cadet Adams, 7,547. Cadet G. B. Laurie, first in theory and construction of artillery, 7,493. Cadet C. C. Luard, first equal in drills and exercises, second in English, 7,450. Cadet R. Macdonald, 7,266. Cadet E. Hewett, first equal in freehand, 6,803. Cadet H. Morrow, second in conduct and French, 6,433. Cadet G. Bowie, second in military history, 6,028. Cadet C. Cowie, 5,585.

FOURTH CLASS FOR TERM.

1. H. Joly first in mathematics, first equal in geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry, second in fortification, first in English. 2. W. Leslie, first conduct, second in mathematics and French. 3. W. Heneker, first in fortification, second in English. 4. M. S. Knight, first equal in geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry. 5. C. Farwell; 6. A. Crawford, first in freehand drawing; 7. A. Panet, first in French; 8. W. W. Grant; 9. A. G. Bremner, first in drills and exercises and second in freehand drawing; 10. F. Barker; 11. E. Hamilton; 12. J. Mylne; 13. H. Johnston; 14. A. Cayley; 15. G. Johnston; 16. J. Gunn; 17. J. D. McKay; 18. M. J. Murphy; 19. V. Williams; 20. Alex. Mackerzie.

CLOSING EXERCISES.

A large number of people from different parts of Canada assembled on Tuesday, to witness the closing exercises. First in order, came an artillery parade under Major Fairtlough, R.A. The Cadets came on to the ground with a field battery of 6-pr. B.L.R. guns. The battery was drawn up at full interval and inspected by Col. Gzowski, A.D.C. to the Queen. They then marched past at a walk and at a trot, subsequently came into action on Fort Frederick, fired twenty rounds, and marched off. Col Gzowski next inspected the barrack rooms, and models of permanent and field fortifications made by the several classes of cadets during the term.

The principal feature of the day—the infantry parade—succeeded. The cadets, under Major McGill, Staff Adjutant of the College, marched on to the field in two companies and were drawn up in line opposite the saluting base, and received Col. Gzowski with a general salute. That officer then inspected the line, after which the ranks were closed. They then broke into column to the right and marched past in column and quarter column in quick time and in column in double time. Each time the young soldiers went past with a steadiness and precision that spoke highly of their training. After the march past the companies were drilled as follows: Manual exercise—by Co.-S.-M. Ridout. Bayonet exercise—by Bat.-S.-M. Moren. Bayonet exercise in review order—by Co.-S.-M. Almon. The companies were then marched to the north end of the field and extended for attack upon Fort Frederick. These manœuvres were excellently performed, and concluded the review.

The gymnasium having been appropriately fitted up, the cadets were next marched there, without arms, for the reception of the Commandant's annual report, and for the distribution of the prizes. Those who received prizes were as follows: Gold medal—Co.-S.-M. Ridout. Silver medal—S.-M. Von Hugel. Bronze medal—Bat. S.-M. Moren. The sword for good conduct and discipline was awarded to Bat. S.-M. Moren. Honorary Distinctions: First class—C.-S.-M. Ridout secured first place in chemistry, fortification, geology, military topography, and military history, and will be entitled to wear three stars. Second class: Sergt. H. Sloggett—first in class, in physics, mathematics, freehand drawing and chemistry—to wear two stars. Third class—Cadet A. Davis, first in fortification, English, geometrical drawing and descriptive geometry—to wear three stars. Fourth class—Cadet H. Joly—first in class—to wear one star. The following obtained prizes, determined by the results of the several periodical examinations during the entire course of instruction in these subjects: Conduct and discipline—Bat.-S.-M. Moren. Drills and military exercises—Co.-S.-M. Von Hugel. Mathematics and military engineering—B.-S.-M. Moren. Fortifications and military engineering—Co.-S.-M. Ridout. Descriptive geometry and geometrical drawing—Corpl. T. C. Skinner. Artillery, theory and construction—Co.-S.-M. Ridout. Surveying, practical astronomy, military topography and reconnaissance—Co.-S.-M. Ridout. Military history, strategy, tactics, military administration and law—Co.-S.-M. Ridout. English—B.-S.-M. Moren. French—B.-S.-M. Moren. German—Lc.-Corpl. A. C. Macdonald. Physics—C.-S.-M. Ridout. Chemistry—C.-S.-M. Ridout. Geology—C.-S.-M. Ridout. Freehand drawing and painting—C.-S.-M. Tilley. Civil engineering—Corpl. T. Skinner. Architecture—B.-S.-M. Moren. The following cadets have obtained prizes for proficiency in all subjects of instruction combined on the record of examinations during the current term: First class—C.-S.-M. Ridout. Second class—Sergt. Sloggett. Third class—Cadet A. Davis. Fourth class—Cadet H. Joly.

IMPERIAL COMMISSIONS.

The following have been recommended for commissions in the British Army:

Previous graduates—Royal Engineers—Lieut. Stairs, Lieut. Nanton, Lieut. Casgrain. Royal Artillery—Lieut. Strange.

Class of 1885—Royal Engineers—C.-S.-M. Ridout, C.-S.-M. Von Hugel, Corpl. Skinner, Sergt. Bremner, C.-S.-M. Tilley, Sergt. Sloggett, Cadets Cartwright and Kirkpatrick. Royal Artillery—B.-S.-M. Moren, Sergt. Almon, Sergt. Hodgins, Sergt. Duffus, and Cadet Maxwell. Infantry—Cadets Smith, Worsley, J. Laurie, Hensley, Leader, Luard, Clapp, G. Laurie, Hewett and Cowie.

Those who were offered commissions and did not desire them were: Engineers, artillery or infantry—Lc.-Corpl. A. Macdonald. Royal Artillery or infantry—Corpl. Primrose, Sergt. Yorston, Cadet Newman, Lc.-Corpl. Kennedy, Lc.-Corpl. Girouard, Lc.-Corpl. McComb, Sergt. Perry, Cadet McCall. Infantry—Cadet Coutlee, Sergt. A. Macdonnell, Cadets Roe, Davis, Gaudet, Jack, Adams, Straubenzee, Clapp, R. Macdonald, Morrow and Bowie.

COL. GZOWSKI'S ADDRESS.

The presentation of prizes being over, Col. Gzowski made a few remarks, first regretting the unavoidable absence of the Minister of Militia and General Middleton. He was sure that the latter would like nothing better than to have been present to see the excellent work done by the cadets, and hear the commandant's report. Compliments were uncommon among military men, as they were all expected to do their duty, and upon their success in the performance of their duty depended the praise and approbation to be bestowed. In this connection the speaker referred to the manner in which the gallant General stopped the unfortunate rebellion in the North-west, and said that it caused the whole Dominion to be grateful, and more particularly the parents, friends and relatives of the volunteers, who went to the front without hesitation, as the campaign was conducted with as little loss of blood as possible, and as the General had guarded the soldiers as carefully as if they had been his own children. (Applause.) He was sure that when General Middleton returned from the North-west he would receive that hearty welcome which he richly deserved. After alluding to the commandant's report as being a satisfactory one, he spoke of the statistics of the College, saying that out of 88 graduates since the inception of the College, 24 were in the Imperial service, 27 were doing duty in the North-west, and 13 were employed in the Civil Service, making 64 in all, which was a large proportion. The good conduct of these 64 would be an incentive for the Government to employ future graduates. The colonel next spoke of the 26 extra commissions offered by the Imperial Government, and said that these could be easily filled in the old country, but Canada was honored because of her loyalty, the ability and faithfulness of her officers, and because no Canadian from Kingston who has obtained a commission had failed to do his duty. (Applause.) The graduates were given wholesome advice and told to push ahead. In concluding, he said the infantry and gun drills were wonderfully well done, and that the bayonet exercise, without command, was as good as he had seen done by any British regiment. (Applause.) "God speed those who have accepted commissions," said the colonel, and then he sat down.

The cadets then assembled on the square and sang "Auld Lang Syne." Yesterday the majority of them left for their homes.

During the afternoon the visitors inspected the barracks, model rooms, drawing rooms, etc. Professor Day was present when the drawings were inspected, and kindly furnished all desired information, and pointed out the most meritorious works. In the model room Sergt.-Major Birtles explained the workings of the various apparatus, and the objects of the different models, thus making it most interesting for the visitors.

The music for the marching past of the artillery and infantry was supplied by the fine band of the 14th P.W.O. Rifles, which also played some beautiful waltz music during the presentation of prizes.

OBITUARY.

The congratulations which the news of the surrender of Big Bear would have evoked at any other time, are altogether overshadowed by the shock experienced on learning at the same time of the unexpected death of the gallant commander of the Midland Battalion, which occurred on Friday last, while he was accompanying his command from Fort Pitt to Battleford. Lieutenant Colonel Arthur T. H. Williams, M. P. for the East Riding of Durham, and commanding officer of the 46th East Durham Battalion of Infantry, since its organization in 1866, was one of the best known, most popular, and most highly respected officers in the active force, and his death the militia and Parliament alike lose one of their brightest ornaments. The fact that Col. Williams volunteered to furnish a Canadian regiment for service in the Soudan at an early phase of the difficulty there, and the kind way in which his loyal offer was received, will be fresh in all memories, as well as the promptitude with which he volunteered for service in the North-West. That he should have survived the danger of actual warfare and the charge of Batoche, where he proved that he was of the stuff of which heroes are made, only to fall a victim to brain fever, will make us feel his loss the more, and will cast a permanent shadow over the rejoicings with which we must hail the success of the campaign.

We have also to record the death of Dr. Henry T. Corbett, of Ottawa, Ont., who succumbed while on service in the Northwest, though we understand the disease which proved so rapidly fatal seized him shortly after his arrival in Winnipeg, thereby preventing him from going forward in his professional capacity to the field hospitals. Dr. Corbett has been a resident of Ottawa for many years, where he has practised his profession since leaving the Allan

line, whose service he entered after graduating at Queen's College, Kingston. As a militia surgeon he was always enthusiastic, and took a lively interest in all matters affecting the wellbeing of his corps, and was identified with the Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, for many years holding the position of Surgeon of that organization, up to the time of its being disbanded about the year 1876.

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

OTTAWA—The Capital was visited on the 18th anniversary of Dominion Day by that crack corps of the commercial metropolis, the third battalion "Victoria Rifles of Canada." They reached the city half an hour after midnight on Tuesday by special train on the Canada Atlantic Railway, and were met at the station by an escort of fifty members of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, who accompanied them to the Drill Hall, where they were entertained to a substantial supper, the waiters being members of the Guards, who volunteered their services for the occasion. After supper the visiting volunteers were each supplied with three blankets, and slept in the Drill Hall, which they made their headquarters during their stay in the city.

At 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning the battalion was inspected in the Drill Hall by Adjutant-General Powell and Deputy Adjutant-General Lamontagne. At 10.40 they marched out to Cartier square, where they formed in line and stood at ease until 11 o'clock. At that hour Hon. A. P. Caron arrived on the field accompanied by a staff consisting of Lieut.-Col. Pant, Deputy Minister of Militia, Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne, D.A.G., Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, Director of Stores, and Lieut.-Col. Lewis, Brigade Major. After the Minister and staff had inspected the battalion they took up a position on the Maria street side of the square. The battalion then marched past, first in column and then in quarter column, in quick and double time, to the music of their own splendid band.

The battalion then formed square and were addressed at some length by Mr. Caron, who complimented the men upon the excellent appearance they presented and spoke in high terms of the general efficiency of the militia. He referred to the troubles in the North-west and the noble manner in which our militia responded to the call to arms to defend their country's flag and honour. While feeling assured that the brave defenders of our country would be ever found equally ready to respond to a similar call, he hoped that occasion for it would never occur again in Canada.

The battalion then reformed line and the Ottawa Field Battery, under Major Stewart, took up a position on its right. A royal salute of 21 guns was fired by the battery and a *feu de joie* by the rifles. It is almost unnecessary to state that the field battery presented a splendid appearance, and acquitted themselves with infinite credit. The manoeuvres of the Vics were much admired by the thousands of spectators who witnessed them. Their marching was very steady, and the manner in which they went past at the "double" was much admired. After the review the battalion, preceded by the field battery, marched through the principal streets of the city. They returned to Montreal by the 9 o'clock train the same evening.

THE TARGET.

NOTE.—As most of the target practice in Canada is done with Snider rifles, and as most of the scores recorded consist of the aggregate of seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards, for the sake of conciseness in this column, the ranges and rifle will only be mentioned in future, when they depart from these standards.

WIMBLEDON TEAM.

We have just learned that the *Parisian*, with the Wimbledon Team on board, reached Liverpool on Sunday, the 5th July. There has been some question as to what became of the long range practice of the team, and we should have informed our readers that there was an informal practice on Thursday morning, but no scores were taken, as the results were not intended to be included in any average of the team's capabilities. There was also an informal practice on Friday morning, 26th June, when the members were allowed to choose any range at which they felt themselves weak, but no records were kept. The standing of the team so far will therefore be decided by the seven practices of which we published details last week. On adding the scores together we find the aggregates and relative positions of the members to be as follows:—

Pte. W. C. King, 45th Batt.....	555	Capt. Thomas, 54th Batt.....	535
Pte. Kimmerly, 49th Batt.....	554	Staff-Sergt. Wynne, 5th R. S.....	533
Lt. Jameson, 60th Batt.....	548	Lt. Sherwood, G. G. F. G.....	528
Staff-Sergt. Ashall, Q.O.R.....	545	Co.-Sergt. Dalrymple, 5th R.S.....	522
Pte. Marris, 13th Batt.....	543	Pte. Cooke, 5th R. S.....	517
Corp. Hillier, 49th Batt.....	543	Srgt. Short, G. G. F. G.....	516
Lt. Patterson, 85th Batt.....	540	Pte. Jarvis, 13rd Batt.....	516
Capt. Macdonald, 1st Br. G. Field		Asst. Sut. McLarghlin, 45th.....	493
Ar.....	510	Sergt. Miner, 71st Batt.....	465
Cap. Kirkpatrick, 67th Batt.....	537	Staff-Sergt. Allan, 82nd Batt.....	464

HAMILTON.—A score or so of crack shots from the city engaged in a sweep-stake match on Wednesday, at the Victoria Rifle Ranges. Wind and light were both variable, consequently the scores were not very large:

F. B. Ross.....	28	28	26	82	Jas. Adam.....	30	23	21	74
O. Hancock.....	27	25	26	78	W. H. Clarke.....	29	28	17	74
L. Lambert.....	31	23	22	76	A. Parkhill.....	28	18	25	71
P. Robertson.....	30	30	15	76	W. M. Goodwin....	28	24	18	70

TORONTO.—The highest scores made at the Q. O. R. practice on July 4th are as follows (5 rounds at 200, 400 and 500 yards):

Pte. Blainey, "D" Co.....	55	Bugler Emery, "E" Co.....	59
" E. Westman, "A" Co.....	59	Sergt. Kniton, "E" Co.....	59
" F. Westman, "A" Co.....	52	Sergt. Gorrie, "A" Co.....	53
" E. McNeill, "A" Co.....	57	Actg. Sgt.-Maj. Warrington, "C" Co.	57

TORONTO.—The attendance at the Queen's Own regular practice on the 27th June was small, in consequence of the numerous other attractions on the same day. 200, 400 and 500 yards, 5 rounds, D. C. ammunition of 1885. The best score was 56, made by Corpl. McNeill, "A" Company, followed by Col.-Sergt. Knifton, "E" Company, with 51.

FORT PITT.—A rifle match for newspaper prizes, between 15 men from each battalion, 90th Midland and 10th, at 200, 400 and 500 yards, was fired on the 27th and was won by the Grenadiers.

OTTAWA.—The fifth Snider spoon competition of the Ottawa Rifle Club was held on the 4th. The day was dark, with showers of rain at intervals; wind light, from 11 to 2 o'clock. Ammunition mixed. Most of it D. C. 1885.

Lt. Chamberlin.....30 29 25 84	Mr. N. Morrison.....28 22 23 73
(First Spoon)	Major Anderson.....29 24 19 72
Mr. W. Whitely.....28 28 28 81	Mr. A. F. Cotton.....30 23 18 71
(Second Spoon)	Mr. J. Armstrong.....28 26 17 71
Mr. T. McJanet.....26 24 28 78	Mr. R. Reardon.....29 19 20 68
Captain Perley.....28 28 22 78	Dr. Hutchison.....19 23 16 68
Mr. J. Hutchison.....31 28 19 78	Lieut. Wright.....28 29 10 67
Mr. A. Pink.....27 32 18 77	Mr. F. W. Dawson.....28 18 18 65
Mr. T. Carroll.....23 29 23 75	Mr. H. Walters.....27 23 14 64
Mr. R. N. Slater.....28 29 17 74	Mr. C. Mailleue.....22 19 8 49
Mr. R. Tink.....29 28 17 74	

THE ANNUAL MATCHES OF THE FIFTIETH BATTALION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

HUNTINGDON, QUE.—The annual rifle matches of this association were held on the 23rd and 24th ult., and were attended by Capt. Hood, Capt. Newton, Capt. Ibbotson, Staff-Sergt. Allan, Pte. D. Smith and Pte. J. Kambery of the 5th Royal Scots. The weather was bad. The following was the result of the shooting:—

Trial Match—Open to members of the association who never won over \$2 in any match. Range 200 yards; 5 shots; 13 entries—Pte. R. M. Walker, No. 3 Co. 50th, 16; David Ross, 16; Wm. Purse, No. 1 Co. 50th, 15.

Frontier Match—Open to all members of the association; ranges 200, 500 and 600; seven shots at each; twenty-nine entries; 14 prizes:—Staff-Sergt. Allan, 5th Royal Scots, 69; Captain Hood, 5th Royal Scots, 68; Pte. D. Smith, 5th Royal Scots, 65; Sergt. Kelly, No. 3 Co. 50th, 64.

Association Match.—Open to all members of the association; ranges 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each range; 13 prizes:—C. H. Mills, L.D.S., 55; Capt. Hood, 5th Royals, 49; Pte. J. Kambery, 5th Royals, 42; D. McFarlan, jr, No. 3 Co. 50th, 42; Capt. Newton, 5th Royals, 42; Sergt.-Major Steele, 5th, 41; Sergt. Kelly, No. 3 Co., 41; Sergt. Baird, No. 4 Co., 39; Pte. D. Smith, 5th Royals, 39; D. G. McFarlan, No. 3 Co., 38; W. Sloan, No. 6 Co., 34; Capt. Ibbotson, 5th Royals, 33; Staff-Sergt. Allan, 5th Royals, 30.

Company Challenge Match.—Open to all companies belonging to the association; range 400 yards; five rounds, fired by word of command:—No. 1 Co., 50th Batt, 35; No. 6 Co., 50th, 31; No. 2 Co. 50th, 25.

Ladies' Match.—Five rounds on the match; target six feet by eighteen inches; twenty-five entries; 3 prizes:—J. Kambery, 5th Royals, 16; Sergt. Gardiner, No. 3 Co. 50th, 11; Capt. Hood, 5th Royals, 10. Three tied for third prize, and had to fire off, Capt. Hood winning.

Sweepstakes.—500 yards; seven shots; fifteen entries:—Capt. Ibbotson, 5th Royals, 30; Capt. Hood, 5th Royals, 29; Lieut. McFarlane, No. 3 Co. 50th, 25; Pte. D. Smith, 5th Royals, 24; Staff-Sergt. Allan, 5th Royals, 22.

Conso'ation.—400 yards; five rounds:—Sergt. Henderson, No. 6 Co. 50th, 16; Sergt. Niven, No. 1 Co. 50th, 14; Jas. Moit, 8; Wm. Long, No. 8 Co. 50th 9; S. M. Walker, No. 3 Co. 50th, 5.

Aggregate.—In matches 2, 3 and 5, Sergeant Baird, No. 4 Co. 50, 112, D.R.A. Medal; Sergeant Kelly, No. 3 Co. 50th, 111; Marksman's badge.

Captain Hood ordered an aggregate of 127, but the aggregates were only open to members of the 50th Battalion.

Captain Hood, Newton and Ibbotson have promised medals for the annual competitions of the 50th Battalion Rifle Association next year.

SHERBROOKE, Q.—It is expected that the annual rifle matches of the Sherbrooke Rifle Association (the 53rd Battalion's Headquarters) will be held on the 14th instant.

EIGHTH ROYAL RIFLES' PRIZE MEETING.

QUEBEC.—The annual prize meeting of this regiment took place on the 28th ult., at the Levis Range, and was very well attended considering the extremely bad weather. A very strong left wind blew all day in gusts from the east with a drizzling rain, which increased in the afternoon to a drenching downpour during the last two matches. The scoring was, consequently, not up to the average. The following are the scores:—

Company Match.

Open to teams of five N.C.O. and men from each company. 200, 500 and 600 yards; five shots at each. Prize, \$15. Entrance free. Won by B Co. with 191 points, as follows:—Sergt. McKean, 48; Corp. Goudie, 42; Pte. Grogan, 37; Pte. Brown, 34; Sergt. Mountain, 30.

Battalion Match.

Open to all members of the Battalion, with five prizes open only to green shots. 200, 500 and 600 yards; seven shots at each. Entrance free.

Sergt. Dewia l, E. Co., 70 points—Gilmour Cup and \$5.

Staff-Sergt. Kennedy, F Co. 70 \$4 00	Capt. Miller, D Co..... 64 \$2 00
Pte. R. Norton, C Co..... 69 3 00	Capt. Wurtele, B Co..... 60 1 00
Sergt. Morrison, E Co..... 67 3 00	Sergt. Thomson, F Co..... 59 1 00
Corp. Thomson, F Co..... 65 2 00	Sergt. Morgan, A Co..... 59 1 00

Winners of green prizes:—

Corp. Marmion, C Co..... 60 \$3 00	Pioneer Stevenson, E Co... 40 00
Bugler Norton, F Co..... 53 2 00	Pte. Hughes, B Co..... 31 50
Pte. Paxman, B Co..... 52 1 50	

All Comers' Match.

500 and 600 yards; seven shots at each. Entrance 50 cents.	
Pte. Champion, D Co. 8th R.R. 46 \$8 00	Sergt. Dewfall, E Co. 8th R.R. 38 2 00
Bugler Norton, F Co. 8th R.R. 42 6 00	Corp. Goudie, B Co. 8th R.R. 38 1 00
Sergt. Thomson, F Co. 8th R.R. 41 5 00	Pte. Bignell, A. Co. 8th R.R. 36 1 00
Corp. Hartley, E Co. 8th R.R. 41 3 00	Major Demers, 17th Batt ... 36 1 00
S.rgt. McKean, B Co. 8th R.R. 39 2 00	Lieut. Forrest, A Co. 8th R.R. 36 1 00

Association Match.

Open to all members of the Regimental rifle club. 500 and 600 yards; five shots at each. Entrance free.

Corp. Goudie, B Co..... 31 \$6 00	Corp. Hartley, E Co..... 25 1 00
Pte. Phillips, D Co..... 31 4 00	Pte. Brown, B Co..... 24 1 00
Sergt. Perret, C Co..... 30 3 00	Lieut. Forrest, A Co..... 24 1 00
Pte. Grogan, B Co..... 28 2 00	Pte. Douglas, C Co..... 24 50
Sergt. Norton, Co..... 26 1 50	

Aggregate Prize for matches 2, 3 and 4, P.Q.R.A. badge for 1884, Sergt. Dewfall, E Co., 127 points.

Military Match.

Open to teams of four n.c.o. and men from each company. Five shots each at 400 yards in volleys by word of command, and five shots each at 150 yards, independent "time" firing. B. Co. first prize, \$5. Sergt. McKean, 23; Corp. Goudie, 26; Sergt. Mountain, 13; Private Brown, 20. Aggregate score, 82.

E Co., second prize, \$3:—Sergt. Morrison, 27; Sergt. Dewfall, 21; Corp. Hartley, 9; Pioneer Stevenson, 20; aggregate score, 77 points.

Pte. Phillips, D Co., highest individual score, 33 points, \$2.

GLEANINGS.

Dr. H. T. Corbett, late of Ottawa, was buried with military honors at Winnipeg on the 2nd inst. The entire force in the city turned out on the occasion.

Private Mullig, of the Halifax Battalion, was drowned while bathing at Medicine Hat on the 28th June. He leaves a wife and family to mourn his untimely end.

The *Volunteer Service Review* now rises to explain that the regulations respecting the wearing of shirt collars with undress uniform only applies to the Indian forces.

A revised edition of the "Manual Exercises for the Rifle and Carbine and Bayonet Exercise" has been published and is to be issued to all concerned.—*Broad Arrow*.

The Gordon Memorial Committee has approved of the resolution of the Prince of Wales in favor of establishing a home for training children for military and civil life.

There is no foundation for the report that Civil Servants now with their regiments in the North-west have been ordered home in advance of the main body of the troops.

The subscription fund for the erection of a monument at Perth to the memory of Mr. A. W. Kippen of the Surveyors' Corps, who lost his life in the engagement at Batoche, now amounts to \$449.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Montreal corporation on Saturday, it was decided to vote \$1,200 towards defraying the expenses of welcome to be given the volunteers, including a banquet on St. Helen's Island.

It has been suggested as a fitting tribute to the Midland Battalion on their return that the ladies of the town and county present them with a stand of colors, having a suitable motto inscribed, as a memento of their gallant deeds in the Northwest. Such a movement would no doubt be well supported.

The seven lady nurses who went from Toronto have returned home, bringing with them the last of the patients, in a state of convalescence. Their gentle ministry has been most successful, all the forty-two patients under their charge having recovered and the hospital being closed. They received the thanks of the field force in a brigade order issued by General Laurie.

The people of the county of Wentworth are determined to have a cavalry corps organized, if possible, with headquarters at Hamilton. Captain G. B. Smith has secured a petition signed by all the reeves, deputy reeves, and councillors of the county, as well as by most of the influential men of the county, which will be forwarded immediately to Ottawa to back up a petition sent from the City of Hamilton.

The bodies of Privates Wheeler, Innis and Hutchison, 90th Battalion, who were killed at Fish Creek, have been brought east, and the two former have been reinterred in St. John's Cemetery, Winnipeg. The remains of Private Hutchison, will be interred in St. Thomas to-morrow, with military and civic honors. A deputation from the London Field Battery and Seventh Fusiliers will attend the funeral.

England's latest magnificent addition to her navy, launched a few days ago at Blackwall, and christened the *Benbow* by Mrs. Gladstone, was named after the famous John Benbow who died in 1702 from the effects of a wound received in the West Indies while he was fighting a vastly superior French fleet under Admiral du Casse. The *Benbow* with its ten thousand tons burden is a larger ship than the whole of the British navy at the time of Queen Elizabeth.

The golden sword which the Emperor of Russia has presented to Gen. Komaroff is described as being a very magnificent weapon indeed. Its shape is that of an old French sword; the blade is made of Damascus steel; the scabbard as well as the hilt is of gold; between the chased ornaments on both sides of the scabbard there are rows of jewels, and at the upper end of the sword there are clusters of six or seven large diamonds. At the lower part of the scabbard are engraved the words, "For valor," also surrounded by precious stones. Further ornaments in the shape of roses formed of jewels are set in different places. The cost of the sword is estimated at £150.

Lieut. Charles Wright received a letter from Capt. Joshua Wright, on Saturday, June 27th, dated 8th June, 60 miles from Fort Pitt, from which it appears that he had obtained permission from the General to go with a scouting expedition after Big Bear. One of the reminiscences was, a party of six, himself included, struck on a trail and came suddenly on a party of four Indians, and it was pretty hard to tell which was the most astonished, the Indians or themselves. However, the Indians opened fire, which salutation was quickly responded to, and resulted in the death of one Indian, the leader of the insurrection at Saddle Lake, and the wounding of another.

At the meeting of the committee appointed by the citizens interested in the erection of a monument to the two Toronto volunteers who fell at Batoche, to strike a committee for the collection of the necessary funds held last Thursday evening in the Executive Committee room at the City Hall, there were present, Mr. John Lees (in the chair), Capt. McMaster, Capt. Harman, Capt. Furnival, Ald. Steiner, Ald. Verral, Messrs. R. W. Darling, W. K. McNaught, and L. C. Cosgrave. Committees were appointed to canvass the respective wards of the city, along with the Aldermen representing the different wards. Capt. McMaster was appointed permanent Treasurer, Major Manning Chairman, and Mr. W. K. McNaught, Secretary. Capt. Harman and Mr. McNaught were appointed a committee to prepare a heading on the subscription books which will be distributed among the canvassers.

It has lately been decided to increase the already large staff of German military pigeons, of which there are at present in different fortresses about 4,000. These pigeons are taught not to alight on the dovecote, but, on their arrival at their destination, to knock against the closed wire wicket, which motion causes a leaden ball to drop, thereby opening the wicket and setting a mechanism in motion that connects with a bell in the room of the keeper. The officer then detaches the message from the tail feathers of the pigeon, the message being rolled up in the hollow quill of a pigeon's tail feather, which feathers are carefully collected for despatch purposes, as being most easily hidden among the natural feathers of the carrier bird. These quills contain, in micro-photographic reduction, about eight pages (octavo) of writing, which, by the hydro-oxygen gas microscope, are reproduced in natural size.

On the third in the Brigade Office, Montreal, a preliminary meeting was held for the purpose of devising the best means to accord a fitting reception to the volunteers upon their return from the North-West. Lieut.-Colonel Harwood, D.A.G., 6th district, occupied the chair. His Worship the Mayor, Lieut.-Col. Worsley, Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, Lieut.-Col. Bond, Lieut.-Col. Gardner, Lieut.-Col. Crawford, Lieut.-Col. Caverhill, Lieut.-Col. Kennedy, Major S. C. Stevenson and Capt. Clapman were present. A discussion took place upon the suggestion of the Major that a picnic should take place upon St. Helen's Island and also as to amount of money which the Corporation would be likely disposed to vote upon the occasion. Upon the motion of Major Stevenson, Colonels Harwood, Crawford, Bond and Gardner were appointed a deputation to wait upon the Finance Committee to confer with them as to the amount of the grant required, after which the other arrangements will be proceeded with.

Exactly ten years ago the Dutch Government commenced a war at Acheen, in the north of Sumatra, which has continued without interruption down to last month. The forces of Holland have been perpetually engaged, mostly around the town of Acheen, but occasionally elsewhere in northern Sumatra. The war has weighed down the Dutch East Indies, the national budget of which has shown an annual deficit of from nine to fifteen millions of florins, caused mainly by it. An army of about 20,000 men has had to be maintained, fighting almost under the equator, by constant drafts from Java and ultimately from home. The result of efforts of such magnitude continued over ten years has been nothing. The Acheneese are still in arms and unsubdued. By constant fighting they have been cleared out of a space of about twenty square miles around the port of Acheen. This the Dutch will continue to hold by means of redoubts and a large force. The blockade of the other ports has been raised; two of them only, Oleleb and Pedis, are to be retained by a force said to number 5,500 men. The rest of the Dutch forces are said to be withdrawn, and the war is at an end until the Su tan likes to resume his attacks on the the forts.

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Department of Public Works,
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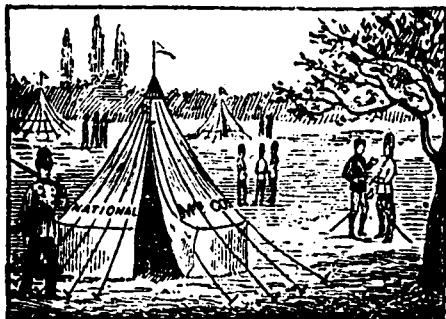
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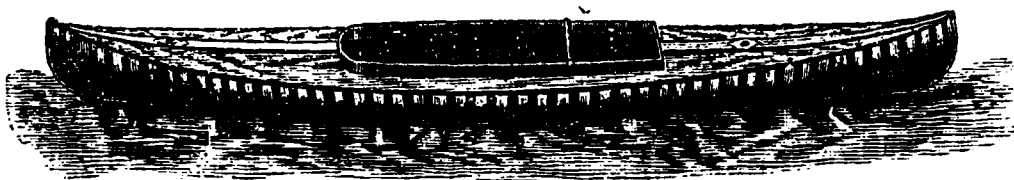
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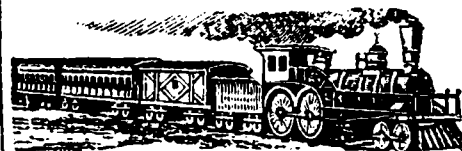
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