

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Second Year.
VOL. II, No. 8a.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 10th FEBRUARY, 1887.

\$1.50 per annum in advance.
Single Copies Five Cents

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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Should be made by Registered Letter, Post Office Order or Draft. For Great Britain, each dollar may be taken as equivalent to 4s., and cents as half-pence. All communications must be addressed to

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE,

Box 316, OTTAWA, Canada.

Printed by MASON & REYNOLDS, 45 Elgin Street, Ottawa.

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NOTICE.

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

Comment and Criticism.

LAST week's General Orders contain several slight changes in the Regulations and Orders, 1883, all being in the nature of additional details evidently found desirable to facilitate their interpretation. There are now so many emendations to the original text of the R. and O. 1883, especially in consequence of the late rebellion and the extension of the permanent corps system, to say nothing of the obscurity of dress regulations, that a new edition is an urgent necessity, and we hope one will ere long be published by the Militia Department.

NOW that the general orders are to be issued once a month only we will expect to see long lists of appointments and promotions. Last *Gazette*, however, does not yet give evidence of a decided change in this direction. Amongst its items, we may draw attention to the appointment of Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, commanding the 14th P. W. O. Rifles, to be an honorary A.D.C. upon the staff of His Excellency the Governor General. We congratulate both Colonel Smith and his corps upon the compliment thus paid them. Major Armstrong did not long retain substantive field rank in the N. B. Brigade, as his appointment to the district staff severs his connection with the corps in which he did such excellent work. Col. Baird, whom he replaces, has a record dating back to the rebellion of 1837, and has been for eighteen years in the appointment which he now vacates. A veterinary surgeon has been appointed to B Battery, R.C.A., this being the first commission of the kind given in the permanent corps. Dr. Grasett takes the surgeoncy of the Governor-General's Body Guard. Lieut.-Colonel Miller retires from the command of the Queen's Own, and is succeeded by his senior major, now Lieut.-Col. Allan. Dr. McLean, of the 31st, attains the rank of surgeon-major, on the completion of twenty year's service as regimental surgeon. Major Spooner succeeds to the substantive rank in the 47th, vacated by the transfer and promotion of Col. Smith. All the other appointments gazetted are below the rank of field officer.

THE appointments, reckoned up, show that there have been eleven promotions of officers already in the force, thirteen new appointments, of which the unusually large proportion of six are already qualified either by having obtained certificates or by professional standing. There have been nine retirements from various causes. This leaves a net gain of four commissions.

ONE expression in the new Imperial army warrant puzzles us. Whenever an officer is referred to as being engaged on extra regimental duty at home the occupation is styled an appointment, but when the unfortunate man is employed by a colonial government he is described as filling a "situation." The wording throughout the warrant is so consistent that the distinction is evidently purposely made, and we feel inclined to resent it, so far as this "colony" is concerned. Does the war office gain any dignity by dubbing the positions of the major-general commanding our militia, or of the officers in our military college, situations, as if the occupants were so many flunkies? We submit, with all due deference, that such a mode of procedure is neither calculated to increase the dignity of the Imperial officers filling the appointments nor to strengthen the sentiment of Imperial federation.

YESTERDAY'S *Citizen* announces that the Government have decided it will be impossible to allow any Canadian militia corps to proceed to England to participate in the Jubilee celebration, on the ground that Canadian control of the troops would cease as soon as they left Canadian soil. If, as we have all along understood, there are regiments willing to defray their own expenses, and if, as has been asserted, the Imperial

Government is willing to provide transport, it is to be regretted that no representation from Canada should put in an appearance, especially if, as seems probable, other parts of the Empire are represented. The *United Service Gazette* some time ago spoke of the suggestion in the following favorable terms:—"We have received from Major Deare, who commands the Prince Alfred's Guard Volunteers at Port Elizabeth, a suggestion that the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee this year should be celebrated by the assembling in London of contingents of regular and auxiliary troops from every part of the empire. Stay-at-home Englishmen still know but little of their colonial brethren; very few indeed have the faintest conception of the magnificent material of which the local troops are composed in Canada and Australia, in New Zealand and the Cape. Nothing would more strongly tend to weld together the Mother Country and her colonies than such a meeting in the old country upon an occasion so auspicious as the grand function which is to take place in Westminster Abbey. Imagine the magnificent effect of the streets in London being lined with troops from every quarter of the globe, who are serving the Queen without compulsion, sent by their respective provinces to do honor to her Jubilee." We agree with the *Gazette* in believing that the moral effect would be good, and that such a detachment from Canada would further strengthen the favorable opinion of the country made by the Colonial Exhibition last year.

Personal.

Major Deare, referred to in another column as commanding a volunteer corps at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, is a son of the late Capt. Deare, of the Canadian rifles, who died at Niagara in 1851, and grandson of the late Mrs. Murray, of Drummondville.

Capt. Douglas, R.N.R., visited Toronto last week with his little three-barrel M.H.-calibre Nordenfelt gun, and exhibited it and explained its workings to Col. Otter, D.A.G., Col. Gzowski, A.D.C., and a large number of the principal officers of the local force. On one afternoon he took it out to the range, and fired a few rounds to show the rapidity with which it could deliver shots. Capt Douglas is now in Montreal.

In November, 1885, we described the improvements made by Capt. Greville-Harston to the Martini breech action. We are glad to learn that the war office think so favorably of this action that they propose testing it, and two rifles for this purpose are being made by Messrs. Bland, of Birmingham. At the request of Capt. E. Pallisser, who is acting for Capt. Harston in England, the inventor has succeeded in producing a complete attachable magazine for his action, so that it can be used either as a single shooter or repeater. These facts sufficiently contradict the groundless rumor that the Imperial government have ordered repeaters, or that they are inclined to adopt a "bolt" gun. What they desire is an action on the falling block or Martini system that can be combined with a repeating arrangement; and it is claimed that Capt. Harston's device, of which full size drawings have been forwarded to the W. O., completely meets the requirements.

Simplification of Drill.—II.

IN the last notice on this subject the writer advocated the training of infantry in single lines and that the men in each line should be told off in "fours." The number "four" was chosen to simplify the explanation of the object aimed at, but for other reasons as affecting the effective use of infantry fire in the field, (which will be gone into at some future date), it would be preferable to tell off each line in "eights." The drill by fours would still be perfectly applicable, the pivot men being Nos. 1 and 5, or Nos. 4 and 8, respectively, according to whether the fours were formed to the right or left. Another advantage of the single rank system, numbered off in "eights," is the facility with which the troops can be faced about without altering the numbering. In cases of extreme necessity the command "right about turn" can be given as at present. In this case the numbering is reversed and the supernumerary rank has to double round the flanks. But this can also be done by giving the word "change ranks" when each eight would wheel round, and during the wheel the supernumerary rank can pass through the gaps. In this method the numbering is not reversed. This system of drill is no new one, as it is that practised in the cavalry at the present time.

Now as regards formations. All formations at drill are only a means to an end, that end being to bring the soldier into the position in which he can use his weapon with the best effect. Regular formations

are thus expedients, though very valuable ones, as they ensure mobility or rapidity of movement, order, and certainty of the men arriving at their proper destination. Theory would like a general to place every man under him in the required position, but practice shows that this is impossible and that he must form his men up in compact bodies and entrust their command to subordinate officers. At present we have to master two entirely distinct tactical systems—the one that of the old two-deep close-order line, which holds so glorious a place in the history of British infantry; the other that of an extended order, in some form or other, which has been forced on every European army by the introduction of breechloading rifles of precision and which with us is represented by the "attack formation." In civilised warfare the former has had to give way to the latter; yet if we examine Part III of the field exercise, we find that about one-half of what is called battalion drill consists of varieties and combinations of the two-deep close-order line, and further that one considerable section is devoted to a variety of formations for receiving cavalry; though all modern experience teaches that the only practical formation for the latter purpose is to develop the largest possible front of fire and to shoot as fast as possible so long as the cavalry are misguided enough to remain within range.

Advocates in favor of practising these two-deep line formations say that they are necessary to instil discipline, order, and obedience into the men and also that they are of value in making troops handy. Now battalion drill with its mass of detailed instructions as to the movements and positions of officers, teaches the latter far more than the men; the company is the real school of the men in the ranks; it is there they learn their knowledge. Further discipline, order, and obedience are instilled into the ranks not by mere drill formations themselves, but by the strictness and regularity with which they are carried out. If formations are everything, why then are two battalions, who carry out exactly the same drill formations, so often widely different in value? This difference is due to the officers and the way in which they do their work, and not to the formations. This fact forms the keystone to the problem. Consequently we can cut out any formation unsuited to modern warfare. Continuous line formations are only of use in savage warfare, as a formation to employ from beginning to finish. In such wars Canadian troops are not likely to be engaged, and even if they are the additional drill required for such wars can be learned in a day. The "attack formation" is a very misleading term, as it is not a permanent distribution of troops but an ever changing one. The changes in the circumstances and various formations of troops under fire should simply be called "the attack." This narrows our meaning of formations, and a study of modern wars shows that troops are not now-a-days called on to change front at less than a right angle on a central company, or to retire in column of double companies or form line to a flank, or to form a two-deep square from line at the double, or to perform faultlessly any other of the stately movements which go by the name of battalion drill. All that is now required of troops is for them to be able to move handily in any direction in quarter-column and in fours.

In savage wars they are also required to deploy from column into line by fours, but this movement is implied in the preceding sentence. If troops are merely trained to move thus, if officers have only one fixed position in all formations and wheels, and if companies, even in a deployed line, are kept separate by an interval of 2 or 3 or more paces, we can see, with a little consideration, what a vast saving of time would be effected in the efficient training of our troops in drill, leaving more time for field exercises and musketry. In all this, however, simple as the required formations need be, the greatest strictness and regularity must be maintained. Even as far back as 1869, Lord Wolseley said in his "Soldier's Pocket Book" that, "as for drill, the worst militia regiment can do enough for all practical purposes," showing that the complicated mass of movements known as battalion drill are not at all essential, and it stands to reason that the short period of training available for the Canadian militia must be greatly increased in value if all unnecessary forms and useless formalities, such as do not prepare the men for actual service, are done away with. With these points we will deal presently, but the regulations say: "The opportunity afforded by the annual training for acquiring proficiency in drill being limited, those movements only should be practised which are indispensable, and which experience may show to be most necessary for practical purposes in the field, best adapted to the nature of the country and the exigencies of modern warfare. Special instructions on this head will be issued from time to time by the adjutant-general previous to the annual training." This is a good regulation, so far as it goes, but why leave any doubt on the matter? Why not clearly lay down the requisite formations and movements so that they can be studied by officers at all times of the year, without any fear that next year these may be altered? Clearly defined regulations are of the greatest value to every army.

With regard to simplifying drill it was stated above that all unnecessary forms and useless formalities, such as do not prepare the men for

active service, should be done away with. We will now consider what are the forms and formalities that may be advantageously dispensed with. The length of time spent on parade previous to marching off might well be shortened by falling the men in at once on the battalion parade in quarter column, and by abolishing the equalizing of companies and exact sizing of men. The men ought merely to know whereabouts in a company they ought to fall in, whether in the centre or on the flanks. The inspection of arms might take place at some other time of the day, at the company commanders' choice, the men parading for a few minutes only in fatigue dress, with their rifles, for the purpose. Everything should be done to shorten the weary time spent on the parade before drill begins. The battalion is broken off on the battalion parade and why should it not be assembled there. Companies will not be equal on active service, and working with unequal companies is a good training; arms get dirtied by drill and marching from dust, etc., and, consequently, it is much better that they should be inspected an hour or two after drill than before it. Then the formalities of marching past and inspection can be much simplified by having the march past done in quarter column only, and the men drawn up in the same formation for inspection by the general. There is an immense amount of time wasted in teaching troops to march past in column of double companies with the rear rank (of a two-deep line) unnaturally locked up, with all the details of when to shoulder arms and when to trail, when the officers are to salute, what number of paces to take during the salute, etc., etc., all of which are formalities utterly useless in war and only intended for show. In the same manner a long line formation with officers out in front for inspection is only a formality. The use of markers during drill manoeuvres should be abolished, as they are never used on active service, and much time is lost teaching markers their ever changing positions, which is not worth retaining. The varying positions of the right and left guides and markers are a constant source of error and annoyance, while they are not of the slightest use now-a-days. Officers ought invariably, except when leading a bayonet charge or rush forward, to be in rear of their men, no officer should appear in the ranks, their place is in rear of their men. Men should always be accustomed to commands from the rear. An officer in the front rank not only takes a rifle away from it, but he cannot superintend the fire without leaving his place. The flanks of companies can well be marked by sergeants. Now-a-days when cavalry is so impotent against a cool and collected infantry even in dispersed order the necessity of guiding flanks, etc., which were instituted from fear of cavalry in the days of the old short-range, flint-lock, muzzle-loading rifle so as to always rapidly form an even line against a sudden cavalry charge, no longer exists, and also there is no necessity for the constant change of places of officers and markers, which forms almost the whole difficulty of battalion drill. But "spit and polish" should always be strictly enforced to make the men take a pride in themselves and to instil discipline and smartness into them. Strict attention to details is the secret of creating and raising the *moral* of troops, which result is not due to the mere formations used at drill, as so many think. In modern warfare the fixing of bayonet is unnecessary on the line of march or at drill, except in the attack just before the charge. In such a case both bayonet and sword bayonets would be fixed and only one manual exercise would be required for the army instead of two as at present. The manual exercise for the army should be, for preference, like that for rifle battalions, because the words of command agree most nearly with what is done (a very important fact) and it is more easily learnt.* The manual should only consist of the shoulder, present, slope, and charge bayonets, all being done with fixed bayonets. The bayonet exercise can also be made much simpler and more practical and effective by placing the left hand near the muzzle and in only lunging with the right hand, letting go of the rifle into the left during the lunge. This is the German method, and is more easily shown than explained. Only one lunge need be taught and how to guard it with sweeps of the bayonet or stock. This method is invariably used in sword vs. bayonet contests and forms the most powerful means of attack and defence. Forming up should be used in every case instead of wheeling; by forming up, a line can be far more rapidly formed than by wheeling while it is far more easily taught. Wheeling requires a great amount of time and trouble before it can be done so as to look well.† Another very important point which the writer has seen carried out with great success and with a marked improvement in the drill, is that all drill movements should be carried out with a tactical object in view, which is explained to the men before the movement is made so that the men can understand the why and the wherefore of what they are doing and execute it intelligently. Any change of position for any distance over 50 yards should be executed by company columns or

by fours; no advance should be made in line for longer distances except for a "charge" with fixed bayonets. The so-called close-order drill should be carried out in a freer manner by opening out the men more. The regulations state that each man is to occupy 24 inches in the ranks. This, however, is never done, or else there would be three inches between the men of a line, as a man only occupies 21 inches on an average. Our present close order, or 21 inches per man, is very unpractical in war, as in such close order the men cannot use their rifles with freedom, and when the line is two-deep the rear rank cannot fire without danger to the front rank. There were many cases in the late war in the Soudan in which the helmets of the front rank men were blown off by the rear rank men. All these details are very important. Frederick the Great said "love details, for they contain in them the elements of success." But the acceptance of such details as here given depend on the inspecting officer. It is a well known fact that the training a battalion receives depends entirely on the nature of the annual inspection, and if the inspecting officer demands formations and drill not suitable for war, the men will be trained to them. There are two slight alterations in our present practice that might be changed with advantage; one is that in the manner of carrying out the dressing of a line and of the diagonal march—each man should only be able to see the man next to him instead of the second man from him; and the other is that in all partial ($\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$) turns, the rifle should be brought to the shoulder when it has been previously carried at the trail. It is difficult to conceive why each man in dressing should see the lower part of the face of second man from him; and in half turns to the right or left it will be found that the left and right flanks of a line, respectively, work forward when the rifle is at the trail, in order to prevent the rifle of one man interfering with the legs of the man next him, as it would otherwise do, if a proper line was kept.

A SOLDIER.

Manitoba Rifle Association.

THE council have just published their annual report of the proceedings of the association for circulation amongst the members prior to the annual general meeting. It reads as follows:—

The council of the Manitoba rifle association have the honor to submit the fifteenth annual report of their proceedings, and in doing so have much pleasure in announcing a successful year in many respects.

At the time they were elected to office at the adjourned annual meeting held in March last, several important changes and additions were made in the constitution of the association, viz:—

1. Reducing the affiliation fee from \$20 to \$5, and giving the association silver medal to corps or associations affiliating.
2. Making five members a quorum at a council meeting instead of seven.
3. Dividing the office of secretary-treasurer and appointing these officers by the council instead of at the general annual business meeting.
2. Changing the date of the general annual business meeting from the 2nd Tuesday in January of each year to the 2nd Tuesday in March.
5. Calling a special general meeting of the members on the second day of the annual prize meeting.

All these changes have been carried out.

The by-laws were also amended, and with the constitution have been printed, and copies forwarded to all the members of the association.

The treasurer's detailed statement of the financial state of the association duly audited, is herewith submitted, together with the auditor's report for the year 1886.

The private donations were not as large as in the past few years, but such a surce of supply cannot be expected to be permanent, nor should the association be dependent on it.

The council, through their president, represented to the militia department the unequal grant which is accorded to us in comparison with the other provinces, and urged that a further appropriation be made for our association, on the ground that we are now only given an annual grant of \$500. Prince Edward Island and British Columbia get each the same amount as we do. The militia organisation of this province is in excess of these provinces unitedly.

Beyond this, examination of the prize lists of our association will show that they are far in excess of the smaller provinces and nearly approach the amounts offered by the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. The council have heard from the adjutant-general that their application is now under the consideration of the militia department.

There are now in Manitoba and the North-West Territories some fourteen (14) rifle associations, most of which will probably be represented at our next annual prize meeting, and the council consider that the increasing importance and usefulness of the association gives them every claim for favorable consideration from both the Dominion and Provincial governments.

* The words *advance arms* do not convey the meaning of the movement attached to it and it is very hard to do well.

† In the writer's battalion, forming up is done on all occasions with great success, and is much better liked by the men than wheeling.

The annual prize meeting commencing on the 12th August, and lasting three days, was a very successful one and unattended with accident of any kind, the management and working details went very smoothly, and much credit is due to Capt. Scoones who undertook the office work during the meeting.

The number of competitors was large, and the prize list as attractive as any previous year, if not more so.

The weather was favorable and the shooting very fair considering that many of the Snider rifles in use by the militia corps in this district are to a great extent useless for accurate target practice, and those members who are obliged to use them against others who have their own rifles have very little chance of winning any of the best prizes, but as a competent armourer from the Imperial army is on his way to Winnipeg to put the rifles issued to the corps in the district in thorough repair, the council hope that at the next meeting things will be more equalized.

Mrs. Wrigley, the wife of the president, fired the first shot on the opening day, on which occasion by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. Taylor, the band of the mounted infantry corps was in attendance, and the range assumed a very gay aspect, there being a number of ladies on the ground. Mrs. Wrigley also very kindly presented the prizes to the winners at the drill hall on the Monday evening after the matches.

A novelty at the meeting was the revolving man target put up by S. L. Bedson, Esq., 1st vice-president, which afforded much amusement and useful practice to competitors. Sighting shots were discontinued for the first time except at the 1,000 yard range, which was a saving of much time, but to give competitors a chance of sighting their rifles at all the ranges, it was resolved at the special general meeting held at the conclusion of the prize meeting that the extra series matches be kept open all through the matches, also that there be a revolver match, and 200 and 800 yards matches with the Martini-Henry rifles.

The highest praise is due to Major Boswell, range officer, and to the non-com. officers and men employed on the range and at the butts for the regularity and zeal with which their arduous work was performed.

A telephone was kindly placed at the disposal of the association by Mr. Walsh of the Bell Telephone Company, saving much time and trouble.

The Lieut.-Governor's and El Padre cups were lost to the association, having both become the property of Pte. A. Gillies, 90th Batt., he having won them twice.

The only cups now in the hands of the association are the Patron's, the late Hon. J. Cauchon's, the Association's, Hon. Hudson Bay's, and Major Jarvis'.

The success of the meeting is very much due to the very liberal support and encouragement given to the association by their patron, Sir Donald A. Smith, also to the Provincial Government, City Council, Hon. Hudson's Bay Company, the Lieut.-Governor, and many of the private citizens of Winnipeg, to all of whom the council tenders their acknowledgements and thanks.

Before concluding their report the council wish to express their regret at the death of G. B. Spencer, Esq., one of the first presidents of the association.

J. Wrigley, Pres., T. J. E. Scoones, Treas., Geo. W. Street, Sec'y.
January, 1887.

From the financial statement appended to the report, we find that the assets of the association amount to \$1,300, including four challenge cups valued at \$600, while there are only \$47 of liabilities. In the statement of receipts we find the handsome sum of \$1,509.03 in donations and grants, including \$500 from the Dominion and \$250 from the Provincial government, and \$150 from the city, the balance being from private friends. Annual subscriptions aggregated \$294.50, and affiliation fees \$45, this representing nine associations. The sum of \$472 for entrance fees was the only other considerable receipt. Amongst the expenses are \$135 for printing, \$434 for range expenses, and \$170 for back liabilities cleared off. The prizes given in cash aggregated \$1,473.13. The association starts the new year with a balance of \$188 on hand, and as, presumably, many preliminary expenses are not likely to recur, and as there are no arrears of liabilities to meet, the prospects are that the association through the coming season will be even more prosperous than last year.

Contents of our Contemporaries.

The Boston *Rifle* for February has just been received, and seems to continue improving every month. The crack shot sketched this month is Mr. J. T. Rabbeth, of Boston, whose fame is international. His position, off-hand, is left handed, the rifle supported on the tips of the fingers, and the elbow on the hip. Sir Henry Halford has communicated a score of 48 bull's eyes out of 50 shots made at 1,000 yards by Mr. Gibbs with a Metford, as an argument presumably in favor of that system

of grooving. The questions of express bullets and telescope sights are again discussed. The result of the Bullard prize team competition is announced, the Mass. R. A. taking first prize. *Franc tireur* sends from England another interesting letter, and many scores and communications complete the number.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the *Army and Navy Journal*, N. Y., for the 5th instant.

The English weeklies for the 22nd January are not yet to hand. The winter communications make their arrival rather irregular.

Mounted Infantry.*

BY COL. H. B. HANNA.

"The comparative merits, as regards efficiency as mounted riflemen, of dismounted cavalry and mounted infantry must be held, from present experience, to be much in favor of mounted infantry."—*Col. C. F. Clery.*

A PAPER entitled "Notes on Dismounted Cavalry v. Mounted Infantry" was some time ago contributed to the Journal of the United Service Institution of India.

The author of those notes shows throughout his paper a strong and unreasonable prejudice to mounted infantry, and quite ignored the important and valuable service mounted infantry rendered during the late Afghan war, and in the more recent campaigns in Egypt and the Soudan. The author summed up his notes in terms which, I think, clearly show that he failed to understand the purpose for which mounted infantry is raised, its organisation, and its functions in the field. He said: "The idea of mounted infantry is undoubtedly a taking one, and will probably gather many supporters, but in the humble opinion of the writer it is a 'myth' founded on an exaggerated idea of the power of such a force to act as infantry at all, and a want of appreciation of what cavalry should, and could, do if properly trained, armed, equipped and clothed." Now the subject is of such importance that the assertion that mounted infantry is a "myth" should not, I think, be allowed to pass unchallenged, and in this paper I shall endeavor to show for what purpose, and under what circumstances, mounted infantry should be raised; and farther on I shall enter more fully into the question of its organisation, equipment, training, and duties. In discussing this question we should never lose sight of the fact that mounted infantry has been, and always will be, only an adjunct to infantry, or a supplement to cavalry; and it therefore follows that mounted infantry should, as a rule, be supported by either one branch of the service or the other, more especially when the enemy is known to possess a powerful and well-organised cavalry, because it is quite clear that mounted infantry could never hope to cope against infantry single-handed, encumbered as they must necessarily be with their ponies, while to attempt to act alone against good cavalry would be utter madness, and would in all probability end in the mounted infantry being either captured or totally annihilated. The nature of the ground, however, would in some cases diminish the risk, indeed, in a close and hilly country the speed and activity of the ponies and the superior accuracy of the rifle fire would make mounted infantry a very formidable antagonist to cavalry.

Mounted infantry should not be raised before hostilities had commenced, or, at least, were imminent; and, under some circumstances, it might even be deemed advisable to delay its embodiment until a more advanced period of the campaign, when its services might be more needed than in the earlier stages of the war. This was the case in Afghanistan. The mounted infantry was not organised and put into the field until after the occupation of Cabul. But, nevertheless, it should, I think, be embodied as soon as war was declared, for even in the earlier periods of the war its services would be very valuable, and the additional time gained for training and equipping both officers and men is of such importance that it should decide the question in favor of immediate embodiment. The nature of the country, the organisation and strength of the enemy's would, of course, in some measure also be a guide as to the propriety of the step. If we were weak in cavalry, or the enemy were very strong in that arm, no delay should occur in raising the corps.

The question, however, is one of such importance that before quitting it I will give a few examples to show how quickly mounted infantry may be organised and put into the field when time presses. Lieut.-Col. Carrington, C.M.G., tells us that in the expedition to the diamond fields in 1875 the men of the 1st Bn. 24th Regt., who formed the mounted infantry, were mounted the first day after the horses were purchased (most of them unbroken) and were taught and rendered efficient on the line of march. At the annexation of the Transvaal in 1877 the men of the Buffs and 24th Regt. proceeded on the march to Pretoria about eleven days after the horses (very few of which were broken) were procured. Col. Bray states that in the 4th Regt. 75 horses and men were trained for mounted infantry in six weeks. Again, under many disadvantages during the Mutiny, the present Sir Havelock-Allan trained in a

* Reprinted from the Journal of the United Service Institution of India.

fortnight about 60 men of the 10th foot. With these men, three troops of the military train, and 60 men of the Sikh cavalry he followed up the enemy with remarkable success.

Unquestionably something might be done towards training mounted infantry in peace times. The men might be selected and encouraged to perfect themselves in horsemanship, transport ponies being occasionally placed at the disposal of regiments for this purpose; but it should never be carried to such an extent as at any time to interfere with the men's training as foot soldiers, because, especially in these days of short service, it will take men the best part of their time to efficiently master their dismounted duties, and until they can shoot well, and are otherwise thoroughly trained as infantry soldiers, they should not be drafted into the mounted branch. We all know that to prosecute war successfully money must necessarily be spent with a lavish hand, and mounted infantry is one of the channels into which it should freely flow. And, after all said and done, the equipping and mounting of a few hundred men on ponies would be a mere drop in the ocean as compared with the general expenses of a war. Indeed, mounted infantry is one of the few items of expenditure which would really give a tangible return. In addition to the tactical advantages of such a body in the field, which I shall endeavor to show hereafter, the relief to the cavalry would be immense, and would undoubtedly largely diminish casualties in horseflesh. Horses, it should be remembered, sometimes cannot be replaced during a campaign for love or money, whereas ponies can nearly always be obtained, and are far more easily broken in and trained. Besides, mounted infantry could certainly be equipped and mounted for one-third of the expense incurred in mounting and equipping cavalry.

The duties of mounted infantry would be to aid the infantry both on the line of march and in action, and to relieve the cavalry horses of many of those harassing duties which would be felt so much less by the hardy ponies of the country. The ponies for the most part should be purchased in the country in which the army was operating; and thus a very useful body of mounted men might be put into the field at a comparatively small outlay, and at very short notice, for the performance of duties which, although usually undertaken by cavalry, would be better performed by mounted infantry, while a large portion of the cavalry itself would be set free to carry on its more important and legitimate duties. I shall now proceed to discuss, in detail, the organisation, equipment, training, and duties of mounted infantry.

Each infantry regiment in the force should contribute fifty picked men, who should include the usual proportion of non-commissioned officers, for the formation of a mounted corps. I would not confine this to European regiments only, but draw men from native regiments, embodying the races in separate corps, and calling them "Mounted British Infantry," and "Mounted Native Infantry." Thus, for example, if the 1st army corps, recently warned for service in Afghanistan, had been mobilised, the mounted infantry under this scheme would have consisted of 600 mounted British infantry and 500 mounted native infantry—a most valuable addition to an army corps. The men should be specially selected for these corps; they must be intelligent, light, and active men, good shots, and good riders. All these qualifications cannot be expected in every man, but they should approach as near to this standard of excellency as possible. The officers should also be selected on the same grounds, and might be drawn from all branches of the service, but as a rule infantry officers would, probably, be best fitted for these corps. To every fifty men there should be at least one officer, besides the commanding officer and the staff. A few well-trained sappers would be an invaluable addition to mounted infantry and an engineer officer might with advantage be attached to each corps.

The equipment should be as light as is compatible with efficiency. No particular change in the ordinary dress of an infantryman would be necessary, except that for these mounted duties he should be supplied with putties or leg bandages, and short-shanked hunting spurs. A blanket for the horse should be neatly folded, and placed under the saddle; the man's blanket should be spread over the saddle, and secured with a surcingle; the great coat should be strapped to the cantle, and waterproof over the wallets; the saddle, not heavier than 12lbs., should be fitted with saddle-bags and holsters, the former suspended from D's by straps, being removable at pleasure. In one of the holster pockets should be a revolver, and in the other thirty rounds of ball ammunition for the rifle. The man should carry forty more himself. In one saddle bag should be stowed one flannel shirt, one pair of flannel drawers, one pair of socks, one pair of boots. In the other, one day's cooked rations and 3lbs. of grain for the pony! In countries where water is scarce, like Afghanistan or the Soudan, each pony should carry below the girths a *chhagal* of prepared kid's skin for holding water. In fact, all mounted officers and men of every branch of the service should, under these circumstances, be provided with them. The importance of having a small supply of cool, fresh water cannot be over-estimated; indeed, on more than one occasion it has been the means of saving valuable lives. A

pony's *chhagal* should be made to carry two or three quarts, a horse's a gallon, which would respectively weigh about 5 and 9 lbs. when full. This additional weight would be more than compensated for by having a supply of good water for man and beast. Water carried in a *chhagal*, owing to constant evaporation, is always remarkably cool. The hotter and drier the climate the cooler the water.

Detail of equipment with weights:	st.	lb.
The man.....	10	7
Rifle and ammunition (70 rounds).....	1	4*
Two blankets.....	0	7
Greatcoat.....	0	6
Waterproof sheet.....	0	3
Saddle, bridle and wallets.....	1	0
Saddle bags, waterproof-canvas.....	0	3
Rations for man.....	0	3
Grain for pony.....	0	3
Picket rope, &c.....	0	2
Miscellaneous small articles.....	0	4
Total.....		15 0

All non-commissioned officers should be furnished with watches, binoculars, and compasses.

This weight compares very favorably with the weight carried by cavalry, which is seldom under 18, and often over 20 stone. Well-selected ponies varying from 13-1 to 14 hands should be able to carry the maximum weight of 15 stone with ease. Under some circumstances the weight might be greatly reduced; for example, in a raid, blankets, greatcoat, part of the ammunition, &c., might be left behind.

A spare pony to every 150, fitted with a cradle, should carry intrenching tools, and the regimental reserve of ammunition (30 rounds per man) should be carried on pack ponies, while the field reserve should as usual be in charge of the artillery.

(To be Continued.)

	lbs.	ozs.
* Martini-Henry.....	9	0
Long bayonet.....	1	0
70 rounds of ammunition.....	7	9½
Total.....		17 9½

Correspondence.

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

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—In the sixth paragraph of your issue of the 27th ult. you make a statement that militiamen have been combining to hold political meetings in the west, but you do not specify where, and consequently some evil intentioned persons have applied your strictures to the "citizens' meeting" held in Toronto, on the 25th ult., to discuss volunteers' rights.

I think from the first you have been misled and unconsciously allowed yourself to be made a tool of by those on both sides of politics, who wish to "let the matter lie until after the elections," and who would then let it go again until the next elections. And you are attempting to accord to the militiamen, as militiamen, even less freedom of discussion than is allowed in the Imperial service to regulars, and also, doubtless unthinkingly, you are lending yourself to the attempt to deprive a citizen of his rights of discussion because he happens to belong to the volunteers.

When the Toronto meeting was announced calling upon "citizens interested and ex-volunteers," the politicians went mad, and the tearing of hair was wonderful. Telegrams went flying from Toronto to Ottawa, and vice-versa, and "the powers that be" entreated to somehow or other to stop it, and bring it under the Queen's Regulations, and call it a "volunteers' political meeting," instead of a meeting of citizens as it was; even your powerful aid was apparently invoked, judging from your issue of the 27th ult., and everything was done that could be done to put the meeting in a false light. At the meeting itself I was called upon to speak, and began by saying that I was there only as a citizen exercising my civil rights, and I reviewed the attempts as mentioned above and then went on to criticise your article of 27th ult. and to show that you were not altogether right and that even if the volunteers had chosen to meet and discuss the necessary reforms they certainly had equal rights as conceded to the army and navy by the Imperial authorities.

Up to this time the *Globe* party had been jubilant, but when it was found that only two speakers out of seven belonged to the militia and that they only spoke as citizens to citizens it was called a "fizzle," and the 200 men present were "3 young men in the front benches."

I beg to differ entirely from what I understand as your opinion, and I would say to every militiaman in Canada: Now is your time. "As a citizen" you have a vote and certain rights, do not be bamboozled into being afraid to use them. Let it be known that "as a citizen" you insist upon the volunteer militia, in which you take so much interest, being properly treated. Go to political meetings "as a citizen." Ask the candidates leading questions on the militia subject, and if possible get from them a pledge that in future the militia shall be properly treated.

And, finally, rather give up your standing as a volunteer than your rights as a citizen.

C. GREVILLE-HARSTON.

Toronto, 1st February, 1887.

DEAR SIR, —Will you allow me to correct one or two errors in your report of the "Volunteers' Rights" meeting in Toronto in your issue of 3rd just to hand.

Capt. Drayton is late of 16th and later on of R.C.R., *not the 65th.*

It was *I* who spoke at the meeting, and *not Mr. Harstone*, who, being a Government employee, might be injured by the report, and I am quite willing to bear my own sins.

C. GREVILLE-HARSTON.

Toronto, 7th February, 1887.

Mess Room Yarns.

"That reminds me."

NOT SO BULLY AFTER ALL.

One day the troopers of Roddy's cavalry were about to go into battle dismounted, leaving every fourth man to hold the horses. The men were drawn up to count from right to left. Of course every fourth man felt jolly, and this is the way the count went on:—

"One."

"Two."

"Three."

"Bully!"

"One."

"Two."

"Three."

"Bully!" &c.

Gen. Roddy heard each fourth man call out "Bully." His face flushed. When all had called off, he said:

"Numbers 1, 2, and bully will go into the fight as dismounted cavalry. No. 3 will hold the horses."—*From the Atlanta Constitution.*

Regimental Notes.

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

Peterborough.—No. 6 company of the 57th battalion drilled in the old Music Hall on the 3rd. There was a fairly large attendance, which Capt. Cooper hopes will be increased at next drill.

The late Private Wilson, of No. 5 company, was buried with military honors on the 3rd. The procession was headed by the firing party, next the battalion band, and then came a gun carriage drawn by four horses, mounted by three artillerymen. On the carriage was the coffin containing the remains of the deceased, and on the coffin the helmet and arms worn by the deceased. Next came No. 5 company and last Capt. Burke and Lieut. Brennan. Capt. Langford, of No. 2, and Capt. Cooper, of No. 6, attended as private citizens.

St. John, N.B.—The battle of Waterloo was the subject of a lecture delivered by Rev. L. G. McNeill at the club room of the 62nd Fusiliers, on the evening of the 3rd inst., under the patronage of the officers of the corps. The lecturer introduced his subject by describing the lives and history of Wellington and Napoleon and then proceeded to a vivid description of the "Great Irishman's Greatest Fight," holding the attention of the audience throughout; the battle was taken in detail and each incident described in the most realistic manner, from the first attack on Hougoumont to the celebrated command "Up Guards and at them." Several of the incidents were as heartily applauded as they had been splendidly described, the best of which were the charge of the Scot's Greys, and the attack by Picton's division when repelling the assault on La Haye Sainte. The lecturer closed by summing up the results of the battle and then referred in humorous terms to the late action of the U. S. Senate regarding the fisheries.

Woodstock, Ont.—The annual meeting of the officers of the 22nd Batt., "Oxford Rifles," was held here on the 24th ult. There were present Lt.-Col. Munro, Major Loveys, Major and Paymaster McCleneghan, Surgeon-Major Swain, Assistant-Surgeon McKay, Adjutant Davis, Captains Day, Williamson, Hegler, McQueen, Sutherland and Stoddart; Lieuts. Perry, Ross and Anderson. The reports of the band, rifle, mess and regimental committees were presented and adopted as satisfactory. The following committees were appointed:—Band committee, Captains Sutherland and McQueen and Surgeon-Major Swain; regimental committee, Majors McCleneghan and Loveys and Captain Day; mess committee, Major McCleneghan, Surgeon McKay and Captain Hegler. A beautiful banneret was presented by the commanding officer to No. 2 company, Major Loveys, for being the cleanest, most punctual at parade, and best drilled company in the battalion. The banneret is about two feet by three feet, is of rifle green silk, and has the crest of the battalion handsomely worked on it. The banneret is required to be won twice by the same company as a condition of its possession.

Militia General Orders, No. 3, of 4th February, 1887.

No. 1.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1883.

Organization—Re-appointments from Retired List.

The following addition, in continuation, has been made to paragraph 90 of regulations and orders, viz:

"Service previous to re-appointment will not be counted as qualifying service for brevet rank."

Retirement.

The following condition, in continuation, has been made to paragraph 117, "Provided the corps to which the officer belonged has been efficiently maintained."

Brevet Promotion.

The word "consecutive" has been added to paragraph 111 regulations and orders, 1883, in second line, between years and service, and the word "consecutively" at end of paragraph.

The paragraph as amended will read as follows:—

"The rank of brevet-major will be granted after ten years consecutive service as captain of a corps of active militia, which is efficient in every respect, also to adjutants who have held the rank of captain in a corps of active militia ten years consecutively."

Dress of Officers.

The following has been added as sub-sections *l* and *m* to paragraph 296 of regulations and orders, etc., viz:—

"*l.* Havresacks need not be worn as a general rule, except on service in the field.

"*m.* Infantry officers, except officers of rifle regiments, will provide themselves with whistles of white metal, pattern as for sergeants in the Imperial army. To be carried in a pocket in the officer's dress."

Permanent Corps.

The following changes have been made in the regulations and orders for the militia, 1883:—

(1) Add, at end of sub-section 3 of paragraph 464: "all the men enlisted must be able to read and write."

(2) Paragraph 471, being no longer required will be omitted.

(3) Add to paragraph 475:—

"Officers appointed, after the 1st day of January, 1887, to a permanent corps will cease to retain any militia rank or precedence held by them at the time of their appointment to the permanent corps."

(4) Add as sub-section to paragraph 476:—

(1) The above provision as to pay, applies to the commandants of the schools of infantry at Fredericton, N.B., and Toronto, Ont., they being also deputy adjutants general of military districts Nos. 8 and 2 respectively.

(5) Add to paragraph 480 as sub-sections (3) and (4):—

"(3) In order to be entitled to the increased rates of good conduct pay, the service must be continuous."

"(4) Men discharged on termination of period of enlistment, or by purchase or otherwise and subsequently re-enlisting in the same troop, battery or company, or enlisting in any other permanent troop, battery or company, except on transfer, will be deemed recruits entitled only to the pay, allowances, etc., granted to men enlisted for the first time."

(6) Add to paragraph 481:—

"In the case of officers belonging to these corps, the horses for which they receive forage are required to be *bona fide* their own property."

(7) Add to paragraph 489 as sub-section (1):—

"The issue of compensation in lieu of clothing does not entitle a non-commissioned officer or man to retain clothing issued prior to that for which compensation was given."

Transport on Discharge.

The following has been added as sub-sections (1) and (2) to paragraph 468 regulations and orders for the militia, 1883:—

"(1) Return transport to the station where they were enlisted, as shown on their attestation paper, or to their residence elsewhere, if conveyance there costs no more, may be issued to men discharged after completion of their period of enlistment or re-engagement; also to men discharged as unfit for service on account of physical disability, contracted through no fault of their own during their period of enlistment or re-engagement, whilst serving with their corps.

"(2) Men discharged on purchase, or those attested at the place where their corps is stationed at the time of their discharge, will not receive transport to any other station."

Schools of Military Instruction—Courses of Instruction.

Adverting to paragraph 531 regulations and orders, etc., 1883, hereafter the "long course" of instruction for the cavalry and infantry will last six months; for the artillery nine months. In the case of officers three of such months to be passed in attendance at the Royal Military College, as provided in paragraph 556.

Add after "school" in the fourth line of sub-sec. (1) of paragraph 553, "of their arm of the service."

No. 2.—REGULATIONS FOR THE PERMANENT CORPS, ACTIVE MILITIA, CANADA, SEPTEMBER 1886.

Memo.—Add an asterisk* to (c) after "15, etc.," in paragraph 22, "Schedule of persons entitled to hospital diet," etc., at page 29 of pamphlet "regulations for the permanent corps, etc."

No. 4.—STAFF.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to appoint Lieut.-Col. Henry R. Smith, 14th battalion active militia of Canada, to be an honorary aide-de-camp upon his staff.

DISTRICT STAFF.

Major Andrew J. Armstrong from the New Brunswick brigade of garrison artillery has been appointed paymaster and superintendent of militia stores for military district No. 8, from 1st February, 1887, vice Lieut.-Col. Wm. T. Baird, who has been permitted to retire retaining his rank of lieut.-col.

No. 5.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

Permanent Corps—Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

To be vet.-surgeon, from 29th January, 1887: Wm. B. Hall, formerly vet.-surgeon, Quebec field battery of artillery.
Vet.-Surgeon Hall has been detailed for duty with B battery, until further orders.

Infantry School Corps.

To be lieutenant, prov., from 29th January, 1887: John Davis Roche, formerly lieutenant 8th battalion.

Lieutenant Roche has been detailed for duty with B company, until further orders.

Gov.-Gen's. Body Guard.—To be surgeon, Frederick LeMaitre Grasett, vice Baldwin resigned.

1st. Regt. Cav.—No. 3 Troop—To be lieutenant prov., Sergt. Milton Day, vice Duncan Cunningham, left limits.

To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Sergt. Thomas James Fitzgerald, vice Henry Fisher, left limits.

4th Regt. Cav.—Lieut. and Adj. Henry Smith Greenwood, R.M.C., to have the rank of captain.

Kingston F. B. A.—Sergt.-Major George R. Moore, R. S. A. (3rd class) will be 2nd lieutenant (supernumerary), vice Thomas C. Stark, who resigns.
To be Vet.-Surg. W. W. Sine.

1st Halifax B.G.A.—To be 2nd lieutenants, brigade Sergt.-Major James Donovan, G. S. 3rd class, vice Newman promoted.
Gunner Joshua Snowdon Dimock (prov.) vice H. B. Dustan.

G.G.F.G.—*Memo.*—Adverting to No. 2 of General Orders (3) of 29th January, 1886, Lieut. Harry Hamilton Gray takes rank from 8th January, 1886.

2nd Batt.—To be lieut.-col. Major Daniel Hugh Allan, M.S., vice Albert Augustus Miller, who retires retaining rank.

3rd Batt.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Theodore Ambrose Wroughton, vice Frank Arnold Wake, who resigns.

13th Batt.—Lieut. George Thomas Tuckett resigns.

16th Batt.—No. 1 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. Fitzpatrick Joseph Horrigan, G.S.I., from No. 7 Co., vice Cooper.

21st Batt.—The title of the 21st battalion, will, in future, be the "21st Batt., Essex Fusiliers."

24th Batt.—No. 4 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. R. Coogan (formerly N.C.O. in H.M.'s regular army) vice Harry G. S. Richard Pattinson, who retires with rank of lieutenant.

t Batt.—Surgeon Caird Ryerson Maclean to have the rank of surgeon-major, h January, 1887.

Batt.—Lieut. and Adj. George T. Evans, V.B., to have the rank of captain from 11th Nov., 1886.

47th Batt.—To be major, Capt. and Bvt.-Major Charles Nathaniel Spooner, M.S., from No. 3 Co., vice H. R. Smith, transferred to and promoted in 14th Batt.

No. 3 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. Charles Shrimpton Irvine, M.S., vice Spooner, promoted.

59th Batt.—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Sergt. Robert Elisha Schell (S. I. 2nd B.), vice Banfield.

63rd Batt.—To be captain, Lieut. William James Butler, M.S., vice James Fortune, who retires retaining rank.
To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. Charles William Gunning, M.S., vice Butler.
To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Lostford Woolrich, N.S., vice James, promoted.

65th Batt.—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. Joseph Alphonse Villeneuve, S.I., vice Doherty promoted.

66th Batt.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Charles Clarke Hole, vice Fishwick promoted.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

2nd Lieut. Mark Robert Currie, S.M.I., 90th Batt., from 14th Dec., 1886.

No. 6.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.—SCHOOL OF CAVALRY.

First Class, "Short Course," Grade B.

Corporal A. Methot and Lance Corporal H. Bartlett, Cavalry School Corps. Private C. Oswald, Gov. Gen's. Body Guard.

Second Class, "Short Course," Grade B.

Sergt. A. Servos, 2nd Regt.

ROYAL SCHOOLS OF ARTILLERY.

First Class, "Long Course," Grade B.

Corporal L. J. O. Ducharme, A Battery, R.C.A.

Second Class, "Short Course," Grade B.

Sergts. A. Mulcahy and J. S. Bridgeford, A Battery, R.C.A.

First Class "Short Course," Grade B.

Bombardier J. Pearson, A battery, R.C.A.

Bombardier R. G. Purves, Toronto, F.B.

Second Class "Short Course," Grade B.

Acting Bomb. P. A. D'Amour, do R. Hanna, do J. Williams, A battery, R.C.A.

Gunnr. W. Patton, London F. B.

SCHOOL OF MOUNTED INFANTRY.

First Class "Special Course."

2nd Lieut. M. R. Currie, 90th battalion.

First Class "Short Course" Grade B.

Sergt. T. Smith, Lance-Corpl. A. Cochrane, 90th battalion.

Sergt. W. T. Gough, 91st battalion.

Color-Sergt. H. Morris, Corpl. W. H. Jones, 95th battalion.

Second Class "Short Course," Grade B.

Private A. Sheather, 90th battalion.

No. 7.—ASSOCIATIONS FOR DRILL IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Quebec High School Drill Company.

The formation of this drill company is hereby authorized under the provisions of paragraph 565, regulations and orders for the militia of Canada, 1883:

To act as captain, Lorne Drum.

To act as lieutenant, John Willis.

To act as 2nd lieutenant, Arthur Brodie.

Instructions have been given for the formation of another corps for the training of mounted infantry at Shorncliffe. The authorities are working in the right direction, and as the services is popular among the men there should be no lack of volunteers. We trust a permanent school will soon be established for the benefit of all willing to go through a course of instruction, as we cannot well have too many men thoroughly trained to this important work.

It is pleasant to see men of different regiments who have shared the hardships of campaigning and perils of stern strife by side meeting to celebrate the anniversary of a memorable battle in which they took part, and to keep green the memory of comrades who have fallen. At Aldershot on Wednesday the Royals and Scots Greys kept "Abu Klea day" by dining together. Capt. Hippisley, who led the combined detachments after his seniors had been killed at Abu Klea, and directed the brilliant work they did in the battle of Gubat, spoke to the men after dinner, and his words must have set many a mind travelling back to the sun-scorched desert.—*A.H.G. Gazette.*

The statement in the *Graphic* of October 30th, to the effect that Capetown has the honor of having the oldest volunteer regiment in the British Empire, has started some correspondence in the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, as to the claims of some Canadian regiments to this honor. An editorial reply gives the oldest corps in the Canadian militia as the Quebec field artillery, organized in 1855, and there is also supplied some very hazy history of somebody's dragoons raised in 1812-13. We fear, however, that our friends have entirely overlooked the fact of the existence of the honorable artillery company, founded in the reign of Elizabeth, a record compared with which those enumerated above will take a very far back seat. There were other volunteer corps formed in the same reign, but none survived. From that time up to the present there are records of the existence of various volunteer corps, and in some cases the present metropolitan regiments claim a connection with those founded long ago. In a race for antiquity, however, the H. A. C. wins in a walk.—*V. S. Gazette.*

Our Trading Column.

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

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

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

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

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

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Copies of vols. 1 for 1857, and 9 for 1875, with any remaining volumes to the close of its existence, of the *Volunteer Review*, formerly published at Ottawa by Dawson Kerr. State price, condition, etc. Register No. 11.



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Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Ice, Public Buildings," will be received at this office until Monday, the 14th February instant, for filling the Government ice house at the Rideau Canal Basin, Ottawa.

Sealed tenders endorsed "Tender for Ice, Rideau Hall, &c.," will also be received at the same time for filling the ice house at the Governor General's Residence, Rideau Hall.

Tender to state price per block of the following dimensions, viz.:—3 ft. by 1 ft. by 1 ft., which price must include cost of packing and of the saw-dust required for that purpose.

The ice to be measured before being packed in the ice house and payment to be made accordingly.

N.B.—The ice must be taken from the Ottawa River, above the Chaudiere Falls.

By order,

A. GOBEIL,

Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, 5th Feb., 1887. }

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Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for New Examining Warehouse, &c., Ottawa," will be received at this office until Tuesday, 1st March, for the several works required in the erection and completion of the

NEW EXAMINING WAREHOUSE, ETC.,

AT

OTTAWA.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after MONDAY, 14th February.

Intending contractors should personally visit the site and make themselves fully cognizant of the work to be done, according to the said plans and specifications, before putting in their tenders.

Persons tendering are further notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

A. GOBEIL,

Secretary.

Department of Public Works, }
Ottawa, 27th January, 1887. }

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For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

A. CAMPBELL,

Postmaster-General.

Post Office Department,
 Ottawa, 21st May, 1886.