The Canadian Militia Gazette

THE POPULAR ORGAN OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

(Adopted as their official paper, by the Dominion Artillery Association, the Ontario Artillery Association, the Canadian Military Rifle League, and the Royal Military College Club.)

VOL. VI.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 8TH OCTOBER, 1891.

CIVIL SERVANTS IN THE MILITIA.

Last week we entered a protest against the official discouragement of volunteering shown by the new regulations restricting or forbidding the accepance of militia commissions by members of the Civil Service: and the particular instance which inspired our remarks has drawn also vigorous protests from several influential daily papers. The case is that of Lieut. Col. W. P. Anderson, who commands the 43rd Battalion, and in civil life is Chief Engineer of the Department of Marine. Report has it that when recently the value of his services to the Department was recognized by promotion to the Rank of Chief Clerk, with substantial increase of pay, the unwelcome intimation was made that a request for his withdrawal from the military service might be expected. When the militia was called to Hull a few weeks ago, Col. Anderson went in command, as senior officer in the district, and the one day's absence seems to have settled his fate as a commanding officer, a request for his withdrawal from the service immediately following. Such a request—equivalent to a command—the Minister at the head of the Department is empowered to give, on the strength of an Order-in-Council passed about two years ago, by which Deputy Heads of Departments are absolutely forbidden to hold commissions in the militia, and other officials are allowed to accept them only by special permission of the Minister. At the time this Order-in-Council passed, the Deputy Minister of Fisheries (under the same head as the Marine Department), Lt.-Col. Tilton, held the command of the Guards, and was obliged to resign; and previous to this Lt.-Col. White had, in anticipation of the new rule, resigned the command of the 43rd Battalion upon promotion from the Secretaryship of the Post-Office Department to be Deputy Postmaster General. Another victim was Capt C. F. Winter, on the staff of the Fisheries Department, who a few months ago was promoted from a Lieutenancy and appointed Adjutant of the Guards, only to be promptly gazetted out altogether. No word of complaint has been heard from any of the officers above mentioned, their military instincts leading them to make the required sacrifices in silence. Apart, however, from any question of individual hardship, the state of affairs shown by the above instances is to be deplored, as likely to have a powerful influence in preventing Civil Servants from joining the militia in any capacity; and the merchants and employers generally cannot be blamed if they follow the Government's example and make connection with the militia a bar to promotion or engagement. A great obstacle to the volunteer movement has been the resulting inconvenience to business interests, and those disposed to refuse consent to any such temporary disarrangement of their affairs will for the future have this Departmental example to point to in justification.

In our opinion the obnoxious Order in-Council was not passed with the intention that the power given under it should be abused as it has been, and we think that the Minister of Militia would be fully justified in entering a strong protest against any such interference with the force for whose welfare and efficiency he is responsible. of the senior members of the Cabinet, Sir Adolphe Caron should assert himself in no uncertain manner, and prompt action in this connection will earn for him the gratitude of the whole militia.

In reply to the semi-official explanation made, that a Civil Servant may be urgently required in the Department at the very moment when military service may call him elsewhere, we would point out that unless the military service is very serious indeed it is always easy for an officer to obtain leave of absence to attend to urgent civil business.

The camps, now in progress in some districts and just over in others, appear from all accounts to have passed off as satisfactorily as could be expected, and the fall weather has not been unpropitious for purposes of military exercise. General Herbert has paid great personal attention to the camp work, himself spending a few days under canvas wherever possible, and the experience thus gained is apt to be turned to the practical advantage of the force. The General Orders governing the camps, issued as they were when the shooting season was at its height, have been, on that account, rather overlooked by all except those immediately concerned. We reprint them in this issue, and readers will find them of unusual interest, because of the new features, especially in connection with the musketry practice, and the general efficiency competitions initiated

Reference has already been made briefly to a bill amending the Militia Act, laid before Parliament by Sir Adolphe Caron a few days before prorogation, and standing over for re-introduction next session. A perusal of the text, appearing in full elsewhere, will show that the bill deals with a variety of subjects in addition to the matter of expense of

calls for service in aid of the civil power, which alone was alluded to in the former notice. That matter, however, seems to be the main purpose of the bill. It will be noticed that additional precautions are provided against loss to the Dominion treasury through the calling out of the militia for local purposes, but there is no proposition for adequate compensation to the citizen soldier thus called away from his daily employ. The bill has been made public as early as possible with a view to mature consideration before adoption, and suggestions in the way of amendment or addition have been invited. It is in order, therefore, to lay before the attention of the Minister of Militia, the claim of the force for such compensation, and to request an amendment accordingly of the pay clause which he proposes to enact.

The proposition contained in the bill above alluded to, to grant a step of honorary rank to officers retiring from the militia, will be heard with great interest, and we fancy with some disapproval, unless it is intended that such discretion shall be exercised in bestowing the honours that only conspicuous merit shall be rewarded. The great mass of even the well-informed public will not remember or understand the difference between the "honorary" and the more honour able distinctions earned by long and patient service, and the value of the military titles will suffer in consequence.

THE MILITIA ACT AMENDMENTS.

The following is the text of the bill introduced in the House of Commons by Sir Adolphe Caron, just before prorogation, and which will be proceeded with next session, with such amendments as may be suggested:—

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

- (1) Sub-sections five and six of section thirty-four of "The Militia Act," chapter forty-one of the Revised Statutes, are hereby repealed and the following sub-sections substituted therefor:—
- "5. The senior officer of militia shall, immediately upon receipt of such requisition, notify, in writing, the chairman or justices making such requisition of the amount which will be required to defray, for a period of eight days, the expenses and allowances, according to this Act, of the active militia whom it is proposed to call out; and he shall not comply with any such requisition until the amount has been deposited with him; and if, on or before the expiration of the seventh day after the militia is called out, a further deposit of a like amount to cover a further period of eight days is not paid to the senior officer of militia, such neglect to make a second deposit shall be deemed to be a declaration that the services of the active militia are no longer required in the premises, and they shall be commanded to return to headquarters and shall be there dismissed; Provided always, that in the case of a sudden riot, disturbance of the peace, or other emergency which, in the opinion of the senior officer of militia, may result in loss of life or destruction of property, such senior officer may dispense with such deposit:
- "6. When the active militia or any corps thereof not at the time actually in the receipt of pay from the Government of Canada, is so called out in aid of the civil power, they shall be paid out of the amount deposited as hereinbefore provided, while so employed, the sums authorized to be paid for actual service to officers and men, and one dollar per diem for each horse actually and necessarily

- used by them, together with an allowance of one dollar to each officer and fifty cents to each man per diem in lieu of subsistence, and fifty cents per diem in lieu of forage for each horse,—and in addition, the cost of providing them with proper lodging, and with stabling for their horses, (unless such lodging and stabling are furnished) together with the reasonable cost of transport, shall be defrayed out of the amount so deposited; but if the corps so called out is at the time actually in the receipt of pay from the Government of Canada, the amount deposited as hereinbefore provided shall be paid to the commanding officer and shall, immediately after the completion of the service for which the corps was called out, be paid by him to the Minister of Finance and Receiver General:
- "7. The senior officer of militia with whom the deposit is made shall prepare an account in duplicate of his expenditure under the foregoing provisions and shall transmit one copy thereof to the Minister of Militia and Defence, and shall transmit the other copy to the person by whom the deposit was made, and he shall at the same time pay to the person by whom the deposit was made the balance of such deposit remaining unexpended:
- "8. If the riot or disturbance or other emergency occurs, or is anticipated, in a locality in which no municipal organization exists, the notification and estimate shall be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor of the Province or Territory in which such locality is situate; and in such case the provisions of this section shall, except as hereinafter provided, apply in like manner as if the Lieutenant Governor in Council was the authority in this section before mentioned:
- "9. No officer, non-commissioned officer or man enlisted for continuous service in a corps constituted under section twenty-eight of this Act, or atfached from time to time for instruction to such corps, shall be kept on active service under the provisions of this section for more than forty-eight hours, without the permission of the Minister of Militia and Defence, and no such officer, non-commissioned officer or man shall have any claim for extra pay for such service; Provided always, that the officer commanding such corps shall receive a deposit of such sum as will indemnify the Government for any loss during such forty-eight hours of active service:
- "10. Notwithstanding anything in this section contained the Governor in Council may authorize the officer to whom any such requisition as aforesaid is made, to call out such portion of the active militia as he considers necessary under the circumstances, although the deposit hereinbefore mentioned has not been made: and in such case the expenses and allowances which such deposit is intended to cover may be advanced in the first instance out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada, by authority of the Governor in Council; but if such advance is made, the same shall be deemed to be a debt due to Her Majesty, for the public uses of Canada, by the authority by whom the deposit should have been made, or by whom the guarantee hereinafter mentioned was or should have been given."
- (2) Sub-section five of section thirty-six of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:
- "5. Such pay and allowances, and the reasonable cost of transport to and from the place where the services of the force are required, may be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada by authority of the Governor in Council; but if so paid the amount shall be deemed to be a debt due to Her Majesty, for the public uses of Canada, by the Government of the North west Territories."
- (3.) Section forty-five of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:
- "45. Officers holding commissions in the militia may be placed on the retired list with honorary rank, not exceeding

that of Lieutenant-Colonel, or, after twenty years continuous service as Lieutenant-Colonel in command of a corps of active militia, not exceeding that of Colonel, or without honorary rank, according to and under regulations approved by the Governor in Council; and Her Majesty may appoint officers from the retired list to commissions in the militia; but no officer from the retired list shall be bound to serve in the militia in a lower grade than that of the rank with which he retired."

- (4.) Section fifty four of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:
- "54. Such of the several corps of active militia heretofore organized, or hereafter to be organized, as are for that purpose named and specified, shall be supplied with uniform clothing of such one and similar color, pattern and design, as is ordered for each arm of the service designated in this Act; and such uniform clothing shall be delivered to renewed at the termination of every successive period specified by regulations as that for which it was issued; and the said uniform clothing shall be delivered to the officer commanding the corps, to be by him delivered to the men upon such conditions and upon such security as are directed; and the Governor in Council may, from time to time, make such regulations with respect to the issue of clothing and all matters connected with uniform, and may prescribe such penalties for any infraction of such regulations as are deemed necessary or expedient; but nothing herein contained shall prevent the re-supplying of clothing within the period aforesaid in special cases."

(5.) Section fifty-nine of the said Act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sub-sections:

- "2. When corps of active militia are ordered to perform the prescribed annual training at the headquarters of the corps, it shall be lawful to direct that the whole or part of the corps shall perform a part of such training continuously; and in such case the daily pay shall be for each day of twenty-four hours, and all ranks performing such continuous training shall receive rations and shelter at the public expense, or a daily allowance in lieu thereof, in addition to their daily pay, according to such scale as is laid down in Regulations approved by the Governor in Council."
- "3. The officer commanding in any camp of exercise for drill and training, in which any corps of the militia have been ordered to assemble, may declare forfeited to Her Majesty, and may cause to be destroyed, any intoxicating liquor which is found in such camp in contravention of any regulation made by competent authority and in force in such camp."

THE RIFLE.

FRONTIER RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-ninth annual prize meeting of this Association was held on the farm of Mr. Alex. Thomson, near the village of Huntingdon on Tuesday, 29th September. Weather, warm; wind, a gale, which blew the cotton target for extra series all to pieces and one of the iron targets down; consequently the scores were not high.

The number of competitors has not been as large for a few years as formerly, "owing," a correspondent writes, "to the Government issue of rifles having become unfit for prize shooting." The following were the highest prize-winners in each match

Trial Match - Open to members of 50th Battalion, who have attended the last annual drill and who have not won over \$2.00 in any match. Range, 200 yards: rounds, 5.

\$5 Pte. J. Bryson, 50th...... 16 \$3 Staff-Sgt. Oliver, 50th... 13 5 Pte. W. Freeland, 50th.... 15 3 Pte. E. Rennic, 50th.... 11 4 Pte. W. Rowe, 50th..... 14 2 Surgeon McLaren, 50th. 11

McEachran Match --- Open to members of 50th Battalion, who have attended last annual drill and who have not won

over \$4.00 at any match. Ranges, 200, 400 and 500 yards; rounds, 5 at each.

Frontier Match—Open to all members of the Association. Ranges, 200, 400 and 500 yards; rounds, 5 at each.

\$8 Sergt. Sloan, 50th....... 56 \$3 Pte. E. Gendron, 50th ... 47 6 Dr. Dickson, 6th Cav..... 52 3 D. G. Maefarlane, F. R. A 46 5 Sergt. Baird, 50th..... 51 3 J. Seriver, 6th Cav..... 45 4 D. Maefarlane, F. R. A ... 48 2 Lieut. Cameron, 50th... 43

Association Match—Open to all members of the Associa-

tion. Ranges, 500 and 600 yards; rounds, 7 at each. \$8 D. G. Macfarlane, F.R.A... 49 \$3 J. W. Stack, F.R.A... 42 6 Lieut. Cameron, 50th 48 3 Sergt. Baird, 50th 42 5 Lieut. Macfarlane, 50th 48 2 Dr. Dickson, 6th Cav... 42 4 D. Macfarlane, F.R.A... 44 2 Sergt. Goundry, 50th ... 38

Company Match (volley firing)—Open to 6 men from any company who have attended last annual drill; 5 rounds, kneeling, at word of command.

Silver water pitcher and \$8, No. 3 Co., 50th

No. 3 company having won the pitcher three out of five years it becomes their property.

Extra Series (changed to 7-shot match at 500 yards owing to target becoming disabled)—Prizes in kind.

Dr. Dickson.. Pr. black gloves
 J. Finlay.... Sight elevator
 Lt. Macfariane Cabinet Photos
 Lt. Cameron.. Pr. kid gloves

The D.R.A. medal was won by Sergt. Baird, he having the highest aggregate in matches 3, 4 and 6—115 points.

THE OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

The following were the results of the two spoon competitions last held. Nineteenth competition, 26th Sept. Martini :-

Dr. G. Hutchison...32 31 27--90 L. G. Perkins 27 31 27--85 R. J. Taylor ... 31 33 25-89 Lt. Sutherland ... 30 27 26-83 Capt. O'Grady ... 31 31 27-89 G. A. Mailleue ... 27 27 28-82 F. W. Smith ... 31 31 26-88 J. A. Armstrong ... 25 26 29-80 H. McKay ... 24 29 33 86 R. Moodie ... 26 30 23-79 Major Wright ... 28 32 26-86 T. McJanet ... 28 23 27 -78 T. P. Carroll ... 22 32 31-85 C. S. Scott 27 31 20-78

Twentieth competition, held 3rd October, Snider rifles: T. P. Carroll ... 13 31 31-75 R. J. Taylor ... 27 22 24-73 J. A. Armstrong ... 22 29 24-75 D. McMartin ... 20 30 23-73 G. L. Blatch ... 27 25 23-75 T. C. Boville ... 22 29 22-73 Capt. O'Grady ... 25 28 22-75 T. McJanet ... 17 28 27-72 H. McKay ... 28 24 22-74 R. Moodie ... 26 24 22 72 C. S. Scott ... 23 25 25-73 F. W. Smith ... 32 20 20-72 Lt. Sutherland ... 20 29 24-73 Capt. Rogers ... 19 24 27 70 Major Sherwood ... 25 24 24-73 L. G. Perkins ... 19 24 27 70

Militia General Orders (No. 16) of 21st Aug., 1891.

No. 1. - REGULATIONS FOR CAMPS OF RURAL MILITIA.

COMMAND AND STAFF,—All troops assembled in camps, whether permanent corps or otherwise, will be under the command of the officer appointed as commandant of the camp.

A list of officers whose employment on the staff is approved will be forwarded to Deputy Adjutants General for notification in District Orders.

Staft will be allowed in the proportion laid down in General Orders (6), 23rd May, 1890.

TRANSPORT. -- Attention is drawn to Regulations and Orders, 1887, paragraphs 367 to 374.

The Deputy Adjutant General of the District will furnish transport requisitions for all corps proceeding to and from camp. The routes selected will always be the most direct. If the journey is by more than one line of railway or public conveyance, separate requisitions will be paid for each independent line.

Transport will only be allowed for those officers and men whose names are borne on the pay list of a corps ordered to camp, or whose employment on the staff has been approved at head-quarters.

With reference to paragraph 373, the allowance of 4 cents therein authorized is extended to dismounted men of cavalry or artillery for

every mile marched over 6 and under 25 in going to or from camp.

RATIONS.—The issue of rations will commence on the morning of the arrival of the troops in camp, but the Commandant of this camp may use his discretion as to the issue of a half ration on the day of arrival, and a half ration on the day of departure, instead of a full ration on the latter day.

Officers commanding corps will make arrangements for the men under their command bringing cooked rations with them to camp on the first

for this purpose an allowance in lieu of rations of 25 cents per horse in lieu of officer and man is granted, together with 35 cents per horse in lieu of forage for the day of arrival in camp.

Fuel will be issued as laid down in Regulations and Orders, 1887,

paragraph 649.

CAMP EQUIPMENT.---Necessary tents and two blankets per officer and man will be supplied under the provisions of Regulations and Orders, 1887, paragraph 743-753.

Each officer and man proceeding to camp will provide himself with

a knife, fork and spoon, tin plate and tin drinking cup.

Each company must provide for its own use one butcher's knife, one meat fork, one shovel and one axe.

Each battalion will provide its own camp kettles and cooking

An allowance of 6 dollars per troop or company and 10 dollars per battery of artillery, will be allowed to each corps providing its own camp kettles.

MEDICAL REGULATIONS, "A medical inspection of every officer non-commissioned officer and man, is to be made, if possible, before the men leave the corps' headquarters; when that is not possible, then

immediately after the corps goes into camp.

This inspection is with a view of ascertaining: Whether any man is laboring under disease at that time, such as rheumatic affections, diseases of lungs or heart, or of the viscera of the abdomen, or any form of venereal disease, or is short-sighted, has any disease or injuries of any of the joints, badly shaped feet, or overlapping toes, which would prevent his marching; or if he has any other disqualification, which may render him unfit for service, or predispose him to become inefficient under exposure.

Such men are not to be permitted to go to, or remain in camp. receipt of the report of the Principal Medical Officer, the Commandant of the camp will immediately issue transport requisitions to

their homes.

The senior medical officer in camp, will be Principal Medical Officer. He will establish one hospital for the camp, where patients will be attended to by the Medical Officers of their respective corps. Such medical officers will be supplied with medicines, etc.

The Surgeon of each Battalion and Field Battery will make out a sick report every morning, and transmit a copy to the Principal Medical Officer, who will keep an admission and discharge book, of all

cases taken into hospital, according to Form B. (No. 283.)

Each Principal Medical Officer will give a receipt for all articles of medical equipment which may be issued to him for the use of the Brigode, for the care and proper expenditure of which he will be responsible; and on being relieved from duty he will return all medical stores, articles of equipment and medicine remaining unexpended into the District Stores, with a list of the materials which have been expended by him, on complying with which his receipt will be returned to him.

Wine or spirituous liquor, as may be prescribed for use in case of illness must be paid for by the person requiring the same.

No expense to be incurred by medical officers on account of the Government, without previous authority for such being obtained.

TARGET PRACTICE. Each man must expend, under proper supervision, the number of rounds authorized for that purpose, viz., 20 rounds, in individual firing.

In addition to the above, 5 rounds per man will be allowed for volley firing by sections, when that practice can be carried out.

Distances, dimensions of target, and position of man firing.

	100 \ yds.	300 } yds.	Position.	Rounds,		
Bull's eye	1 foot	feet 100 yard Standing feet 200 % 30	100 yards. Standing.	5 rds. at 100 P 5 " 200 " 5 " 300 "		
	Remainder of target 4 feet		Kneeling, 400 yards, any millitary			

Signalling hits:

Bull's eye, counting 4 points, white disc.

Centre, counting 3 points, red disc.

Outer, counting 2 points, black disc.

The signal for danger or cease firing is a red flag. On no account is a shot to be fired when the danger flag is up at the marker's butt.

Men obtaining 40 points and over in the individual firing will be classed as first class shots.

Between 30 and 40 points as 2nd class shots. Less than 30 as 3rd class shots.

All the above orders to be carried out strictly in accordance with the Musketry Regulations.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES.—Attention is drawn to Regulations and Orders, 1887, Section "Pay," paragraphs 382 to 389, and paragraphs 860 to 876. The commandant of the camp is held responsible that these and all other General Orders which have been issued with reference to them have been strictly adhered to.

The following allowances in lieu of rations are approved: \$5.00 per diem. Staff officers if approved at Headquarters 2.50 Non-commissioned officers attached to staff if similarly

..... 50 cents "

The above to be in addition to daily pay.

Forage will be allowed for horses of Staff officers if present in camp and employed in the performance of their duties.

3. The Supply Officer and Camp Quartermaster will each be allowed one day before the arrival and after the departure of troops, for making necessary arrangements, closing accounts, etc., for which days pay and allowances will be drawn.

4. Officers commanding corps will arrange for their Quartermasters to be in camp one day before the arrival of the corps in camp and one day after their departure. An allowance of one dollar a day in addition to pay will be given for those days and for the first day in camp, in lieu of rations.

REPORTS.—Officers commanding camps of instruction will send in reports to Headquarters within ten days (10) of the closing of the camp.

(These reports are not to be confused with the annual report of each Deputy Adjutant General on the state of his district.)

The report will include:

(a.) A return of the strength of the corps in camp;

(b.) A return of the daily work done in camp with a view of showing the system of instruction adopted;

(c.) A return of the cases treated in hospital;

(d.) A return of musketry practice, specifying the best shots in regiments and in camp;

(e.) Form A. G. O. No. 215 duly completed.

The reports should be short and concise, and all extraneous matter should be avoided.

An order of merit of the corps assembled in camp will be given in the report. It will be established by points given according to the following standard and adjudged by the Commandant from his personal observation from day to day.

(-) 15.00 1 1		• .
(a.) Drill and manoeuvre	300	pomt
(b.) Discipline	300	
(a) (Infantry) Musketry and care of arms	200	
(Cavalry) Musketry	100	6.6
Saddlery, harness and stable duties	100	44
(Artillery) Driving	100	"
Saddlery, harness and stable duties	100	"
(d.) Order and cleanliness in regimental lines	100	"

(e.) Correctness of dress and turn out, both on and off duty 100 Officers commanding camps are held responsible that no wives, female friends or children of officers or men are lodged within the lines of the camp, and that no officer or man sleeps out of camp without

special leave. They will state in their reports that this order has been strictly complied with

No. 2.—Drill and Training, 1891-92.

1. 12 days pay of their respective ranks will be issued to all officers, N. C. officers and men of the Active Militia called out for training in 1881-92 by General Order, whether at local Headquarters or in District Camps.
2. The following corps are authorized to carry out their training at

local Headquarters:

(a.) All city corps (b.) All corps of Military District No. 11.

(c.) The corps detailed in No. 2 of General Order (10) 19th June. 1891, as amended by General Order (14), 31st July, 1891.

(d.) The following corps of Garrison Artillery: No. 1 and 2 Batteries, Levis Garrison Artillery.

The New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery. The Digby and Mahone Bay Batteries Garrison Artillery.

(e.) The Sidney Field Battery.

N.B. City Troops or Companies forming part of a Rural Regiment or Battalion will perform their training under the conditions authorized for their Regiment or Battalion.

3. The establisments for which pay will be drawn are as follows: Troops of Cavalry, 45 officers. N.C. officers and men, and 35 horses.

Companies of Infantry and Engineers and Batteries of Garrison Artillery 45 officers, N.C. officers and men.

Regimental Staff Sergeants to be included in the above.

The following field and regimental staff-officers will be in addition to the above establishment, viz: 1 Lt. Colonel Commanding, 2 Majors, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Paymaster, 1 Medical Officer.

The authorized strength of Field Batteries for which pay will be issued is as follows: 1 Major, 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 2nd Lieutenant, 1 Surgeon, 1 Veterinary Surgeon, 1 Sergeant Major, 1 Quartermaster Sergeant, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 4 Bombardiers, 1 Trumpeter, 1 Farrier, 58 Gunners and Drivers, 29 Horses and Chargers. By command,

WALKER POWELL, Colonel, Adjutant General of Militia, Canada.

GLEANINGS.

Surg.-Major Colin, of the French Army, gives statistics to show that india-rubber heels to military boots would deaden the shock to the system, prevent footsore and increase the marching form of the men.

Col. King-Harman, of the 4th Ghoorka Regt., warns his countrymen that the fighting efficiency of the native army is increasing relatively to that of the British Army under the system of short service, and that avarice exceeds patriotism in the hearts of all Asiatics.

Every day brings fresh intelligence of war-like preparations on the part of Russia. The latest measure is the transformation of a number of *cadre* battalions of the reserve infantry, garrisoned near the Austrian frontier, into as many regiments, by the simple process of doubling their number.

Mr. J. Forster Brown, M. Inst., C. E., and president of the mechanical section of the British Association, in a paper on "Our Coal Resources," read before the economic section, draws the deduction that in about 50 years Great Britain will have so far used up her fuel stores that her manufactures will be crippled, and her prosperity will begin to disappear.

At the close of the French manœuvres, President Carnot reviewed the troops—about 110,000—and afterwards delivered an oration, in which he said: "The Army has again shown what France may expect from it, and the whole country, which has followed the army's movements with passionate interest through the whole of its trial, is grateful. From the plain soldier, valiant and alert, to the leader of the highest rank, who executes marvels of science, toil and skill, all inspire us with confidence."

General Viscount Wolseley, in a recent article, gives this sensible advice: "If I might venture to advise our young officers I would beg of them not to rest contented with simple knowledge. A man may be crammed with all that has ever been written on war, and yet be quite useless as an officer unless deep thought is brought to bear upon that stored-up knowledge."

The Army and Navy Gazette says: "It seems that, after all, Great Britain is to be the first country in the world which will possess a dynamite 'torpedo-thrower' actually mounted in one of its fortresses, for we learn that the celebrated Victorian gun is to be brought from Shoeburyness and crected at Dale Point, in Milford Haven. The entrance to the Haven is just two miles in width, and the pneumatic torpedo-thrower has an easy range of 4,000 yards, at which it can throw a series of 500-pound projectiles into rectangles a little larger than an ordinary billiard table." It gives details to show that this claim for accuracy is not exaggerated, and says further: "The extreme range of this weapon was not, however, reached on either of the occasions alluded It is believed that, with an elevation of 40 degrees and a sub-calibre shell of 300 lbs., from three to four miles would be easily attainable; but the accuracy at such a distance would not, of course, be so striking. With the full-sized shell to hold 600 lbs. of dynamite, the torpedothrower would still possess an available range over the full width of the entrance to Milford Haven, and it is assumed that this quantity of so violent an explosive, if detonated within 100 feet of a vessel's sides or bottom, would inevitably occasion its destruction. There is a deeply-rooted prejudice against the pneumatic gun in the minds of those belonging to the department of the Director of Artillery at Pall Mall, which was only partially removed by the extraordinary results obtained during practice with it at Shoeburyness. It is a matter for regret that the original projectors of this singular weapon should have gone out of their way in their endeavor to force it upon the United States Navy. It never was suitable for the armament of vessels, and never can be made so. Its vocation is clearly to dominate the

waters of a well-known channel or anchorage, where every position is mapped out and the exact bearings of passing vessels can be ascertained to a nicety."

General Viscount Wolseley, is summing up a contribution to the New York Herald, on Von Moltke, says: "He is said never to have made a personal enemy. If this be true, it is indeed most extraordinary, considering the number of fools and small minded men in and out of office a General in his position has to deal with. * * * Abroad he was known as the greatest strategist, the ablest soldier of his epoch. At home, revered wherever the German tongue is spoken, he is still known as the great chief of the staff to the Prussian monarch. Had he served any other nation his epita; h would have described him as the conqueror of Denmark, of Austria and of France. But in his own country he will be simply remembered forever, and he was content to be so remembered, with deep feelings of pride and affection, as the loyal patriot, the great soldier and the faithful servant of his king. What fame could the good man wish for more?"

General Viscount Wolseley, in one of his contributions to the United Service Magazine on Field Marshal Von Moltke. refers to the German Army being badly off for a leader in 1841, and makes this remarkable statement which will be new to most of his readers: "Monsieur Thiers, who was the Prime Minister in France, seemed determined to force on a European war in what he conceived to be the interests of his country. In England and in Germany this war was believed to be imminent, and the King of Prussia was most anxious to be prepared for it. All his old generals of repute were dead, but a great leader was of the first necessity. He consequently turned to England and formally asked the Duke of Wellington, then in the 72nd year of his age, to accept the command of the German Army in the event of a war with France. This startling fact is beyond all doubt, and a copy of the Duke's answer, addressed to our Minister in Berlin, Lord William Russell, is now before me."

Returns have been published of the number of men incorporated in the French and German Armies and Navies. Taking the German first, the number of men accepted for service was 182,836, and while there were 12,666 volunteer engagements, 5,916 men could not be incorporated because they were in excess of the effective provided for in the Budget. Thus, the general total of incorporations was 195,502, of whom 4,121 were for the naval forces, while 19,472 men were "condemned" for having emigrated without having first done their military service. The number of men incorporated in the French forces was 204,000, of whom 193,000 were drafted into the Army, 60,000 of these being engaged for one year's active service, and being then passed into the Reserve.

The soldiers of the 11th German Army Corps have gained distinction by a recently claimed march at the rate of four miles an hour maintained for eight and a half hours, each carrying fifty German pounds weight of accourrements. It is well known that the marching powers of the German Infantry are very considerable. Their boots are half-Wellingtons, with plenty of nails in the soles, quite straight in the tread, and very square toes with rather broad welts; and —like the English Cavalry boot for unmounted service—having a certain amount of heel, the boot has to be considerably longer than the foot, whereas British Infantry are apt to wear their boots too short.

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