



# THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE.

(SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.)

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No. 4

MONTREAL, 15th FEBRUARY, 1894

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## THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE.

(Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)

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## Note and Comment.

Speaking of the three vacancies in the North-West Mounted Police the other day, the Toronto World said: There is no truth in the rumor that Mr. Gilpin Brown of Toronto has been appointed to one of these positions, although his appointment is being strongly urged by some of his Toronto friends. Who the mischief is Mrs. Gilpin Brown, anyway?

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The same paper in the same article says: The police owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Ives for the personal interest he has shown in their welfare and for several amendments to the ration list, which will greatly conduce to their comfort. Among these changes is the addition of butter to the daily ration. Heretofore the men have had to buy their own butter, but in future they are to be allowed two ounces a day. Another improvement is the substitution in

the police barracks of iron bedsteads and spring beds for the old wooden trestles, which were not only hard but liable to be buggy. Hon. Mr. Ives sees no reason why his men should not be placed on an equal footing, as far as comfort is concerned, with the regular force, and is making other minute changes in that direction." Doubtless the butter ration and the new iron beds will be appreciated by the men of the force; but we venture to express the opinion that they would sooner buy their own butter and sleep in the old bunkers than have to serve under inefficient and unsatisfactory officers. Let Mr. Ives deserve well of the Riders of the Plains in that respect and he will have accomplished something worth talking about.

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Why all this delay in filling the Majority in the Winnipeg Cavalry and the vacant Majority in the Royal Canadian Artillery? If it is considered necessary to have a Major commanding a troop of cavalry at Toronto composed of 40 men and 35 horses, surely a lieutenant is of insufficient rank for a corps of 100 men and 55 horses at Winnipeg. This vacancy has existed for some three years. If there is not an officer capable of filling the position in the corps, let an outsider be brought in. The injustice in the Artillery is the greater for it may be the means of depriving another officer of promotion. This vacancy has existed also for about a year. If such a scandalous state of things existed in any other militia corps in Canada, the D.A.G. and Militia Dept. would long ere this have dealt with the trouble. It is understood the G.O.C. has made certain recommendations in regard to filling these vacancies, but cannot get the Minister of Militia to act on them. It is not fair to Gen. Herbert to hold him responsible for the efficiency of the militia, and especially of the Permanent Corps, when his recommendations on such a simple matter as promo-

tion or filling existing vacancies is ignored, year after year.

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A correspondent wants to know what has become of the new Canadian Infantry Drill, (which a committee composed of Lt.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Lt.-Col. Smith, D.A.G., and Capt. MacDougall, Royal Canadian Infantry, have been compiling for the past 18 months, and which it was rumored was to have been promulgated last month. There appears to be much surprise in some quarters that the new Imperial Infantry Drill 1893 has been adopted in the militia in place of it. This sudden and unexpected change of front on the part of the Militia authorities at Headquarters is said to be due to the War Office objecting to the Canadian militia having a drill in any respect differing from what prevails in the Army, as in the event of the militia being brigaded with Imperial troops confusion might arise, which possibly would lead to disastrous results.

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The death of Maj. Wainwright, Militia Dept., Ottawa, gives the Minister of Militia an opportunity of carrying out his professions as expressed at a dinner given him some time ago at the Albany Club, Toronto, to the effect that the militia and politics were divorced in his Department. Of all the Departments of the Government which should have trained military officers it is the Militia Department, and especially the Adjutant-General's office, where this vacancy now exists. If Mr. Patterson wishes to be consistent, why does he not appoint one of the Royal Military College graduates to this office. Their education and good training has been conducted by his Department, under him, as the responsible minister. We shall watch the filling of this vacancy with interest to see whether it will be a poet, a sculptor, or somebody's son who has the preference.

It is stated that one of the officers of the Cavalry School is to be sent to England for a course. It appears manifestly absurd to send officers to England until they have learned everything possible that is to be learned in Canada. Why do these officers not take the "long course" at Kingston first, then on to England afterwards.

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It is to be sincerely regretted that the discussion brought out by Sir Fred Middleton's articles in the United Service Magazine should have degenerated into a mutual recriminations tournament. What promised to have been a most interesting and historically valuable discussion threatens to develop into a thoroughly disgraceful personal squabble. It certainly is neither dignified nor necessary for officers and gentlemen to couch their statements of fact in harshly offensive terms. It is beyond belief that General Middleton would write a deliberate lie in an article sure to be brought to the notice of every survivor of the North-West Field Force. It is all a question of the General's veracity on the point about the projected withdrawal from Batoche during the first day's fighting. The General in his narrative said that some of his senior officers advised withdrawal, but that he decided to stay and fight it out. Lt.-Col. Houghton says, and unquestionably he is right, that he and Dr. Orton and the late Lt.-Col. Williams opposed the withdrawal. But there were other senior officers present; the officers on whose counsel the General chiefly relied, and Sir Fred will probably explain in good time that it was those officers who advised him to withdraw.

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There has been such a turning of the phrases on this matter of the proposed withdrawal or retirement that somehow or another the idea appears to have become general that the proposal to retire was, from the first, a very ill-advised if not an actually cowardly one. Such is not the case. When General Middleton left his prairie camp that May morning to march through the intervening brush wood on to Batoche the tents were left standing, the transport train remained in zarba and the men carried their day's rations in their harvestsacks. The Prince Albert scouts were such an infernal lot of prevaricators that Middleton did not know what was ahead of him; whether Batoche was impregnable, whether it was devoid of defences, whether Riel had five, hundred or fifteen thousand fighting men with him, or whether Riel was in Batoche at all. Some of those who thought they knew said that the mere sight of Middleton's force would stampede the half-breeds.

Other, and these were the most numerous party, declared that it would need at least three thousand men to capture Batoche. The General had considerably less than a thousand effective fighting men with him. Clearly, then, the General's idea from the very start was to retire on his camp if he found the half-breeds too firmly entrenched to dislodge them easily.

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The march on Batoche was really a reconnaissance in force. Here, be it remembered, Middleton's orders were to put down the uprising with as little loss of life on either side as possible. If he could not easily get into Batoche with the force he had he was to wait for the reinforcements on their way to the front. But the reconnaissance at once developed into a general attack when the infantry and artillery got engaged, and a retirement then would doubtless have been bad tactics. The General at one time after his force got seriously engaged, certainly must have had an idea of withdrawing, for the ammunition and ambulance waggons were formed up in a column on the trail headed towards the camp, but he probably took this step at the urging of some of his officers; for one who was present says that there was a very general impression that the best thing to be done was to retire. No headway was being made and men were being killed and wounded and ammunition expended apparently to no purpose. At two o'clock in the afternoon, in spite of numerous casualties, the advanced line was considerably in rear of the position where the A Battery guns had been in action at the time the rebel attack developed in the morning in earnest. This did not look as though the North-West Field Force was doing much good by remaining on the brush-fringed and pit-circled plateau above Batoche. Meantime the present discussion might be useful if those participating would drop painful personalities.

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So circumstantial was the account cabled over from America of the escapade of the three fanatics who had explosive designs on the historic old Nelson's monument in Montreal, that almost universal credit was given to the statement that these men were officers of the Canadian Militia. Great, therefore, is the pleasure with which it is learnt, on the authority of the Canadian Military Gazette, that not one of the three young donkeys concerned were at the time of their silly prank, or at any other time, members of that patriotic body.—United Service Gazette.

## News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades.

Address,  
EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,  
P.O. Box 387 Montreal, Que.

### TORONTO.

The smoking concert held Feb. 9th by the sergeants of the Royal Grenadiers in their mess-room, Queen street west, was in every respect a success. About four hundred members and friends of the regiment were present. Staff-Sergt. Ewart occupied the chair. The following took part in the excellent vocal and musical programme presented: Messrs. C. Musgrove, J. Smith, Val-lary, Bell, Carmichael, C. Martin, Corrigan, Chandler, H. Sole, T. Carlyle, Kirkpatrick, W. Moody, J. Manning, Harvey, T. Carruthers, Anderson, Glionna, Burch, Piggot, Makenzie, Clegg, Clowey, Fenton, Phillips, E. Burton, Twigg, Grant, McIntyre, and the Royal Grenadiers band. A four-round contest between Messrs. Pratt and Crawford brought the affair to a close. Among the guests present were: Lt.-Col. Dawson, Maj. Hay, Capt. Boyd, Capt. MacKay, and Capt. Trotter.

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The inclement weather had no effect upon the brow lads of "E" Co., 48th Highlanders, who held their annual dinner at the Metropole, Feb. 9th. They turned out in full force, and did justice to the good things provided. Colour Sergeant D. W. Smith officiated as chairman, and accomplished his duties admirably. He was ably assisted by Vice-Chairman Private J. G. Cane. The following was the toast list:—"The Queen," "The Canadian Militia," "Our Commanding Officer and Staff" "Sister Corps," "Our Guests," "The Ladies," and "The Press." The guests from other city corps were:—Captain Gosling and Colour-Sergeant Beane, of the Royal Grenadiers; and Colour-Sergeant Lennox, of the Queen's Own Rifles. During the evening many of those present added to the enjoyment by their rendering of vocal and instrumental music.

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The annual meeting of the Sergeants' Mess, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, was held on Monday evening, Jan. 7th. The following were elected as the Board of Management for the current year: President, Col.-Sergt. J. G. Langton; Vice-President, Staff-Sergt. R. M. Williams; Secretary, Sgt. J. L. Hopwood; Treasurer, Sergt. F. C. Allum; Superintendent of Refreshments, Col.-Sergt. S. E. Cunningham; Committeemen, Sergt. E. A. Agar, Sergt. Wm. Meadows, and Sergt. T. H. Cramp; Auditors, Sergt. J. E. Thompson and Sergt. G. S. Pearey.

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At the second annual meeting of the 48th Highlanders on Jan. 30th, the following committees were elected for 1894: Regimental, Capt. Macgillivray, Capt. Robertson and Lieut. Orchard; Rifle, Major Macdonald, Major Henderson and Lieut. Ramsay; Band, Major Crosby, Capt. Machie and Capt. Hunter; Mess and Entertainment, Capt. Hardie, Dr. Dame and Lieut. Mitchell; regimental secretary-treasurer, Capt. Macgillivray.

The annual meeting of the officers of the Royal Grenadiers was held in the ante-room of the drill shed on Monday, Jan. 17th, the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Mason, in the chair. The following committees for 1894 were appointed: Regimental, Major Bruce, (president) Capt. Gosling and Lieut. Stinson; Band, Major Hay (president), Capt. Irving (secretary-treasurer), and Lieutenant Sweatman; Mess, Capt. Cantelon (president) Assistant-Surgeon King, and Lieut. Lehmann; Rifle, Major Bruce (president) Capt. Harston, and Lieut. Boyd; Entertainment, Capt. Gibson (president), Capt. Mackay, Capt. Tassie, Lieut. Chadwick, Lieut. Wills, Lieut. Bain, and Lieut. Smith.

### HAMILTON.

It would take something worse than a blizzard to keep the members of company G, Thirteenth battalion, away from their annual dinner. This enjoyable affair was held at Newport's last night. The volunteers cheerfully waded through snow drifts rather than miss the event, and in spite of the storm there was a good muster. Capt. Mewburn presided. Seated near him were Major McLaren, Surgeon Griffin, Lt. Logie and Capt. Tidswell. Mayor Stewart and Lt. Witton arrived after the council meeting and were warmly welcomed. The former organized company G at the time of the Riel rebellion in 1885. When he entered the banquetting hall the boys sang "He's a Daisy Just Now." Col. Sergt. Stewart and Sgt. Kilgour occupied the vice-chairs. The supper served by Newport was unusually good.

Regrets were read from Col. Gibson, Col. Moore, Major Stuart and the officers of the Grenadiers and Queen's Own, Toronto.

The toast list was short, there being only five proposed, as follows:

The Queen.

Commanding Officer and Staff—Major McLaren, Surgeon Griffin.

The Mayor and Corporation—Mayor Steart.

Officers of Company G—Capt. Mewburn and Lt. Logie.

Non Commissioned Officers—Col. Sgt. Stewart, Segts. Kilgour and Scott.

Major McLaren said that any company choosing such a night for its annual dinner should not expect the staff to come. He was glad to be present, and made an apology for the absence of Col. Gibson and Col. Moore. He talked about the recent competition, and said that while the battalion did not win the cup, it made more points than it did in 1892, and the members should not be discouraged. In most subjects company G did well, but it was deficient in shooting, and he urged the members to pay more attention to it in future. He referred to the fact that the officers had obtained the highest possible marks. He announced that the annual entertainment would be held about the first week in May.

Mayor Stewart made a capital speech. It was the first company dinner he had attended, and he hoped the officers would always do him the honor of inviting him. His thoughts went back to the old days when he was captain of the company. They were the happiest days he had ever

spent and he never would forget them. He spoke of the forming of the company, and said he never had any trouble in getting recruits. He had men who made it a point never to be absent from drill. He said many kind things about the battalion, being always pleased to hear of its success.

There was an abundance of musical talent in the company. Songs were sung by Capt. Tidswell, Sgt. Major Athawes, Lt. Logie, Sgt. Major Higgins, Pte. Shaw, Pte. McDermott and the Silver League Colored quartette. Pte. Needham played a piano solo, and Pte. Fitzgerald gave a mouth organ solo.—Spectator, Feb. 13th.

### NEWS FROM THE SERVICE PAPERS.

The Austrian military authorities are still extremely reticent concerning the mechanism of the new Salvator mitrailleuse, or quick-firing machine gun; but Reuter's special correspondent at Vienna learns that the firing trials made at the Vienna Arsenal have been reported upon as highly satisfactory. The weapon has been adopted by the Service, and only one hundred pieces are now ready for distribution. The gun is not intended for use in the field, as in the case of the English Maxim and Nordenfiet machine guns. The new mitrailleuse will be mounted stationary on the outworks encircling important fortresses. It is only half the weight of the Maxim, and its average rate of discharge is about the same—three hundred rounds per minute, with a maximum of three hundred and twenty. The diameter of the bore is eight millimeters, being similar to that of the Mannlicher repeating rifle now in use in the Austrian Service. The barrel is not encased in a water jacket, and twelve hundred continuous rounds can be fired before it shows the effects of excessive heat. The cartridges are supplied, as in the Nordenfiet, from a large "hopper" fixed above the firing chamber. The gun is fired by means of an ordinary trigger with trigger grip, and a recoil spring supplies the automatic action. But the principal point of interest in respect of which the new gun differs from the mechanism of similar weapons now in use in other countries is the oscillating pendulum regulating the speed of fire. There are two firing commands with the Maxim, "Single fire" and "Continuous fire." The discharge is regulated by the turning of the crank handle. The single fire is as the fire from an ordinary repeating rifle, while the continuous represents the most rapid discharge of which the machine is capable. With the Salvator mitrailleuse, however, the great advantage is gained of sustaining a moderately heavy discharge of thirty, fifty, to one hundred rounds per minute, and increasing it by means of a faster oscillation of the pendulum to three hundred, when a dangerous phase of the attack has been developed. The saving of ammunition thereby is enormous. The mechanism is said to be very simple, and throughout the trial no jams were recorded. The Austrian military authorities naturally congratulate themselves on the excellence of this new invention.

It is reported that Russian Cavalry manoeuvres on an imposing scale are to be held in the spring in order to test the theories as to the employment of Cavalry in masses held by General Gourko, who commanded the Cavalry manoeuvres in Poland last year, when some 35,000 horsemen were in the field for a period of four weeks. General Gourko, far from sharing the general view that the days of Cavalry charges are gone for ever, holds strongly to the opinion that in time of war Cavalry should not only operate as an auxiliary force, but that it should act independently of Infantry, and aided solely by Artillery, in masses, either with the view of preparing victory, or to gathering in its fruits. In the forthcoming manoeuvres, the whole of the Cavalry belonging to the military districts of Warsaw, Vienna, and Keiff will be engaged to a total strength of some 150,000 horsemen. The place of the manoeuvres, which has been approved by the Czar, has not leaked out, but it is known that the intention is to study the double role of Cavalry fighting mounted and on foot, and that the manoeuvres will be attended by the Czar and by numbers of officers of high rank, including the commanders of all the military districts.

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The Admiralty have now so far completed their new shipbuilding programme that they have placed the orders for the new 50-ton guns, whose work upon the armament fittings is rapidly progressing in all the Dockyards. The special programme is to consist of the building of eight first-class battle-ships similar to the Majestic, at a total of £7,000,000, for which special provision will be made.

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In connection with the military manoeuvres which have been going on round Calcutta for some days past, an interesting experiment was made in order, according to the Times, to test the security of the port against a maritime attack. The gun-boat Redbreast and the Indian Marine steamer Resolute were directed to try to steal up the Hooghly. The former, in spite of every precaution, was detected by every fort and signal station, and exposed to a fire which must have destroyed her. The latter succeeded in passing Diamond Harbor, but was seen and met with a heavy fire from the forts above that point.

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Captain Thouvenin, of the French Artillery, has brought out an exceedingly simple and ingenious arrangement for ascertaining the distance by sound. His invention, which is known as the Thouvenin Phonometre Watch, consists of a keyless watch fitted with a compass and a double graduated scale round the dial of the watch, which permits of readily measuring angles and distances, it being possible to appreciate the length of time taken by the sound in reaching the recorder to the fortieth part of a second. The watch has already been recommended by the French and Russian War Ministers, and a number have now been ordered by the Minister of Public Instruction for teaching topography in the Government Schools.

The present British naval strength in Eastern waters is nineteen war-ships, of 39,000 tons, carrying 135 large guns, including those of 4-inch calibre, and 150 smaller guns. The total crews consist of 8,000 men. The combined French and Russian squadrons are twenty-one war-ships of equal tonnage, carrying 153 large guns and 137 smaller guns, 4,000 men, and ten torpedo-boats, and volunteer cruisers besides. This startling comparison proves, observes a Times correspondent at Hong Kong, that without more men and ships here, Great Britain is exposing wilfully her immense Eastern interests to great danger.

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It has been decided to begin the armament of the Militia Infantry with the Lee-Metford converted rifle by the issue of that weapon to the twenty-eight battalions which belong to the Third Army Corps in the Home Defence Scheme, and it is expected that the new weapon will be taken into use and the Martini-Henry be discarded in the approaching drill season. The Militia battalions immediately affected by the change belong to Middlesex, Surrey, the Tower Hamlets, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Berkshire, Sussex, and Nottinghamshire, and form five Infantry brigades.

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The whole story of the destruction of Captain Wilson and his little band of men is now told. As anticipated, the force was slaughtered in its entirety—literally "wiped out." The Militia, after a desperate fight, managed to come to close quarters in overwhelming numbers, and it was then all over. It has always been so in battles in which civilized men have been pitted against natives of the stamp of Lobengulas men; if the natives can be kept at rifle distance, they will be repulsed with heavy slaughter; but if, on the other hand, they get to close quarters they invariably destroy their opponents to a man. Captain Wilson and his men fought with heroic courage, but they were speedily annihilated. They had no defence such as Chard and his men were able to make for themselves at Rorke's Drift, so they perished, one and all. Nothing remains of them, as Kinglake might have said, but the splendor of their resistance—"and splendor like this is something more than the mere outward adornment which graces the life of a nation. It is strength; strength other than that of mere riches, and other than that of gross numbers; strength carried by proud descent from one generation to another; strength awaiting the trials that are to come."

#### FRONTIER RIFLE ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the members of the Frontier Rifle Association was held in the village of Huntingdon on Tuesday, the 13th Feb., 1894. In the absence of the president Lt. G. L. Macfarlane was chosen chairman.

The secretary-treasurer, Lt.-Col. Arch. MacLaren, presented the financial report, which was considered satisfactory and was adopted.

The officers of last year were re-elected. No change was made in any of the matches except that the Dominion of Canada Medal was given to the highest aggregate

of matches one, two and three, instead of three, four and six.

The officers of the Association are in hopes that before the next annual prize meeting they shall have new rifles, as they say the old ones are not fit to shoot at a target.

#### RIFLE MATCH AT BANFF.

At a rifle match held at the Banff, N.W.T., range last week, the following scores were made. The match was five shots at (200 yards):

F. Young	- - - - -	20
Corp. Aston, N.W.M.P., Canmore	- - - - -	20
W. Jacks	- - - - -	19
Cons. Noyce, N.W.M.P.	- - - - -	19
N. B. Sanson	- - - - -	18
J. Jansen	- - - - -	17
Cons. McKellar, N.W.M.P.	- - - - -	16
Staff-Sgt. Bagley, N.W.M.P.	- - - - -	16
Capt Haip r, N.W.M.P.,	- - - - -	15
S. Harrison	- - - - -	13
Dr. Simpson, Winnipeg	- - - - -	12
Cons. Thompson, N.W.M.P.	- - - - -	12
N. R. Wessell, Medicine Hat	- - - - -	11
W. H. Scovth	- - - - -	10
F. Abbey	- - - - -	10
G. Hughes, Calgary	- - - - -	9

Great interest was taken in the match, nearly all the citizens turning out to watch the contest. A civilian team consisting of F. Young, W. Jacks, N. B. Sanson, J. Jansen, S. Harrison and Dr. Simpson beat the Police team by 8 points. Another match will take place next month, when entries are expected from different towns along the line.

#### THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

Lt. Col. Massey's Lecture Before The Montreal Military Institute.

At a meeting of the Montreal Military Institute, held at the rooms, Metcalfe street, on Saturday evening, the 10th inst. (Lt. Col. Prevost, one of the vice-presidents, in the chair), Lt. Col. Massey read a paper entitled "Matters of interest to the Active Militia." After an allusion to the length of his service with the force, some 24 years, Lt. Col. Massey said:

It has no doubt been evident to all interested in the militia that from one cause or another for some years past its administration has not taken the important place which it formerly held. From being one of the most prominent of the government departments, it has now fallen into what might be termed almost the junior of the thirteen or fourteen which compose the Cabinet appointments. This is probably due much to the fact that there exists a feeling among those in authority that should necessity arise, there would be no difficulty in obtaining a sufficient number of trained men for any emergency, as past experience has shown that the active militia have ever been more than ready to take the field, either in repelling foreign invasion, suppressing rebellion or in aid of civil power. It is a great error to rely too much on this, however, as extraordinary occurrences may at any time arise which will require large forces and complete organization. While it is necessarily carefully to guard the public purse of a young and growing country like Canada, it is also necessary to spend sufficient for the proper maintenance of all forces

at present organized, with at least twice as many annually trained men as the department is now able to avail itself of. Parliament has for years past been satisfied with granting about the usual annual vote, and various ministers of militia have either been unable or unwilling to obtain grants, which Parliament no doubt would willingly place at the disposal of the Militia Department, provided the necessities of the forces were fully and firmly placed before it. The granting from year to year of sums insufficient has resulted in so curtailing the work of the executive department as to compel them to adopt the disastrous policy of cutting down on all sides, which, no matter, how efficient the department may be, will only finally result in generally demoralizing the force, with possibly the exception of the permanent corps, which are well cared for, and a few city regiments, at present maintained by their own efforts, both as regards expense and drill. This state of things will simply leave Canada without the necessary force to maintain order, or protect her integrity, so that should the present state of affairs be allowed to continue, requiring so much money for the smaller number of the permanent force, and leaving so little for the active militia, who compose by far the most important of Canada's defence, it would be better almost to extend the system of the Northwest Mounted Police, which has always proved such a valuable factor in assisting the settlement of our great territory in the Northwest. In this connection it can be said without any possible fear of contradiction that the portion of money expended on country battalions, compared with that placed at the disposal of city regiments, is altogether unfairly divided, while it is also beyond all question that whatever the rural corps may be they are never so ready for service as those corps which compose the leading city regiments. More and more attention has of late been paid to the welfare of the permanent corps, which though numerically small (total establishment being only 1,012) occupy a very important place with regard to the active militia, and while I would not suggest in any way that this attention and expenditure should cease, I would strongly urge that it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of the active militia, that the parliamentary grant should be so augmented as to permit of an increase in the pay and allowances to city corps, so that the present policy of cutting off both ornamental and useful sections of the regiment should cease, and the rural corps, those of whom are efficient, should be drilled annually, and that no political influence of any kind should be allowed to interfere with the disbanding of any rural corps not proving efficient. These ideas occur to me as being necessary to the successful future of the militia of Canada, and we should all recognize the fact, that while we value our connection with the great Empire we should prove a source of strength rather than a weakness as we must be if we in Canada are to rely upon large numbers of Her Majesty's regulars being sent out here in case of emergency, which matter it is

becoming more difficult every year to perform, when the necessities of the Empire and its peculiar position throughout the world are considered. A marked improvement has of late years taken place in rifle shooting, much time and money having been given and carefully expended on practice. Greater facilities should, however, be granted by the Government, both in rifle, ammunition and in financial grants to corps showing themselves worthy of it. In fact, this carrying out of rifle practice, which is the most important of the necessities of the service, should be rendered absolutely free of cost, both to battalions and individual members. In this district, especially, at present it is an exceedingly expensive duty, though the administration of the financial affairs of our ranges has been characterised by every good management; nearly all the corps paying their proportions of costs for expenses, which we must all admit have been carefully administered. The entire cost of our ranges should be borne by the Government, and I am sure that only the want of sufficient means has prevented the department from adopting this expenditure; and in this connection it can fairly be stated that a very large part of the energy and ability of the department officers is taken up by their endeavors to decide how best to distribute the Government vote from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, instead of being able to devote it all purely to the welfare of the active militia.

Following these remarks, it may be of probable interest to give you a few figures compiled from official sources, more especially in reference to matters already alluded to. Before doing so, however, I would just say that the Government should at once increase the strength of the four 6-company infantry rifle regiments in this city to eight companies each, of not less than 35 files each, or, say, a total strength of 568 to each corps. The cost of the change financially is not worth considering, when the advantages are considered. Indeed, if this change is not at once granted it will be exceedingly difficult to drill under your new orders for 1894, in fact almost impracticable.

In 1870-71 the militia expenditure was \$1,240,972. Of this the amount for annual drill was \$322,664; pay for active service on frontier, \$284,809; total amount under heading of pay, \$607,473, or nearly half the total expenditure. The actual amount for annual drill was \$322,664, or nearly quarter of the total grant. Rifle associations received this year \$125 each.

In 1871-72 the Government appreciated the services of the active militia to such an extent that they increased the vote for militia purposes to the large sum of \$1,726,870, about half a million increase. The annual drill pay of 23,000 men was \$500,000; A and B batteries of Royal Canadian artillery appear this year at a cost each of \$37,500, total \$75,000; while the military schools, which granted certificates of qualification to officers, cost \$65,000. The schools were very useful and qualified many of the best officers the force has had, and as will be seen, at an exceedingly small cost com-

pared with that now expended on the Royal Schools of Instruction.

In 1872-73 the amount allowed for annual drill was \$550,000; A and B batteries \$80,000; military schools, \$65,000.

In order not to detain you by too many figures, I would ask you to come at once to 1892, when we find the militia expenditure down to \$1,259,708, or nearly half a million less than in 1872. Of this amount the permanent force, consisting of 1,012 men all told, cost, for A, B and C batteries, \$195,269; school of instruction and cavalry, \$283,896; reaching a total cost of \$479,165; or about 40 per cent. of the total money voted to the department by Parliament. The amount of money devoted to annual drill pay comes down to in 1892, \$251,125; against \$550,000 in 1872. The following are the chief items of expenditure for 1892, from the Auditor General's report, and as they are very interesting I give them in full:

Major-General - - - - -	\$ 4,000
Adjutant-General - - - - -	2,600
Salaries of military branch and staff - - - - -	10,983
Brigade-Majors, salaries and transport - - - - -	13,684
Ammunition - - - - -	54,946
Clothing and great coats - - - - -	86,250
Military stores - - - - -	50,205
Public arms and care of arms - - - - -	59,884
Drill instruction - - - - -	36,314
Drill pay - - - - -	251,125
Contingencies - - - - -	38,882
D. R. A. - - - - -	10,000
Dominion artillery - - - - -	2,000
Imperial ordnance - - - - -	1,703
Drill sheds, rifle ranges - - - - -	95,150
Royal Military College - - - - -	63,949
Permanent A, B and C batteries - - - - -	195,269
Schools and cavalry - - - - -	283,896
Grant to kilted regiment in Toronto - - - - -	5,000

When first requested to read a paper before your institute, I readily consented, not, however, with the hope of proving successful in my efforts, but more with the hope of doing what an individual member could toward forwarding the very useful objects for which our institute was founded, and after the general observations regarding your relations with the Government, which have preceded, I think perhaps the most important matter to allude to is one of the duties to which you are liable to be called on in a community of this kind any day. I refer to aid to the civil power which, in a country like this, where there is no regular army, is possibly one of the most important and frequent duties you may be called upon to perform, and while our Militia act is fairly full and plain regarding your duties in this connection, probably a few words off hand may be more easily understood than the actual reading of an act of Parliament. Every officer of the force, and indeed, every member as well, should consider it part of his duty to acquaint himself fully with what, in this respect, may be expected from him as a member of the force in regard to civil power, as, while being called out in this service may possibly not be considered one of the most pleasant duties, it is certainly one of the most important. I think I am safe in claiming that nothing has so thoroughly maintained the majesty of the law in this country as the fact that there has existed and exists a force, ready when called upon, to main-

tain the decisions of any of our courts of law, and to prevent the breaking of any laws which have been framed by the legislature for the safety of the lives and property of our citizens. It is a very easy matter, if carefully looked into, to call out any number of the members of the active militia in aid of the civil power, and it should be done where a possibility exists that the services of the militia may be required. The manner of calling out the militia, which on paper may appear somewhat difficult, is in reality a simple affair. Granted that any three magistrates may be convinced that there is a possibility of the law of the province or country being broken, or that there is a probability of a riot or an illegal assembly occurring upon any day it only remains for these three magistrates, of whom the mayor, warden, or head of the municipality, in which the riot is expected to occur, may be one to make a requisition upon the senior officer at the time placed in any military district, calling upon him to turn out such forces as he may deem necessary to maintain order. In former times, two magistrates were considered sufficient for the calling out, but, owing to large expenditure having been forced upon municipalities by the action of two magistrates, it was deemed wise to increase the number to three, which change was, no doubt, a good one. It was suggested while this change was being made, that the mayor should be one of the three magistrates calling out the force. It was so obvious, however, that in the event of the mayor refusing to become a party to the organization through local or political reasons, it might prevent the calling out of the militia, thus nullifying the intentions of Parliament to provide aid by the military to the civil power. In fact it was virtually vesting the power of the intentions of the country in one man instead of, as previously, in two magistrates. Parliament, however, very wisely decided that it would not be objectionable for the mayor to be one of the three magistrates calling out, and also decided that it would not be necessary. For obvious reasons this was a very wise decision, and has frequently proved itself so since the time when this change was made. Many suggestions of supposed improvements have been made regarding this manner of calling out the militia, owing to the fact that delays frequently arise in payments of the troops, through municipalities declining to pay. Efforts have been made in Parliament to amend the law in such a way so that funds should be provided in advance for pay and maintenance by the municipality requiring military assistance. This, if carried out, would doubtless save the Government some embarrassment, as they, being permitted to advance the money from the consolidated revenue funds, frequently find themselves unable to reimburse themselves from political and other complications of jurisdiction. This would be the only advantage, and it could not be considered an advantage, as if carried out it would almost effectually have prevented any aid being granted. In fact, it was so objectionable and so apparent-

ly, injurious to the intention of the act in affording assistance to the civil power, that it has more than once been allowed to lapse, and for many obvious reasons an amendment of the kind referred to will always be opposed by those who are well informed regarding the admirable manner in which the present law works. I shall not attempt to say just how it can occur, or when riotous conduct commences, but will only remark that from the moment twelve or more refuse to obey constitutional authority to disperse they are liable to be assisted to do so by the military, and an officer should remember if he stops all disturbances promptly he will undoubtedly save much trouble thereafter. The Criminal Code of Canada allows thirty minutes to elapse after the reading of the Riot Act to disperse. As an impression exists that the reading of the proclamation of the Riot Act is a long affair I give in full here, with one or two extracts from the Criminal Code of Canada. The proclamation is as follows:

"Our Sovereign Lady the Queen charges and commands all persons being assembled immediately to disperse and peaceably to depart to their habitations, or to their lawful business upon the pain of being guilty of an offence on conviction of which they may be sentenced to imprisonment for life. God save the Queen."

Anyone who endeavors to hinder or hurts any person who begins to make the proclamation is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for life. With reference to reading the act or proclamation, Sec. 83, Criminal Code, says it is the duty of every sheriff, deputy sheriff, mayor, or other head officer or justice of the peace, to go as nearly to the rioters as he safely can, and with a loud voice command silence, and then proceed to read the proclamation as above.

The senior officer of the militia, having received this requisition, has no other alternative but to obey the call of these three magistrates, who themselves are morally responsible for the necessity of calling out troops or not. Having received his orders, the senior officer should first, at once decide for himself what number of troops will place beyond all doubt his ability to maintain order. No question of expenditure or expense to the municipality in which the riot is expected to occur should be for one moment considered, the great and vital question being to maintain law and order, so that should the commanding officer deem it necessary that forces outside his district should be called upon, he should at once apply officially to headquarters for further forces, to be ordered from other districts. Having arranged for the disposal of his forces for the time at which they are expected to do duty, he should then devote his energies entirely, first, to see that the force is placed in such a position as they may safely be able to have control of the district in which trouble is likely to occur. He should have a reserve force placed in such a position most convenient to render assistance quickly at any critical point. In marching his troops to their respective

positions they should always be marched at "attention. Bands, while not being absolutely necessary, are desirable, and while marching towards the different points should be allowed to play, as it tends to engage the attention of the men, and also convinces intending rioters that the troops are out and ready to maintain law and order, and that they are not at all nervous of the results. Should they be called upon to perform any special duty, the commanding officer of an individual corps sent out to a special point cannot exercise too much caution. The men should be kept well in hand, and almost invariably at "attention," with the exception of necessary rests, by stalling "at ease," at times when it is perfectly safe to do so. If there is any possibility of trouble while on the march to their respective posts, probably the best manner of marching is by half company front, at close call, and as soon as this formation is assumed, it would be better to at once have the bands placed in the centre of the column. It would thus enable the regiment or battalion to have command both of the rear and front of the regiment. In finally placing troops throughout sections of a city great care should be exercised that each company or battalion has certain directions in which to fire, should it become necessary. The disposal should be made in such a manner as will prevent any possibility of troops coming within range of one another. While one company or more may cover an entire street, from either end or centre, troops investing streets, remaining at an angle, must be kept well out of range. In this manner whole districts may be fully occupied with perfect safety to each body of troops, and with a certainty that no riot of any extent may occur, reserves being used for reinforcements and for proceeding to places in which an emergency may suddenly arise. Conversation between troops and citizens should not for one moment be allowed, and nothing but the most rigid discipline, careful judgment and firmness should exist while remaining on duty. Regarding the necessity of firing, while the difficulties of the commanding officer in this position have been and always will be great, it should not be forgotten that under all and any circumstances, independent of the magistrate, the commanding officer is responsible for the safety of his troops and must take means to protect them from any ill-treatment, as should, by any possibility, circumstances arise to demoralize the troops, the whole object of aiding civil power would be completely broken down. In addition to this, it is not intended by the law of any country that troops should be abused, simply for want of energetic precautions against a riotous mob. Difficulties are frequently placed before a commanding officer by the magistrate who should always accompany his regiment, from his being either undecided, unwilling, too weak or too politic to do his duty. In this event, should the magistrate continue to persist in refusing, in face of riotous proceedings, to read the Riot Act, it becomes necessary to my mind for the commanding officer to take

steps to have it read by himself, as he would be considered responsible for loss of life or property through inaction. This, of course, is an extreme opinion, and in writing it I must fall back upon the regulations which require that the commanding officer must protect his troops, and if a riot of any great extent should be allowed to commence without being promptly stopped, it is a well known fact that the feelings of the crowd may be carried away to such an extent as possibly to even attack the militia force, which would inevitably lead to most serious results, while energetic measures on the part of the magistrate and militia with very little or no firing, absolutely prevent any riotous intentions being carried out. The weak policy of firing blank cartridge is altogether against regulation, tending to give the mob the impression that it is not the intention of the military to interfere with them.

Should it be deemed necessary to fire, the commanding officer should (as according to Queen's Regulations) exercise a humane discretion as to how many files he orders to fire. The range should be carefully given and special care taken to fire low. One round only should be fired, until further orders are received from the officer commanding. It should also be remembered that it is better to carry out orders as closely as possible, as prompt decided action tends to save greater loss of life, which would probably occur were riotous proceedings allowed to grow to any extent. Indecision and consequent inaction only encourage a disorderly mob with the hope that nothing may be done against them by the military, which only leads up to greater consequences of evil. The idea of waiting for an hour after the act is read before firing is absurd as firing must entirely depend upon immediate circumstances surrounding. It was, no doubt, intended when the law required an hour to elapse that the Riot Act should be read long before any riot occurred, and if this were to be the case, assemblies might disappear and others assemble without being aware of the notice. What a careful officer should do before firing would be to see personally that rioters were well warned and having satisfied himself of that should then proceed to do his unpleasant duty.

The sections who fire should at once be moved into a different part of the regiment, either by advancing the second company and retiring the first by fours through one another, or by changing the men. The object of this is to, as far as possible among citizen soldiers, avoid any possible recognition of the one or two or more who have been singled out for the disagreeable duty. In this connection it may be remarked that, if possible, it is far better that troops should be called upon from another district, as it is exceedingly distasteful for men living in the same place to be called upon, probably to act against their neighbors and friends. Past experience has shown that it is exceedingly difficult to obtain competent magistrates, able to do their duty, and for this reason each regiment when called out in aid of civil power. One

world more about firing. Do not, if called upon, flinch from decidedly doing what may be your duty. It will, however, be found that much can be done by fixing bayonets and quietly advancing on a mob, as we are constantly reminded by past history that men have not yet been found who will wait with any acquiescence, the steady advance of the "thin red line."

A word regarding accounts for pay against municipalities for service in aid of the civil power may also be opportune. The rates of pay are established in the Militia Act, and as the amount due for services of this nature are payable, as you are all aware, by the municipality in which the trouble occurs or is expected to occur, careful account should be kept by the adjutant and commanding officer of the names and number of men on duty and the various times at which they may go on and off duty. Pay sheets for these services should not be signed in my opinion. An ordinary account made on the usual regimental paper, certified by the paymaster, commanding officer and adjutant, is quite sufficient, and should be headed, for example, "City of Montreal, Dr. to No. 1 regiment, services in aid of Civil Power," stating days and date, commencing with the commanding officer, and ending with the rank and file, merely saying how many of each rank, and how many days, and in this connection it may also be added that, where companies perform complimentary escort duty or duties of that nature, at the request of municipal authorities under pay, simple accounts of the above nature should also be accompanied with certificates as to its correctness by the officer commanding the escort or guard. Pay sheets of course are required, as you are all aware, for all duties ordered by the Government.

A word in conclusion, more especially to the Montreal brigade: Your past record is an honorable one and forms one of the brightest jewels in Canada's history. Your country has ever received a hearty and prompt response when in need and your services have again and again been thankfully recognized by the different general officers, who have commanded you in times of difficulty. The same energy, devotion and loyalty which has characterized you, will still enable you in the future to preserve pure and unsullied the proud reputation which you now have. The future is full of signs of possible changes, may each of your regiments continue deservedly proud of your traditions and special designations, do your utmost to increase their respective strengths, and by working heartily and intelligently together, co-operate in maintaining the supremacy which may fairly be called yours as a city brigade.

#### THE DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE

General Sir George T. Chesney, K.C.B., C.S.I., C.I.E., R.E., M.P., opened a discussion at the Junior Constitutional Club on Tuesday night on "The Defence of the Empire." Vice Admiral E. Field, M.P., presided, and there was a very large attendance, showing the great interest taken in the subject.

Sir George Chesney, who was warmly received, said he proposed to pass over the most important part of the defence of the Empire—the Navy. Unless the supremacy of the Navy was absolutely established, the defence of the Empire would be in a most perilous condition. If they considered the enormous interests involved in maintaining our naval supremacy, they must feel that any successful blow struck at that supremacy would produce a catastrophe which it was scarcely possible to imagine. He desired to assume that the supremacy of the Navy was established beyond question. He would merely remark that when we spoke of the supremacy of the Navy, it was rather too common a practice in the present day, both on the part of the Government and of the public, to assume that the standard which had to be attained was that of being equal to any two other navies of the world. A nation like Great Britain required such a distinct advantage in the number of her ships, in their armament, in their speed, and in every other respect as would put her supremacy in naval warfare beyond all doubt or cavil. In that sense only could we be assured of our Imperial defence. What were the other questions involved in Imperial defence? The subject naturally divided itself into two parts. First, there was the defence of the colonies. Upon this point the assumption appeared to be that our colonies in different parts of the world were liable to the contingency of being attacked in case of war by some enemy in very considerable force. He had often heard it said that Australia was liable, in the event of war, to a very serious and dangerous attack on the part of Russia. Again, he had often heard the fear expressed, not merely by men in the street, but by responsible military authorities of great distinction and weight in their profession, that India was liable to danger of a hostile fleet which might actually not only shatter or destroy what defences they found, but actually establish a permanent footing in the peninsula of India. He should like to say at once that he considered dangers of that sort chimerical. It must be remembered that an enemy who made an effort of this sort would not only have to convey a considerable body of troops and a large squadron of ships to some point on the peninsula, but they would have to face the difficulty of having no supply of coal and no coaling stations of their own, and also the great difficulty of finding a harbour of refuge in the event of their ships sustaining great damage. Everyone nowadays was aware how liable ships of war were to incur the necessity of undergoing important repairs after going into battles. The consideration of these dangers must weigh upon the brain of every foreign statesman who was considering the matter of a policy of this sort, and he would also remember that such an attempt would have the inevitable effect of materially weakening his forces in the vital point where the final struggle must be fought out in European waters. Sir George Chesney said he could not think that our colonies in the East

or elsewhere were at the present time liable to any serious attack of the sort referred to. The idea of an expeditionary force sent to conquer Australia was absurd. The extent of the country rendered such a scheme impossible and impracticable. Anything like a permanent occupation of India was also equally impossible, because there were in India the entire military resources of that Government. So also the Cape, the West Indian Islands, and the Straits Settlements must depend upon the Navy and upon their garrisons. There might be predatory attacks from isolated men-of-war or small squadron detached for the purpose, which might seek to harass us, to bombard some of our seaport towns, possibly levy blackmail; and the remedy for that was to provide the harbours with sufficient protection in the way of batteries in order to render such an attack impossible. That precaution had, he believed, been taken in Australia, at the Cape, at Halifax, and elsewhere, and had certainly been taken in India almost to the point of over-production. Certainly there the protections of Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, and Aden fulfilled the first condition of fortifications, for they were so strong that it was almost certain they would never be attacked, and that was the aim and object of the engineer in carrying out fortifications. A very large expenditure was sanctioned during the five years he was in charge of the War Department of India, and he believed that it was fully justified, for we had now made all our large harbours perfectly safe from attack. Generally speaking, and always assuming that the supremacy of our Navy was granted, he regarded our Colonial Empire as in a position of security. Its great distance and its size were in themselves potential safeguards. Five millions of free Britons could not be maintained, subdued by, an expeditionary force. He had, however, left out one important exception. He referred to Canada, where the conditions were altogether different from those which obtained in Australia and at the Cape. In Canada there was an enormous line of frontier faced by another great independent Empire, and the serious question had to be considered how a defence could be maintained along that great line in the event—which God forbid should ever occur—of our being engaged in hostilities with the United States. No doubt in the event of such a sort of quarrel as took place not many years ago, when a strong feeling was got up in certain parts of America in favour of the annexation of Canada, and when small isolated bodies made irruptions into that country, the Canadians would be able, as they were then, to give a very good account of themselves. It was impossible, however, to doubt if some great question or quarrel arose involving the interests of the people of the United States, and if the feelings of that people were so roused that they should determine to carry out that quarrel to the bitter end, that the position could be anything but an extremely serious one. The people of the United States were capable in times of great emergency of great things, and if

there were thirty millions of armed people against five millions of Canadians—even supposing the Canadians were united as one man—it was a question whether the defence of Canada would be possible. Would it be possible for Great Britain to give such effective aid as would prevent the occupation of Canada by the people of the United States? He believed it would be an impossibility. Happily for us, the attitude and the feelings of the people of the United States were essentially peaceful; they did not, as far as we knew, desire to increase their military responsibilities or extend their Empire. The present was not the time when it would be useful, or in any way practicable, for the Government of this country to take any actual measures for the defence of Canada. Unless we were at war with the United States, Canada was absolutely impregnable; if we should be at war with the United States, he believed it would be impossible to defend it. In regard, therefore, to colonial defence he believed that, with the exception of Canada, we were invulnerable. How about the centre of the Empire—the British Isles? We were here with a handful of soldiers, while across the sea nation after nation had armed men to be counted by the million against our poor thousands. How far were we safe? There, again, we must rely upon the supremacy of the Navy. Even assuming, however, that we were safe from invasion, England might at any time be called upon to undertake military operations abroad, because our defence policy in the past had been, as he hoped it always would be in the future, to ward off attack from our own shores by carrying the war into the enemy's country. That was true defensive warfare—to assume the offensive and make it so hot and unpleasant for the enemy that they should be forced to sue for peace. How far was it possible to carry out that policy with our present resources and military policy? Our Army in England consisted, all told, in Regular troops of 110,000, and of that force about 60,000 would be available for employment abroad. Reserves would be immediately wanted, and as a matter of fact we had hardly any Reserves in the British Army. It was not pleasant to reflect that in case of war the active part taken by England would be on a scale commensurate with what could be done by Holland or Roumania, or even Bulgaria. This state of things had arisen, simply because those responsible for the military arrangements seemed never to look beyond the obsolete conditions of the past. Should occasion arise for the sudden augmentation of our Army we must raise the number of men (not boys) at their price in the open market. He warmly urged that the time has arrived when, for the sake of our honour as well as the safety of our magnificent resources, our 35 millions of people should turn serious and immediate attention to the question and take an individual part in remedying what was the undoubtedly weak point in our Imperial defence.

Mr. H. C. Batchelor, who followed, agreed that the residuum would be improved by a little drilling, and he urged

that the club should have the pluck to advocate conscription, if it were needed, though he feared the movement would be unpopular.

Major Grimston feared that Australia would be in danger from Russian attack if her coaling stations were insufficiently defended.

Mr. Cox said the important question concerning the Navy was the food supply.

Mr. H. Knox denied that our Navy was supreme. He contended that £18,000,000 should be spent on the Navy and £14,000,000 on the Army at once.

Mr. Keeling deprecated compulsory military service as an extreme measure, inconsistent with English traditions and instincts. The Army should be made more popular by better pay and abolishing deductions.

In reply, Sir G. Chesney denied that he had advocated compulsory military service. His suggestion was that in war time an Army should be raised, by voluntary service, of men obtained at a price sufficient to secure the number of soldiers needed.

The Chairman, in closing the discussion, said that an increase in the Navy Estimates must first be desired by the country. Governments did not dare to impose burdens on the taxpayers unless they felt that the latter approved of their action. We had been too long sitting on our money-bags, staring ruin in the face; but the present Government had been stirred up, and he believed that adequate provision in regard to the Navy would be made when the Estimates came on in the spring. The measure of our sea power should be the work we had to do, and we had the means to do it. Her Majesty's Government, he believed, would then be prepared for the French and Russian alliance. Our colonies were safe only as our sea power was assured. As a humble and modest sailor, he had endeavoured to drive that wedge home. By the Jingo and fighting spirit of Englishmen the Empire had been won, and by the same spirit would it be maintained.—United Service Gazette.

#### THE SOLDIER'S SORE FOOT.

At the Royal United Service Institution, January 26th, Major-General Lord Methuen, C.B., C.M.G. (commanding the Home District) presided on the occasion of the reading of a thoughtful and practical paper on the above subject, by Surgeon-Captain W. C. Beevor, Scots Guards.

There are, he explained, two kinds of sore feet the soldier and his leader have to contend with. The one where the outer skin is rubbed rapidly away and destroyed by some high degree of friction or some projecting object in the sock or boot, and a raw, tender, and sometimes bleeding, surface of the inner skin is exposed; the other where the outer skin is intact but raised and stretched by subjacent fluid, this suggesting a less degree of friction than the first type, and no offending projection in the foot's covering. Regarding the general swelling and heat and the soaking of excessive perspiration so frequently seen in the Infantry soldier's foot and lower part of his leg, the lecturer condemned the pre-

sent fashion of folding a thick and generally voluminous trouser within a non-porous leather legging, as generally adopted for the Infantry soldier of the Line in our Army, and strongly advocated the plan of allowing all the men time-expired or part-worn trousers, which are at present used as "swabs," to be cut short and worn hanging loosely over the upper part of the leggings, a fashion almost generally adopted by officers; by this means the circulation in the lower part of the leg and ankle need not be obstructed, a fairly good degree of evaporation is allowed from the leg, and cool air encouraged to play in the space between the skin of the leg and its covering.

The regulation boot at present in use, the lecturer averred, does not fulfil the requirements of nature. In the first place, the waist is made of two layers of stiff leather stoutly sewn together by four rows of waxed thread, and forms an almost unbending bar. Again, the little play that the sole does possess takes place too far back, and not in the position of nature's oblique line. Consequently, in walking, the only movement practicable in this boot is a sort of roll from heel to toe, for the heel reaches the ground first, and as the step proceeds it is lifted, and finally the toe alone rests on the ground, on the principle of what engineers term the "rocker or rocking lever." But the tendency of the foot within is to bend, and consequently the tendency of the heel of the foot is to act independently and work up and down within the boot. Again, this boot is lined along the sole with a thin layer of sheepskin, which, when wet, will stretch to an extraordinary extent, thus giving rise to folds which become hard and cracked when dry, and cause great irritation to the foot. There is great difficulty in retaining the original shape and construction of these boots, because the soldier, and particularly non-commissioned officers, will persist in having them altered to suit their ideas of fashion, generally having them re-fronted and made so short that the foot cannot possibly work naturally, the toes being pressed upon and bent inwards, and so deformed into various shapes, besides being predisposed to attacks of cramp in the toes and muscles of the sole of the foot.

No ankle boot can be supplied to a great number of men without some defects; the best covering for the foot that has to perform severe work is that which covers it the last. For marching, running, jumping, etc., a boot which confines the ankle is a mistake, and most people agree that a shoe, when well fitted, is preferable, though the lecturer declared it was without much hope of success that he put forward for approval an equipment consisting of a shoe that can be fixed with one fastening, and made on a very pliable pattern.

The advantages he claimed for a shoe are—(1) Rapidity of adaptation; (2) cheapness; (3) lightness; (4) the ease with which the regimental shoemakers can adapt its shape to any peculiarity of the man's foot; (5) much greater ease with which a spare pair can be packed and carried in a man's kit; (6) the ease with which it can be removed on the march, and the foot



cooled, or any irritating condition remedied. For instance, should the rim round the heel be pressing on the foot, a very slight padding of cotton wool will rectify this, and a medical officer with a force on the march, I maintain, should never be without this necessity. At the five minute's halt, now generally allowed each hour of a march, ample time is given to remove a shoe like this, cool the foot, and remedy any defect; but when the leggings, trousers, and laced boots have to be dealt with, it will be found a man will generally prefer to run the risk of its getting worse than take all this trouble.

The disadvantages of a shoe are that dust, sand, and other foreign bodies are apt to get in between the rim and the foot, and that there is no support to the ankle. Both of these disadvantages, Captain-Surgeon Beevor claimed, are obviated by his combined spat and legging, which can be tightened or loosed at any point by means of buckles, and thus be made to bring support on any particular weak point.

A boot at present served out for experimentation in the Army is made with the standard screw as a foundation, and a clump sole riveted on with steel pegs. This is a better boot than the one at present in use, as is believed to be the opinion of Mr. Blair, the Inspector of Army Boots. The lecturer then drew attention to another make, in which the sewing and pegging are combined; the sewing is done by hand in the Scots Guards' regimental shoemaker's shop, and designed by the regimental sergeant shoemaker. It is an excellent boot, very easy and pliable.

Cost is of course an important consideration in recommending an article for use in the Army. Now this latter boot costs 12s. a pair to make, retail, in the regimental shop, and it is considered that three pairs of this pattern will last as long as four pairs of those at present in use, which cost 9s. 4d. a pair. In two years, therefore, the country would be saved 1s. 4d. each man, for at present each man is given four pairs in two years, each costing 9s. 4d., which comes to £1 17s. 4d.; and if three pairs were served out at a cost of 12s. each, it would amount to £1 16s.; but this is retail price, and doubtless if tendered for they could be made cheaper, and still further save the country money.

Surgeon-Captain Beevor claimed in support of his suggestion of shoes being substituted for boots, that they can be made more easily than boots, and at a much less cost. A most important point, to his mind, was that every boot or shoe worn by a soldier should have light heel and toe plates.

Most important in connection with the soldier's boot or shoe is the treatment of the "upper" when it has to undergo hard trials; for this various compounds have been designed and their value proclaimed. But it matters little which dubbing is used, so long as it is properly applied, and no dubbing that has beeswax as its base can soak well into leather. The present regulation of making the men oil the boot first and then dubb it is an improvement; but, after many trials, the lecturer suggested that vaseline be substituted for oil. Each soldier should be made to wear his boots or shoes on alternate days; a cap-

ital plan is to make them put on clean socks and the clean spare pair of boots after each march or fighting day, and so give them every opportunity of attending to those that have been worn during the day.

The lecturer strongly recommended a voluntary trial of foot cloths in our Army, and every medical officer would have to be made cognisant with their mode of application, in order that they could educate the men accordingly. The advantages of these foot cloths are their lightness, durability, facility of cleaning, and on a march the rapidity with which they can be changed when hot and damp with perspiration. The regulation, or "ammunition" sock, has many disadvantages; it frequently has knots in the seams, its texture is too rough, and it is too heating to the foot. The absolute necessity of proper fitting need hardly be insisted upon.

In the preventive treatment of a sore foot, the care of the skin forms no small desideratum; the importance of cleanliness cannot be overrated, and frequently the difficulty of enforcing it is great. Many substances have been vaunted for their power of hardening the skin of the feet, and powders and solutions of all kinds recommended; but Surgeon-Captain Beevor stated that after an extensive trial he, for his part preferred common salt or saltpetre. A handful in two quarts of tepid water he recommended as the best hardening solution for the skin of the foot.

The type of sore foot to be found very frequently in the first few days of a march can be best treated by strict attention to cleanliness, the giving of every facility for the man to cool his feet on the march, and the application of a thick layer of common zinc ointment. The German linen foot-cloth worn under a cotton sock is undoubtedly a good plan to prevent this type, and when the foot has been well covered with ointment the linen is most gratifying as a covering.

For the treatment of the various kinds of blisters, the stretched outer skin actually enclosing the fluid should not be punctured, because when it is it generally gets torn and broken away, leaving a raw, tender surface exposed. But the needle or knife, or any puncturing instrument, should be inserted in the sound skin, about 1/8 in. beyond the edge of the blister. The needle is then pressed horizontally into the blister, and, if raised, the fluid will run out beneath it. When as empty as possible, the skin protecting the blister should be carefully flattened down, and some cotton wool, lint, or anything that will exert soft pressure, placed over it, and fixed by some strong strapping, by far the best being that called "Mad's India-rubber Plaster," which can be applied without heat. This is a great advantage. Its adhesive power is quite wonderful, and, being made of linen, it will protect a raw surface and prevent friction.

As to the distribution of some ointment or powder, Surgeon-Captain Beevor expressed his preference for zinc ointment, and stated that it has been found most useful to let each pay-sergeant have a stout earthenware gailipot, and encourage the men to come to him and freely grease their feet before and after a march, brought to a

conclusion a noble lecture drawing attention to a serious defect in the equipment and care of the soldier.—United Service Gazette, Jan. 27.

## MILITARY GENERAL ORDERS. February 3rd, 1894.

Headquarters Ottawa 31st January, 1894. G. O. (1.) Infantry Drill:—

1. The Infantry Drill as revised by Her Majesty's Command in 1893, will henceforth be used in the Canadian Militia.

2. In placing this book in the hands of the Militia, the Major General Commanding desires to draw attention to the Army Order dated the 1st June, 1893, which is to be found therein, and in particular to the third paragraph of that order.

3. This paragraph lays down the necessity for precision in the early stages of the soldier's instruction, viz: in the squad, section and company's drill.

4. The Major General Commanding desires further to draw attention to General Order (21) of the 24th December, 1891, in which his remarks on the Militia Training are given as follows, viz:—

"The drill of the Company individually, as a company or as a squad, has been neglected. \* \* \* It is then seen that the significance of the Company as a tactical unit, is not sufficiently appreciated, and still less so that of the minor units, half companies and sections."

He trusts that officers will do their utmost to amend this fault.

5. In order that the time available for drill may be utilized to the utmost in a practical manner, the following rules will be observed.—

(a.) Part IX. "Ceremonial" will not be included in course of training of the Militia.

(b.) The Sizing of Companies, Part X, Sect. 222, will not be carried out. Companies are to be sized roughly from flanks to centre, but as cohesion within the section is of more importance than accurate sizing, brothers, relations or "chums" are to be placed in the same section without reference to size.

(c.) Special attention is drawn to Part II, "Company organizations," Sect. 58, General Rules. It will be borne in mind, that the full strength of a company of Canadian Militia should be 32 Files (i. e. 64 Rank and File exclusive of Sergeants and Supernumeraries), and thus that the section should consist of 8 files with a front of 6 yards.

(d.) Companies of a less strength than that given in (c.) are invariably to parade in single rank, and are to be drilled in single rank, in order that all ranks may become accustomed to working with the full company front of 24 yards.

No. 6 Company, Simcoe.—2nd Lieutenant Robert J. H. Rutherford having left limits, his name is removed from the List of Officers of the Active Militia.

(e.) Companies will parade as shown in Plate VII, Fig. 2, with an interval of 2 paces between sections. The formation given in Plate VI will not be adopted unless necessitated by confined lateral space.

(f.) Saluting (Part I, Sect. 7.) will be practised with the right hand only.

(g.) Physical Drill should be practised regularly in City Battalions. The system of devoting a quarter of an hour, of each drill, to one only of the exercises detailed in Part I, Sect. 48, will be found most advantageous. Not more than two practices should be attempted in the whole drill season. Physical Drill should always be performed in shirt sleeves.

G. O. (2.) Rifle exercises for the Canadian Militia.

1. The publication of the following book has been authorized, viz.:

"Manual, Firing and Bayonet exercises, with the order of Guard Mounting, for the use of the Canadian Militia."

2. One copy will be issued to each Battalion and Company.

3. The exercises as therein described are to be strictly adhered to by all Infantry units without exception.

G. O. (3.) Sentences of Courts Martial.

All prisoners under sentence of Courts Martial in excess of forty-two days will be sent to the civil prison nearest to the military station to which they belong.

Sentences amounting to 42 days imprisonment or a less period, will be carried out in Provost cells.

G. O. (4.) Re-enlistment of discharged men.—permanent corps.

Men discharged from any of the Permanent units are not to be re-attested without authority from headquarters.

2. In submitting applications for the re-enlisting of men discharged prior to the issue of G. O. (69) of the 3rd November, 1893, officers commanding Permanent units will be required to obtain the documents specified in that order, and to submit them with the application.

G. O. (5.) The Army Book of the British Empire.

1. The following Army Order is published for general information:—Army Order 205, December 1893.

"The Army Book for the British Empire by Lt.-General W. H. Goodenough, R.A., C.B., and Lt.-Col. J. C. Dalton (i.p.) R.A., has been published as a knowledge of the principles upon which the organization of the Army is based is a first condition for its proper study, H. R. H. the Commander-in-Chief commends this book to the officers of the Regular Army, the Militia, the Yeomanry and the Volunteers."

2. Copies of this book will be issued to all Permanent Units.

G. O. (6.) Active Militia Promotions, Appointments and Retirements. Cavalry 1st Hussars, O.—"B" Troop, London.—To be 2nd Lieutenant provisionally: Archibald Rowat, Gentleman vice T. McComb, promoted.

2nd Dragoons, O.—"A" Troop, St.

Catharines.—To be Lieutenant: 2nd Lieutenant John Beverley Lampman, R.S.C. (1st B.), vice W. P. Stull, promoted.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, Prox. Charles second, Gentleman vice J. B. Sampman promoted.

3rd "The Prince of Wales' Canadian Dragoons," O.—"B" Troop, Millbrook.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally Matthew G. Hutchinson, Gentleman, vice Robert Ruddy, who retires from the service.

"D" Troop, Wellington.—To be Lieutenant: Lieutenant Roland Hugh Strickland, R. M. C., vice H. McCullough, promoted.

5th Dragoons, Q.—No. 2 Troop, Sherbrook.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally, from 9th January, 1894: Rupert Falshaw Morkill, Gentleman, in succession to Lieutenant G. L. McNeel appointed Adjutant.

6th Duke of Connaught's Royal Canadian Hussars, Q.—No. 4 Troop, Oareneville.—To be Lieutenant: 2nd Lieutenant Ormi Edy R. S. C., vice Herbert F. Green, who retires from the service.

Manitoba Dragoons, "A" Troop, Virden.—To be Captain: Lieutenant Edward Arthur Christopher Hosmer, R. S. C., vice Thomas Routledge, deceased.

To be Lieutenant: 2nd Lieutenant the Honourable Mountstuart William Elphinstone, R.S.C., vice E.A.C. Hosmer, promoted.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Peter Behaven Hamilton-Ramsay, Gentleman.

Artillery. British Columbia Garrison Battalion, Victoria.—To be Quartermaster: Alfred Cornelius Flumerfelt, Gentleman, vice Honorary Captain William Henry Dorman, who is permitted to retire, retaining rank.

To be Major, from 30th December, 1893: Captain Thomas Owen Townley, R.S.A.

To be Lieutenant: Monson Goridge Blanchard, R. S. A., 1st B.

To be 2nd Lieutenants, provisionally: James Davis Taylor, Douglas Blaney McConnan, and Donald Booth Holden, Gentlemen.

Halifax Battalion of Garrison Artillery, N.S.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Ernest William Porter, vice Tracey, resigned.

Montreal Battalion of Garrison Artillery, Q.—Captain Ernest Howard retires, retaining rank. The resignations of 2nd Lieutenants John H. Mayer and George Verry (provisional), have been accepted.

To be Lieutenants: William Henry Featherstone and Douglass Thornton Taylor, R. S. A., 2nd A.

Infantry and Rifles. 5th Battalion "Royal Scots of Canada, Montreal, Q.—To be Lieutenant: 2nd Lieutenant Frank Stephen McEghan, R. S. I., vice W. M. Andrews, retired.

6th Battalion "Fusiliers," Q.—Brevet Major T. Atkinson retires, retaining rank.

To be Captain: Albert Knight Shorey

R. S. I., 2nd, vice A. E. Kemp, left limits 7th Battalion, "Fusiliers," London, O.—To be Captains: Lieutenants Frederick Jesse Fitzgerald, R. S. I., vice James Bell Cooke, deceased James Andrew Thomas, R. S. I., vice A. A. Booker resigned.

Quartermaster and Honorary Captain Edward McKenzie having failed to attend at inspection, his name is removed from the List of Officers of the Active Militia.

2nd Lieutenant William Howie having failed to qualify, his name is removed from the List of Officers of the Active Militia.

9th Battalion Rifles, "Voltigeurs de Quebec."—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Paul Caron, Gentleman vice Wilfrid Lebel, left limits.

2nd Lieutenant: Godfrey George Turcot retires from the service.

10th Battalion, "Royal Grenadiers," Toronto, O.—To be Lieutenant William Robert Pringle, Gentleman, vice C. J. Marani, resigned.

Lieutenant Walter Hugh McClive resigns his commission.

14th Battalion, "Princess of Wales Own Rifles," O.—To be 2nd Lieutenant provisionally: Robert Dundas Sutherland vice W. Richardson, who retires.

Captain Wallace Bruce Matthews Caruthers is permitted to retire, retaining rank of Lieutenant.

25th "Egin" Battalion of Infantry, St. Thomas, O.—Lieutenant Daniel Ernest Galbraith having left limits, his name is removed from the List of Officers of the Active Militia.

Paymaster and Honorary Major William Henry Moore is permitted to retire, retaining rank.

29th "Waterloo" Battalion of Infantry, O.—No. 4 Company Galt.—Lieutenant W. Lockhead resigns his commission.

32nd "Bruce" Battalion of Infantry O.—No. 4. Company, Paisley.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Malcolm Charles Black, Gentleman, vice A. B. Stennett, resigned.

33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry O.—No. 6 Company. Exter.—To be Captain: Lieutenant Harry Torr Rance R. S. I., from No. 4 Company, vice Walter Andrews, left limits.

35th Battalion of Infantry, "Simcoe Foresters."—No. 8 Company, Penetanguishene.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Albert Edward Williamson vice Joseph McMillen, left limits.

39th "Norfolk" Battalion of Rifles, O.—No. 4 Company Kinglake.—To be Lieutenant: George Mitchell, R. S. I., vice Martin.

To be 2nd Lieutenant (provisionally): Levi W. Noyes, Gentleman vice Mitchell, promoted.

No. 7 Company, Walsingham Centre.—To be Captain: Lieutenant William Martin, from No. 4 Company, vice Captain Bayley who retires retaining rank.

The Christian name of 2nd Lieutenant McBride, whose removal from the service was notified in G. O. (65) of 13th

October, 1893, is Thomas and not as therein stated.

44th "Welland" Battalion of Infantry, O.—No. 2 Company, Thorold.—This Company having become non-effective, is removed from the List of Corps of the Active Militia.

Captain William Monro resigns his commission.

47th "Frontenac" Battalion of Infantry, O.—2 Company, Portsmouth.—This Company having become non-effective, is removed from the List of Corps of the Active Militia.

Captain and Brevet Major Thor Kelley is permitted to retire, retaining rank, and Lieutenant Alexander Sharp reverts to the Retired List.

50th Battalion "Huntingdon Borderers," Q. No 1 Company Huntingdon.—To be Lieutenant: Charles Stewart Walsh, Gentleman, R. S. I., vice A Cameron left limits.

68th Battalion, "King's County" N. S.—No. 1 Company, Kentville.—To be 2nd Lieutenant: John William Denison, R. S. I., 1st B., vice G. L. Ward transferred to No. 3 Company.

No. 3 Company Kentville.—To be Lieutenant: Gerald Leckmere Ward from No. 1 Co. vice J. L. Newry retired.

No. 5, Co. Ross Corner.—To be Lieutenant: Thomas Andrew Neville, R. S. I., 2nd, vice William Ross, deceased.

74th Battalion of Infantry, Sussex, N. B.—No. 1 Company, Clifton.—To be Captain: Ormond Walker Wetmore, R. S. I., 1st, vice H. D. Wetmore, who retires, retaining rank.

77th "Wentworth" Battalion of Infantry, O.—Surgeon Major A. H. Walker, M.D. has been permitted to retire with the rank of Surgeon Major.

To be Surgeon: James Ross, Esquire, M. D. vice Surgeon Major Walker, retired.

No. 4. Company Ancaster.—Captain Alexander H. Smith retires, retaining rank.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: John Nish Middleton, vice A. M. Pirle, left limits.

80th Battalion, "Nicolet," Q.—No. 1 Company, Gentilly.—To be 2nd Lieutenant provisionally: Edouard de Châtillon, Gentleman, vice F. Mallhot, resigned.

81st "Portneuf Battalion," Q.—To be Quartermaster: Victor E. Parent, Gentleman, vice J. J. B. Tanerede Marcotte, deceased.

85th Battalion, Q.—No. 3 Company, Laprairie—2nd Lieutenant (provisionally) E. Honore Teller has resigned his appointment.

No. 6 Company, Longueuil.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, provisionally: Frederic Villeneuve, Gentleman, vice Arthur Vincent promoted.

88th "Kamouraska and Charlevoix" Battalion Q.—No. 5 Company St Denis.—To be Lieutenant David Ernest Deschenes, R. S. I., 2nd, vice B. M. Deschenes promoted.

89th "Tennisconata and Reimsokl"

Battalion Q.—No. 2 Company, Cacouna.—To be Lieutenant: J A'phonse Gilbert, R. S. I., 1st A., vice Joseph C. Freve, who retires.

94th Battalion, "Argyle Highlanders," N. S.—No. 4 Company, Baddeck.—To be Lieutenant, provisionally: Malcolm Hugh Morrison, Gentleman, vice Joseph S. McLean, promoted.

G. O. (7.) Brevet.

William David Brown, Captain and Adjutant of the "Queen's Own Canadian Hussars," to have the rank of Brevet Major, from the 21st December, 1893.

Captain and Adjutant Harry A. Foyle, of the 94th Battalion, "Argyle Highlanders," N. S., to have the rank of Brevet Major.

G. O. (8.) Mobilization.

The Headquarters of No. 4 Company, "Ottawa and Carleton" Battalion of Rifles, O., have been authorized to be changed from Billings Bridge, County of Russell, to the City of Ottawa.

#### PROPERLY PUNISHED.

Before the Army of the Potomac moved up the Peninsula in the early part of '62 Gen. Butterfield issued an order prohibiting foraging. The army had been on the march but a few hours when the general saw a color sergeant with a goose hanging over his shoulder along with his colors.

The general, surprised, stopped the sergeant and said:

"What regiment do you belong to?"

"To the Sixty-seventh New York, general," replied the soldier.

"And to what brigade?"

"To your brigade, general."

"And did you hear, before we began this march, an order read forbidding foraging?"

"I did, general."

"They why, sir, do I find you with this goose which you have evidently killed?"

"I'll tell you, general," said the soldier, "just how it was. As I was marching along, minding my own business, this goose came and hissed at the flag; and I would have killed it if it had had ten lives."

—The sergeant kept the goose.—Boston Budget.

• • • •

Teacher—Yes, children, when the war broke out all the able-bodied men who could leave their families enlisted in the army. Now, can any of you tell me what motives took them to the front?

Bright Boy (triumphantly)—Locomotives.—Street and Smith's Good News.

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"After that terrible Sunday at Shiloh," Gen. Sherman said one day to the writer, "I started out to find Grant and see how we were to get across the river. It was pouring rain and pitch dark; there was considerable confusion, and the only thing just then possible, it seemed to me, was to put the river between us and the enemy and recuperate. Full of only this idea, I ploughed around in the mud until at last I found him standing backed up against a wet tree, his hat well slouched down and coat well pulled up around his ears, an old tin lantern in his hand, the rain peiting on

us both, and the inevitable cigar glowing between his teeth, having retired, evidently, for the night. Some wise and sudden instinct impelled me to a more cautious and less impulsive proposition than at first intended, and I opened up with, 'Well, Grant, we've had the devil's own day, haven't we?'

"'Yes,' he said, with a short, sharp puff of the cigar; 'lick 'em to-morrow, though.'"—Washington Post.

#### MILITARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCHOOLS.

We have already alluded to the action of Lafayette Post, G. A. R., New York, in regard to the matter of military training in the public schools. This action is set forth in a report of a committee, of which Captain E. L. Zalinski, 5th U. S. Artillery, is chairman. The committee show the entire feasibility of the scheme of instruction, and the economy with which it could be carried out. Where there are armories of the National Guard these might be used for the few hours in the week required for the school boys, and the time of different schools could be so allotted as to enable a single instructor to attend to the work of instruction in each town or city, except in the few great cities. The recommendations of Lafayette Post have been cordially approved by such distinguished authority as ex-President Harrison, and the reasons he gives for his approval, as set forth in the article we published last issue, are conclusive.

There is every reason why the suggestions of Captain Zalinski's committee should receive unanimous public approval by active measures in the premises in every State and Territory in the Union. Officers from the retired list might well be detailed for this duty, as well as with the National Guard, without detriment to the Service. There need be no restriction on the number of retired officers ordered to instruction duty, and none on their period of service, if the result of a four years' detail should prove satisfactory to all concerned. In addition to Universities, Colleges and Public Schools there are in every State and Territory, private institutions of learning where thousands of our young men are being educated, and where the detail of an Army officer as military instructor would be appreciated. The adoption of the suggestion made to Congress by the President of the United States—to give to officers on the retired list the full pay of their grade when detailed on such duty would be but just and right, and the slight increase to the financial budget would be returned in the public benefits derived from giving to the country at large an annual output of thousands of young men, educated, disciplined, well drilled, and ready for the field, imbued with confidence and sentiments of patriotism.

A German statistician estimates that twelve hundred thousand men took part in the autumn manoeuvres on the Continent during last season. What an immense advantage to this country if we could subject a corresponding number of our young men to a similar experience yearly! We have the men and we have the money, but we are without the proper appreciation of

the value of military training, which is altogether aside from the possibilities of war. We gain something, undoubtedly, by the desultory and incomplete military training to which a small portion of our population is subject. How much more we should gain if this was made thorough, systematic and as nearly as possible universal. With modern machinery we produce so much more than we can consume that some outlet must be found for the surplus energies of a nation. Abroad this is absorbed in military service greatly to the increase of national vigor. We are entering upon a new period of our history, and we shall find ourselves confronted ere long with difficulties which, with optimistic faith, we have assumed to be the product of conditions foreign to us. The instruction of our youth and young men in military exercises, and in the military ideas of subordination to duty and authority, is in the line of preparation for defence, not only against foreign foes but against the elements of disorder with which we must always contend at home.—U.S. Army and Navy Journal.

#### CORRESPONDENCES.

To the Editor Canadian Military Gazette.

Sir,—I would like to make a few suggestions in reference to the more efficient arming of our volunteers, especially the city battalions of Infantry.

In the first place, equip each battalion with a more modern rifle than the "Snider," the rank and file to carry the Wallace spade or entrenching tool, and to wear the "valise" equipment as used in the Imperial Service. And lastly, each battalion to have a Maxim machine gun, signal corps, and cyclist corps in connection with it.

If trouble arose the brunt of the fighting would fall on the Permanent Corps and city battalions, who, if they were equipped as above, would make a decidedly better showing than at present.

Hoping that I have not taken up too much space in your valuable little paper,

I am yours respectfully,  
"DILEAS-GU-BRATIE."

Toronto, Feb. 21, 1894.

To the Editor Canadian Military Gazette.

Dear Sir,—The last work of Major-General Middleton's which you reprint in your paper contains some errors. As commanding officer of the 9th Battalion it is my duty to see that the history of that corps is correctly given, and I therefore beg you to permit me to rectify certain statements respecting it.

In the enumeration of the troops under the command of Major-General Strange at Calgary, Edmonton, and vicinity, Sir Frederick says: "9th Battalion, (French-Canadian raised for the occasion) Lt.-Col. Amyot M.P."

Now, the 9th, which left Quebec for the North-West on the 2nd April 1885 after only two days' notice, was embodied by a General Order dated 7th March, 1862, and it has never, since then, ceased to be effective. Its first commanding officer was Lt.-Col. Charles de Salaberry, who was succeeded by Lt.-Col. D. C. Thomson, Lt.-Col. Panet, Lt.-Col. J. B. Amyot, Lt.-Col. G. Amyot,

M.P., and by Lt.-Col. Roy (myself) now in command, whose first commission as ensign in the battalion is dated November, 1865, and who has never ceased to belong to it.

The battalion at various times sent companies to the frontier during the American civil war and the Fenian raids. I was ensign in No. 7 Company stationed at Niagara from November 1865 to the end of April 1866; its effective strength was 68 officers and men, and it was commanded by Capt. D. Gagnier. The battalion was also called out at various times in aid of the civil power during the riots at Quebec and elsewhere.

The motto of the regiment is that of the De Salaberry family, to which its first commanding officer belonged: "Force a superbe, mercy a foible;" its escutcheon is a St. Louis cross surmounted by the Imperial crown, having at each of its angles fleurs de lys, and in the centre the battalion numeral "9" encircled by the regimental designation "Voltigeurs de Quebec" on a scroll at foot, the regimental motto.

Hoping you will oblige me by publishing the above in your next issue,

I remain yours truly,  
THOS. ROY, Lt. Col.,  
Comdg. 9th Battalion, V.Q.  
Quebec, Feb. 17th, 1894.

To the Editor Canadian Military Gazette.

Dear Sir,—In a recent number of your paper I saw a paragraph to the effect that the Council of the National Rifle Association have decided to admit veteran volunteers to all competitions at Bisley, on equal terms with efficient volunteers. According to this article they will be able to compete for all volunteer prizes, barring only the Queen's Prize of £250 and the gold medal and badge.

The only qualifications essential for veterans are (a) a service of twenty years as efficient volunteers, (b) a minimum age of forty-five, (c) and subscribers to or honorary membership in some volunteer regiment.

In view of the recent appreciation of the services of volunteers by the Imperial Government in granting the long service decoration, and later, by the Council of the National Rifle Association in throwing open its competitions to veterans on even terms with efficient volunteers. I think now would be the proper time for our Dominion Rifle Association to consider the advisability of doing the same, with a few alterations in the conditions to meet the requirements of the case.

I would venture to suggest a brief outline of the proposed measure as follows:

All matches, excepting the Governor-General's and Bisley matches, to be open to all retired volunteers who, (a) have served (7) seven years continuously in the forces, and have a proper discharge from the Commanding Officer; (b) subscribe \$3.00 per annum to the funds of the Dominion Rifle Association, in addition to the ordinary affiliation fee.

It will be readily seen that such a measure as I propose would have the effect of throwing open the Dominion of Canada, Minister of Militia and MacDougall matches to members of the Association who have a seven years' honorable discharge from the

forces. That there would be a considerable revenue from such a procedure I have no doubt, for there would be many ex-volunteers who would gladly keep up their rifle shooting, if, indeed, there was any encouragement for them to do so after leaving the force, and their individual subscription of \$3.00 per annum would roll up into a considerable amount. At a low estimate I think fifty ex-members of the forces would come back to the fold in the first year.

Let the Council consider this matter, and give it one year's fair trial; there is no more intelligent or devoted body of workers than our D.R.A. Council anywhere, and this question once put before them in a proper light cannot fail to enlist their sympathies, as I am sure it will those of all true lovers of the noble art of rifle shooting.

MARK IV.

#### Sir Fred. Middleton's Suppression of Rebellion in the North-West Territories of Canada, 1885.

Continued.

My article in last month's magazine concluded with the capture of Batoche, the rebel headquarters, on the 12th of May, 1885. Needless to say, I was well satisfied with the result of the day's fighting, which proved the correctness of my original opinion that these great hunters, like the Boers in South Africa, are only formidable when you play their game, "bush-fighting," to which they are accustomed, but they cannot stand a determined charge. This fact had been practically brought home to my men, and from that moment I felt that the dash requisite to fully utilize their pluck and coolness under fire would not be wanting. I could not, however, help regretting that I had deprived Lord Melgund of having the share in our final success which his previous good service with the force most justly entitled him to. Our casualties for that day amounted to five killed, of whom four were officers, viz., Captain French, Captain Browne, of Boulton's Scouts, Lieutenant Fitch, 10th Grenadiers, and Lieut. Kippen, of the Land Surveyor's Scouts, who had all died gallantly doing their duty, and whose loss was deeply deplored—and twenty-five wounded, including two officers, Major Dawson, 10th Grenadiers, who had ably assisted his chief during the day, and Lieutenant Laidlaw, Midlanders. This made our total list of casualties for the four days at Batoche up to eight killed, of whom four were officers, and forty-six wounded, of whom four also were officers.

We found twenty-three dead rebels in vicinity of houses and cemetery, and five wounded. We afterwards received from one of the Roman Catholic priests a report of the rebel loss during the four days' fighting, which amounted to fifty-one killed and 173 wounded, of which forty-seven were killed and 163 wounded on the last day, the 12th of May.

We found a large camp of women and children, natives and halfbreeds, under a cliff on the river side, who had been left behind by their lords and masters, and

who, of course, were in an awful fright, but were soon reassured by us. From them we learnt that Dumont and Riel had fled together as soon as they saw the day turning against them, and the further remarks of some of those ladies concerning those two gentlemen were, to put it mildly, the reverse of complimentary.

I sent out scouts at once to try and find out what they could about them, as from what I could learn they had not crossed the river. On going over the ground we were astonished at the excellence of the construction of the rifle-pits, a good idea of which can be gained by reference to the sketch of one of them by Captain Haig, R.E., A.Q.M.G. We found blankets, trousers, coats, shirts, boots, shoes, food, oil, Indian articles of dress, a few rifles, and some damaged shot guns in and about these pits, with recesses made in the sides to keep their blankets, etc., from the rain. Detachments of the enemy had evidently lived day and night in these pits safe from our fire. They were most judiciously placed to repel an attack from the large plain, but by attacking their right we had turned their entrenchments, and thus avoided a heavy loss. One or two of the pits showed signs of a hurried attempt to reverse their defence. Riel told me afterwards that our two reconnaissances to the open plain had confirmed them in their idea that we intended attacking from that side, and that the main part of their force was consequently posted there the last two days. I sent off one of Boulton's scouts to Humboldt with a telegram to the Minister of Militia, announcing our success, and the messenger returned during the night with a congratulatory answer. The next day brought us telegrams of congratulation from the Governor General, Lord Lansdowne, and Lord Wolseley, then in Egypt, which were both published in general orders, to the great gratification of the whole force. The story of the steamer Northcote was as follows: Having anchored about two miles above Batoche, she moved at 7.40 a.m., and was soon after fired upon from both banks, the men on board returning the fire. Luckily, the man at the wheel was well covered, but the captain, pilot, and most of the crew lost their heads, and the boat swept on, the wire ferry rope carrying away her smoke-jack and steam whistle. The enemy's fire was kept up for nearly two miles, but with little effect, only three men being slightly wounded. The steamer was then brought up, and finding it impossible to steam back with the two heavily-loaded barges she had in tow, it was reluctantly resolved to continue on to the Hudson Bay Ferry, repair damages, leave the barges there, take in more firewood, and return at once to Batoche. Unfortunately they were delayed some hours before reaching the Ferry by running on a sandbank. They found the steamer Marquis at the Ferry, and a party of mounted police under Superintendent White, and it was determined to strengthen the steamer, put the police on board, and take them with the Northcote to Batoche.

The two steamers started on the morn-

ing of the 12th, but again the fates were against them, as the Marquis broke down and had to be towed by the other steamer, and they did not arrive at Batoche until 6 p.m., too late, to their intense regret, to share in our victory. Though the Northcote was unfortunately prevented from taking part in our attack on Batoche, I have little doubt that the probability of her returning with reinforcements tended to disturb the enemy, and Major Smith and his party deserved great credit for the resolute way in which they met the difficulties with which they were beset. Major Smith reported highly of the conduct of those with him, especially of my aide-de-camp, Captain Wise, Derbyshire Regiment, who, in spite of his wound, persisted in taking up a position with a rifle in the most exposed part of the boat and joining in the defence.

May the 13th was devoted to sending the wounded to Saskatoon by steamer, and to getting ready to move off to Prince Albert.

A great number of halfbreeds came in, vigorously waving white flags, and gave themselves up with their arms. I had a list of the worst of the rebels, and those not in it I dismissed; I received news during the day that Riel and Dumont were certainly on our side of the river.

The next day, May 14th, we marched for Lepine's Crossing, but during our midday halt I received reliable information that Riel was lurking in the neighborhood, so I made for Guardepuis Crossing, which was close at hand, and camped for the night. The halfbreeds continued to come in in great numbers with their white flags. The next morning, May 15th, we commenced crossing the river, using one of the steamers for that purpose. I sent Boulton off with nearly all our mounted scouts to scour the woods as far back as Batoche. While he was beating the covers, the principal game was driven into the hands of three of my courier scouts, Hourie, son of the interpreter, Deal, and Armstrong, all good men and true. They being well acquainted with the country, had detached themselves from Boulton's force, and came across Riel, who, fearing to fall into the hands of the troops, gave himself quietly up to them and begged to be taken at once to me. He had in his possession a letter which I had sent out, at the request of Mr. Ashley, by a halfbreed the day Batoche was taken. This letter guaranteed his life, if he surrendered, until handed over to the civil authorities. I sent off to recall Boulton, some of whose men it appeared had caught sight of Dumont, but he was too well mounted and got away from them. I may as well add here that Dumont eventually succeeded in making good his escape into the United States. As soon as Riel arrived in camp he was brought to my tent while one was being pitched for him next my own. I found him a mild spoken and mild-looking man, with a short brown beard and an uneasy frightened look about his eyes, which gradually disappeared as I talked with him. He had no coat on, and looked cold and forlorn, and

as it was still chilly out of the sun I commenced proceedings by giving him a military great coat of my own. He spoke English perfectly, and I had a long talk with him. He told me that he had intended escaping to the United States with Gabriel Dumont, but finding troops all about in the woods he had given up the idea of doing so, as he felt he could not bear the hardships and privations he would have had to undergo in trying to escape, not being accustomed to a hunter's life as Dumont was.

After conversing with Riel a good deal for two days, I came to the conclusion that he was sane enough in general everyday subjects, but was imbued with a strong, morbid, religious feeling, mingled with intense personal vanity.

After giving him some dinner I sent him off to his tent, and placed him under the personal charge of Captain Young, the Brigade Major, who never let him out of his sight until he had handed him over to the police authorities at Regina, even sleeping under the same blankets with him. Whatever duty I assigned to Captain Young I could always depend on his performing it thoroughly and well. Sentries were posted about Riel's tent, and he was very anxious that they should receive orders that none of the soldiers were to be allowed to enter his tent, as he was sure they wanted to kill him, though I assured him such was not the case. Lieutenant Colonel Houghton left that day for Winnipeg, and I gladly appointed Major Smith, of C Company School Corps, to succeed him as Assistant Adjutant General, and Captain Harston, of the 10th Grenadiers, to succeed Captain Young as Brigade Major. Captain Harston had served in the Royal Marines, and was a most zealous, intelligent officer.

May 16th we were still engaged in crossing the troops, which was nearly completed by night, the second steamer having arrived from Saskatoon. Received news that day of the capture on the 14th of May of a supply train of twenty-three teams with their teamsters, on the Swift Current trail, about fifteen miles from Battleford, by Poundmaker's Indians. This was the only instance, during the whole campaign, of an attack being made on our trains. The same Indians, a few hours afterwards, attacked and drove back a patrol of nine men of the Mounted Police, who had one man killed and one wounded. The next day, the 17th, was Sunday, and we had divine service as usual. The Rev. C. C. Whitcomb, Church of England, joined the 10th Grenadiers that day. We finished crossing the teams, which was laborious work. The steamer Baroness arrived in the afternoon with supplies from Swift Current, bringing also two more companies of Midlanders under Major Harry Smith. Four rebels were brought in as prisoners, one of them having been Riel's secretary. Large quantities of arms were brought in by halfbreeds, who, after being warned, were let go. The next morning, May 18th, the Northcote steamer was despatched up the river with Riel, under charge of Captain Young, and some other prisoners, who now numbered twenty-

four in all, en route for Regina, where they afterwards arrived safely. The other steamers went on to Prince Albert. I sent two teams loaded with flour, bacon, tea, &c., to the Roman Catholic priests at Batoche, to enable them to relieve any distress among the women and children that might arise. The column marched at 10 a.m.; the day, though fine at first, turning to heavy showers in the afternoon. We did the thirty-five miles to Prince Albert in two days, arriving there early on the 19th after an eighteen miles march, and we were met by the Bishop of Saskatchewan and Lieutenant Colonel Irvine and a good many of the inhabitants, who presented me with an address. The Mounted Police looked smart and well, and were a fine body of men. The town, which is a straggling one, runs along the right bank of the North Branch of the Saskatchewan. It had been hastily and imperfectly put in a state of defence at different points, but as the ground about it was clear it must have been all along tolerably safe from attack, as halfbreeds and Indians are not fond of attacking even slightly protected positions in open ground, and it was evidently not considered liable to attack from the river, no attempt having been made to protect that side of the houses. In point of fact there was no attempt at attack made by the enemy, on Prince Albert, or its immediate neighbourhood, as the Bishop of Saskatchewan lived near a large school or college, which was situated a little distance from the town, and was not molested.

We remained halted at Prince Albert for three days, during which time I was busily engaged in receiving from, and despatching telegrams to, my different detachments, and in making arrangements for going on to Battleford. On the 22nd of May I embarked my force in steamers, except the mounted men and transport who I directed to march by the north trail, crossing the river at Fort Carlton. I took on with me from Prince Albert Mr. Hayter Reid, Assistant Indian Commissioner, who was kindly lent to me by Lieutenant Governor Dewdney, and whose knowledge of the country and Indians was of great assistance to me. To my great regret I was obliged to leave Captain Wise at Prince Albert, his wound not being healed.

The next day, the 23rd, as we were steaming on to Battleford, a canoe was seen to shoot out from the bank ahead of us. We slowed down, the canoe ran alongside, and an Indian, accompanied by a white man, boarded us. The Indian proved to be a messenger from Poundmaker; the white man—a Mr. Jefferson, an Indian instructor, who had been captured by the Indians—accompanying him as a sort of interpreter. The Indian handed me a letter written in English which read as follows:

"Eagle Hills, May 19th, 1885.

"Sir,—I am camped with my people at the east end of the Eagle Hills, where I am met by the news of the surrender of Riel. No letter came with the news, so that I cannot tell how far it may be true. I send some of my men to you to learn the truth and the terms of peace,

and hope you will deal kindly with them. I and my people wish you to send us the terms of peace in writing, so that we may be under no misunderstanding, from which so much trouble arises. We have twenty-one prisoners, whom we have tried to treat well in every respect. (Mr. Jefferson informed me that the teamsters had been released before he started.) With greetings.

His  
 ("Signed) POUNDMAKER. X  
 mark.

"To Major General Middleton,  
 "Duck Lake."

I sent back the following not quite grammatical answer:—

"Poundmaker,—I have utterly defeated the halfbreeds and Indians at Batoche, and have made prisoners of Riel and most of his council. I have made no terms with them, neither will I make terms with you. I have men enough to destroy you and your people, or, at least, to drive you away to starve, and will do so unless you bring in the teams you took and yourself and councillors, with your arms, to meet me at Battleford on Monday, the 26th. I am glad to hear you have treated the prisoners well and have released them.

(Signed) FRED MIDDLETON,  
 "Major General."

Next day, the 24th, we arrived at Battleford, and were received by Lieutenant Colonel Otter, commanding there. The principal part of this straggling town is situated between the Saskatchewan and the Battle rivers, but at some little distance from the former. The houses of the Judge and others, and a native college, were on the south side of the Battle, and that part only was molested by the Indians after it had been deserted, who burned and pillaged some of the houses the night of Lt. Colonel Otter's arrival and halt some three or four miles short of Battleford. The other part was surrounded by fine, clear, open grass land, and was never attacked by the Indians at all, the goods left in the abandoned houses being found untouched on the arrival of Otter's force. The weakest spot in the whole settlement was the Police barracks or stockade, which, hastily and imperfectly strengthened, was situated in the vicinity of a large coulee, and there all the inhabitants were collected. As the 24th of May fell on a Sunday, the next day I had a parade of all the troops to celebrate Her Most Gracious Majesty's birthday. On the 26th, Poundmaker and his people came in about 1 p.m., and we held a "pow-wow" in front of the camp. It was rather an interesting sight. The Indians, in war paint, to the number of about seventy, squatted themselves down in a semicircle in front of my chair, Poundmaker, a tall, fine looking Indian, taking up his position between the Indians and myself, Hourie, my interpreter, standing close to Poundmaker. Outside the semicircle were to be seen a few squaws, squalid and dirty as usual. Close round me, in a semicircle to match the squatting Indians, stood all my officers, the whole completely encircled by the men of my force.

## PRIZES FOR RIFLE COMPETITION.

The Military Gazette is and always has been supported principally by shooting men, whose organ it has always been, and whose interest it is always ready and eager to champion. Wishing to do something on its own accord, to help the riflemen, the new owners of this paper have decided to offer a handsome price for competition to any regiment or company in Canada. In doing this they are not trying to pose as philanthropists; they have a selfish object as well as the promotion of rifle shooting in view. This object is to increase the usefulness of the paper and enlarge its field by increasing its circulation. The more subscribers we have the better our paper will be.

The conditions then on which we will present these prizes are: 1st, Eight names are to be sent to us, of members of your regiment, who are not at present subscribers to our paper, and who want to receive it; 2ndly, Sixteen dollars, the amount of the eight subscriptions for one year must accompany the names and these will receive the Gazette for one year.

The prizes will then be forwarded, all charges prepaid, to any address in Canada, to be competed for by the Regiment thus qualified, all conditions of shooting, etc., to be settled by the committee of its rifle association, and the result and full details of the match to be forwarded for publication to this paper.

You will be astonished to find how many of your officers and shooting men, who would be much interested by our paper, and to whom it would be of much practical use, do not subscribe for it. The following is a list of the prizes from which you may make a selection:

The Royal Call, by Mrs. Butler, size of frame 30 by 42 inches; Quatre Bras, by Mrs. Butler, size of frame 30 by 42 inches; Balaclava, by Mrs. Butler, size of frame 30 by 42 inches; Pour La Patrie, by L. Royer, size of frame 27 by 36 in. or the pair; Trompette de Dragon, Detaille, size of 22 by 28 inches; Chasseur a Cheval, de Neuville, size of frame 22 by 28 inches. The pair are beautifully colored engravings, while the other pictures are in black and white, and all are the work of Messrs. Bousso, Valadon & Cie., Paris, successors to the world renowned house of Goupil.

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