

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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Another Volume Ended.

With this number, we bring to a close the fifth volume of the *CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE*, and the usual index will shortly be issued so as to complete the volume for binding. To those who make prompt application, we can furnish numbers found wanting on their files. The past year has been one of unusual activity in military affairs in the Dominion, and the record preserved in a volume of this paper will therefore be of special interest.

In the ordinary course, we would have another number this year, but as the day of publication falls on Christmas, we have determined to observe this as our first holiday, and in compensation for the loss of reading matter which would scarce be perused in any event until the holiday festivities of civil life are over, we promise a double number for New Year's Day, when the *MILITIA GAZETTE* will appear in altered form, involving a permanent increase in reading matter, and improvement in shape and general appearance.

The Editor takes this opportunity to publicly thank the many kind contributors throughout the country, who, without other reward than the satisfaction of doing a good turn, have assisted in keeping the readers of this paper posted as to the events transpiring at the various military centres; and a continuance of these favours is cordially invited. To all the above friends, and to the Militia in general, we wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and in advance thank them for the expressions of good will which it has annually been our good fortune to receive at this season.

We may perhaps be pardoned for remarking that to enclose a subscription with it is a neat way of emphasizing a holiday compliment to a newspaper man.

The Magazine Rifle.

The Magazine rifle, of which about 120,000 have been manufactured, has already been considerably improved upon, and new issues, to be designated officially Mark II., will possess the following advantages: 1. The magazine will contain 10 instead of 7 cartridges, the 10 lying in two rows of 5, lying on top of each other, and coming to the action alternately, one from each of the two rows or files of 5. 2. The butt-plate will be of brass instead of iron, and is without a trap. 3. Oil-bottle and pull-throughs are abolished. 4. The dial and aperture-sights are abolished. 5. Safety-bolt and safety-bent in the cocking-piece are done away with. 6. The foresight reverts to the "barleycorn" as in the Martini-Henry, the Major Lewes sight being abandoned so far as the foresight is concerned. 7. A longer sword-bayonet is contemplated. To clean the rifle the soldier is to carry a piece of whipcord in his knapsack. The rifle will only be sighted to 1,900 yards.

The official report presented by Major-General P. Smith, Colonel Sir H. Halford, and Col. C. G. Slade to the War Office on certain articles which appeared in the *Times* last month on the subject of the magazine rifle has been published. From the articles the committee have formulated thirty-one charges, with which they have dealt in detail, and they claim to have a full and complete answer to each accusation. The committee conclude with the following observations on the subject:—

When the committee was formed in April, 1883, there were four systems of magazine rifles submitted to them, among which was the Lee. They framed a table of tests to which every magazine rifle should be subjected to prove its safety and endurance. Up to November, 1885, twenty-seven other forms of rifles had been received, and of the whole of these thirty-one rifles there were only two which survived the tests and trials—viz., the Lee and Owen Jones. On the reassembly of the committee in September, 1886, the Owen Jones, a block action, was abandoned. From September, 1886, to January, 1889, twenty-two additional inventions were forwarded for their report, and the whole of these, for one reason or another, were rejected.

During the whole of this time the Lee breech-action was being used almost daily in experiments with various kinds of ammunition, which were sent to the committee for report. There were no serious accidents, and nothing occurred to give the committee the slightest cause to mistrust its strength or stability. Therefore, the choice of the Lee action arose not so much from selection as from the fact that it alone of all the systems survived the tests and trials to which it was subjected by the committee. While the trials were proceeding the committee obtained permission for the manufacture of a limited number of Lee rifles for their trials, and also for the purpose of testing ammunition at Woolwich. These were followed by the manufacture of 350 for trial by battalions and ships.

In the reports of these trials there were some remarks of failure of various parts of the rifles. There was no suspicion of anything approaching to the condemnation of the rifle as a whole; but, on the contrary, a remarkable concurrence of opinion that it was a serviceable weapon and fit for the Service. The committee agree with the *Times* that the principal witness is the rifle itself. They are confident it will be made as efficient and trustworthy as the rifle with which they made their trials. They accept full and entire responsibility for having recommended it, as they are satisfied it is not only the best weapon that was brought before them, but one which in every respect is fit for Her Majesty's Service.

The committee have abstained from answering fully on the subject of the ammunition, as this was taken out of their hands. There was no difficulty with the ammunition supplied to them for their experimental work, and they have reason to believe there is a great improvement in the more recent supplies that have been made to the troops.

Noting the fact that the Imperial authorities have conferred upon Col. Herbert the local rank of Major-General while commanding the Canadian militia, the *Broad Arrow* proceeds: "As Major-General Herbert was born in July, 1851, he is without exception the youngest general officer in Her Majesty's service, being, moreover, fourteen months junior in point of age to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. In these days of fortunate Guardsmen, who are so completely outstripping the less favoured brethren of the line in the race for promotion and appointments, his luck has been almost phenomenal. General Herbert entered the Grenadier Guards as ensign and lieutenant 5th November, 1870, became lieutenant and captain November, 1874, brevet-major November, 1882, captain and lieutenant-colonel May, 1883, colonel in the army August, 1889, and was appointed a C. B. during the present

year. He has been on the Staff as brigade-major of the home district, and commandant of the instruction school at Wellington barracks; served as brigade-major of the 1st Brigade, 1st division, in Egypt in 1882, was with the Guards' Camel Corps in the Soudan in 1884-5, including the action at Abu Klea, wears the Egyptian medal with three clasps, the bronze star, and the 4th class of the Medjidie, and has been Military Attaché at St. Petersburg since May, 1886."

Major Mayne on Infantry Fire Tactics—IV.

(Concluded from Page 404.)

In the attack, a premature opening of fire only lengthens out the fight, diminishes the offensive spirit, and may cause an exhaustion of the ammunition when the closer and more important ranges are reached at which the battle is decided. The French defending the village of St. Privat, which formed the French right at the battle of Gravelotte (18th August, 1870), had to retire before the German assault for want of ammunition, although they had practically annihilated by infantry fire a previous assault on the same village. Hence the attack should try and get as close to the enemy as possible without suffering undue losses. But even in open country, fire should not be opened in a general manner by the attack until the medium ranges are reached, at all events for troops armed with the Snider rifle and carrying the very limited supplies of ammunition which heavy ammunition entails.

In the defence, however, fire may be advantageously opened at the long ranges, especially if the conditions for effective long range fire are present. The defenders would, or should, always know the ranges of various prominent objects in front of them, and they have, as a rule good opportunities for observing the effect of the fire.

But in temporising actions or in false attacks, fire may be opened at long ranges; also if there is no Artillery or if the Artillery arm is weak, Infantry may open at longer ranges than usual to prepare the way for its own attack; but in this case a large supply of ammunition should be provided and special troops detailed for the long range firing.

But it must never be forgotten that as a rule too much is expected of Infantry fire. Always remember that at all ranges over the short ranges, efficacy of fire can only be obtained by a relatively long-continued collective fire concentrated on objectives specially selected on account of their offensive or defensive importance at the moment.

(2, 3.) As regards the amount of ammunition to be expended and the number of men to be employed in the firing line to expend it in a reasonable time, we must remember that the moral effect of losses inflicted on an enemy is greater, as those losses are more quickly inflicted. This is one reason for employing as many men as possible. On the other hand we must not have so many men exposed as to cause undue exposure to and losses from the enemy's fire, until the effective ranges are reached. When such ranges are reached, we must seek to avoid losses not by mere formations, but by the destruction and demoralization of the enemy. At this period of the fight, boldness and not caution is real prudence. When long range fire is indulged in, as many men as possible should take part in it to arrive as rapidly as possible at the desired result.

(4.) As regards the choice of objectives, it is very necessary to remember that in the long and medium ranges the fire of large portions of the firing line should be directed on certain stated targets, and that each man should not be allowed to fire at a separate target.

The difficulty lies in the selection of the objects to be fired at and in apportioning the different objects selected to different parts of the firing line. The means of effecting this latter point we shall deal with presently. But the general rule for the choice of objectives at any given moment is to choose such parts of the leading portions of such fractions of the enemy's troops as are the most dangerous for the time being—i. e., which for the time being constitute the chief danger to be guarded against. The most advanced portions of the enemy are as a rule the most dangerous, as they draw the other portions after them. Hence they should be crushed. A frequent change of the objectives scatters the fire, so when you have chosen an objective, fire on it until you have destroyed it, or at least paralysed its action, for some time. Choose for preference objectives in front of your own men before selecting others to the right or left in order to assist the advance of neighbouring troops. If the enemy's leading line is checked or offers a bad target, then choose suitable objectives to the right or left or in rear of his leading line. In cases of doubt choose as targets those objects which can be most easily hit. But as a rule the usual mark to aim at is the smoke of the enemy's rifles and artillery. In choosing objectives we must let the question of range (involving effect of fire and errors of estimation of range), atmospheric conditions, slopes of ground, etc., have their full weight. The officer commanding the firing line apportioned the targets to the different parts of the firing line during the pauses in the fire.

(5.) As regards the range and elevations and number of elevations to be used, much has already been said, but it cannot be too strongly remembered that the efficacy of all fire depends more on the range being known than on the individual skill of the men in firing. The worst shot may hit if the range is known, but the best shot will not hit if the range is wrongly estimated. Hence the value of carefully watching the effects of the fire, and of making any suitable corrections to the elevations employed.

The effects of the inclination of the line of sight and of atmospheric conditions must not be forgotten in ordering the elevation to be used.

In cases of doubt use too low than too high elevations. If either side is advancing always undersight for the supposed range, and only alter your elevations by at least one hundred yards at a time.

Against charging cavalry only use the 400 yards elevation and aim at the hoofs of the horses.

(6.) As regards the observation of the fire we must remember that in a well-directed fire half the bullets will fall short, and consequently the dust produced by bullets fifty to seventy yards in advance of the object is not a proof that the fire is too short, though no dust in a favourable soil for observation is a certain indication that the fire is too long. If you are to one side of the men firing, say on the right of them, then a too short fire will appear to fall to the left of the mark, and a too long fire to the right of it, even if its direction is good. This fact must be carefully remembered.

With regard to estimating the ranges, the German practice of "range-finding squads" is worthy of imitation.

(7.) The question of the kind of fire to be used is of very great importance, for it is greatly affected by considerations of human nature and of the means of handling troops under fire. There are two kinds of controlled fire: 1, individual fire; 2, collective fire—(a) volley firing, (b) mass firing.

Uncontrolled fire will come of its own accord when the moral and mental strain of battle becomes too great for control. Hence it need never be ordered. Every effort should be made, indeed, to avoid such firing. We have only to deal with controlled firing, and we can control collective firing either by employing volleys or by employing mass firing (which is really only a more perfectly controlled individual firing than the individual firing we have already considered) of a limited number of rounds (four at the most), when the fire must cease until ordered to be renewed after a slight pause.

In individual firing the trigger is pressed directly the alignment is obtained; in volley firing the alignment, when obtained, has to be maintained until the order to fire is given. As this is not easy to do, and as some men are, more or less, disturbed by hearing the sudden command to fire, the result is that in peace experiments deliberate individual firing has always given better results than volley firing. The advocates of volley firing say that though this is the case on the practice range, yet the reverse will be the case on the battle-field, for the men will be kept in hand better when volleys are fired. Here is a delicate question of human nature. My own impression is that it requires highly disciplined troops to use volleys under an effective fire, for during the frequent pauses they will hear the enemy's bullets and the sound of his fire, whereas individual firing, by making a continuous noise, prevents this. Further, volley firing at even medium range requires more control than can be expected from any but highly-trained troops.

Volleys should only be fired by companies in close order, or half companies in rank entire, or sections in open order. Other units are too large for the purpose.

Other advantages are claimed for volleys, such as economy of ammunition, facility for changing objectives and elevations, especially when the target is charging cavalry, etc. But these advantages can be equally claimed for mass firing conducted on the lines to be presently indicated.

Now volley firing, however good in theory, requires for its execution the maintenance of the organic units. Hence volleys are only practicable so long as these units are maintained intact, which will only occur when close order formations are used (as in savage warfare), or so long as the enemy's fire has not necessitated heavy reinforcing. But when the organic units have been broken up by losses or have been mixed up by an advance under fire or over rough ground or by heavy reinforcing, then volleys cease to be practicable for ordinary troops and become very difficult to execute with highly trained troops.

Consequently volley firing should be confined to the longer ranges before the organic units are mixed or broken up. Indeed, they are essential at such ranges to enable the effect of the fire to be properly watched and the elevations corrected if necessary. But after a while, when volleys are no longer possible, mass firing must be resorted to. Many German writers will not even rely on the men stopping the firing of their own accord after three or four rounds, but rely on the use of a shrill whistle for this purpose, an instrument which every officer and

N.-C. O. should carry, and on the sound of which every man should be trained to cease firing. This I would advocate for the Canadian Militia.

Now to secure the greatest efficacy of fire one very important detail must never be forgotten. To avoid a multiplicity of estimates of the same range, and to avoid adjacent sections firing with very different elevations, which has often happened, the firing line of each battalion must be under a distinct commander (one of the field officers of the battalion), and distinct pauses must be made now and then in the firing along a wide front, that of a battalion at least. This pause can be easily obtained by training, by the use of the whistle, and by the exertions of all the officers and N.-C. O.'s in the firing line. During these pauses the smoke will be allowed to clear away, objectives can be chosen and named, and apportioned to different portions of the firing line, the ranges decided on by the range finding squads, and any necessary alterations made in the elevations used, or the fire stopped for good, or the men made to advance. These distinct pauses on a wide front are required even in volley firing, and too much stress cannot be laid on them, for without them it is impossible to maintain a proper control over the fire to use fully direct it. In this way alone can an united action between all the parts of the firing line be ensured, and only in this way also can we employ company and even half-battalion volleys, even when the smaller units are mixed up, for the purpose of "picking up the range,"* or for steadying the men if they are getting excited. The greatest stress must be laid on having a distinct officer commanding the firing line, and on these regular distinct pauses in the fire over a wide front during any kind of firing, if a control over the fire is to be maintained.

Thus, as a rule, volley firing is better adapted to the defence than to the attack and to long range firing, while mass firing is best suited to the medium and short ranges when so much reinforcing has taken place that the units have got mixed up. This mass firing seems to be in complete accordance with the requirements of battle in those periods when organic units have ceased to exist as such, and when reinforcements are being boldly pushed into the firing line to drive it forward. By making use of it the men will fire more naturally and more effectively, and will be less affected by the disturbing sounds of battle, and it is most probable that the control of the men will be less difficult, provided regular distinct pauses in the fire are made after every few rounds.

Mass firing requires just as much training and practice as volley firing to obtain good results. We cannot lay too great stress on the importance of habit and custom. Men must be accustomed in peace time to the use of mass firing, if we desire to make use of it in war.

(8.) As regards the rapidity of fire, a slow fire (one round a minute) should be maintained against bad targets and a quick fire (four to five rounds a minute) against good targets, also the shorter the range the more rapid should the fire be. But it must be carefully remembered that quick firing must only be obtained by quick loading and not merely by hasty aiming.

It should also be remembered that in the long and medium ranges accuracy of fire is more essential than rapidity of fire.

Careful aiming and firing are required for all firing in order to get good results. Rapid firing gained by rapid aiming has a very bad effect on the men and leads to loss of control and waste of ammunition, while it soon creates a thick cloud of smoke, which prevents proper aim being taken.

(9.) The moments of advancing and halting must be left to the judgment of the senior officers in the firing line. As a rough rule it may be said that, when advancing by alternate rushes at each halt the men, after adjusting their sights to the new range, should be allowed to fire three rounds. It will then be time to advance again.

(10.) As regards the attitudes of the men they should lie down at the longer ranges, and then as the ranges decrease they should kneel, and finally at the shorter ranges stand. If they are allowed to lie down at the shorter ranges it will take away from the vigour of the attack and it is hard to make the men get up again. Material losses are not the only losses to be considered—loss of *moral* is even more important. Further, when the men are breathing hard for want of breath the lying down position is a bad one for good firing, and long grass and small folds in the ground will prevent a recumbent man from seeing the enemy.

(11.) Bayonets should be fixed at about 300 yards from the enemy from the moral effect produced by so doing. The men should be taught and thoroughly impressed with the idea that the fixing of bayonets is a sign that it is safer to go on than to retire over the fire-swept ground over which they have already advanced.

(12.) The question of replenishing the ammunition that has been expended cannot well be entered into here. It is a subject which is large enough to form the subject of a separate lecture; but it may be

* Volleys are required for picking up the range by watching the strike of the bullets. Volleys should also be used against a retreating enemy after his position has been carried.

remarked that the replenishing of expended ammunition to any considerable extent under an effective fire is considered to be so difficult that nearly every military writer of note insists on the necessity of the men being given all the ammunition they may require before they are sent into action. Consequently the leading troops should have from 150 to 200 rounds per man, while those intended for the assault need only have 50 to 70 rounds per man on their persons.

Concluding Remarks.—I must now, gentlemen, draw my remarks to a close. I have endeavoured to place before you as simply and concisely as I could the vitally important subject of how to make the best use of rifle fire in the field. I have pointed out to you the nature of modern fighting against a civilized foe, and the important part assigned in that fighting to the prolonged fire fight. It is in this fire fight that the foundations of victory are laid, and hence it is absolutely essential to make this fire fight as effective as possible. The advance of the firing line may frequently be checked, and the firing line will even sway backwards and forwards, according as it feels the pressure of the enemy's fire, or is carried onwards by the impulses given it by any fresh troops sent into it from the rear. These losses and reinforcements will soon break up and mingle together the smaller units, and this disorganization will lead to demoralization and loss of control unless means are taken to prevent it. These means must be based on the possibilities and peculiarities of human nature, and on the characteristics impressed on it by training, discipline, custom, and habit. Custom and habit are prime factors on the battle-field, for in time they become a second nature. What men are taught and are habituated to in peace training they will do in war, even in moments of the greatest moral and mental strain. Herein lies the great value and necessity of training to correct principles and methods, and consequently for the necessity for practising the men in volley and mass firing, in ceasing and opening fire by command, and in aiming at the enemy's feet on all occasions with a full foresight, and with the elevation ordered; the N.-C. O.'s in the control of fire; and the officers in directing the fire.

In the present lines of progress in the development of infantry fire in the field lie:—

(1.) In the mechanical improvement of the rifle and its ammunition, giving it a higher muzzle velocity, a lower trajectory, and a greater rapidity of loading.

(2.) In a mechanical use of the rifle as far as possible independent of the nerves of the man using it, and requiring no adjustment of sights for the short ranges, and hence no estimation of such ranges and no fine aiming.

(3.) In a mechanical lowering of the trajectory by aiming at the foot of the objective; and

(4.) In a mechanical obedience of the men, called fire discipline, the result of routine, and which allows, as far as possible, of the direction and control of the fire at all periods of the fight, and consequently of its best use.

What will be the result of these lines of progress in the next war is difficult to foresee, for I may remind you that the whole subject of Fire Tactics, as now understood and practised, has never as yet been tried in war. Improved guns and rifles, smokeless powder, shrapnel fire, and improved methods of utilising infantry fire, have yet to tell their tale. In the meantime, we can only try and realize what is the best thing to be done, in the light of peace experiments, and train our troops accordingly. And this, gentlemen, I have endeavoured to do this evening.

Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

THE PRACTICE RECORD.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I note that a Toronto man puts up the esteemed Secretary of the Rifle League as a rival to the Winnipeger who holds the record there for devotion to rifle practice. Now I think we have in Ottawa a devotee of the sport entitled to take precedence over either of those mentioned. As he is a modest man, and might object to seeing his name in print, I withhold it for the present; but when I mention that my champion has bought a house within sight of the range, has fitted up a room specially for an armoury and magazine, and invariably makes his appearance, rifle in hand, whenever he hears a shot fired or sees the red flag waving, it will be readily seen that my he is a formidable competitor. He is as yet only a civilian—and therefore did not feel justified in using the Government marker when no one else was firing, but I have no doubt he will be enrolled before next shooting season.

OTTAWA FIRST.

Ottawa, 15th December, 1890.

Garrison Artillery Efficiency Competition.

The following is the official return of the general efficiency competition for garrison batteries, upon which the prizes offered by the Dominion Artillery Association have been awarded, as mentioned in last issue:—

Batteries.	Officer Commanding.	Clothing and accoutrements.	Manual and firing.	Company drill.	Gun drill.	Discipline and interior economy.	Questions.		Deduct for absentees or below strength.	Total.	Inspecting Officer.
							Officers.	N. C. officers.			
	Full marks.....	5	10	10	40	5	24	36	..	130	
P. E. I. Bde., No 2.....	Capt. Longworth.....	5	8	8	35	5	22	35	..	118	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Halifax Bde., No. 5.....	" Oxley.....	5	7	8	37	5	22	33	..	117	" "
N. B. Bde., No. 1.....	" Crawford.....	5	9	8	35	5	19	35	..	116	" "
P. E. I. Bde., No. 1.....	" Davison.....	4	7	9	36	5	20	35	..	116	" "
Levis Gar. Arty., No. 1.....	" Martineau.....	4	9	8	35	5	20	29	..	110	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
Quebec Gar. Arty., No. 2.....	" Boulanger.....	4	8	7	30	5	22	31	..	107	" "
N. B. Bde., No. 4.....	" Jones.....	5	8	8	33	5	13	34	..	106	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Halifax Bde., No. 6.....	" Parker.....	5	7	8	30	5	23	30	7	101	" "
Yarmouth.....	" Jolly.....	5	8	7	32	5	19	29	9	96	" "
Cobourg.....	" McNaughton.....	5	8	5	30	5	20	22	..	95	Lieut.-Col. Cotton.
Halifax Bde., No. 3.....	" Maxwell.....	5	7	6	19	5	23	34	10	89	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Quebec Gar. Arty., No. 1.....	Major Roy.....	4	10	8	25	5	8	26	..	86	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
N. B. Bde., No. 5.....	Capt. Grieves.....	5	7	5	17	5	17	33	5	84	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
" " ".....	" McLeod.....	4	8	7	21	5	19	25	8	81	" "
Halifax Bde., No. 2.....	Lieut. Wylde.....	5	6	5	24	5	15	27	11	76	" "
N. B. Bde., No. 2.....	Capt. Gordon.....	4	7	6	18	5	15	30	9	76	" "
Montreal Bde., No. 4.....	" Finlayson.....	5	8	9	18	5	6	28	4	75	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
Halifax Bde., No. 7.....	" Anderson.....	5	7	5	17	5	15	32	15	71	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Pictou.....	" McDonald.....	4	5	4	21	3	15	23	4	71	" "
Montreal Bde., No. 6.....	" Crathern.....	5	8	9	19	5	0	28	5	69	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
P. E. I. Bde., No. 3.....	" Owen.....	4	8	8	18	5	12	10	..	65	Dist. Staff.
Montreal Bde., No. 2.....	" Howard.....	5	8	9	17	5	0	14	1	57	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
" " ".....	" Bissett.....	5	8	9	17	5	6	9	2	57	" "
Halifax Bde., No. 1.....	Major Purcell.....	5	6	4	14	5	7	20	6	55	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Montreal Bde., No. 5.....	Lieut. Reid.....	5	8	9	18	5	0	15	4	54	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
Halifax Bde., No. 4.....	Capt. Botsford.....	5	7	6	16	5	11	14	12	52	Lieut.-Col. Irwin.
Levis Gar. Arty., No. 2.....	" Vien.....	4	7	6	30	5	52	Lieut.-Col. Montizambert.
Montreal Bde., No. 1.....	" Ogilvy.....	5	8	5	16	5	1	7	2	45	" "
Quebec Gar. Arty., No. 3.....	" Morgan.....	4	10	6	15	5	6	34	" "

Regimental and Other News.

The officers and men of No. 4 Company, 54th Battalion, turned out at Windsor Mills, Que., the 22nd November, to pay a last tribute of respect to their late comrade in arms, Corp. J. E. Faucher, who succumbed to that fatal disease quick consumption on the 20th November. The company was under command of Capt. C. H. Stevens and Lieut. M. H. Healy. The fine band of the battalion also attended and played the funeral march from the church to the R. C. cemetery, where the firing party under Sergt. Martin fired the usual three volleys over the grave of their once popular young comrade. The late Corp. Faucher, who was the eldest son of Mr. P. Faucher, will be greatly missed in the place, as he was a universal favourite, and his relatives have the sympathy of the entire community.

Toronto.

Major General Herbert paid his first visit to Toronto this week, accompanying Sir Adolphe Caron and Hon. Mackenzie Bowell from Ottawa on Monday evening. At the Queen's hotel they were visited on Tuesday by a number of the prominent officers of Toronto. They lunched at the New Fort, partook of five o'clock tea at the residence of Lt.-Col. Dawson of the Grenadiers, and in the evening were banquetted at Webb's by the Toronto officers.

On Wednesday the Ministers and Commandant viewed Garrison Common and heard the oft-told tale of danger from its use as a rifle range, and the advantages the volunteers would reap from its surrender to the Exhibition Association, who would permit drill but not shooting. Mayor Clarke was the exponent of the citizens' plans. The Minister acquired all the information obtainable, and promised to give consideration to the matter. The Ministerial party subsequently lunched at the residence of Lt.-Col. F. C. Denison, M.P.

At six o'clock a civil and military deputation waited upon Sir Adolphe Caron to request financial assistance to the training of the boys of the Toronto public schools. Mr. H. A. E. Kent was the spokesman of the party. He said there were 36 companies of boys regularly drilled, and at the October review 2,200 well drilled boys participated. These boys would fill the volunteer ranks in the future, and it was therefore fitting that the Militia Department should assist in their training. If a grant were made it would be applied in procuring uniforms. Mayor Clarke backed up Mr. Kent's proposition. Sir Adolphe in reply

said the views expressed were quite his own, for he had made a study of the subject and found that in countries such as France, Germany and Switzerland, where the children received a military education at school, they did not forget the principles taught. He was prepared to recommend assistance such as asked, and he requested that an official memorandum on the subject should be sent by the school board, and then he would submit the matter to his colleagues in the Government. He cautioned against an extravagant demand, as he found it difficult to obtain extra money for military purposes. The party returned to Ottawa Wednesday evening.

A welcome piece of intelligence was conveyed to the Grenadiers during the Minister's visit, this being that two additional companies, making ten in all, are shortly to be authorized.

Company A of the Grenadiers dined at the Tremont House on Wednesday evening, Capt. Hay presiding. A notable feature of the occasion was the presentation of a handsome silver salver to Mr. W. G. A. Lambe, who recently retired from a Lieutenancy in the company.

DEATH OF SERGT.-MAJOR M'KELL, Q. O. R.

On Saturday morning the members of the regiment were painfully surprised to receive an order to parade the following day to attend the funeral of the late Sergt. Major McKell. None but his most intimate associates were aware even of the sickness which had confined him to bed for the last three weeks. The cause of death was a complication of diseases, but principally kidney troubles, from which deceased had been ailing for some time past. An operation had been performed about three weeks ago from which he never rallied, and when the dread summons came those in the death room had no intimation that the grim spectre was in their midst so quietly had been the end. A meeting of the mess was held Saturday afternoon at three p. m., at which arrangements were made for the funeral.

The regiment paraded Sunday afternoon at two o'clock to the number of 460, and very soon after the column in reverse order of rank was on its way to the home of their late sergeant-major. Previous to the arrival of the regiment Dominic Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 316, G. R. C., of which deceased was a member, held the impressive funeral service of their order, and on the arrival of the regiment the store where the remains were laid was cleared and solemnly the long line filed in and soon each man, with uncovered head, stood in the presence of the only enemy a soldier may not overcome. For such a short

illness the change was very marked, and but few could imagine that he who had but a short month ago mustered their last parade had already answered the last summons and departed, bound for service in a land where no hardship, no fatigues and no dangers are endured, and another name was added to the countless thousands who have fought a good fight.

The firing party, furnished by "D" Company, under Sergt. Robertson, were drawn up, with the bugle band, in front of the house, and when the body was brought forth and placed on the gun carriage, the squad presented arms and bugles sounded a flourish. The procession immediately moved eastward along Queen street in the following order :—

- Firing party.
- Bugle band.
- Brass band.
- Gun-carriage bearing remains, and pallbearers.
- Carriages bearing flowers.
- Mourners in carriages.
- Ex-sergeants, members of the mess, and members of "D" Company, Queen's Own Rifles, in inverse order.
- Roy 1 Grenadiers under Lt.-Col. Dawson and Capt. Manley.
- Representatives of other city corps, among whom were Lt.-Col. Otter, Lt. Chadwick (36th), Sergt.-Major Cumming, Quartermaster-Sergeant Borland and Staff-Sergt. Davis of C Company, I. S. C.
- About one hundred ex-members of the regiment.
- Members of Doric Lodge, A. F. and A. M.
- Members of Adelpgia Lodge.

The route to St. James Cemetery was thronged with people and the brightness of the day, so springlike for this time of year, had the effect of impressing deeper the fact that in the midst of life we are in death.

On arrival at the cemetery the remains were met by Rev. Mr. Williams, rector of St. Johns, and conducted to the grave, when the beautiful service of the Church of England was read, and when he came to "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust" the sound of the handful of earth thrown down on the shell caused pangs of anguish among those who stood around the grave, and many were there who could not restrain the pent up emotions, and there were there men who would face, and have faced, danger in its worst form, who have shared the same tent and fatigue with the occupant of that lonely grave, who now gave way to grief in a manner that of itself told how truly deep it was. The customary volleys by the firing party, and a sad flourish of trumpets, completed the military ceremony.

Deceased was born in Dungannon, Ireland, in 1857. He served continuously in the Queen's Own for the last sixteen years. He was mentioned very favourably by Col. Otter in his despatches from Cut-knife and on that occasion had a very narrow escape, a bullet grazing his forehead and inflicting quite a long scar.

In him the mess lose a most valued member, and the regiment one of its hardest workers. He was one of the pioneers of the mess and largely to his efforts is its standing to-day due. A presentiment seems to have been hanging over him for some weeks back, as an incident which occurred in the mess room one afternoon showed. Three of the sergeants were with him and the discussion turned on music. One of them sat down at the piano and played "The Revelry of The Dying," that exceedingly mournful and wonderful piece written by a British officer in India at the time of the great plague. The other two sergeants sang the song through once and at the request of the Sergeant-Major, which seemed strange to them at the time, repeated it. These and other little incidents go to show that a premonition of his approaching end must have been hanging over him. The sergeants have decided to wear a mourning badge for the period of two months.

The pall bearers were Quartermaster-Sergeant Burns, Staff-Sergts. Harp and Donnelly, Col. Sergts. World, Kennedy, George, Crooks and McMaster. The flowers were very appropriate and numerous emblems were sent from all the companies, band, mess and officers.

Col. Sergts World, George and Kennedy are appointed as executors; they were untiring in their attention to the dying man, being with him up to the last.

At his request he was buried in his mess uniform.

Sergt. Fred Robertson came up from Montreal to attend the funeral, leaving shortly after it was over.

BREECH BLOCK.

Winnipeg.

For some time past the local troop of cavalry has been coming steadily to the front owing to the *esprit du corps* exhibited by all members concerned, and lately, as a trump card for them, a band has been organized which will greatly add to their popularity. The troop is to be congratulated upon the enterprise they have shown which is really in this North West the only means of keeping a corps together. The band comprises both reed and brass instruments and numbers sixteen, and under the able leadership of Bandmaster A. Evans, late of H. M. 60th Rifles, will no doubt soon attain to an efficiency that the troop

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Until further notice we will sell to Volunteers at the following prices :—

Martini Rifles, Webley make.....	\$30.50
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may justly be proud of. It is to be hoped that the militia authorities will see fit to sanction the raising of another troop and thus enable them to obtain the usual band grant which would very materially assist them and lessen the expense, which is at the present time borne by the individual members.

The first annual hop promoted by the Winnipeg Field Battery and Troop of Cavalry takes place on the 19th inst., and promises to be a great success. Bandmaster Evans has the musical arrangements in hand and the decorating is under the supervision of Staff-Sergt. Watson, W.F.B.; this, it is to be hoped, will strengthen the bonds of friendship already existing between these two corps and may this pleasant state of things long continue.

THE 90TH VETERANS.

A meeting of the veterans of the campaign of 1885 of the 90th Battalion was held in the City Hall last week to receive the report of the committee appointed at the former meeting to frame a constitution, also to elect officers. There were present Messrs. C. A. Millican, A. N. Mouat, J. E. Lethbridge, Jno. Watson, Col. C. M. Boswell, G. H. Merritt, Joseph Tees, J. W. C. Swan, F. J. Nixon, Alex. Young, George Broughall, G. H. Rogers, Chas. Betts, Geo. Bailey, Robt. M. Bailey, Jno. N. Mouat, Robert Bell, J. H. Mornington, R. E. Young, J. H. Howden, Thomas Spearman: Capt. H. M. Arnold, R. H. Graham, Capt. F. C. Campbell, Major Lawrence Buchan, John Lamb, W. J. McKay, C. N. Mitchell, E. W. Green and D. Hislop.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

The election of officers was held, and the following were chosen:— President, Joseph Tees; 1st Vice-President, R. J. Whitla; 2nd Vice-President, F. C. Campbell; Secretary-Treasurer, J. E. Lethbridge; Executive Committee, R. E. Young, C. N. Mitchell, F. J. Nixon, A. N. Mouat and W. R. Colgate.

The meeting then adjourned.

Brantford.

On Tuesday evening, the 5th inst., the officers of the 38th Regiment, Dufferin Rifles, entertained Major Rothwell to supper on the occasion of his leaving Brantford for the United States. The meeting, which was confined almost exclusively to the officers of the corps, took place in the officers' quarters. The chair was occupied by Lieut.-Col. Jones, who was supported by Major Rothwell, Mr. H. McK. Wilson, Major Jones, Surgeon Harris, Captain-Adjutant Wilkes, Captains McGlashan, Leonard, Nelles, McLean, Jones, and Lieutenants Ruddy, Curtis, Robertson, Kilmaster, Jenkins, Park, Fowler, and King, and Messrs. Frank Howard, D. Reville, and J. J. Hunter. After supper, which was of many courses, and which was of a most sumptuous kind, had been served, the tables were cleared and the toast of the Queen proposed and duly honoured. The chairman proposed the toast of "Lord Dufferin," and in doing so read the following letter from the patron of the corps:—

BRITISH EMBASSY,
ROME, Nov. 9th, 1890.

MY DEAR COLONEL JONES—It was very kind of you remembering me, and sending me the programme of the Dufferin Rifles shooting matches for this year. I have looked through it with great interest. I should have written to thank you for it sooner, but it reached me just as I was leaving Seronto, where we had passed the summer, for Rome.

Yours sincerely,

DUFFERIN AND AVA.

The toast of "Our Guest" was then proposed by Col. Jones, who said they were all exceedingly sorry to part with Major Rothwell. Besides being a good citizen he had been a most exemplary soldier. He remembered many years ago, asking then Mr. Rothwell to enter the battalion. He ultimately took charge of No. 4 Company, and a faithful, efficient officer he made. They had had many good times together, and he hoped Major Rothwell would prosper in his new home, and again return to the land of his birth. The toast was drunk with honours.

The supper was in every way a success, and was certainly a very flattering testimony to the esteem in which Major Rothwell was held by his brother officers.

CATARRH and ASTHMA were not so readily controlled and cured before T. A. SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL came into the market. Every druggist is pleased to handle it, for they all know its value. For tightness of the chest and difficult breathing it has no equal.

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TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Post Office Address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 186 West Adelaide St., Toronto, Ont.



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WHEN YOU COME TO THINK OF IT.

have just invented a New Hanging Vernier and a New Wind Gauge which I will have on exhibition at the O. R. A. and D. R. A. matches. Price \$3.00 each. They will beat anything you ever saw.

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" 10, " " 20	10c.
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" 40, " " 60	30c.
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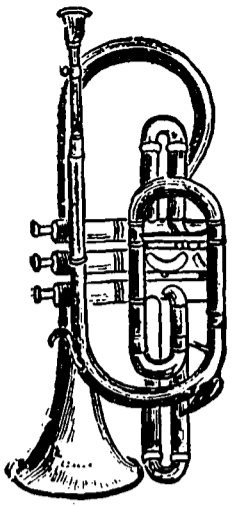
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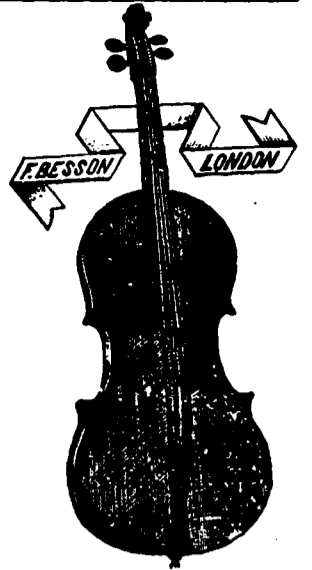
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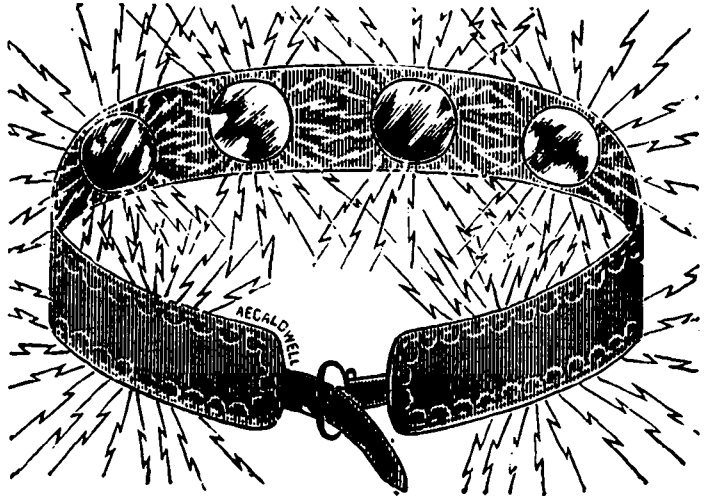
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Miss Flora McDonald, 21 Wilton avenue, City, reports a lump drawn from her wrist.

Josiah Fennell, 287 Queen street east, City, could not write a letter, went to work on the sixth day—Neuralgia.

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Mrs. S. M. Whitehead, 578 Jarvis street, City, a sufferer for years, could not be induced to part with our Belt.

Mrs. F. Stevens, 140 Lisgar St., City. Blind with Rheumatic Inflammation—cured in three weeks by Actina, Butterfly Belt and Insoles.

Geo. H. Lucas, Veterinary Dentist, 168 King street west, had dyspepsia for six years, entirely cured in eight weeks—Buttery Belt and Insoles.

Richard Hood, 40 Stewart street, City, used Actina three months for a permanent cure—Catarrh.

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Giles Williams, Ontario Coal Co., says Actina is invaluable for Bronchitis and Asthma.

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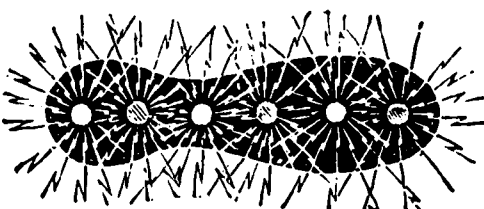
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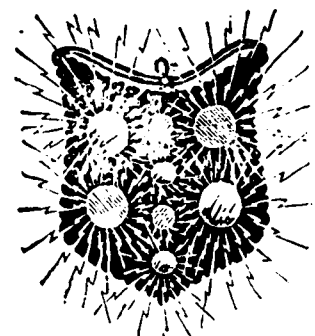
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