

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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THE MILITIA GAZETTE aims at being the recognized medium of instruction and information for Canadian militiamen and rifle shots. Communications on the subjects to which its pages are devoted are respectfully invited. Anonymous communications will not be regarded. No name will be published, except with the writer's consent. The editors will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.

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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE,

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WE owe an apology to Col. Maunsell for last week referring to his command as C company instead of A company.

THE Amherst *Gazette* quotes and endorses our remarks in a late number respecting the advisability of inspecting officers finding fault unhesitatingly where fault is deserved, and adds that the new D. A. G. of the Nova Scotia district, Lieut.-Col. Worsley, is already doing much to improve the force there by strict and impartial criticisms whenever needed.

AGAIN we would urge all our subscribers to preserve their files for binding, and they will be astonished to find how often they will refer back to their volumes for information on one point or another. We are constantly getting applications for copies to complete the first volume, but unfortunately one or two numbers are about exhausted, so that soon we will be unable to meet the wishes of our friends in this respect. Remember we publish a title page and index at the end of the year, and the size and appearance of the GAZETTE adapt it admirably for binding. Keep your copies.

COLONEL BACON is issuing notices asking for returns of winners of the several Dominion Rifle Association medals sent out to affiliated associations. As it is very desirable that a complete record should be kept of the disposition of these medals we would urge all

secretaries of associations to forward promptly the returns asked for, and if they find in last year's report blanks for previous years, they should look up their old records and help Colonel Bacon to secure complete returns. Let them attend to this at once and they will run no chance of forgetting it.

IN the general orders this week we find the losses and gains equal, there being ten of each; of the new appointments only one is qualified; and eight previously appointed officers are promoted. In the Dufferin Rifles Major McMichael has resigned and is replaced by Major Rothwell. In the 49th Dr. Farley attains the rank of surgeon on the completion of ten years' service as assistant. In the Royal Rifles Dr. Coote succeeds Surgeon-Major Parke, whom we are sorry to see leaving the service. In the 71st Quarter-Master Lipsett attains the honorary rank of Major, and in the Winnipeg Field Battery, Major Coutlee succeeds to the command, rendered vacant by Major Jarvis accepting a commission in the Mounted Police. All other appointments and changes are below the rank of field officers.

SEVERAL additions are made to the Regulations and Orders, 1883, this week, but they are all in the way of explanations of existing regulations. The first, referring to the physique of recruits, will be found difficult to carry out in practice, especially in rural companies, where enrollment in many cases resolves itself into a spasmodic effort at the last hour to fill the ranks with anyone that will go to camp. Hence we find men turning up with fingers missing, limbs more or less deformed, or sight impaired. How the regimental surgeons can reconcile it to their consciences to pass such at the medical inspections we are at a loss to conceive, but the fact remains that they are found in the ranks, to the annoyance of everyone in general, and the musketry instructors in particular. The state of mind of one of these overworked staff officers when he comes across a man physically unfit to hold a rifle to his shoulder or one unable to see the target, is pathetic. We can suggest no remedy for this violation of the regulations that would effectually reach the really responsible parties, the enrolling officers and the regimental surgeons.

LATELY reports of several inspections of city corps have been published in our regimental notes, and in most instances the old stereotyped formula has been adhered to. "The regiment received the inspecting officer with a general salute, and after he had ridden down the ranks, marched past in column, etc. It was put through the manual exercise by the senior major," and so on, in terms that all know by rote. We reprint an article, respecting the English forces, blaming the inspecting officers for much of this. Are our own D.A.G's. open to the same accusation? Do they tacitly discourage fighting drill, and insist upon marching past and machinelike excellence in the manual, acquirements that will make a big hole in the time annually allowed to us by government, or are the commanding officers afraid to leave the beaten tracks from want of confidence in their own powers? Whichever it is, the

system ought to be changed; skirmishing ought to form a part of every inspection, and if colonels cannot handle their men in open formations they should take fresh courses in our infantry schools.

MR. H. C. BLISS, the author of "Wing and Glass Ball Shooting with a Rifle," has written to us respecting the adaptability of that kind of shooting for military purposes, and he certainly would, if he had his way, make a revolution in the present style of things. We will let our readers judge his views for themselves. He says:—"In regard to teaching troops to shoot at moving objects it has long been a hobby of mine that the troops should be taught this very thing. It certainly seems plain to me that twelve men properly trained at this kind of work would easily whip an ordinary company. In the ordinary target practice a man will stand up and fix his gun, and change his position and finally take aim. After a good long sight he fires, and may or may not hit somewhere near the bull's eye. If the time ever comes when that same man has to shoot for his life, and is looking down the barrel of some one else's gun, how much time does he spend in taking aim? You may talk till doomsday about the steadiness of the troops, but the average citizen in soldier clothes is going to pull the trigger about as soon as an all-wise Providence will let him. If he has been taught to shoot quick, and has confidence in himself, and brings the gun to the proper place from force of habit, he will do average good work even under such circumstances. And how many times are there when the first few rounds have decided the day? It seems very strange to me that my own government does not give the subject mere attention. Sometimes I feel tempted to go at the matter direct and try to arouse an interest, but it is doubtful if a civilian would have much influence."

WHY mounted officers of infantry battalions do not avail themselves of the excellent course of instruction in riding offered by the Quebec Cavalry School is indeed a conundrum. The course of equitation, which may be begun at any period of the year, consists of one month's instruction, during which the candidate is inducted into all the mysteries of the science, beginning on the numnah and stripped saddle, and gradually working up to the use of the stirrups and manege work generally, the climax being reached in the last week, when, with the confidence which three weeks' steady work has given him, he concludes each morning's ride with a series of jumps over hurdles and ditches. Officers joining for this course have the benefit of the services of two instructors who were considered amongst the most efficient in Her Majesty's service, and with due attention at drill, a determination to learn, and a fair modicum of British pluck, there is no reason why a perfectly green rider should not make a decent appearance mounted at the end of the month. The number of infantry officers taking advantage of this school is as small in proportion to the number on the Militia List as is the number who can make a respectable appearance on a horse on inspection day is to that of those who display a wild desire to embrace their horse's necks. The day should be past, so far as the militia of Canada is concerned, when the comparison of a remarkably bad rider to the "blawsted hadjutant of a hinfantry regiment" can be made with any show of truth. A mounted officer who cannot ride, notwithstanding all his efficiency otherwise, is woefully inefficient; as in addition to his being unable to give commands to his regiment or perform the duties pertaining to his rank he crawls down upon his devoted head and the whole service the ridicule of the multitude. The *feu de joie* is a signal at all reviews for a general demoralization of infantry colonels, majors and adjutants, and the succeeding moments are fraught with danger to life and limb. There is no valid excuse for this state of affairs in the infantry as there are few officers who are unable to manage their affairs so as to permit them to take a month with the cavalry, and the peace of mind produced in their

souls by the knowledge that they could ride when called on to do so would amply repay them for the loss of epidermis and balance which usually overtake the beginner.

Personals.

Captain Whitla, of the 90th, has obtained three months' leave of absence and is now in England.

General Sir Fred. Middleton has promised to lecture on outposts this evening to all the officers of the Ottawa corps.

Lieut.-Col. Oswald, M.G.A., was in town on Tuesday, and had some intention of taking a trip westward to the Pacific coast.

Capt. Evans has returned to town from a cavalry course at Quebec. He has succeeded in passing with very high marks for a first-class certificate, and is full of his experiences—if he does walk a little stiff.

Major Jarvis, who has just resigned the command of the Winnipeg field battery had been connected with it since 1877, and in command of it since 1883, when the late Col. Kennedy left it on the organization of the 90th Rifles. Major Jarvis led the battery during the period of active service in the North-West last year, and endeared himself to all, both officers and men, who came in contact with him. The active militia loses in him a most valuable officer.

Major L. W. Coutlee, who succeeds him in the command is an old Ottawa boy, and is still kindly remembered here, and warmly greeted on his occasional visits to the old homestead. He has been connected with the militia since 1866, having joined the County of Ottawa provisional battalion during the first Fenian raid, and served successively in the Victoria Rifles, Prince of Wales' Rifles, the Ottawa brigade of garrison artillery and the Ottawa field battery, having held a commission as first lieutenant in the garrison artillery (1876) and being transferred to the field battery in 1877, attaining the rank of captain in May, 1883. After his removal to Winnipeg he was transferred to the field battery here in May, 1884, with the rank of captain. He accompanied his corps to the front and proved himself a most gallant and popular officer. Major Jarvis' profession having called him away from the city very frequently, the command of the battery devolved on Capt. Coutlee, and it is largely due to his endeavors that it is in so efficient a condition, the class of men enlisted in it being remarkably high. No doubt it will continue to maintain its high standard under its present commanding officer.

Capt. Charles Constantine, late chief of the Manitoba provincial police, has received official notification of his appointment as inspector in the North-West mounted police, and will leave Winnipeg for the North-West in a few days. Capt. Constantine went to Manitoba as a color-sergeant in the second battalion of militia organized for Wolseley's expedition of 1870, and was afterwards sergt-major of the regiment. After a service of about 16 months, he was commissioned, and acted as adjutant of the regiment for some time, leaving the force on its reduction in 1874. He was then appointed deputy sheriff and continued in that position till 1880, when he was appointed to the post he has just vacated. Last year during the rebellion Capt. Constantine joined the Winnipeg light infantry as adjutant, and served through the campaign in General Strange's column. He was inspector of licenses for the province in 1883, and chairman of the board of license commissioners in 1884. He was born at Bradford, Yorkshire, England, coming to Canada in 1854, and was educated at Bishop's College, Lennoxville, P. Q., near which place his father was a clergyman. The *Manitoban* says that Capt. Constantine has been a most efficient public official in Manitoba, that there is no doubt he will prove equally satisfactory in his new sphere, and that the government could not have made a better appointment. We personally know him to be a thorough soldier, and in every way fitted for his new duties.

Contents of our Contemporaries.

Colburn's Magazine for November has an article by Col. Knollys on the mobilization of the first army corps; part of E. Garel's investigation into England's readiness to go to war, and an account of the last invasion of England, in 1745, besides an exhaustive essay advocating swimming as a military and naval exercise, a short account of a curious duel, and the usual notes.

The *Rifle* for November is an exceedingly good number. It opens with a portrait and sketch of Private Milan W. Bull, who won the military championship of the United States at Creedmoor this year; gives an account of some remarkable performances of Capt. Ira Paine with the revolver, and an American spectator gives his impressions of Wimbledon. A valuable essay on the eye in its relation to the rifle we reprint in this issue. *Franc tireur's* weekly budget from England is as

interesting as usual, being devoted this month to the inevitable Martini-Enfield vs. repeater question. The remainder of the number is chiefly devoted to scores and to describing an apparatus to facilitate rest shooting.

The English weeklies of the 30th are to hand. We may cite as of general interest the following articles:

Broad Arrow—Cavalry bridles; official inventors; France and England; General Boxer on the new rifle.

United Service Gazette—Lord Charles Beresford on the navy; the "Farming" shell; underground ranges; Italy's military resources; the Royal Irish constabulary.

Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette—"The Duke" (being an arraignment of H.R.H. commanding in chief); military education; sale of official plans, and some correspondence.

Volunteer Service Gazette—The Queen's prize and retired volunteers; a review of the past year occupies four pages, the *Gazette* having completed the twenty-seventh year of its existence.

Volunteer Service Record of 26th—Reprints of several articles on the new rifle for the army, on British officers and soldiers, and on the rifle range difficulty.

The Canadian Militia:—A Historical Sketch.

BY LIEUT.-COL. W. R. OSWALD,

Commanding Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

(Continued from page 539.)

AND now I come to a sad event, one which we must all feel keenly, namely, the sudden death on Friday last of Col. Dyde.* To myself personally, and particularly in connection with this lecture, the occurrence is particularly distressing. From the moment he knew of my intention to deliver a lecture on the Canadian militia, he took the greatest interest in the matter, and placed at my disposal his reminiscences of the war of 1812. I shall not alter a word of what I had written before his death, but publish now what I wrote then, and it is as follows:—

I am sure you will heartily agree with me when I tell you that I am going to give you what must be a treat to all of us, viz.: An account of the cause of this war, which occurred seventy-six years ago, and some of the principal incidents in it, as far as Canada was affected, given to me personally and in writing only the other day by one, who, if not actually a partaker, was at all events an onlooker at that momentous time, and who is still erect, hale and hearty, at the great age of 89, Colonel Dyde, C.M.G., A.D.C. to the Queen, the father of the Canadian militia of to-day. "On the 18th of June, 1812, the United States declared war against Great Britain. There was a deep feeling of animosity existing between the two nations owing to various causes. Great Britain was at war with France, and the sympathy of the United States was altogether in favor of the latter in granting facilities and protection to the cruisers of that nation in their harbors, and also in laying embargoes on English shipping, resulting in non-intercourse with Great Britain in 1812. At this time, Great Britain having cleared the seas of the vessels of almost every nation, the United States had nearly all the carrying trade. On the other side Great Britain had asserted the right of search, that is the power to overhaul merchantmen on the high seas, and impress any British seamen who might be on board, and also to claim from American men-of-war any deserters from British cruisers. This led to several sanguinary hand-to-hand engagements, notably those between H.M.S. Leopard, 2-decker, and the American frigate Chesapeake, and another between the U. S. frigate President, 44 guns, and the British sloop-of-war Little Belt, 18 guns. The account given of these engagements is very interesting, but we must pass on to matter more properly belonging to the subject of these remarks. The inevitable result of this state of things was that war was declared, as I have said, on the 18th June, 1812.

It caused much excitement and some anxiety. Montreal then contained about 12,000 inhabitants, nearly two-thirds French Canadians, the Scotch being next most numerous, and then English, but very few Irish. The Irish immigration did not take place to any extent till a long time after, when they came by thousands for many years. The fortifications had in a great measure fallen into ruins, been levelled or removed, to enable the town to expand, but the stone walls and gates remained in some parts, and the citadel was still intact where Dalhousie square now is. It was a hill of considerable height, with guns mounted and the artillery barracks on the top. It commanded the river and the town. After the war it was razed, and now forms a large portion of the Champ de Mars. The loyalty of the people, without distinction of race or creed, could not be surpassed, much to the disappointment of the

*[Col. Dyde's death occurred on the 5th March, 1886, only three days before this lecture was delivered.—ED.]

Yankees. An artillery corps, a troop of cavalry and four militia battalions were organized, armed, and equipped for service. All males from eighteen to sixty were accepted, or rather taken as eligible, but many younger and older men were disappointed at not being taken. All were constantly on the alert and in high spirits. The first demonstration that occurred was on the arrival of General Hull and his force; he had crossed the frontier at Detroit, issued proclamations inviting the Canadians to join his standard. After several reverses he was driven back and finally captured by the gallant and heroic Brock, who had been entrusted with the defence of the upper province, where all the fighting took place the first year of the war. On Sunday evening, the beginning of September, the American prisoners, accompanied by their general in a carriage, with a British officer of rank, followed by another with British and American staff officers, were escorted into town by detachments from the 8th King's regiment and the Montreal militia, headed by the band of the King's. The gratification of the spectators was intense; it being late, the streets through which the line of march passed were illuminated. The General was received at the government house by the Governor, His Excellency Sir George Prevost, and the officers, twenty-five in number, were quartered at Holmes' hotel. The prisoners left for Quebec under a militia guard on the 8th September. Although Montreal was not exposed to any direct attack for some time, still there were constant alarms of flying columns coming in by the way of Lake Champlain, or down the St. Lawrence from Ogdensburg to "gobble" up Montreal. On the 19th November, at midnight, the drums beat to arms and the whole force were ordered to meet the enemy in the direction of Lachine, but finding none, after some days the brigade returned. It was not until the autumn of 1813 that any fighting of consequence took place in Lower Canada. General Wilkinson had assumed command of the Northern army of the United States, and a plan was formed to unite his forces for a grand attack upon Montreal and Quebec by two strong divisions, one commanded by General Hampton, by the way of Lake Champlain, and the other by himself, descending the St. Lawrence from Sackett's harbor with the intention of forming a junction at some place near Montreal. After much manœuvring, Hampton was signally defeated by the able and gallant de Salaberry, with his regiment, the Voltigeurs, and some militia, at Chateauguay, and Wilkinson, on his way down the St. Lawrence, was brought to bay and compelled to land at Chrysler's farm by the British force, which followed him from Kingston, and was also defeated, after which he made the best of his way back to the States. At the battle of Chrysler's farm the Glengarry Light Infantry distinguished itself, rivaling in gallantry His Majesty's regular troops. After Hampton's defeat at Chateauguay, and refusing to comply with Wilkinson's orders, he was dismissed the service in disgrace. Wilkinson remained quiet during the winter, when he prepared again for an advance on Montreal, crossed the Canadian border and pressed on towards Lacolle on the 30th March, 1814. After a fierce attack on the stone mill and block house, defended by His Majesty's 13th and militia, the American force being three or four to one, he was obliged to withdraw, having lost 13 killed and 128 wounded. The British loss was eleven killed and forty-four wounded and missing.

In the spring of 1814 the siege and surrender of Paris took place. Wellington's victory over Soult at Toulouse, and the unconditional abdication of Napoleon, were a great relief to Great Britain, for the war with France had been long and exhausting. These events enabled the war with the United States to be carried on more vigorously, and a division of Wellington's victorious army left France for Canada without delay. On arrival at Montreal a brigade marched at once for the upper province, and one, under Sir George Prevost, formed the chief part of an expedition to attack Plattsburg, and to act as occasion required. Owing to the incompetency of the commander these fine troops came back discomfited, and great dissatisfaction was felt by all. Sir George, in *quasi* disgrace, was soon after ordered home, but died on the passage. From this time until the declaration of peace, December 24, 1814, Montreal was not again menaced, it being always garrisoned by a strong force of regulars and active militia. When peace was proclaimed the whole militia force was mustered, the arms, equipments, etc., returned into the armories, and the officers and men relieved from further service; and from that time there was no regular militia force in the country till the troubles of 1837. There was, indeed, a troop of cavalry and a company of rifles in Montreal, turning out occasionally, and the sedentary militia, without arms or uniforms, was supposed to muster once a year for roll call, which was very perfunctorily carried out. Several regular regiments were sent home as soon as possible, Bonaparte having made his escape from Elba, and it is believed that some were in time for Waterloo."

Thus does the veteran who witnessed these stormy times, describe them to us to-day in clear and racy language. May he live many a long day yet to enjoy the honor and respect we all feel for him; as well as wear—worthily as he does—the honors bestowed on him for services to his country by his Queen.

Such were my remarks concerning him when in life; dead, I honor and revere his memory. The last I saw of the gallant old soldier was on Thursday, when he called at my office with his friend Colonel Hart, to give me an old engraving of Montreal in 1803 to show you to-night. He expressed his intention of being present, and seemed to look forward with much interest to the lecture. We shall miss his stately figure and ever warm greeting. He died as he had lived; his long life was spent in upholding the honor of his country; he died vindicating the honor of one who bears his own stainless name.

(To be continued.)

The Eye and the Rifle.

By John E. Boynton, in "The Rifle."

MOST people believe, and there is much to prove that they are correct, that the man who is a good shot with a rifle possesses that accomplishment as a free gift from Nature. How many times do we hear men whom we know to be crack shots with a ten-bore, say, "I can't shoot a rifle; never could!"

What is this great difficulty, and wherein is the great difference between the shot-gun and the rifle? The rifle is called an instrument of precision, and justly so. Place a rifle in position on the sand-bags, and, with a clean barrel, shot after shot can be placed so close together upon the target, at 1, 2, 3, 5 hundred, a thousand yards (according to the range of the gun), as to leave nothing to be desired.

Admitting this to be a fact, why cannot the same thing be done when the rifle is held to the shoulder? Two principal causes combine to make this act most difficult, and they can be expressed in two words,—eyes and nerves. Concerning the latter we shall, at this time, say nothing. The human nerve is always an uncertain quantity, and what with coffee, tea, tobacco, whisky, beer, quinine, doctor's stuff and another kind and another, not forgetting the thousands of tons of patent medicines, composed of the devil knows what, that are constantly poured down the American throat, it is a wonder that there can be found a man with nerve and muscle so steady and constant that he can make a clean score at an 8-inch bull's-eye at 200 yards.

To return to our subject. We propose in this instance to look through the sights of our rifle. If we can't, like the little man, "see clearly," let us then look into the matter, and, if possible, learn why. That riflemen in all times were, and are still, looking for better sights is manifest by the great variety, constantly increasing, of devices, some good and others indifferent, to aid the eye in obtaining a clear view at once of the object, the front-sight, and the rear-sight,—all absolutely necessary to enable the rifleman to strike the centre.

The great difficulty in the way of making out these three points at once clearly arises from this fact or law in the propagation of light-rays, viz.: that all visible objects send out rays more or less divergent, that is to say, they do not send out parallel rays, and the eye can make out distinctly one of the three sets of rays only at the same time. In many respects rifles, and surveyors', and astronomers' instruments are analogous; in fact, the telescope is applied to the rifle, and rifle-sights are applied to the cheaper kinds of surveyors' compasses.

It is not difficult to figure out the evolution of the rifle-sights. Let us start with the plain barrel without sights of any kind. If the barrel is of a uniform size from muzzle to breech, and the top plane is parallel to the bore, very good shooting may be done at point-blank range, or even a little more, by holding over the object.

But it was not long after the rifle was brought into use before some genius set a pin upon the muzzle, and found that greater accuracy could be attained by its use. The next step was to place a similar pin upon the breech, with also some gain in the way of accurate shooting; some other inventive mind of sound method suggested the notch in place of the pin as a rear-sight, and thus we have the military sight, which has done good service through so many wars.

From the notch of the old rear-sight to the peep or pinhole was a greater step and required a higher grade of mind to apply it to the rifle, but the everpresent spirit of invention—that restless soul, that is constantly trying to find a better way—one day sticks a pin through a piece of card-board, applies it to the eye, notices that all objects far and near are outlined sharply and distinctly, and guesses that it might make a good rear-sight, applies it to the rifle, and lo! we have it. The blur vanishes at once, and we see the bull's-eye at 1,000 yards, the front-sight at 36 inches, through the peep-sight just in front of the eye all sharp and distinct, leaving nothing to be desired except more light, and just here is the one fault that forever spoils the peep-sight for hunting. On a black and white stationary object, with plenty of light and the sun shining from the rear, nothing better could be asked. But in the woods, or at a swiftly moving object, it is useless, for the reason that the object, if of a color at all like surrounding bush or earth, cannot be made out, and a certain

amount of time is necessary to get the eye in the correct position to catch the sight.

We mentioned above the well-known law, that all visible objects send out rays of light in a divergent direction, *not* parallel. But very distant objects, as the sun, stars, etc., and even the bull's-eye at 1,000 yards, send out rays so nearly parallel that they may be considered to be so.

It is very different with an object so near the eye as the front-sight of a rifle, and this difference is still greater with the rear-sight. Here the rays spread out like the spokes of a wheel. Now, in order to see anything distinctly, the rays of light from the object looked at must pass through the clear part of the eye (cornea) through the black spot in the centre (pupil), through the lens just behind it (crystalline), and be united in a point at that part of the nervous expansion which lines the back part of the eyeball, known as the "macula lutea," or yellow spot: in other words, the spot of distinct vision on the retina.

If, now, the eye is adjusted for distant vision (parallel rays), looking directly at the bull's-eye, it cannot at the same time see the front-sight of the rifle distinctly, and the rear-sight (I am speaking now of open sights) is simply a blur, and just here is the reason for it. It will be evident that a greater refractive power will be required of the eye to unite in a point rays that are extremely divergent than those that are nearly parallel: and the human eye, by a very beautiful arrangement, is capable of so uniting rays that emanate from objects so close as six inches from the eye. But this is exceptional, and occurs only in the eyes of children or in persons whose eyes are abnormal.

But, as stated above, the eye can do one thing at a time only and do it well. A very simple experiment will prove this: stand at about two feet from a wire screen door and look through the screen at a distant object. If the distant object is seen distinctly, then the wires of the screen are dim and blurred. If the screen is seen distinctly, then the distant object is obscure, and by a careful observation one can feel the change taking place in the eye.

Practise this until you are satisfied, and you will then see why it is impossible to, at once, see distinctly *three* objects at different distances, as the rear and front sights of the rifle and the object aimed at. How is it that the peep-sight, with its pinhole, permits at once distant and near objects to be distinctly seen. Simply because the disc of the peep-sight shuts off all but the one central ray of light, which central ray moves in a right line from the object and passes just by the front-sight through the pinhole of the peep, and is brought to a point on the "macula" almost without effort.

It is as if a fine wire were drawn (straight, and not sagged down in the centre) from the object through the sights of the rifle to the eye, and we feel certain that we are holding on the object. But, in shutting off all but the one central ray, the only one that comes straight to the eye, the disc of the peep shuts out a great part of the light, so great a part, in fact, that good shooting can be done with it under favorable circumstances only. The remedy is to make the pinhole larger, but it is at once found that if it is enlarged beyond a certain limit it is no better than a common open-sight.

Many attempts have been made to dodge the inevitable result, and Messrs. Lyman, Slatterback, Freund, and others have made attempts in that direction more or less successful; but the old trouble still remains.

The application of the telescope, with its crossed hairs, is good. It gives a good view of the object, and from the use of a correct optical principle, viz.: placing the crossed hairs in the exact focus of the eye-piece and focusing the object-glass up to it, enables the eye to make out both the crossed hairs and the object. It is, however, too much like artillery practice. It is not at all the thing for hunting; liable to be broken or put out of adjustment, and causing no end of trouble.

Here is a good field for the inventor, and the man that brings out a rifle-sight that can enable the rifleman to see at once distinctly the rear-sight, the front-sight, and the object, will reap a substantial reward, for rifle-shooting is a permanent institution, as a pastime, not to mention its use for game and military purposes.

Army Swordsmanship.

By a correspondent in, the "Broad Arrow."

LORD WOISELEY is reported; I hope erroneously, to have said on a recent occasion that the days of the sword are numbered. If his lordship did enunciate this opinion, he formed it, doubtless, upon the very indifferent swordsmanship which prevails in the British army of our day. Since duelling went out and firearms of precision came in the sword has been sadly neglected and despised. I can remember, some score of years ago, carrying as part of my *impedimenta* foils and masks, from station to station, from quarter to quarter, without ever meeting a brother officer who knew even the rudiments of the art. In spite, how-

ever, of this neglect and change of fashion I still venture to maintain that the sword, as it is the oldest, is still the queen and noblest of weapons. Sad it is that we, the British, are the only nation in the world who have learnt to undervalue and despise this time-honored weapon. All modern experience has proved that there are moments in many actions when hand-to-hand fighting may ensue, and woe to the army or the soldiers who trust alone to the bullet. In night attacks, as at Tel-el-Kebir, and such manœuvres as were inaugurated lately by Sir Evelyn Wood at Colchester, in the assault of entrenched positions, vedette and outpost duties, and above all in Arab and Eastern warfare, where the sword still holds its own as the weapon of honor, the art of fence will still maintain its value. But beyond this, the soldier should be taught that a good swordsman at close quarters has immense advantages over his adversaries, however he may be outnumbered. Modern discipline and musketry training tend to make the soldier an excellent and reliable machine, and to give him a sort of impersonal and impassible courage which helps him in pitched battles and strategic movements under fire. But there are chances, especially in savage warfare, where more than this is required, and where the soldier must become a unit and assert his courage individually. The cool impassibility which wins prizes at Wimbledon, where all emotion and enthusiasm must be suppressed and the competitor becomes a statue, is too often at fault in the *melee* or the skirmish. The bayonet won Inkerman, and asserted itself splendidly at the Alma; while I venture to believe that the said weapon and the sword combined, with a dash to close quarters, would have cleared the Majuba Hill of the Boer marksmen, who were allowed to shoot our men down from safe covert, like rabbits in a *cul-de-sac*. Military courage is of two orders, and its actual shape derives from particular training. Firearms and their employment in modern battles have developed collective at the expense of individual bravery, and as the sword went out of fashion, the habit of self-reliance, personal activity, rapidity of movement, physical strength, dexterity, and certainty in eye, hand, and foot, became gradually subordinated to that placid, mechanical, motionless, impersonal, and collective valor which is so valuable on the chessboard of strategic and even tactical warfare, until some miscalculation or surprise is made, and the trained rifleman finds himself face-to-face with a more brawny antagonist than himself, who "goes for him" with spear or tulwar. The courage engendered and trained by the rifle is contemplative, obedient, passive, and unemotional; that taught by the sword gave the soldier self-reliance, the feeling of personal responsibility, the habit of resource, the consciousness of power, and, sentimentally we may add, the sense of manhood, of dignity, and of honor. These are qualities which should be attributes of the true soldier.

The present infantry sword exercise is, and has been for years, so ridiculously defective, that it excites the just contempt of any English officer trained in a foreign school. The French divide fencing into two parts; namely *l'escrime à l'épée, ou l'escrime pointée*, and *escrime au sabre ou l'escrime contre pointée*, or, as we understand it, the use of the small sword or rapier for thrusting only, and that of the broadsword and sabre for cut and thrust. All true swordsmen, and to them I appeal, will know that the one branch of this noble art is the complement of the other, and that the man who has "carte and tierce" at his fingers' ends will be the best man with the heavier weapon. For these reasons I trust that the few officers in our Army—and I would name Colonel Hon. Paul Methuen and Captain Alfred Hutton as bright examples—who have endeavored to revive this almost lost art, will continue to use their influence and example towards making fencing popular in the service. The days of the sword are not numbered. No matter to what precision firearms can be improved, soldiers of all nations must sometimes meet face-to-face and hand-to-hand. At El Teb, Tamai, and elsewhere, neither rifle, Gatling, nor revolver could keep our squares intact; and, on more than one occasion, the Arab with several bullets in his body succeeded in spearing our ill-trained infantry, while in these hand-to-hand encounters, our dismounted cavalry would have been glad indeed to feel the trusty blade at their side. Of all gymnastic exercises, fencing is the most useful to the hand, foot, muscle, and eye of the soldier. Let us then cultivate this noble art in our army.

A number of French Canadian residents of New York have joined in a subscription and presented to Gabriel Dumont, the commander of the Metis in Riel's rebellion with a handsome gold medal which cost \$100. It is composed of bar and pin, upon which is engraved a rising sun, emblematic of the advance of the race for which Louis Riel offered his life. Suspended from this bar by a ribbon of the tricolor of France is the medal, a heavy circle of gold, engraved with a figure of a Metis protecting fallen liberty. Surrounding the figures is the inscription, "Patria et Justitia." There are three bars of gold upon the ribbon bearing the names of the three battles in which Dumont took part—Lac des Canards, Coplee des Poissons and Batoche. Upon the reverse is the inscription in French, "Hommage à Gabriel Dumont par des Français de New York."

After the presentation a concert and a number of addresses were given. The Gardes Lafayettees and the Grenadiers Rochambeau, who number many Canadians in their ranks, were present.

Queries and Replies.

Q. Can you inform me whether rifle regiments are entitled to drums; also whether the Queen's Own Rifles have them, and if they are taken and used on parade in connection with their bugles?
RIFLEMAN.

A. Rifle corps are not, strictly speaking, entitled to drums, but only bugles. The Q.O.R. use six or eight drums in their bugle band whenever it appears in public, the drums being a great assistance in giving the time, which bugles alone could not do so well.

The following are chosen from the replies sent in in answer to Snap Cap's question in our last issue; from which flank should you begin to examine arms? We may say that none of our correspondents favor the right flank.

"35TH" says:—In reply to query in your issue of 4th inst., I have never seen it stated "by authority" at which flank the officer should commence to examine the barrels of the rifles, but I think it should be from the left, because, when the rear rank man comes to the order he is able to "resume his distance" without incommoding the man on his left, which he would do from the other flank.

"RIFLE" says:—Sec. II, Rifle Exercises, reads: "On the word 'examine' the rear rank will take a pace of ten inches to the right front; on the word 'arms' both ranks will come to the ready." The section concludes "the soldier when the officer passes the file nearest to him will close the breech by easing springs as directed in the third motion of the present, order arms, *resume his distance (if a rear rank man)* and stand at ease."

To enable the rear rank men to resume their places the officer must commence the examining of arms from the *left* flank for the following reason:—It enables each rear rank man, after his rifle has been examined, to step into his proper position without interfering with any other man, but if by mistake the officer commences at the right flank the right hand man of the rear rank will find it impossible to resume his place without coming in contact with the man on his left, thus inconveniencing them both. These reasons should be apparent to any one who has ever tried to see which is the proper way, and if they are not sufficiently clear then let "Snap Cap" or any other person try to inspect by commencing from the right flank, and he will have ocular demonstration as to which is correct.

Q. Can you? and if so, will you? kindly inform me by means of a notice in the GAZETTE where the regulations for the militia of Canada can be purchased, and at what price.

J. T. Cox, Sergt.-Major,
1st Jersey Militia,
The Arsenal, St. Peter's.

A. They are kept in stock only by the Militia Department, and can be procured only from them. The price is 25 cents (say 1s. 1d.) but the formalities to be gone through in purchasing a copy are very inconvenient. It is necessary to deposit the money in the Bank of Montreal to the credit of the Receiver-General, and to forward the deposit receipt to the Adjutant-General, Department of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, accompanied by a letter asking that a copy may be forwarded.

I may add for the information of the force that all the red books can be procured in the same way at a slight advance on the English prices.—ED.

Mess Room Yarns.

"That reminds me."

It was in the drill-square, Royal engineer barracks. A squad of recruits were at drill, amongst whom was an Irishman named Doherty, 6ft. 1½ in. in height. At that time the sergeant-major was Mr. G.—g, only 5ft. 4in. On this day he was seen approaching the squad, looking sharply about for some fault. All squared up with the exception of Doherty, and the sergt.-major made straight for him, when the following dialogue ensued:—

Sergt.-major: "Heads up that man!" (Doherty raised his head slightly.) "Up higher, sir!" (The head was raised again.)

Then the sergt.-major, by standing on his toes, managed to reach Doherty's chin and poked it higher still, with the remark—

"That's better! Don't let me see your head down again."

By this time all were interested at seeing Doherty staring far away and above the sergt.-major's head, when just then a voice from above us, in a rich brogue said—

"Am I to be always like this, sergt.-major?"

Sergt.-major: "Yes, sir!"

Doherty: "Then I'll say good-bye to ye sergt.-major, for I'll nivir see yez again."

The Target.

Brandon.—The third annual matches of the Brandon rifle association were held here on the 29th ult. The attendance was good, but the weather was not favorable. During the competition the large percentage of drop shots was very noticeable and may be attributed to the fact that Quebec ammunition was used, none other being available.

LADIES' MATCH.

200 yards, 7 shots, Snider rifle—position kneeling—prizes in kind.

Private McGregor.....	31	G. Cassels.....	24
J. Parker.....	30	T. Hutson.....	23
Lieut. E. Clement-Smith.....	26	Sergeant Treherne.....	22

MAIDEN MATCH.

200 yards, 7 shots, Snider rifle—position, any, with head to target. Prizes in kind.

Sergeant Treherne.....	31	J. M. Sutherland.....	21
G. Cassels.....	23	J. T. Heady.....	19

PATRONS' MATCH.

500 yards, 7 shots, Snider rifles—position, any, with head to target. Prizes in kind.

Lieut. E. Clement-Smith.....	23	Private McGregor.....	21
J. Patterson.....	23	G. Cassels.....	15
J. Parker.....	22		

MERCHANTS' MATCH.

600 yards, Snider rifle, 7 shots—position, any, with head to target. Prizes in kind.

Lieut. E. Clementi-Smith.....	21	J. Patterson.....	13
T. Hutson.....	21	Sergeant Treherne.....	10
J. Parker.....	20		

GRAND AGGREGATE FOR SCORES IN 1st, 3rd, AND 4th MATCHES:

Silver challenge cup and \$5.00.....	J. Parker.....	30	22	20	72
Manitoba Rifle Ass'n. silver medal and \$3.00.....	Lt. E. Clementi-Smith.....	26	23	21	70
\$5.00 cash.....	Private McGregor.....	31	21	7	59

CONSOLATION MATCH—400 yards, 7 shots, Snider rifle.

	Score.	Prize.		Score.	Prize.
R. S. Parker.....	21	\$3 00	Private Heneage.....	11	\$1 00
A. W. Reynolds.....	11	\$2 00	C. Cliff.....	6	59

At the conclusion of the matches the competitors indulged in a sweepstake match at 400 yards, 5 shots, Snider rifle.

Lieut. E. Clementi-Smith.....	24	Private McGregor.....	15
J. Patterson.....	19		

In the evening the president, Lieut. E. Clementi-Smith, presented their prizes to the successful competitors at the Queen's Hotel.

Sherbrooke, Q.—The annual prize meeting of the Sherbrooke rifle association took place on the 2nd and 3rd. The weather was delightful and the shooting good. There was not so large a number of competitors as usual, owing to the lateness of the season. Everything passed off very agreeably and reflects credit on the committee of management.

MATCH NO. 1—5 SHOTS AT 400 YARDS.

Open to members who never won a first or second prize in any open match.

\$7 50 W. S. Moy.....	32	\$2 50 A. S. Byrd.....	24
5 50 Sergt. Booth, 79th Battalion.....	28	2 00 J. Bush.....	23
3 50 Sergt.-Major Rawson.....	24		

MATCH NO. 2.—7 SHOTS AT 200 AND 500 YARDS.

Open to the electoral division of Sherbrooke.

\$10 00 C. H. Clark.....	62	\$4 00 T. Rawson.....	46
8 00 R. J. Spearing.....	59	3 50 A. Martin.....	45
7 00 R. P. Doyle.....	59	2 00 E. A. Long.....	42
5 50 J. Bush.....	55	1 00 J. Fisetle.....	35
5 00 S. T. Westlake.....	52	1 00 A. L. Grindrod.....	27
4 50 W. S. Moy.....	46	1 00 F. Thomas.....	23

MATCH NO. 3—7 SHOTS AT 200, 500 AND 600 YARDS—Open as No. 2.

10 00 R. J. Spearing.....	89	\$3 00 E. Long.....	62
8 00 C. H. Clark.....	82	2 50 J. Fisetle.....	53
7 00 R. P. Doyle.....	81	2 25 A. L. Grindrod.....	50
6 00 A. Martin.....	73	1 00 S. T. Westlake.....	46
5 00 J. Bush.....	71	1 00 F. Thomas.....	27
4 00 W. S. Moy.....	66	1 00 T. Rawson.....	22

MATCH NO. 4—7 SHOTS AT 500 AND 600 YARDS—Open to all members.

10 00 C. H. Clark.....	50	\$3 00 C. M. Hall, 79th.....	36
8 00 R. P. Doyle.....	48	2 00 A. Martin.....	34
7 00 R. J. Spearing.....	43	1 00 Lieut. Edwards, 58th.....	31
6 00 J. Fisetle.....	42	1 00 S. T. Westlake.....	31
5 00 Sergt. Booth, 79th.....	39	1 00 T. Rawson.....	28
4 00 W. S. Moy.....	37	1 00 S. Bush.....	28

MATCH NO. 5—10 SHOTS AT 500 YARDS—Open to all members.

10 00 C. H. Clark.....	43	\$2 50 C. M. Hall, 79th.....	33
9 00 R. J. Spearing.....	39	2 00 Lieut. Edwards, 58th.....	32
7 50 R. P. Doyle.....	37	1 50 J. Fisetle.....	25
6 00 W. S. Moy.....	36	1 00 Sergt. Booth, 79th.....	23
5 00 A. Martin.....	35	1 00 E. Lemere.....	22
3 50 S. T. Westlake.....	34	1 00 J. Bush.....	16

MATCH NO. 6—GRAND AGGREGATE. Score in Matches Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5.

D. R. A. medal and \$15 cash.....	C. H. Clark.....	237
P. Q. R. A. badge and \$10 cash.....	R. J. Spearing.....	230
Cash \$5.....	R. P. Doyle.....	225
Cash \$4.....	A. Martin.....	187

EXTRA SERIES—5 SHOTS AT 400 YARDS. Choice of prize according to score.

R. P. Doyle.....	21	Sergt. Booth.....	17
C. M. Hall.....	20	C. H. Clark.....	16
R. J. Spearing.....	20	T. Rawson.....	16
W. S. Moy.....	20		

Minnedosa, Man.—The town has a rifle range and is developing some shooting talent. On Saturday last the Bonifaces had a team match, two men a side, and the scores indicate that more practice is needed before the Minnedosans can brag much. The result of 5 shots at 2, 5 and 6 was:—

McKenzie.....	6	9	6	21	Murdock.....	2	5	5	12
Banister.....	15	4	12	31	McDonald.....	16	5	8	29
				51					41

Alberta, R.A.—This far west rifle association, with headquarters at Calgary, although in its infancy, has grown wonderfully for its first year in existence. There was a rifle association last year but it was on a different footing, being entirely composed of the home guard. No doubt, however, the success of the present association is largely due to the work of its predecessor.

On the 23rd September, the first annual match was held, and prize money aggregating over \$300 was offered and competed for. The programme included a match at Queen's ranges, with range prizes added; a 500 yards match and a consolation match. Major Hatton acted as range officer, and Lieut. Mortimer is secretary of the association.

Since that time the members of the association have been competing weekly for a valuable cup presented by Messrs. Carey and McFarland. This cup has changed hands frequently, owing to the condition that it had to be won twice before it became the property of the winner. Lieut. H. T. Shelton (a well known Winnipeg shot) won the cup when first shot for, and he again won it last Monday, the 25th Oct. It now becomes his property.

The infantry school in losing sergt.-instructor Gauthier, has lost one of its best and ablest instructors. The non-commissioned officers and men, as well as his many civilian friends, regret his departure, and united on Monday evening, the 25th inst, in giving him a hearty "send off" on his leaving St. John's.

Regimental Notes.

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

Ottawa.—The Governor-General's Foot Guards are drilling three nights a week preparatory to having their inspection, which will probably take place towards the end of the month. Mondays and Wednesdays are devoted exclusively to company drill; Friday evenings to commanding officer's parades, which generally conclude with a march out. A large number of recruits is being put through by competent instructors, and more attention is paid to their physique than in former years, every recruit having to pass before a board of officers, and undergoing a medical examination by one of the surgeons; thus a better class of men is obtained. The two flank companies A (Major Todd's) and F (Capt. Waldo's) have, as hitherto, kept up their reputation of being the largest companies on parade.

On Monday night last, the 8th inst., a guard of honor was furnished by the regiment to receive His Excellency the Governor-General upon his return from England. As the special did not arrive until midnight, and as the hour of its probable arrival was very uncertain, it was most creditable that upon short notice 100 rank and file turned out at that unseasonable hour, and His Excellency was greatly pleased at this proof of their willingness to attend. The guard was under the command of Capt. White, Lieut. Gray and 2nd Lieut. Gisborne. Major Macpherson, commanding the regiment, accompanied by a number of his officers was present upon the arrival of the train.

Minnedosa, Man.—The arms of No. 7 Co. Winnipeg Light Infantry, were inspected by Major Street, last week, and found in good condition. The arms of the Home Guard were also inspected and will be packed up and shipped to Winnipeg at once, they being, in the opinion of the authorities, no longer needed here. The arms of No. 7 Co. will also be taken away if the company is not placed on a more efficient footing.—*Tribune.*

Calgary, Alta.—The members of the late Calgary Home Guard have decided to memorialize the government for scrip and medals. The public consider them entitled to this reward, as they were all sworn in under the Militia Act, and did duty both night and day in Calgary and to the distance of 10 miles towards the Blackfoot camp, and Red Deer. It is hoped that the government will not forget their services, as it will encourage the volunteer movement now started here.

BLACK PRINCE.

We understand that next year will see very great barrack improvements at the Calgary Mounted Police post. The present barracks will be moved back and used for stables, and on their site new brick barracks and officers' quarters will be constructed.—*Tribune.*

At a well attended meeting of the citizens of Calgary, held in the Town Hall on the 23rd October, it was unanimously resolved to form a mounted volunteer corps and tender their services to the Minister of Militia. The following officers were elected:—Major Hatton, late commanding the Alberta Mounted Rifles, Captain; Dr. N. J. Lindsay, 1st Lieutenant, and Mr. James Mortimer, 2nd Lieutenant, after which a roll was opened for signature, which was signed by most of those present. A committee was then appointed to obtain names sufficient to fill the strength of the company, after which the meeting adjourned to meet on Thursday evening the 28th. At this meeting the committee produced the roll with 56 signatures, and Major Hatton was requested to communicate with the Minister of Militia asking him to have the corps gazetted. A sergt.-major and a staff-sergeant were elected, the remaining n.-c.-o's to be appointed by the commanding officer. The name selected for the corps is the Alberta Mounted Rifles, the old troop of that name having been disbanded on their return from the front last year. The meeting adjourned pending the decision of the Minister of Militia.

Militia General Orders, No. 19, of 5th November, 1886.

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

ACTIVE MILITIA.

Organization—Enlistment.

The following is added as subsection (1) to paragraph 34, regulations and orders, 1883, viz:—

"(1) To prevent men being enlisted in a corps undersized, under age and too weak to perform the duties of a soldier, the enrolling officer, before permitting the recruit to sign the roll of the corps, is to satisfy himself that the man's height and age are as required by regulations, that his general health is good, and that in all respects he is fit for the duties to be required of him."

Officers.

The following is added as sub-section (1) to paragraph 76 of the regulations and orders, 1883, viz., "It is to be understood that gentlemen appointed to the active militia, who have served as officers or non-commissioned officers in Her Majesty's regular army, will be given "substantive rank" only when the corps to which they may be appointed is of the same arm of the service as that to which they had belonged in the regular army.

Transport.

The following are added as sub-sections (2), (3) and (4) to paragraph 720 of the regulations and orders, 1883:—

(2.) In making requisitions for transport of officers, men, horses, or stores, &c., by railway, the requisition is to be for transport of the number of officers, men, horses, and the weight of stores to be forwarded, not for a specified number of cars. The Railway company must see that enough suitable cars for the service are provided, also for the personal baggage, etc., which is to be carried free of charge.

(3.) Special trains by which the railway company will charge a higher rate for transport than by ordinary trains must not be applied for without authority from headquarters.

(4.) Officers ordering special trains or cars for transport, without authority from headquarters, will be held to account for the additional expenses their requisitions for such entail upon the public.

Stores—Requisitions.

The following is added as sub-section (2) to paragraph 103 of regulations and orders, 1883, viz:—

"(2) When deficiencies in stores are paid for a requisition should be sent in for an issue of articles to replace them."

Correspondence and Returns.

The following is added as sub-section (2) of paragraph 905 of regulations and orders, 1883, viz:—

"(2) Official dockets or files of papers connected with cases sent from headquarters to staff officers of districts for their information, and for specific action, or report, are to be considered confidential. They are not to be transferred to persons interested in the case or otherwise for reference or report. Whatever action is required by the department to be taken must be carried out by the staff officer by personal communication, or officially in writing as the case may require, and the original papers promptly returned to headquarters with the required information, or report appended."

Postage and Stationery.

The following is added to sub-section 2 of paragraph 1035 of the regulations and orders, 1883, viz:—

"If there is no brigade major this allowance will not be issued. In such case the allowance for the Deputy Adjutant General will be increased to 75 cents per company per annum."

No. 2.—PERMANENT CORPS.

Bedding.

Adverting to No. 3 of general orders (21) 17th October, 1884, the following is added to the third paragraph (at foot of page 22 of regulations for the permanent corps, September, 1886), viz:—

"The articles to be exchanged will be returned into regimental stores, and those in exchange issued therefrom. The washing will be carried out under direction of the officer commanding by contractors whose tenders for the service have been previously approved at headquarters.

"In order that the reserve of articles available for exchange may be kept at a minimum, the officers commanding will arrange for the washing of used articles at different dates instead of all at one time."

Provost Cells—Admission of Prisoners.

Adverting to No. 4 (page 3) general orders (6) 19th March, 1885, the following is added after "prisoners" in section 3 (3rd paragraph, page 31 of regulations for the permanent corps, September, 1866), "to be confined for more than 7 days."

No. 3.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

Winnipeg F. B. A.—To be major, Capt. Louis William P. Coutlee, G.S., vice Edward Worrell Jarvis, who retires retaining rank.

3rd Batt.—Lieut. Harry A. Abbot resigns.

To be 2nd lieuts., prov., Edward Desbarats, vice William Simons Kerry, who resigns. William C. Norris, vice Bunnett, appointed quartermaster.

To be quartermaster, 2nd lieut., prov., Henry Richard Sharland Bunnett, vice honorary capt. Duncan Stewart, who resigns.

8th Batt.—To be lieuts., Thomas Inglis Poston, M.S., (formerly lieut. in this Batt.) vice Fry resigned. Wm Charles Henry Wood, (prov.) vice Burstall, promoted.

To be 2nd lieut. prov., William Molson Dobell, vice Walter Stevenson, who resigns.

To be surgeon, Asst. Surgeon Patrick Coote, M.D., vice Surgeon-Major Charles S. Parke, who retires retaining his rank of surgeon-major.

21st Batt.—No. 5 Co.—*Memo.*—Adverting to No. 3 of general orders (12) 12th June, 1885, in which Charles C. Fox, is appointed captain, omit "prov.," Capt. Fox having been a sergeant in 1st Batt. H.M.'s 15th regiment.

To be adjutant, Capt. Charles C. Fox (formerly n.c.o. H.M.'s 5th regiment) from No. 5 co.

25th Batt.—No. 3 co.—To be lieut., prov., Pte. Charles Anthony O'Malley, vice Emerson Wilson, left limits.

30th Batt.—To be major, Capt. Burrows Henry Rothwell, V.B., from No. 4 Co., vice George Hervey McMichael, who retires with rank of captain.

No. 1 Co.—To be lieut., 2nd lieut. Charles Macklem Nelles, S. I., from No. 4 Co., vice Henry John McGlashan, transferred to and promoted in No. 4 Co.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., Pte. William Graham Killmaster, vice John Thomas Slater, who resigns.

No. 3 Co.—To be 2nd lieut., prov., Edward Paul Park, vice William James McHaffie, left limits.

No. 4 Co.—To be capt., lieut. Henry John McGlashan, V. B., from No. 1 Co., vice Rothwell, promoted.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., Corpl. Joseph Ruddy, vice Nelles, transferred to and promoted in No. 1 Co.

43rd Batt.—No. 5 Co.—The headquarters of this company are hereby changed from "Eardley" to "Arnprior."

49th Batt.—Asst. Surgeon John Jay Farley to have the rank of surgeon, from 25th June, 1885.

71st Batt.—Quartermaster Andrew Lipsett, having the relative rank of capt., to have the honorary rank of major, from 25th Feb., 1886.

78th Batt.—*Erratum*—In No. 3 of general orders (18), 22nd October, 1886, read "Alexander Crawford Page" instead of "Duncan Crawford Page"; and "asst.-surg. and Surgeon Duncan McLean," instead of "Assistant-Surgeon Duncan McLean."

81st Batt.—No. 1 Co.—To be lieut., prov., Staff-Sergt. Auguste Beaudry, vice A. S. Gauvin.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

2nd Lieut. Malcolm Smith Mercer, S.I., 2nd Batt., from 27th Oct., 1886.

No. 4.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

SCHOOL OF CAVALRY.

First Class Short Course Grade A.

2nd Lieut. James Sheppard, 2nd Regt. Cav. Capt. T.D.B. Evans, 43rd Batt. Inf.

SCHOOLS OF GUNNERY.

First Class "Short Course Certificate."

Adverting to No. 5 of General orders (21), 5th September, 1879, with reference to the "short course certificate" granted "1st Lieut. Louis William P. Coutlee," read "first class" instead of "second class."

SCHOOLS OF INFANTRY.

First Class Short Course, Grade A.

Capt. J. Rorke, 31st Batt.

Second Class Special Course.

Lieut. J. Hodgins, Gov-Gen's Foot Guards. 2nd Lieut. M.S. Mercer, 2nd Batt. Lieut. J. Dolbear, 27th Batt. Capt. S. W. Ryerson, 39th Batt.

No. 5.—ASSOCIATIONS FOR DRILL IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

The formation of a company to be designated the "*Seminary of Quebec Drill Company*" is hereby authorized under the provisions of paragraph 565 regulations and orders for the militia, Canada, 1883.

News Notes.

The Department of the Interior has somewhat modified the regulations respecting military land warrants. It has instructed its agents that "in cases of persons who have obtained military bounty land warrants, and who, having settled on unsurveyed lands, have been unable to obtain entries therefor by the 1st of August last, where the settlement was commenced and the warrant obtained directly or indirectly by the volunteer or his substitute, the warrant may be applied by the party so settling, when the lands are surveyed and he is in a position to obtain formal entry, the same as if tendered before the 1st August."

Also in the case of volunteers who did not receive their bounty certificates until after the 1st August last, the land warrant will be issued and endorsed as follows: "This warrant may be applied in respect of his homestead and pre-emption entry by the volunteer who is entitled to receive it, or his regularly appointed substitute, up to and including, but not later than the 20th November, 1886, or it may be used by the volunteer who is entitled to receive it, but not by his substitute, in payment of his pre-emption entry," and the agent is instructed to accept all land warrants so endorsed.

I read the following in the *St. John News*:—

"Another of our military friends has left us. Sergeant-instructor A. H. Gauthier severed his connection with B company, I.S.C., on Thursday the 21st inst, to enter again into civil life. On the eve of his departure his mess comrades united in tendering him a banquet, for which occasion their mess room was gaily decorated with bunting and flags of various nations. The table was sumptuously laid out and full justice done the viands, after which the usual toasts were proposed. B. company's orchestra was in attendance and discoursed some of its finest selections." RAM ROD.

Wm. Perry, late of the Hamilton field battery, was buried with military honors on Sunday last. The *Spectator* says: "The remains of the late Wm. Perry were interred in Burlington cemetery yesterday afternoon. Deceased was a gunner in the Hamilton field battery, and the body was followed to the grave by a large number of his former comrades. Some 60 members of the Thirteenth battalion, under Captain Tidswell turned out in honor of the dead soldier. The parade was in command of Lieut. Bankier, of the H. F. B. The firing party was under the command of Sergt. Bismark. The pall-bearers were gunners Jones, Atkinson, Burkholder, White, McCallum and Harris. The gun carriage bore beside the coffin an unusually large and remarkably handsome wreath which was sent by the members of the battery. It lay with a number of other chaste floral offerings on the flag and draped over the coffin lid. Poor Perry was popular with all who knew him, and his early death is regretted by many who admired his sterling qualities of mind and heart."

Our Trading Column.

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

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

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Rifle mounted officer's saddlery. Describe and quote prices. Register No. 3.

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Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Du Lievre Works," will be received until FRIDAY, the 26th day of NOVEMBER, next, inclusively, for the construction of a Lock and Dam and works in connection therewith, on the River Du Lievre at Little Rapids, Ottawa County, Quebec, in accordance with a plan and specification to be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after Friday, the 5th of November next, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

Persons desirous of tendering are requested to make personal enquiry relative to the work to be done, and to examine the locality themselves, and are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

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

By order,
A. GOBEIL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 30th October, 1886.

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For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

A. CAMPBELL,
 Postmaster-General.
 Post Office Department,
 Ottawa, 21st May, 1886.

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