

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## Current Topics.

LORD LANSDOWNE, in his address at the annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association, called attention to the small membership list, which he rightly considers is far below what it should be. It seems to us that with a little effort this might be very materially increased, but before anything effective can be done in this direction it will be necessary for the association to be more careful in distributing the good things at its disposal to see that membership for some fixed previous period shall be a necessary qualification for recipients. For instance, when the command or adjutancy of a Wimbledon team is to be allotted, a member of the association, and not an outsider, should be chosen.

THE Cup to be purchased with the parting gift of His Excellency the Governor-General will, in all probability, be made a challenge trophy for the teams entering for the principal event in the grand aggregate, the present Dominion of Canada match, which it is proposed to hereafter style the "Lansdowne match." There has heretofore been no trophy in connection with this competition, rather singularly; the corps whose representatives achieve the proud distinction of heading the list in the team competition having nothing to show for it except the badge which each of the five men receives in addition to the liberal money prize.

WILLIAM I, King of Prussia and Emperor of Germany, whose death occurred since last issue, only lacked a few days of the great age of ninety-one years. This eminent and extraordinary man was born March 23rd, 1797, was made Prince Regent Oct. 9th, 1858; became King of Prussia Jan. 2nd, 1861, and assumed the imperial purple as Emperor of Germany Jan. 18th, 1871. He has thus lived through a most momentous period of European history, and has taken part in political and national movements of almost unparalleled importance. He was a leading figure in the great movement ending, after all dissenting parties had by the Franco-Prussian war become united for the general good, in the establishment of the German Empire. His son, the Crown Prince, who is married to the Princess Royal of England succeeds to the throne, at an age which in any event would make his occupancy of brief duration, but the hand of Death is already stretched out towards him, and the German nation must very shortly be called upon to mourn the death of the second Emperor.

A LECTURE was recently delivered at London by Col. J. K. Maurice, R.A., Staff College, on "The advantages of a simple drill nomenclature consistent for all arms, apropos of an incident of the battle of Tel-el-Kebir." Lord Wolseley occupied the chair. Col. Maurice pressed the absurdity of the present drill nomenclature, for example: a "division" in artillery being two guns, in cavalry being one-quarter of the troop, and in infantry two or more brigades. In each arm of the service, he held, a "division" should mean the same, and so with other things. He further urged trying on parade all sorts of manœuvres not in the drill book, but which occur on active service, and told the well known story of the first autumn manœuvres on Salisbury Plains, when Col. Valentine Baker, executing a clever movement, got round and attacked the 60th in the rear. The Col. of the 60th did what is now called "change flanks" and faced his men about, saying the 60th had no rear, and the umpire give it against him "because there was no such manœuvre in the drill book." This might be drill, said the lecturer, but it was not war, and what we wanted was to assimilate our training of the men to what they would need in actual war.

AFTER a discussion, in which Col. Macdonald, of the Queen's Edinburgh, Lord Advocate of Scotland, and Col. Bell, U. S. A., and others took part, Lord Wolseley closed the proceedings by a long speech, in which he said that H. R. H. the Commander-in-Chief had been doing his utmost to simplify drill. He had lately cut out a lot of useless matter from the Drill Book, and the new simplified one would soon be issued. Lord Wolseley said the regulars were under great obligations to the volunteers, to whom much of the improvements in drill are due, as they bring into the service their energetic, practical-business ideas, free from the grooves into which regulars get by their training.

THE new magazine rifle is written up in the *Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette* of the 18th February by the paper and by a correspondent. The latter states that this pet of the Small Arms Committee having been fired some thousands of times and at last finally approved of by them, was handed over to Major Lockyer to fire one magazine of cartridges and report. The results were not altogether such as might have been desired. The first and second shots were fired satisfactorily, but on the third shot the bolt blew out to the rear and nearly took the Major's thumb off, ripping the flesh up deeply. The wound being temporarily bound up the Major proceeded with the fourth shot, which being fired the extractor broke and the whole rifle was thrown out of action. From this it will be seen that the old objection to bolt actions—the bolt blowing to the rear still remains.

SOME hundreds of this new rifle, says the paper in which the above condemnation appears, are now being rapidly made at Enfield, and will be issued for extended trials. The bore being .303 of an inch enables our soldiers to carry one-third more cartridges than for the Martini-Henry rifle, and the magazines

are detachable. Had a rifle with a fixed magazine been chosen by the War Office there would have been nothing for it but to arm all Her Majesty's forces—English, native, and native police—with rifles having fixed magazines. This would probably be admitted on all hands as hardly advisable. The receptacle for the magazine and skeleton cases is in front of the trigger guard. The magazine holds eight cartridges, and the skeleton cases six each. When its contents are expended the magazine is shot out of its receptacle by touching a spring, and remains suspended to the guard by a little chain. For continued rapid fire the skeleton cases are then thrust into the receptacle, and when their contents are expended they are thrown away. A very strong point is that a 'cut off' is provided, so that firing can be carried on with loose cartridges from the pouch when either the magazine or skeleton case is in its place in the gun. The only approach to this excellent rifle is that chosen by the Austrian army, where the magazine is fixed in a position exactly similar. To evade the difficulty, delay, and consequent disadvantage of filling this fixed magazine with the fingers and a single cartridge at a time, a detachable magazine is used. Hence the Austrian rifle uses a detachable magazine or skeleton case to load a fixed magazine, whereas the rifle chosen for our service uses the detachable system pure and simple; an immense advantage when the varied nature of Her Majesty's forces all round the world is taken into full consideration."

REVOLVER shooting has of late years attracted so much attention, and has taken such a prominent place at the prize meetings of the leading rifle associations in England and America that it is not surprising to find it inspiring a literature of its own. A neat treatise on "The Modern American Pistol and Revolver" is one of the fruits of this increased interest, and when we say that it is written by Mr. A. C. Gould, Editor of the *Boston Rifle*, and that in paper, typography, and illustrations it is fully equal to that admirable journal, we feel that no higher praise is needed. Mr. Gould does not attempt to teach how to shoot a revolver, but he gives a very full and impartial description of several of the best modern pistols and revolvers of American make, describes the several kinds of ammunition used in those arms; gives many scores made by experts, with diagram of targets, to show the possibilities of the weapons, and winds up with a synopsis of the shooting rules followed by American marksmen. The neat cloth-covered book is beautifully illustrated by portraits of several well known revolver shots, with sketches showing their positions in shooting, illustrations of the several pistols and revolvers described, and diagrams of several wonderful targets. All revolver shots would obtain a better idea of the possibilities of their weapons by a perusal of Mr. Gould's treatise.

### 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.]

#### A CLAIM IN EQUITY, NOT IN MILITIA LAW.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—In your issue of the 8th inst., in referring to the claim for "kit allowance" of the late "York and Simcoe battalion," you state that the "men had in many cases to do without articles of clothing and equipment which the law says shall be provided at the public expense." To this I take exception, as Par. 548 R. & O., 1887 says, "kit should be provided by the men themselves," and by Par. 547, it is the duty of the commanding officer to certify that Par. 548 has been complied with *previous* to the corps leaving its headquarters. It is true that some other corps have been paid "kit allowance" for the reason, as stated by the War Claims Commission, in the case of the claim of the 90th Battalion, that "the Commission are of opinion that corps ordered on service should be fully provided by the Government." This opinion having been approved by the Minister of Militia, makes a precedent on which the York and Simcoe claim is based, not that it is entitled to it by law, but in equity, to place it on a par with other corps. It is quite irrelevant whether the men provided themselves or were supplied as a free gift by the liberality of the county of York. As the Government issued boots, it appears but reasonable that the men should be recouped the value of the other articles, at the same rate as the 10th Royal Grenadiers, Queen's Own Rifles and other corps.

March 12th, 1888.

FORESIGHT.

#### AN OLD TIMER'S RECIPE FOR ARTILLERY BULLSEYES.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—At the battle of Fighting Island on the Eetroit River, March, 1837, one of the two guns engaged to drive the American invaders off the island, made what Lieut.-Col. the Honourable John Maitland, commanding Her Majesty's 32nd Regiment of the line, styled: "The best practice he ever saw in his life." The invaders had two guns in position behind high breast works, firing through embrasures. The demi-battery of two 9-prs. was exposed on the bank of the river. The invaders fired the opening gun, but that was all, for the first shot fired by No. 2 gun of demi-battery, (after finding distance) dismounted No. 1 of the enemy, and the next shot fired from the same No. 2 gun dismounted No. 2 of the enemy. Very little ammunition was wasted here. Then Col. Maitland sent a sergeant to the commander of No. 2 gun, with the order to dislodge one of the enemy from behind a maple tree on the island, who was "galling," as he called it, his men as they went over the ice on the river. The non-commissioned officer in command of No. 2, turned his gun to the tree pointed out by the sergeant, and plumped the 9 lb. shot right in the centre of the tree. The distance was 1,300 yards. The same gun was then turned to the extreme right, (at they say the commander of the invaders, who in bravado came out 200 or 300 yards on the ice firing his rifle at the demi-battery, but he fired his last shot, for when the smoke cleared away it was found that No. 2's shot had left him but one arm. Here were four bullseyes in four shots. And it was generally allowed that the same non-commissioned officer would make 19 bullseyes out of 20 shots at 1,500 yards. No. 1 gun hit nothing; why? Because he had not the secret that No. 2 possessed, namely, never to lay your gun direct for the object to be hit, because there is a scientific, if not a military rule for field and garrison gun practice, and which I never heard explained to recruits at drill. It was never known that this non-commissioned officer had a secret. Consequently he was never asked, and therefore he never told it, but he is yet alive, and says that he will now guarantee to make the bullseyes within mentioned if he was required.

OLD FUZE.

Belleville, Ont., 12 March, 1888.

#### THE MILITIA REPORT FOR 1887.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—I have just received a copy of the annual Militia Report for 1887, and have only so far had but casual glances over it, still I have had time to detect some very grievous errors therein. In glancing over "Appendix No. 15"—"The Militia List of the Dominion of Canada"—I find it reads "Corrected (?) to 1st January, 1888." This I doubt very much for, to commence with, in list called "Seniority List," I find under *Lieutenant-Colonels* the name of "John Butterfield, 18th Batt., 3rd Sept., 1880," and under heading of "Active Militia—Infantry and Rifles" appears the roll of officers of the "18th Prescott Battalion of Infantry; Motto: *paratus et volens*—M. D. No. 4, 8th Brig. Division, L'Original (organized G. O. 26th Feb., '63.) I was under the impression that Mr. Butterfield, as well as his battalion, had been "wiped out" last year; am I right in my surmise? If such be the case, how is it his name, as well as the number of the battalion and list of supposed officers thereof, *still* appears on the roll of the "Active" Militia?—they are certainly far from being "active." I should say *passive* or *DEAD* would have been more appropriate; likewise, in the "Alphabetical List of Field Officers of Staff and Active Militia, retired from active command, *with permission to retain their rank*," I also find officers who died over a year ago. They surely could not have reported themselves as being *ALIVE* on 1st Jan. last past? Take Lieut.-Col. John Grant, late 5th Batt., Montreal, who, it seems to me, died a year or so ago, Major D. L. MacDougall, late "Royal Guides," Montreal, who died early last year (1887), both of whose names still appear. How many others are given in a similar way whose names I am not familiar with of course I cannot say, but I would like to know if, contrary to the stated rule, the Department continues the names of officers on this list whether they report themselves alive or not?

A RETIRED OFFICER WHO IS ALIVE.

March 10, 1888.

[Our correspondent is in error in his reference to the 18th Batt. There has been no order disbanding the corps(e) or removing its officers from the active list, though it is true it exists, as a Hibernian might say, only as a "corpse," life having long since fled, and the uniform and arms having been called in.—EDITOR.]

#### CANADIAN DEFENCES.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—Now that the question of "defence" of the country is so prominent, it will no doubt be of interest to those who have the "safety, honour and welfare" of this fair land at heart to see what one of our younger colonial sisters has done and is doing in the way of armament for her protection.

New South Wales, according to a late number of the *Proceedings R. A. Institution*, contributed by Major E. Bingham, R. A., Chief Instructor of Artillery in the colony, has the following armament: "10-in. 25-ton R.M.L. (Armstrong's), 10-in. 18-ton R.M.L., 9-in. 12-ton R.M.L., 80-pr. converted R.M.L., 40-pr. R.B.L., 16-pr. R.M.L., 9-pr. R.M.L., a few 10-in. S.B., 68-pr. S.B., and 32-pr. S.B., on travelling siege carriages. Fifty-three guns in all are mounted on the coast line of the colony, some in strong modern forts, and to these will shortly be added 30 guns of 8-in. and 6-in. B.L. on H.P. carriages; also 40 Nordenfelts, of 1-in., 1½-in. and 45-in. have arrived, but not yet in position." The colony has a population of only 930,000, and an area in square miles 310,938. Canada on the other hand, with a population of 4,772,000 and an area in square miles 3,470,392, has rifled guns: R.B.L.—6 6-pr., 2 12-pr., 1 20-pr., 6 40-pr., 10 7-in.; M.L.R., 70 9-pr., 6 64-pr., 3 7-in., 1 8-in., 17 64-pr. (converted), 1 68-pr. (7-in. converted), and 1 68-pr. (8-in. converted). I will not add the terrible number of S.B. guns of all sizes. Note that whereas New South Wales has 10-in. guns weighing 25 and 18 tons, and 9-in. guns of 12 tons, and "to these will shortly be added 30 guns of 8-in. and 6-in. B.L., and that 40 Nordenfelts, etc., have arrived, Canada has *NONE*. Her heaviest gun is the 7 in., weighing 6½ tons. Truly a most extraordinary and unfortunate state of things, and one calling for the earnest and immediate attention of our rulers. Can any one give an intelligent reason for it? Possibly "no money" will be the specious answer advanced, but with the tremendous sums which have been, and will be spent on canals and other public works, one is led to believe the necessary money required to place us on a decent footing of defence would be easily raised. To the ordinary minded individual surely the defence of existing works is paramount to the expenditure of further sums on canals, etc. If the government cannot, or will not, do their plain duty in this respect, I would suggest that a "national" or "patriotic" fund be raised for the purpose of purchasing modern ordnance. Who will be the large-hearted and patriotic man to set the ball rolling?

DRIVING BAND.

## Militia General Orders (No. 4), of 9th March, 1888.

### No. 1.—PERMANENT CORPS.

**Furloughs.**—Furloughs may be granted by commandants of schools of military instruction under the rules laid down in section xiii, Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, 1885, with the following modifications:—

1. The number of men belonging to the corps to whom furloughs may be granted annually shall not exceed 10 per cent. of the total strength.
2. The furloughs not to extend beyond 21 days.—For Mounted Infantry in July or August. For other corps in July, August or December.
3. Furloughs are not to be allowed to interfere with musketry instruction, annual drill in camps of instruction, or inspections.
4. Applications for furloughs asked for under special circumstances, must be referred to headquarters for consideration.

**Enlistments.**—The paragraph relating to "Enlistments" in "Permanent Corps," in No. 3 of G. O. (3) 3rd February, 1888, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"No non-commissioned officer or man is to be retained under pay and allowances as a supernumerary pending enlistment. The maximum strength of enlisted men is not to be exceeded in any case without authority from headquarters."

**Provost Cells.**—Prisoners sentenced by court martial to imprisonment with or without hard labour for six months, or a longer period, may if the commanding officer thinks fit, be committed to the civil prison of the locality in which court martial upon such prisoner has been held, for the whole or any part of such term of imprisonment.

### No. 2.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1887.

**Royal Schools of Military Instruction—Discipline.**—The following has been added as sub-section (2) to paragraph 1042 of the Regulations and Orders, 1887:—

"(2) Commandants may, in cases of necessity, grant permission to attached officers, non-commissioned officers and men, whose regimental debts have been paid, to leave the school before the termination of their course, but in such cases no return transport will be issued."

**Certificates—Officers—Long Course.**—The following has been substituted for sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 1076, Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887:—

"(3) "Long Course" grade "A," certificates will be signed by both the commandant of the Royal Military College, and of the School of Military Instruction. If the minimum number of marks, *seven tenths*, for a first class is not obtained at each institution, the certificate will be of the class represented by the lowest number of qualifying marks obtained at either.

**Honours and Salutes—Guards, etc.**—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 497, Regulations and Orders, 1887:—

"(2) When an escort of cavalry is detailed, it will consist of the combatant officers and the mounted non-commissioned officers and men present, who belong to the troop ordered to furnish the escort."

**Honours at Military Funerals.**—The following has been added to paragraph 488, Regulations and Orders, 1887, in sixth line, immediately after the word "admit":—

"This permission also applies in instances when a corps desires to pay this honour to a former commanding officer, whose name is on the retired list."

**Care of Arms and Equipment.**—Adverting to paragraph 309 Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887, add to first line, "or otherwise," after the words "by fire"; and, to sub-paragraph (?) of same paragraph 309, add at end of second line, "or injured," after the words "so destroyed."

**Organization—Officers.**—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 60 of Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887:—

"(2) When an officer accepts a non-combatant appointment he will cease to retain any rank or precedence previously held; but if at the time of such appointment his rank was that of captain (provisional or substantive) service in that or higher rank will be allowed to count towards the ten years for honorary rank of major."

**Memo.**—It is to be understood that when an officer holding "provisional" rank, which from its nature is only "temporary," has accepted a non-combatant appointment, his provisional rank ceased from date of such appointment.

### No. 3.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

**6th Regt. of Cav.**—No. 1 Troop.—To be lieutenant, prov., Trooper Alton Fergus Clerk (M.S., 2nd), vice Hall, resigned.

**Regt. of Canadian Art.**—To be lieutenant, from 27th December, 1887: Frederic Mondelet Gaudet, R.M.C. (formerly a lieutenant in the militia). Lieut. Gaudet has been detailed for duty with "C" Battery, until further orders.

Lieut. O. C. C. Pelletier, R.S.A., Regiment of Canadian Artillery, has been confirmed in his rank, dating from 10th June, 1887:

**Toronto F. B. Art.**—To be Surgeon, John Ephraim Elliott, M.D., vice Bigelow.

**2nd Batt.**—To be Captain, Lieut. H. V. Greene, V. B., vice Thomas Brown, deceased.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant, James Ince, S.I., vice Greene, promoted.

To be 2nd lieutenants, prov., Private Thomas Cowper Robinette, vice Morphy, promoted.

Private Theobald Coleman, vice Mickle, promoted.

**7th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Morris Ashburst Dillon, vice N. P. Graydon, who resigns.

No. 5 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., George Hudson Wilson, vice Dillon, promoted.

No. 6 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Samuel Martin Fraser, vice G. W. Danks, who resigns.

No. 7 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Theophilus V. Hutchinson, vice R. D. B. Nicholson, who resigns.

**9th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be captain, Captain Elzéar Garneau, M.S., from No. 4 Co., vice L. E. Frenette, appointed Quartermaster in Infantry School Corps.

No. 4 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. George Amédé Labranche, M.S., vice Garneau transferred to No. 1 Co.

**12th Batt.**—No. 4 Co.—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant, J. A. W. Allan, R. S. I., vice Ashworth, promoted.

No. 6 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Private George McSpadden, vice Booth.  
To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Private Francis W. Brown, vice John McConnell who resigns.

**30th Batt.**—No. 9 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Fordyce Luke Thompson, vice W. J. Thompson, promoted.

**33rd Batt.**—No. 5 Co.—The headquarters of this company are changed from "Ainleyville" to "Brussels."

Quartermaster Joseph Beck, having the relative rank of captain, to have the honorary rank of captain.

**35th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. A. H. O'Brien, S.I., vice H. E. McKee, who resigns.

**39th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—2nd Lieut. H. A. Carter having left limits his name is removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

No. 5 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Abram Nelles Dunscombe, vice Robert Merritt, deceased.

**42nd Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Arthur Brooker McClean, vice Hutcheson, retired.

No. 5 Co.—The headquarters of this company are changed from "Lanark" to "Renfrew."

To be Assistant-Surgeon, Robert Nelson Horton, vice Lynch, promoted.

**44th Batt.**—Captain and Adjutant John Brennan retires retaining his rank of captain.

**54th Batt.**—A badge and motto of which the following is a description has been authorized to be used by this battalion; on the understanding that any expense incurred in procuring badges, etc., is not to be made a charge against the Government:—

Badge:—Shield arg., bearing a cross sa.,—with figures 54 in centre—between four Cornish choughs ppr.; surmounted by a Ducal Coronet, or, a chough rising ppr. Motto:—"Steady." The whole surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves with beaver.

To be major, Captain E. G. Morey (N. C. O., Rifle Brigade), from No. 4 Co., vice Geo. Williamson who retires retaining rank.

No. 1 Co.—To be captain, prov., Clarence Chester Cleveland, vice Wm. Thorburn who retires retaining rank.

No. 4 Co.—To be captain, 2nd Lieut. C. H. Stevens, S.I., vice Morey, promoted.

To be lieutenant, prov., Michael Henry Healy, vice Newton Vosburg who retires retaining rank.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Michael James Bowles, vice Stevens, promoted.

**64th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Joseph Israel Thoinout, vice Bonhomme, promoted.

**67th Batt.**—No. 8 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Edwin Wallace Bell (R.S.I., 2nd B), vice Perkins, promoted.

2nd Lieut. W. H. Wiggins having left limits his name is removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

**74th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—Adverting to No. 4 of G. O. (3) 3rd February, 1888, omit "2nd" in the appointment of Lieut. Watson.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., James Havelock Dunlop, vice McFee, resigned.

**75th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., William Trider Lindsay, vice Coldwell, appointed paymaster.

No. 2 Co.—The resignation of Capt. Thomas Curll is accepted.

No. 3 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., William Leonard Romkey, vice Parker, resigned.

No. 4 Co.—The resignations of Lieut. Charles Andrews and 2nd Lieut. H. S. Lane are accepted.

No. 6 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., from 8th February, 1888. Sergt. A. M. Ross, vice Isaac J. Roast deceased.

To be Assistant-Surgeon, George Allan Pickels, vice Jacobs, promoted.

**78th Batt.**—No. 4 Co.—That portion of No. 4 of G. O. (15) 16th September, 1887, in which Lieut. Clarence H. Dimock is removed from the list of officers, is cancelled.

#### CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Lieut. Alex. Servos, R.S.C., No. 6 Troop, 2nd Regiment Cavalry; from 27th February, 1888.

2nd Lieut. Andrew H. D. W. Breakey, R.S.C., Queen's Own Canadian Hussars; from 27th February, 1888.

### No. 4.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

RANK, NAME AND CORPS.	Royal School.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of Marks obtained		
					Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
Lieut. A. Servos, 2nd Regiment Cavalry	Cav	1	Sp.	A	70	70	70
2nd Lieut. A. H. D. W. Breakey, Q. O. Can. Hussars	do	2	S	A	62	70	67
Lieut. O. C. C. Pelletier, Regiment Canadian Artillery	Art R.M.C.	2	L	A	76	86	80
					.....	.....	66

**Military Qualification.**—Arthur Louis Crawford and James Alexander Gunn, former gentlemen cadets, Royal Military College.

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

**Galt Collegiate Institute Drill Co.**—To act as captain, acting 2nd Lieut. John H. Ratz, vice Thomas Cranston left the institute.

To act as lieutenant, Private John Goldie, vice John H. Clary left the institute.

To act as 2nd Lieut. Private James B. Rose, vice Ratz, promoted.

# GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

## How Artillery Fire has been affected by the Improved Sights.

The Prince of Wales' Rifles celebrate in Honour of H. R. H. Silver Wedding Anniversary—Activity in the 54th Battalion—Annual Meeting of the 26th—Canada in England—Miscellaneous Notes.

AT the first levee of the year, held by His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, at London on the 22nd February, the Canadian militia had a representative in the person of Capt. Greville Harston, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers. Each officer present had a private audience with His Royal Highness.

The annual meeting of the officers of the 26th battalion was held at London last week, those present being Lt.-Col. English, Majors Irvine and Choate (adjutant), Capt. Buchanan, Deane, Matthews, Robson, Stevenson (paymaster), Lieuts. Rice, McEwen, Taylor and Robson. A satisfactory annual report was presented. The band committee were re-elected. Major Irwin, Major Choate and Capt. Dreaney were appointed to wait on the county council, with the Colonel, in regard to the annual grant from that body. After discussing financial subjects for a short time, the meeting adjourned for two weeks.

His Excellency the Governor-General attended by invitation at a dinner given by the officers of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, at the Ottawa drill hall, on Wednesday evening, 14th inst. Several officers in the city in connection with the D. R. A. meeting, and others on parliamentary duties, were included in the list of guests.

### Montreal.

THE Prince of Wales Rifles gave a grand ball at the Windsor Hotel on Friday night, in honor of the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, which took place March 9th, 1863. Says the *Star*: The ball was one of the most brilliant witnessed in Montreal, the many hued uniforms, the handsome costumes of the ladies, and the military decorations making a *tout ensemble* of a most striking character. At the end of the room in the centre of the ladies' gallery an arch of bayonets was constructed, illuminated by many gas jets, which produced a dazzling effect on the steel arms. At the base of the arch, stars, also formed of bayonets, surrounded the initial letter of the names of the Prince and Princess—Albert and Alexandra. The Royal cipher surmounted the Prince of Wales' feathers and the motto "Ich Dien." Trophies of arms were also placed around the walls, and these bore the names of the children of the Prince, Edward, Frederick, George, Helena, Alexandra, Beatrice, Charlotte, Dagmar. The motto of the regiment, "Nulli Secundus," was also displayed. The decorations of the ball-room were greatly admired, and were very fine. The guests numbered about 800. On their arrival they were received by Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Bond, and dancing commenced about ten o'clock. The quadrille of honour was formed by Sir Fred. Middleton, the colonels of the city corps, and their wives and lady friends. Supper was served at midnight, in the ladies' ordinary.

On Saturday the following messages were exchanged:

From Lieut.-Col. Bond to the Prince of Wales:

"The officers and ex-officers of the First Battalion Prince Wales' Regiment, assembled to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Your Royal Highness' marriage, respectfully beg to congratulate Your Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales."

From the Prince of Wales to Lieut.-Col. Frank Bond:

"Princess and I thank officers and ex-officers of regiment sincerely for kind congratulations."

A detachment of a hundred men from the Prince of Wales' Rifles, commanded by Major Cook, and the Montreal Field Battery, under command of Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, marched to the summit of Mount Royal Saturday afternoon and there fired a royal salute in honour of the anniversary.

### AT THE VICS' ARMOURY.

The Victoria Rifles have commenced the annual drill by half battalions, and hard work will for a time be the order of the day. When the season is sufficiently advanced to permit of open air drills the regiment will be well up in company movements and the manual and firing exercises. A great many hope it will make its first spring appearance in the new service caps, for the purchase of which the men are generally willing to subscribe in full.

The spoon competition in the shooting gallery have been brought to a close, the sixth and last of the lot having been won by Corpl. Kough, P. W. Rifles, with 46 points. The aggregates of best four scores out of six matches were taken as follows:

1. Lieut. Desbarats, Vics, ..... 179 points.
2. Mr. Geo. Cooke ..... 173 "
3. Staff-Sergt. Shaw ..... 172 "
4. Sergt.-Major Rodden ..... 172 "
5. Staff-Sergt. Brocklesby ..... 170 "

The green aggregate, best three scores out of the six, was won by Pte. Hutchison, with 121 points.

The M. G. A. entertainment at the academy, in aid of the Victoria Rifles' Armoury fund, was simply an immense success. For the deserved commendations on those who took parts in the comedy itself, I must refer to the local press reports, but the enthusiastic reception accorded to the detachments from the different city corps in the march past was grand. The following corps had squads of some 15 men each: No. 1 Troop Cavalry, the Field Battery, the M. G. A., the Prince of Wales' Rifles, the Victoria Rifles, the 5th Royal Scots and the 6th Fusiliers, each detachment taking in an officer and a sergeant, the whole led by the M. G. A. band, and under the command of Major Atkinson. The Academy was literally packed from the front chairs to the upper gallery.

BUSBY.

### Toronto.

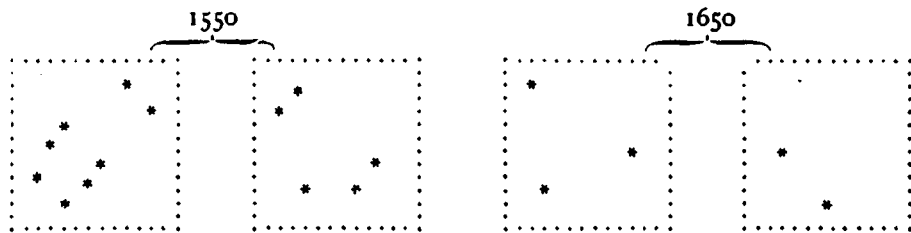
RURAL and I may not agree as to the justness of the grants made by the government to various associations, but I think we are united on the following extract if applied to the Canadian militia: "The truth is the different arms of the service are not sufficiently closely united; they fail to perceive that each only exists for the other, and that the efficiency of an army is measured by the *product*, not the sum, of the *efficiency of each arm*."

### SERVICE VS. IMPROVED SIGHTS FOR ARTILLERY.

The Ontario Artillery Association has taken upon itself to say that, under the present circumstances, it is in favour of firing with the service sight of the 9 pr. as against Scott's improved sight. The association virtually says that unless each battery has a Scott sight to practise laying with, they can hit the target oftener with the old sight.

A friend of mine—a gunner—has "loaded" me up with the many virtues of this new sight. He says "you don't lose command over the axis of the piece, no matter how the gun wheels may be, your deflection is not guess work, and then, how many men will, when under fire, accurately multiply something by the difference of something else and divide by another thing and then scratch their heads to find out what they really have to do?" I couldn't follow this gunner in all his sayings, but I presume he has something in his argument, as the following diagrams of targets will show. I was, in fact, in the same position the men were when asked to fire with it.

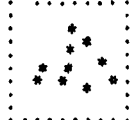
These taggets are 6 feet square—fired at by two steady batteries over the same range, and by very nearly the same men. The range was in the first instance 1550 yards, and in the second 1650 yards. The service sight was used at the first pair of targets, and Scott's sight at the second.



Thirteen hits out of 68 shots at 1550 yards with the service sight, and five out of 64 shots at 1650 yards with Scott's sight.

The new sight is a very good one, but to expect good results from one sight for ten batteries is like trying to teach a man the "manual and firing" without a rifle.

### ACCURACY OF FUTURE ARTILLERY FIRE.



He also gave me an example of the accuracy of fire to be expected from the new English breech-loading guns. Ten rounds were fired by one man at a 3 feet square target, distance 1,000 yards, with the result shown in the diagram here printed:

He further says that the last Militia Report and its predecessors have been advocating—it always advocates, but never gets further—the issuing of Morris tubes to the Infantry Schools. "Really," he said, "we would almost think that the other schools required nothing similar. There is a Morris tube for field ordnance, being a rifle barrel attachment to a gun, aim being taken with the ordinary sights of the piece." These tubes, he considers, ought to be supplied to the artillery schools without delay.

LINCH-PIN.

The annual sleigh drive of G Co., Q.O.R., took place on Friday evening, 9th inst. The start was to have been from the usual rendezvous, the drill shed, but the "sleigh drive" on this occasion was on wheels. For an hour two brakes carried some fifty members of the company in a circuitous drive around the city and landed the precious freight safe and sound at the Albany Club, Bay street. Here an excellent supper was provided, the long drive having a decidedly appetizing effect on all who enjoyed it. Supper was served up in capital style, Capt. Bennett presiding. About sixty members of G company sat down to table, the head of which was occupied by Col. Otter, Col. Allan, Capt. Macdougall, Mr. Sears, Infantry School; Capt. Fahey, Capt. McGee, Capt. McDonald, Lieuts. Hicks, McLeod, Nelson, Brock and Mickle. The non-commissioned officers' staff was fully represented. After dinner the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and heartily responded to.—*Empire*.

### Richmond.

THE officers of the 54th Richmond Battalion, with the assistance of their lady friends, are at present preparing for an entertainment to be given in Richmond after Easter. The operetta of "Trial by Jury," and the farce of "Advice Gratis" are the pieces selected. The funds are to be devoted to the establishment of a regimental fund.

It is hoped that the colours for the battalion will be ready for presentation at the annual camp this year, when the 54th are likely to be one of the corps out for training.

C. C. Cleveland, of Danville, has accepted the command and taken over the stores of No. 1 Co. The accession of this gentleman to the regiment is hailed with joy.

The rural corps especially ought to be encouraged to do all the rifle shooting possible. They have not the same chance of drilling as the city corps, but far better opportunities of becoming good shots. Twenty rounds per man issued for practice at company headquarters, would do more good than twice the quantity fooled away at camp.

The 54th are well off as regards ranges. At headquarters at Richmond they have a fine range up to 600 yards. No. 1 Co., Danville, has kept up practice all winter and has some excellent shots, viz: Capt. "Perk" Cleveland, our popular quartermaster, his son, Quartermaster Sergt. Cleveland, and Hospital Sergt. Shaw. No. 5 Co., Durham, has an excellent range to 600 yds., and No. 6 Co., Kirkdale has just got its targets up on a fine ground, where up to 1,000 yards and over can be had when we get the Martini-Henry's.

All in authority seem to agree that the chief end of the militia is their becoming good shots. What is done to encourage them? Echo sends back a very emphatic "nothing"!

L.IV.

The Council of the United Service Institution of India have decided to confer their next gold medal upon the writer of the best essay on "Infantry Tactics of the Future; and Changes involved by the Introduction of Repeating or Magazine Rifles and Magazine Guns."



## DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

### Transactions of the Annual Business Meeting held this Week.

Practical Address from the Governor-General—And a generous parting gift—  
The Quebec Cartridge Factory criticised—Range Accommodation  
discussed—General Business.

THE annual meeting of the men who direct the business affairs of the Dominion Rifle Association was held on Wednesday, 14th inst., in the railway committee room of the House of Commons. Owing to the snow blockade on the railways, the attendance of members from a distance was small, the Western men being altogether unrepresented. The president, Lieut.-Col. Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick, M.P., occupied the chair, and on his right sat His Excellency the Governor-General. Amongst others present were Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, and his deputy, Col. Panet; Lieut.-Gen. Middleton; Major-Gen. Laurie, M.P.; Lieut.-Cols. O'Brien, M.P.; Denison, M.P.; Tyrwhitt, M.P.; Brosseau; Irwin, Inspector of Artillery; Lamontagne, D.A.G.; Lewis, B.-M.; H. Smith; Scoble; John Macpherson, Treasurer; Bacon, Secretary; Macdonald; Fraser; White; Ross, and Walker; Majors Prior, M.P.; Blaiklock, Bond, Tilton, Perley, Walsh, and Anderson; Capts. Hood, Newton, Sherwood, and Wright; Lieuts. Chambers and Gray; and besides these officers, Senator Girard, Mr. Ward, M.P., C. H. Tupper, M.P., Kenny, M.P., Adam Brown, M.P., E. D. Sutherland, J. W. de C. O'Grady, J. D. Taylor, and a few other members.

In presenting the annual report, the contents of which have already been published, the chairman referred with regret to the fact that this was the last meeting at which the association would have with them their generous patron Lord Lansdowne. He announced that, supplementing his handsome annual donation of \$500, His Excellency had just added a parting gift of \$250, which Col. Kirkpatrick suggested should be invested in a special trophy to be known as the Lansdowne cup, and to be competed for annually in a special match to be known as the Lansdowne match, so that the present and future rifleman might have reason to remember the liberal-hearted donor.

Major-Gen. Laurie seconded the motion to adopt the report, which was carried.

Sir Adolphe Caron moved a resolution of thanks to His Excellency for his generous gifts, and for his attendance at the meeting. The motion was seconded by Major Prior, M.P., and carried amidst applause, renewed when Lord Lansdowne rose to reply.

#### THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S REMARKS.

"It has been a great pleasure to me," he said, "to be officially connected during my residence in this country with the Dominion Rifle Association, and I am glad upon this, the last occasion when I am likely to take a part in the transaction of its business, to bear my emphatic testimony to its public usefulness." Having referred to the satisfactory report presented, he continued: "I am bound to say that I am struck, in reading the report, by the comparative smallness of the number of names enrolled in the list of your ordinary subscribers.

"An association like yours, fulfilling a great public object, has a right to expect the general support of all classes of your citizens, and considering the insignificant amount of the subscription invited, it certainly appears to me that you might reasonably expect a very much larger number of contributors than the few who now figure upon your list. My experience of these matters leads me to believe that support of this kind is generally not forthcoming unless those who are interested in the matter make up their minds to exert a certain amount of pressure—I would almost say persecution—upon their friends, in order to induce them to come forward, and I cannot help thinking that there is a good deal to be done in that direction."

After speaking of the work of the past year, including the successes at Wimbledon, His Excellency continued: "In regard to the general objects which the association should keep in view, I will not take upon myself to do more than emphasize what has been so often said by others in this connection, namely: that considering the conditions of military service in this country, and the position occupied by this association in relation to the Canadian militia, it should be our object not so much to educate and encourage a small number of crack shots and prize winners, as to diffuse efficiency in shooting as widely as possible throughout the whole militia force. That an effort in this direction is called for, must, I think, be obvious to anyone who has taken the trouble to read the report of Gen. Sir F. Middleton upon the militia for last year."

In conclusion, Lord Lansdowne expressed his regret that he would be unable to again meet with the association, but added that his successor

might be expected to approach its affairs with the advantage of having been himself a soldier, and of having held the high office of Secretary of State for War in England.

His Excellency's address throughout was practical and sensible, and was thoroughly appreciated by the riflemen.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the Minister of Militia, and to thy various contributors towards the price list.

#### THE QUEBEC CARTRIDGE FACTORY.

In replying, the Minister of Militia referred to a statement made by Major Bond concerning the Quebec cartridge factory, and expressed the hope that some member would bring up the subject in the House of Commons, so that an opportunity for investigation might be offered.

Major Bond had, at an early stage of the meeting, speaking on the motion to adopt the report, referred to the complaints made about the Snider ammunition, at the competitors meeting last summer. He quoted the statement there denied that the cartridges were filled by little boys and girls, and in connection with this denial he read from the report of evidence taken lately before the Labour Commission at Quebec. In this sworn testimony it appeared that one Geo. Robitaille had informed the commission that the machinery at the factory was defective and therefore good cartridges could not be made, and that also since the establishment of the factory no less than six children, twelve or thirteen years of age, had parts of their hands mutilated or destroyed through accidents with the machinery. Referring to the prevalent dissatisfaction with the working of this establishment he said he had come to the conclusion that the officer in charge there had impaired its efficiency by hedging himself about with theoretical tests, and refusing to accept advice from any quarter. Major Bond took this opportunity to appeal to the Minister of Militia, his Deputy, the General Commanding, the President of the Association, and the other Members of Parliament present, that if it continued to be necessary to use Snider cartridges these should be sound ones; and, further, that they should not be stained with the blood of children.

The matter had been disposed of then by a statement of the chairman that it was not one for the Association or the Council, but for the Government.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

His Excellency the Governor-General moved, the election of officers being in order, that Lieut.-Col. Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick, M.P., be re-elected. In doing so, he paid the president a series of graceful compliments, and made a neat reference to the apparent intimate connection between the occupancy of the Speaker's chair in the House of Commons and the presidency of this association. The motion was seconded by Lieut.-Gen. Middleton and carried.

The other officers elected were all the same as last year, with the exception of a few changes in the Council. Lieut.-Col. Walker, of London, is added to the list for Ontario in place of Lt.-Col. White, Ottawa, who this year is a representative of Nova Scotia, having been chosen by the Provincial Association in place of Hon. J. S. D. Thompson. Capt. Crane, of the 63rd, replaces Lieut.-Col. Murray on the Nova Scotia list, and John A. Mara, M.P., of Kamloops, becomes one of the representatives of British Columbia in place of Dr. Chisholm, M.P.

A vote of thanks to Gen. Middleton having been proposed, that officer in replying, referred to the disposition lately shown in the Imperial service to pay less attention to marching past and saluting and more to teaching the men to fire. He had endeavoured to spread this idea in Canada, for he thought there was no use in teaching men things that no one but a born idiot would think of in war. He wished to make our soldier what he ought to be, a firing animal.

The chairman announced that the General had again made a donation of \$25 to the funds of the Association.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS.

The proceedings at executive committee meetings were, on motion and a vote being taken, ordered to be printed in future in the annual report.

An amendment to the constitution in accordance with notice given, providing for the representation of the North-West Territories on the Council, was adopted.

Major-General Laurie pressed for greater camping accommodation for the Nova Scotia contingent at the prize meetings. In this connection Mr. J. W. de C. O'Grady drew attention to the want of target accommodation, and claimed that the range would not permit of further enlargement.

In answer to Lieut.-Col. Scoble, it was stated by Lieut.-Col. White that no audience had taken place between representatives of the association and the Government with respect to the suggestion of the competitors meeting, that Martini rifles should be issued to the force in place of Sniders.

Lieut.-Col. Bacon moved, seconded by Major Prior, that the thanks of the Association be tendered the C. P. R. for former favours, and that the secretary be requested to ask for reduced rates on behalf of the British Columbia team, at the annual competition of the Association.

#### THE COUNCIL MEETING.

At a regular meeting of the Council held in the afternoon the executive committee, treasurer, secretary and auditors were re-elected.

Major Anderson having introduced the subject of want of target accommodation at the present range, after discussion a committee consisting of Major-General Laurie, Majors Perley, Anderson, Blaiklock and Tilton were appointed to inquire into and report upon the matter. Major Tilton to be chairman.

#### THE RIFLE QUESTION.

Mr. E. D. Sutherland drew the attention of the Council to the fact that the meeting of the competitors last year and the year before the inutility of the Snider-Enfield beyond the 500 yard range had been discussed. He read the following resolution unanimously carried at the last meeting: "Resolved, that the Executive Committee be recommended to abolish the use of the Snider at ranges over 500 yards, and that the Martini-Henry be substituted." In conclusion he moved that the executive should take steps to give effect to this resolution.

The motion was lost on division, the argument against it being that such a decision would interfere with matches at more than one range—for instance the Macdougall cup match has, it is claimed, to be fired at 400 and 600 yards, according to the conditions upon which the cup was given.

Major Bloiklock brought up the ammunition question, and freely criticised the management of the Quebec factory. He was followed, on the same subject, by Capt. Sims, Major Perley and Major Bond, but no action was taken.

#### Ontario Rifle Association.

Annual Meeting of the Council—The Toronto Range—Team shooting recommendations thrown out.

[From The Empire.]

THE annual meeting of the Council of the Ontario Rifle Association was held at the Rossin house on Saturday 10th inst. The new president of the association, Mr. Wm. Mulock, M.P., occupied the chair. There were present: Capt. Mutton, secretary; Col. Gzowski, A.D.C.; Lieut.-Col. Otter, D. A. G.; Lieut.-Col. Alger, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, 13th; Major Dunn, G.G.B.G.; Major J. J. Mason, 13th; Lieut.-Col. Deacon, 45th; Lieut.-Col. Allan, Q.O.R.; Capts. J. Bruce, Royal Grenadiers; W. M. Cooper, 12th; J. B. McLean, 31st; Lieut. Lanskail, 12th; Mr. A. Campbell, Owen Sound Rifle Association, and others.

The annual report was submitted and approved of.

A memorial from the city council was read praying that the association take steps for the removal of the rifle ranges to a safer place. Considerable discussion took place on this question. It was generally felt that the city council did not care two straws whether the ranges were moved or not as long as the ground could be secured for use by the Industrial Exhibition Association. The council had evidently not read the report of the Court of Enquiry with Major-General Middleton's recommendations. These were in effect that a row of buoys should be placed in the lake outside the extreme line where bullets would strike. All boats would have to keep to the outside of this line. In addition to the buoys a look-out party should be stationed below the bank on the shore to warn off any boats that might be seen approaching the line of fire. The association will likely adopt these recommendations.

It was decided to receive a deputation on the matter, composed of Mayor Clarke, Ald. John McMillan, Ald. Piper, Messrs. Withrow, Rennie, and Staunton and Mr. J. K. McDonald. Mayor Clarke introduced his deputation, and Ald. McMillan stated their case. He pointed out that the rifle practice as at present conducted was very dangerous to the lives of the citizens. The city was very anxious to do all that could be done for the volunteer force, and they had in consequence obtained the refusal of two hundred acres of land within a hundred yards of Port Credit station, on which an excellent range could be found. The city would spend about \$25,000 in purchasing and preparing it for the use of the association. He stated that it was about thirteen miles from Toronto, and return train tickets could be obtained at 25 cents. Mr. Withrow admitted that he wanted the land now held by the association for Industrial Exhibition purposes.

After the deputation withdrew the matter was thoroughly discussed. A desire was expressed by all to what was best in the public interests. On motion of Lieut.-Col. Gibson it was decided:

"That having read the memorial from the council of the city of Toronto on the subject of the removal of the ranges, and heard the representations made by the deputations from the city council and the Industrial and Arts Association, this council is of the opinion that the allegations in the memorial are in many respects not in accordance with the facts, in which view the council is supported by the report of the

Court of Enquiry appointed by the Militia Department. But in view of the offer made by the deputation to provide ranges at Port Credit, a committee be appointed to report at a future meeting of the council. And that in connection with the extension of certain privileges to the Industrial Exhibition Association, the secretary be instructed to remind the association that no answer had been given to the letter of 17th May, 1887, addressed to the city clerk on that subject."

After the usual committees had been appointed the council decided to give a bronze medal to each of the members of the teams which won the Provincial match last year and some years ago.

The recommendations from the association were then taken up. The proposal to reduce the number of men composing a battalion team in the Tait-Brassey match from eight to five was put to a vote and lost. So likewise was the proposal that the number of teams each battalion could enter be unlimited. It was decided to postpone consideration of the question of the time of holding the annual meeting until next meeting. The proposal to count the first stage of the Gibson match in the aggregate was not agreed to.

After deciding that in future better arrangements would be made for the accommodation of the press representatives the council adjourned.

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MRS. JAMES BURNS of 18 Division St., Toronto, writes that her daughter was given up to die, by the best medical men in the city, from Bright's Disease of the Kidneys, but that Warner's Safe Cure not only saved her life but restored her to health.

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W. J. HAMILTON, of Amherst, Nova Scotia, was cured of hemorrhage of the kidneys after doctors failed to cure him and the last dying rites of the church had been given him.

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## THE Canadian Militia Gazette

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

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J. D. TAYLOR, MANAGER.

Subscription Price, payable in Advance, \$1.50 a Year.

The Canadian Militia Gazette is the recognized organ of the Active Force of the Dominion. It is the only Military publication in Canada.

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Correspondence on topics of interest to the Militia is invited. To ensure insertion of any communication the name and address of the writer must be forwarded with it. No name so communicated will be published without consent.

### REGIMENTAL NEWS.

It is our desire to record all events of general interest transpiring in connection with each and every corps in the Dominion. That we may be kept posted, officers are respectfully requested to interest themselves in seeing that the news of their respective corps shall be forwarded to the MILITIA GAZETTE—if possible by some person chosen by them as regular correspondent.

Adjutants will greatly oblige by forwarding copies of regimental orders, especially those relating to promotions or transfers of non-commissioned officers and officers.

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" 10, " " 20	10c.
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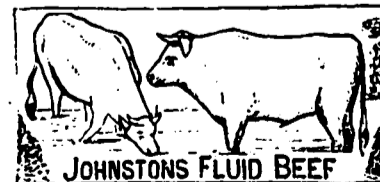
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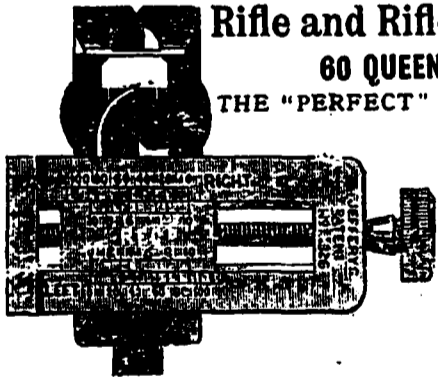
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