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THE CANADIAN

Military Gazette

Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.

VOL. XI.
No. 1.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 1, 1896.

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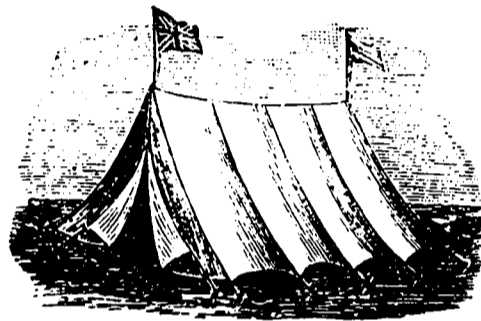
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MONTREAL, JANUARY 1, 1896.

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News of the Service.

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

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE

P.O. Box, 2179, Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N.S.

On December 9th Major and Adjutant Oxley, H.G.A., delivered a very instructive and interesting lecture entitled "Modern Ordnance and its Construction," to the officers of the City Brigade of Militia. The lecturer carried his audience back to the eighth century, describing the ordnance then in use by the Chinese, and continued by following up and explaining the many improvements and changes which has taken place in artillery weapons since that time. Major Oxley had a perfect grasp of his subject and seemed quite at home describing the construction and uses of the monster guns of the present day. He exhibited splendid drawings of the following guns 54pr. converted 58cwt, 7 inch 7 tons, 9 inch 12 tons, and 10 inch 18 tons R.M.L. guns, and the drawings spoke well for the major's ability as an artist. The attendance of officers of the 63rd and 66th Battalions was not as great as it would have been had the lecture taken place at the time originally notified. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed and passed unanimously. The D.A.G., Col. Curren, H.G.A., Col. Egan 63rd, Majors Garrison, Maxwell and Stewart, H.G.A., in neat speeches acknowledged their thanks to Major Oxley for the great pains he took in preparing and delivering such a valuable lecture on so difficult and scientific a subject. There were congratulations of another nature also offered to the lecturer, viz., the appearance upon the scene of "A Young Major and Adjutant" who reported himself on the 6th ult. At the request of the commanding and other officers H.G.A.,

Major Oxley repeated his lecture to the U.C.O's and Gunners on the 16th ult., they appreciated the very valuable instruction imparted to them, and expressed their desire to soon hear another lecture from him. If you have any "Grindstones" knocking around your barn send them down this way, we have plenty use for them.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

Toronto.

The 48th Highlanders are about to lose the services of their bandmaster, Mr. Griffin, whose term of service has expired and who returns to the old country at an early date.

While not succeeding in making his band the best in the city, Mr. Griffin did very good work with the raw material placed in his hands some three years ago, and leaves the 48th in possession of a good parade band.

The band committee have several names under consideration, and perhaps before this article appears will have reached a decision and engaged a new bandmaster.

The bowling alleys in the drill hall, at least those allotted to the Grenadiers and Highlanders, are now in constant use, and exceedingly popular with the N. C. O's and men of these regiments.

The officers of the 48th have turned the charge of their alley over to the sergeants' mess and the decision seems so far to prove a wise one.

They have a member of the mess on duty each week night, and by a system of tickets resembling the early street car ticket (eight for a quarter) enable the members of the 48th to enjoy a game, cheaper than any club in town.

The Grenadiers have not yet completed their system of control as yet, while as for the Queen's Own, their alleys have not yet been opened for use by members of that regiment.

Some kindly disposed person should give the commanding officer of the Queens a gentle hint that these alleys are really handed over to his regiment, and that members of the Queen's Own would much rather play on their own alleys, that

trespass any longer on the good nature of the Grens and Kilties.

The Grenadiers have issued a very handsome Xmas card conveying the compliments of Lt.-Col. Mason and officers of the regiment.

Classes for those desiring to qualify as N. C. O's are held by the Queen's Own and Highlanders on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights in each week.

Examinations were conducted on Monday evening by Captains Mason, Mercer and Gunther of the Queen's Own with the class qualifying for sergeants.

The class of those desiring to qualify as corporals in the Q.O.R. was abnormally large at the outset, but is fast dwindling. It was the largest class the regiment has had for a long time, but in physique and appearance ranks lower than any they ever had.

There are quite a few complaints at the physique of some of the recruits and men attending the non-com class, and some say it is directly attributable to the policy in vogue this last three years of laxity, in recruiting so as to ensure large parades above all other considerations. This may be, in some minds, a good policy, but its effect in the Queen's Own is nothing short of suicidal.

Several companies of the Q.O.R. have been entertained by their respective sergeants at the Sergeants Mess Rooms, since the end of the fall drill. The idea has proved a very popular one, and as a means of fraternizing and making each member of the company acquainted all around, has turned out quite a success. "C," "D" and "I" companies have been entertained so far.

F Co. Q.O.R. have started the ball rolling in the way of company dinners, having given their annual dinner at the Grand Union Hotel on Friday evening, the 13th Dec.

The affair was conducted by the right half company and proved most successful. The toast list comprised "The Queen" "Our Regiment" "Our Guests," and "The Ladies," and the invited guests were Major Delaniere, Major Pellatt, Lieuts Wyatt and Crean.

To those who frequented the drill hall during the last drill season, the uniform of the Royal Engineers was very much in evidence, and to those attached to the different regiments the first appearance of this uniform created quite a consternation, as visions of snap inspections of anything or everything crowded through the brains of those whom these things would most directly concern.

No doubt the intimation that the party wearing this uniform, was doing so without any reason, never having served in any part of the Royal Engineers, will cause just as great a surprise, but I am creditably informed such is the case and the easiness with which the "military" of Toronto was impressed is gradually dawning on some with great vividness.

The last Gazette contains the transfer of Capt. C. C. Bennett of the Queen's Own to the British Columbia Brigade of G. A., and of Lieut. R. F. Matheson to the Gov. Gen.'s Foot Guard.

Thus the string increases and they can count their offspring in all quarters of the land; aye, and there are some now holding high rank in the American National Guards whose first soldiering was in the ranks of the Q.O.R.

The sergeants of the Q.O.R. have published a very handsome booklet, containing photographs of the different rooms of their mess. The troubles that have come over them does not seem to have diminished their desire to make their mess second to none, and judging from the appearance, as described by the camera, they are ably sustaining the splendid reputation they have enjoyed so long, and which has reflected so creditably on the regiment with which they have been connected.

Quebec.

QUEBEC, 24th December, 1895.

The military school which opened here on the 9th inst., closed for the holidays on the 20th inst., and will resume duty again on the 7th prox. Some excellent work has been done already and the result will prove very beneficial to those in attendance. The school opens at 7:30 for five evenings in the week; the first one and a half hours is devoted to drill instruction in two divisions, one in charge of Sergt-Instructor Bridgeford and the other in charge of Co-Sergt-Major Reinbault, one at each end of the drill hall, the balance of the evening being taken up by lectures given by the Adjutant Captain T. Benson, R.C.A. Lieut-Col. T. J. Duchesnay, D.A.G., manifests great interest in the school and is invariably to be seen in attendance.

The following officers have so far attended the school: from the 8th Bn Royal Rifles: Second Lieuts. W. H. Davidson, E. R. Hale, W. S. Champion, T. W. S. Dunn, R. J. Davidson and J. J. Sharples; from the 9th Bn: Captains E. Pennee, L. F. Pinault and L. Stein; Lieut. J. V. Dupuis; Second Lieuts, C. H. Valin, P. Ferland, E. Joncas, Garant and Levas-

seur; from the 87th Bn, Second Lieuts, F. A. O'Farrell, J. Livermois, A. de L. Panet and E. DeBlois; from the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, Capt. R. E. W. Turner. It is expected that when the class has made further progress and take up battalion drill that the above number will be increased by an additional number of officers.

Lieut-Col. C. E. Montzambert was absent for a few days on an inspection tour in New Brunswick.

The 8th Bn Royal Rifles will shortly lose the services of Captain O. B. C. Richardson of letter "C" Company. His resignation will be a matter of regret as he is one of the hardest workers in the regiment. An increase of one Lieut. and one Second Lieut. has taken place in the persons of Lieut. H. J. Lamb and Second Lieut. J. J. Sharples, respectively.

The annual turkey matches of the 8th Royal Rifles took place at St. Joseph de Levis on Wednesday the 18th inst. A fair number were in attendance although the weather was very disagreeable. The ranges were: 200, 400, 500 and 600 yards. Matches open to members and ex-members of the regiment. The following is the result:

200 YARDS.		
1st, Private Stobo.....	22	points
2nd, Lieut W H Davidson.....	22	do
3rd, Lieut R J Davidson.....	21	do
400 YARDS.		
1st, Lieut R J Davidson.....	25	do
2nd, Sergt Norton.....	24	do
3rd, Private Douglas.....	24	do
500 YARDS.		
1st, Bandsman Pugh.....	23	do
2nd, Private Douglas.....	21	do
3rd, Private Stobo.....	21	do
600 YARDS.		
1st, Lieut R J Davidson.....	22	do
2nd, Corporal A E Swift.....	21	do
3rd, Sergt Norton.....	21	do
AGGREGATE.		
1st, Private Douglas.....	84	do
2nd, Sergt Norton.....	83	do
3rd, Lieut R J Davidson.....	83	do

Several applications for the position of Chief of Police, which will be vacant in May next, have already been received, among which are a number of well known military men, among others mentioned being that of Major F. L. Lessard, R. C. D., Major Talbot, Captain Fages, R.C.A. and Capt Pennee of the 9th Bn, and Lieut-Col. Hudon.

The annual dinner of the Quebec Garrison Club was held in the early part of the current month and proved an enjoyable affair, presided over by Lieut-Col. T. J. Duchesnay, D.A.G.

PATROL.

It is reported that a large order for new rifles and other war material has been given by the Canadian Government in England. The steamer *Damara*, which arrived at Halifax, brought a quantity of ammunition, but this is said to be part of the regular supply.

Ottawa.

There is no war scare here. Men go and come and attend to their business as usual. The militia department routine is unruffled. Hon. A. R. Dickie, Minister of Militia, set his face from the first against sensation-mongering, and gave an example of tranquility that would have been reassuring if anybody felt panic-struck, which nobody did.

The chances of war have been thoroughly discussed and are estimated at their true value here. Military officers, almost to a man, think no time should be lost in quietly preparing for eventualities. Heavy guns should be got, strategic points fortified, supplies of arms, ammunition and stores laid in, and arrangements completed for transport. Like the United States, Canada finds herself unprepared for a fight. We have men enough, with stout hearts and strong arms, to check the advance of any force the United States could put into the field at short notice, until reinforcements could come over from Britain on the Atlantic side and India on the Pacific. But our field equipment is far from efficient. The whole military system needs a thorough overhauling on the basis of arming, victualling, transporting and maintaining in the field the full strength of Canada's defensive forces.

The *Ottawa Evening Journal* drew public attention to the wisdom of preparations being at once quietly set on foot, the day after Cleveland's war message was issued. The *Hamilton Herald* took a similar view. Later, the *Montreal Star*, *Montreal Herald* and *Charlottetown, P. E.I., Examiner*, joined them in the demand for arming the militia, and making such arrangements as to ensure the country from being caught unawares, and her sons sent to the front without arms in their hands to be shot down like game. The *Journal* has, from the first, insisted on a joint commission of British and Canadian officers to consult on the necessary measures for the adoption of a definite plan of defensive operations. The press throughout the country, whilst unwilling to believe war is possible, is united in standing shoulder to shoulder. The most pithy expression of the kind I have seen is from the *Moncton, N.B., Transcript*, and is worth reproducing as a specimen of the resolute British spirit that has been aroused, and which is ready at any moment to answer the call of duty. "There is no division in British or Canadian sentiment when the empire is wantonly attacked. We are all one! And don't you forget it." As one of the Foot Guards' officers said to me this afternoon: "Our men are ready if the government calls on them"—volumes in a sentence.

There has been considerable said and written here respecting the mode of calling up the militia in the case of a new enrolment, in view of the war message of United States President Cleveland. In connection with this I have before me an interesting document, the "Reserve Mi-

litia Company Roll," Regimental Division, East Riding of Durham. No. 7 Company Division. Limits: the town of Port Hope; taken on January 9, 1871. Captain Brown Wallis was the enumerator for the government. The population of Port Hope in 1871 was given in the Dominion census at 5,114. The following extract from the enrolment, made by Capt. Brown Wallis, commanding that Company Division, will be noted with interest. It was as follows:

No. of 1st class men.....	238
" " 2nd " ".....	61
" " 3rd " ".....	595
" " 4th " ".....	295
Total.....	1189

Of the above there are:

Seamen.....	49
Volunteers.....	192
Exempt men.....	295
Total.....	403

The first-class men are unmarried or widowers without children, 18 years of age but under 30; second-class, same, 30 years of age but under 45; third-class, married or widowers with children 18 years old but under 45; fourth class, same, 45 years old but under 60.

For the opening of parliament next Thursday, Jan. 2nd, the usual military ceremonial will be observed. There will be a guard of honor of the G.G.F.G., with bands, the Governor-General's escort, furnished by the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, and detachments of the Field Battery at Nepean Point to fire the big guns.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards, it is now stated, will not commence their season's drill immediately after New Year's, but in February, when the battalion will meet one night a week. The non-com. class will start regular work at the same time. The prospects are good for a smart season's drill.

As soon as the next snow falls the G.G.F.G. snowshoers will start their tramps for the present winter. These tramps have proved a splendid attraction to the young fellows in the past and are joined by men from every company in the battalion. Even if the tendency is to keep them out of bed later than they ought to be who have to turn out for business at 6 a.m. sharp as most of them do. Better exercise than these tramps cannot be imagined.

Fully a dozen 43rd Battalion men will avail themselves of short courses at the different schools of instruction this season.

The 43rd Battalion non-com. class, under the instruction of Sergt. Major Mahoney, is making very favorable progress.

The high standing of the battalion and prospects of honors seem to have spurred the non-coms. to the keenest possible emulation. There is every prospect of the desire to add two companies to the battalion, long gratified, and this is a further incentive to exertion. The entire battalion is animated by a strong *esprit du corps* and desire to excel.

MILITARY SUPPLIES.

The Department of Militia has awarded contracts for supplies at the stations of the different permanent corps as follows:

Toronto.—Meat, J. Bedingfield; bread, Wm. Carlisle; potatoes and groceries, W. S. Fry; forage, A. Youle; straw, R. H. Graham; coal oil, W. H. Lake.

London.—Meat, A. E. H. Jolliffe; bread, Joseph Johnson; potatoes and groceries, Scandledd Bros.; forage, W. Percival; coal oil, Jas. Wright & Co.

Kingston.—Meat, Henry Warrington; bread, T. R. Carnvosky; groceries, potatoes and coal oil, H. Sharpe; forage and straw, G. Donghue.

The arrival of Major Cantlee, lately commander of the Field Battery at Winnipeg, to take the position of precis writer in the Supreme Court, is gratifying to the older members of the Ottawa Field Battery and to many other citizens. The major held a lieutenancy in the battery previous to his leaving for Winnipeg some eight or ten years ago, and was a decided favorite with his fellow-officers and with the men generally. It is not known whether Major Cantlee will again associate himself with military matters in the city, but he would certainly be a valuable addition to the force should he again fall into line.

And speaking of the old Ottawa Field Battery it may be said that through the efforts of the oldest officers of the corps, Major Woodburn, paymaster, a photograph of Lieut.-Col. Turner, the organizer and first commander of the battery, has been procured and suitably enlarged to hang up in the library-room at the drill hall. There have been four commanders deceased, Major Bliss, at present commanding, being the fifth, and the pictures of all are to occupy positions of honor among the young men now connected with the battery.

The Conquest of Canada.

HALIFAX, December 21st, 1895.

The Editor of the CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
Montreal.

DEAR SIR,—May one who has never hitherto asked space in your pages crave that favour for the purpose of making some suggestions as to the most expeditious and practical way of preparing for the calling out of the whole armed force of the country, which will become necessary should the threatened invasion of our borders by our American cousins go beyond the realm of mere talk.

I leave it to wiser and better informed men, than I claim to be, to discuss the probabilities and the improbabilities of war; suffice it for me to say that, if preparations on the part of this Canada of our be left till that question is settled, "our friends the enemy" will with ease carry out their threat of over-running Canada, whereas, if we make ready in due season, we can I feel sure reduce their progress to a very slow walk, the running being a strategic movement to

the rear. It is certainly very difficult for our minds to grasp the idea that the people across the border, with whom we are and long have been on such intimate terms, both socially and commercially, among whom some million or more of our fellow Canadians are residing in the best of good fellowship, in whose veins flows the same blood, be it Saxon or Celtic, as in our own, are so lost to every sense of right or reason, to every appreciation of the welfare of the two nations and of the world at large, as to declare war against the British Empire, by union with which only they can reach their own highest development of power and influence. The best thinkers in the United States as in Canada and the British Empire are at one in desiring the closest drawing together of the many bonds which unite the two nations, in order to establish one great English-speaking confederation, which will for all time be able to dictate terms to the rest of the world, and make war a thing of the past. Those who, like myself, have been unable to see that there was any ill-will against our empire among the Americans as a whole, and have attributed the utterances of some sections of the American press to a mere pandering to the Irish American vote, have had a rude awakening at last. It is impossible to explain the universal furor of delight which the press across the border hailed the startling message of President Cleveland, as anything else than the voicing forth of a long suppressed national hatred of Britain and all things British. To Britishers, both at home and in the colonies, who, with the exception of a handful of ultra jingoes, have always regarded the sister nation with the friendliest of feelings, such sentiments of hatred on their part are incomprehensible, but of such a state of feeling no doubt can longer exist. The few American papers which have had the courage to differ from the general approval of the message, have done so in a manner which in itself affords the strongest proof of this. They go no further than to show that the Monroe Doctrine does not apply to the Venezuela incident, and that the President's ravings are not justified on that ground, not in one single instance do they pretend to deny the universal hatred of Britain or to try to inculcate a friendly feeling in its place. Given a national hatred, and the smallest incident will fan the spark into the blaze of war. France is not the only nation which goes to war for an idea. It is useless to rely upon the common sense of the educated and thinking Americans. Unfortunately for them they are powerless. The United States, like all republics, where there is universal suffrage, are ruled by their worst elements, the ignorant unthinking mob, and the unanimity displayed in their Congress and Senate shows that this great nation has descended to a depth of childishness pitiable to behold, and only to be equalled by Republican France.

War may be averted, and God grant that it may, but we must not shut our eyes

to the fact that the hostility of the irresponsible and irrepressible mobs across the border may bring it upon us at any moment, right, reason, and common sense to the contrary notwithstanding. War, if far from certain, is at least probable, and its mere possibility is enough to lay upon the loyal people of Canada, who will have the most to suffer, the duty of immediate and thorough preparation. The only military operation which, in view of their feeble navy and their unprotected seaboard, the Americans can undertake, is the conquest of Canada. Twice threatened and attempted, with the result of entire and shameful failure, owing to the nobility and valor of our colonists of those days, their third effort will be a desperate one. We must not forget that our five millions, backed up by all the troops the rest of the empire can spare us, will confront seventy millions of people whom we must not make the mistake of despising. The struggle will be a terrible one, therefore all the more speedy and thorough must be the preparation. Every man in the Dominion, capable of bearing arms, will have to be armed for the fray, and a gigantic undertaking, both as to cost and labor, it will be.

It would ill befit me, as an officer of the active militia, to express my views on the management of the force, and on the defenses of the country. All that I beg leave to do is to make some suggestions as to the organization of the reserve militia.

It should not be lost sight of, that much valuable information for our guidance is to be obtained from a study of the early part of the great civil war in the United States, and the disasters which befell the Federals at the outset, owing to the operation of the very causes which will unquestionably produce similar results with us, unless we move carefully and wisely at the outset. The United States volunteers, who formed the great bulk of their field force, were in character and constitution a force very similar to what our reserve militia would be, if put into the field at once. Nearly all the trained officers of the nation were southerners, and, by their aid, the rebels were able, in a very short time, to put in the field several armies of *soldiers*, whereas the Federals, among whom men and officers alike were totally ignorant of military life, or discipline, were for many months *armed mobs*. Bitter experience alone made soldiers of them. The officers were not selected on account of their fitness, real or imaginary, but on account of their local influence and importance, be it political, social or financial. With us, if we would avoid such disasters as Bull Run, fitness alone must be the principle upon which officers for the reserve militia must be selected, and in the mode by which the relative fitness of candidates is to be decided and ascertained will depend the usefulness of our forces.

The legal mode of organizing our reserve militia is to be found in R. & O., 1887, paragraphs 18, 19, and 20, and,

with due respect to the powers that be, I beg to point out that if those regulations be followed, dire disaster is very apt to follow. I think I am correct in saying that no enrolment under these paragraphs has ever taken place, at all events in this province, and therefore the reserve militia of Canada does not exist even on paper. We have only the machinery for raising such a force. Theoretically, under paragraphs 18 and 19, we have a lieutenant-colonel and two majors for each regimental division, and a captain and two subalterns for each company division. As a matter of fact, there must be many parts of the country where no such officers exist, and where they do, their commissions are dated so far back, that the men themselves must be in many cases long past usefulness for military purposes. Further, the size and population of the various divisions must be by this time in need of a thorough revision, owing to changes, in some cases increase, in others decrease. Very few, if any, of these reserve officers have had any training in arms at all, and as leaders they are out of the question. It would be a case of the blind leading the blind. Should the numbers of these reserve officers be filled up by the government in the ordinary way, it is almost certain that political influence, local social importance, and other such reasons would be the only guides to the selection. Some regimental districts would be too small, others too large, and a readjustment would have to follow. We have, however, in the active militia, and among gentlemen who have served as officers in that force for a time, a large body of men possessed of a very fair amount of military training, and in their hands should be left the organization of the reserve militia, and the selection (for recommendation to H. Q.) of officers for that force.

I beg to submit an outline of the scheme I suggest:

Let the D. A. G. of each military district suggest the names of a number of officers in the active militia, irrespective of rank, or residence, one for each county in his district to make an enrolment of all the men in that county liable to service, in the four classes mentioned in paragraph 10 of R. & O., each such officer being assisted by a sufficient number of steady non-commissioned officers from the active militia to ensure the expeditious completion of the roll. Let this officer, in the course of his enrolment, take careful note of the names, residences, and qualifications of such persons as he considers fitted for officers, and N. C. O.'s, as well as ascertain all necessary facts as to the age, &c., of such reserve officers as may already have been appointed, and receive applications from all who wish to have commissions. On the completion of the enrolment for the whole Dominion, let H. Q., after making allowance for men required to fill up the ranks of the active militia to war strength, make a new

division of the country into regimental and company divisions, fixing the number of officers and N. C. O.'s required. Let there then be selected and recommended by the D. A. G. of each district from the lists prepared by the enrolling officer for each county, the names of officers and N. C. O.'s to fill up the desired quota, and let all these men, as well as all reserve officers appointed under the old arrangement, be sent at once to one of the infantry schools for a three months' course of training. Company officers and N. C. O.'s could be thus obtained. Field officers and regimental staff, if not available among the material in the district, could be taken from the active militia, adjutants and sergeant majors being taken from the regular service or active militia officers of special merit and qualifications. The country in addition to pay should provide a suitable uniform for reserve militia officers.

By these means, should it become necessary to call out the force, we would from the outset have all the machinery necessary to commence effective military training of the reserve in all parts of the country at once. With an intelligent educated people like ours, a few weeks of hard work would suffice to make the force serviceable, and the actual work in garrison or field would soon complete what the preliminary training had begun. The license given in paragraph 18 to appoint non-residents should be taken advantage of to the fullest extent, wherever it became necessary in the interests of the public safety.

By some such scheme as this, which could be put into effect immediately, a large skeleton army could be trained, between this and spring, at a cost so small as not to be considered in comparison to the advantages to be gained, and then we would be ready at any moment on any emergency to call into being a force which would astonish the loud-mouthed gentlemen who talk so glibly of over-running Canada. God grant that the necessity may never arise, but let us not be caught napping. Such are my humble views, and I hope they may receive consideration.

Your obedient servant,

SUB.

Is There a Chance of War With the United States?

To the editor of CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—The average newspaper editor in this country does not seem to have sized up the situation as regards the possibilities of war with the United States.

They are laboring under the impression that the war talk is confined to a certain number of papers, who for the sake of popularity or for political purposes, are making the most of the opportunity and twisting the tail of the unfortunate lion until that long enduring animal is wincing and becoming restive. Were these

same editors to glance over the American service papers they might wake up to the fact that any moment may see an American army at our doors, that a powder train is laid to which at any time the match may be set and start the struggle for which Americans—for reasons best known to themselves—seem to be pining.

Some idea of the feeling in the United States may be gathered from the following article from the Army and Navy Journal of New York:

"THE LONG ROLL SOUNDED."

President Cleveland's patriotic message on the Venezuelan situation met an enthusiastic reception in Congress. In both houses it was received with cheers and applause, without regard to party lines. Republicans were fully as enthusiastic in their applause of the message of the Democratic President as were Mr. Cleveland's most ardent supporters in his own party. The President's firm and straightforward message is an unmistakable notice to Great Britain and to all the world that the United States will be governed by the principles laid down by President Monroe, in which he enunciated the doctrine of non-interference by European nations in American affairs, which has since been known by his name.

The message is capable of but one interpretation, which is that Great Britain having definitely refused to submit the boundary dispute to arbitration, the administration accepts that refusal as final and is prepared to ascertain the true boundary between Venezuela and British Guiana and, having once settled this, to defend Venezuela from British aggression, even though it should be necessary to draw the sword in defence of this position.

The hearty and universal applause with which the concluding words of the President's message were greeted in both houses of Congress were an indication that both political parties would support him in any steps he might find it necessary to take. There was also a great significance in the action of the house on Wednesday, when, after short speeches by Mr. Hitt, on the Republican side, and Mr. Crisp, on the Democratic side, Mr. Hitt's bill appropriating \$100,000 to defray the expenses of the commission was passed without a single dissenting vote. It shewed that the popular branch of Congress stood ready to a man to support the President, though he belonged to the political party opposed to the vast majority of the House. The President's message has brought Congress face to face with a realization that war with Great Britain is not an impossibility, and has directed the attention of Senators and Representatives to the inadequacy of the present military and naval establishments to meet the issue that may be thrust upon them. The seriousness of the situation is such that it is fully realized by men who in former Congresses have opposed adequate provision for the Army and Navy. Whether war finally ensues between the United States and Great Britain or not,

the effect of this vivid presentation of the necessity for preparation for war cannot but result in benefit to both the Army and Navy. Representative Hull, of Iowa, speaking of the prospects for Army legislation in view of the strained relations between the United States and Great Britain, said it showed the absolute necessity of having at least a skeleton Army organization which in time of war could be quickly filled to a war footing and put the nation in possession of a force of some importance. If the present situation was maintained Congress would not only pass a bill providing for a reorganization of the army on modern lines, but would at the same time make a considerable increase in its strength. He believed one of the most beneficial results that would follow the awakening of Congress to a realization of the present lack of preparation for war would be the adoption of a liberal policy in providing for coast defenses.

Friends of the Navy are also much encouraged as to the outlook, as it practically assures liberal provision by the present Congress for continuing the building of new vessels and for the increase in the enlisted force, which is badly needed. The passage of a satisfactory personnel bill is also regarded as probable.

One immediate effect of the war scare has been the introduction into the Senate and House of bills appropriating \$100,000,000 to be immediately available for constructing fortifications and procuring 100,000 infantry rifles, 1,000 field guns, and not to exceed 5,000 guns for fortifications.

Our legislature will be meeting in the course of a few days and it is to be hoped that it will at once repair its apathy of the past on militia matters and take vigorous measures to increase the effectiveness of the militia.

It is in times like these that it can be impressed on the country that there are cheaper ways of saving money than by cutting down the already too limited 16 days drill to eight, that it is cheaper to have our national defensive force armed with a more modern weapon than the old Sniders, condemned by the English war office since confederation, that it is cheaper to have good modern equipments in store, than to have to keep regiments from the front for weeks and weeks in case of unexpected trouble, (and that is the way it always comes) for lack of proper outfit.

Mr. Editor, Canadians should insist that their representatives at Ottawa do their duty to their country, even at the cost of depriving some of their political followers of some of their "boodle" and perquisites and now is their opportunity for doing so

CANUCK.

Imperial Defenses.

To the Editor of CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

SIR,—Some time ago I had written, and was about sending you a letter containing my views on Canada's obligation as a member of the empire, to come into line on the question of Imperial defense. The immediate occasion of my remarks was the utterance by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Chamberlain, of his now well-known views on the duty of the colonies, to contribute to the support of the fleet. I intended to show that Canada's most effective contribution to Imperial defense would be the adoption of a wise and far-reaching policy as to the militia. That had Canada a definite unit of troops, well disciplined, armed, and equipped, and

ready for service in the field at short notice; that were all the necessary reserves of warlike stores for such a unit in the country and available for emergency; that were there a well considered system for the rapid enrollment and equipment of the fighting strength of Canada, an immense deal would have been accomplished so far, as Canada's immediate duty to the empire is concerned. In short, that it was high time that our people woke up, insisted on thorough efficiency in the militia, and took the necessary steps to secure it.

I was not surprised to find that little or no notice was taken of Mr. Chamberlain's hints, and certainly no reference has been made to the question by our "statesmen," who have since had considerable opportunity of instructing the electorate on their duty on other questions. I therefore put away my article, convinced that nothing from my obscure pen would arouse our people to their plain duty. My reflections took a better turn when I thought of the multitudes of Canadians, fond on every possible occasion of proclaiming their love of British connection, determined as they say, to do nothing to imperil it, truculent at times to their near neighbors on this continent as seemingly secure under the mantle of England, vigorous in their denunciation of all "annexationists" and "traitors," not hesitating at times to stigmatize by these harsh epithets a large number of their own fellow countrymen, and yet willing to allow their "statesmen," (Heaven save the mark), to starve, yes, actually starve, the few militiamen—the country's only contribution to their own defence or that by the empire.

What an opportunity for a broad-minded public man to make this country ring with denunciations of our politicians who are so fond of arrogating to themselves the exclusive possession of loyalty at election times, and who allow the militia to starve at all times.

Mr. Editor, by birth and training I belong to the party known among us as Grits, and I assure you the moral discipline involved in hardening myself calmly, to be included among the so-called "traitors" and "annexationists" as proclaimed hereabouts by all the second rate politicians, has not been pleasant. I could bear it the more equably were the party of my choice in opposition to any large measure of Canadian defence advocated by our opponents. I am not ashamed to say that with the whole miserable business of party politics, as conducted in Canada, I for one, and I am only of the many, am heartily sick. I look in vain among our public men for one who cares a bawbee for the high duties to which Canada is called as a member of the empire, judging by the paucity of their deeds and not by their occasional empty high-standing words.

However, be that as it may, this Canada of ours has come to the parting of the ways. The Cleveland message and the "war scare" of the last few days have shown or should certainly suggest to our people in the most emphatic possible way our plain duty.

Will our politicians, soon to assemble, give over for a while at any rate the scramble for place and power, the bandying of emptying words, and pause long enough to face the condition in which we are placed; to consider calmly whether it is not about time to put our common country in a position to defend itself; to give its earnest manful attentions to the militia it has neglected so long; in short, to prove that our boasted pride in British connection is not a form of but a vital, living force? We shall see, and let them be well aware that the eye of the country is upon them

C.

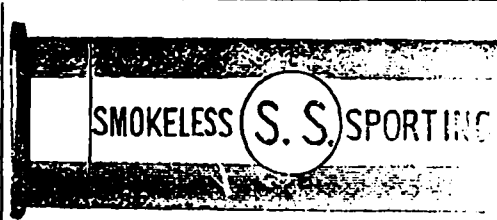


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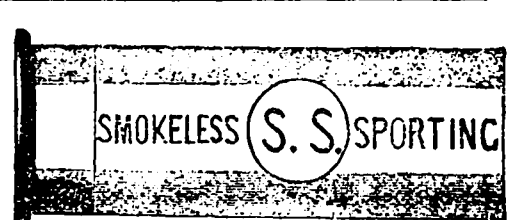
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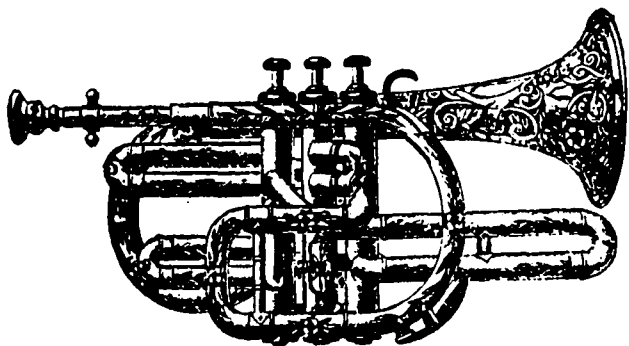
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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2170, Montreal.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 1, 1896.

Notes and Comments**A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**

The CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE wishes its readers a happy and prosperous new year.

For the militia we trust that 1896 will prove a less troubled one than '95, and that the government, which seems to have realized the folly of trying to reduce the effectiveness of the already half-starved militia, the main defence of the country, will inaugurate a policy more consistent with its cry of the "old flag," and place Canada in a position of being a strong link instead of a weak spot in the great British empire.

We have every hope that such will be the case. The present minister seems to have taken his work to heart, and will have an energetic supporter in the ministry in the person of Lieut.-Col. Prior, of British Columbia, and with the present crisis across the lines to give force to the demands of the Minister of Militia and Defence, the House will surely not be behind hand in providing the "sinews of war," which so far no ministry seems to have had the backbone to request.

May we venture to wish to the militia that in the future the whole force will be drilled for at least two weeks every year; that its old knapsacks will be replaced by a modern valise equipment; that it

old gaspipes be relegated to their cases, and Martini-Metfords or Lee-Metfords be placed in their hands. Is this too much to wish? We think not.

It is our opinion that a well organized, well equipped, and well armed force would contribute not a little to ensure peace with our neighbors, and should it do so, its cost would be amply repaid to the country.

The MILITARY GAZETTE celebrates as successor to the Militia Gazette its tenth birthday, beginning its eleventh volume with this issue, and takes this occasion to thank its subscribers for their support in the past. The vicissitudes of the Gazette have been many, but at all times it has endeavored to fill its field as watch-dog of the forces as honestly as it could. It stands to-day in a higher and more independent position than ever before, and it only needs on the part of our subscribers a little help in the shape of payment of back subscriptions to place it on a thoroughly sound footing. May we ask at this time of year that you examine the date on the wrapper of your paper. You may be startled at the amount you owe. But don't be scared. We will accept any amount, be it a \$2 or a \$10 bill—everything goes.

The American politicians and newspapers that comment so flip-pantly and boldly on President Cleveland's threat that if Great Britain does not submit to the delimitation of the boundaries of British Guiana by a Yankee commission she will have to submit to war, cannot possibly stop to think what they are talking about, without they regard the whole thing as a political joke. Owing to the great extent of her seaboard, the importance of her defenceless sea-ports and shipping, and the glaring insignificance of her tenth-rate navy and army, the United States is no match in a military way for the wealthiest empire and dominating sea power of the world. At only one point is the British empire at all exposed to American attack, and that is Canada. Canadians are perfectly ready to do their share, if things ever come to the worst, with this ridiculously self-important republic to the south of us and Canadian resistance to a

Yankee invasion would be a pretty hard nut for the invaders to crack if the government would but carry out some sensible system of national defence. The royal navy and the regular army would easily attend to the rest.

As a matter of fact the United States appears to have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a war with Britain—the empire everything to gain and nothing to lose. A fortnight after a declaration of war would find the American flag swept from the seas, British guns dominating the republic's sea-ports and probably another British army at Washington dictating terms of peace to the blatherskite senators. Great Britain will probably not be as half-hearted as she was the last time, when she next has to administer a lesson to her precocious and over-reaching offspring. The great American spread eagle is quite a bird on his own dung hill, but he will find himself pretty light poultry if he once causes the British lion to really show fight.

About the coolest thing in all of of this long drawn-out Venezuelan Monroe Doctrine discussion is Mr. Olney's remark, "That distance and 3,000 miles of intervening ocean make any permanent political union between a European and an American state unnatural and inexpedient will hardly be denied." No wonder Lord Salisbury wrote in reply: "Her Majesty's government are prepared emphatically to deny it, on behalf of both the British and American people who are subject to her crown. They maintain that the union between Great Britain and her territories in the western hemisphere is both natural and expedient." The London Times adds: "A power which has command of the sea does not regard the 3,000 miles of intervening ocean as severing it from its subjects."

Has Canada done her whole duty towards the empire by preparing for such a contingency as that threatened by President Cleveland? Is she doing her duty now?

The Montreal Star fails to see why Canada should be expected to make any further contributions

than she does at present towards the military defence of the empire. The *Star* is a staunch British connection paper, but it thinks that Canada is doing enough for imperial interests just now by developing this portion of the empire and by maintaining the Canadian Pacific Railroad. We are simply sick of this line of argument, when used as an excuse for Canada to continue in her present thoughtless course of developing her resources without providing for national defence. The vulnerability of the country increases with its commercial development, and so does the national danger. Canada will be a more desirable conquest ten years hence than it is to-day.

The natural development of the Dominion is a loyal and natural ambition for the good people of this country, but they should realize that the progress of their work of development but increases the risk of foreign invasion. True, the increase of population which accompanies the development of a country's resources adds to the defensive power of the nation, but in every other respect it weakens it. The development of the natural resources of Canada has located flourishing towns and well-tilled farm lands where the American invaders of 1812 lost themselves in inhospitable forests or were surrounded in unknown bogs. Bush roads have been replaced by splendid turkpiques, railways and canals. And as our national prosperity increases, so will the natural defensiveness of the country diminish. How absurd, then, is this argument that Canada is doing her full share towards the strengthening of the empire by developing her natural resources. As a matter of fact, her progress in this respect is but still further weakening what is already distinctly the weakest link in the whole chain of imperial defence.

The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway itself increased the existing obligation upon Canada to provide some effective system of defence. In considering military matters every contingency has to be provided for, and in the event of Britain being involved in any great war necessitating the use of the much vaunted alternate route to the east, hostilities with the

United States would not be a very remote contingency. With Canada absolutely without any adequate defensive system, as she is at present, this great route to the east would be at the mercy of any adventurous Yankee tug boat which dared to make a dash across Lake Superior and burn a few of the trestles which carry our great trans-continental road across the northern inlets of our greatest fresh water sea.

We firmly believe that it is ignorance and nothing else which causes Canada to remain under the reproach of being a menace to imperial safety. Canadians are loyal to the empire, appreciate the advantages of the imperial connection, and are certainly honest enough to wish to bear their share of the burden of imperial defence. If they are not they are unworthy of the flag which protects them.

The admission of Lieut.-Col. Prior, M.P., to the Dominion Cabinet is a distinct advantage for the militia. Lieut.-Col. Prior is not only a well-informed militia officer, but he is an enthusiastic one. It will be a new thing for the militia to have one of its active officers in the cabinet, and that it will be also a good thing goes without saying. With Mr. Dickey as minister of militia and Lieut.-Col. Prior as a colleague in the cabinet, we ought to be able to expect of the government fair recognition of the requirements of the force.

What has become of that first consignment of the Lee-Metfords, and when may the next consignment be expected? And, while in an enquiring turn of mind, what about an explosive for the new arm, and the required new rifle ranges?

We are pleased to hear that there is some prospect of our suggestion that teams from the Canadian militia should be organized to compete at the royal military tournaments at London and Dublin being carried out. The proposal has excited considerable discussion in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Kingston, and Quebec, and the proposal will likely be carried out in the near future, if not this year.

Now is the time for the govern-

ment to prepare and carry out some scheme for the establishment on a permanent basis of a naval militia. Such a force would prove invaluable in case of trouble with our fire-eating neighbors. There are many steamers, both on the lakes and the St. Lawrence that could be transformed into useful cruisers for service on our inland seas.

Now also is the time to overhaul the rotten and antiquated equipment which is supposed to be in reserve in case of trouble. If we are correctly informed, the only knapsacks in store are those which were rejected by the British war office after they had proved so disastrously unsuitable in the Crimean War. There should be stored in the various depots throughout the country serviceable modern valise equipments sufficient to equip 30,000 men at the very least.

In view of the "jingo" talk of a large section of the American press and people, the following comparison of the naval strength of England and the United States will be of interest. It may be stated, moreover, that the difference between the two navies is even greater than is apparent from the figures mentioned, as a large proportion of the U. S. vessels enumerated are of antiquated patterns, and even their new ships are in many cases more experimental than many of the practical officers would like, and the number of breakdowns in them more frequent than they should be. The figures are quoted by the *New York Army and Navy Journal* and may be taken as very nearly exact for both navies.

Great Britain has in service 50 battleships, 11 armored coast defence vessels, 25 armored cruisers; a total of 86 armored vessels, besides 10 battleships and 4 cruisers building. She has of unarmored vessels 188 in service, viz., 52 protected cruisers, 88 cruisers, 14 gun vessels and 34 torpedo vessels, besides 22 protected cruisers, 4 cruisers and 2 gun vessels building, in all 28 unarmored vessels authorized and building. This makes a grand total of 274 vessels in commission and 42 building, besides 189 torpedo boats in service and 62 building.

The United States has in service, of armored ships, 3 battleships, 6 coast defence vessels, 1 cruiser; of unarmored vessels, 13 protected cruisers, 20 cruisers, 8 gun vessels, 2 torpedo vessels. We have building 5 battleships, 4 armored coast defence vessels, 1 armored cruiser and 9 unarmored gun vessels. This is the comparison of the totals of vessels in service and building:

	United States.	Great Britain.
Battleships.....	8	60
Coast defence vessels.....	20	11
Armored cruisers.....	2	29
Protected cruisers.....	13	71
Cruisers.....	20	92
Gun vessels.....	17	16
Torpedo vessels.....	1	34
Total vessels.....	81	316
Torpedo boats.....	9	251
Grand total.....	90	567

England has increased the personnel of her navy each year since 1891-92, making the total force now 88,850, an increase of 17,850 men in four years. The total force of officers and men in the navy of the United States is 13,400, including marines, and when the Secretary of the Navy asked for 2,000 more men to man the new ships the Fifty-third Congress cut him down one-half. These figures are taken from the last annual report of the Secretary of the Navy.

COL. POWELL SUPARANNATED.

At moment of going to press the following despatch has been received from our Ottawa correspondent :

"It is stated here on good authority, but not confirmed, that Col. Walter Powell, Adjutant-General, is to be superannuated and succeeded by Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, and Major D. C. Bliss to be Assistant Adjutant General."

CORRESPONDENCE.

QUEBEC, 16th December, 1895.

To the Editor of CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE :

RE :—THE CANADIAN MILITARY VALISE EQUIPMENT.

DEAR SIR,—Having had an opportunity of thoroughly inspecting the Canadian Military Valise Equipment which was invented by Mr. Patrick Lewis, of the Military Stores Department, Quebec, and believing a description of the same will prove of interest to the readers of the CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE, I take pleasure in submitting herewith a general description of the equipment with a few remarks appertaining to the same.

It may be described as follows :—

The sundry pouch contains all small articles required by the soldier, such as pipe and tobacco, matches, knife and fork, spoon, needles, thread, buttons, pins, scissors, bandages, sticking plaster, etc.

The ammunition carriers contain 45 rounds, and can be easily got at when the soldier is lying down.

The ammunition pouch contains 100 rounds, and is jointly carried by brades and waist-belt. It can be exchanged with the great-coat and carried on the back if required. If more ammunition is required the sundry pouch will carry 60 rounds, making in all 205 rounds.

The water bottle contains 1½ pints of filtered water.

The equipment as above, with great-coat, mess tin, haversack, 145 rounds of ammunition with water bottle full, weighs only 22 lbs., with the extra 60 rounds of ammunition it weighs 26 lbs.

The valise, when carried, may be quickly thrown off, still leaving you all the ammunition.

This equipment does away with the necessity of the soldier's relying upon the assistance of a comrade to dress, and no part of it can easily be mislaid or go astray in camp or in an emergency as the whole is connected with the waist-belt.

Our Militia Force to be effective should be properly armed and equipped to enable them to take the field in a comparatively short time and in a condition to ensure the best results in their favour, which cannot be attained unless efforts are made to place them upon an equal if not upon a superior footing to any Force with which they may in the course of events be called upon to face. It is well known that the arms and equipment at present in use are as a rule antiquated and to a great extent useless. As regards the former, action has been taken to obtain an arm superior to any now in use here, and further steps will doubtless be taken in the same direction, but as regards the equipment no action appears to have been taken with a view of its improvement. From the above description of Mr. Lewis's equipment it can be readily understood that it possesses advantages which are superior to the ones now in use and having been thoroughly looked into by such authorities as Major-General I. J. C. Herbert, late G. O. Commanding the Militia and by his successor Major-General Gascoigne and by Lieut-Colonel C. E. Montzambert of the Royal Canadian Artillery, all of whom have expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied with its general advantages, it now remains with the Department of Militia and Defence, to take the matter in hand and give the equipment a proper test, by putting a certain number into use. Should the results prove satisfactory and in accordance with the claims of the inventor the Canadian Militia would upon its adoption into general use find themselves equipped superior to any other force.

The equipment possesses among other advantages that of strength, simplicity and capacity. It is quickly and easily put on and removed, ensures the soldier being able to turn out at a moments notice, with all he requires to take in the field. The chance of forgetting part of his necessaries is removed, as in putting on the valise he at the same time takes into use the ammunition, haversack, water bottle, supplementary pouch etc. The ammunition is so placed as to be ready for immediate use and does not interfere with the movements of the rifle, the chance of loss of ammunition is also removed. The water bottle is at hand and can be easily removed and replaced and being provided with a filter ensures water fit for use. In addition to the above there are several advantages in favour of this equipment and for the good of the service it is hoped the department will take necessary steps to give it a fair trial with a view to its adoption. It is needless to state that Mr. Lewis has given the matter every attention and being thoroughly experienced in the requirements of a

soldier he should be given an opportunity to give his invention a thorough test and if found favourable it should in the near future be issued to the Militia force.

I have the honou to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ERNEST F. WURTELE,

Captain, retired list.

A Toronto Church Parade.

To the Editor of CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—Chancing to be in Toronto on 3rd November last I saw the brigade church parade, a splendid turn out, but it was slightly marred by the appearance of an individual marching in front of one of the battalions wearing a kind of nondescript undress uniform, composed of a peaked forage cap with gold band and buttons, a presumable artillery officer's patrol jacket, pants with broad red stripe, probably a sword. He could not possibly be of any military rank, nor even on the retired list, or he would have known better than appear at a full-dress parade in such a rig out. As it was a Toronto church parade no one but the officers of the brigade, not even R. L. officers, could take part therein unless specially invited. It must have escaped the D.A.G.'s notice, for he surely would not have permitted any one falling in unless properly dressed. A little light on this subject, and who the distinguished was, with a view to future parades, would not be amiss.

F. D.

Ottawa, 30th Nov., 1895.

R. M. C. College Notes.

Capt. G. S. Cartwright, Royal Engineers, upon completion of a tour of service in the East Indies, has been posted to Chatham for duty, to command a depot company at the School of Military Engineering.

There is an excellent photograph of Lieut. Duncan S. MacInnes, Royal Engineers, in a recent issue of *Black and White*. This young officer has been specially selected for duty with the telegraph detachment, Royal Engineers, employed in the Ashantee expedition.

Gentleman Cadet J. W. Osborne has been commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Scottish Rifles. This makes the fifth commission awarded in 1895 to a Kingston graduate. Hitherto it has only been customary to grant four commissions annually in the imperial forces, the year 1894 being the first time that five cadets were commissioned in the British army, as follows: G. F. F. Osborne, Royal Engineers; V. L. Beer, Royal Artillery; F. C. Heneker, Leinster Regiment; J. J. Doull, Yorkshire Light Infantry; R. H. B. Magee, Royal Munster Fusiliers.

Capt. Herbert Montgomery Campbell is doing duty with the Royal Horse Artillery at Kirkee, East Indies. We inadvertently stated in a recent issue that he was attached as adjutant to a volunteer corps, our error having been caused by a similarity of initials and names.

WATERLOO.

NAPOLEON'S LAST CAMPAIGN.

Lecture Delivered by Captain A. H. Lee, R. A., in the "Victoria Rifles" Armory Hall, Friday Evening, Nov. 22nd, 1895.

The Lecture Was Illustrated Throughout by Numerous Maps, Plans, and Photographic Views Thrown on the Screen by a Stereopticon.

(Continued from the issue of December 15th.)

JUNE 16th.—From this point of the campaign an inexplicable lassitude seemed to come over Napoleon, and he whose movements were wont to be almost bewildering in their lightning rapidity, now became a laggard. On the night of the 15th he sat up with Ney, talking politics, till 2 a.m. at Charleroi, and though it was daylight before 4 a.m., it was not till four hours later that Napoleon issued his first orders for the day. Grouchy, at Fleurus, had many hours before reported the gathering of masses of Prussians on the slopes of Ligny, and Napoleon's old soldiers were amazed at the unaccountable delay which was enabling Blucher to marshal his army undisturbed.

About 8 a.m. Napoleon issued his orders, dividing his army into two wings and a reserve. The left wing, 41,000 strong, was placed under Ney's orders. The right wing, 58,000 strong, was placed under Grouchy. The reserve, consisting of the imperial guard, was kept at Napoleon's personal disposal.

At 8.30 a.m. Grouchy was ordered to march and occupy Sombreffe, pushing away the enemy if there, and then to advance on Gembloux. Napoleon was in manifest ignorance of the strength of the Prussian force that had assembled at Ligny. At the same hour Ney was ordered to advance and occupy Quatre Bras, and then to continue his advance, arriving at Brussels at 7 a.m. on the 17th. By these orders Napoleon showed that he did not in the least realize the situation, and expected little or no opposition. He had, in fact, quite decided in his own mind that the English and Prussians would separate as he advanced, and retire toward their respective bases, and so leave open the road to Brussels. He could not believe that the loyal co-operation between Wellington and Blucher would be maintained in the face of serious danger; he expected that each would look out only for himself, and in this as in nearly all his actions in this campaign, he altogether underrated his opponents. He was inflated with the most sublime confidence, and did not even think it worth while to hurry his movements. Not content with his previous loss of precious time, he spent the remainder of the morning of the 16th talking politics with his generals, and it was not till nearly noon that he rode to Fleurus, and mounting to the top of a windmill to the north of the town, scanned the Prussian position at Ligny.

He now appeared to realize for the first time, although he could hardly believe his eyes, that the Prussians were assembled in full force to oppose him, and indeed by this hour Blucher had collected the whole of his army except Bulow's corps, 85,000 men in all, on his previously chosen battlefield of Ligny. Napoleon now, shortly before 2 p.m., sent an order to Ney to sweep away any hostile force at Quatre Bras and then,

instead of marching on to Brussels, to move to his right and fall on the left flank and rear of the Prussians, whom he, Napoleon, was about to attack at Ligny. By this order he showed that he still did not in the least realize the obstacles that Ney had in front of him. Let us see what these were.

The orders for concentration issued by Wellington at the ball had not yet had time to mature, and though the British divisions were on the march to Quatre Bras, none had arrived by noon. The small force that held Quatre Bras the night before had been reinforced by Perponcher's brigade from Nivelles at 5 a.m. and by the Princes of Orange with some more troops at 6 a.m., bringing up the total strength to 7,000 infantry and sixteen guns, but no cavalry. The Prince of Orange, as senior officer on the spot took command and prepared for a desperate defence of the cross roads. Ney saw he could not therefore hope to gain Quatre Bras without serious fighting, and consequently waited until he could bring up his rearmost troops. He was also, like everyone else, waiting for orders from Napoleon, but received none till nearly noon.

Wellington had left Brussels with his staff between 7 and 8 a.m., and rode towards Quatre Bras, where he arrived about 11. Having surveyed Ney's position and approved the Prince of Orange's dispositions to meet the attack that was not then threatening, he rode off down the Namur road to confer with Blucher. He found the latter, about 1.30, at the mill of Bussy, on the heights between Ligny and Bry, and it was here that they decided on their future plan of campaign.

It is interesting to note that at this same moment Napoleon was reconnoitering the Prussian position in the plain below, and was confidently assuring his generals that Wellington and Blucher would never hold together, when above him at the mill of Bussy, and within sight, the two allies were engaged in making their gallant compact to hold together at all costs, and deciding on their final scheme for his destruction.

Both Wellington and Blucher believed that practically the whole French army was before them at Ligny, and Wellington promised, if he were not seriously attacked at Quatre Bras himself, to come to Blucher's aid. It is recorded that Wellington strongly disapproved of Blucher's order of battle and expressed his opinion to Sir Arthur Hardinge in his usual blunt manner, "If he forms like that, all I can say is he will be damnably hammered."

After their famous and solemn compact to hold together and to block the way to Brussels, at all costs, had been concluded at this historic mill, Wellington rode back to Quatre Bras, arriving there at 2.20. There we will leave him for the present and return to Ligny and Blucher.

Let us now examine the battle field of Ligny and the dispositions of the two armies that had been marshalling there all the morning, and were now opposite to each other.

Ligny and the other small villages forming the Prussian front are in the valley of the Ligny stream, which is very small and sluggish. Behind the ground slopes gently up to Bry and Sombreffe. The position was a bad one, being too extended, and the reserves being all exposed on the slopes behind the main line. The high ground on the French side also commanded a full view of the Prussian position which was very exposed to artillery fire, from points indicated on the map. It was a lovely country, however, with peaceful hamlets and smiling cornfields, soon to be the scene of a conflict of unparalleled ferocity.

Napoleon's plan of attack was to throw his weight on the Prussian right, so as to cut Blucher off from Wellington and to drive him back towards Liege.

Just as the church clock of St. Amand struck half past two, Napoleon gave the signal (three cannon shots) for Vandamme to fall on. The latter advanced against the Prussian right, and soon the action became general all along the line from Ligny to St. Amand. The French advanced with the greatest gallantry, and several times drove the Prussians from the villages, but on attempting to emerge and mount the slopes they were smitten by the artillery fire from the heights behind, and the Prussians, speedily reinforced, as often regained the villages. In Ligny the fighting was especially bloody and desperate. The French artillery fire soon set the thatched houses on fire, but for three hours the fight surged backwards and forwards through the burning streets. No quarter was asked or given, and stern bloody hand-to-hand fighting, with all the deadly hatred of the two nations fully aroused, was the order of the day.

At 5.30 the French had captured St. Amand, but were struggling for Ligny, whilst on the left there had been very little but skirmishing. Blucher was determined whatever happened, not to allow his right to be forced, and the whole afternoon he kept moving troops from his centre to his right to prevent this. This did not escape Napoleon's observant eye, and seeing that Blucher's centre was now dangerously weak, he determined to call up his reserve, the guard, and to launch them at the right of the village of Ligny, thus piercing Blucher's centre and driving his right wing towards Ney, who he hoped was already advancing from Quatre Bras to intercept it. In pursuance of this plan he moved up Lobau's corps and the guard, 23,000 men in all, and about 6 p.m. was on the point of launching them at the enemy when a most disturbing incident forced him to counter-order the advance.

Some three miles away on the rising ground to the southwest appeared the advanced guard of a large force, apparently heading for Fleurus. Was it Ney, or was it the English? Until Napoleon could ascertain this he must keep back his reserve to meet emergencies. Soon after the officer sent by Napoleon returned and reported that this mysterious force was the French 1st corps, under General D'Erlon, and belonging to Ney's command. No sooner had it appeared, however, than it as suddenly disappeared, none knew whither. As a matter of fact it was in compliance with a peremptory order from Ney, who was hard pressed himself at Quatre Bras, and was incensed at D'Erlon leaving him without orders.

This "D'Erlon incident" is one of the strangest blunders in military history, and every cause, including treachery, has been ascribed to it. Sifting, how-

ever, all the most reliable evidence it seems established that one of Napoleon's aide-de-camps, probably Labeledoyere, was sent with an order from Napoleon to Ney at 3.30, which order urged Ney to strike across and assail the Prussian right, as soon as he should have occupied Quatre Bras. The aide-de-camp, before he reached Ney, met D'Erlon's corps on the road to Frasnes, and upon his own responsibility and in Napoleon's name, turned it off towards Ligny. Ney on hearing this was naturally annoyed at this clear misinterpretation of Napoleon's order, and sent his chief of the staff with a peremptory order to D'Erlon to return at once. The latter had no choice but to obey his immediate senior, and realizing his error, returned to Quatre Bras only to arrive too late to be of any use. Thus 20,000 men had spent the entire afternoon wandering backwards and forwards between the fields of Ligny and Quatre Bras without taking any part in the fighting at either.

Luck was certainly on the side of the allies.

We left Napoleon at Ligny, about to deal his final blow, which had only been delayed by the "D'Erlon incident." A precious hour and more, however, had been wasted and it was not till 7.30 that Napoleon gave the long expected order for the guard to advance. Dense clouds had arisen in the northwest, behind which the sun had sunk, and it was growing dark. The huge column pressed forwards and suddenly became visible to the Prussians in Ligny. They struggled bravely to oppose it, but in vain, and Napoleon's deadly blow was driven swiftly home. Ligny was turned and the Prussian centre broken, and Blucher galloped up in breathless haste to find the battle lost. His only chance was now to retreat and this he did with the greatest steadiness and deliberation, checking the French advance by repeated cavalry charges. Blucher himself led one of these in his fiery zeal, and his grey charger (presented to him by the English prince regent the year before) was shot under him, and rolling upon him, pinned him to the ground. Twice the French cavalry charged over him in the growing darkness and ignorant of the rich prize lying helpless on the ground. A body of Prussian lancers now came to his aid, however, and he was released and assisted off the field so bruised and battered that he had to hand over the chief command temporarily to Gneisenau. It is related that his first words on being picked up were, "Now my lads, let us charge them again!"

At 8 o'clock the French victory was secured, but the Prussians were by no means routed, and when darkness fell and the French had to halt, about 9 p.m., the Prussians still held Bry, Sombrèffe, and the Namur road.

In this desperate and bloody battle the Prussians lost about 15,000 men, and the French about 10,000.

The wearied French bivouacked on the field of battle, and Napoleon returned to spend the night at Fleurus, without giving any orders for the pursuit at all. This extraordinary negligence cost him dear indeed, as the sequel will show.

On the Prussian side, however, Gneisenau wasted no time, and about 1 a.m. commenced to withdraw, with wonderful steadiness and secrecy, the main portion of his army, not towards his base, but through Tilly and Gentinnes due north to Wavre.

This movement was not dreamed of by the French and was absolutely uninterrupted.

Let us now return to Quatre Bras.

As already stated, Wellington reached there on his return from Bry, about 3, and he then found the Prince of Orange hotly engaged with Ney.

Let us examine the scene of action.

The first thing that strikes us is the extreme smallness of the battle-field as compared with the vast extent of Ligny. The wood of Bossu, such an important feature in 1815, is now entirely cleared away. Trees are, however, now planted along both chaussées. To the south of Gomoncourt farm is a ridge which gave the French a good artillery position, and screened their advance. As I have already stated, this position was during the morning held by the Prince of Orange with 7,000 men. His line stretched from the wood of Bossu on the right to the wood of Delhutte on the left, whilst his reserves were at Quatre Bras itself. Ney had long been waiting for orders and for his troops to come up. At 2 p.m. he had 17,000 men in hand, with others close behind, so he vigorously commenced the attack, pushing back the Prince of Orange who, however, held on obstinately to Gomoncourt till finally driven out by overwhelming force.

Now, however, his eyes were gladdened by the sight of red-coated masses advancing from Quatre Bras across the rich cornfields. It was Picton's division of British infantry (chiefly Highlanders) which had left Brussels at daylight that morning and had marched twenty-two miles to the scene of action.

This arrival of Picton had saved the day. Close behind was the Duke of Brunswick's corps of 4,000 men, and from now to the close of the action, Wellington, who had taken over the command, received continuous reinforcements. At this moment he had about 20,000 men in hand.

Ney, fired by the capture of Gomoncourt, was now commencing a general advance against Quatre Bras, but Wellington did not wait to receive it on the defensive. He gave the order for Picton's division to advance, and the broad red masses advanced steadily through the bright green corn, straight at the advancing French. It was a magnificent spectacle and they literally swept the field, driving the French back in disorder behind Gomoncourt. Meanwhile, however, on the British right, the Brunswick troops were being attacked by the French cavalry, and broke, flying in utter disorder towards Quatre Bras. In trying to rally them the gallant Duke of Brunswick was killed.

At this moment an incident occurred that might have altered the result of the whole campaign. Part of the victorious French cavalry dashing forward pursued the Brunswickers up to Quatre Bras itself, and Wellington and his staff were involuntarily swept along by the flying column. He was closely pursued by the French and only escaped by leaping his horse over the 92nd Highlanders, who were lining the ditch of the Namur road. A French officer actually made a dash at him, but was disabled and taken prisoner before he could do any damage.

The French cavalry were now nearly up to Quatre Bras and on the right flank and rear of Picton's victorious division. Seeing this they wheeled to the right, and partly hidden by the high-standing corn, fell with terrific force on the flank regiments of Picton's division, who had scarcely time to form a square to meet them. In this charge the 42nd and 44th regiments suffered very severely, but the French cavalry were eventually driven off. It will be observed that the peculiar feature of this obstinate battle was that Wellington had to fight almost entirely with infantry, whereas Ney did most of his attacking with huge masses of cavalry.

Picton's division now stood in line in the cornfields, in a slight depression of the plateau, with their right on the Charleroi road and their left thrown back to the Namur road. Ney assailed them by a heavy artillery fire, and then hurried charge after charge of cavalry at

them. As the cavalry approached the British formed square and repulsed the French attacks, though the latter were of unparalleled violence. Indeed, Picton's immovable squares have been likened to "Rocks in a flowing tide." Never was British infantry so severely tried, except two days later at Waterloo, and their loss was enormous, but they remained as if rooted to the ground and Ney's cavalry at last withdrew exhausted. (It was at this moment that Ney learned of D'Erlon's departure for Ligny and recalled him.) The French renewed their attacks, but British reinforcements were now coming up fast, and Ney's chances of success were rapidly getting less and less. He resolved, however, on a fresh desperate stroke, and bringing up the cuirassiers of the guard, under Kellerman, and telling the latter that the "fate of France was in his hands," hurled him at the British centre. They dashed along the chaussée and then wheeling to the right fell with fearful suddenness on the British squares. The 69th regiment had not time to form square and was almost cut to pieces. Finding the squares still invincible, Kellerman's cuirassiers dashed straight at the cross roads, but Wellington had posted some artillery there, and poured such a hail of grape into the advancing French that they were hurled back and fled. Ney now made one last effort with his left, and Foy's infantry forced their way through the wood of Bossu, crossed the open space, and seized an isolated house on the Charleroi road only 300 yards from Quatre Bras. This was a daring stroke, but it was frustrated by the 92nd Highlanders, who dashed and drove the French out of the house and back into the wood at the point of the bayonet. The sun was now setting and the British foot-guards arrived with other reinforcements. Wellington was now in superior strength to Ney and at once assumed the offensive. He threw the guards into the woods of Bossu, and they swiftly expelled Foy though not without heavy loss. Wellington then ordered a general advance and re-occupied his position of the morning whilst Ney fell back to Frasnes. Thus ended the hotly contested action of Quatre Bras in which Wellington lost 4,600 men and Ney 4,300. Both armies were exhausted and bivouacked on the field. During the night the British cavalry arrived after their long march of forty miles, but Wellington's army was still very far from being concentrated. He retired to spend the night at Genappe, and had then received no news of the extent of Blucher's defeat.

To sum up the events of the 16th:

Napoleon had defeated the Prussians at Ligny, but was unable to advance beyond that point, whilst Ney had been repulsed at Quatre Bras. Wellington and Blucher had not been separated, but they had lost nearly 20,000 men between them, and the French about 15,000.

The chief features of the day had been:

1. Napoleon's unaccountable waste of the entire morning, thus allowing his enemies to concentrate unmolested.
2. Blucher's gallant decision to retreat to Wavre instead of to his base, so as to support Wellington.
3. Wellington's over cautiousness which kept him from concentrating his army till dangerously late. Even by the evening of the 16th he had only 36,000 men in all at Quatre Bras.
4. The extremely narrow escapes of both Wellington and Blucher from death or capture. A disaster to either of them might have altered the result of the whole campaign, as their compact was largely a personal one.

JUNE 17th.—At daybreak on the 17th Wellington left Genappe and galloped off to Quatre Bras. After inspecting his outposts he sent a patrol to ascertain Blucher's exact whereabouts. This soon discovered that the French were now on

the Namur road, and shortly afterwards a message arrived from Blucher to say that the Prussian army was retreating on Wavre. This of course left Wellington's left exposed, and it was necessary that he should also retreat. He decided to fall back to the position in front of Waterloo that he had previously selected and reconnoitred. He sent word of his intention to Blucher, and proposed to accept battle at Waterloo the next day, if Blucher would support him with two corps of his army. Blucher, in spite of his recent defeat and his accident, at once sent the following characteristic reply: "I will join you, not only with two corps, but with my whole army, and if Napoleon does not attack you on the 18th, we will attack him together on the 19th." Wellington now began his retreat from Quatre Bras, but covered his movement so skilfully with his cavalry, that Ney was not aware of it till the greater part of the English army had passed through the difficult defile formed by the town of Genappe, and were pursuing their march undisturbed towards Waterloo.

As soon as the English outposts withdrew, however, Ney realized that Wellington was retreating and at once pushed forward his cavalry which kept up a vigorous skirmish with the English rear-guard. The morning of the 17th was sultry and oppressive, but about midday a terrific storm burst and soaked the ground so rapidly that movement of troops became almost impossible except on the great paved chaussées. This fact materially checked the ardor of the pursuit. At Genappe, however, the French cavalry became so troublesome that Lord Uxbridge assumed the offensive, and as they emerged from the town, ordered the 7th Hussars to charge them. A curious incident now occurred. The French cavalry were armed with lances fitted with the usual pennons, and as the hussars charged, the French waved these pennons, with the result that the English horses shied and would not advance. The French, elated, began to press up the slope that leads out of Genappe with cries of "en avant," when suddenly Lord Uxbridge launched at them the brigade of life guards, who swept down the slope with such force that they literally rode over and overwhelmed the lancers. After this the French followed the retreat at a more prudent distance. By nightfall the whole English army, with the exception of one division left purposely at Hal, was concentrated at Mt. St. Jean where they bivouacked, with the Prussians seven miles away on their left at Wavre. Wellington and Blucher were once more side by side.

Let us now return to Napoleon and see how he had been spending the day. At 8 a.m. he was still at Fleurus, and confident that the Prussians must have retreated to Liege, he had sent Pajol's cavalry after them in the early morning. Pajol reported that he had come up with some stragglers at Mazy, and Napoleon was now more than ever convinced that Blucher had deserted Wellington. He now sent word to Ney to occupy Quatre Bras, but if Wellington should still stand firm, Napoleon would himself move across from Ligny and attack him in flank. He then, with that sluggishness or over confidence that had marked his conduct on the previous day, rode over the Ligny battlefield talking politics with Grouchy and Vandame, and reviewing his troops, and taking no steps to pursue the Prussians, who had already reached Wavre. It was not till noon that he detached Grouchy with 33,000 men to pursue the Prussians "in the direction of Gembloux, and to reconnoitre towards Namur and Maestricht." This proved that he had a totally erroneous idea of their whereabouts, and Grouchy himself expressed his dissatisfaction with these vague instructions, seeing that the Prussians had

already nearly twelve hours clear start. He was ordered off, however, and at 2 p.m. commenced his pursuit, or rather his wild goose chase after a foe who had completely vanished. The storm which we have previously mentioned rendered the country lanes so impassable that it was only by the greatest exertions that he succeeded in getting his column as far as Gembloux by 10 p.m., without having gained any definite news of the Prussians' whereabouts. At 2 in the morning he wrote to Napoleon in great perplexity, saying that the Prussians appeared to have divided into several bodies, one of which had gone towards Wavre, and that he intended to move in the direction of Sart-a-Walhalu after them.

Meanwhile Napoleon, after despatching Grouchy, moved the rest of his army through Tilly and Marbais to assist Ney, but Wellington was already beyond his reach and well on his way to Waterloo. Napoleon and Ney now followed in one column, which consisted of about 72,000 men. The French halted at La Belle Alliance at sunset, finding the English in position on the heights opposite, and Napoleon is recorded to have made the idle boast that "he wished he had the power of Joshua to stop the sun so that he might attack Wellington that day." He did open a cannonade on the English position, but soon saw that it was not to be easily forced, and though there were numerous skirmishes between the picquets on each side as they were put out, both armies remained motionless and settled down for the night to their bivouacs. It had been an eventful day, though marked by little fighting. Napoleon had now entirely lost all the enormous advantages he had reaped from his brilliant first dash over the frontier, and was in complete ignorance of the deadly trap into which he had advanced. He thought he had only Wellington to deal with, and was gloating over his easy prospective victory on the morrow. In his mind's eye he saw Blucher flying far away towards Liege pursued by Grouchy, and did not even trouble to send a single patrol towards Wavre to ascertain if there were any Prussians there. Little did he dream of Wellington and Blucher's famous compact, and that his two enemies were close at hand with every preparation made for his destruction. He was full of confidence and the certainty of success, and yet there is not the smallest doubt that he had allowed himself to be completely outwitted and outgeneralled. He retired to spend the night at the farm of Caillou, some two miles to the south of La Belle Alliance. The house still stands unchanged at the present day.

It was a terrible night with thunder and lightning and soaking rain, which caused the utmost discomfort to both armies which were bivouacked in the open. The flashes revealed the sentries to each other, but no troops moved on either side. In the middle of the night Napoleon sallied out with Bertrand to assure himself that his prey had not escaped him, and expressed his delight when the long line of bivouac fires on each side of Mt. St. Jean assured him that the English had not fled. He then returned to Caillou.

At the same hour Wellington, at his headquarters in the village of Waterloo, was busy at his desk most of the night, communicating with Blucher and issuing his orders for the next day. He was still apprehensive that Napoleon would attempt to turn his right and cut him off from his base, and he therefore kept 17,000 men at Hal to frustrate any such movement, though he could ill spare a man from the great battle which was about to take place.

At about 4 a.m. the rain ceased, and the soldiers awoke stiff and numbed, and "cold, blue and unshaven" com-

menced to cook their breakfasts, feed their horses, and clean their arms. It was a dreary misty Sunday morning, this famous 18th of June, and a general feeling of depression was in the air. All along the lines ran dropping shots like the popping of corks, but no blood was shed. It was only the troops emptying the half damp charges from their muskets, before reloading in dry and deadly earnest.

The morning passed away, and the English army stood ranged in order of battle, but Napoleon made no attempt to attack. One reason was that the ground between the two armies was so soaked that it was almost impracticable for the movement of cavalry or artillery, and Napoleon wished to let the sun dry the ground a little before he commenced the attack. A more potent reason, however, was that he felt his enemy could not escape him, and that there was no need to hurry. Whilst he is waiting let us examine the great battlefield and the order of battle of the opposing armies.

(To be Continued.)

A BALLAD OF PURE LAZINESS.

Though some may sing of the joys of work,
The virtues of the laboring man,
Toil and its griefs I fain would shirk
With indolence Mohammedan.
Existence is the briefest span
Ere emerging in Eternity;
Then toil who will and toil who can,
A lazy life's the life for me.

I long to lie where serpents lurk
Among the flowers of Castalan;
To smoke like any turbaned Turk
In some luxurious divan;
I would recall the days of Pan,
The sylvan charms of Arcady;
The pleasure domes of Kubla Kahn—
A lazy life's the life for me.

I shun the city's grime and murk,
More rustic laborings I ban;
No minister of state or kirk,
No councillor I, to plot and plan.
But, with a lotus-flowered fan,
I lounge beside the Summer sea;
And sigh, mid dreams of far Japan—
"A lazy life's the life for me."

ENVOY.

Gain! Ever since the world began,
Misguided men have wrought for thee;
But, while their endless strife I scan,
A lazy life's the life for me.

WHAT I GOT.

I am a chap quite impeccable
Named "Sid"
I wrote a poem once upon a time,
I did.
I sent it to a journal of renown,
You bet!
And have they paid me anything cash down?
Not yet.
Again I wrote. This time 'twas very bright—
A pun,
I said, for sure 'twould bring me in at last
Some mon.
At first, for long and weary weeks I got
A wait.
As longer grew the time my hopes grew less—
Sad fate!
A letter came at last; my hopes grew fat—
For mon.
I opened it with eager hands, and got—
My pun!

FATE.

Last night she dropped a red, red rose
From out her hair,
And all the while I did but smile,
And left it there.
She went her way with no word said,
Nor little guessed
I crushed the flower within an hour
Upon my breast.

That there's many a slip
'Twixt the cup and the lip,
Is a proverb you know well enough:
But a commoner slip
Is the slip 'twixt the tip
And the horse that you back with you stuff

Miss Thirtysmith (wrathfully)—That Jack
Gayboy is too mean to live!
Dolly Swift—What offence has he been
guilty of?

Miss Thirtysmith—He proposed to me last
night, and, when I brushed and stammered
that it was so sudden, the wretch burst into
a roar of laughter, and I was obliged to
haughtily reject his proposal to save myself
respect.

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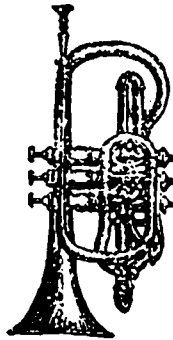
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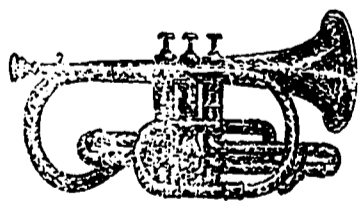
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