

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

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Comment and Criticism.

IT has been found impossible this week to find space for the prize lists of the Ontario provincial matches promised for this issue, but they will appear next week. We give, however, the lists for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and British Columbia, all of which matches took place previous to the Ontario meeting. In our next issue we will not be able to publish the D. R. A. returns, which will have to be held over for another week, but the proceedings at the annual competitors' meeting, or the "grievance" meeting, as it has been called, will be recorded.

SOME matters of great importance were discussed at the competitors' meeting. Amongst these was that of the substitution of the Martini for the Snider rifle. While there were a few who strenuously advocated the entire abolition of the Snider, the general opinion of the meeting seemed to be that, as the weapon of the force, it was the imperative duty of the D. R. A. to do all in its power to encourage and promote shooting with that weapon. However, those who took the

latter view seemed willing to concede that the Martini should, to a large extent, take the place of the Snider at 600 yards.

AS had been expected, the number of competitors at this year's meeting of the D. R. A. exceeded the best previous record, that of 1884. Every province was represented, and an examination of the prize lists will show that they were no unworthy representatives who were sent to take part. The meeting was satisfactorily conducted, everything running smoothly; and the grand aggregate matches, usually occupying four days, were concluded in one less without any difficulty. The scoring, from a variety of causes, was unusually low, the grand aggregate scores being lower than last year, even with an extra match included. The weather all week was unfavorable to high scoring, and the fact that no sighting shots were allowed doubtless took off many a point.

IT should be understood that this paper does not necessarily share the views of correspondents expressed in letters to the editor published in our columns, which are open to all responsible persons who wish to avail themselves of them, and the same prominence will always be gladly given to both sides of every story. Correspondents, however, would do well to remember that in order to ensure the insertion of their letters in any issue they should be in our hands by Tuesday morning at the latest.

THE members who have returned from England speak in the highest terms of praise of the hospitality shown towards the Shoeburyness team in the mother country. The council of the National artillery association appointed a large and representative committee for the purpose of welcoming the Canadians, and making such arrangements as would enable them to see some of the chief objects of interest in London during their visit. The kindness extended to the English team which lately visited this country has evidently been appreciated and remembered by the English artillerymen and their friends.

L T.-COL. MACDONALD, President of the Council of the Canadian artillery association, replies in a letter, which arrived too late for last week's, but is to be found elsewhere in this issue, to the statements of "Six-by-Nine," published two weeks ago, concerning the alleged improper composition of the Canadian Shoeburyness team. This letter would seem to dispose of the statement that the Canadians take any unfair advantage of the mother country volunteer artillerymen, as the president points out that the National artillery association are fully aware of the manner in which the Canadian team is made up. "Six-by-Nine" was, however, not alone in his opinion that there was something in this matter requiring explanation, as witness the letter of "Gunner" in our last issue. But Lt.-Col. Macdonald's explanation of the real facts of the case should put the matter before the public in the proper light.

WE reprint from a service paper a description of some excellent results obtained by the use of Major Richards' system of rifle practice, and would strongly advocate the use of the same system for the Canadian militia. Everyone acknowledges now that ability as a marksman is the one essential of the soldier; but while acknowledging it, the authorities permit us to go on in the same old groove that experience has proved practically useless. We meet for our twelve days every second year, and we are made to fire hurriedly twenty rounds of ball ammunition with practically no previous instruction, and then we are supposed to be qualified to meet an enemy if occasion should arise. The absurdity of the idea is too apparent to need any comment.

LESSONS by qualified instructors would help to mend matters, but plenty of practice alone will make good shots, and this, with ammunition at 2 cents a round, the bulk of our militiamen cannot afford. If by adopting Major Richards' system the cost could be reduced to one tenth what it is at present, and every man could have a range at his own door, it is altogether probable that rifle practice would become a popular amusement, and that the bulk of our militia would become good shots. Perhaps we may have more to say on this subject at a future time.

Common Sense on Parade, or Drill Without Stays.

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL THE RIGHT HON. J. H. A. MACDONALD, M.P.

(Commandant the Queen's Edinburgh R. V. Brigade.)

(Continued from page 459.)

MIXING up is elevated to a principle instead of its being acknowledged, as it ought to be, that "all mixing up is, and must continue to be a makeshift" (*Militar Wochenblatt*), and that this mixing "is one of the greatest evils of the extended order of fighting."—(*Outline of Attack Formation. Intelligence Branch, Q.-M.-G's. Department.*) "We sacrifice the great moral power of accustomed comradeship, and mix different, perhaps rival companies. I venture to think this is a serious matter, and very like organising disorder."—(*Col. C. B. Brackenbury.*) Accordingly, this question of reconciling the order with intervals of the advance with the return to a closed order without confusion "is exercising the minds of officers of all armies" (*Gen. Macdougall*), and the result may be expressed in the almost despairing cry of one of the most thoughtful soldiers: "how are we to seek and where are we to find a new system which will allow us to move in loose order, and at the same time rally at the decisive moment?"—*Col. H. Brackenbury.*) Here the "loose" order of men extended out of formation—the scattering and dispersion from the space they normally cover to an extended line—is the only idea from which to start; and the entreaty is for some "new" system to overcome the evils resulting from such scattering or dispersion, as regards the recovery of tactical form. The use of such a skirmishing extension, obtained by lateral spreading, is stated as if it were inevitable. May it not be that the remedy lies in discarding the "loose" order, the lateral spreading of extension, "the dispersed order of fighting" (*Major-Gen. Newdigate*), and that if this is done it may be found that no "new" system is necessary, but only a development of the old to meet new conditions. In former days, the solid line moved straight on the foe. May it not be possible that those who compose it should in portions move in succession straight to the attack, with intervals automatically obtained, as formerly it moved all at once and solid? May not the advantages of an order with intervals be gained, without these intervals being made by a scattering and disintegrating process? May not intervals in the first line of attack be obtained by a judicious thinning forward in a direct line, rather than by that interference with tactical form which must result from altering the extent of front covered by any unit? In other words, the intention being to form a final line by reinforcement for the decisive stage of the action, can the line principle be maintained throughout? Can the mode of working be rather the direct thinning forward of the line at the commencement of the attack, and the direct thickening up of the line as the engagement proceeds? A final line being the thing aimed at, can the dominating principle be the line? And if the principle cannot, owing to modern conditions, absolutely prescribe the detail, cannot the detail in some reasonable degree follow the principle? Can the excellent maxim be

adhered to, that "a system of movements should be consistent in all its parts, and therefore its general character should prevail throughout, and its distinctive feature be discernable in every evolution that belongs to it."—(*Capt. Suasso.*)

And if it be the line which is the distinctive feature, if, however much necessity compels the development of a skirmishing style in the early stages, yet still "skirmishers at the last must form some kind of line" (*Gen. Sir William Codrington*), if "the object to be aimed at is to place the attacking force within charging distance of the enemy's position as nearly as can be in a two-deep line."—(*Lieut.-Gen. Lord Chelmsford.*) If the problem is "how, starting from the basis of a deployed line, can you get these (the fighting) units through the fire swept space, so that they may have at the last moment a more or less resemblance to a coherent line such as is necessary at the last moment for shock (*Capt. James*), then, if possible, let the line principle be throughout discernible. If possible, let the start be made from the line, with intention to maintain the principle of the line. Let the mode of movement be only a thinning forward of the line and not a lateral disruption and destruction of the line. Let reinforcement be a thickening forward again into the same line as near as may be, and not a spurious imitation of it, in which units and commands shall be indiscriminately and unnecessarily jumbled up.

The aim, then, should be to advance from the line in an order with intervals, not obtaining these intervals by lateral extensions, but if possible by a straight movement to the front. If this can be done in a practical manner, all difficulties of closing in under fire, and all disadvantages of doubling up reinforcements and fighting line would be eliminated. There would be no *made* confusion on the one hand, and no hazardous or impossible expedients to avoid it on the other. It would fulfil absolutely the desideratum, that from first to last the movement of attack should be straight to the front, and would maintain naturally the organic arrangement of the troops down to the smallest unit. The separation caused by a part being sent forward and a part held back would not be a disarranging and disintegrating operation. It would be one of space in depth only. Just as the companies following one another in a column are separate in the sense of there being spaces in depth between them, but are an orderly and harmoniously acting unity; so a line, sent straight forward in the way supposed, would retain its unity, although spaces, from front to rear, intervened between its parts. Thus the desideratum that "the formation originally adopted shall be as little altered as possible during the action" (*Major-Gen. the Hon. W. H. A. Fielding*), and "the necessity of maintaining very strictly the bonds of tactics" (*Italian Official Precis*), would both be given effect to.

The question therefore is this: Can no third alternative be found, avoiding the evils caused by indiscriminate doubling up or lateral closings in the reinforcement of the fighting line? Is there no simple way of advancing *straight out* from the first in an order with intervals, and of reconsolidating straight forward on reinforcement? Is there no way by which troops can go *in principle* straight to the front, the parts deviating not to obtain extension, but only for the temporary purpose of cover, passing obstructions, gaining a view for fire, or the like? Can men not be advanced into the combat, in a formation with intervals, exactly *as if they were extended*, while they still cover only their own front in line, advance exactly—though not necessarily with external exactitude—over the grounds they would advance over in line, and can be reinforced on a straight-form-the-rear principle in every case, so as to give effect to the following, so far as the unavoidable difficulties of actual combat make this possible? "What we want to avoid is mixing them, if it can possibly be helped, in the long advance before the charge, so that we may bring at last into close contact with the enemy a force that shall be homogeneous, which shall be under the hand of the officers."—(*Col. C. B. Brackenbury.*)

What is required is a mode of movement which shall tend to maintain the position of every man relatively to the line, except in so far as temporary deviation and abandonment of exact drill order is needful, in consequence of the nature of ground, obstacles to be passed, or the disciplined use of cover under orders, etc.

To accomplish this as well as it can be accomplished, the problem is, to discover some principle out of which two desiderata shall be obtainable. 1. That troops shall have the best attainable means of avoiding final loss of form. 2. That the principle shall be universally applicable to all movements of troops.

If the first of these desiderata could be obtained, the great difficulty of the modern "attack," as distinguished from ordinary drill, would be removed. But if the second could also be obtained, it would have the invaluable result of making all drill have a real relation to business, instead of being as it so often is, a thing apart, useful only for developing steadiness and inculcating discipline, but in no way directly applicable to the combat, which results in its often being "stiff, con-

ventional and formal," tending to the production of "imaginary perfect human automata" (*Field-Marshal the Arch-Duke John of Austria*); the true principle rather being that "rules are necessary. It is the wooden application of them, which is the ruin of the people who apply them."—(*Captain James.*)

The existing selection and mode of using movements do not fulfil the terse maxim, stated long ago, "It is necessary to establish one principle of action, and never to depart from it" (*Marechal Saxe*), and the equally terse maxim regarding the manœuvres to carry out the principle, "Ils doivent etre simples, faciles, en petit nombre, et relatives a la guerre."—(*Guibert.*) But if a general principle can be discovered from which *all* work may be done, Saxe's maxim will be satisfied, and a great advance will be made in the attainment of all the four points of Guibert. It must be simpler, and it must be easier to use one guiding principle for all movements. It must reduce the number of evolutions to have only one principle. It must also eliminate evolutions not relative to war. "Bannissons donc de notre tactique une abondance sterile. N'exercions nos legionnaires qu'a des manœuvres necessaires."—(*Rogniat.*)

At present "men are taught to keep together not in mind but in body. . . . Surely what we want is to teach men to keep away from one another, and yet to remain together with as much cohesion of movement as possible."—(*Colonel Gordon Ives.*)

Can we get rid not only of the multiplicity of evolutions no longer useful, but also that other "abundance sterile," which results from having two main principles instead of one?

Have we any principle in our drill system which will effect all this? It cannot be the shoulder to shoulder, march by touch principle, for this is under modern conditions the reverse of "relatif a la guerre." What we want is a principle of movement with intervals, applicable to all evolutions and capable of elastic flexion without destroying steadiness.

To ascertain whether this can be done, while at the same time the national and characteristic are maintained, the best course will be to go back to the existing system of drill, and to see whether there is any formation in it, which will automatically give an arrangement of men with intervals from which they can be worked forward in successive portions. It is not necessary to go far back. There is one formation which is every day asserting itself as the most simple, convenient and universally applicable for the handy movement of troops under all circumstances. That is the formation once permitted only exceptionally but now dominant—the formation of "FOURS." It may serve to indicate the extraordinary change of view in regard to this essentially British and distinctive mode of movement, if the following: "The formation of four deep, though deemed applicable to battalion drill with reference to service, may, nevertheless, in certain cases, be applied" (*Field Exercise, 1833*), be contrasted with the statement in the same work 50 years later: "It is especially necessary that companies should be so exercised as to insure, under all circumstances, the ready formation of fours, upon which nearly all movements depend."—(*Field Exercise, 1884.*)

In passing it may be noticed that this passage reads very curiously, when it is remembered that in all exercises whatever, which are "relatives a la guerre," *i.e.*, which are intended for use under fire, and are now practised, the principle of fours is absolutely ignored. Our "attack"—our real business—is divorced from it altogether.

Again the result of experience by our own race in the only recent war on a large scale between English speaking people may be referred to. The following was said by a distinguished American general to an English audience: "The advantages of moving by fours are appreciated in your service, their use being generally authorised. I cannot but think that they will soon with you, as with us, entirely supercede the march by the front, except on occasions of parade. . . . Infantry should be marched always in fours."—(*General Morris, U.S.A.*)

Adopt this principle, and at once the national and characteristic assert themselves. "I have built upon the fours because it is a well known formation of the British army."—(*Colonel Bell.*)

While the Germans, who are held up to us as models, still grind away on parade in an order with three ranks, which is absolutely abandoned whenever practical work is to be done, the admirable formation of fours, developed out of a two deep formation, enables British troops to move about with the utmost freedom, without any risk of "tailing off" when moving to right or left in a filing style. It very plainly appears from the German regulations that they retain movement of bodies with considerable front, with shoulder to shoulder wheels, because they have no such formation as fours, and they deprecate the lengthening out produced by the fact that "each division in files prolongs itself."—(*Prussian Regulation Drill Book.*)

But it is not advisable to go further? General Morris evidently means only that instead of moving men about in bodies with broad fronts, and marching two deep with touch, it is more handy to move them

by fours-right or fours-left, and form them up as required. In this he is undoubtedly right. But his "except upon occasions of parade" indicates the old tendency to divorce the parade from the practical. If Col. Charles Brackenbury is right that the soldier "must come to an open order of fighting," then if a closed order is maintained for the parade it will be a case of "the teachers" failing to "recognise the fact." However revolutionary it may sound, it must be asserted and emphasised that all movement on parade should be consistent with the now imperative condition, and that condition is that the maintenance of order and regularity in moving in a formation with intervals must be the very essence, the life itself of all our training. Accuracy of advance is not to be attained by shoulder to shoulder. Close line only comes in at the point where the rush of victory by one side or the other is imminent, when *elan* takes the place of restraint, and when, under modern conditions neither accuracy of touch nor dressing on markers before the charge are possible. "As long as the line was the fighting formation, of course the more we had of advance in line and shoulder to shoulder the better, but now we do not fight in that formation; that is the question that goes to the root of the whole matter. . . . Our honor and our existence as a great nation may depend some day on the way in which we fight, and that fighting will not be in close order."—(*Major Barker.*)—(*Coiburn's Magazine.*)

(To be continued.)

Cheap Rifle Practice.

PRACTICAL soldiers all agree that, as a body, the British army shoots badly. It is nearly true still, as in the days of the Brown Bess, that for every enemy put *hors de combat* his weight in lead has to be expended. General Brackenbury stood aghast after the battle of Kirbekan to see the whole face of the rocks pitted over with bullet marks; and if this is the best musketry practice that can be expected from the Highlanders and other steady troops led by Earle and Brackenbury up the Nile, what is to be expected from the militia, who, compared with the senior branch of the service, are notoriously bad shots. Most persons, if told to look in that quarter for the development of a new system of musketry instruction likely to eclipse and supersede all our old methods, would be disposed to receive the statement with an incredulous smile; and if any man were bold enough to affirm that the solution of the most important military problem of the day was being worked out on a Surrey common by a battalion of militia during its period of twenty-seven days' training, he would run the risk of being looked upon as a wild enthusiast. Yet, if General Brackenbury, or any of that great band of gallant men who deplore the inability of Tommy Akins to shoot, had been with Col. Hercy, the officer in command of the 2nd regimental district, last Wednesday, at his official inspection of the 3rd battalion Royal West Surrey regiment, they might have been led to take a more hopeful view of the future of military shooting. A few years ago this battalion held a very low place in the order of merit for shooting among the ninety militia battalions of the kingdom, but Colonel Davis, who commands the Surrey battalion, having been fortunate enough to secure Capt. E. Herbert, an enthusiastic shot and an earnest trainer of men, as musketry instructor, the battalion has gone rapidly from the eightieth place to the fortieth, and the twenty-sixth in order of merit, with a good prospect, under the new system of instruction carried out in the battalion during the training period just closed, of a higher place still. A description of this system, which appears to have grown almost unobserved up to a remarkable state of perfection, cannot fail to be of use as well as of interest to every branch of Her Majesty's service, since the simple and inexpensive means employed are applicable wherever there is a ship's crew, a squadron, a battalion, a company, or a squad to be instructed.

The miniature bullet system of musketry training illustrated at Wimbledon on the last day of the 1885 meeting by the morning's practice of Lieut.-Col. Tynte, 4th Dragoon Guards; Major Wallar, of the Council of the N. R. A.; Lieut. Murray, H. M. S. *Excellent*; Mr. C. F. Lowe, Queen's Westminster rifles (silver medallist); and Major Richards, 4th Volunteer battalion Royal West Surrey regiment, the inventor of the system attracted the attention of Col. Davis, and, hearing of the experimental instruction classes which Major Richards had been subsequently authorised to organize at Kingston barracks, the commanding officer of the 3rd battalion the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) regiment sent down Capt. Herbert to make a report. The report proving entirely favorable, Col. Davis resolved to apply the system at once in this year's period of training, carried out during the past month on Merrow Down, Guildford.

Major Richards has, in the interval since the last Wimbledon meeting, worked out every detail of his invention in a form practically applicable regimentally for the training of recruits sent to a depot or instructional centre, and he has, in fact, put some hundreds of recruits

belonging to the East Surrey regiment through a complete course of musketry training, including target practice, without extending by a single day the six weeks' training, ordinarily necessary, even where no target practice is included. Col. Fitzroy, the officer commanding, who has not only permitted the experimental classes, but has followed them with the warmest interest, cannot fail to be gratified at finding his recruits, after their bare six weeks' course, at once able to take their place at the ordinary rifle range, and make sure of not only hitting the target, but of making a good score of points with nearly every shot. And this brilliant result has been achieved at the most trifling cost. A miniature range of thirty yards was improvised in a corner of the barrack square, a few rough boards were put up in an outhouse to serve for a cartridge factory, and a bullet mould and a few simple tools, with a couple of Martini-Henry drill rifles with the breech converted at the cost of about ten shillings, so as to take the miniature cartridge, were provided by Major Richards to complete the establishment. It only remained to provide a couple of thousand rounds of the miniature cartridge, which is of the same calibre as the Martini service cartridge, though the bullet is much shorter and lighter, and the powder-chamber is much reduced. Major Richards considers it an essential part of the system of training that every recruit should learn not only how to shoot his ammunition away to advantage, but how to replace that which has been used; and much of the extraordinary interest which the recruits, to a man, exhibit in the work is probably due to the fact that the two natural propensities, inherent in all of us, to construct and to destroy are both satisfied in the miniature bullet system of training. As soon as a few score rounds have been shot away the men who have fired them are marched up to the rough bench and set to work, some to knock out the old cap, replace it with a new one, put in a fresh charge of powder and a new bullet and wads, and others to recast fresh bullets from the battered ones picked up on the range after being fired. This plan has the incalculable advantage of providing a practically unlimited supply of ammunition at a merely nominal cost, for it is found that each cartridge case will shoot on the average of thirty bullets before it requires to be thrown away. Any regiment can, in fact, keep itself continually supplied with the miniature ammunition at a cost of from 5s. to 7s. per 1,000 rounds, for the only expense after the first outlay, which is very small, is limited to the cost of powder and caps. The shooting at the miniature target forms a part of the daily programme of work of the camp at Merrow down; a certain number of men who have become very expert at making the cartridges, preparing every morning about 500 rounds, which are fired in the evening after four, when the drill parades are over for the day. In addition to a certain quantity issued free to each company, the men are allowed to purchase ammunition for practice, and the range is constantly occupied to its full extent by the men desiring private practice. The officers and non-com. officers, too, are often found at the range, which has become most popular with all ranks. The actual range is thirty yards, but by the reduction of the bull's-eye and inner ring the target at that distance represents a third-class target at 200 yards. One officer, Lieut. Fraser, has had one of his targets, made a few days ago, nailed up on a post as a challenge to all comers. It counts nineteen points out of a possible twenty in five shots, a record which is not likely to be easily broken, though several scores of eighteen have been made in the attempt. The miniature targets are of paper, with a bull's-eye 1 inch and an inner ring of 3 inches diameter. These are simply hung on a nail driven into a stout log, which answers for the butt. The marker sits within an iron mantlet, and spots on an enlarged target raised above his head. Expert shots can generally get ten or twelve shots within a 2-inch ring, and sometimes closer. Misses are rare among men who have gone through a brief course of instruction, and the average of the shooting has been very largely improved. Many scores averaging centres are recorded, and a majority score more than half the points possible. The practice has been carefully observed by the inspecting officer, Col. Hercy, and by Col. Davis, and both of these officers have thanked Major Richards in the warmest terms for the introduction of a system of instruction which tends to engage the attention of recruits, and to materially develop and improve their shooting powers at little or no cost to the nation.—*United Service Gazette*.

In the arts of war as well as in the arts of peace, Canada is taking a leading place in England this year. Canadians did well at the Wimbledon meeting a few weeks ago, and at Shoeburyness they have more than maintained former prestige. The welcome extended to them on every hand at Shoeburyness, as at Wimbledon, must have been most gratifying, and in no formal way was the hope expressed that their visits may become fixed events for each recurring autumn. Lord Wolseley, indeed, in reviewing the Shoeburyness forces, went further. He even ventured to hope that next year, the jubilee of Her Majesty's reign, might be signalled by a visit to the artillery camp of representatives of all the great colonies of the Empire. The suggestion is worthy of consideration. It has already been found practical at Wimbledon, and there is reason to hope that the invitation of the British National Artillery Association may another year meet with as much success in the other colonies as it has done in Canada.—*Canadian Gazette*, August 19.

The Shoeburyness Team.

THE following interview with Lieut.-Col. Oswald, by a Montreal *Star* reporter, will be read with great interest in view of the correspondence on the subject which has lately appeared in these columns, and in connection with the explanatory letter of Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, president of the council, published elsewhere in this issue:—

“ ‘Any complaints as to the constitution of the Canadian artillery Shoeburyness team should come from the other side, not from here,’ remarked Lieut.-Col. Oswald, who has just returned from England, to a *Star* reporter this morning. ‘The cry which has been raised that because some A and B battery men form part of the team it is not a fair contest against the English volunteers emanates, I am told, from a few irresponsible parties who are jealous of the continued success of the team. The constitution of the Canadian team was agreed upon in 1881, when the invitation was issued by the National Artillery association and accepted by it. It was then understood that the team should embrace two men from A, two from B battery, two gentlemen cadets from Kingston, and the balance from the different provinces. Such a selection was made with the object that the different provinces might profit by the experience and increased knowledge they derive on the other side. Were any change to take place in the constitution of the team, I can assure you it would be most unpopular in England, as the batterymen and the cadets are great favorites.’ ‘But is it a fair contest between Canadian volunteers and British volunteers?’ ‘You cannot draw a comparison between the two services. The English volunteer artillery brigades are composed of from eight hundred to a thousand men, with a regularly attached adjutant, who in most cases is a commissioned officer in the Royal artillery. The Brigade is undergoing training the whole year round, and it is a very easy thing to select a smart team from it. Our men are taken from garrison brigades and field batteries from all over the Dominion, and it is only with the assistance of the A and B batteries they are got into shape. The composition of the Canadian team gives entire satisfaction on the other side, and it is a pity that the success of the team should be spoiled by a few Canadian grumblers. You must remember the twenty Canadians competed against 2,000, including the Royal arsenal men from Woolwich.’

Col. Oswald, who only returned from England yesterday, says that the colonial exhibition which has attracted so many colonists to London, has had the effect of inspiring a great revulsion of feeling towards the colonies, and a great effort is being made to have the celebration of the Queen's jubilee next year an occasion for demonstrating the strength of the colonies by having representatives of all arms present from the different dependencies of the Empire.”

Personals.

Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, was expected to sail from England for Canada on the 26th ult.

As noted in our news columns, Lieut.-Col. Gibson has been promoted to the command of the 13th battalion, in room of Col. Skinner, resigned. Col. Gibson began his military life when, during the patriotic excitement incident to the “Trent affair,” he joined the University rifles, over twenty-four years ago. After completing his very brilliant college course, he joined the 13th battalion, in July, 1863, as a private. From that time onwards he steadily passed through all the ranks until, working his way up with the steady industry and ability which characterize the man, he has finally achieved the highest station attainable in Canadian military life—the command of a regiment. Col. Gibson is more than usually well qualified for his command. Apart from the fact that he has long held a first-class military school certificate, he possesses much valuable experience. He has been an active and influential promoter of rifle practice amongst the Canadian volunteers. He himself is a famous rifle-shot, with a brilliant record in the Dominion and Wimbledon rifle contests. In 1879 he won the Prince of Wales prize at Wimbledon with the highest score ever made with the Snider-Enfield rifle. In addition to many accomplishments, practically advantageous for a commander of volunteers, Col. Gibson has the well-merited esteem and regard of the officers and men of his regiment, who unanimously hail his promotion with expressed approbation. We wish him long life to enjoy his many honors, assured that no one has a larger share of public confidence or is more entitled to it than he.—*Hamilton Times*, August 28.

6th Fusiliers.—The 6th Fusiliers, of Montreal, contemplate a trip to Brockville early in September. Three days will be spent under canvas there, and the men are expected to benefit considerably from the experience.

British Columbia Provincial Matches.

THE annual prize meeting of the British Columbia provincial rifle association took place at the Browsville range, opposite New Westminster, on the 17th ult. and succeeding days. The prize winners were as follows:—

1ST MATCH—200 YARDS, SEVEN ROUNDS.

Capt. Jones, V.G.A.....	29	Sergt. Roper, V.R.....	27
Pte. Turnbull, N.W.R.....	29	Lieut. McCall, N.W.R.....	27
Sergt. Scoullar.....	29	Gr. Hill, N.W.G.A.....	27
J. Wilson.....	28	Two 27's were counted out.	
Jeffries, R.N.....	28		

2. NANAIMO CORPORATION PRIZE—200 AND 400 YARDS, FIVE ROUNDS.

Sergt. Trew, N.W.R.....	41	J. Curtis, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	37
T. McDermott, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	40	C. Eade, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	37
Gr. Wolfenden, V.G.A.....	40	Major Prior.....	37
Gr. Carmichael, V.G.A.....	39	—Collins, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	37
Corpl. Williams, V.G.A.....	38	Capt. Fletcher.....	37
Gr. Hill, N.W.G.A.....	38	J. Wilson.....	37
Lieut. Bonson, R.L.....	38	Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden.....	37
Lieut. Woolacott, V.R.....	37		

3. LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S CUP—200, 500 AND 600 YARDS, SEVEN ROUNDS.

Cup and \$12 Sergt. Scoullar.....	71	Pte. Turnbull.....	65
\$7.50 Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden.....	70	Bdr. Newberry.....	65
5.00 Surgeon Trew.....	68	Lieut. Woolacott.....	62
2.50 Lieut. McNaughton.....	67	Gr. Hill.....	60

This cup to be won twice before becoming the property of any competitor.

4. NEW WESTMINSTER STAKES—200 and 400 YARDS, FIVE ROUNDS.

Challenge Cup presented by the late J. Howison.

Cup and \$12.50 Lieut. Bonson, R.L.....	43	Gr. Carmichael, V.G.A.....	38
\$7.50 Lieut. McColl, N.W.R.....	42	Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden.....	38
5.00 Lieut. Woolacott, V.R.....	39	J. Wilson.....	38
2.50 Major Prior, V.G.A.....	39	Sergt. Roper, V.R.....	38

The cup to be won twice in succession before becoming the property of any competitor.

5. VICTORIA CORPORATION—200, 500 AND 600 YARDS, SEVEN ROUNDS.

Challenge cup presented by mayor and council of Victoria.

Cup and \$12.50 Gr. Hill, N.W.G.A.....	80	Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden.....	62
\$7.50 Sergt. Reid, N.W.R.....	68	Capt. Peele, N.W.R.....	62
5.00 Lieut. McColl, N.W.R.....	66	Surgeon Trew.....	61
5.00 W. Wolfenden.....	64	Gr. Brand, V.G.A.....	60
T. McDermott, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	64	Major Prior, V.G.A.....	60
Capt. Jones, V.G.A.....	62	Eade, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	60

The cup to be won twice before becoming the property of any competitor.

6. LAURIE BUGLE MATCH.

Competed for by teams of ten members of the active militia, selected respectively from Victoria and New Westminster. 200, 400 and 600 yards. Five rounds.

\$40 Victoria team.....	439	New Westminster.....	413
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7. CHAPLEAU CHALLENGE CUP.

200, 400 and 600 yards. Five rounds. Cup presented by Hon. J. A. Chapleau, secretary of state.

Cup and \$12.50 Sergt. Scoullar.....	56	J. Cutler, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	50
\$10.00 C. Eade, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	52	T. McDermott, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	49
7.50 Lieut. Col. Wolfenden.....	52	Gr. Sargison.....	49
5.00 Lieut. Woolacott.....	50	Capt. Fletcher, R.L.....	48
2.50 A. S. Black.....	50		

The cup to be won twice before becoming the property of any competitor.

8. ASSOCIATION STAKES.

600 yards. Ten rounds. Martini-Henry rifle. First prize presented by the officers and militia of New Westminster and

\$10.00 C. Eade, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	42	J. Curtis, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	34
8.00 P. Turnbull.....	39	J. Cutler, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	32
5.00 Lieut. McNaughton.....	36	Fisher, R.N.....	31
2.50 Lieut. Woolacott.....	34		

9. ALL COMMERS' MATCH—200, 500 and 600 YARDS, SEVEN ROUNDS.

\$12.50 Gr. Sargison.....	84	C. Eade, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	73
10.00 Capt. Jones.....	77	Lieut. Bonson.....	73
5.00 Mr. Jeffries, R.N.....	75	Lieut. Fisher, R.N.....	72
2.50 Gr. Carmichael.....	73	J. Curtis, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	72

10. CONSOLATION MATCH—400 YARDS, SEVEN ROUNDS.

\$10.00 J. Curtis, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	29	\$2.50 Capt. Peele, N.W.R.....	23
7.50 Gr. Keary, H.M.S. "Triumph".....	25	Sergt. Reeves, N.W.G.A.....	22
5.00 T. Collins, N.W.G.A.....	25	Gr. Carmichael, V.G.A.....	22

10. GRAND AGGREGATE PRIZES.

For the highest individual aggregate score in all competitions, except Nos. 6, 8 and 10, gold badge of the British Columbia rifle association and silver medal of the Dominion of Canada rifle association. For second highest, silver badge of the British Columbia rifle association.

Lieut. Woolacott.....	340	Gr. Hill, N.W.G.A.....	339
Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden.....	340		

11. GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S MEDALS.

For the highest individual score at 500 and 600 yards in competitions Nos. 3, 5 and 9, silver medal presented by His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne. For the second highest individual score in above competitions, bronze medal, presented by His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne.

Capt. Jones.....	115	Gr. Hill.....	111
Lieut. Woolacott.....	113		

In a match between Gr. Hill, N.W.G.A., and Sergt. McDermott, of H.M.S. "Triumph," after regular competitions were closed, for stakes of \$20, the remarkable score of 49 out of a possible 50 was made by the former.

New Brunswick R. A. Matches.

THE annual prize meeting of the New Brunswick provincial rifle association opened on the Stockton range, Sussex, on the 17th ult. A heavy rain interfered with the shooting on the first day, causing the commencement to be postponed for some hours, and subsequently a gusty wind helped to lower the scores. The full programme for the meeting was published in our issue of the 12th August. The following were the prize winners:—

NURSERY AND MAIDEN—400 AND 500 YARDS, FIVE ROUNDS.

This year, for the first time, team prizes were offered. The winners were as follows:

\$25. Hussars.		Individual prizes.	
Trumpeter Fairweather.....	22 19 41	Cup and \$10 Sergt. Bourne, Rifles.....	22 20 42
Trooper Murray.....	18 17 35	\$8 Tpr. Fairweather, Hussars.....	22 19 41
Trooper Whelpley.....	11 17 28	6 Lt. Manning, Rifles.....	23 18 41
Surgeon March.....	14 13 27	5 Corpl. Parks, Rifles.....	17 19 36
Trooper Dixon.....	13 12 25	4 Corpl. W. Langstroth, Hussars.....	16 19 35
Totals.....	78 78 156	4 Bandsman Kinner, 74th.....	18 17 35
\$15. 67th Battalion.		3 Trooper Murray, Hussars.....	18 17 35
Lieut. Fletcher.....	11 20 31	3 Trooper Bateman, Hussars.....	21 13 34
Pte. Kennedy.....	16 13 29	3 Sergt. Jones, Rifles.....	14 19 33
Pte. McIntyre.....	9 15 24	2 Pte. Frost, 74th.....	17 16 33
Lieut. Raymond.....	9 10 19	2 Pte. McNeil, Rifles.....	14 18 32
Capt. Boyer.....	9 5 14	2 Pte. Burns, Rifles.....	18 14 32
Totals.....	54 63 117	2 Lieut. Fletcher, 67th.....	11 20 31
\$10. St. John Rifles.		2 Sergt. Ewing.....	17 13 30
Pte. McNeil.....	14 18 32	2 Pte. Kennedy, 67th.....	16 13 29
Pte. McAvity.....	14 14 28	2 Lieut. Crossman, 74th.....	16 13 29
Pte. Gilbert.....	15 13 28		
Corpl. Pepper.....	4 15 19		
Pte. Nuttal.....	0 0 0		
Totals.....	47 60 107		

ALL COMERS'—500 YARDS, SEVEN SHOTS.

\$15 Sergt. Ewing, Fusiliers.....	30	\$3 Sergt. McFarlane, 71st.....	27
10 Lieut. Perkins, 71st.....	30	3 Corpl. Humphrey, Rifles.....	26
7 Sergt. McMurray, 67th.....	30	3 Pte. Burns, Rifles.....	26
7 Sergt. O'Shaughnessy, Fusiliers.....	28	3 Corpl. Kearney, I.S.C.....	26
5 Lieut. S. Langstroth, 74th.....	28	2 Pte. McPherson.....	26
5 Lieut. Weyman, 74th.....	28	2 Lieut. McElmon, 74th.....	25
5 E. S. Chase, St. Andrews.....	28	2 Sergt. Doherty, I.S.C.....	25
4 James Hunter, St. John.....	28	2 Lieut. McRobbie, Cavalry.....	25
4 Trooper Beatty, Cavalry.....	27	2 Lieut. Lordly, Fusiliers.....	25
4 Sergt.-Major Gray, 74th.....	27	2 Sergt. Henderson, Fusiliers.....	25

PROVINCIAL—600 YARDS, SEVEN SHOTS.

Cup and \$15 Capt. Langstroth, Cavalry.....	29	\$2 Capt. Kinnear, 74th.....	22
\$12 Lieut. W. Langstroth, Cavalry.....	27	2 Sergt. McDougall, Cavalry.....	21
10 Lieut. Manning, Fusiliers.....	27	2 Sergt. Bourne, Rifles.....	20
7 Sergt. Henderson, Fusiliers.....	26	2 Sergt. Langstroth, Cavalry.....	20
7 Lieut. McElmon, 74th.....	24	2 Sergt.-Major Carmichael, Rifles.....	20
5 Capt. Hart, Rifles.....	24	2 Lieut. McRobbie, Cavalry.....	20
5 Lieut. Langstroth, 74th.....	24	2 Sergt. Adams, Fusiliers.....	20
5 Pte. McAvity, Rifles.....	24	2 Sergt. Murray, Cavalry.....	20
4 Pte. McPherson, I.S.C.....	24	2 Sergt. McFarlane, 71st.....	19
4 Sergt. Doherty, I.S.C.....	23	2 Corpl. Humphrey, Rifles.....	10
4 Pte. Gilbert, Rifles.....	23	There were six 19's counted out.	
4 Pte. Hollins, 71st.....	23		

PRINCE OF WALES'—200, 500 AND 600 YARDS, SEVEN SHOTS.

TEAM PRIZES.		INDIVIDUAL PRIZES.	
\$20. 74th Battalion.		Cup, medal and \$10 Lieut. Wey-	
Lieut. Weyman.....	27 25 25 77	man, 74th.....	27 25 25 77
Capt. Kinnear.....	28 26 18 72	\$12 Major Arnold, 74th.....	27 28 21 76
Sergt.-Major Gray.....	26 18 22 66	8 Capt. Kinnear, 74th.....	28 26 13 72
Lieut. McElmon.....	27 20 16 63	7 Pte. Burns, St. John Rifles.....	27 27 16 70
Lieut. S. Langstroth.....	24 23 9 56	5 Lieut. Smith, 71st.....	27 18 24 69
Totals.....	132 112 90 334	5 Sergt.-Major Carmichael, Rifles.....	21 22 21 69
\$15. Hussars.		5 Sergt. Loggie, 73rd.....	28 22 19 69
Trooper Beatty.....	26 26 17 69	4 Trooper Beatty, Hussars.....	26 26 17 69
Corpl. W. Langstroth.....	27 25 16 68	4 Corpl. W. Langstroth, Hussars.....	27 25 16 68
Sergt. G. Langstroth.....	28 16 15 59	4 Lieut. Crossman, 74th.....	28 19 20 67
Lieut. W. Langstroth.....	20 16 12 58	4 Lieut. Shives, retired.....	27 23 17 67
Lieut. McRobbie.....	22 24 9 55	3 Lieut.-Col. Beer, 74th.....	27 24 16 67
Totals.....	123 117 69 309	3 Sergt.-Major Gray, 74th.....	26 18 22 66
\$10. 71st Battalion.		3 Sergt. McMurray, 67th.....	30 18 18 66
Lieut. Smith.....	27 18 24 69	3 Lieut. McMillan, Rifles.....	26 27 13 66
Sergt. McFarlane.....	24 24 14 62	3 Corpl. Fowler, Hussars.....	27 18 20 65
Sergt. Miner.....	27 23 11 61	3 Lieut. Thompson, Fusiliers.....	22 15 26 63
Lieut. Perkins.....	28 14 13 55	2 Sergt. Jones, Fusiliers.....	25 19 19 63
Pte. Hollins.....	14 22 8 44	2 Lieut. McElmon, 74th.....	27 20 16 63
Totals.....	120 101 70 291	2 Corpl. Russel, 74th.....	18 21 23 62
The 62nd battalion team scored 284, and the St. John Rifles 272.		2 Lieut. Fletcher, 67th.....	26 15 21 62
		2 Sergt. Ewing, Fusiliers.....	22 21 19 62
		2 Corpl. Kearney, I.S.C.....	28 19 15 62
		There was one 62 counted out.	

DOMVILLE—500 AND 600 YARDS, SEVEN SHOTS.

Cup and \$15 Mr. G. E. Chase.....	23 29 52	\$4 Corpl. Parks, Rifles.....	26 17 43
\$10 Sergt. Henderson, 62nd.....	32 18 50	4 Pte. Curtin, I.S.C.....	16 25 41
8 Capt. Hart, Fusiliers.....	27 22 49	2 Lieut. Smith, 71st.....	21 20 41
6 Lieut.-Col. Beer, 74th.....	24 23 47	2 Lieut. Thompson, Fusiliers.....	22 19 41
5 Sergt. Miner, 71st.....	26 23 46	2 Lieut. Weyman, 74th.....	31 10 41
5 Tpr. Fairweather, Hussars.....	27 19 46	2 Sergt.-Major Gray, 74th.....	22 18 40
5 Pte. H. Lordly, Fusiliers.....	23 18 46	2 Lieut. Lordly, Fusiliers.....	24 16 40
5 Tr. Beatty, Hussars.....	21 24 45	2 Pte. A. Lordly, Fusiliers.....	27 13 40
5 Tr. Whelpley, Hussars.....	19 25 44	2 Corpl. Kearney, I.S.C.....	27 13 40
4 Sergt. McMurray, 67th.....	23 21 44	2 Lieut. Manning, Fusiliers.....	15 24 39
4 Corpl. W. Langstroth, Hussars.....	23 21 44	Three 39's were counted out.	
4 Lieut. S. Langstroth, 74th.....	23 20 43		

7. COMPANY TEAM MATCH.

A silver bugle, presented by Major-General J. W. Laurie, and \$30 added by the association.

\$12. No. 3 Battery H.G.A.		\$8. No. Company 75th.	
Lieut. Maxwell.....	77	Lieut. Dickie.....	53
Corpl. Case.....	76	Lieut. Suckling.....	64
Gr. Williams.....	70	Sergt. Dover.....	84
Gr. Dimock.....	68	Corpl. Cribb.....	75
Gr. Fader.....	57	Pte. Lynds.....	68
Total.....	348	Total.....	344
\$10. No. 1 Company 63rd.			
Capt. Bishop.....	79		
Sergt. Stenhouse.....	76		
Corpl. Taylor.....	62		
Pte. Langille.....	62		
Pte. Lear.....	68		
Total.....	347		

8. MARTINI MATCH.

Open to all comers. Ranges, 500 and 600 yards. Seven rounds.

\$15 Lieut. Maxwell, H.G.A.....	65	\$4 Sergt. Myers, 63rd.....	55
13 Capt. Bishop, 63rd.....	63	4 Sergt. Keddy, 68th.....	55
11 Adj. Nelson, 78th.....	61	4 Capt. Spike, 66th.....	55
8 Corpl. Case, H.G.A.....	61	4 Bandsman Defreytas, 63rd.....	54
7 Sergt. Grant, 78th.....	61	4 Capt. Corbin, 63rd.....	54
8 Capt. Stewart, R.I.R.....	61	4 Capt. Crane, 63rd.....	53
6 Gr. Campbell, H.G.A.....	60	4 Pte. Langille, 63rd.....	53
5 Lieut. Adams, H.G.A.....	58	4 Sergt.-Major Harris, H.G.A.....	52
5 Pte. Lynds, 78th.....	58	4 Sergt. Larkin, retired.....	52
5 Lieut. Fiske, 63rd.....	58	4 Sergt. Gibson, 66th.....	51
5 Corpl. Cribb, 78th.....	58	4 Capt. Smith, 78th.....	51
5 Lieut. Christie, 93rd.....	57	4 Lieut. Hallam, R.I.R.....	51
4 Sergt.-Inst. Power, 63rd.....	56	4 Pte. Bent, 93rd.....	50
4 Capt. Weston, 66th.....	56	4 Gr. Mackintosh, H.G.A.....	50

9. BATTALION MATCH.

A silver challenge cup, presented by Major-General Laurie. To be competed for annually by ten officers and men from each battalion, artillery brigade or field battery of the active militia of the Dominion, and from each of Her Majesty's regiments or artillery brigade serving in this province. Ranges, 200 and 500 yards. Seven rounds at each range. Discount on Martini-Henry rifle, 15 per cent. at 500 yards. Entrance fee, \$5.

Cup and \$30—Halifax Garrison Artillery.		Capt. Bishop.....		55
Lieut. Adams.....	52	Sergt. Stenhouse.....	50	
Capt. Garrison.....	53	Capt. Crane.....	53	
Corpl. Case.....	58	Pte. Corbin.....	50	
Gr. Wilson.....	50	Lieut. Fiske.....	54	
Gr. Fader.....	58	Total.....	535	
Gr. Dimock.....	57	\$10. 78th Battalion.		
Lieut. Maxwell.....	54	Capt. Barnhill.....	50	
Gr. Campbell.....	50	Lieut. Blackburn.....	52	
Capt. Harris.....	57	Pte. Holesworth.....	50	
Sergt. Harris.....	46	Sergt. Dover.....	57	
Total.....	535	Corpl. Cribb.....	47	
\$20. 63rd Rifles.		Pte. Lynds.....	52	
Capt. Corbin.....	51	Sergt. Lawrence.....	48	
Major Egan.....	52	Lieut. Dimock.....	58	
Sergt. Power.....	52	Sergt. Davis.....	45	
Sergt. Mumford.....	58	Adj. Nelson.....	49	
Major Walsh.....	52	Total.....	508	

10. CONSOLATION MATCH.

Open to all members who have been competitors in not less than four competitions during the meeting, and have not taken an individual prize. Range, 400 yards. Five rounds.

\$10 Lieut. McElmon, 93rd.....	23	\$4 Lieut. Dickie, 78th.....	21
7 Sergt. Gray, 66th.....	23	4 Capt. McCrow, retired.....	21
8 Sergt. Holesworth, 78th.....	22	4 Capt. Cunningham, 63rd.....	21
7 Gr. Fader, H.G.A.....	22	3 Lieut. Owen, 75th.....	21
6 Capt. Harris, H.G.A.....	22	3 Gr. Umlah, H.G.A.....	19
5 Sergt. Spencer, H.G.A.....	21	3 Sergt. Moody, H.G.A.....	19
4 Pte. McKenzie, 63rd.....	21	3 Pte. Smith, 78th.....	18

11. DOMINION TEAM.

Grand aggregate for a team to attend the competitions of the Dominion rifle association at Ottawa. The aggregate to be taken from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th and 9th competitions. The highest fifteen to form the team. The sum of \$150 and free passes over the Intercolonial railway, provided the same can be procured, will be divided among the team, to be delivered at time of departure for Ottawa. Vacancies will be filled up in rotation.

Capt. Bishop, 63rd.....	338	Sergt. Gibson, 66th.....	300
Lieut. Fiske, 63rd.....	324	Corpl. Lawrence, 78th.....	297
Corpl. Case, H.G.A.....	319	Lieut. Dimock, 78th.....	297
Capt. Garrison, H.G.A.....	315	Bandsman Defreytas, 63rd.....	294
Pte. Dover, 78th.....	315	Sergt.-Major Harris, H.G.A.....	294
Capt. Crane, 63rd.....	306	Capt. Nelson, 78th.....	293
Capt. Weston, 66th.....	305	Lieut. Adams, H.G.A.....	293
Sergt. Mumford, 63rd.....	303	Pte. Corbin, 63rd.....	292

AGGREGATE PRIZES

To be awarded to the two competitors whose scores in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th, and 9th competitions make up the highest aggregate: 1st, Aggregate badge and the National rifle association silver medal, Capt. Bishop, 63rd, 338. 2nd, Dominion rifle association silver medal, Lieut. Fiske, 63rd, 324.

Special Aggregate—Governor-General's medals, awarded to those two members of the association who are effective members of the active militia of the Dominion, whose aggregate scores at 500 and 600 yards in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 8th competitions were the highest: 1st, silver medal, Capt. Bishop, 63rd, 158. 2nd, bronze medal, Capt. Garrison, H.G.A., 152.

Correspondence.

COMPOSITION OF THE SHOEBURNESS TEAM.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

SIR,—With regard to the letter of "Six-by-Nine," which appeared in your issue of the 19th inst. upon the question of the composition of the Canadian Shoeburness team, I beg to point out that under the ordinary terms of entry such a team as we send could not be entered at Shoeburness at all, the detachments entered from the volunteer artillery of Great Britain being each composed of men from the same corps, while the men composing our two detachments are selected from many corps. Our team is not supposed to come solely from the volunteer militia of Canada, but to be a representative one of a certain composition and allowed specially to enter. This was the arrangement made when Lieut.-Col. Oswald took the first team to Shoeburness, and the distribution as it now stands among different corps has since then been fully sanctioned in England. The greatest care has been taken to have it thoroughly known and understood that so many of our members are taken from the Royal military college, so many from the permanent batteries, and the rest from the field or garrison batteries, and it has been and is open to the National artillery association at any time to request us to alter the distribution of our team. That it is an advantage to compose it of men from different corps is a question which I do not purpose to discuss here, but it is necessary to do so in order to encourage the interest of different centres. Perhaps as good a team could be selected from one corps, as it would then have better chances of drill together, but the team would not be representative in its character, as it is intended to be. Discussion as to the best way to compose it, not solely in order to win though that is a great point, but in order to obtain, by sending it the best, advantages that can by its means be obtained for the Canadian artillery and for the country, is open to any one, but I write you merely to contradict most emphatically the suggestion and charges contained in the letter referred to, that men whom we should not permit to join it are slipped into the team, or that there is anything else underhand about it, and I refrain in the meantime from expressing more than my deep regret that such unfounded charges should have appeared in your paper.

A. H. MACDONALD, Lieut.-Col.,
President D.A.A. Council.

GUELPH, Ont., Aug. 24th, 1886.

Regimental Notes.

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

Montreal F.B.—The Montreal field battery have been undergoing annual drill in camp at St. Helen's island. The number of men in attendance was 76. They attended to their ordinary business in town every day, and performed drill in the evening and early morning. The camp has been a great source of attraction to friends of the corps, to enable whom to visit it extra boats had to be run between the city and island.

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Mail Service between Canada and the United Kingdom.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General of Canada, Ottawa, will be received by him at his office in Ottawa until noon on WEDNESDAY, the 6th October next, for the transport of mails, weekly, by first class steamers between Canada and the United Kingdom, upon a contract of five years from the First April, 1887. The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Chambers, London, S.W., or to the Post Office Department, Ottawa, Canada.
WILLIAM WHITE,
Secretary.
Post Office Department, Canada.
Ottawa, 20th July, 1886.


Notice Respecting Passports.
PERSONS requiring passports from the Canadian Government should make application to this Department for the same, such application to be accompanied by the sum of four dollars in payment of the official fee upon passports as fixed by the Governor in Council.
G. POWELL,
Under Secretary of State.
Ottawa, 19th Feb., 1886.


MILITIA.
SEALED TENDERS, marked on the left hand corner of the envelope, "Tenders for Militia Clothing, Store Supplies and Necessaries," addressed to the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence, will be received up to noon of Monday, 6th September, 1886. Printed forms of tenders, containing full particulars, may be obtained from the Department at Ottawa and at the following Militia Stores, where also sealed patterns of all articles may be seen, viz:—The offices of the Superintendents of Stores at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, N.S., and St. John, N.B. No tender will be received unless made on printed forms furnished by the Department. The material of all articles will be required to be of Canadian manufacture and Canadian workmanship. Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted Canadian bank cheque, for an amount equal to ten per cent. of the total value of the articles tendered for, which will be forfeited if the party making the tender declines to sign a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the service contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.
C. EUG. PANET,
Colonel,
Deputy of the Minister of Militia and Defence.
OTTAWA, 5th August, 1886.



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