

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

Third Year.
VOL. III, No. 29.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 19th JANUARY, 1888.

\$1.50 per annum in advance.
Single Copies Five Cents.

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and has issued a general order granting many extended and acceptable privileges. No doubt a similar result will follow the trial of the experiment in Canada.

THIS innovation has attracted attention in the United States, and the *Army and Navy Journal* is of opinion that it would be well for the United States to adopt it with the modifications and restrictions made necessary by the differences in circumstances. "These are admirable provisions," says that paper, "in the present improved condition of the British army, and will assuredly raise it to a yet higher degree of excellence; for they add to the self respect and pride of manhood of the enlisted men, and inspire them with a greater interest in their profession; and this will inevitably react upon and help to diminish the present popular contempt for the rank and file."

BUGLE and Trumpet Majors in the militia have their relative rank defined in the General Orders published in this issue. Heretofore they have had only the privileges and pay of buglers, but henceforth they will rank as sergeants, and be paid at the rate of 75 cents a day. The change will be as popular as it is commendable.

THE Royal School of Infantry at London, Ont., will it is announced open on the 2nd April next, for the instruction of attached officers, non-commissioned officers and men. Canada will then possess, exclusive of the Royal Military College, nine schools of instruction—one for cavalry, three for artillery, one for mounted infantry, and four for infantry. As ten officers and twenty non-commissioned officers and men are allowed to be attached to each school for each of the three courses held in the year, we have now facilities for the instruction annually of 270 officers and 540 non-commissioned officers and men—a large number, but not great enough, the accommodation not being equal to the applications for admission. The capabilities of the schools might be very much increased at comparatively trifling expense, and it is to be hoped that this will ere long be done.

ASON of Mars has made some excellent suggestions in a letter recently published in a Winnipeg paper, and which we would like to reproduce did space permit. The writer thinks that in the rural districts artillery would be better than infantry, for this reason, that in a small place it would be easier to get a few men for gun drill than the men required for company drill: "A few being enough for the drill of a gun detachment, a dozen men here and a dozen there might in this way be placed about the country and in possession of quick firing guns; besides, men are always more efficient drilled in detachments than in any other way, for men so trained could be easily brought together, in the event of invasion, to the frontier or coast batteries when necessity required." Mounted infantry he considers valuable as scouts, not otherwise. The best part of his letter, in our opinion, is the last paragraph, as follows: "As the country cannot afford a large military expenditure, why not arm the troops that are with the best rifles and give more attention to mus-

Current Topics.

MILITIA General Orders No. 1, of the 12th inst., give details of the subjects and marks for the annual examination of candidates for admission to the Royal Military College, Kingston, to be held on the 12th June next. The only change from last year is that Elementary Geometrical Drawing is added to the list for the voluntary or further examination, and 1,000 marks are allowed for the subject. As Geometrical Drawing is comprised in the college education it was thought that those students who came with previous preparation should get what credit attaches to passing in this as one of the voluntary subjects. Pressure on our space compels us to hold over these orders until next issue.

ORDERS No. 2, dated the 13th inst., are of more immediate interest, and will be found in full in this issue. These include much important matter—first of all being a long list of changes in the regulations concerning discipline, and the punishments for various offences. Next there is an intimation that the recently adopted Imperial regulation removing in the case of well-behaved men some of the restraints hitherto imposed, is about to be applied at our schools of Military Instruction, as a tentative measure, commandants to report at the end of each month the result of the change. Greater liberty of absence from barracks is to be allowed, to an extent which is generosity itself in comparison with the old order of things.

IN the Imperial service heretofore the hour of the return of soldiers to their barracks has been 9 o'clock; in some few cases an hour later. The hardship of this rigid rule has been considerable in the larger English towns; for it debarred the men from visiting theatres and other places of harmless amusement; and the men being thus treated as children, have been not a little vexed, especially the non-commissioned officers and steady private soldiers, who had no wish to abuse any liberty given them. It was thought some time ago that this system might be relaxed, to the greater happiness of the soldiers and without injury to discipline. Therefore, during the greater part of the past year, commanding officers have been authorised to extend evening leave to all non-commissioned officers and to the best conducted privates. The result has been thoroughly satisfactory; the men have been gratified, and the extra indulgence has created no increase in drunkenness or in any of the minor offences. Acting on this experience, the Duke of Cambridge has now made permanent what was before only provisional and tentative,

ketry instruction, say musketry one lesson and drill the next? Also, insist on efficient adjutants, who should possess musketry certificates, and having their men under canvas for proper instruction should be able to produce very smart corps."

Canadian made Snider Ammunition.

THE matter of improving the quality of the Snider ammunition manufactured at the government cartridge factory at Quebec, continues to receive the most earnest attention from the Militia Department, and the lessons taught by experience having been borne in mind, the results obtained are such as to give promise that the riflemen's grievance against the factory product will soon be a thing of the past only. Then, the reliability of the marksman being equal to that of his cartridges, bulls eyes and highest possible scores all round will follow as a matter of course.

It will be remembered that in consequence of a long series of complaints a commission was appointed in 1885, the members being charged with the duty of locating the trouble, or troubles, as from their report there seemed to be room for improvement in several respects. An erroneous impression seems to prevail with many deeply interested in the matter, that little or no action has been taken in furtherance of the recommendations of the commissioners' report. The facts are quite otherwise.

The powder used seemed to the commission to be the chief cause of trouble. It had been manufactured in Canada without a proper specification having been furnished the makers. It was therefore recommended that a powder of a higher grade be obtained, to be manufactured according to a fixed standard, and duly tested during manufacture. The trouble about the quality of the powder has since been removed, in another way, involving less immediate expenditure while ensuring the desired accuracy of result. This has been done by again taking to the use of Waltham Abbey powder. While it is possible that powder just as good might have been obtained in Canada, it was thought best to take the other course as best calculated to establish confidence in our ammunition.

In English made cartridges a variation of 4 grains is allowed in the charge of powder. Thus while 70 grains was the standard fixed, anything from 68 to 72 was accepted. Four grains variation in the charge of two cartridges means a difference in the initial velocity of the bullet equal to more than 50 feet. The commission thought this altogether too much, and recommended that the limit be made one grain, as in the United States laboratory, instead of four. This recommendation has since been carried into effect.

In accordance with another recommendation, the coiled case device at the factory has been adopted. This case may be several times filled, the cost of shooting being thereby reduced to those willing to go to the trouble of putting up their own ammunition.

The late Professor Bayne, of the Royal Military College, who was a member of the commission, was of opinion as the result of careful experiment, that the centre of gravity in the bullet was slightly in advance of its true position; the effect of this being to cause the point to droop and the bullet to fall short. Since then his views upon this subject have been emphasized by the testimony adduced at the D. R. A. competitors' meeting here last summer. In consequence the Militia Department have ordered rigid tests to be made at the factory, to ascertain to what extent this defect exists, and how it may be remedied. The Department having taken the matter up will do everything possible to remove this remaining source of trouble, for none could be more anxious than the militia authorities that our Canadian made ammunition shall be equal to the best.

That it has been bad in the past none will deny; that it has im-

proved since the first complaints is well known to all who have been using it; and that this improvement will be continued to the fullest extent will be the wish of all.

Militia General Orders (No. 2), of 13th January, 1888.

No. 1.—QUEEN'S REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE ARMY, 1885.— *Discipline.*

Notice has been received that the following changes have been made to sections VI and XXII Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, 1885.

They are now published for the information of all concerned:—

"Section VI.—Para. 35. The following sections of the Army Act, 1881, will be substituted for those enumerated in this paragraph, under which offences may be disposed of by a commanding officer without reference to superior authority:—6, except on active service; 8 (2) (threatening or insubordinate language only), except on active service; 9 (2) except on active service 10 (except sub-sec. 1), 11, 14, 15, 18 (1) (3), 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27 (4), 33 (except cases of enlisting from Army Reserve), 34 and 40.

"Add, after "authority" in line 12, "by letter briefly stating the circumstances of the case and accompanied by the prisoner's company defaulter sheet."

"Para. 46. For the words "may, at his option," in line 4, substitute "will." After "barracks," in line 7, add "but in the case of officers of less than three years service he may, at his option, limit their power of award to three days' confinement to barracks. In the event of any officer being so wanting in tact as to render him incapable of fairly and justly using this power, a report should be made to the Adjutant-General through the general officer commanding."

"Para. 99. Omit words after "laid down" and substitute—

"But in the absence of a previous conviction or aggravating circumstances or of antecedents appearing to require a severe lesson, or of unusual prevalence in the regiment or garrison of the species of crime forming the subject of the charge, the limit of the imprisonment awarded should not exceed from 28 to 56 days, according to circumstances, for the following offences: Leaving guard or post; offence of sentries; insubordinate or threatening language; disobedience not of a grave nature; resisting escort, not involving an attempt at serious injury; breaking out of barracks; neglect of orders; absence; failing to appear at parade; being out of bounds; drunkenness; release of prisoner or allowing prisoner to escape (not wilfully); escaping from custody; loss of kit, etc.; irregularity or omission in regard to returns (not fraudulent); minor contempt of court martial; false answer on attestation; conduct to prejudice, etc.

"An addition of from 7 to 28 days being made in the case of each previous conviction or of any circumstances that aggravate the gravity of the offence.

"A punishment not exceeding from three to six months ought, as a rule, to suffice for the above offences, even when more than once repeated or when committed under circumstances that aggravate the gravity of the offence, or for the offences of—Striking a superior officer; disobeying a lawful command (graver cases); desertion; fraudulent enlistment; false evidence; false accusations; ordinary theft; frauds.

"A sentence of imprisonment exceeding six months should be reserved for the offences last enumerated, when attended with circumstances which add to their gravity, or with several previous convictions, or for an offence under Sec. 32, Army Act; while a sentence that amounts to or exceeds one year's imprisonment should be imposed only in cases of disgraceful conduct of an unnatural kind, gross violence to superiors, repeated desertion or fraudulent enlistment, or in cases of persistent offenders whom ordinary punishment has not had the effect of restraining from serious crime. In this last class of cases an additional sentence of discharge with ignominy is, as a rule, advisable.

"When a prisoner is convicted on two or more charges, the sentence should be that which is considered adequate for the gravest of the offences, with some addition for each of the other charges."

Para. 135. Omit the words from "except," in line 2, to "decision," in line 4, and substitute "deal with the case."

Sub-para. (3.) Omit lines 2 to 15 inclusive, and substitute—

"At home stations the general officer commanding will dispose of the case on its merits. If a court martial is ordered, the case will be dealt with under Sec. 33, and not under Sec. 13 of the Army Act. Whether punished or not, the man will be relegated to the army reserve, unless the general officer recommends his being held to army service on his last attestation, when reference will be made to headquarters for the decision of the commander-in-chief."

Omit the words from "the pension," in line 31, to "district," in line 36, and substitute "the officer who was charged with his payment when in the reserve."

Add at end of sub-para. (3) "The relegation will take effect from date of committal."

Sub-para. (5.) Omit the words from "General," in line 3, to "merits," in line 5, and substitute "the case will be disposed of on its merits, and, if trial be ordered, will be dealt with."

Para. 137. For line 1 substitute "When it is decided to try.

No. 2.—SCHOOLS OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.—*Passes.*

The following will be carried out in all schools of military instruction until further orders as a tentative measure. Commandants will report at the end of each month the result of this change in the existing regulations:—

"Passes may be granted, under the following regulations, to well-conducted soldiers, to enable them to visit their friends or to remain out after hours. Non-commissioned officers, not below the rank of sergeant, may remain out of barracks up to 12 o'clock p.m. without special permission. If they wish to remain out after that hour, they must obtain leave from their commanding officer; but they are not required to have passes within the limits of the garrison in which they are quartered; if they proceed beyond these limits, they must be provided with passes on the proper form—

(a). Passes should not be granted for periods of absence exceeding one week. For longer periods a furlough is necessary.

(b). Non-commissioned officers below the rank of sergeant, and very good men in the receipt of G. C. pay, or who have had no entry in the company defaulter book during the last 12 months, may be granted permanent passes up to 12 o'clock p.m.

(c). Well conducted recruits may be granted passes to visit their friends once a month, or oftener, if possible, from after the last drill on Friday until tattoo on Sunday. If there are no Sunday trains their passes may extend till after the arrival of the first train on Monday.

(d). Passes up to midnight will be granted by officers commanding troops, batteries, and companies; those for longer periods must be signed by the commanding officer.

(e). All passes will be printed on the usual form, and stamped with the office stamp of the corps, before being issued to the men.

(f). The date of last entry (except in the case of non-commissioned officers), distinguished by the letters R.E., C.E., will be recorded and signed by the officer commanding the company, on a marginal strip, capable of being removed before the pass is given to the soldier.

(g). Admonition will not count as an entry."

No. 3.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1887—PERMANENT CORPS.

Flag and Gun daily, Victoria, B.C.—Adverting to No. 2 General Orders (21), 23rd December, 1887—fifth line—read "also at 9.30 p.m." instead of "also at 9 p.m. in winter and 9.30 p.m. in summer."

No. 4.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

Bugle and Trumpet Majors will rank as Sergeants. Their pay will be at the rate of 75 cents per diem.

No. 5.—FIELD BATTERIES OF ARTILLERY.

Annual allowance, Cleaning Stores, etc.—"The following annual allowance of material for care of equipment, etc., is sanctioned and will be applied for by requisition through the district staff:—

Oil	{	Rangeon	8 Pts.	Pipe clay	10 lbs.
		Neat's foot	8 "	Bricks, bath	12
Grease			12 lbs.	Sponges, small	4
Dubbing			12 "	Cloths sponge	8
Soft soap			12 "		

No. 6.—Artillery Store Ledgers.

The attention of officers commanding brigades or batteries is directed to the necessity of keeping these ledgers at all times properly posted up to date.

The present state of the equipment in all its details, and all additions thereto, are to be shewn on the Dr. side, all expenditures from any cause to be noted in the Cr. side. The ledger accounts are to be balanced on the 31st December, each year, and an abstract thereof on annual store return, forwarded to the district staff.

The ledger is required to be shewn at all inspections either by district staff or Inspector of Artillery, and the inspecting officer is required to satisfy himself, by actual inspection, as to the correctness of the entries therein.

No. 7.—DISTRICT STAFF.

Erratum in No. 4 General Orders (21), 23rd December, 1887, read "Captain Arthur Williams Jones" instead of "Captain Arthur William Jones."

No. 8.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

Regt. Canadian Art.—Honorary Captain and Quartermaster Geo. Rolt White, whose resignation is accepted, is permitted to revert to the retired list of captains.

Royal School of Mounted Infantry—(*Winnipeg, Man.*)—To be Riding master, from 9th August, 1887, E. W. Graham Gardner.

Infantry School Corps.—Enlistments have been authorized, on 19th December, 1887, of men to be enrolled in "D" company, Infantry School Corps.

The Royal School of Infantry, at London, will open for the instruction of attached officers, non-com. officers and men, on 2nd April, 1888.

2nd Regt. Cavalry.—No. 3 Troop.—To be lieutenant prov., Sergt. Robert Button Elliott vice Francis Button, who retires retaining rank.

To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Sergt. Philip George Bender, vice John Brown, left limits.

The Queen's Own Canadian Hussars.—The establishment of the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars is 104, exclusive of officers.

1st B. F. Art.—No. 2 Field Battery—To be captain, Lieut. W. A. Higinbotham, R.S.A., vice Davidson, appointed adjutant.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. H. D. Mereweather, R.S.A., vice Higinbotham promoted.

Hamilton F. B. Art.—To be Surgeon, Douglas Geraghty Storms, M.D., vice White, resigned.

Newcastle F. B. of Art.—2nd Lieut. C. E. Fish resigns.

3rd Batt.—To be capt., Lieut. Andrew Bell, M.S., vice T. P. Bacon, who retires retaining rank.

To be lieuts., 2nd Lieut. C. W. Meakins, R.S.I., vice Bell, promoted.

2nd Lieut. E. P. Guy, R.S.I., vice Archibald McGoun, jr., who resigns.

To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Color-Sergt. Andrew Stewart, vice Meakins, promoted.

8th Batt.—To be capt., from 23rd December, 1887, Lieut. T. I. Poston, M.S., vice Prower, promoted.

To be lieutenant, from 23rd December, 1887, Lieut. Charles John Dunn, S.I., vice Poston, promoted.

20th Batt.—To be lieutenant-colonel, Major Williams Kerns, V.B., vice William Allan, who retires retaining rank.

28th Batt.—No. 4 Co.—To be lieutenant prov., John Moore Adams, vice John J. Crabbe, who resigns.

To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Frederick William Learoyd Long, vice Wm. Williams, who resigns.

32nd Batt.—To be major, Lieut. J. H. Scott, R.S.I., from the adjutancy, vice Biggar promoted.

No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant prov., Richard Vanstone, vice Scott, appointed adjutant.

To be adjutant with the rank of lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. W. J. Holden, R.S.I., vice Scott, appointed major.

36th Batt.—No. 2 Co.—Capt. John Mole resigns.

No. 3 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., from 2nd January, 1888, Sergt. Isaac Pollock, vice Rankin.

38th Batt.—To be lieutenant-col., Charles Stephen Jones, M.S., from retired list of lieutenant-cols., vice John Ballachey, who retires with rank of major.

66th Batt.—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Edward Freeman Smith, vice Bentley, promoted.

67th Batt.—To be majors, Captain and Brevet-Major G. E. Boyer, S.I., from No. 4 Co., vice Raymond, retired.

Captain and Brevet-Major A. D. Hartley, S.I., from No. 8 Co., vice Baird promoted.

No. 4 Co.—To be capt., Lieut. L. R. Harding, M.S., vice Boyer, promoted.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. W. W. Ross, S.I. (1st B.), vice Harding, promoted.

No. 8 Co.—To be capt., Lieut. G. D. Perkins, M.S., vice Hartley, promoted.

75th Batt.—Lieut. and Adjt. Richard Hamilton Griffiths (late Q. M. Sergeant R. Lanc. R.) to have the rank of captain.

79th Batt.—No. 1 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Sergt. Thomas Malcolm Craig, vice Neill.

80th Batt.—Paymaster Ons. Isaié Bergeron, having the relative rank of major, to have the honorary rank of major from 25th June, 1885.

Lieut. and Adjt. Pierre Joseph Oscar Rousseau, M.S., to have the rank of captain from 13th May, 1886.

81st Batt.—No. 1 Co.—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. Alfred Rochon, S.I., (1st B.), vice Auguste Beaudry.

86th Batt.—To be major, from 24th September, 1887, Capt. Alphonse R. Dufresne, M.S., from No. 1 Co., vice Emond, retired.

No. 1 Co.—To be capt. prov., Sergt. Jos. Du Sault, vice Dufresne, promoted.

To be adjutant, Lieut. L. Adolphe Dupuis, V.B., from No. 2 Co., vice Charbonneau, resigned.

96th Batt.—No. 1 Co.—To be lieutenant prov., Private M. Neelin Garland, vice Elliott, promoted.

To be 2nd lieutenant prov., John Henry Woodside, vice J. B. Davidson, who resigns.

No. 4 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Private Peter Joseph Anderson, vice George Porter, who resigns.

To be surgeon, George Strange Beck.

BREVET.

To be major, from 4th January, 1888, Capt. Herménégilde Roy, R.S.A., No. 1 Quebec Battery of Garrison Artillery.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Lieut. Joseph Foucher, R.S.I., No. 2 Co., 83rd Batt.; from 1st Dec., 1887.
 Lieut. W. C. H. Wood, R.S.I., 8th Batt.; from 3rd December, 1887.
 2nd Lieut. C. W. Meakins, R.S.I., 3rd Batt.; from 30th November, 1887.
 2nd Lieut. E. P. Guy, R.S.I., 3rd Batt.; from 30th November, 1887.
 2nd Lieut. H. G. W. Badgley, R.S.I., 3rd Batt.; from 30th November, 1887.
 2nd Lieut. Allan Phillips, R.S.I., No. 5 Co., 86th Batt.; from 1st Dec., 1887.
 2nd Lieut. A. H. Amyrauld, R.S.A., Shefford Field Bat.; from 21st Dec., 1887.
 Lieut. P. Æ. Irving, R.S.A., No. 2 Battery, British Columbia B. G. A.; from 19th December, 1887.

No. 8.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

RANK, NAME AND CORPS.	School.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of Marks obtained		
					Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
2nd Lieut. A. H. Amyrauld, Shefford F. B.	Art.	1	S	A	.81	.68	.74
Lieut. P. Æ. Irving, British Columbia B.G.A. .	do	1	Sp	A	.80	.81	.81
Br. D. Keough, "B" Bat., R. C. A.	do	1	S	B	.70	.95	.85
Acting Br. G. D'Aoust, "B" Bat., R. C. A.	do	1	S	B	.75	.81	.79
Corpl. W. R. Seale, Shefford F. B.	do	2	S	B	.52	.66	.60
Gr. H. Southland, Richmond F. B.	do	2	S	B	.47	.55	.52
2nd Lieut. C. W. Meakins, 3rd Batt.	Inf.	1	Sp	A	.77	.70	.74
2nd Lieut. H. G. W. Badgley, 3rd Batt.	do	1	Sp	A	.80	.73	.77
Capt. C. Miller, 8th Batt.	do	1	Sp	A	.78	.76	.77
Lieut. W. C. H. Wood, 8th Batt.	do	1	Sp	A	.82	.80	.81
Capt. I. E. Demers, 17th Batt.	do	1	S	A	.79	.74	.77
2nd Lieut. E. P. Guy, 3rd Batt.	do	2	Sp	A	.72	.66	.69
Lieut. J. Foucher, 83rd Batt.	do	2	S	A	.51	.57	.54
2nd Lieut. A. Phillips, 86th Batt.	do	2	S	A	.56	.55	.56
Corpl. J. Walker, "B" Co., I. S. C.	do	1	S	B	.82	.86	.84
Sergt. W. Findlay, 54th Batt.	do	1	S	B	.76	.81	.79
Sergt. P. Doxtader, 54th Batt.	do	1	S	B	.73	.75	.74
Pte. A. W. Tonks, 54th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.70	.66	.68
Pte. J. P. Gibson, 54th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.65	.69	.79
Pte. J. I. Wyatt, 54th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.47	.59	.52
Pte. A. H. Wilkin, 55th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.67	.65	.66
Pte. H. Campbell, 55th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.65	.38	.51
Sergt. E. Lemay, 65th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.43	.60	.50
Colour-Sergt. A. Lamarre, 85th Batt.	do	2	S	B	.60	.70	.65

The Certificate granted to 2nd Lieut. W. T. Lawless, 43rd Battalion, is a second class "Short Course" Grade "A" certificate, and not as described in G. O. (21), 23rd December, 1887.

Queries and Replies.

Q. Where can "Saskatchewan" clasps for North-West medal (miniature) be obtained.

Toronto, 17th January.

A. Messrs. E. & E. Emanuel, 3, The Hard, Portsea, London, Eng., some time ago advertised in the MILITIA GAZETTE that they were prepared to supply these miniatures.

The question whether the wheat of Manitoba can be transported through Hudson's Bay direct to Liverpool is of serious moment. On this subject, in THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE for February, J. Macdonald Oxley will throw whatever light recent exploring expeditions can afford, aided by illustrations and details of existence in a region where mercury freezes solid.

GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

Volunteer Officers ambitious to Head the Montreal Police.

Miscellaneous Notes gathered this week from Dominion and District Headquarters.

SEMPER PARATUS being their motto, it was as a matter of course that the officers of the Twenty-first battalion, Essex Fusiliers, turned up smiling, sharp at the time appointed for their annual business meeting, which was held at the British American Hotel, Windsor, Ont., on the 11th inst. Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, who presided, opened the proceedings by a felicitous address, in which, while congratulating his officers on their past achievements, he urged them to follow on in the path of progress, striving always to maintain the Twenty-first in the honourable position it occupies. Reports received from the standing committees, showed that in further providing for the better equipment of the battalion and band over \$2,000 had been collected and disbursed during the year. As it is almost certain that the battalion will go to camp this year, the Colonel strongly urged the necessity of moving at once in the way of preparation. It is hoped that the company at Woodslee will be furnished with their uniforms, arms and accoutrements in time to enable them to go to camp with the other companies.

At the annual dinner, after the business meeting, Major Guillet presided, and there were present, besides the other officers and the band of the battalion, Mr. J. C. Patterson, M.P., Alexander Bartlet, P.M., Dr. R. Carney and several other invited guests. The chairman announced the first toast of the evening, "The Queen," which was responded to by the band playing "God Save the Queen." The next toast proposed was, "The Army and Navy of Great Britain, and the Volunteers of Canada," and to this Col. Wilkinson responded, taking occasion as he concluded to compliment the band very highly. He was something of a musician himself, and was delighted with their music.

In calling on Mr. J. C. Patterson, M.P., to respond to the next toast, "The Senate and Dominion Parliament," Major Guillet thanked Mr. Patterson on behalf of the officers and men of the 21st for the great assistance he had lent them on many occasions. He had not used his sword, but had freely used his pen and pocket book—in times of peace mightier than the sword. Mr. Patterson returned thanks. He said Parliament was disposed to do all it could to assist and encourage the volunteers, though it was impossible to set aside the money some thought necessary. He hoped no necessity would arise for war, but if we desire to keep our position on this continent we must make progress. Anything he had done for the 21st had been more than repaid when he himself had seen the battalion in the field. He trusted it might be possible to raise a new company. He and Senator Casgrain were doing all in their power, and no effort had been wanting to urge upon the Minister of Militia the importance of having an additional company. He trusted the different municipalities would see fit to contribute toward the expense which will be incurred. The officers and men should not be asked to put their hands in their pockets for this. The expense should be paid by the towns.

Capt. C. C. Fox, adjutant of the battalion, responded to the toast, "The County and Town Council." "Our Friends," brought up Mr. Alexander Bartlet and Dr. Richard Carney. Then Major Guillet, on behalf of the officers, returned thanks to the band, and Col. Wilkinson returned thanks to the Windsor officers and all present for the entertainment, and at 8 o'clock, after "God Save the Queen" by the band and all present, the pleasant affair came to a close.

The contest for the position of Chief of the Montreal Police still excites interest. It is now said that it will probably narrow down before many days to the following participants: Major Hughes, Mr. McGowan, and the Quebec applicant, Mr. Heigham. However, the feeling seems to be increasing that no outsider need apply. Major Dugas, of the 65th, one of the police court justices, is reported to have told a press correspondent that Ald. Grenier, an all-powerful member of the Police Committee, had told the magistrate that the position was at his disposition if he thought fit to accept it. The Judge replied that if it were a position entirely free from the influences of the committee, which it certainly should be, he would consider the offer, but as this was impossible the matter might as well not be discussed. Several new applications from men with military have just been announced. These are from: Capt. Pouliot, of Ottawa, who has been employed in the Post Office Department at Ottawa for three years. He took part in the first Mounted Police expedition to the North-West in 1873; was captain of the Temiscouata volunteers for nine years; served in the fifth detachment of the Pontifical Zouaves, being present at the taking of Rome in 1870; and at Ottawa belonged for a time to the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards. Henry V. Goold, of Mohawk, Brant County, Ont., who served five years in the Mounted Police in the North-West and was in the late rebellion under Superintendent Steele. He was for some years a lieutenant of the 66th battalion, Halifax. George Forbes, of Montreal, who served five years in the Royal Irish Constabulary and eight years in the Montreal Garrison Artillery; Henry Goodwin, lieutenant on the retired list, having served for four years in the Montreal Engineers. He was a member of the Provisional battery, which went in 1870 to Red river, under the late Lieut.-Col. Osborne Smith. He served for ten years in the artillery and infantry volunteers in England. F. L. Remington, of Montreal, who served as captain in the English army in the Soudan, and afterwards was sent out by the Imperial government to take command of the Canadian contingent of voyageurs. Lieut.-Col. J. Barr, commandant of the 6th Regiment of Cavalry; Lieut.-Col. Vohe, chief of police of Quebec, and Capt. J. E. B. Normandeau, who has been a member of militia for 14 years and went to the rebellion in the North-West. He is now captain in the 83rd battalion.

The Militia Department has nearly completed the award of the contracts for the supplies required during the coming year by the Canadian militia and the permanent forces. The amount, approximately speaking, will probably exceed between eighty and one hundred thousand dollars. The articles required and the names of the successful tenderers are as follows: Artillery forage caps—James Coristine & Co., Montreal; nose bags, haversacks (white linen) pillow cases, pillow slips—S. & H. Borbridge, Ottawa; bed straps, great coat straps—James Nosworthy, Belleville; marquees, tents, haversacks (black linen)—National Manufacturing Co., Ottawa; mess tins—E. N. Chic, Quebec; grey blankets—Joseph Hamel & Co., Quebec; iron bedsteads—W. A. Deek, Kingston; woollen mufflers—J. M. Garland, Ottawa; cotton sheets—J. C. McLaren & Co., Montreal; fur caps—G. R. Rensfrew & Co., Quebec; long

scrubbing brushes, mops with handles—Wm. Howe, Ottawa; carriage brushes, dandruff brushes, stable brooms—Thomas Bryan, London; accoutrements, black leather—Heney & Lacroix, Montreal; moose moccasins—Maurice Bastien and Philip Vincent, Indian Lorette.

For Quebec Citadel: Meat—D. & S. Real; bread—Jas. McCorkill; potatoes and groceries—Turcott & Prevost; forage—M. Brophy; straw for men—Jas. Calvir; fuel and wood—Lawrence & Brumer; coal oil—Boyce & Son.

"A" Battery, Kingston: Thos. Nicholson, W. Wiltshire, John S. Henderson, Jas. Mallor, Jas. Goudy and Thos. McConville, Jas. Swift, McKelvy & Barch, Edward Roddy, Mrs. C. Cameron.

Mounted Infantry Corps, Winnipeg: Wm. Bateman & Co., Cummings & Co., Goodridge Bros., Mulholland Bros., P. Gallagher and Margaret Buckley.

Col. H. E. Davidson, who has been selected for the command of the 19th (Imp.) Regimental district at Richmond, joined the 100th Foot as ensign on its formation in Canada in June, 1858, and served with that regiment for twenty years, being transferred as major to the 19th Foot in 1878. In the latter regiment he had command of the 2nd battalion from September, 1882, until the expiration of his appointment three months ago. Col. Davidson was born in Quebec, and educated there, at Hamilton, and at Upper Canada College. He has a large number of relatives in Canada, these being now resident in all parts—at Toronto, Belleville, Montreal, Ottawa and elsewhere.

In connection with the order recently issued from headquarters that all unissued war medals and clasps should be returned forthwith to the Department, it is stated that a large proportion of these rewards of merit still remain in the hands of the commanding officers. With the Winnipeg Field Battery, for instance, this is the case. Some of the men who went through the rebellion in that corps are in South America, others are in the McKenzie river district and Alaska, and others again are scattered throughout Europe. Volunteers who have not yet received the medals to which they are entitled should make application for them to the Militia Department, Ottawa.

The officers and ex-officers of the Halifax brigade have subscribed for gold and silver medals to encourage the volunteers in their duties. The competitions will be: (1) Bayonet vs. Bayonet—Open to all non-commissioned officers and privates of the city battalions. (2) Sword vs. Sword—Open to officers and non-commissioned officers of the city battalions. The competitions take place at the annual athletic exhibition on the 19th inst. at McKay's Hall of Health.

The annual meeting and dinner of the Royal Military College Ex-cadet Club will take place at the Russell House, Ottawa, on Saturday evening next, the 21st inst. As the membership of the club has largely increased during the past year a very successful meeting is looked for.

Toronto.

DURING the week we have had the following distinguished military visitors in Toronto: Major-General J. R. Oliver, commandant R. M. C. of C., who has been staying with Capt. S. A. Denison; Capt. Douglas, R. N. R., of the Norderfelt guns; Mr. E. Heward, of the Cavalry School of Quebec, and Mr. Platt, of the "Carabineers," who is enjoying a year's leave of absence from his regiment, which is in India.

Says the *Globe*: "Mr. George Robinson, bandmaster of the 13th battalion, Hamilton, has been engaged as bandmaster of the Massey Manufacturing Co's. band, the position having become vacant by the death of Dr. Hartmaun."

The following appeared last week as an advertisement in *The Empire*: "Wanted to enlist in 'C' Co., Royal School of Infantry, a man to fill the appointment of Bugle Major, becoming vacant on the 17th Feb., 1888; single man preferred; references required. Apply to the Adjutant, Royal School of Infantry, New Fort Barracks."

The annual meeting of the Queen's Own Sergeants' Mess took place at their Mess rooms on Monday evening the 9th inst. A large number of members were present. The annual reports show the affairs of the mess to be in a very prosperous condition. Col.-Sergt. McKell, who has been president for the past two years, retiring, his place was filled by the election of Staff-Sergt. Strachan by acclamation; Qr.-Master Sergt. Burns was elected vice-president; Sergt. T. K. Henderson, treasurer; Col.-Sergt. Levisconte, secretary; and Col.-Sergt. Dommelle, Bugle Major Swift, Sergt. Higginbotham and Sergt. Small, committee. After the meeting was over refreshments were served, and a pleasant social evening was spent.

At the annual meeting of I company of the Queen's Own Rifles on Tuesday the 10th inst., the following committees were elected: Rifle—Colour-Sergeant Kennedy, Corpl. Brown and Pte. Thompson; Clothing—Corpl. Myles, Ptes. Rogers and Evans; sec.-treasurer, Corpl. McHenry. Corpl. Myles, Ptes. Matthews, Lee and Cassels were elected a committee to arrange for the company's annual sleighing party, to be held on Friday, 13th inst. Capt. J. A. Murray, who presided, feelingly referred to the loss the company would sustain in the approaching departure of the indefatigable Pte. Cassels for British Columbia.

Ex-Sergeant W. H. Meredith, of "A" Company, Q.O.R., who died at his residence, 101 Adelaide street west, on Wednesday, 4th inst., was one of the oldest volunteers in Canada. He enlisted in the Queen's Own in March, 1863, and served during the troubles of 1866. He was an enthusiastic rifleman, and was much respected by his comrades in arms.—*Mail*.

A DEFICIENCY IN CAVALRY.

Lord Wolseley in his "Soldier's Pocket Book" tells us that the proportion of cavalry to infantry is as one to six. If such be the truth, we have either too many infantry in Canada or too few cavalry. We have 32,282 foot soldiers, consequently we ought to have about 5,456 cavalrymen—or, as we have 1,987 cavalry, there ought to be not more than 12,040 infantrymen.

Infantry can be more cheaply equipped, more quickly made efficient and more easily kept up than the other arms. It is, also, less liable to lose efficiency than either cavalry or artillery. Cavalry, on the other hand, is expensive to equip and requires long training to become efficient, whilst artillery is of all arms the most expensive to equip and keep efficient, and the most difficult to train.

THE DRILL INSTRUCTION MONEY.

Paragraph 390 gives directions as to the annual allowance for drill instruction money, and it seems to stand this way: The officer commanding a company of infantry receives \$40 per annum for instructing in drill—should his corps not be ordered to perform drill, he receives \$20. So far so good. In a rural corps, the commanding officer of a battalion of infantry of not less than four companies receives independent of the amounts paid to his captains, the sum of 25 per annum for each company, so that if an eight company battalion drills, it receives:

For commanding officer	\$200
For captains of companies—\$40 × 8	320
Total	\$520

Should it not drill, the c. o. gets \$100 and the captains \$160, a total of \$260. In city corps, \$40 per annum per company is paid to the officer commanding, and with an eight company battalion he receives—and he only—\$320. Nothing for captains.

Now let us look at the matter of drill instruction money a little closer. The Major-General in his last report says: "I am very much afraid that * * the men of the rural corps, in many cases, do not receive much drill instruction, except at the camps." I don't doubt that for one moment. With one corps all ranks are reported "perfectly ignorant of their duties," but "after drawing upon other corps for drilled officers and n. c. o., they managed to pass muster." I wonder if \$325 worth of instruction money was spent upon this corps? There is no use going further than saying that no matter how inefficient a corps is, it is invariably paid its drill allowance, and some commanding officers must have very little hesitation in signing a certificate as to the performance of service for which payment is required. In the years during which rural corps do not go to camp, I wonder how many corps drill at all. What becomes of that year's money?

CARE OF ARMS AND MUSKETRY INSTRUCTION.

To the captain of each company of infantry is paid \$40 per annum for care of arms of such corps as are not kept in public armouries under charge of a caretaker paid by the militia department: "With respect to the arms, accoutrements, etc., I find a great difference in the way they are cared for by the different captains; very few are really well looked after."

Perhaps the captains think care uncalled for, as "the rifles have become inaccurate from long service and pretty rough usage," and "the equipment is of very old pattern, a too great proportion constantly requiring repair, which after all the trouble and expense only remains serviceable for a short time"; or perhaps they say that "the rifles are unserviceable and some absolutely dangerous to the firer," or that they might go off by themselves, and consequently are better left alone. So they don't bother themselves.

Paragraph 426 tells us all about rifle shooting. Five simple rules—some power of judging distance and a knowledge of the influence of wind on the flight of a bullet, is all that is required to enable a man to become a good practical shot; an idea of position drill, which we are told can be learnt whilst being instructed in the Manual and Firing Exercises. There's no mystery in it all. In the *Firing Exercises* the soldier is instructed, as I understand it, by the Adjutant and Sergeant-Major in the positions of *loading* and *firing in the ranks*; in *position drill*, the Musketry Instructor devotes his attention to the essentials of *good individual firing*. The five simple rules, let me suggest, might with advantage be cut out and glued on the back sight—just as useful there as in the red book.

That officers themselves do not always attend to these five simple rules, &c., is evident, for we are told "a large majority of officers are unacquainted with the firing exercise, position drill and aiming drill"; and "adjusting the back sight and making allowance for wind appeared to be a matter of no consequence, some officers quietly watching their men firing at 400 yards with elevation for 200 yards, and vice versa." The scores at another camp were not large, "but taking into consideration the fact that a large proportion were recruits who never shot a rifle before, the average is very fair." But the average is not told us. Doctors differ, you know. Another officer tells us that "50 per cent. of his camp were third class shots, and that our shooting may be called bad."

I am not Suggester-General to the militia, but if I were, I should suggest that the \$25 per company for commanding officers and the \$20 for drill instruction money for corps which do not drill, be diverted into another channel, and that channel is * *

Isn't it about time that "Pipeclay" turned out that guard? LINCH-PIN.
Hamilton.

THE officers of the Thirteenth Battalion, Hamilton Field Battery, and a few prominent gentlemen were entertained to a dinner in the Hamilton Club on Saturday evening, by the commanding officer of the Thirteenth, Lieut.-Col. Gibson. There were about thirty-five gentlemen present, among whom were: Senator Sanford, Adam Brown, M.P., Ex-Mayor McKay, M.P., Lt.-Col. Gibson, Majors Moore, McLaren and Barnard; Captains Stoneman, Adams, Stuart, Zealand, Gillespie, Mewburn, Moore and Reid; Lieutenants Watson, Tidswell, Cameron, Ross, Bowman, Carpenter, Osborne and Chapman; Surgeons Ryall and Griffin, of the 13th; and Capt. Hendrie, and Lieuts. Bankier and Duncan of the Hamilton Field Battery. The Colonel on this occasion excelled himself as a host and entertainer. The *menu* was such as could not fail to satisfy the most critical epicure. After dinner the toast of the Queen was proposed and drunk in the manner customary with her Majesty's loyal subjects. The evening was spent in songs, recitations, humorous stories and frolicsome games. Three rousing cheers having been given for the gallant Colonel, the National anthem was sung, and at 11.30 p.m. the party broke up after spending a most enjoyable evening.

The new drill hall is progressing slowly towards completion. The cold weather has prevented the contractors from prosecuting the work as rapidly as they would like, so it will be some time yet before the regiment will be able to drill in it. However, they are not idle, and each company puts in two drills every week in the armoury, James St. S.

AN ARTILLERY PROBLEM.

"Arthur Wodehouse" has addressed himself to the editor of the *Times* in this perplexing fashion:—

"SIR,—We have a bet of \$25 to \$10. A cannon is at the front of a train moving fifty miles an hour, and another cannon is on the ground stationary. Both cannon are equal in power. When the train is exactly opposite the cannon on the ground, both are fired. Which ball goes the farther?"

The specification here is not as complete as it might be, but it may safely be reckoned that Arthur desires to be told what effect if any the motion of a train from which a cannon ball was fired, in the same direction as the train was going, would have upon the flight of the ball. Will any reader of the MILITIA GAZETTE come forward with the desired information?

Ottawa.

ABOUT twenty non-commissioned officers and men of the Governor-General's Foot Guards attended at the drill hall on Monday evening, at the regular meeting of the non-commissioned officers' class of instruction, established last week. Capt. Hodgins, the adjutant, announced that he would be assisted in conducting the class by Sergeant Henrichs, who last year passed very creditably at "B" School, and will make an excellent instructor. On Monday the class were examined in the first six sections

of Squad Drill With Intervals. On Saturday night next, it having been determined to have two meetings this week, the next sixteen sections, relating to marching, will be taken up.

It is announced that Col. Macpherson has decided not to sanction any further provisional appointments of non-commissioned officers.

No. 2 company of the Guards had their annual dinner on Thursday evening last, at the Dominion Hall. There was a large attendance, including the three officers, Capt. Toller and Lieuts. Gray and Watters, and several members of the staff of the regiment. The orders respecting the *menu* were published on a very neatly designed card, fairly bristling with military pointers.

On Tuesday the 17th inst., the non-commissioned officers of No. 1 company held their regular monthly mess meeting. The regimental snowshoe club had an outing the same evening, when the conditions were admirable for the enjoyment of the sport.

The Dragoon Guards' club inaugurated their season's tramping on Tuesday evening, when they had an exceedingly creditable turn out.

After their regular weekly tramp on Monday evening, the 43rd Rifles snowshoe club were entertained at the headquarters of No. 6 company, New Edinburgh Ward, where Lieut.-Col. Lewis, the brigade-major, honoured them with a visit. Among the officers of the regiment present at the outing were Lieut.-Col. White, Major Anderson, Capt. and Adjutant Evans, Capt. Sherwood and Capt. Bell.

The "Boys" of the '85 Campaign.

WE thought them and called them and held them "Our Boys"—they are men;
They have stood at the lip of the cannon and felt its hot breath;
They have heard the hiss of the ball, and again and again
They have looked in the face of death.

We sent them away to the battle with many a sigh,
With many a tremor of heart and with many a tear;
And now that the day is their own, let each shadow go by,
And welcome them home with a cheer!

So welcome them back to their mothers and sweethearts and wives,
And remember forever and ever, whatever befall,
That in perilous moments they gallantly perilled their lives,
And honour them each one and all!

George Frederick Cameron.

Correspondence.

SOMETHING EASIER, PLEASE.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—Can you acquaint me with the means—if it be a possibility—by which a young man with first class military qualifications may be successful in getting a commission in the permanent infantry corps, if he lack but "powerful political influence." MARS.

THE COMPARATIVE WEAKNESS OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Militia Gazette*:

SIR,—In your last issue, under the caption of "Garrison Artillery," you have a short notice of Sir Chas. Dilke's articles in the *Fortnightly Review* on "The present position of the Army," in which the writer takes a pessimistic view of England's unpreparedness in the event of being forced into a contest without allies or necessary preparations.

The late Pasha Baker says if England, Germany, Austria, Italy and Turkey were allied it would be impossible to create a war in Europe.

There is also the opinion of an American expert, who thinks that in the event of war "Canada could get no help from England, which would be sure to be menaced by Russia, and that the Russians would be able to capture Victoria, B.C."

Those essayists fairly remind one of what demented persons will do if firearms fall into their hands. The writer knew a *mad doctor* who would not fear a patient armed with a double-barrelled gun because the madman was sure to leave out either the cartridge or priming.

Now those British essayists will not take the trouble of looking at what changes are now being wrought out in matters political, naval and military.

It is hardly twelve months since the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway entirely altered the relations between Great Britain and the continental powers of Europe, as it rendered her wholly independent of them.

It is a little over one hundred years since she fought all Europe single handed, and won an Empire to balance the loss of the British colonies in America.

English essayists on military matters have always a theory or a fact to ground their objections on. In this case both the General and Knight were sorely exercised in discovering a country in which an army corps of 50,000 of all arms can be employed. Where to carry it to or how to dispose of it was the next question. All reasonable ideas were cast aside but still the mythical corps was like Mahomet's coffin—between earth and heaven.

The only foe that can be troublesome to England is Russia. The morbid sensitiveness she excites is due to the meddling of ignorant politicians, and when it is known that she really is a very insignificant foe comparatively it will be no matter for surprise if her pretensions are treated with contempt.

England's defence is the seaboard of her Empire. She has five strategical lines to defend at sea—that furnished by the line from Liverpool to Halifax, thence by rail to Port Moody, on the Pacific, and thence to Yokohama, in Japan. The other lines are those which guard the east and west shores of the coast of America; those which guard the North and South Atlantic and Australia, and North and South Pacific.

Russia's chance of creating trouble is confined to the Island of Saghalien, in 51°06 N. latitude, and it acts as a breakwater to the mouth of the Amoor River. The Baltic is her most extensive seaboard, but this inland sea is frozen for four months each year and can be closed by an efficient squadron. She shares this sea with Germany, Sweden and Denmark, and does not figure conspicuously in history there as yet. Her next littoral is the Euxine or Black Sea, which is shared with Turkey, and from which she was all but cleaned out during the Crimean war.

All the fuss she has made and her advances to India have only one object in view and that is to create a row, and before its conclusion make shift to get some small compensation in the scramble—as witness Batoum, Kars, or in 1877.

If Great Britain will do her duty—keep demagogues out of her councils—she can raise armies in India sufficient to over-run the whole territory of that sham Colossus of the North.

At page 155 of the MILITIA GAZETTE there will be found an exhaustive review of this whole question.

OBSERVER.

Half Hours Off Duty.

A STORY OF THE WAR OF 1812.

By James Hannay.—From The Empire.

(Continued from Page 224.)

"It is strange, father," said Samuel Wright, "that when you gave the toast to the memory of Simcoe last year, the name of Brock was immediately mentioned, and now it is coupled with that of Simcoe again, in death."

"Brock," replied the Squire, "was a very great man, and he did for Canada in the course of a few weeks more than it seemed possible for a single man to accomplish; his death was a dreadful loss; we can never replace him."

"Still," broke in Sutherland, "it may all be for the best, for Brock has become a heroic memory in Canada, a soldier who never knew defeat, and his name will be handed down to all time as the saviour of this Province, which indeed he was."

"But what of next year?" said Mary timidly; "can we resist the enemy in another campaign?"

"Hardly," replied Sutherland, "and that leads me to suggest that it would be best for your mother and you to retire to your brother's house at Stoney Creek, where you will hardly see an American soldier next year."

"Mary can do as she pleases," Mrs. Wright said with a resolute air, "but as for me, I will stay by my husband's side."

"And I," said Mary, "will stay with my father and mother."

Squire Wright had a proud look as he glanced at the faces of his wife and daughter. "Then," said he, "we will stand or fall together. My wife thinks that the proper place for a woman is to be with her husband, and perhaps she is right. The enemy may occupy Newark, but they will hardly molest women, or men who are unable to bear arms."

"If Fort George is attacked from the Lake," resumed Sutherland, "the inhabitants of Newark will be in great danger, even if the enemy were disposed to act up to the most exact rules of civilized warfare, which I doubt. Ladies, you had best think over the matter again and perhaps you may change your minds."

Sutherland's supposition, however, proved to be quite wrong. Mrs. Wright did not change her mind and both mother and daughter continued to reside in the homestead at Newark, despite the menacing attitude of the enemy on the other side of the Niagara River.

Chapter III.

On the 27th May, 1813, the Americans made their grand attack on Fort George and Newark, and the attack was made as Sutherland had anticipated, from the lake. Fort George and the small works about it was defended by about one thousand regulars and three hundred militia, who were assailed by four-fold numbers of the enemy and compelled to retire. The Lincoln militia fought that day shoulder to shoulder with the 8th British regiment, which bore on its banners the names of the glorious victories won in Marlborough's time, yet the Canadians did no discredit to their brave brothers in arms. Of the one hundred and fifty militia engaged in the left wing under Colonel Myers eighty-five were killed or wounded, yet General Vincent, whose incapacity was largely responsible for the disaster at Fort George, did not consider the dreadful losses sustained by the militia of sufficient importance to be mentioned in his despatch. It was in the left wing that Sutherland fought that day, but, although comrades fell by his side every moment no bullet touched him, and he came out of the battle with no other injury than the mental one which was caused by the defeat which the army had suffered.

Sutherland's feelings were not of an enviable nature as he wearily trudged with the retreating army towards Beaver Dam at the close of that eventful day. It was not merely that a great disaster had been sustained and that Fort George had fallen. Newark was in the possession of the enemy; Squire Wright was a prisoner, and he himself was debarred from seeing his beloved Mary or ministering to the wants of his friends. It was perhaps better for him and for the others who took part in the retreat, that the actual dangers of the situation called rather for action than reflections on the past. Three days after the Fort George affair the army was safely encamped on Burlington Heights.

The so-called battle of Stoney Creek, which followed the retreat to Burlington Heights, has been often described, and it is well known that the initiative in the affair was due to Lieut.-Colonel Harvey, who was afterwards Governor both of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It was surely a bold proposal to attack a victorious enemy in his own camp, and that with a very inferior force. But it is not so well known that the success of the affair was largely due to the courage of a Canadian militia-

man. The evening before the battle Sutherland was summoned by an orderly to accompany him to headquarters, and to his great astonishment found himself in a tent in the presence of General Vincent, Lieut.-Col. Harvey and Lieut.-Col. Clarke. As he entered he heard the latter say in an undertone, "This is the man."

(To be continued.)

Christmas With the Mounted Infantry.

The Strange Impressions left upon a Newspaper Man.

(From the Winnipeg Siftings.)

THE boys made up their minds to celebrate Christmas in grand style, so they chipped in and had a dinner surpassing anything of the kind ever thought of at Fort Osborne; and didn't the infants enjoy it—well I should audibly cachinate. They fairly revelled in turkey and plum pudding and other fixin's too numerous to mention. Nor was the apostle's advice unheeded; the rosy was passed and repassed during the repast till at last most of the roisterers were passed under the table.

When the dissipated notes of the bugle warned them that it was time for guard mounting there was a general scramble, among those who were for guard, for rifles and accoutrements.

The guard fell in on the barrack square—it had a round appearance somehow that afternoon—the inspecting officer appeared and the guard stood at "shun."

"She—sh—sholler—hep! 'Specshun port—hep," ordered the officer.

"I'll take whizky," said the right-hand man. "I never drinkshsport."

"Open ze breech block," said the officer, sternly.

"Zamine hep! Azalright. To your gar—quick march!"

Then the lonely sentry took his post—the gate-post—and leaned heavily against it to hide his emotion. The sounds of revelry from the banqueting hall were ever and anon wafted to his ears. After a while a comrade stood beside him in the twilight cold and gray, and said, "I've brought you something, lad, to pass the time away."

The weary sentry staggered as he put forth his right hand and said, "What is it—whiskey—this is bully—this is grand. Bear a hand, old man, and hold me, hold this blooming old carbine. You're a dandy from away back. Leave me now and go and dine."

Then the sentry felt better; his spirits revived, and he humped up and down his beat singing softly and laboriously. Presently the "Rounds" approached. "Oo comes there?" "Wownds." "Wha wownds?" "Vistin' wownds." "Vance, vistin' wownds, allswell." "Giv y'rorders."

"All ri', sir. 'Ta' care all Government property; allow no one t' pass th'out counnersine; 'n case o' fire alarm thagard."

"Ver good, senry. Goo-nite." "Goodni', sir."

Thus are the strict rules of the service somewhat relaxed on festive occasions; and why not? Does not the immortal bard make Iago sing—

"And let me the canakin, clink, clink:

And let me the canakin clink—

A soldier's a man,

O, man's life's but a span,

Why, then, let a soldier drink."

An officer of the U. S. Army, travelling abroad, writes: "I have been watching the Italian troops start for Africa. They are well prepared for field service. Their uniforms and equipments are well adapted for service in a hot country."

"What kind of foliage do you consider the most pleasing?" asked the Professor of Botany at West Point of a student. "Leaves of absence," was the reply of the homesick cadet.



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BANDMASTER WANTED.

BANDMASTER wanted for 7th Fusiliers.—Applications will be received up to the 31st January, 1888; duties to commence 1st April. Salary, \$300 per annum. Applicants will state age, experience, etc., and give references. Apply to

MAJOR W. M. GARTSHORE,

Pres. Band Com. 7th Fus.,

LONDON, ONT.

THE Canadian Militia Gazette

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

71 1/2 SPARKS ST., OTTAWA, ONT.

J. D. TAYLOR, MANAGER.

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

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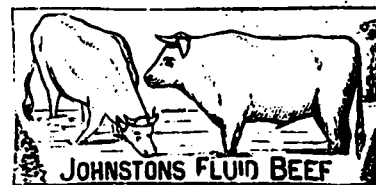
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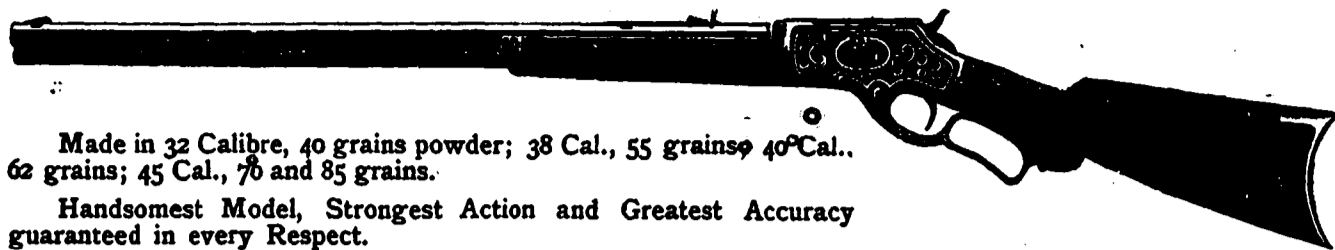
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