

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Second Year.  
VOL. II, No. 8r.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY, 1887.

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

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

May begin at any time, and are payable strictly in advance. Terms for Canada, the United States, or Great Britain, \$1.50; eight months, \$1.00; to clubs of four annual subscribers, four copies for \$5.00; postage in each case prepaid. Single copies can be obtained from the newsdealers at 5 cents.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Unexceptionable in character will be inserted at 15 cents per line for transient matter. Rates for large spaces or extended periods will be given on application. Space estimated at four columns to the page and twelve lines to the inch.

## REMITTANCES

Should be made by Registered Letter, Post Office Order or Draft. For Great Britain, each dollar may be taken as equivalent to 4s., and cents as half-pence. All communications must be addressed to

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE,

Box 316, OTTAWA, Canada.

Printed by MASON & REYNOLDS, 45 Elgin Street, Ottawa.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

### COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The general's pay.  
The new warrant and colonial service.  
The work of the military schools.  
Bridge building yarns.  
Capt. Caldwell's hard case.  
The eighteenth disbands.  
The year's record of the O.A.A.

### THE SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION.

### SIMPLIFICATION OF DRILL.

### ONTARIO ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

### SELECTED.

Volleys in the attack.  
Discipline amongst volunteers.

### SELECTED.

Improvised field defences.  
Horse-breeding.  
Clarke's patent movable target.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Honor to whom honor is due.  
The engineer course.

### REGIMENTAL NOTES.

### MOUNTED POLICE ITEMS.

### GLEANINGS.

### OUR TRADING COLUMN.

## NOTICE.

FOR ten days from date only we make the following offer: We will send the *Century Magazine* for 1887, with the numbers for November and December last included, and the *CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE* for a year, to any subscriber not already on our list, for four dollars and a half, one dollar less than regular rates; or we will send *St. Nicholas* for 1887 and the *GAZETTE* for a year for three dollars and a half; or the whole three for seven dollars. The *Century* this year, with its quarter of a million of circulation, its history of Lincoln, and its stories of the American civil war, and *St. Nicholas*, with its high class literature for children, young and old, need no commendation, and the chance we now offer for securing them and the *MILITIA GAZETTE* at reduced rates is one which should not be neglected.

## Comment and Criticism.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR FRED. MIDDLETON is a victim to an imperial fit of economy. Some time ago it was ordained by the War office that officers employed on colonial military service should, during the continuance of that employment, forfeit their unattached or half-pay allowance. It seems to be a just provision enough, on the face of it, that a man should be paid by those for the moment employing

him, but where the injustice comes in is in applying the rule to appointments made before the rule was enforced, and also in practically compelling officers on half-pay or retired pay to choose some other employment for their leisure time than that for which their life's occupation has best adapted them. Sir Selby Smyth and General Luard, when in Canada, were not treated thus cavalierly, and when Sir Fred. Middleton was appointed there was no hint that he would fare otherwise than his predecessors, yet to-day he is in the position of doing all the work of his important office, and actually receiving but £300 more than if he were living on half-pay at home without any duties to perform. We had occasion to criticize this rule in connection with General Strange's services in 1885, and cannot but deplore its existence, threatening as it does to entirely deprive us of the services of Imperial officers, for Canada cannot afford to give them full pay, and they would be foolish to sacrifice ease at home for hard work and increased expenses here without some substantial consideration.

THE new warrant has settled the matter more surely, if that were necessary; for up to the present there seemed some little room for liberality of interpretation, but now there is none. We do not see why this should be done, at least with general officers, for their employment by colonial governments does not involve the engagement of others to do their work. They are on the list in any case, and if unemployed would draw a certain rate of pay; with junior officers seconded for colonial service the case is different; they would not be entitled to a retiring allowance, and other men have to be paid in their stead, consequently it seems only fair that they should be fully paid by the colony requiring them.

WE reproduce an editorial from the *Victoria Warder* referring to certain matters connected with the efficiency of our officers. It certainly speaks plainly and we print it because we believe that if there are any objections felt against the present order of things, they are much better spoken out and cleared away than left to smoulder as feelings. We cannot understand the *Warder's* wholesale condemnation of the military schools, in view of the excellent results which have undoubtedly resulted from attendance at the courses of instruction, although we ourselves, some time ago, raised the question whether their capacity might not be increased, by allowing the attached officers to reside out of barracks, during a portion of their course; this plan might somewhat decrease the quantity of instruction obtained, though we think any loss would be more than balanced by the increased number instructed, and, at least, until some of the arrears are wiped off, might be advantageously adopted. With that part of the *Warder's* article suggesting summary treatment of unqualified officers we are heartily in accord. An officer who can not find time or will not take the trouble to qualify is not wanted in the force.

WE imagine the story about the bridge built in the North-West is somewhat apocryphal, for we have heard it already related of two or three campaigns, and of all three columns in this last campaign, but

even granting that in this instance the bridge was put up by rule of thumb more expeditiously than it could have been done scientifically, surely no one will argue from that, that engineer officers are not wanted, or that the native wit of us Canadians will supply the place of competent training, either in discipline or in matters pertaining to fortification. If any of our friends confident in their mother wit were to attend a course at the Royal Military College, we imagine they would be ready to admit that there are more things in military science than can be picked up fortuitously by even the keenest observer.

**S**PEAKING of men not having time to qualify, we know of one case of genuine hardship where the rules governing the military schools might advantageously have been suspended. Captain Caldwell, of the 42nd, is a man who was a real acquisition to the force. A large employer of labor, and a man of sufficient means, he not only did not prevent his men from enlisting, as so many employers do, but he himself enrolled them into a company, and took command of them—provisionally. At camp in 1884 he turned out a full company of sturdy, well drilled, and well dressed men, thanks in part to his own private purse, and a company that made the highest shooting average in the district that year. In January, 1885, Captain Caldwell went to the Military School to qualify, but just previous to the date of the examinations the troops were ordered to the North-West, and the captain found himself left behind minus his certificate. When the school was resumed Captain Caldwell was in the midst of a season's business and naturally could not afford the time to resume his interrupted studies, and the consequence is that at last year's camp his splendid company turned up missing. No blame can of course attach to the commandant of the school for strictly maintaining the rules, but we are quite sure the country cannot afford to lose either Captain Caldwell's services, or those of his company.

**T**HE eighteenth battalion has met its just fate at last, and has been disbanded. We learn that Lieut.-Col. Lewis, B.M., has been instructed to proceed to Prescott county and take over the stores of the different corps. It is rumoured that there is a prospect of this regiment being reorganized under the command of its former colonel, A. McLean, in which case many of the old officers would come forward and volunteer anew.

**T**HE Ontario artillery association is to be congratulated on the results of its first year's work. The association has held a successful prize meeting, while the impetus given to the several corps by the fostering care of the association is evidenced by the high place which the Ontario contingent secured in the D.A.A. competitions. It now behooves all the other provinces to follow the good example set by Ontario, and to organize similar associations, so that their artillery corps may not be at a disadvantage in future competitions.

### The Schools of Instruction.

(From the Victoria Warder.)

**M**ANY young men from this district anxious to attend a military school this winter have been unable to do so because the schools were full. It has long been our intention to enter a protest against the present military school system. The system is chiefly noteworthy on account of its red tape and etiquette. Efficiency of instruction there may be, but it is not in advance of the old plan.

To our mind the system of admitting cadets in large numbers, each wearing, not the uniform of his rank, but that of the school, and each spending a term of say four weeks in barracks for routine duty, boarding elsewhere if desirable for the rest of his period of instruction, is the only plan on which a school at least for infantry should be conducted in Canada. In case an officer in attendance at a school for a company certificate desires to put on airs by wearing his own uniform and messing

with the staff, he should be free to do so, off duty; but on duty either on parade or in the barrack room he should appear only in the uniform of the school. The present plan is breeding an amount of snobbery not combined with efficiency that will ultimately produce inefficiency in all ranks.

The MILITIA GAZETTE, usually on the right side, last week endorses General Middleton's recommendation that "all officers of the permanent force rank senior to other militia officers of their own rank." This is a principle we cannot endorse. We do not deny the efficiency of many officers of the permanent force, and their superiority to the majority of the militia officers; but the difference lies in the fact that the militia department has for years allowed men to retain commissions in the force who are totally unqualified to drill a squad or mount a guard. Let the "provisional" officers now on the lists be retired at once if they fail to qualify, and let corps failing to turn out in strength, owing to having such officers, be disbanded and the arms and outfit given to districts or men that will keep up efficient corps; and the cry of inequality between the officers of the permanent and those of other corps will soon vanish. As an instance of the superiority of the raw Canadian volunteer officer over even the British regular an event of the North-West campaign may be cited. A day or two after leaving Batoche for Prince Albert the force came to a place that required bridging. The British engineer officer started to outline a plan, meanwhile sending teams for material. A couple of Canadian militia officers, one of whom was Capt. Winslow, accustomed to practical work in the woods, did not await the drawing of the plan or of the material, but seizing axes had a bridge built and the force over before even the sketch was ready.

We oppose as yet the recommendation of General Middleton, and suggest that he clear out all the officers not qualified. Then will there be something like life and energy in the force. Then will the permanent corps not be in advance of the ordinary militia. Indeed as it is some of the ordinary batteries and battalions seem nearly as well drilled as the regular force; and the annals of the North-West do not indicate that the raw militia were a whit behind the regular.

Our advice is, get rid of the red tape, and train the boys to spot a bull's eye at 500 yards.

### Simplification of Drill.

**T**HE question of simplifying drill is a very important one for the Canadian army. The short time available for the training of our militia force renders it impossible for the battalions of the Dominion to be practised in anything but a very small portion of the field exercises for infantry. Another point that must be considered is that the present drill has to a very great extent come down to us intact from the times of Frederick the Great. The linear formations which form so great a part of them received a further stimulus from their successful application by the Duke of Wellington in the early part of the present century. But this was in the days of the old muzzle-loading flint-lock rifles, and when defensive tactics were more easily carried out than now-a-days. Besides all this we must consider the fact that Canadian troops will never be called on to fight in savage wars, in which kind of war alone the present two-deep, close-order line formation finds an application. Such a formation is totally un-adapted to offensive movements. This was fully shown by the English advance at the battle of the Alma, where the English line advanced for about a mile only, and became a mob. Victory was gained there, not because the English advanced in line, but because the Russians showed an utter want of generalship and made greater faults than the English did. In the face of modern weapons troops cannot advance, even in small bodies, in a two-deep line. Shallower and even extended formations are required. An extended formation is not a true fighting formation in itself, it is only an expedient to reach effective ranges without undue losses. Once the effective ranges are reached the firing line must be as dense as possible, consistent with the effective use of the rifle; i.e., a man per yard, in order to overwhelm the enemy by fire; that is to say, the troops must fight in single line. Such being the case, why not train them always in single line? Lord Wolseley has long said that the time has come for infantry to drill and fight in single line, but the proverbial conservatism of military opinion has been too powerful as yet for him to effect the change, but when this far-seeing soldier had an opportunity of testing his opinion he did so with great success. We refer to the Ashanti campaign. Numerous native levies had to be raised and trained in a short time, while, to add to the difficulties, they did not understand a word of English. To teach them the ordinary drill of a two-deep formation was an utter impossibility. Consequently a single line was used, which was then numbered off in fours. At the word "Fours right (or left)," each four wheeled in the required direction. Nothing can be simpler than this. The veriest recruit can learn it in a few minutes, and in this column formation of fours the company can be deployed to the right or left at any moment, which cannot be done in

the present system. For instance, a company column of fours, right in front, formed from a two-deep line, can only be deployed to the left by the words "front form company." If deployed to the right the rear rank would be in front. Under the proposed system, a company would be formed up in two single ranks, separated by an interval of six paces, each under a lieutenant, so as not to have too wide a front in line. The captain's post would be on a flank. Each rank would be told off in fours, and if at any time it was considered necessary to close the ranks, exactly the same words of command could be used for the now two-deep line. Such single lines are extremely easily extended and assembled, and are eminently fitted for a bayonet assault, for even with the present system the ranks have to be opened for this purpose. With single ranks, kept as such, the depth of quarter columns, and columns of fours, on the line of march would be increased, but on such occasions the ranks could be closed and the double line worked as a single one temporarily. The advantages of this system are very apparent, and the system is peculiarly suited to troops which can give but a very short time to their training, such as those of the Canadian militia. So advantageous is this system, that it can be confidently asserted that if any army adopts it it will soon be followed by other nations. Here is an opportunity for Canada to make a name in the military world, and at the same time to enormously increase her military power by the better trained state of her troops. Training is everything now-a-days in war, and here lies one of the best means by which Canada can fit herself to take her place in the defence of the empire when called on in time of danger.

A SOLDIER.

### Ontario Artillery Association.

THE annual report of this thriving association has just been published, and contains the usual record of the year's doings, and the constitution, as amended at the late annual meeting. From the treasurer's statement we learn that there is a balance on hand of \$245 81, which is most satisfactory for a first year. The results of the firing competitions have been published in our columns from time to time, as they were received by the secretary of the D.R.A. We now append the annual reports of the President, Secretary, and Council, which will give a fair idea of the important results achieved by this young association:

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The council of the association presents herewith the report for the year 1886 of the executive committee on the subject of artillery ranges; of the secretary on the working of the association; and of the treasurer, with the accounts, duly audited.

**Affiliation.**—Nine field and two garrison batteries have affiliated with this association during the past year. Next year, owing to certain restrictions as to training, the number of garrison batteries will probably be decreased; in fact, only one of the three Ontario batteries will be called upon to perform their annual drill and gun practice.

**Gun Practice.**—The shooting on the whole is far above the average. The average length of range which has been used does not exceed 1,450 yds. (Port Hope 1,300 yds., Port Colborne 1,600 yds). The Council is strongly of opinion that from 1,500 to 2,000 yds. should be the range for Field Gun Practice, and 1,300 for S. B. O., and 2,000 for B. L. R. or M. L. R. The Council begs to suggest for favorable consideration the question of obtaining some improved sighting arrangements, and the paying of say \$10 to each commanding officer of a field battery for expenses while attending practice.

**Ranges.**—Although the executive committee have made a report on all likely ranges so far as known, they have omitted to recommend any one of them as being suitable. Col. Cotton, assistant inspector of artillery, in his remarks on the Port Colborne range, says of it that in his opinion "it is the best artillery range in Canada." This council favors the concentration at one point of all Ontario batteries, for the purpose of performing the practice, and recommends Port Colborne as the best place. Your council would suggest for the consideration of the council of the Dominion Artillery Association, whether it would not be more economical and beneficial in the end if garrison batteries, using guns mounted on travelling carriages, were permitted to fire at the same time and over the same range as field batteries. In common justice to them, if they are to compete against batteries firing over a first class range—like Quebec, for instance—they should not be handicapped by using some chance range.

The prize list during the past year was a most liberal one. The council would suggest whether it is a question of good policy in offering prizes for voluntary drills—so few batteries competing—and of not offering more encouragement to drivers. Heretofore shooting and efficiency prizes have been the great object aimed at; an *immobile* field battery is useless. A prize might be offered for judging distances, which is a most important thing, and should be encouraged. The council would also

suggest to the parent association the desirability of its prize list, conditions, etc., being published at an early day in the year; that the attention of the Dominion association should also be called to the fact that this association are not in favor of the present method of competing for the Gzowski cup, and would recommend that such change should be made as will enable the object aimed at to be more fully realized.

The council would recommend most strongly, and as being of urgent importance to the interests of the artillery force generally:

1st.—The concentration of all batteries as above suggested.

2nd.—An increased number of rounds of ammunition to enable officers to compete

3rd.—A liberal increase of the annual grant to the Dominion Artillery Association. It is apparent to every militia man that the Dominion, with its small grant, aided by public generosity, has done much to increase the efficiency of the militia artillery.

4th.—The establishment of competitions for officers firing at moving objects.

5th.—A more liberal allowance of clothing. Nothing is more trying to clothing than gun drill, grooming horses, etc.

In establishing this association, success was partially ensured at the beginning by a generous grant from the Ontario Government, but the council expects that every officer who takes a proper interest and pride in his battery should be a member of this association. By united action and help alone can the association ensure the further success of both Dominion and Ontario associations. With regard to this the council regrets, but it is nevertheless a fact, that so few junior officers are members; the seniors are working for what really the now juniors will most benefit by, and they candidly say, and with a right, that they look to them for support both morally and financially.

W. BARCLAY McMURRICH,  
Capt. T. B. G. A., President of Council.

#### REPORT OF LIEUT.-COL. GRAY, PRESIDENT.

I attended the practice of the Ontario field batteries at Port Hope and at Port Colborne. The range at Port Hope is in my opinion unsuitable; having to fire over the railway track, it was necessary to cease firing frequently, thereby causing delay, and interfering with the arrangements made by officers.

As an artillery range, I believe Port Colborne to be the best in Ontario, giving a mile from a good elevation, with excellent background, which brings the target out distinctly. As a matter of fact, the last shot of the practice was fired at this range by moonlight, and proved a hit.

The whole practice was carried out under military regulations, and left no room for complaint.

I may be permitted to suggest a few changes, which I believe, if adopted, will prove of advantage to the competing batteries.

1st.—The competition to take place annually about the last week in June.

2nd.—The firing squads to assemble on the same day, and remain in camp until the completion of the practice.

3rd.—Four guns to be in action. The firing to be continuous, shot for shot, from the right or left in the "Preliminary," and gun for gun in the "Final." By adopting this mode the time occupied would be reduced to a minimum.

4th.—All combatant artillery officers willing to attend the practice, to be permitted to do so and their transport supplied.

5th.—A sufficient supply of ammunition to be in camp to enable every officer to fire a stated number of rounds in a competition to be known as the "Officers' Match."

6th.—An extra supply of copper friction tubes. A very large number this year were defective. This should not be so. If on active service the consequence might be serious. The gun is the artilleryman's standard, and should respond to the pull of the lanyard when the enemy is at hand.

I must congratulate the Ontario Artillery Association upon the excellent work accomplished, and I wish to thank the officers for their active and intelligent assistance, which contributed so much to place the organization in first-class working order.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the President of Council, Ontario Artillery Association:

SIR,—In compliance with rule No. 23, I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of council, the first annual report on the working of the association.

In 1883, 1884 and 1885, the annual gun practice, so far as the Ontario batteries were concerned, was held at the Woodbine, Toronto, over the same range, under the same conditions, and as nearly as possible at the same time. The results, no doubt, were satisfactory, but the idea prevailed that as the Woodbine was an inferior range, the Ontario batteries were handicapped in the firing with their comrades in Quebec.

This idea, I believe, coupled with a rumor that in a few years time the Woodbine would be unavailable for artillery practice, induced the council to secure, if possible, a better and at the same time a permanent central range, at which all batteries could fire under the same conditions. The report of the Executive Committee to whom this was referred is herewith enclosed. As the committee was unable to report in time, the gun practice, in accordance with an order of the Inspector of Artillery to that effect, was held, for the eastern batteries at Port Hope, on the 29th Sept. and two following days, and that for the western batteries at Port Colborne, on the 4th Oct. and three succeeding days. A return of the scores made by the different batteries is enclosed herewith, on referring to which will be noticed the large increase in the average firing of batteries over that of last year (1885), which was the first year in which the system of preliminary and final practices was introduced. The increase in the average is, no doubt, indicative of the good results to be obtained by careful instruction and supervision in the preliminary, and of better ranges than heretofore. These meetings, conducted under the auspices of the Dominion Artillery Association, with I regret to say its short purse, cannot fail to be of service, tending as they do to promote a healthy rivalry amongst the batteries.

Handy cards, containing rules, range tables, general duties and other information in a condensed form, have been printed for the use of both field and garrison batteries. They are for sale at a nominal rate.

A list, showing the winners of prizes given by this association, is also enclosed, the necessary information having been furnished by the secretary of the Dominion Association, Capt. Donaldson, to whom I am indebted for much assistance.

The good results of the association, during the first year of its existence, have far exceeded the highest hopes of those who were instrumental in its organization, the records showing decided advance in the firing, etc., of field batteries; and the increased interest in their duties manifested by the members of the various batteries, auguring well for the continued improvement of this most important branch of the service.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. HOMFRAY IRVING, Lieut. T. R. G. A.,  
Secretary.

### Volleys in the Attack.

THE special circular lately issued by His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, which orders that volleys are to be employed in all stages of the attack, is, we take it, a very decided and well-deserved compliment to the discipline and nerves of the British infantry. The experience of the war of 1870-71 was such that, almost without exception, foreign critics have accepted without question the dictum that during the final stages of an attack over open ground it is absolutely impossible to control effectually the fire of the fighting line. The training of the continental soldier, however, is for a much shorter period than that of our own rank and file; and it has been for some years the opinion of experienced officers that the discipline and coolness of the British infantry will render it, even in the midst of the uproar and slaughter of a modern battle, as amenable to control, as cool and steady under the devastating fire of the breech-loader, as were the squares of Quatre Bras and Waterloo under the terrible pounding of the French artillery. An oft-quoted extract records the astonishment of the Russians at the Alma that troops were to be found with sufficient firmness of *moral* to be able to attack in lines two deep. This firmness of *moral* is still the characteristic of our soldiers; and if our peace training be adequate, foreign critics will note with astonishment that troops are to be found who can be relied upon to maintain their fire discipline under any circumstances whatever.—*U. S. Gazette.*

### Discipline amongst Volunteers.

CAPTAIN HODGKINSON, adjutant of the Bombay rifles, recently read a very interesting paper before the members of the corps on the "Best way to promote *esprit de corps* among Volunteers." He remarked that he wished specially to put before them his views of how they should all do the greatest credit to the corps generally, with the hope that the subject might be well discussed. He knew from experience that nothing showed the smartness of a corps like close attention to minor details. He would not have them suppose that he meant the pipeclay and button stick routine that obtained in the service: it should rather take the form of extra parades, steadiness, intelligent applications of rules, which were laid down for guidance only, to the circumstances of the moment, and thorough knowledge generally of the drill-book and its principles. The volunteer corps started with one great advantage, and that was superior education, which made good discipline easy to

them. An educated man saw at once how indispensable it was to assist by good example the higher ranks in carrying out the regimental system. A correspondent of the press in remarking on the recent German manoeuvres, said that the tents were struck about 4 a.m., the men were loafing about in the rain for four hours, and then they fell in, and the day's work began. After the day's manoeuvring was over, the corps marched to their various bivouacs, found no rations, and the Emperor gave the order to billet them in the villages. This entailed a march of fifteen miles to the corps, and he told us that the sections were well closed up, there was no straggling, and no distance was lost throughout the march. He drily remarked, "I would not have been one of the officers on that march for a great deal."

"Now, this showed what discipline would do; but they knew that, without constant, careful, and steady drill, no brigade would march fifteen miles without loss of interval, straggling and consequent spreading of the column over far more than its proper length. Mr. Farnham, the American consul in Bombay, who was a member of the Bombay volunteer corps, told the lecturer what he considered was one of the most remarkable instances of discipline in the American war. The new Hampshire regiment of citizen soldiers left New York for Baltimore with orders to march through the town without halting if they found the place disaffected. This proved to be the case, and, though the regiment was fired on from the houses and pelted with stones, they marched steadily through without returning the fire, which they naturally wished to do, because their orders were on no account to fire a shot. By individual training, the lecturer said, he meant the point of excellence to which each man could attain in the various exercises which go to make up one perfect fighting machine. The old days of brute force were past, and the soldier of to-day must be able to use his brains as well as his rifle. But true military knowledge could only be obtained by first learning the alphabet of the profession, the letters of which were goose step, squad and company drill, and rifle and bayonet exercises. Clerly has pointed out that, while the British discipline was good enough to allow of their fighting in line, other nations adhered to the column formation, to give the same confidence that obtained in a flock of sheep huddled together in a field. This argument was a very natural one, for 'clearly the transition from column to skirmishes was greater than from two ranks to one, and thence to open intervals.' The former transition had been effected by the Germans, but only by paying far greater attention to barrack square training and discipline than before."

"Among the many criticisms on our manoeuvres at Delhi," concludes Captain Hodgkinson, "the German officers laid particular stress on the fact that our regimental discipline was good, but that there was a great want of fire discipline in our infantry. They were well in hand till the attack commenced, when the officers lost all control of their men. The lecturer would not say that this was a fact; but, if it was, the cause was not far to seek—viz., that the men and officers had not learnt the routine of the drill on the battalion square, and had not so mastered the theory of their training as to be able to act independently in loose formation—i.e., for each man to act best for the good of the whole body. Now, as to collective training. Capt. Hodgkinson said he wished to include under this head not only the bare necessity of company and battalion drills, but also how they could be best carried out in the volunteer corps. There could be no thorough knowledge of battalion drill without careful and constant company drill; and it was want of company drill that the lecturer was most anxious to fill up. This question he wanted to discuss more particularly, as he was quite convinced that it was not only feasible, but might be made interesting and attractive to the companies. Captain Hodgkinson urged the necessity of trained volunteers not being satisfied with the present system of attendance at various places with such drill as their present numbers admitted of. What they required was collective training among the companies; and to effect this each company should have one or more rendezvous at which the members living in that locality could parade twice or three times in the month. He was perfectly well aware that, in a corps which comprised so many branches of mechanical training, there should be no difficulty in forming companies of artillerists, engineers, telegraph corps, &c."

### Improvised Field Defences.

AT a meeting of the West of Scotland Tactical Society held in the rooms, 166 Bath street, Glasgow, on Wednesday night, Major H. D. Dunlop, R.A., Garrison Instructor, North British District, read a paper on "Improvised Field defences, including the attack and defence of villages, houses, woods, &c.," Col D. Matheson, C.B., presided.

Major Dunlop said that when asked by the secretary to give a lecture on some military subject he selected field defences, because it seemed to him likely to be of practical value to officers of volunteers; and on looking through the journals of the United Service Institution he was glad to find his view supported by his brother officer, Capt. now Major

Trotter, in his gold medal essay on "Military operations in the United Kingdom, considered particularly as influenced by the enclosed nature of the country." Speaking of the volunteer force, whose theatre of operations could be no other than the United Kingdom, Major Trotter said:—"There is much to show that if it had opportunities it is capable of reaching a very high standard of training. It represents the pick of what is obtained on the continent by the system of universal service—the activity, the intelligence, and the high spirit of the nation. Its distinguishing qualities are intelligence and zeal, two of the most essential in the creation of a modern soldier. Its rapid improvement is a guarantee of the further progress it can make, and where is the limit? The points to which its attention should be specially directed are (1) the paramount necessity for devoting all available time to modern tactical formations: (2) the advantages to be derived from manœuvring in large bodies with other troops: (3) the power of working across country, of improvising and improving shooting trenches, of creating, and destroying obstacles, and of co-operating with other detachments, and lastly the training of its officers." Capt. Trotter's essay showed that the influence of the enclosed nature of the United Kingdom upon military operations would be to largely increase the power of resistance which the defenders would obtain by skilfully utilising the enclosures. The example chosen as illustration by Major Trotter, and also by Major Clayton, another gold medalist of the United Service Institution, was that of Gen. Sherman's operations in Georgia, where it was pointed out that the tactics of the Confederates were such that, though vastly superior in numbers, it took the commander two months to drive his enemy back a hundred miles. Had the Confederates wished to have gained time, that would have suited them admirably. That, he fancied, would be exactly our position in the event of an invasion. We could not oppose a landing, and at best could only fight a battle at about one day's march from the coast. Of course it must be assumed that our fleet had been somehow disposed of, or no invasion could be attempted. Exactly 24 hours' delay would greatly increase our strength and weaken the enemy, who would require to detach large bodies of troops to protect his communication with the sea as he advanced inland. He thought it followed that great advantage was to be gained by field defences, that such advantage was specially valuable to the defenders of Great Britain, that the characteristics of the country lent themselves admirably to such defences, and, finally, since those who would occupy the position ought to prepare it—and that the volunteers would have to make them—how were they to set about it? Major Dunlop then proceeded to point out how defence was to be carried out. He stated that the advantages which the defender sought to gain—besides that of knowing the ranges, which was the chief advantage—from his selected position were summed up in these words—command, cover, and communications. All the ground in front up to the muzzle of the rifles should be commanded either by direct or flanking fire; cover should be as complete as could be obtained for the shooting line, supports and reserves; and communication should be made along the position to the rear and to the front, and for a counter attack; without which the defence would most probably fail. The disadvantages which ought to fall to the lot of the attack were due to the want of these three points. The attacker should be left no cover, and he should be unable to obtain any command over the defender's line. Then the hollow roads and folds on the ground must be filled with trees and brushwood, or be efficiently swept by fire, flank and direct. The lecturer pointed out that in choosing a position the defender should have a wide front of fire; and if that could not be obtained by the configuration of the ground shelter trenches would require to be provided so as to remedy that want, these to be only of such depth as would enable cavalry and artillery to advance over them to the counter-attack. He pointed out the great advantage of flank fire in the case of defence, and narrated an instance in the Franco-Prussian war where three French riflemen were able, from choosing a good position, to compel 250 Germans to evacuate a shelter trench which had been made to prevent a flank attack. Major Dunlop also showed how the crown of a hill should be defended, and the uses to which a wooden paling might be put. He also referred to the use of shallow and deep military pits with wire entanglements, and how a village could be defended from an attacking force. It was pointed out that the garrisoning of a village was wasteful of men, who were difficult of supervision. It was of importance that in dividing the defence into sections a tactical unit should be allotted to each; this unit to prepare its own defence and communications, so that it would know all about them, and see that they were properly made. He also alluded to the use to be made of an isolated house which could be utilised as a keep, and pointed out several methods that might be adopted to prevent the enemy finding shelter under the walls. A wood again was a most important natural feature. It afforded cover from view, and to some extent cover from fire, but its very closeness hindered supervision and communication. If the attacking party could gain entrance to the wood, he would be placed on an equal footing with the defender; it was therefore necessary that the edge

of the wood should be held at any cost, and that the supports and reserve should be numerous and close at hand. Major Dunlop then dealt with the attacking of various places, and showed how that should be carried out. In connection with the attack on a village, he said that they found here a tactical rule which should always be observed—and that was not always the case with tactical rules—that before an infantry attack was launched against a village it must be overwhelmed by infantry fire.—*Vol. Record.*

### Horse-Breeding.

WE are glad to see that the subject of horse-breeding is at length beginning to take hold on the "thinking" officers of the service. Doubtless these gentlemen have in view the difficulties experienced in mounting a cavalry force in the event of any war panic. To remove these difficulties *per saltum* might be impossible, but a practical suggestion has been made in the *Times* by Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. H. Allsopp, which, if acted upon, may in time materially increase our home horse supply. Writing on the subject Col. Allsopp says:—"I have adopted in Essex, where I occasionally go fox hunting, a scheme, original I admit, but it met the approval of practical men of various countries. It is to give the farmer the service of a thorough-bred horse as well as a subsidy of £20, extending over four years, for the use of a mare they find, with the refusal of the progeny when two years old, at £40; if a filly, at £35. It is a certain thing for the farmer, but those who may copy this new departure may rely on his sending the best mare he has." This plan, if followed up by those interested in horse-flesh, would result in real benefit to the mounted service as well as to the farmers and yeomen of the country.

We are glad to see that Col. Allsopp's initiative has been backed up by officers of such experience as Cols. Turnbull and Kingscote, while Dr. Fleming, of the Royal Veterinary College, and Mr. Walter Gilbey both endorse the views expressed. That their judgment is worth following we do not for a moment doubt, and that the result will in a few years gratify the most sanguine we sincerely believe. In a horse-loving nation like our own, it is somewhat astonishing that we have so long neglected the improvement and multiplication of really good horses, and have allowed ourselves to be left to a large extent at the mercy of foreign countries for our ordinary supply. It is high time that an effort should be made to make ourselves more independent, and provide the country with a large stock of better horses grown on our own pastures, and so lend agriculture the helping hand of which it is so much in need, especially as our efforts in this direction will be a benefit not only to the cavalry but to the entire community.—*U. Service Gazette.*

### Clarke's Patent Moveable Target.

THE immense importance to the British army of having every soldier sent out a thoroughly efficient marksman has lately been so prominently forced into notice that it is gratifying to find the military authorities are fully alive to the subject, and are doing their utmost, by training the men at target practice, to make them as efficient as possible. The fixed targets, as hitherto used, do not give any idea to the recruit as to the amount of quickness and readiness required on his part to sight and fire at a man's head and shoulders appearing suddenly above a parapet and then as suddenly disappearing, nor the allowance required to aim in front of a man moving across, so as to hit him, which is the object of all training.

The targets are made to represent the head and shoulders of sixteen men with helmets on; they are fixed to a long centre bar in squads of four, two squads being only shown above the parapet at a time, the others are out of sight. The bar is fitted with pulley wheel and chain connected to a steering wheel with handles corresponding and position to the targets.

At a signal, two squads are brought to view, remaining five seconds in sight, the steering wheel is quarter turned, throwing those out of sight for ten seconds, and raising the other two squads of targets to view, which at the same interval of seconds also disappear. In the intervals between the appearance, squads of marksmen are detailed off to load and fire at the specified targets, each one being numbered, hits or misses being counted by the marker in the usual way. Another system shown in the engraving is that of a man moving along. The figure is life-size, and is carried on an iron carriage running on tram rails. At each end are spring buffers to give the figure a start back on its return journey. In the centre of the run is a screen behind which the figures pass from view. The figures are worked by a chain attached to gearing at right angles, the men working are protected by mantlets, and an iron fender is fitted in front of the tram rails to protect them. In the left side of the picture, two figures run on zigzag rails to represent figures advancing and

retiring across the line of fire, the arrangements of the rails brings the figures at times quite at different angles towards the marksman, and only exposes the figure to full view occasionally.

Mr. F. Clarke's useful and ingenious invention has been adopted by the Hythe authorities, and may be seen at work at the School of Musketry ranges. In addition to this Her Majesty's Government have already been supplied with 130 sets, and, no doubt, in time the system will be universally adopted for carrying out the rifle practice of our regular and auxiliary forces.

Mr. Clarke has likewise invented patent miniature moving targets for drill halls, galleries, etc., which cannot fail to improve shooting practice at movable objects.—*U. S. Gazette.*

### Correspondence.

The Editor desires it distinctly understood that he does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—I have just read in your issue of 27th inst., a letter signed, "Field Officer" in reference to North-West honors, which this gentleman on the strength of an announcement in the public press expects to be conferred during this current year. I do not know whether this report is well founded or not, but I quite agree with your correspondent as to the absurdity of decorating those commanding officers who spent their time of active service along the line of the C. P. R. or in other peaceful places. But if such a course is pursued it will not be without parallel in English history, as during the first Egyptian campaign a number of commanding and other officers received decorations who never saw a shot fired in anger. Officers went out in many cases undecorated and on their return got an order, an English medal and the bronze star of the Khedive, and in several instances these officers were never under fire.

If the same course is pursued towards the North-West commanders the c.o.'s will all get orders alike but it is just possible that the "public press" may have been misinformed on this subject and that the economic policy hitherto displayed in regard to North-West honors is to be continued.

There is certainly an officer at Ottawa who deserves honor and who has long been left unnoticed: I refer to the Adjutant-General, Col. Powell, whose services have been most valuable to our force and for some perfectly incomprehensible reason have never received the slightest recognition. Like many other deserving people he is the last man to advance his claims, but if Canadian officers are to be rewarded during the year of Jubilee Colonel Powell's name should stand high on the list.

A MILITIA OFFICER.

### THE ENGINEER COURSE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—In several of your recent issues I notice you strongly recommend all qualified short course officers who can possibly make the time to take advantage of the next course open for those desirous of qualifying as long course officers at the Royal Military College, beginning on the 10th March. Having taken this course last year myself upon the completion of a year at the St. Johns Infantry School I can bear personal testimony to its attractiveness and efficiency. And if anything I can say will have weight in inducing others to attend I shall be glad to give any or all particulars to any one so inclined. Lectures were begun last year on the 10th March and were finished on the 5th June. Officers while attending have messing and quarters at the battery barracks and attend at the college for lectures daily with the exception of Wednesday, which is devoted to riding, instruction being given at the barracks.

Not only was our course as a course made as interesting and instructive as it well could be, no trouble or expense being spared to fully illustrate the subjects treated, but personally we met with the greatest courtesy and consideration from the commandant and officers of both the college and battery. No doubt exists in my mind, but that every one fortunate enough to be able to attend will consider himself amply repaid for any inconvenience or trouble he may have been put to in order to make the necessary time. Of course it would be absurd to suppose that any one could, in less than three months, become thoroughly conversant with all the subjects taken up, but certain it is that he can obtain good insight into them, and quite sufficient knowledge to awaken a timely desire for more, which desire can be afterward gratified at leisure, when the instruction received and notes taken will be found of incalculable value.

To me the course was all too short, and upon the completion of what I knew must be my last lecture, I closed my text book with genuine regret.

C. H. BOWEN,  
Captain 53rd Batt.

### 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?

#### THE "VOLUNTEERS' RIGHTS" MEETING.

**Toronto.**—At the meeting held on the 25th to consider militia grievances and take action towards securing the election of a member to the Commons who would represent the interests of the local force there were about 150 present.

Ald. Drayton, late captain in Her Majesty's 65th regiment, was elected to the chair, and W. J. Urquhart acted as secretary.

The chairman said the meeting was not a political gathering. He pointed out the necessity for some action to secure for the volunteers what is required to keep them efficient.

A letter from Mr. Goldwin Smith was read stating that as an old volunteer and one who heartily advocated the movement when it was first set on foot in England, he felt sincere sympathy with the objects of the meeting. Toronto as the heart of British Canada will always be a military centre, wherever the political centre may be, and he trusted they would succeed in obtaining for the volunteers of Toronto and of Ontario, the measure of consideration which their importance as an element of the national force deserved.

Mr. C. G. Harstone claimed that the meeting was purely one of citizens, and he was there only as a civilian in exercise of his civil rights, and not as a volunteer, but as a friend of volunteers, to discuss matters affecting the force. This was not contrary to the Queen's regulations, and the United Service Institution, of London, to which he belonged, discussed fully all matters relating to the force. He believed that if the volunteers decided to try to get a particular man into Parliament as their representative they would succeed. Amongst the volunteers' grievances, he enumerated the want of a proper drill shed for the city. It was not just that Toronto should be left out in the cold while Montreal and Quebec were provided with new sheds. This city was the first called upon in time of trouble, and should not be so treated. The arms furnished the volunteers were wretched. He had seen rifles at the ranges which would not throw two hundred yards. Those were not weapons with which to face an enemy. If the government cared for the lives of the soldiers they would see that the men were well armed. Then the accoutrements served out were rotten. He had been told that men at Batoche lost more ammunition through the rottenness of their pouches than they fired. The volunteer force had been systematically neglected by both political parties. It was time the volunteers made themselves heard. Referring to the alleged illegality of such a meeting, he said it was not long since it was commonly reported that an officer of a city militia corps, in the name of his regiment, congratulated Mr. Laurier on the stand he had taken in regard to the rebellion. The speaker did not care what that officer's political feelings were, but he had no right to speak in the name of the regiment. The volunteers should defend themselves. The way they had been reviled and abused in the *Globe* was scandalous. He would be ashamed to meet any volunteer guilty of one-half the crimes charged by the *Globe*. Many Reformers assured him that they entirely repudiated those charges.

Mr. W. J. Urquhart moved:—"That this meeting is of opinion that candidates for the city should be called upon to pledge themselves to lose no time in securing a drill shed for the city volunteers, and proper arms and accoutrements."

Mr. Henderson seconded the resolution, and expressed the opinion that Mr. Harstone had introduced too much politics into his remarks.

The motion was then unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. J. Nelson expressed his sympathy with any movement for advancing the interests of the volunteers and increasing their efficiency. He was strongly in favor of the volunteers uniting in the support of a gentleman who would represent them in Parliament, and was in favor of Col. Fred. Denison as the candidate. If any other gentleman was suggested, no matter what his politics, he would support him. He thought the Government ought to pay more attention to the city battalions, instead of keeping up many country battalions which could not muster half their strength. He moved:—

That Mr. Goldwin Smith, Mr. J. E. Verral, Mr. H. Pellatt, Mr. John Sloan, Mr. W. J. Urquhart and the mover and seconder be a deputation to wait upon Lieut.-Col. F. C. Denison to request him to become a candidate for West Toronto to represent in Parliament the militiamen's interests, and that if he consent to do so this meeting pledge him their hearty support, and this deputation is hereby appointed a committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of assisting him in his canvass.

Mr. Harry Symons did not think they had any right to put Col. Denison forward in the name of the militiamen of Canada. It would be quite right, however, for the deputation to wait upon the gentlemen seeking parliamentary honors and ascertain their views in regard to matters affecting the militia, and pledge themselves to support those men who would advocate their interests. He moved in amendment to that effect.

Mr. J. T. Small seconded the amendment, on the ground that it would be unfortunate if the meeting were looked upon as a political one. The fact of Col. Denison probably being a party candidate might give rise to such an idea.

Mr. Harstone thought so well of the amendment that he would accept it instead of the motion, which he had seconded, if the mover were willing.

Mr. Nelson refused to withdraw his motion.

The amendment on being put was voted down, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Symons spoke in denunciation of the practice in Parliament of cutting down the appropriations for the militia force on the score of economy. He thought their services had not been properly recognized by the Government. He moved, seconded by Mr. Martin: "That this meeting is of opinion that further recognition should be given to those volunteers who were actively engaged in the suppression of the troubles in the North-West in 1885, and urges upon the Government the desirability of conferring marks of distinction upon them."

Mr. Nelson was opposed to the motion, because they would be placing themselves in the position of beggars if they asked for such recognition.

The motion was then put and lost.

Mr. Urquhart, for the purpose of preventing the idea being formed that their action was political, said the course followed had been decided upon in August last. After a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman, cheers for the Queen and Col. Denison brought the proceedings to a close.

**Quebec.**—A meeting of officers of the 8th Royal rifles was held on the 26th inst., there being present, Lieut.-Col. Miller, Surgeon Coote, Capts. Jones, Dunbar, Prower, Miller, Montizambert, Lieuts. Poston, Wood, Dunn, Ashe, and Adjutant Ernest F. Wurtele. It was decided to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the regiment (28th Feb.) by giving a ball to the N. C. O's. and men of the regiment in the Academy of Music, and the following officers were appointed a committee, with power to add to their number, to make arrangements for the ball, viz: Caps. Jones and Montizambert, and Lieut. Dunn.

**Fredericton.**—An entertainment by the infantry school corps dramatic club, in the drill hall on the 28th, was thoroughly successful, says the *Capital*. The play, "Never too late to Mend," was put on the boards in splendid style, and showed the most careful and intelligent study on the part of every actor. Several of the characters were sustained in a manner that could not be surpassed by professional stars. The whole performance reflects the greatest credit on Sergt. J. Wilson, the manager, as well as on every individual who took part. The new string band of the corps, under Bandmaster Hayes, contributed very much to the success of the entertainment. Amongst the cast were Sergts. Doherty, L. Ward, W. Walker, J. Wilson, W. Boute-lie, W. Daniels, and R. Gregory and Corp. Lawler. His honor the lieutenant-governor and Lady Tilley were present, and also Colonel and Mrs. Maunsell, as well as all the officers of the corps, and a large audience, composed of leading citizens. The night was very wet and disagreeable, but the great attraction drew a full house. The performance was to be repeated next evening.

**Amherst, N.S.**—The 93rd Cumberland battalion band has leased the Amherst rink for the winter, and had a carnival in it on Monday evening.

**Newcastle, N.B.**—A dance under the auspices of the members of the field battery took place in the Masonic Hall on the 20th. The hall was handsomely

decorated for the occasion, the walls being hung profusely with flags. Rifles stacked in different parts of the room and the artistic arrangement of sabres and guns at each window, with the two handsome battalion flags crossed over the stage, gave quite a military aspect to the room. Dancing was begun a little after nine o'clock and kept up till the hours began to lose their "wee sma" aspect. The scene was much enlivened by the brilliant uniforms of the officers mingling with the delicate feminine arrangement of shades and colors. The officers of the battery present were Col. Call, Lieut. Lawlor, Surgeon Pedolin, and Vet. Surgeon Morrissy. Several members of the 73rd battalion from Chatham were present, including Col. McCulley and Lieut. Mackenzie. About 70 couples joined in the dancing. The event was so successful and so greatly enjoyed by those present that the officers of the battery contemplate giving another dance shortly. Col. Call has been energetic in providing amusement and entertainment for the members of the battery this winter. The armory has been fitted up and made comfortable and attractive with reading room and gymnasium, while the weekly snowshoe tramps that have been lately inaugurated are much enjoyed by the members. These amusements have done much to keep members of the battery together and establish a strong *esprit de corps* among them.

**Mounted Police Items.**

The last Regina *Leader* describes a very interesting musical ride performed by the force at the barracks there. When the reporter arrived, the band, under Mr. Farmer, was playing a spirited march, and sixteen mounted policemen with lances at rest, in the large pit of the riding school, which reminded the spectator, as he gazed down from the gallery, of an old Roman amphitheatre, were putting their horses through a series of geometrical and other figures with remarkable accuracy and skill, and with a most pleasing effect. After going through a number of interesting gyrations, radiating circles and other odd figures, now walking, the next trotting, and then breaking into a gallop, the horsemen formed into line at the opposite end of the pit from the gallery, and as the band struck up "Bonnie Dundee," cantered forward to the other end, keeping the time with music, halted abruptly, broke in the centre, wheeled sharply to right and left, formed fours and cantered back along the sides. Feats were performed, many extraordinary, sometimes exciting, making one hold his breath for fear of some mishap to the riders, for it would be death to fall under the feet of the prancing steeds; often bringing expressions of admiration from the on-lookers. At the close the horses were walked out to their stables, the band playing "God Save the Queen."

**Gleanings.**

Commanding Officer.—"Bring your company up." Captain (just taken back into the army.) "Well, I'll go and talk to the boys and see if they'll come." C. O.—"Great stars! Where have you been since you left the army?" Captain.—"Been commanding a regiment of militia."—*Omaha World*.

The War Office seems at length to be fairly alive to the importance of arming British infantry with repeating or magazine rifles as quickly as possible. A departmental committee has been appointed to inquire into this subject, and we are assured that there is every chance of the weapons invented by English gunmakers being given a fair trial. At any rate it is almost certain, as stated by us some weeks ago, that the Schouloff repeater will not be adopted by the British army. Several officers holding high positions are strongly opposed to it.

The almost defenceless position of Esquimalt, which has been aptly named the "Queen of the Pacific," has frequently been alluded to by us, and we hail with satisfaction the fact that, within the next three or four months, there is every reason to believe that twelve 80-ton guns will be dispatched to that place from England. This heavy ordnance will have to pass over some three thousand miles of Canada from ocean to ocean, and it is gratifying to find that a survey of the bridges of the Canadian Pacific Railway has proved that they are fully equal to bear this great weight. This is as one bright point at a time when the question of our undefended coaling stations is prominently before us.

The scheme for the formation of a railway corps, which has just been approved, cannot fail to be regarded otherwise than as a most laudable undertaking, and we trust that the idea may not long be delayed in being put into practical operation. Railway battalions have long formed an important feature in the organization of the German army, and the enormous advantages accruing to an army corps from having at its command a certain number of skilled artisans capable of constructing railroad communication at comparatively short notice cannot well be over-estimated. To a certain extent the idea is not altogether a novel one in this country, seeing that there are at the present time two volunteer railway corps, one in London and the other at Liverpool, but we believe the suggestion of raising a railway corps of regulars has not before claimed the serious attention of the authorities. The men will engage much on the same lines as the post office volunteers, and overtures will doubtless be made to the existing members of the two volunteer railway corps to which we have referred to enrol themselves to the new regime. Should the idea assume practical form, the headquarters will in all probability be at Crewe. Apart from the enrolment of the necessary number of men, a task which, we take it, will be accomplished easily enough, it is proposed to maintain not only an efficient stock of tools and necessary appliances for restoring damage to existing railways, but also sufficient plant for the construction of at least sixty miles of railroad. The inestimable advantages of a corps formed on the lines indicated cannot well be over-estimated, and the scheme having been thoroughly approved and endorsed by those best qualified to form a reliable opinion as to its merits, we trust that it may not, like many other invaluable suggestions which have been made from time to time, be allowed to drop for want of support.

The announcement that some 80-ton guns will be ready in April for transportation across the continent to British Columbia has caused some comment on the other side of the Atlantic. The *New York Times* remarks that "it contrasts broadly with the utmost that the Washington authorities could announce for the projected seaboard defence of California. Yet San Francisco is at least as worthy of protection as Victoria. When it is added that an official report of the House Naval Committee of the present Congress has declared that the unarmored Chilean Esmeralda could alone, with her high power guns, 'lie outside the Golden Gate and lay the city of San Francisco under contributions without going within the reach of its guns,' the difference between our provision for Pacific coast defence and that of the British Government is apparent." This from a go-ahead New Yorker is rather flattering.—*A. H. G. Gazette*.

**Our Trading Column.**

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

FOR SALE.—Two pairs of new black silk stars for rifle tunic or patrol badges. Price one dollar per pair. Register No. 6.

FOR SALE.—Officer's Uniform, Lieut.-Col., R. Artillery. Half price, except a few articles bran new. List on application; all in good condition. Register No. 8.

FOR SALE.—Rifle Officer's Uniform; height 5 ft. 9 9 in., chest 37 inches; Tunic Mess-suit, Patrol, Nickled Sword, &c., cheap. List on application. Register No. 10.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—Copies of vols. 1 for 1867, and 9 for 1875, with any remaining volumes to the close of its existence, of the *Volunteer Review*, formerly published at Ottawa by Dawson Kerr. State price, condition, etc. Register No. 11.



**LYMAN'S FLUID COFFEE,**

A HOME LUXURY FOR CAMPING OUT.

COFFEE of the FINEST FLAVOR can be made in a MOMENT, ANYWHERE, in ANY QUANTITY. As good with condensed milk as fresh, or as "Café Noir."

FULL DIRECTIONS WITH EACH BOTTLE.



**TENDER FOR BINDING.**

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the undersigned, at this office, till Saturday, the 22nd instant, for Binding the Revised Statutes of Canada.

Specifications and forms of tender may be procured at this office.

Security will be required for the due execution of the work, and the carriage, at the expense of the contractor, of the printed sheets from and the safe delivery of the bound volumes at the Government buildings here.

The lowest or any tender will not be necessarily accepted.

B. CHAMBERLIN,  
Queen's Printer and  
Controller of Stationery.

Dept. of Public Printing & Stationery,  
Ottawa, 10th Jan., 1887.

**N. McEACHREN,**

MILITARY TAILOR,

ALBERT HALL BUILDINGS,

191 YONGE STREET - - - TORONTO.

UNIFORMS of every description made to order and everything necessary to an

OFFICER'S OUTFIT SUPPLIED.

Send for List of Prices.

Terms strictly cash.

**TO ADVERTISERS!**

For a check of \$20 we will print a ten-line advertisement in One Million issues of leading American Newspapers and complete the work within ten days. This is at the rate of only one-fifth of a cent a line, for 1,000 circulation! The advertisement will appear in but a single issue of any paper, and consequently will be placed before One Million different newspaper purchasers;—or FIVE MILLION READERS, if it is true, as is sometimes stated, that every newspaper is looked at by five persons on an average. Ten lines will accommodate about 75 words. Address with copy of Adv. and check, or send 30 cents for book of 176 pages.

GEO. P. ROWELL & CO.,  
10 Spruce St., New York

We have just issued a new edition (the 161st) of our book called "Newspaper Advertising." It has 176 pages, and among its contents may be named the following Lists and Catalogues of Newspapers: Daily Newspapers in New York City with their Advertising Rates.

Daily Newspapers in Cities having more than 150,000 population, omitting all but the best.

Daily Newspapers in cities having more than 20,000 population, omitting all but the best.

A small List of Newspapers in which to advertise every section of the country; being a choice selection made up with great care, guided by long experience.

One Newspaper in a State. The best one for an advertiser to use if he will use but one.

Bargains in Advertising in Daily Newspapers in many principal cities and towns, a List which offers peculiar inducements to some advertisers.

Largest Circulations. A complete list of all American papers issuing regularly more than 25,000 copies.

The best List of Local Newspapers, covering every town of over 5,000 population and every important county seat.

Select List of Local Newspapers, in which advertisements are inserted at half price.

5,493 Village Newspapers in which advertisements are inserted for \$41 a line, and appear in the whole lot—one-half of all the American Weeklies.

Sent to any address for THIRTY CENTS



**STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.**

ESTABLISHED 1825.

Existing Policies \$100,000,000.  
Invested Funds, \$31,470,435.64.  
Profits divided in ten occasions, \$17,500,000.

Class H Policies are FREE FROM ALL RESTRICTIONS, the contract being PAYABLE WITHOUT THE SMALLEST DOUBT.

W. M. RAMSAY, Manager, Montreal.

Agents in every city and town in the Dominion.



**Tenders for a License to Cut Timber on Dominion Lands in the Province of British Columbia.**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and marked, "Tenders for a Timber Berth," will be received at this office until noon, on Monday, the Fourteenth day of February next, for Timber Berth of twenty-five square miles, more or less, No. 19, situated on south-west side of the Columbia river, near Donald, on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in the Province of British Columbia.

Sketches showing the position approximately of this berth, together with the conditions on which it will be licensed, may be obtained at this Department, or at the Crown Timber Offices at Winnipeg, Calgary, Northwest Territories, and New Westminster, British Columbia.

A. M. BURGESS,  
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior,  
Department of the Interior,  
Ottawa, 7th January, 1887.

**MAYNARD, HARRIS & CO.,**  
*Military and Civil Service Outfitters,*  
 CONTRACTORS AND AGENTS,  
 126 and 127 Leadenhall Street, London, England,  
 (ESTABLISHED SIXTY YEARS.)

UNIFORMS :: FOR :: ALL :: SERVICES.

HELMETS, GLENGARRYS, NEW PATTERN GOLD LACE, ACCOUTREMENTS, BADGES, ETC.  
 OF BEST QUALITY AND MANUFACTURE AT STRICTLY MODERATE PRICES.

Estimates, Drawings, Patterns, &c.,  
 free on application.

References to all parts of the  
 Dominion

Inventions Exhibition, 1885. The only Gold Medal for tone quality.

— AWARDED TO —

BESSON'S PROTOTYPE MILITARY BAND INSTRUMENTS.



The Prototype Instruments, being unequalled in musical quality and durability, are  
 the best and cheapest for use abroad.  
 Write for Testimonials from Canadian Musicians and Bands using the BESSON Instru-  
 ments.

**F. BESSON & CO.**

198 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, ENG.,  
**Military Band Instrument Makers.**

The Besson Prototype Instruments are kept in stock by the following Sellers:—Alsin, Winnipeg  
 Grossman, Hamilton; Hubbard, Waterloo; Nye, Halifax; Orme & Son, Ottawa, &c., &c., and of all  
 leading Music Dealers in Canada.

*SUBSCRIBERS*  
 to, and other friends of  
**THE MILITIA GAZETTE**  
 would promote its interests by, whenever  
 convenient,  
 DEALING WITH ADVERTISERS  
 who use its columns,  
 MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN ORDERING.

**J. STOVEL,**  
**MILITARY TAILOR**  
 For Manitoba and the North-West  
 Territories.

A COMPLETE STOCK OF  
**MILITARY GOODS**  
 CONSTANTLY ON HAND.  
 All work guaranteed according to  
 regulation.  
 320 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**Hamilton Powder Co.**  
 (Incorporated 1861)  
 MANUFACTURE  
**MILITARY POWDER**  
 of any required velocity, density or grain  
**SPORTING POWDER,**  
 "Ducking," "Caribou," and other  
 choice grades.

**BLASTING POWDER**  
 in every variety.  
**DYNAMITE**

And all other modern "High Explosives."  
 SOLE LICENSEES FOR  
**H. Julius Smith's Magneto-Battery,**  
 The best for accurate Electric Firing of Shots,  
 Blasts, Mines, Torpedoes, &c.  
 MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS  
 For Insulated Wire, Electric Fuses, Safety Fuses,  
 Detonators, &c.  
 OFFICE:  
**103 St. Francois Xavier Street,**  
**MONTREAL.**  
 Branch Offices and Magazine at principal shipping  
 points in Canada.  
 Descriptive Lists mailed on application.

**EVERY BUSINESS MAN**

WHO VALUES AS CUSTOMERS

**: The : Dominion : Militiamen :**

Would do well to make use of the

**CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE**

As a medium through which to solicit their orders.

ITS LARGE AND WIDESPREAD CIRCULATION

Makes the MILITIA GAZETTE of peculiar value to advertisers.

IT CIRCULATES THROUGH EVERY PROVINCE.

IT HAS REGULAR READERS IN EACH CORPS.

THE REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF EVERY RANK

In a force numbering

NEARLY FORTY THOUSAND,

Are subscribers to it.

**THE MILITIA GAZETTE**

— IS THE —

**ONLY :: MILITARY :: JOURNAL**

IN CANADA,

And by no other means can an advertiser appeal so effectively  
 and economically to its large constituency.

**MILITIA ATTENTION!**

NOW READY,

"SQUAD DRILL ELUCIDATED,"

BY MUNROE.

Will be found invaluable to officers, non-  
 commissioned officers and men as

A SELF-INSTRUCTOR,

being simple to understand and leaving  
 nothing to be imagined by the student.

Will be sent post paid to any address on receipt of  
 price 50 cts. a copy, or three for \$1.00.

ADDRESS:

Sergt.-Inst. J. B. Munroe,  
 School of Infantry, Toronto, Ont.

**JOHN F. CREAN,**

MERCHANT TAILOR,

AND

**MILITARY OUTFITTER.**

MASTER TAILOR TO THE QUEEN'S  
 OWN RIFLES OF CANADA.

89 YONGE STREET,  
 TORONTO.

**AGENTS WANTED!**

TO RECEIVE

Subscriptions and Advertisements

For this paper, in

EVERY TOWN AND CITY

IN CANADA.

Liberal Commission.

Write for Terms.

**P. QUEALY,**  
**MILITARY BOOTMAKER,**  
 34 McDERMOT STREET,  
**WINNIPEG,**  
 N.B.—All work done in first-class style.

**JOHN MARTIN & Co**

**MILITARY OUTFITTERS,**

**457 ST. PAUL ST.,**

**MONTREAL.**



**Money Orders.**

MONEY ORDERS may be obtained at any  
 Money Order Office in Canada, payable in  
 the Dominion; also in the United States, the Uni-  
 ted Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium,  
 Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the  
 Netherlands, India, the Australian Colonies, and  
 other countries and British Colonies generally.

On Money Orders payable within Canada the  
 commission is as follows:

If not exceeding \$4	2c.
Over \$4, not exceeding \$10	5c.
" 10, " "	20
" 20, " "	40
" 40, " "	60
" 60, " "	80
" 80, " "	100

On Money Orders payable abroad the commis-  
 sion is:

If not exceeding \$10	10c.
Over \$10, not exceeding \$20	20c.
" 20, " "	30
" 30, " "	40
" 40, " "	50

For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL  
 GUIDE.

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