



*The Canadian*  
*United Service*  
*Magazine*



VOL. 3. No. 3.

NOVEMBER, 1897.

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial Notes.....	107
Fate of Louisbourg.....	115
Occasional Lyrics.....	120
Letter from the Sudan..	121
The Bravest living Soldier.....	130
Crysler's Farm.....	131
Depot News.—London, Ont.....	138
"    Toronto, Ont.....	140
"    Kingston, Ont.....	143
"    Ottawa, Ont.....	148
"    Montreal, Que.....	148
"    St. Johns, Que .	150
"    Quebec.....	154
"    Fredericton.....	157
Anecdotes.....	160
Militia General Orders ...	162

THE CANADIAN  
**United Service Magazine**

PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED SERVICE CLUB.

---

EDITOR:  
**DEPUTY SURGEON GENERAL F. W. CAMPBELL,**  
*ROYAL REGIMENT CANADIAN INFANTRY.*

---

**Vol. III.**

**NOVEMBER, 1897.**

**NO. 3.**

---

Unfortunately this number is late in being issued. The cause for this does not lie at the Editor's door, but with those at the various stations who have failed to forward the accustomed "notes" in time. As a matter of fact three stations failed to forward any. The Editor gave ample notice and hopes for better luck next time.

We have not heard anything further concerning a pension for the members of the Permanent Militia, but sincerely hope that the Minister will not lose sight of its necessity and justice. Every country considers it its duty to provide for those who do for it military duty, and which duty, if followed for a lengthened period, practically prevents their following with success any other occupation, unless it be that of a laborer, a somewhat precarious means of existence.

The alleged decision of the Government to transfer the Co'y of the Royal Regt. of Canadian Infantry from St. John's to Montreal will be received with gratitude by the entire Brigade of Montreal Militia. Montreal has for years felt that a mistake was made in establishing the Military School, in connection with this Company, at St. John's. It is true that that town is within comparatively easy reach of Montreal, and that every facility—such as special courses—was afforded officers. Still there are many other ways than actual instruction in which a body of Militia on permanent service

may be useful to their brothers in arms, and for this use they were lost at St. John's. We believe their presence in the Metropolitan city will give an impetus to the martial spirit of the population, and thus assist the Militia corps in recruiting. The transfer may take place almost immediately of the greater part of the Company, leaving at St. John's a few men who will take care of the Barracks till the Spring, when a troop of Royal Canadian Dragoons will relieve them, when they will join their comrades in Montreal. So at least it is reported.

The Militia List is now issued quarterly, and that, corrected up to the 1st of October, has made its appearance. It is an improvement on former issues, but we still see room for more.

The "Royal Canadians" (Leinster) Regt. left Tipperary on the 7th of August for Dublin and Birr, three companies going to the former and five to the latter place. The distance between Tipperary and Dublin is ninety and one-half miles, which was covered in seven days—including one whole day's rest—the third. This Battalion is the Regiment which was raised in Canada in 1858, and not the one lately arrived at Halifax.

Owing to the absence from Head Quarters at Tipperary, the 100th Regt. Royal Canadians were not able to hold their Dominion Day Sports on the 1st of July. They took place, however, on the 17th of August, and were well attended and conducted. A feature of the Sports was a Bicycle race, the prize being awarded to the last man in. In attempting this feat a good many of the competitors came down. When this occurred they had to run forward in front of the first man and mount. The winner was Lieut. Martin, who was the only competitor who kept his seat throughout the race.

We find a very interesting history in a recent number of the *Maple Leaf* (the Regimental Journal) of one of the original members of the 100th Prince of Wales Royal Canadian. On the 16th of March, 1858, when recruiting for the organization of this Regiment was going on in Upper and Lower Canada, Major Dunn, V.C., who was engaged in raising the required number of men to secure his majority, enlisted Eli Clarke, at London, Upper Canada. This man went through the usual non-commissioned grades, viz., from

Corporal to Color Sergeant between May, 1858, and May, 1864. On the 22nd of March, 1868, he took his discharge, having completed his first period of service. He re-enlisted on the 4th of August of the same year. He again went through the N.C.O. grades between August, 1868, and July, 1869. Subsequently, he held the appointment of Provo and Canteen Sergeant, and on the 18th of October, 1877, was discharged on a pension of 2s. 2d. per diem and medal for good conduct. He was then appointed Canteen Steward 35th Regimental District, Chichester, and he held that for seventeen years and six months, resigning on the 31st of March, 1896. He is still alive and well. His six sons are now serving in the same Regiment as he served in, five being non-commissioned officers—the sixth will in due time be promoted: at present he has not had sufficient service.

---

Col. Ivor J. C. Herbert, C.B. (late Major Genl. commanding Canadian Militia, and organiser of the V. R. I. Club), has been gazetted to the command of the 3rd Batt. of the Grenadier Guards, vice Col. E. Antrobus. We offer our congratulations.

---

It is gratifying news to many members and ex-members of the Canadian Militia to learn that the Imperial Government has at the earnest solicitation of the Canadian Government consented to award a medal for the Red River expedition of 1870 and the invasion of Canada by the Fenians in the years 1866 and 1870. The news reached Canada about six weeks ago by a cable despatch from the Colonial Secretary. The cost of the medal is to be borne by the Canadian Government. We have not heard when the medal will be issued, but we feel sure, from the active interest the Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, has taken in the matter, that no unnecessary delay will be allowed to take place. So far as we can gather a general medal will be issued, and that a bar or clasp will be put on for each campaign in which the wearer has taken part. So that some with have one bar, some two and a few three clasps. Some very distinguished men in the Imperial service will receive this medal; among them Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief, who commanded the Red River expedition of 1870. His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught, who as Prince Arthur, a Lieut. in the Rifle Brigade, saw his first active service in the Fenian raid of 1870. Major General Gascoigne, then a Captain in the Scots Guards, also saw his first service in the Fenian raid of 1870, also Sir Redver Buller, who was in the Red River expedition.

The *Regiment* of November 20th says:—The Government have sent an important military mission to Australia. Sir Ralph Wood Thompson has just left England with instructions to prepare a report on the defences of Australia, and to arrange for the exchange of battalions of colonial and English forces in accordance with the plan proposed by Mr. Chamberlain. He is also urged to impress upon the Australian Governments the necessity of increasing their military strength by the encouragement of recruiting, and to improve the equipment. The requirements in this respect are to be examined, and Sir Ralph will obtain his information from military experts, as well as from Government officials. The inquiry is to be an exhaustive one, we learn, and will last several months.

---

The strength of the 2nd Batt. of the Leinster (Royal Canadians) on arriving at Halifax was 867 men. They have since received a draft of 262 men from the Depot, at Birr, Ireland, where the 1st Batt. is now stationed.

---

The articles on "Louisbourg" and "Crysler's Farm" which appear in this issue were originally published in the *Montreal Herald* a few weeks ago. To that paper, which by-the-by is now one of the enterprising dailies of the Metropolitan City, we desire to give full credit; we consider the articles most interesting and calculated to impress the present generation of Canadians, many of whom we fear do not realise that our country has a military history of which it may well be proud.

---

The Military Department has notified the City of Montreal of its intention the coming spring to increase the Military reserve on St. Helen's Island. This has been necessary on account of the increase in the strength of the 3rd Field Battery (Montreal) and the Montreal Hussary, both of which corps it is understood will in the future use this as a camp and exercise ground. The city is not pleased, but has to bow to the inevitable.

---

The Navy and Army says a correspondent asks why in the British Army Major Generals rank below Lieut.-Generals. In reply it states that the institution of the ranks dates from Cromwell's time when three grades of Generals were

regularly set on foot for the Commonwealth Army under the titles of—the firsts and senior—the Captain-General; the second the Lieutenant-General; and the third the Sergeant Major General. In the reign of James II. these posts, which had temporarily disappeared, at the restoration were all revived; the first under the abbreviated title of "General," the second in its original form of "Lieutenant-General;" the third under the abbreviated form of "Major-General." This latter form of nomenclature has remained ever since.

On the 23rd September last the City of Glasgow, Scotland, presented the freedom of the City to Lord Wolseley, the commander-in-chief of the British Army before an immense audience.

The casket in which the burgess ticket was enclosed is appropriately Egyptian in form and decoration, resting on four carefully-modelled sphynx corner supports, and is of silver, richly gilt and burnished. Lord Wolseley's arms, raised and chased, are displayed in the centre panel in front, with, on either side, the insignia of the Order of St. Patrick and K.C.B. On the corner pillars, back and front, in Egyptian letters are noted the successive expeditions in which his Lordship served or had charge of—viz., Crimea, India, China, Red River, Ashantee, Natal, Egypt, Nile. On the back panel is a spirited reproduction of Lady Butler's famous picture, "After the Battle—Arrival of Lord Wolseley and Staff at the Bridge of Tel-el-Kebir." To mark Glasgow's connection, the ends of the casket bear tastefully-executed views of the Municipal Buildings and the Cathedral, while the lid is surmounted by the arms of the city. Lord Wolseley, in replying to the address of the Lord Provost, made an admirable speech, and we feel sure an extract or two will prove most interesting reading. He said: "A few years ago Britain was, in my opinion, in a perilous position. Whilst we had been extending our empire in all directions we allowed, not the army only, but the navy also, to become altogether too weak to protect the great and increasing interests those services would have to defend in the event of war. At that time we all felt that a large addition to the fleet, both in men and ships, was of the first consequence; and more than once I said in public that had I but one million wherewith to improve the defences of the country I would spend it all upon the navy. Within the last few years we have succeeded in restoring the navy to its ancient proud pre-eminence, and I think I am justified in saying that we soldiers did our share in drawing the nation's attention to that manifest necessity.

When within a few months of that imposing display of our own naval strength at Spithead, Glasgow honours the Commander-in-Chief of the army by making him a citizen, I assume it to be an evidence that her people wish to see our little army made similarly able to take her share in the defence of the empire which no navy, no matter how strong, can ever possibly perform. Were our great empire all within a ring fence it would be comparatively easy to defend it. But it is scattered up and down throughout the world, requiring numerous garrisons for those coaling stations, without which the navy could not keep the sea, and requiring armies to overawe the many warlike races with which we are brought in contact at many points. The true and wise lover of this country wishes to see it great in power for doing good as well as great in extent; but it can only be thus powerful by being supreme upon the sea and provided with a thoroughly efficient army large enough for its wants on land. Our position renders it necessary that there should be no question as to the size of our navy, for there must be no question as to who is to be supreme upon the ocean. Were we to lose our supremacy there we should lose our colonies and all our foreign possessions and cease to be the great Power for good we now are in the world. But we also require an army of moderate size and perfect in quality to defend these islands in the event of invasion, and to hold our coaling stations and territories beyond the sea. To defend any position the surest course is often to strike the enemy hard elsewhere, and to do this, in our case, a highly trained and efficient army is absolutely necessary. Such a blow cannot be struck by a navy alone; it can only be struck by a highly trained military force acting with the fleet. I would earnestly beg of you on this point to credit one who has not only made the defense of our empire the study of his life, but has also taken some part in its active defence in Europe, Asia, Africa and America when he tells you that it is arrant folly to declare that for our protection a navy only is required. War is a terrible thing; but it is a curious fact that, although we are the most peace-loving nation in the world, our army alone of all armies is almost always at war somewhere or other. Year after year the necessities of our empire, and the aggressions of frontier tribes who live for war and not for peace, force us to fight. It is therefore essential that we should always be ready for such attacks. To keep on repeating that war is terrible and content ourselves with praising the blessing of peace won't enable us to resist attack or to ward off war from our frontiers. Even at home we are made to feel that if "peace hath her victories no less than



war" peace has also her domestic strife in which, no matter who is the winner, helpless women and children suffer, and the country suffers almost more than from a foreign, and far more than from a colonial, war. I am sure there is not a man or woman present in this hall who does not hope that wise and kindly counsels and friendly conciliation may soon restore peace to the manufacturing communities which I may say are now at war amongst us. But, you cannot arbitrate with Afridis or such like tribes, and they only represent what is very generally common everywhere along the borders of our empire. They fight because they love fighting and the plunder which too often accompanies it, and because they hate what some call the monotony of peace. We, on the other hand, fight in the interests of peace, because we love peace. Notwithstanding the honest endeavours of our rulers to prevent it, almost every year adds to the duties and responsibilities of our armies abroad, whilst no corresponding addition is made to its establishments. Since the present number of line battalions was fixed by our great War Minister, Lord Cardwell, 25 years ago, only one battalion has been added to the army, and that was done this year; yet in that same space of time we have been obliged to send abroad many additional battalions, which we still keep in India, in South Africa and the Mediterranean, and we have occupied Egypt. The consequence is our army machinery is overstrained and is out of gear. I speak in the presence of many whose technical knowledge will enable them to contradict me if I am wrong, when I say that if a machine which is calculated to manufacture a certain amount of stuff annually has some 20 per cent. extra work forced upon it, the machine will sooner or later certainly break down. Yet that is what we are risking with our army. The wise man increases his manufacturing power when his business increases, but this is what we have not yet done with our army, and the result is our army machinery is no longer able to meet effectively the demands now made upon it. For a big or serious war we can call out our reserves—a reserve which as far as it goes is, I believe, the finest in Europe. But for those little expeditions which so often overtake us we cannot use it. With these little wars so frequently on our hands, we above all other nations require to have at home always ready for the field a small but thoroughly efficient military force that can be thrown at once upon any threatened part of our dominions. But this we do not possess and cannot hope to possess as long as the number of our line battalions at home is as small as it is at present. This is a serious fact, and, as was the case in the matter of augmenting the navy, it can

never be effectively met or remedied until the people themselves wake up to a consciousness of our army's weakness, and take it up, and until popular opinion declares itself unmistakably upon it through the Parliament and press of the kingdom. It is in the hope that the attention of the people of this great city and the country generally may now be directed to this pressing want that I have ventured to speak thus openly upon it."

## FATE OF LOUISBOURG.

Grim visage war hath smoothed his wrinkled front.

—*Shakespeare.*



FEW grass-covered mounds on Cape Breton shore, over which the salt breeze blows from the Atlantic, and a wall-case full of broken shards and scraps of metal standing in the Montreal Chateau de Ramezay—itself a relic of the past—are all that remain of Louisbourg, once the Gibraltar of New France. A bell, now in the same museum, once hung in the tower of the little Catholic Church in the old fort, and called its garrison to prayer, but now its cracked and plaintive tones seem to sound the dirge of the old regime.

## THE RELICS.

The ruins of the old fort have long served as a quarry for the surrounding country, and from them are taken now and then relics, of which a goodly number have found their way into the Chateau de Ramezay museum. There are regimental buttons and badges, bits of swords and bayonets, fragments of the English shells which reduced the once proud fort, parts of rusty flint locks, muskets, bullets, spurs, locks and hinges, keys, and an indescribable assortment of old iron. Of glass and crockery there are hundreds of fragments, which call to the imagination the homes that stood in the old town, but it is difficult to tell what they were parts of.

The Louisbourg bell is by far the most interesting relic. It was one of two which hung in the church tower, and lay in the ruins neglected for many years. Early in the present century it was brought to Halifax, and presented by the Governor of Nova Scotia to the Rev. Fitzgerald Uniacke, rector of St. George's parish. When the parish of St. John and St. Mark was formed out of this and a church built in 1843 the old bell was placed in its tower, and up to a couple of years ago it called the congregation to worship as faithfully as when it rang for those of a different race and creed. Becoming useless for this purpose, it was about to be broken up when Miss Barry ("Francoise") heard of it, and with the help of some Montreal antiquaries she raised funds enough to purchase it.

## THE OLD FORT.

No one need look on the map for Louisbourg, for it is seldom to be found on one, and then only through courtesy to the past. But in its day it was a strong fortress, protecting the French dominions in America, and being a constant menace to the peace of the English colonies of Massachusetts and Nova Scotia. Twenty-five years were spent by military engineers in fortifying the place after the system of Vauban, and before the work was completed thirty-five million *livres* had been spent out of the treasury of Versailles.

Naturally it was splendidly placed, although not without sources of weakness. It stood on a craggy promontory, around which and along the rock-bound, inaccessible coast on either hand the waves of the Atlantic break and roar now as they did then. Across the tongue of land ran a series of bastions with connecting curtain, the slope of the glacis ending in a pond and marsh in front, but effectually prevented approach from that side. The ramparts of earth faced with masonry were sixty feet thick, protected by a ditch eighty feet wide and thirty feet deep. The whole circuit of the fortifications was about two miles. At the east and west extremities of the ramparts lofty hills overlooked the town, and these served as great points of vantage to the besiegers in both of the sieges which the fort had to stand in its time. The western hill, called Gallows' Hill, was cut down seven feet before the final fall of the fort, but even this was not an effectual protection.

To the east of the town lay the peaceful, land-locked harbor about two miles long, with its entrance well guarded by reefs and rocky islets. A mile from the town on the northern side of the harbor lay the grand battery of thirty guns; on Goat Island, in the harbor mouth, was another, and a third was on Lighthouse Point, the eastern point of the harbor entrance. There were only four points on the coast where boats could land, and all were carefully guarded. These were White Point, close to the town; Flat Point, two miles west; Fresh Water Cove, four miles west; and Laurantbec, a fishing village lying to the east of the harbor. And so it was that the garrison relied more on its wall of surf than on ramparts of earth and stone.

## TWICE BESIEGED.

In 1745 Sir William Pepperell and the New England militia appeared before the town, and captured it after a short resistance. Restored to the French by the treaty of

Aix-la-Chapelle they set about strengthening it, and in 1757 it was deemed almost invulnerable. But in that year events were happening in England which were to be closely connected with this continent and the downfall of the French domination. Early in that year the elder Pitt formed a strong administration, an administration which left its impress on three continents. Pitt determined on a threefold stroke for the extinction of the power of France in North America. Louisbourg, Quebec, Montreal, all must be taken. Louisbourg especially was singled out as a point to be taken from the enemy. It was, as has been said, a menace to the New England colonies; it was a rallying point for marauders who assailed the English in their newly-acquired Acadian possessions, and it guarded the approach to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and shut out the English colonies from those rich fishing grounds.

The command of the land forces, which were to carry out this campaign, was given to General Amherst, whose subordinates were Brigadier-Generals Wolfe, Lawrence and Wentworth. The supporting naval squadron was under Admiral Boscawen, a relative of the famous fighting Churchills. In the early spring of 1758 the combined forces moved on the redoubtable fort, where they were not unexpected. The Chevalier de Drucour was in charge of the fortress, and was ably assisted, so tradition says, by his devoted wife. Within the lines were 3,800 men, for the most part French regulars, and 3,000 more combatants were on board five ships of the line and seven frigates which lay in the harbor. The armament of the fort consisted of 210 cannon and 17 mortars, all kept ready charged, with a reserve of 44 guns in case of accidents. The broadsides of the ships aggregated 544 guns. Along the steep crags for miles on either side a never-ceasing look-out was kept from masked batteries. During the first couple of months the English ships hung off the coast, but failed to blockade the fortress, and at the end of May there were a year's provisions in stock. When the spring fogs lifted the garrison could often catch glimpses of the white sails of their opponents flitting along the horizon.

#### THE ATTACK MADE.

On June 1st, 1758, the Dreadnought, Boscawen's ship, anchored in Gabarus Bay, and in two days the whole armada of 157 ships, carrying 12,260 men, had cast anchor. Meanwhile, the generals had been reconnoitering for landing places, and though the shore looked forbidding they determined to land. For a week attempts to land were made

in vain, the dense fog, the heavy swell and the raging surf all joining forces to postpone the evil days which were coming upon the fortress.

On the morning of June 8th another attempt was made, and the order to embark in the boats was made at two o'clock in the morning. By sunrise the boats were ready in three divisions, the first two under Wentworth and Lawrence to make feints on White Point and Flat Point while the third under Wolfe landed at Fresh Water Cove. To cover the boats the frigates began a furious cannonading on all these points as the sun rose, ceasing as the boats neared the shores. The French wasted no powder, but waited till the boats were but twenty yards away, when a storm of grape and canister, red hot shot and bullets burst out from the abattis of fallen trees which lined the whole shore and from the heights above. Wolfe saw that the defences could not be forced, and gave the order to pass to the east.

#### A COINCIDENCE.

There was a strange likeness between what followed and a scene which took place just fifteen months later in the course of the second branch of the general operations in Canada. The first and last acts in the final campaign against New France opened in almost similar fashion and under the same leader. In obedience to his order three boats containing one hundred infantry sheered off behind a little cape which protected them from the fire. The steep escarpment had been left undefended because it was believed to be inaccessible. Wading ashore the men scrambled up as best they could with Wolfe leading, and the other boats soon followed.

The troops formed on the heights and carried the first battery with a rush. The French were panic-stricken, and were pursued right up to the town, so that before evening fell there was not a single outpost between the besiegers and Louisbourg. Then began a six-weeks' siege. Redoubts and block-houses were built to protect the camp which Amherst had pitched just out of range of the guns of the fortress. Stores and siege guns were landed with inconceivable difficulty, and while the English were engaged in this work the French were dismantling their batteries and retreating within the fortress.

This enabled Wolfe to get round to the eastern side of the harbor with 1,200 men and open a battery on the Goat Island defences, which were destroyed after a fortnight's firing day and night. Trenches were opened up on the west

side of the town, and four batteries kept up a constant bombardment of the four main bastions, which were silenced one by one. The brave little French frigate L'Arethuse aided in the defence as long as she could, and then ran the blockade with despatches for France. To prevent the English vessels from entering the harbor de Drucour sank six of his ships at its mouth. One afternoon a shell dropped into the Celebre, which caught fire, and drifting from her moorings she set fire to two other vessels, leaving only two vessels of the erstwhile magnificent French squadron.

#### THE END.

On July 22nd the English batteries opened fire on the citadel and the old wooden barracks which Pepperell had built twelve years before. These were quickly set on fire, and only a hard fight saved the town. The bastions and defences were only crumbling ruins, but the bombardment was kept up to weary the garrison. During a fog on the morning of the 26th a party of sailors surprised the two remaining vessels, and cut them out, and with the harbor thus open the end quickly came. Next morning the Chevalier de Drucour reluctantly opened the Dauphin Gate, and Amherst marched in. The garrison, to the number of 5,637, laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war, 221 cannon, 18 mortars and a large quantity of military stores were given up, and eleven French standards were carried to England and deposited triumphantly in St. Paul's Cathedral. There the tattered remnants of them hang to-day, while in one of the quadrangles of the Tower of London, among other spoils of war, lie some of the guns and mortars.

In 1773 the entire town and fortifications were demolished by a corps of the Royal Engineers, who took five months at the work and did it completely. In time grass and trees grew upon the mounds, and Louisbourg became but a tradition. To-day the gulls fly across the desolate mounds with mournful cries, and the ocean sobs and moans as if for the romantic days of *l'ancien regime* that can never come again.

## OCCASIONAL LYRICS.

By Sir Edmund Nugent, Bart. (late Grenadier Guards.)

## PEPPERMINT DROP.

When he's caught in a trap it occurs to a chap  
That it isn't a time to grin;—  
So 'twas cruelly hard on the Hospital Guard,  
For the niggers had hemmed us in.—  
We'd a "Sub."—and a "Pill,"—and myself (I was "Drill")—  
With a score to look after the shop.—  
And a drummer (of course he was part of our force),  
Whom the men called "Peppermint Drop."

The officer fought as a gentleman ought,—  
And the Doctor was much the same,—  
I did what I could, but I wasn't much good  
Through being so plaguy lame  
From a wound in the thigh;—some were lots worse than I,  
And, although none wanted to shirk,  
When a fellow gets hit, it does balk him a bit  
In the way that he does his work.

Then the sub, with a groan, fell as dead as a stone,—  
And the Doctor went down as well;—  
"Come, my lads," says I, "we must win or die,  
As any recruit could tell.  
And it's nothing new for me or for you  
To dance to that fine old tune."—  
Then, under my breath, "But it's odds on death  
If they doesn't relieve us soon."

Well, I can't tell how it was managed now,—  
For it seems an owdacious thing,—  
But we heard a cheer in the enemy's rear  
With a regular English ring!—  
Then some got a view by squinting through,—  
And some peered over the top,—  
And then, with a shout, we all yelled out  
"By George! it's Peppermint Drop!"



To this very day I'd be puzzled to say  
How the rascal had done the trick;—  
P'raps he managed to crawl,—( he was wonderful small),  
But he'd somehow got through them slick!—  
And they never found out, till they heard the shout  
From the distant Peppermint Drop,  
How he'd cooked their goose;—*then* 'twas no more use  
For bless you!—he didn't stop.

Then, Lord! what a game when the Regiment came,  
As of course they were sure to do!—  
And what praises we got,—we who hadn't been shot!—  
(I got a commission too).  
And Peppermint Drop gets about with a hop,  
Now the ball's come out of his knee.  
But you needn't be sad for the brave little lad,  
For he's "Peppermint Drop, V.C.!"

—*Guards Magazine.*

---

### LETTER FROM THE SUDAN.

FRONTIER FIELD FORCE, Merawi, Sudan, 3rd Sept., 1897.

DEAR CRABBE,

• We have all been a bit knocked out of time here, because yesterday for a couple of hours we were attacked by one of most violent wind-and-dust-and-rain-storms that ever was seen. Slatin Pasha told me it was the worst he ever knew. Not a tent was left standing, and it was on us so quickly that one had no time to save one's little odds and ends. My grass-hut was half blown down by the first gust; papers and clothes disappeared in the wind, and amongst them the sheets of a long letter I had written you about our march to Abu Hamed and the action which took place there on 7th August.

I will do my best to re-write it, but time is short, as the post-boat leaves to-morrow, so you must forgive a scratchy account, and at least give me credit for attempting to carry out your request for more letters.

To begin at the beginning. I will give you first of all a brief account of the situation out here as it was towards the end of July.

As you very well know, the Province of Dongola lies along both banks of the Nile on a stretch of water which is navigable for some 200 miles all the year round. At each end of this open stretch is a series of cataracts, extending over many miles of the river's course, and rendering all navigation impossible either for sailing boats or steamers, except for about a month in each year, when the Nile is flooded to its highest level. This is usually in September. During that month you can steam along between full banks and have a beautiful view over the country; but in May, at lowest Nile, the water level is some twenty-six feet lower, and you are practically steaming along the bottom of hugh ditch.

The cataracts to the North of the Dongola Province obstruct some 200 miles of the river between Wadi Halfa and Kerma, those on the south of the Province, between Merawi and Abu Hamed, extend for about 100 miles. Thus it is that nature has cut Dongola off from the rest of the world both by land and water, for on all sides its fertile and once populous territory is surrounded by desert; and until man, in the person of Sir Herbert Kitchener, appeared on the scene with his railway this year, the place was only approachable to traders or travellers or conquerors by means of camel transport. The one exception to be noted was of course Sir William Butler's whaler flotilla. However, all who formerly have served in the Sudan know to their cost how unsatisfactory it is to be entirely dependent on that gallant animal, the camel; so, when the Egyptian Army re-occupied Dongola last October, and established permanent frontier posts at Debbeh, Korti and Merawi (each with a garrison of about 2,000 men), it was essential to complete the railway from Wadi Halfa to Kerma, and thus circumvent 200 miles of cataract.

That railway was opened for traffic on 1st May last, and for the first time in its history of some sixty centuries this ancient Kingdom got into touch with the outer world. As for us British officers, it enabled us at once to enjoy all sorts of luxuries, such as bottled beer, potatoes, mineral waters and a regular parcel post—all of which can only be really appreciated by those who have been for some time deprived of them.

Now, had it been the intention of the Egyptian Government merely to advance the frontier post from Wadi Halfa to Merawi, and then sit still on the defensive, within striking

distance of the the Khalifa's Army, the above-mentioned railway would have sufficed ; but no sensible person would have approved such a timid policy. The Dongola Expedition of 1896 was at the outset described in Parliament as a first step towards the acquisition of Khartoum, and the declaration was hailed with approval by all but a few Little Englanders.

The second step on the road would obviously be the capture of Abu Hamed, which lies on a stretch of the open Nile extending, for modern light-draught steamers, all the way to Duffilch, north of Uganda ; and so much in earnest were the authorities that they commenced to build their railway from Wadi Halfa to Abu Hamed in the month of March—a line 230 miles long across the desert. This line is now within 80 miles of completion ; it will cut all the difficulties of desert and cataract, and ultimately put Khartoum within an eighteen day's journey of London.

By the middle of October the line will be open, and many a " well informed " pessimist will have to confess that he was mistaken. Some said that the Egyptian Army could not occupy Dongola ; others that, owing to the want of water, a railway could not be built to Abu Hamed without great expense of time and money ; they were quite certain, at any rate, that we could not capture Abu Hamed without British troops ; and finally declared that, even if that strategic point were in our hands by some means or other, the gunboats in Dongola Province would never be able to surmount the cataracts between Merawi and Abu Hamed. As a matter of fact they have been wrong from start to finish. We have captured Abu Hamed without the help of a single gunboat or of British troops, and at the present moment six gunboats are safely over the formidable cataracts !

I have no doubt that at home you all think that we are well posted as to what is going to happen in the immediate future, but I assure you that such is not the case. It was of course obvious to every one that, as soon as the railway had pushed its nose about half-way across the desert, Abu Hamed, its terminus, would have to be taken by us ; but no one here knew the probable date of our advance, nor in what force we should go. The secret was most excellently well kept by the Sirdar, and for good reasons, some of which I can perhaps point out.

The necessity for absolute secrecy, even carried to the

extent of not giving information to the commanding officers of the battalions concerned, arises from the circumstance that we are not carrying on war against a nation but merely against the Beggara who, under the Khalifa, have usurped the Government and enslaved the numerous tribes of the Sudan. A Beggara, previous to 1885, was more of a stranger on the Nile than an Englishman. Our object is to make friends with the tribes with whom we come in contact, but we are quite aware that this policy opens the door to a complete system of Beggara spying upon all our movements. We, however, also obtain a lot of valuable information about our enemy, so that when you come to balance the one against the other the advantage is on the whole with ourselves. We therefore never shoot a spy, and the numerous tribes and triblets along our present extensive frontier are well aware of the fact. Some of them are most friendly to us; others are semi-friendly, waiting to see which is to be the winning side; all are in mortal terror of the Beggara, and afraid of offending them by withholding information. Thus our plans and projects, if whispered in the bazaars, are faithfully reported to the Khalifa.

If then the British officers had known the date of departure and probable strength of the Abu Hamed Column, their native servants would have known it, and it would have been the general talk of the camps and the bazaars. On the other hand, if one is told of a movement so confidentially that one may not make any previous preparations, which the servants might know of, what is the use of being in the secret? That is how I feel about it, although in this instance I was only given twenty-four hours notice to get ready in, and it was by pure chance that my horses and camels were not still on the march between Debbeh and Merawi with my battalion, which did not form part of the Abu Hamed Column.

In the present case it may be noticed that public opinion in camp had settled down to the view that we should start towards the middle or end of August, with or without gunboats, either by the right bank or the left bank, or on both roads; and curiously enough the Beggara Commander of Abu Hamed, whom we subsequently captured, told me that he had been informed by the Khalifa that the above was to be the date of our departure. The state of the water in the cataracts pointed towards the same date; but, unfortunately for the Dervishes, the Sirdar decided to start us off from

Kassingar on the evening of the the 29th July, and he moreover so arranged matters that none of the troops concerned were moved till the day before the concentration of the flying column. The gunboats were at their usual duties; some British officers were unfortunately on leave, and no one quite knew what was up.

My own duties comprised, firstly, the charge of the transport of one battery and two battalions during the march to Abu Hamed, then A.D.C. to General Hunter, D.S.O. on the day of the action, and finally the command of a returning convoy of Beggara and Sudanese prisoners (including the Dervish Commander), some 900 camels, 100 horses and mules and various details returning to Merawi. The other transport officer was Walsh of the Rifle Brigade. We carried 18 days' rations and forage for the whole force as the country of the cataracts was known to be deserted and desolate. Our march, which I won't describe, was 140 miles long, and we took just eight and a half days to complete it, thus averaging nearly sixteen miles a day; and if you ask me why we were in such a hurry in such a very hot month I refer you to what I have said about spies, and to what I am now going to tell you about the Khalifa's dispositions. Our object was to make the flying column as much of a surprise as possible, and to reach Berber before it could be re-inforced.

As far as I can find out the Khalifa's troops were distributed as follows. I omit all the spearmen, and only include Beggara and Jehadieh:

At Abu Hamed—600 to 700.

At Berber—1,200.

At Metemmah and Shendy—some 6,000 to 8,000 men, under the General Emir Wad Mahomed, who lately marched from Darfur and Kordofan, and at the end of July was pleasantly employed in massacring Joalin men, women and children, of whom he disposed of a couple of thousand or so, were told, at Metemmah.

The problem before General Hunter, who commanded our column, was—suppose a spy had been at the Sirdar's inspection of our force at Kassingar on 28th July, and had reported our departure for Abu Hamed by riding across to Metemmah on a fast camel—it was possible for Wad Mahomed to put his men into boats, and drifting down only at the rate of 50 miles a day to re-inforce Abu Hamed on 7th August. The Berber troops could get there sooner, but that

we did not so much mind—our force being some 3,300 strong. However, the problem became more and more interesting as we got nearer.

It was unfortunate that the Sirdar had not been able to arrange for a moon for us to march by, for I actually heard one officer grumbling like blazes because we had been sent off at the wrong time of the month for moonlight. Our marches were always completed by eight a. m., which gave the men a chance of keeping out of the sun every day. I got to admire more and more the marching powers of these troops and their great hardiness and cheerfulness on the march; it is indeed no light task to carry a Martini-Henri rifle, 90 rounds of ammunition, water-bottle, full haversack and side arms in this climate and turn up smiling for a fatigue as soon as you have reached camp. Once or twice I asked an old black Sudanese soldier to let me take his rifle on my horse, but not for anything would he part with his arms or any part of his kit. He feels in honour bound to carry it.

On 6th August we were within 18 miles of Abu Hamed, and General Hunter, who heard from friendly natives that the place had not as yet been re-inforced, decided to push on that night and form a zariba of all our transport and baggage at some place on the river within striking distance of the town. He would then settle how and when to attack the place, after fortifying the zariba—our only base of supply in the country.

We marched off at 6.40 p. m., and well do I recollect that particular night march. The 10th Sudanese, Charles Fergusson's regiment, was baggage guard and a long and tedious night they had of it, as our 900 camels had twice to be led through narrow places in single file in the dark. Such rest as we got I took lying in the sand at the head of the column with Sidney, Fergusson and Fitzclarence; and little did Fergusson and I think that on that very evening we should have the painful duty of laying our two companions to their last rest.

About four a. m. the transport column reached the place which the general had selected for our zariba, and which afterwards turned out to be a mile and a half from the north end of Abu Hamed, whose look-out tower was just visible against the star-lighted sky. The sun would not rise till 5.15 a. m., but we set to work to build the parapet of sacks of food and forage and other baggage, and surmounted it

with camel saddles until it became a most formidable obstacle. A Nordenfeldt and a Gardner were placed at two corners, a half battalion under Lieutenant Wolsley manned the parapets; camel men and servants were added where wanted; and we felt they could hold their own against any Dervish attack.

The sun was now up, and we could see the enemy watching us from the top of his wooden watch-tower and from a small fort, built on the plateau which overlooks Abu Hamed, as our column (about 2,000 strong) moved out towards the back or land side of the place, our 25 cavalry troopers scouting in front. Nothing was to be seen as we moved on to the stony plateau, except the watch-tower (made of four tall palm stems), and the fort, now apparently quite empty. Abu Hamed lay beyond them from us, low down by the edge of the Nile on some flat ground between the escarp of the plateau and the river, but we could see nothing of it till near the crest of the plateau within two to three hundred yards of the walls.

The Chief Staff-Officer, Major Kincard, R. E., Major Young, R.A., commanding the mountain battery of six guns, and I, were sent on with the cavalry to reconnoitre and report. We found the fort empty and not a sign of an enemy or an inhabitant anywhere, though we must have been standing about 250 yards from the houses on the crest. Five or six Dervish banners on long poles were stuck in the ground close to the walls. No one seemed watching us, no one seemed to be leaving the place either by the river or the Berber road. Silence reigned Abu Hamed; the big island of Mograt, green and fertile with palm-trees and rich crops, lay across by the other bank of the broad river; its inhabitants seemed numerous and were at their usual vocations; an occasional sharp chirping announced that a covey of sand-grouse were flying overhead.

I hurried back to report to the General, and gave him the best description I could, indicating the position, shape and extent of the place, and that we had seen nothing move. In fact the enemy were lying what one may vulgarly call "doggo," but described by writers as reserving their fire for close quarters. Or were we to have a headlong rush of spearmen, as in the days of Abu Klea?

As soon as General Hunter had himself had a good look at the place, he ordered the infantry to deploy in close order,

facing the river, but with the left thrown back, and the battery to advance and come into action in about the centre of the deployed line. The first gun broke the silence which hung over Abu Hamed at 6.30 a.m.—at a range of 200 yards. These little guns were obliged to advance some way in order to peep over the crest of the stony plateau on which we deployed. The infantry gradually advanced to the crest and halted behind it with fixed bayonets.

The 10th Battalion, under Major Sidney, was on the more exposed left flank; the 9th, under Lieutenant Ravenscroft, being next to them; the battery in the middle; the 3rd Battalion, under Lieutenant-Colonel Sillem, on the right of the guns, and the 11th Battalion, under Captain Bunbury, on the right with its flank towards the river.

The infantry brigade was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, C.B., D.S.O., with Captain Keith-Falconer as Brigade Major, and Captain Hon. C. Walsh as A.D.C.

Until our infantry began to show, the enemy, in a couple of shelter trenches and a quantity of loop-holed houses, made no sign whatever; I climbed on to the top of the watch-tower beneath which our guns were in action, and had a first-class view down on the roofs of the town; but still the only sign of life appeared to be the giddy cackling of fowls upon the roofs, all terrified at our artillery discharge, which was now making plenty of holes in the outer walls. I reported that no one seemed stirring within the place, or even trying to escape from it.

Soon, however, the action developed rapidly, and the enemy opened a very brisk fire upon our advancing infantry, who replied at short ranges. The guns were moved to the right to enfilade the length of the line of houses at the back of Abu Hamed, from which the heavy fire was being directed on our exposed infantry. Bullets were whistling about the General and his staff, who were in front, and I was quite glad to be sent with an order to move up the two maxims and bring them into action.

It was just where the General had been unconcernedly sitting on his horse that both Sidney and Fitzclarence were shortly afterwards shot dead, and the command of the 10th devolved upon Fergusson. The two other mounted officers of the same regiment had their horses shot in the action, and the regiment suffered severe losses.



I was sorry that the Maxims could not be allowed to fire more than four or five hundred rounds ; this was because the assault was now ordered and the place was rushed at the point of the bayonet, the men becoming scattered in the streets and small alleys, and engaged in street and house-to-house fighting which would have tried any troops. One could not help admiring the pluck with which the enemy lay "doggo," and stuck to their two shelter trenches, in which I afterwards counted some fifty dead bodies, all Beggara except three or four. The town extends about three-quarters of a mile along the river bank, and it took us till 7.20 for our leading troops to emerge in pursuit of the Beggara horsemen, who made a bolt of it towards Berber. Some of them were shot ; about forty or fifty, or possibly a few more, got away. Others were shot in the water as they tried to swim to Mograt Island, though the shooting of our excited men was not now particularly accurate. However, they made up for direction in the quantity of their bullets, and not one man got across the river.

The cease fire sounded about 7.30 a.m., and we congratulated ourselves that Abu Hamed was ours, and that we could take half-a-days's rest.

But still one or two house-fulls of desperadoes held out, killing every man of ours that they could, and accepting mercy from none. This went on till one o'clock in one house holding nine men, who killed five of our people before their house was finally blown up by a shell from a mountain gun. Our losses during the day were :—

*Killed.*—Two British officers, Major Sidney and Lieutenant Fitz-Clarence.

24 non-commissioned officers and men.

*Wounded.*—Three Egyptian officers.

61 non-commissioned officers and men.

I believe the enemy's loss was over 300 men killed. When I left it was known to be 234, but more have been found since.

Yours sincerely,

F. J. MAXSE.

*Guards Magazine*

### THE BRAVEST LIVING SOLDIER.

Among the many, brave men in our army who have distinguished themselves by conspicuous acts of daring, there is little doubt that military men would assign the chief laurels to General Sir William Olpherts, V.C., K.C.B., the chairman at the recent banquet to commemorate the relief of Lucknow. Even as a schoolboy at Dungannon in the early forties, young Olpherts enjoyed a unique reputation as a boy who did not know the meaning of the word "fear," and marvellous tales are still told by his old school-fellows of his deeds of reckless daring. This character was more than maintained in the army, where he became generally known as "Hell-fire Olpherts."

During the Indian Mutiny Captain Olpherts, as he then was, was always to be found where the bullets were thickest. If there was a "forlorn hope" to be led, the duty fell to Olpherts as a right. Although he exposed himself so recklessly as to give the impression that he courted death, he bore a charmed life. "I have often seen Olpherts in action," declared Lord Napier of Magdala, "but never without his deserving the coveted V.C."

The story of how the young Irish captain won this crowning distinction is still told in the army. It was during the relief of Lucknow, when Olpherts had brought up half a battery in splendid style and silenced the enemy's guns. He then joined in the charge of the 90th Regiment, under Colonel Campbell, which ended in carrying a battery of two guns, strongly posted at the end of a street. It was necessary to remove these guns; but to fetch the horses was to run the gauntlet between rows of houses, the windows of which were bristling with rifles. The task involved almost certain death; but Captain Olpherts, without a word, galloped through the double hail of bullets, returned with limbers and horses, and rode off with the captured ordnance. Although he might well have lost a hundred lives, Sir William Olpherts, at the age of seventy-five, is spending a peaceful and hale old age in Upper Norwood.

## CRYSLER'S FARM.

Nov. 12, 1813.

Now's the day and now's the hour,  
See the front of battle lour.

—Burns.

**H**ERE are three spots in Canada where every true Canadian should take off his hat and thank Providence that brave men lived and died for the rights and privileges, for the very soil that now are ours. At the Long Sault on the Ottawa, in 1660, Adam Daulac, with sixteen other brave young French patriots, for five days, without food or water, held at bay seven hundred Iroquois, and thus was it determined that the northern half of North America should be European in its races and civilization. On the plains of Abraham, in the grey light of that memorable September morning, Wolfe's glorious death in the hour of victory made Canada British. And fifty-four years later, at Crysler's Farm, when Wilkinson, with a large body of troops, had run the gauntlet of the Canadian and British forces that guarded the St. Lawrence, and had approached within eighty miles of Montreal; when Wade Hampton, advancing by the Lake Champlain route, was pressing towards the same strategic point to make a united descent on that city; once and for all, against odds of five to one, it was decided that Canada should be Canadian.

It will be just eighty-four years next 12th of November since the quiet farm lands of John Crysler, of Williamsburg, in the county of Dundas, were the scene of the saving of our nation. All that took part in that notable event are under "the daisies and violets blue":

Their swords are rust,  
Their bones are dust,  
Their souls are with the Lord, we trust.

But the 12th of November and Crysler's Farm should be familiar to every Canadian as long as the maple leaf flourishes green and free.

To understand the battle of Crysler's Farm, it is well for us briefly to note some of the preceding events in the war. The year 1812 had been marked by a series of wonderful successes to British arms in Canada. Then came the gloom and depression of 1813. The capture of "Muddy Little

York" was followed exactly a month later by the taking of Fort George; and two months after we were repulsed at Sackett's Harbor. The British squadrons had been swept from Lake Erie, and Proctor's retreat and defeat had left the whole west largely at the mercy of the foe. The month of June had brought some hope to Canadian hearts in the success of Stoney Creek, but it remained for November to drive away completely the dread of American possession.

In the elation that came from the successes of the year, and in the belief that the British fleet was completely hemmed in at the western extremity of Lake Ontario by Chauncey's squadron, Armstrong, the American Secretary of War, planned a two-fold expedition. He had long desired to capture Kingston and Montreal and thereby to control the St. Lawrence. In pursuance of this plan Wade Hampton with 4,000 men was ordered to penetrate to Montreal by Lake Champlain and divert attention to that point, while the chief command was given to Major-General James Wilkinson, who at once took charge of 10,000 men to go against Kingston and the St. Lawrence. This plan, as we shall see, afterwards worked out on lines very nearly the same as Montgomery's wretched failure of 1775.

Wilkinson was a man totally without character, and with a very unsavory record unlike Froth in "Measure for Measure;" he had solidity enough for crime, but he was entirely too light for virtue. He had won his brevet through deceit and lost it through treason. A pensioner of Spain for years, he outwitted by his craftiness every effort of his Government to bring his treachery home to him. He surpassed Marlborough in baseness and his own compatriot, Benedict Arnold, in perfidy, and yet had not one of the virtues that cast a bedimming halo round the weaknesses and vices of both these heroes. He had led Aaron Burr into treason and had then betrayed him to the Government they had injured. In addition to his innate viciousness and meanness he had acquired the habit of drinking, and for days he had to keep secluded from his army. The deceit of Iago, the bombast of Thraso and the thirst of Falstaff all blended in him in immaculate and unrivalled perfection. Had we not the most undoubted statements on these counts, one would easily imagine this reality to be merely a caricature.

To such a man then was committed the task to conquer Canada. The other leading spirits were Armstrong, the

incapable secretary of war, and the aristocratic Wade Hampton, of princely estates and princely fortunes, who would not brook the authority of the plebeian and arrogant Wilkinson. Even without their mutual jealousies and prejudices, three more unlikely men to conduct to a prosperous issue a great enterprise could scarcely be found.

Wilkinson's troops massed at Sackett's Harbor, but, owing to his consummate ability in frittering away time and the consequent strengthening of the Kingston garrison, Prescott and Montreal became the objective points.

After frequent delays on October 17th, 300 large boats, consisting of scows, batteaux, Durham boats, sail boats, not including two schooners, two brigs and 12 heavy gunboats, left Sackett's Harbor amid a storm of sleet and rain that cost them 15 boats and some lives. Wilkinson never troubled himself about time and the evening of Guy Fawkes' day saw the expedition only at Morriston. At every available part of the river he had met valiant resistance, and the British gunboats were even then pressing close on his rear, annoying him at every movement.

Giving up the notion of running the guns of Fort Wellington at Prescott that night, Wilkinson debarked his troops three miles above Ogdensburg. They travelled by land past the fort and returned to the boats at the "Red Mill," the ruins of which still stand, walled in by the foam of the South Gallops, about four miles below Ogdensburg. The empty flotilla safely passed the guns of Fort Wellington, booming forth in the darkness across a river stretch nearly two miles wide, but Wilkinson had to be taken ashore drunk. On Sunday evening, the 8th, they were dropping down the swift current that circles Point Iroquois, when a picquet of Canadian militia fired into them, the boats here literally covering the narrow swift-flowing stream. Two hundred militia came to the bank and fired so effectively on the foe that the rear guard landed on the Canadian side above the point, and marched in vain pursuit a mile below the village of Iroquois, while the fleet rounded to and swung into the still waters of the long American bay opposite. After a council with his six generals, Wilkinson decided to send Gen. Brown with his brigade across below Iroquois village to join the force already there and to guard the further descent of the troops.

On the following Tuesday, Wilkinson has got two miles further on his way, for he dates a general order from Tuttle's Bay, a little further down the stream.

On Monday the British forces were close at hand. Lieut-Col. Morrison, of the 89th Regiment, had followed from Kingston as rapidly as cumbersome gunboats would bring him. At Prescott he had secured lighter craft, and on Monday evening as he rounded Point Iroquois he could see the whole American army encamped down the river. Troops were debarked at Iroquois to pursue the enemy by land. Morrison had in his command only a "small force not exceeding 800 rank and file," with which to meet 10,000 troops that had been receiving constant recession since they had left Sackett's Harbor.

The morning of the 11th finds Wilkinson about ten miles further down the river, encamped near the farm of John Crysler. He had sent General Brown forward the day before with 3,000 men to clear the way and to seize the military stores at Cornwall, and was awaiting tidings. In the Bay formed between Cook's Point and Weaver's Point that jut out here into this stream, he could see his gunboats; the flotilla were hidden by the eastern shore of Weaver's Point, while in the wide Bay above Cook's Point lay the British gunboats that had anchored there the night before.

To a sailor on one of these gunboats an animated scene would present itself about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Directly opposite, where the two grey streaks of road met, stood the commodious farm-house of Captain John Crysler, and as the eye followed the road stretching northward could be seen the compact little body of British troops, formed en "echelon," that is, in a series of steps. The nearest are the companies of the 49th not far from the zigzag fence in front; a little to the rear the Canadian Fencibles stand marshalled by Lieut.-Col. Pearson; still further back from the fence are arrayed the regulars of the 89th and 49th, under Morrison himself; to the extreme left on the edge of a black ash swamp, and in a tongue of second growth wood that reaches out thirstily towards the river, are a few Indians and Voltigeurs seeking the cover of the trees. To the east, a mile or so, are the weather-stained tents of the Americans that are to echo to the groan of famine and sickness beside the Salmon river before the winter is over. Between the wood and the river lie the troops of the Americans, upwards of 7,000; stretching across the the largest the of brooks that separate the quarters of the two armies, with their gullies and ravines. On the edge of the bush to the north is a little hut, and the shot that rings from the

rifle of an Indian hidden behind a quaint old bake-oven is the signal for the American forces to advance.

It is just about the same time that Morrison's little band remove their great coats, and as the red tunics of the British Veterans flash on the eyes of the enemy they realize that they must cope now with no raw militiamen.

Swartout's brigade dashes into the little tongue of wood and tries vainly to turn the British left. There is not one change in that solid formation, and from it comes an answering storm of shot and shell. There is a gun opposite Captain Barnes that is causing some annoyance. He charges for it. Just then Covington on a white horse dashes down with his cavalry on Barnes and the left wing is repulsed, and the gun is taken.

The fight now becomes general. The enemy concentrates to resist the British advance. But charge after charge cannot beat down those solid squares.

Volley after volley pours into the enemy scrambling along the muddy slants of the ravines. Two hours of persistent attack does not break them. The second American dragoons dash down the nine mile road. Calvary charge up the ravine to turn their left flank. The brave Covington lies mortally wounded. All their efforts are vain. As they press across the ravine the fire is so galling that they halt. They cannot get artillery through the mud and up these banks in the face of those volleys. The skirmishers from the woods on their right are keeping up an incessant fire. Shot and shell from the gunboats are thinning their rear ranks. By 5 o'clock the Americans give way at every point. Swartout's brigade, the first to enter the fight, is the first to leave, Cole's division follows, and Covington's breaks up in the wildest disorder. The British press on to outflang Boyd's division and capture the cannon. The light infantry advance to cover the retreat, but Pearson's force drives them back.

Panic had now seized the whole American army and the flight was fast becoming a disorderly rout when 600 Infantry under Captain Upham came on the field and gave confidence and safety to the flying troops. They took to their boats and hid their flight and their shame in the darkness of the November night.

The losses during the engagement were : British, 22 killed, 157 wounded and 12 missing ; Americans, 102 killed and 237 wounded.

The day before Wilkinson had despatched Brown's brigade of 3,000 and a body of dragoons that had joined him that very morning to seize the Government stores at Cornwall and clear the coast. On the morning of the battle news came that the Sault could be run without risk. They had been commanded to embark when it was announced to Wilkinson in bed, dozing off the latest spree, that the British had formed beyond the ravine. The order was given to charge, and the General dozed on in his tent, roused at times by the varying reports of the fight.

The rest of the story is soon told. The next day the main army joined Brown at Bernhardt's near Cornwall, and before sunset Wilkinson heard for the first time of the defeat of Wade Hampton's 4,000 by the active and vigilant De Salaberry with 300 or 400 French Canadians at Chateauguay. From Ogdensburg he had written Hampton ordering a junction of their forces at St. Regis opposite Cornwall. Hampton's letter further informed him that he had given up all thought of reaching Montreal through the Chateauguay valley.

At Cornwall the army retreated across the St. Lawrence, and, sailing up the Salmon River, went into winter quarters at French Miles, now Fort Covington. Here sickness and famine preyed upon them until February, when the broken remnants of the largest army the St. Lawrence has seen were recalled from the north.

The importance and effect of the conflict at Crysler's farm cannot be overestimated. By diverting the expedition from Montreal it completely frustrated every object that its leaders had set before them to accomplish.

"It was the battle of Montreal," writes the Rev. Arthur Jarvis, of Napanee. For a mere handful of men to defeat the largest hostile army that has ever set foot on Canadian soil added prestige to British and Canadian arms, completely demoralized the Americans, covered the generals engaged with ignominy and discredit, and virtually finished the war. It came at a crisis point in our history, and gave confidence to the struggling nucleus of a nation so recently settled in Upper Canada. It was the most scientific and best fought battle in the whole war, and forever put an end to American hopes of the conquest of Canada.



---

A MONUMENT TO THE DEAD.

Of the house of John Crysler that served as a home to the British officers on the eve of victory as a hospital, afterwards to the victorious and vanquished wounded, only the chimney stands sole monument of the brave and noble dead that sleep near by. In childhood the writer gave a quarter out of his allowance of pocket money to help to build a more substantial monument. The plan came to naught. In 1881, Dr. C. E. Hickey, member for Dundas, urged the Government to recognize the spot with a monument; and last session the present member for Dundas, Mr. H. H. Ross, of Iroquois, revived the plan. And perhaps the present generation may see this labor of love and patriotism accomplished and

Honor come, a pilgrim gray  
To bless the turf that wraps their clay.

WAYFARER.

## DEPOT NEWS.

---

### LONDON, ONT.

#### NO. 1 REGIMENTAL DEPOT, R.R.C.I.

Rugby football with all its pomp and circumstance, struck us hard when the season opened this autumn, and the chrysanthemum-headed youths of this Depot were kept busy dodging the gentleman who officiated as the regimental tonsorial artist. Owing to the fact that it is our initial year for Rugby we have been unable to put a full team into the field, but a large contingent of our players were in the London aggregation that journeyed to Toronto to play 'Varsity II for the Intermediate Championship.

---

Our Cricket Club closed a successful season in September, after playing seven games and winning four. Owing to the fact that the camp this year was a double header, we were unable to start matches as early as usual, which accounts for the small number of games played.

In our new Quarter Master Sergeant, G. Galloway, who has been transferred here from Toronto, we have acquired a player who will wake up the slothful members of the Club, and will restore our team to its former high place in the local cricketing world.

---

Many of our fellows "spread themselves" and went to see the sights at the Toronto Exhibition, and through these columns we would like to congratulate our comrades in arms, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, upon their splendid appearance and skill in their performances at the Fair.

---

The "dotty" streak that struck the New Yorkers the other day when they elected Van Wyck as Mayor grazed us about a month previously when three of our Non-Coms. were led blushing to the altar of Hymen. Apparently these sons of Mars were "willing sacrifices" from the contented look on their countenances ever since. Appended is a paragraph from the *London Daily News* chronicling the nuptials of Corp. M. W. Watson, whom we wish all joy in his new capacity of St. Benedict.

"The small coterie of bachelor non-commissioned officers of No. 1 Company, R.R.C.I., are lamenting the last desertion

from their midst in the person of Corp. M. N. Watson, who yesterday was united in the bonds of holy matrimony to Lizzie, second daughter of Quartermaster Sergeant Kennedy, of Wolseley Barracks. The bridesmaids: Miss Maggie Moran, of this city, and Miss Lillie Kennedy, sister of the bride. The groom was assisted by Corp. J. W. Cockburn, who has served in a like capacity ten times previously, and naturally proved himself quite *au fait* with the incidents of the ceremony. The bride, whose beauty is of the *petite blonde* type, looked very pretty, dressed in mauve satin trimmed with lace and a tulle veil. The bridesmaids also were charmingly attired in very pretty costumes. After the nuptial knot had been tied the company adjourned to the residence of the bride's father on Oxford street where the wedding *déjeuner* was served in handsome style and where the happy young couple received the congratulations of a large number of friends. The presents, which were very numerous and costly, included a massive onyx clock as a mark of esteem from the unmarried non-commissioned of the company; a beautiful lamp presented by No. 4 section, of which Corporal Watson was commander; and a handsome *cheffonier* from the Sergeants' Mess of the Depot."

"Corporal Watson, who has been a member of No. 1 Company for seven years, is well known in military and masonic circles, and has the congratulations and good wishes of the Depot and a large number of friends in the city."

In the removal of Quarter Master Sergeant Kennedy to St. John's, P.Q., the Non-Coms. and men of this Depot lose a much esteemed comrade, whose kindly good nature has long made him a general favorite in this city, and it is the hope of everyone in No. 1 Regimental Depot that he will like his new home.

Before leaving London a farewell Smoking Concert was held in the Sergeants' Mess. and presentations to Q. M. S. Kennedy from both civilians and our Non-Coms. testified to his popularity in both his private and professional capacity. What is London's loss is St. John's gain.

Sergt.-Instructor Gregory has returned from Aldershot. where he has been taking a long course of Instruction, looking remarkably well. From his appearance, his time has been spent in temperance, soberness and chastity, for he looks as "fit as paint" and wears twice as well.

The Gymnasium apparatus that has been lying out in one of our outbuildings, far beyond the memory of our oldest inhabitant, has just been turned over to the tender mercies of the Philistines, and anyone wishing to see us in agony and a bloody sweat should pay our Gymnasium a visit some evening when we are taking lessons. It took us fully a week to learn how to appear in the role of a "monkey on a stick," but we have mastered this performance now and look as natural as life if not more so.

The gentlemen employed in the culinary department especially shine in these gymnastic exercises, probably because they have lots of practice wrestling with the meat on the days that the troops prefer "Government Straight" to the concoctions of their mess caterers.

---

### TORONTO, ONT.

#### NO. 2 REGIMENTAL DEPOT R.R.C.I.

The Thanksgiving manoeuvres on the 25th November of the Toronto Garrison would have failed entirely, *i.e.*, not have taken place, had it not been for the soldierly enthusiasm and pluck of the men. A worse day for such extended field manoeuvres could hardly be imagined—the rain fell all but incessantly—from early morning till late at night. It was at one time contemplated to call the sham fight off, Major General Gascoigne, umpire-in-chief being very reluctant to expose the men. He, therefore, consulted with the commanding officers, who in turn consulted the commanders of companies and they with their men. The result was that the latter to a man expressed their desire to have programme carried out. About eleven in the forenoon, the various corps marched from the Armories in a torrent of rain. The force engaged consisted of the entire Garrison of Toronto and the 13th Battalion from Hamilton. At the date on which we go to press it is impossible to give any detailed account of the manoeuvres, a very excellent description of which will be found in the *Canadian Military Gazette*. We, however, give below the criticisms of Major Gen. Gascoigne, as well as the District order of Lieut.-Col. Otter. In the evening a Mess Dinner was held in the Armory, which was attended by about one hundred and fifty officers. His Excellency, the Governor-General, was also present. In replying to the toast of the umpires, the G. O. C. made reply and paid the Toronto Militia a well-deserved compliment, stating that they "were in the fore-part of everything that was good in the Militia."

District Office, Toronto, Nov. 27, 1897.

Remarks upon the field manœuvres at Toronto on the 25th November by the umpire-in-chief.

In connection with the above manœuvres. Major-General Gascoigne, umpire-in-chief, desires to promulgate for the information of the officers commanding the respective forces engaged, and the umpires, the following observations made by him during the progress of the operations :—

#### EASTERN FORCE.

Orders—Well considered as regards tactics, but too much in detail, and leaving too little initiative to subordinate commanders; orders should state succession in which troops should move off.

Position of O. C.—The officer commanding named too forward a position for himself as he could not be sure of getting there. The O. C. would have been in a much better position at the head of his main guard.

Signalling—It should be clear that a signalling party should be with or near the O. C.

Cavalry—Approximate distribution of the cavalry should be more in detail.

Artillery—Position good, fire discipline fair.

Infantry—Advance of Highlanders on Todmorden road at first very good, but supporting force should not have passed the advanced company, and so masked it. The objective of the eastern force (Don Valley station) was not carried out by main body (Q. O. R.), which moved to the northwest in place of southwest on reaching the "dam."

#### WESTERN FORCE.

Orders—Well stated, but succession in which troops moved off should have been given.

Position of O. C.—Too forward—would have been preferable that the head of main body was taken by him.

Cyclists.—Division into parties rather too indefinite. The role of cyclists is that of mounted infantry in support of cavalry, and not to replace it.

Cavalry—The G. G. B. G. failed to hold the Todmorden bridge when taken, and when they reached the top of hill on Don Mills road they omitted to throw out any patrols.

Artillery.—Position good, fire discipline fair. No escort was given this arm.

Infantry.—Directions good, but the second half battalion of R. G. should have been kept in hand. The 14th Batt. were apparently independent, and should have been more under the control of O. C. The three companies of R, G. covering the Don Valley well posted, but owing to bad direction they wandered to the north of left attack. They were not strong enough to hold the position against the out-flanking attack of 6 Company of Q. O. R.

#### GENERAL.

The volley firing was not always good, but on the whole attention was paid to sighting and distances by both forces.

The officers commanding forces should have held more troops continually in hand, as they could then have kept the objective more closely in view.

The ground was so difficult for connected operations that there was certain to be much scope for criticism rather than fault-finding.

By Order,  
(Signed), W. D. OTTER, Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding M. D. No. 2.

#### VERY GREAT SATISFACTION.

The district order could hardly be couched in terms better calculated to please the troops who fought in the rain. It is as follows :

District Office, Toronto, Nov 27th, 1897:

District Order.—The Major-General begs to express his very great satisfaction with the spirit and enthusiasm shown by all ranks engaged in the manoeuvres on the 25th inst., together with the cheerfulness exhibited under most uncomfortable, arduous circumstances.

By order,  
(Signed), W. D. OTTER, Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding M. D. No. 2.

The Bands of the three Infantry Battalions had a most successful concert on the 11th of October.

The 48th Highlanders gave their annual Military entertainment on the 22nd of October, and was very largely attended.

Capt. McDougall has obtained his brevet Majority, which is pleasing to his many friends in the Regiment and Volunteer Militia.

Capt. Denison, R.R.C.I., has been appointed an A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor-General.

---

### KINGSTON, ONT.

#### "A" FIELD BATTERY. R.C.A.

Lone Star Club gave a concert in the Opera House while in camp at Deseronto, which was a huge success; standing room could not be obtained and the entertainment was a credit both to the club and the corps. Mr. R. R. F. Harvey kindly came out from Kingston to act as accompanist; there is no inconvenience that "Battery Bob" would not put himself to to be of service to the Club.

The annual sports of "A" Battery took place 15, 16 and 18 October, in the Exhibition Grounds; the different events were well-contested and well appreciated by the large audience which gathered in the Grand stands. The following is a summary of the events:—

#### MOUNTED.

Heads and Posts, won by Corporal Benson. 2nd. Br. Burke. 3rd. Corporal Simons.

Postillion race (drivers only). 1st Dr. G. Laird. 2nd. Dr. Boucher.

Saddling up competition.—1st Br. Burke. 2nd. Corporal Benson.

Tent pegging.—1st Br. Burke. 2nd. Br. Trotman.

Cigar and umbrella race.—1st. Sergt. Henderson. 2nd. Dr. Sievers. 3rd. Dr. Boughton.

Tilling at the ring.—1st. Br. Burke. 2nd. Br. Foster.

Lemon cutting.—1st. Corporal Benson. 2nd. Sergt. Henderson.

On and off race.—1st. Corporal McCully. 2nd. Dr. Brown. 3rd. Br. Trotman.

Bare-backed wrestling.—1st. Centre Section team. 2nd. Right Section.

Balacklava Milce.—1st. Right Section team. 2nd. Left Section.

Ball and Bucket.—1st. Corporal Shipton. 2nd. Dr. Laird. 3rd. Dr. Skirving.

### DISMOUNTED.

Putting the shot.—1st Gr. Ryder. 2nd. Gr. Nelson. 3rd. Whr. Cummings.

Tossing the cabre.—1st. Gr. Ryder. 2nd. Gr. Black.

High jump.—1st. Dr. Skirving. 2nd. Corporal McCully.

Half mile flat race.—1st. Corporal Benson. 2nd. Gr. Martin. 3rd. Dr. Perrin.

3 legged race.—1st. Cpl. Shipton and Gr. Patterson. 2nd. Drs. Somers and Koehler.

100 yards' dash.—1st. Dr. Skirving. 2nd. Cpl. Shipton. 3rd. Cpl. Benson.

Sack race.—1st. Gr. Patterson. 2nd. Dr. Koehler. 3rd. Dr. Dickson.

Hurdle.—1st. Dr. Skirving. 2nd. Cpl. Shipton. 3rd. Gr. Mahoney.

Tilling a la 16th Century.—1st. Tr. Curry and Gr. King. 2nd. Tr. Beckett and Gr. Nelson.

1 mile flat.—1st. Dr. Koehler. 2nd. Dr. Perrin. 3rd. Gr. Martin.

200 yards' Trumpeters.—1st. Tr. Curry. 2nd. Tr. Beckett.

100 yards' Boys.—1st. Chipman Drury. 2nd. Albert Stroud. 3rd. Victor Drury. (handicap).

Hurry scurry.—1st. Tr. Beckett. 2nd. Dr. Aldcoft. 3rd. Dr. Perrin.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Drury, assisted by Lt.-Col. Montizambert, who made a few well chosen remarks, each prize-winner receiving the applause of his comrades as he stepped forward to receive his reward.

The trophy for mounted sports, a large silver cup, was won by Bomb. Burke, and that for dismounted sports, also a handsome cup of silver by Driver Skirving.

The Tug of War between Right and Left half Batteries was won by the latter, and was of rather a remarkable nature; the first pull fell to the lot of the Right half, the two following to the Left, the time of each being: 1st. 15 minutes; 2nd. 40 minutes, 18 seconds; 3rd. 5 minutes, 3 seconds.

The Officers' Tandem race was perhaps the most exciting and interesting item of the programme;—the following Officers taking part: Lieut.-Col. Drury, Capt. G. H. Ogilvie, Capt. W. F. Cooke, Lieut. A. Flower March and Lieut. W. B. King, 7th Field Battery.



We were fortunate in having a good start, but as the pace and excitement increased Mr. March's leader bolted from the track and fell; Mr. March was badly thrown, and sustained a slight concussion of the brain, but, owing to Doctor Wilson's immediate help, escaped what might have been rather a serious accident. The remaining riders continued their course, Capt. Burstall eventually winning, Capt. Ogilvie gradually over-hauling Capt. Cooke, and making a splendid second.

### THE ARTILLERY COMPETITION.

During the Artillery Camp of Sept. last Deseronto was considerably before the public eye in type and in the outrageous illustrations, which appeared in a Montreal paper of wide circulation. The impression conveyed, not by the illustrations though, was that the common on the Mohawk Reservation is an ideal camp and practice ground for Artillery purposes, in fact for the purposes of all arms. Of that there can be no manner of doubt. Its beautiful situation and surroundings, on the shores of the far-famed Bay of Quinte; the variety of surface, hill, dale, copses, and a vast plane fully three miles long, offering an unequalled artillery or rifle range; the absence of habitations and cultivated fields near by to interfere with manoeuvring of troops; the R. R. and water facilities for bringing there large bodies of men, cause astonishment that this locality was not used ere this for military camps. Ten thousand troops could be encamped here and yet leave plenty space for manoeuvring and sham battles as well as room for artillery and small arms' ranges.

The question of ranges for our improved arms is a burning one in more than one sense as well as in more than one district. The old ranges are for the most part unsafe with the Lee Metford, and none more so than the range on Barriefield common near Kingston. The Cote St. Luc accident, last month, proves that the Montreal Districts 5 and 6 are no better off than No. 3. The Mohawk Reservation should be visited by the Quarter Master and General, reported upon officiable as to its adaptability for the purposes we have just referred to. We believe that the Department could secure its use for a very moderate amount.

A problem, however, will remain to be solved—it is that of water supply for bodies of troops, horses, etc., who may be encamped at some distance from the Bay of Quinte. It is very probable that an abundance of pure water could be

found not far below the surface; ordinary wind-mill pumps or artesian wells could be made to do the work of supply and distribution.

This autumn's camp was a complete success; it commenced on the 3rd of Sept., and closed on the 15th. These days were not idle days for the staff, which consisted of:— Lt.-Col. F. Wilson, R.C.A., commandant. Lt.-Col. W. Drury, R.C.A., chief umpire. Capt. J. Benyon, R.C.A., G. H. Ogilvie, R.C.A., and H. Burstall, R.C.A., assistant umpires. Capt. Cook, R.C.A., range officer. Major Hudon, R.C.A., Camp Quarter Master and Supply Officer. Surgeon Lt.-Col. Neilson, R.C.A., Medical Officer. Vet.-Surgeon Massie, Veterinary Officer.

A. and B. Field Batteries, R.C.A., were employed in connection with the competition of the Field Battery detachments, from London, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, Gananoque, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, New Castle and Woodstock Field Batteries, and right well did all ranks perform their duties. The competing Batteries were unanimous in the praise of the arrangements made for their comfort, of the facilities provided for them to carry out their practice and of the absolute impartiality of the judges. Of the practical value of the new experiences provided for them enough could not be said.

As to the people of Deseronto and the members of the "Mohawk band or tribe," the presence of the R.C.A. men seemed to give them all infinite pleasure, and they vied with each other in treating all ranks in the most hospitable manner. Crowds of people, white and of all shades of complexion, assembled on the common whenever a practice was going on and manifested the greatest interest in the proceedings. The climax of the entertainment for them was always when the ingenious moving target, representing a squadron of Cavalry, suddenly appeared about a mile away and rushed towards the guns, amidst the rounds of case shot and other projectiles pound into it by the field guns. This moving target is certainly very realistic as it comes bounding along the plane, for a few moments disappearing from view in a hollow of the undulating plane, then facing again the storm of bullets, swaying from side to side, staggered by their repeated blows. The motive power was a two inch cable over one thousand yards long, drawn by four sturdy Battery horses just in rear of the firing Battery. The rope ran through a snatch block firmly fixed in the ground. At a given signal the horses were started at a sharp gallop in a direction at right angles to the line of rope. The fun for

gunners and spectators now commenced fast and furious, when the approaching enemy was riddled with round after round of shrapnel and case shot fired into them with great rapidity. Lt.-Col. Drury must be congratulated on the ingenuity and perfect success of the moving target.

On the evening of the 13th the Lone Star Club of "A" Battery found time to treat the citizens of Deseronto to one of their clever performances. The town Concert Hall was packed by a highly appreciative audience who applauded and encored the really clever acting and good songs of the Lone Stars. Col. Wilson and Officers of the staff entertained to luncheon on the 11th the chiefs of the Mohawks, who all appeared in their orthodox war-paint and feathers, together with a few of the heading citizens of Deseronto. The Batteries have taken away with them a pleasant remembrance of Deseronto and of the kindly Mohawks of the Hills, the Lofts, the Greens, Oronhyatekha, and other genial Mohawk families, also of their excellent missionary, the Rev. Mr. Smith.

Blanco.

---

Lieut. Eaton, No. 3 Co. R.R.C.I., has been transferred to the R.C.A., and attached to "A" Field Battery. We knew him here two years ago, and we shall be much pleased to have him with us again, particularly so as "*one of us.*"

---

We are sorry to lose Captain Cooke, who leaves for Africa, on the 14th inst., he having accepted a "billet" as Assistant Officer under the British East Africa Protectorate, but in the words of many bereft ones who are ambitious for the future of their "dear departed" we can only say "our loss is his gain," and we wish him the best of good luck.

---

With much regret we mention the death of Mrs. Prenter, the only daughter of our much-respected Master-Gunner. Mrs. Prenter has been ailing for months, but seemed to be much better, when one morning, when performing her daily household duties, she fell dead. A terribly sudden and sad death, and the Master-Gunner has the heartfelt sympathy of each and every member of the Battery. The Officers, Serjts. and men sent flowers as a mark of the great respect in which Mrs. Prenter was held.

**OTTAWA, ONT.**

Major General Gascoigne, G.O.C., has returned from England. We regret to hear that Mrs. Gascoigne was very ill during their stay in London, which somewhat delayed his return. We are pleased to know that she has quite recovered.

The serious accident to Lieut.-Col. Bliss, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General at Head Quarters, has we regret to say necessitated his retirement. This will be deeply regretted by his many friends.

Capt. Rivers, R.C.A., has been called to Head Quarters, Ottawa, and will be employed in the Department at all events till Spring, possibly longer.

Lieut.-Col. Maunsel, commanding the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry, is at present at Head Quarters, and is engaged with Capt. Rivers in revising regulations and orders. This is a pretty heavy task, and will undoubtedly take some time.

Lieut.-Col. Irwin has returned to Ottawa from his trip to Ireland, and is looking the *better* for his holiday.

A new District, composed of the Ottawa Militia, has been formed, and has been placed under Lieut.-Col. Cotton, R.C.A., Deputy Adjutant General of Artillery.

The Imperial Government have bestowed a Jubilee Medal on Major General Gascoigne in recognition of the splendid Contingent of Canadian Militia which he sent to London for the Jubilee Celebration.

---

**MONTREAL.**

Major Busted has been gazetted Lieut.-Col. of the Victoria Rifles of Canada (3rd Batt.), and has assumed the command. He inaugurated it by a skirmish on the mountain, which was successful.

The 65th Batt.—Lieut.-Col. Labelle passed a good inspection on the 26th of October before Lieut.-Col. Gordon, D.O.C.

A Board of Enquiry, consisting of Lieut.-Col. Gordon, D.O.C., and Lieut.-Col. Vidal, Commandant of No. 3 Re-

gimental Depot, St. John's, Q., have been appointed to investigate the shooting of one, Joseph Larose, by a stray bullet from the Cote St. Luke Ranges. The Board has held one sitting when the report was laid before it of Surgeon Lieut.-Col. F. W. Campbell, Royal Regt. of Canadian Infantry, who, by order of the Militia Dept., examined Larose.

---

The most successful smoking concert which the Military Institute has ever had was held on the evening of the 13th of October.

---

Lieut.-Col. Cole, commanding No. 2 Regt. Canadian Artillery, was entertained by his brother officers on the 22nd of October to a Dinner in honor of his then approaching marriage.

---

The many friends of Major Mackay, 65th Batt., are more than pleased to have him again amongst them. Major Mackay was taken seriously ill while attending the Dominion Rifle Association Matches in Ottawa.

---

The Hon. Dr. Borden has rented quarters in Montreal for himself and family for the winter. As one or two of them are attending McGill University, they are, as it were, enabled to live at home. Dr. Borden usually comes from Ottawa on Saturday evening, and passes Sunday with his family.

---

The Sergeants of the 1st Battalion (Prince of Wales Regiment) celebrated the anniversary of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, by a Dinner in their Armory on the 9th of November. It was very successful. Among the guests were Lieut.-Col. Butler, Major Cooke and the officers of the Regt.; also Lieut.-Col. Gordon, D.O.C., and Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Campbell, Royal Regt. Canadian Infantry. Surgeon Campbell, before entering the Permanent Force, served in the Prince of Wales Regt. as Medical Officer for twenty-three years.

---

Lieut. W. J. Mitchell, of the 24th Baluchistan (India) Regiment, who has been on leave for a year visiting his parents in Montreal, sailed on the "Labrador" from Montreal on the 6th of November. The week previous to his departure he was a guest at the Monthly Mess Dinner of the officers of No. 3 Regimental Depot of the Royal Regt. of Canadian Infantry.

The first marching and firing competition held in this District took place on the 16th of October. Teams entered from all of the Montreal Battalions. The marching distance was from the Drill Hall to the ranges at Cote St. Luke, nearly eight miles. The first prize was taken by the Victoria Rifles, and the second by the Prince of Wales Rifles. The day was cold and cloudy, but this did not prevent quite a number of Military men going out to the ranges by a special train on the Canadian Pacific. Several, including some ladies, among them Mrs. Borden, wife of the Minister of Militia, drove out, and returning they were caught in a terrific rain storm. The teams returned to the city by rail.

Col. Amyrauld, of the 15th (Shefford) Field Battery, is at present performing the duties of Brigade Major in this District. Col. Amyrauld is a popular officer.

---

### ST. JOHNS, QUE.

#### NO. 3 REGIMENTAL DEPOT, R.R.C.I.

The Garrison Sports took place on the 9th October on the Exhibition Grounds. The day was fine—but very cold—with a strong north wind. The attendance was small, few outside of the Barracks being there. The referees were Lieut.-Col. Buchan, Surgeon Lieut.-Col. F. W. Campbell and Major Young. The judges were Captain Fages and Capt. Chinie. The starters were Sergt. Major Phillips and Quarter Master Sergt. Kennedy. The Committee consisted of the following, viz.: Colonel Sergt. Long, Sergt. Hansen, Corp. Lavoie, Lce. Corp. Connolly, Ptes. McGowan and Randell, with Hosp. Sergt. Cotton as Secretary-Treasurer.

The following was the result of the various contests :—

#### *¼ Mile Race.*

- 1 Corp. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Roussel.
- 3 " Randal.

#### *Obstacle Bicycle Race, 200 yds.*

- 1 Pte. Marceau.
- 2 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 3 Pte. Lefebvre.

#### *Pipe Race, 50 yds.*

- 1 Pte. Picot.
- 2 " Langeli.
- 3 " Randal.

#### *Marching Order Race, 300 yds.*

- 1 Pte. Picot.
- 2 " Etienne.
- 3 " Kelly.

#### *Fat Man's Race, 200 yds.*

- 1 Bugle Sgt. Ringuette.
- 2 Hosp. Sgt. Cotton.
- 3 Color Sgt. Long.

#### *Running Broad Jump.*

- 1 Corp. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Randal.
- 3 " Picot.

*Throwing Cricket Ball.*

- 1 Corp. Hanlan.
- 2 Pte. Etienne.
- 3 " Spence.

*100 Yds. Dash.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Roussel.
- 3 " Randal.

*Obstacle Race, 200 yds.*

- 1 Pte. Spence.
- 2 " Jacques.
- 3 " Picot.

*Hop, Step and Jump.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Randal.
- 3 " Roussel.

*Sack Race, 100 yds.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Jacques.
- 3 " Marceau.

*Bicycle Race, 2 miles.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Marceau.
- 3 " Brunelle.

*1/2 Mile Race.*

- 1 Pte. Etienne.
- 2 " Roussel.
- 3 " Randal.

*Potatoe Race.*

- 1 Pte. Spence.
- 2 " Picot.
- 3 Bug. Fournier.

*Bicycle Race, 1 mile.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie.
- 2 Pte. Marceau.
- 3 " Brunelle.

*Putting the Shot.*

- 1 Pte. Etienne.
- 2 Col. Hanlan.
- 3 B. Sgt. Ringuette.

*3 Legged Race, 50 yds.*

- 1 Cpl. Lavoie and Pte. Roussel.
- 2 Bug. Fournier and Bug. Hebert.
- 3 Pte. Jacques and Pte. Kelly.

*Tug of War.*

Between right and left half company.  
Right half company won.

---

Capt. Fages is gazetted Adjutant from Oct. 15th.

Guard mounting has been changed from 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

---

Sergt. Clunie has been appointed District Staff Clerk on probation from October 12.

---

Capt. Chinie has moved into Barracks from outside lodging, and occupies the Quarters just vacated by Capt. Mac-Dougall.

---

Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens took his departure from this station on the 1st of October, to the regret of many friends. He for the present has settled in Agnes, Megantic Co., Que.

---

Major Young, late commanding No. 3 Company, was here during October on a month's leave from his new command at Toronto. He was entertained at a Mess Dinner on the 29th of October.

Sergt.-Instructor Roberts, who has been in England for a course of instruction since last spring, arrived at the Depot on October 26th, and received a hearty welcome.

Lieut. H. Gray, late of the St. John, N.B., Garrison Artillery, who has been appointed a Lieut. in the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry, was taken on the strength of this Depot on the 15th of October.

Marked improvements have been made in the Canteen which has added materially to the comfort of the men. Corporal Walsh has been re-engaged for another term and will continue to fill his old position in charge of the Canteen.

The following officers are at present undergoing a course of instruction at this Depot, viz.:—Lieuts. Logie, 52nd Batt.; Emerson, 52nd Batt.; Mathias, 54th Batt.; Leduc, 80th Batt.; Bourgeois, 84th Batt.; Beaudry, 86th Batt.

Lieut.-Col. Vidal arrived in St. John's, and took over the command of the Depot on the 15th of October. This will be Col. Vidal's second period of service at this station, as he was one of the officers of the Infantry School Corps who opened the Infantry School here in 1884.

Lieut.-Col. Roy, the newly appointed D.O.C. of Military District No. 6, arrived here on the 14th of July, and took over the command of the District (and temporary command of the Depot) from Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens. His family arrived later, and occupy the Quarters of the late D.O.C.

During Lieut.-Col. Buchan's temporary command he received a promise from Mayor Hebert of two arc lights between the railway track and the Barrack gate. We hope the Mayor will give us an opportunity of seeing them before we move into Montreal. If we are to have that pleasure he must hurry up.

The report is again freely circulated that the No. 3 Company of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry at this station is to be transferred to Montreal, and that its place will be taken by a troop of the Royal Canadian Dragoons. The rumour is very generally believed, and is hailed with much satisfaction by the men, who think they have been at this station quite long enough. It is said that the removal will take place very shortly, probably early in the year.



Lieut.-Col. Buchan who assumed command of this Depot on the 21st of July, and who has been transferred to the command of the detachment at No. 1 Regimental, London, Ont., left St. John's on the evening of the 15th of October. Every soldier off duty was at the station and gave the worthy Colonel a hearty send-off.

A camp opened here on the 14th of September, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Roy, the new D.O.C. of No. 6 Military District. It was his first camp command; only two Battalions went under canvas, viz., the 52nd, Lt.-Col. Bulman, and the 80th, Lieut.-Col. de Foy. The weather was fairly good, and the men made good progress. About thirty men were sent home, having been rejected by Deputy Surgeon General F. W. Campbell, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry, who was Principal Medical Officer.

The following changes have taken place at this Depot:—  
Quarter Master Sergt. Lamontagne, transferred to No. 4 Company R.R.C.I., Fredericton, N.B., left on 31st Sept.  
Quarter Master Sergt. Kennedy, from No. 1 Company R.R.C.I., London, Ont., arrived here on Oct. 5th, to take over Sergt. Lamontagne's duty. Sergt. Lamontagne, orderly room clerk who has been transferred to No. 2 Regimental Depot, Toronto, left on the 4th of October, and has been replaced by Acting Sergt. Wright, from No. 4 Regimental Depot, Fredericton, N.B.

No. 5107, Private Thos. Martin, has purchased his discharge, authority dated Head Quarters, Ottawa, Nov. 5.  
No. 5085, Pte. Mullane, V. C., has been discharged, authority dated Ottawa, 1st Nov.  
No. 4159, Lce. Corp. Connolly to act as Mess Sergt. from 5th Nov. Vice No. 1896, Capt. Haselwood, returned to duty.  
No. 5099, Pte. McCush, has been transferred from this Depot to No. 2 Regimental Depot on authority dated Head Quarters, Oct. 12th, 1897.  
No. 3897, Pte. Rogers, has been transferred from No. 1 to No. 3 Regimental Depot, authority dated Head Quarters, Oct. 22nd.  
Private Wesley has been transferred from No. 3 to No. 1 Regimental Depot.

The following extract from a letter written by General A. Montgomery Moore, commanding the Imperial Troops, to Major General Gascoigne, commanding the Canadian Militia, expresses his satisfaction with the Company of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry, which exchanged with

a half company of the Royal Berkshire at Halifax. It is published in Regimental orders under date of Fredericton, 25th October.

"The Company of the Royal Canadian Regiment having returned to Fredericton, I write to express my entire satisfaction with them while under my command. The bearing and tone of the officers and the behaviour and soldier-like appearance of the men were all that could be desired. I hope that the Association of the Colonial with the Imperial troops may be continued, as it cannot fail to be productive of good."

Ten men were drafted from this station to serve with the Company (No. 4) which exchanged with the Berkshire.

---

### QUEBEC.

Among the notable Military events of the past quarter was the Complimentary Dinner, given on Tuesday evening, September 27th, at the Garrison Club, to Lt.-Col. Duchesnay on retiring from the command of No. 7 Military District, and Lt.-Col. Montizambert, on his relinquishing the command of this Garrison and removal to Kingston to assume command of No. 4 Military District. Unfortunately, at the last moment Col. Montizambert, owing to official duties, found it impossible to be present. This was a matter of deep regret to his many friends. The attendance tested the full capacity of the Club. The chair was occupied by Lieut.-Col. Forsyth. The decorations were simply superb, and included an archway of flowers over the foot of the stairs leading to the dinner hall. The dining hall presented quite a fairy scene. Festoons of ferns were suspended from the centre of the hall to the corners and elsewhere and a magnificent basket of flowers hung from the centre-piece. The floral decorations on the table were also exceedingly beautiful. So were the jellied and candied centre pieces of the various tables, all of which were made in the Club kitchen. A huge Citadel stood in the place of honor, bearing at its base the word "Gloire," and the initials of the guests, and bearing aloft a basket of fruit. Forts and batteries, furnished with real guns and manned by miniature artillerymen in regulation uniforms, were exceedingly artistic. So were the pyramids of fresh shrimps and prawns. It is a long time indeed since such table decorations have been seen here. On the walls were the Royal Arms, a series of banners and flags, suits of armor, inscriptions of welcome to the guests, and the names of the "Army," "Navy," "Staff," "Cavalry," "Artillery" and "Infantry."

After the toast of the Queen had been duly honored, the Chairman asked the company to drink the toast of the evening. He said, "I shall now have the honor as well as the very great pleasure of proposing the health of Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, the guest of the evening. I well know that in asking me to preside you have done so because you wished to make it more complimentary to our guest by having one of his many old friends to preside. I first became acquainted with our guest in 1858, when the 100th Regiment was raised in Canada, and I well remember being at a dinner to the officers of that regiment. On the right of the Chairman sat Major Dunn wearing the Victoria Cross for charge of Balaclava; on the left, the officer commanding the Garrison, Col. Gordon. The Chairman was my father. Our guest was then commencing his service in the British Army, and here to-night, when he is severing his connection with the Active Militia, another of the same name presides. Before joining the 100th, our friend had been in the Active Militia. The Regiment embarked for England and two years later we hear of them at Gibraltar, where their Mess was a home for any Canadian visiting the Rock. The Colonel exchanged with the 25th Regiment, and afterwards returned to Canada in November, 1862, when he became Brigade Major of this District. When the late Colonel Casault was gazetted to the command of the Provincial Regiment for the Red River, the Colonel became Acting D.A.G., and after Colonel Casault's death was made the permanent D.A.G. of the 7th Military District. I may here state that at one time Colonel Duchesnay was my junior, and the great friendship which had always existed was not in the least changed when he became my senior. Soldiers understand this, and I think he will admit that I supported his as heartily when his junior as any other man in the force. Now, gentlemen, I consider that Colonel Duchesnay's *regime* has been a very fortunate one for this district. He has been strict without being offensive, he has been fair and just to all—and his juniors can take a lesson from him, for he is a man whose heart is in the right place, and one who wishes simply to do right." Concluding he said:—"Just look at our Garrison Club, what it is to-day and how it has progressed from a small beginning. This is largely due to the active interest taken in it by Col. Duchesnay, who has been one of the most regular attendants at all the Committee meetings." Col. Forsyth expressed his regret at the separation that had occurred between the military force of the district and the guest of the evening, but these things would happen, and as Tennyson said of our soldiers—

“ Their's not to make reply,  
Their's not to reason why,  
Their's but to do and die.”

Col. D'chesnay made a very feeling reply, after which the health of the absent guest, Lt.-Col. Montizambert, was drunk with great enthusiasm, and replied to by Lt.-Col. Wason, his successor in the command of the Garrison. The health of Lt.-Col. Marchand, Premier of Quebec, who was present, and who commanded a Brigade at Pigeon Hill in 1870, was also drunk, and eloquently replied to. Late in the evening, Deputy Surgeon Genl. Campbell, Royal Regt. Canadian Infantry, who was in Quebec, and was detained by dining with His Honor, the Lieut.-Governor at Spencer Wood, joined the party.

Capt. Collins, 2nd Regiment Canadian Artillery, is at present in the Citadel for a long course.

Mr Dobell, of Quebec, is adjutant of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who are now stationed at Crete.

Lt.-Col. White, late of the 8th Royal Rifles, is doing the duty of Brigade-Major for this District.

Capt. Benyon, “ B ” Field Battery R. C. A., has gone on leave to England. He is accompanied by Mrs. Benyon.

Mayor Ogilvy, R. C. A., has returned to duty from his course of instruction in England, and was warmly welcomed by his many friends.

The repairs to the Citadel Wall, near the chain gate, have been completed—so that the approach to the citadel has been greatly improved.

The annual meeting of the Garrison Mess was held recently and a most satisfactory report presented. Every Military visitor to Quebec is sure of a warm reception within its hospitable walls. Its squash alley has been a great success.

It is pretty well understood in this Garrison that about one hundred men of the Royal Canadian Artillery will exchange in the early spring with a similar number of the Royal Artillery at Halifax. The experiment of exchange with the Royal Reg. Canadian Infantry has proved so successful that the artillery are to have their turn—so it is said.

---

**FREDERICTON, N.B.**

**NO. 4 REGIMENTAL DEPOT, R.R.C.I.**

Captain Macdonell is still in Toronto attending the Cavalry School there for a course of Equitation.

Lce. Corpl. and Acting Sergt. O. R. Clerk Wright has also been torn from our tearful embrace and transferred to St. John's.

Capt. Eaton, has been transferred from the Royal Regt. of Canadian Infantry to the Royal Canadian Artillery and posted to "A" Field Battery.

Orderly Room Sergt. Burke from No. 1 Regt. Depot has also been transferred to No. 4 Depot, and arrived in Fredericton on the 9th instant.

Captain Eaton has obtained six months leave from Headquarters for the purpose of taking a charge of an expedition to Labrador. We sincerely hope he may discover another "Klondyke" in those regions.

Lt.-Col. Maunsell left on the 9th Nov. for Ottawa, where he will be engaged with a Board of Officers, convened for the purpose of revising the old Militia Regulations, which have been tampered with for a number of years and are now, it may be said, beyond recognition.

Q. M. Sergt. Walker left here on the 30th September for the scene of his new labours in Toronto, where he will be assured of a gallant reception and soldierly treatment, and Q. M. Sergt. Lamontagne from No. 3 Regimental Depot arrived here on the 1st inst. to take over the position and quarters vacated by the former N. C. O.

No. 4 Company R.R.C.I., with Maxim Gun, returned from Halifax on the 15th of September, and though the N. C. Officers and men thoroughly enjoyed the exchange of quarters with the Royal Berks and the utmost good feeling existed between all ranks of both Regiments, they were all glad to get back to Fredericton and the "Girls they left behind them."

The Company was met at the station by the 71st Battalion and Band, and a large concourse of people who all gave the Royal Canadians a hearty welcome home, evincing the popularity of the "Sodger Boys" at Fredericton.

## GRUMBLINGS BY THE GOAT.

The Berkshire soldiers have gone away. Not a bad lot of chaps, although they never gave me any cigarettes. The brown boots they wear are very good; I had several hearty meals of them; much better than those supplied to our own men which are no class.

They have taken away the gas from the barracks, which is very nice, as I am very fond of petroleum.

A musical wave is passing over the barracks, and all day long you may hear three or four aspiring bandmen with cornet, lute, harp, sackbut, etc. (or equally disagreeable instruments), practising different tunes at the same time, the effect is sublimely hideous.

The barracks are being painted all over, so am I; the green paint is especially delicious, so is the putty of which I devour quantities daily.

Marsh has charge of the wash-house now, and he is always driving me out just when I am having a good singe. The day before yesterday he chased me away from the store before I had quite finished my right side—most annoying.

Had a row with Carlo yesterday as to who was senior; am going to apply for a stripe; anyhow, I was here before White and Gray.—Carlo is an ass.

Dewart is Provost Corporal now, so I suppose I must not have any more rows with him.

Wonder if those people in the Canteen have got my oats; its time I got them; must go and see.

## THE NIGHT HE ARRIVED.

Sergeant Britisher.—Au Reservoir!

Sergeant de St. Jean.—Tanks!

## IN THE C. O.'S MAIL.

Sir:—

I should wish to join the Permanent Militia Force, for a term of three years (3), if you will agree to pay me the following rate of wages:—The first year 70 cents per day, the second year, 80 cents per day and the third year, \$1.00 per day, also to be supplied with free rations, free kits and regimental necessaries.

I would be ready to go up to Fredericton in a couple of weeks, or sooner if your reply should be favorable.

Yours respectfully.

.....

Sir:—

Your favor of the 9th inst. at hand, and contents noted. You say there is no vacancy in reply to my application of the 4th inst. for a rating of 70 cents, 80 cents and \$1.00 per day for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years, with free rations, free kits and regimental necessaries. I construe your reply to signify an agreement to my proposals as contained in my letter of the 4th inst to you. In regard to vacancies, I suppose men are going and coming with the company pretty often, and you could fill up the vacancies in the order in which the applications are received by you, having reference to the date of each application in doing so. How many days is one year reckoned in estimating the pay for a man? If you reply you might say how soon in your opinion there would be a vacancy such as I request, and I will try to be on hand.

Accept thanks for receiving my application.

.....  
Yours truly,

Dear Sir:—

I am desirous of joining No. . . . Company of the R.R. C.I., at F——— providing, that, in the event of my studying hard and taking a first class certificate the first three months, I would be exempt from parades, and allowed to attend the N——— University, of course I could attend one or two parades per week, as officer's servants usually do, without interfering with my studies.

I beleive, sir, that I could serve my country better by first taking a first class certificate, and making myself familiar with all the duties of a soldier and N. C. Officer, attend one or two parades a week, and spend the remainder of my time in getting a first class education than I could by *worcing* out a three years' *existence* as a private soldier, getting no certificate at all, taking no interest in life beyond the daily routine of cleaning brass, whitening belts, etc. If I joined the R.R.C.I., and was allowed the *privilage* of attending college, I could leave at the end of that time with a first class *military* education, as well as a college training, and would look back on three years well spent, *wharcas*, if I lived the life of the "ordinary" private soldier during that time, without studying, I would not even know drill enough to instruct a squad properly, I would know the duties of a private soldier of course, but I am quite familiar with them now, so you see in this latter case it would be like throwing three years of my life away.

Now sir, if you will kindly ascertain if I could join

the school under the conditions herein mentioned, I will be greatly obliged.

I have the honor to be, sir,  
Most respectfully yours.

.....

P.S.—This letter was actually received at this Depot.

---

The captain of a company was walking round the recruits the other day, and while going along the ranks he stopped short at one very simple-looking joskin, who was fresh from the Highlands, and who likewise was deficient of a haversack. The captain, after having the usual chat with the colour-sergeant of Donald's company about it, said to the "flag," in a not very distinct voice, that he had better get the man a haversack; but Donald, mistaking it for something he thought better suited to him, exclaimed, in a very surly voice, greatly to the amazement of his comrades, and to the thorough extinction of the captain:

"Yes, she'll better have her sacked, for she'll sodger nae langer!"

---

A member of the military band at a certain barrack came to the surgeon recently with a long face and a plaintive story about a sore throat. "Sore throat, eh?" said the surgeon, pleasantly. "Let me see. Oh, that's not so bad. A slight irritation, nothing more. You'll be all right in a day or two. I think you had better take no risk of renewing the trouble by using your throat, though, so I will recommend you for a fortnight's sick leave." Armed with the surgeon's certificate, the bandsman obtained his two weeks' sick leave. The two weeks had just come to an end when he met the surgeon on the parade-ground. The bandsman saluted. The surgeon recognized the face and stopped. "How's the throat?" he asked, pleasantly. "It's quite well, sir," was the reply. "That's good," said the surgeon. "You can get back to your duty now without fear. By the way, what instrument do you handle in the band?" "The small drum, sir," said the musician.



A young officer, on his return from a campaign, rejoiced in a very fine long moustache. One day an acquaintance stopped him in the street, with the remark, "My dear fellow, now the war is over, why don't you put your moustache on the peace establishment?"

"I'll do so when you put your tongue on the civil list," was the prompt and happy retort.

Irish Sergeant. "'Tintion! Company, and attend to yer rowl call. All of ye that are prisent say 'Here,' and all of ye that are not prisent say 'Absent.'"

Scene, Military Hospital, the other morning Private Burke, just getting out of a dose of chloroform in a dazed state. "Oh, bedad, were am oi, at all, at all?" Smart Surgeon, with a wink, "In heaven." Private Burke, looking round, "Then why the mischief are you here, o'id like to know."

#### A BRAVE JOKER.

The English Cavalry, during Wellington's campaigns, were noted for their superb riding. Their officers were well mounted, and had learned to ride by following the hounds across a rough country.

One day, in Spain, a French colonel of dragoons rode out, attended by three or four troopers, to reconnoitre the position of the English army. While riding along, they suddenly came upon a young English officer who had also ridden out to reconnoitre the French army.

"Surrender!" shouted the French colonel. But the Englishman, being mounted on a thoroughbred, laughed in the colonel's face, and cantered away. The Frenchman pursued as fast as his heavy steed could gallop. The Englishman allowed him to get quite close, and then, kissing his hand and leaving him far behind, shouted, pointing to the Frenchman's horse—

"Only a Norman horse, monsieur!"

The Frenchman galloped after him, shouting, "I will shoot you if you do not surrender!" He pointed his pistol and pulled the trigger, but the weapon missed fire. With a burst of mocking laughter, the young officer shouted back, "Of Versailles manufacture, monsieur!" and, giving the thoroughbred his head, was seen no more.

The colonel was indignant at the aspersion cast upon his horse and his pistol; but when he thought the matter over, he said—

"But I am glad I did not shoot the brave joker!"

## HIS OPINION OF THE REGIMENT.

The C.O. of a regiment was much troubled at the persistent untidiness of one of his men. Reprimand and punishment were unavailing. The man was incorrigible, and remained as dirty as ever.

A brilliant idea struck the colonel. Why not march him up and down the whole line of the regiment, and shame him into decency? It was done.

The untidy warrior, who hailed from the Emerald Isle, was ordered to exhibit himself and march up and down the entire regiment, and the men were told to have a good look at him. The unabashed Pat halted, saluted the colonel, and said in the hearing of the whole corps, with the utmost *sang froid*: "Dhirtiest regiment I iver inspected, sorr!"

---

MILITIA 'GENERAL ORDERS.

1897.

HEADQUARTERS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1897.

CAVALRY.

Royal Canadian Dragoons—Lieutenant Charles Macklem Nelles is granted the Brevet rank of Captain under the provisions of paragraph 90, Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887. 27th September, 1897.