

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Fifth Year.
VOL. IV, No. 52.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1889.

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

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Topics of the Week.

It gives us much pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of holiday greetings from our good friends, the 38th Dufferin Rifles and the 62nd St. John Fusiliers. The Dufferins' Christmas card, which is ornamented by the crest of the battalion and a picture of the handsome new drill hall, is commemorative of the two trips to other cities made during the drill season, one being to the Hamilton summer carnival, on the 23rd August, and the other to Toronto for the sham battle of Thanksgiving Day, 7th November. There is pictorial representation of an incident of the three hours side-tracking which delayed the regiment's arrival at Toronto. The card issued by the 62nd is as simple as it is pretty, bearing merely the regimental crest, with the words: "We wish our comrades a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

The Amherst, N. S. *Record* to hand this week has this endorsement of the Military Rifle League: "The plan is quite feasible and is in line with the league games which now command so much attention, but with this advantage in favour of shooting, that it is the most useful as well as the most scientific of the pastimes. We would like to see the various regiments of the Maritime province, and particularly the 93rd, enter teams for the league matches."

The officers of C Battery, R.C.A., may now have in view an end to the inconvenience to which they have been subjected by reason of their lack of barrack accommodation. A contract for the erection of officers quarters at Victoria, B. C., has just been awarded to Messrs. Woodward & Munday of that city, the price being in the neighbourhood of \$26,000. The work is to be commenced in April.

It is quite a common thing for militia officers to fight their way into the House of Commons, but their appointment to the Senate is of rarer occurrence. It is with pleasure, therefore, that we note the last appointment of a life legislator to be that of Major Chas. A. Boulton, who succeeds to the vacancy in the representation of Manitoba caused by the appointment of Hon. Dr. Schultz to be Lieutenant Governor of that Province. Major Boulton took part in both the N. W. rebellions, narrowly escaping death at the hands of Riel in the first, and rendering essential service with the splendid force of scouts he had raised in the second. He has also written a reliable, as well as readable, account of the rebellion. Major Boulton was a captain in the 100th Regiment, part of which he recruited himself when it was raised in 1858.

Perhaps the appointing powers have already as good as fixed upon the person to command the "Wimbledon" team for 1890, but in case they have not we would like to suggest as an officer very acceptable to all concerned, Lieut.-Col. E. G. Prior, M.P., who commands the British Columbia Brigade of Garrison Artillery. It is not putting the case too strongly to say that Col. Prior is in every respect all that a team commandant should be. In the few years that he has been in the House of Commons he has made himself one of the most popular members. He is every inch a soldier, and is happy in the possession of brilliant social qualities which would make the Canadian camp famous on Bisley Common, where the next "Wimbledon" meet, by whatever name called, will take place. The honour of the command of the team has never yet been awarded to a British Columbian, but when a representative of that province is called for, we think no more worthy officer will be found than Col. Prior.

Kind Praise from Our Readers.

This issue, the last for 1889, brings to a close the Fourth Volume of the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, which, since the 12th of May, 1885, has week by week found its way about in an ever increasing circle of readers. In spite of many difficulties, and though often sorely tempted to abandon the enterprise, by reason of discouragement met with in quarters where support might have been most confidently expected, the publishers have stuck to their undertaking, with the result that their unremitting labour and the closest economy of the slender funds available, have at length placed the paper upon a tolerably sound financial footing; and its speedy growth and development in interest and usefulness are assured, if our friends will interest themselves a little in increasing the support now accorded. We are quite conscious of many shortcomings, and that many matters of import to the militia have not received the attention they have deserved; but at the same time can conscientiously claim to have done the best possible with the means placed at one disposal. It has often been represented to us that the constituency available for the paper is too limited for it to succeed at its present low price; and some of our more enthusiastic friends have time and again urged an increase in the subscription fee. This, however, we desire to avoid, as it would be much more to our liking to increase the circulation, and thus the usefulness of the paper could, such be accomplished by keeping the fee at the present figure. Cheapness and nastiness, often so closely associated, we hope have not gone together in this instance. Whatever happened, we have endeavoured—and we believe with success—to preserve our good name, unsullied by any unworthy act or course. Now and again we receive a complaint, and welcoming it as at least a sign that our readers are not altogether indifferent, we endeavour to remove the cause, should the complaint be well founded. Happily, however, the mail bag regularly brings us missives of a widely different character—letters of cordial appreciation and encouragement from members of the force of all ranks, in every military centre in the Dominion. These have been very welcome indeed; all the more so because altogether unsolicited. In no instance have they come

intended for publication, and we therefore do not feel at liberty to append the writers' names, but we print the following excerpts as a fair sample of the good opinions entertained by those who have put themselves in a position to judge by subscribing to and reading our paper, and in every instance, we are happy to say, the letter quoted has been written by a man whose good opinion is well worth having:—

Sergeant, Grenadiers, Toronto:— * * “I am much pleased with the GAZETTE, and wish you the greatest success for the coming year.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Victoria, B.C.:—“I enclose you P. O. order for \$6, which will square me up with you till 12th December, '90, unless you increase the price of your paper, which you might well do without hurting anyone. It is read with great interest by myself and officers here.”

Sergeant, Grenadiers, Toronto:— * * “I like the GAZETTE. * * I have been told by several that the last number is the best yet, so you will be glad to hear the paper is giving great satisfaction here.”

Lieutenant, St. John, N.B.:— * * “I have no doubt the issues are more prompt than many of the subscribers in paying up. Kindly accept my best wishes for success of the paper, and \$3.00.”

Lieutenant, Pembroke, Ont.:— * * “I wish you increased success in the publication of your excellent paper.”

Captain, Brantford, Ont.:— * * “I hope you receive generous support. * * Your paper serves a useful purpose. Your remarks *re* the recent Toronto review and sham fight are right to the point, and ought to do good to both officers and men taking part.”

Former Canadian Militiaman, Dallas, Texas:— * * “I hope the bright little paper receives the patronage it deserves. I always look forward to its arrival and watch with interest the doings of my late comrades in arms.”

Captain, Kingston, Ont.:— * * “I am much pleased with your paper, and think that every officer, n. c. o. and man in the militia ought to subscribe to it.”

Ex-officer Canadian Militia, St. Paul, Minn.:—“Please make sure that you have my address correct. For some reason the GAZETTE has for a few weeks failed to arrive at destination, and I miss very much the weekly news your spicy little paper contains regarding military matters both at home and abroad.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Fredericton, N.B.:—“Permit me to offer a word of congratulation on the general improvement in the GAZETTE, and on the interest you take in that important part of the soldier's training—target practice.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Montreal:—“Your paper serves a useful purpose, in affording a means by which we can exchange ideas concerning possible improvements in the system. I cheerfully renew my subscription, and will not fail to put in a word wherever I think it will do you good.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Peterborough:— * * “I have subscribed for three copies, one of which I preserve and fyle, giving the others for the use of the non-commissioned officers and men interested—and all should be.”

Lieutenant, Spencerville, Ont.:— * * “I must say that I am very much pleased with the paper.”

Captain, Toronto:— * * “I enclose \$2, and wish you every success, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

Surgeon, Toronto:— * * “I enclose last year's subscription, and next year's also. There is no journal, outside professional papers, I read with more pleasure than the GAZETTE.”

Captain, Charlottetown, P.E.I.:— * * “I am very much pleased with the paper. Every officer in the Canadian Militia should be a subscriber.”

Captain, Montreal:—“I enclose \$2, with which please credit me. Your excellent little paper interests me very much, but I am sorry Montreal does not get more space in it. Let me know if you can furnish bound volumes or complete sets of the paper since its beginning.”

Lieutenant, Pictou, N.S.:— * * “You have succeeded in making the GAZETTE a thoroughly reliable and interesting paper, and I wish you every success.”

Surgeon, Lachute, Q.:— * * “I shall continue to advance the interests of the paper, as I believe the service needs such an organ.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Wardsville, Ont.:— * * “I am well pleased with the little sheet, and wish it success.”

Lieutenant, Repentigny, Q.:— * * “I enclose my subscription. From past experience I am sure I will get the worth of my money, there are so many questions of vital interest discussed in your columns.”

Major, Peterborough:— * * “I hope all your subscribers pay up, and thus encourage you to keep the paper going. I am sure it would be a great loss to the force should it cease publication.”

Captain, Halifax, N.S.:— * * “Your paper is deservedly popular with the active militia here.”

Lieutenant, New Westminster, B.C.:—“I enclose price of a year's subscription to the MILITIA GAZETTE, which please address as above. It should be encouraged. For my part I will endeavour to secure as many subscribers as I possibly can for your very interesting little paper.”

Lieutenant, St. John, N.B.:— * * “I have been absent some weeks, or should have remitted sooner. I found considerable interest in reading over the several numbers awaiting my arrival. I trust you will receive the support which your efforts deserve.”

Captain, Guelph, Ont.:— * * “I like your paper very much, and anything I can do to further its interests will not be neglected.”

Lieutenant, Collingwood, Ont.:—“Kindly send me last number, which has failed to reach me. I keep the fyle complete, and find the papers very interesting indeed.”

Lieut.-Colonel, Fredericton, N.B.:—“I have pleasure in sending you P. O. order for amount of my account just received. I cheerfully bear testimony to the value of your journal, devoted, as it really is, to the interests of the active force of the Dominion. I will be glad to do all in my power to extend its circulation.”

Captain, Toronto:— * * “I like the manner in which your paper has been conducted, what numbers I have read of it, and wish it every success.”

Lieutenant, Toronto:—“I enclose you five dollars as a subscription to your paper for three years and four months from the 7th June last. I trust the MILITIA GAZETTE is meeting with the success which I am pleased to see it deserves.”

The regular receipt of such encouraging messages as the above have contributed in no small measure to ensure to the publishers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, which we now have much pleasure in wishing our readers one and all.

Regimental and Other News.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A rifle match was shot on the 10th inst. at the Clover Point, B.C., range between a team from H.M.S. Swiftsure and one from C Battery Regt. C.A. The weather was most unpleasant, there being a strong wind from the front, and occasionally rain. The firing continued from 11 o'clock in the forenoon to 2 o'clock in the afternoon. At the close the score stood 330 to 321 in favour of C Battery, R.C.A. Following is the score:

H.M.S. Swiftsure.				C Battery, R.C.A.					
	200	300	400	Total.		200	300	400	Ttl.
Capt. Hammett.....	19	17	7	43	Lt.-Col. Holmes	21	20	24	65
Lt. Homer	32	19	30	81	Major Peters.....	22	18	30	70
Lt. Kingsford.....	31	22	20	73	Surgeon Duncan	30	26	20	76
Mr. Paine.....	25	24	25	74	Capt. Benson.....	25	25	6	56
Mr. Edwards.....	18	8	24	50	Lt. Ogilvie.....	28	16	19	63
Total.....	125	90	106	321	Total.....	126	105	99	330

ROYAL GRENADIERS AMBULANCE CORPS.

The annual dinner of the R. G. Ambulance Corps was held on the 18th inst., in McConkey's restaurant, Toronto, Dr. Ryerson, surgeon of the regiment, presiding. Assistant-Surgeon King, Major Mason, Adj. Manley, of the R. G., and as invited guests, Surgeon Lesslie, of the Q. O.R., Dr. Strange, of I.S.C., and Dr. Burns, President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, were also present. Letters of apology were read from Colonel Dawson, R.G., and from Colonel Bergin, Surgeon-General; Dr. Roddick of Montreal, late Deputy-Surgeon-General; Surgeon Harris, Dufferin Rifles, Brantford; Surgeon Griffin, 13th Batt., Hamilton, who through business engagements were unable to be present. The toasts “The Queen,” “The Royal Grenadiers,” “The Ambulance Corps,” “The Ladies,” and “The Press,” were received with royal good will and suitably responded to, and throughout the evening songs were given by Adjutant Manley and Ptes. Harris and Martin. Drs. Lesslie and Strange, the visiting surgeons, paid high compliments to Assistant-Surgeon King and Hospital Sergeant Taylor, through whose indefatigable efforts the status of the R. G. Ambulance Corps has been brought to be regarded second to none in Canada. The corps now numbers twenty men rank and file, and from the fact that over eighty per cent. of drills, parades, and lectures have been attended by the men, it may be safely assumed that in point of proficiency its rank is a high one. In action the Ambulance Corps of the R. G., has proved itself to be no “carpet organization,” its record in the recent troubles in the Northwest being most enviable, and proving that the ambulance man's position—always to the front—takes in no way away from a soldier's ambition. The singing of the National Anthem terminated the proceedings.

Further trials with armour-piercing projectiles have just been made at Portsmouth. The weapon used was an ordinary 6-inch breech-loader, and the projectiles consisted of three of Hoult's armour-piercing shells and two of the ordinary Palliser shells. The armour-plate, which was by Brown, of Sheffield, was of the composite character, measuring 10 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches thick, with the usual deal backing. Two of the Hoult rounds went clean through plate and backing, while the third stuck; the Palliser shells merely burst on impact and cracked the plates.

Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—I received to-day a circular from provisional secretary Mr. W. R. Pringle, of the proposed "Canadian Military Rifle League." Now Sir, while admitting that the main object of the proposed scheme is a good one, viz, the encouragement of rifle shooting, and with which I am heartily in accord, I must nevertheless dissent from some of the details thereof and ask space in your paper to express my views:

1st. Provisional Officers.—I notice that four-fifths of the provisional officers are members of city corps, while four-fifths of the infantry battalions of Canada are rural battalions; exactly the reverse to what would be a fair distribution, and certainly the reverse to that which would put a spirit of enthusiasm in the scheme. Why not give an officer to at least one colonel of some rural corps instead of entirely ignoring them? If the scheme is to be a broad one, and be general throughout Canada, better give some officers to colonels of battalions which are not styled "shooting" battalions, get them interested, their dollars will go just as far, and do just as much good, as those of an urban corps.

2nd. Teams.—"For the season of 1890 the teams to be composed of 10 men each. For 1891 of 20 men each, and for 1892 from 25 to 50 men each, and so on." Now, sir, suppose our 96 battalions would all enter at \$10 each producing a fund of \$960, of which sum the rural corps would pay about four-fifths or about \$770, while the city corps would pay about one-fifth or say \$190. Say \$500 be expended in purchasing a trophy and other prizes, and the residue, \$460, be expended in paying salaries, printing, postage, &c. So much for 1890.

Now, what about 1891? Would the entrance fees increase at the rate of \$1 per man, or \$20 for that year, and so on, or would the \$10 paid in 1890 entitle a person to compete as long as he could see to shoot at a target? While all the rural battalions might be able to put a team of 10 men in the contest with a very creditable showing for 1890, when forced to enter 20 men for 1891 I venture to say that three-fourths of them would find it impossible to do so with any pretensions at winning. Then, what about 1892? Suppose they would be asked to put forward teams of 50 shooting men for that year, what would be the result? Why it would simply mean the total annihilation of the Ruralites, leaving the battlefield, trophy, and all in charge of the minority (in city corps).

There are good reasons why rural battalions cannot retain men over one period of service, and if the members of city corps were compelled to go into brigade camp they could more readily understand my statements. As follows: Rural battalions get good young men to enrol at 18 years old who serve their 3 years; they then engage in some business for themselves or for an employer and cannot spare or be spared the time from their business to go to camp, no matter what their inclination may be, consequently they do not re-enroll, and all riflemen know that not much of a shot can be made of a 3-year old. How different with city corps! They do their drilling at night, which does not interfere with their daily wage-earning, and men may retain membership until they are grey-headed if they so desire without any material personal inconvenience or loss, and I know this to be the case, especially if they have cultivated a love for rifle shooting. What we want is an equal chance. Allow us to shoot a team of 10 men, which is large enough for any Provincial or Dominion match, or allow us to drill at head-quarters, annually, or drill the city corps in brigade camp, and then we will meet you and defeat you upon a fair field, man for man, any number up to the strength of our battalion. Again, suppose a rural battalion had 50 men for a team, they would in all probability not have shooting facility to complete the firing in an afternoon, and more especially so if the younger shots required instruction, which is the vaunted benefit and purpose of the League."

3rd. Dates.—"The match to be fired Saturday afternoons throughout the season." This again is well fixed for the convenience of urban corps whose membership is largely made up of clerks and students who get a half holiday on Saturday afternoons. But what about the yeomanry who fill up the ranks of a rural corps? Saturday is the marketing day or a day to plant or reap something for market day. Then the 7 matches arranged just in the busy season, viz: haying and harvesting, and what thrifty farmer will expose his crop to the storm over Sunday to go and shoot at a target

4th. Range Officers.—"The range officer must not belong to the corps for which he is acting." What are country battalions to do? Officers residing in the county usually belong to the corps of the

county, and it might so happen that we would have to send 50 miles to get a range officer. It is not every one at that distance who might have the leisure time and inclination to umpire 7 matches of not the slightest interest to him. Why could not a mayor or a reeve be chosen if the colonel is not to be trusted? The whole scheme is framed with apparently such inconsideration for the great majority that unless radical changes be made in the constitution I fear that the rural battalions generally will be prevented from competing.

Now, Mr. Editor, you must pardon me for occupying so much of your valuable space.

And believe me to be, Sir,

Yours, very truly,

GEO. A. McMICKING.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 16th, 1889.

Volunteer Schools of Arms.

(By an "All-round" Man—In "Volunteer Record.")

Among the best characteristics of volunteering is the physical development of those who attend assiduously the recruit drills, especially in those corps where the new physical drill—with and without arms—and the new bayonet exercise are practised. It is astonishing to see the marked improvement in some of the recruits. They become well set up, with shoulders back and head erect, and with the marching practice soon acquire an easy carriage, moving easily from the hips instead of, as one very frequently sees, almost from the knees. But another good arising from a young fellow joining a volunteer corps is the facility of becoming a member of the School of Arms attached to most regiments of standing. Therein is taught the practical use of the weapon carried by the volunteer, and in addition fencing with foils, rapiers, etc., and the more robust single sticks and sabres, while bayonet v. bayonet and v. sabre, and sabre v. sabre receive a considerable amount of attention.

In nearly every instance, the instructors in these subjects are old army professors, teachers of swordsmanship in their respective regiments, and who are thorough masters of their weapons. In addition squads are formed for instruction in dumb-bell and club exercises and gymnastics. Last, though by no means least, the "noble art" also finds many devotees. Any man, therefore, who follows out strictly and thoroughly the course of training above sketched, will have his leisure time well occupied, but in the end he will find himself very much better in health and physique. Many who now spend the evening in a close and stuffy billiard room, would do much better at a school of arms.

The Council of the Royal Military Tournament have also opened their competitions to what are called the auxiliary forces, which include the yeomanry and volunteers, and many of the most spirited bouts have been witnessed at the Agricultural Hall by their representatives.

In connection with these schools of arms, an association has been formed for the purpose of encouraging and promoting the formation of schools of arms in volunteer regiments, and as a means whereby the Council of the Tournament can ascertain the views of volunteers upon any subject connected therewith they may consider it necessary to refer to them. The preliminary competitions to select men to represent home district volunteer regiments at the annual military tournament, are now placed under the superintendence of this association. The competitions consist of foils, single sticks, sabre v. sabre, and sabre v. bayonet, and four medals are given to each subject—gold, silver with gold centre, silver, and bronze; in all 16 medals. The competitions are held at the headquarters of one or more of the associated regiments, and in the presence of many interested spectators, including several officers of the regular regiments in London. The judges are gentlemen thoroughly well versed in the use of the particular weapons, and generally give their decisions with a view to the well-being and advancement of the various sports.

Sometimes, however, it would be well for the judges, by their decisions to discourage the displacement of science and skill for what is termed "knocking out" tactics. Where men go in for this sort of thing, the judges should in our opinion promptly disqualify any one resorting to this mode of "playing," as whatever may be the rule of the prize ring and the effects of a "knock-out" with gloves, it may be highly dangerous, and even serious when resorted to with a heavy sabre or rifle, and we hope the association will at once set its face against any such endeavours on the part of competitors under its supervision.

The association has an excellent future before it; certainly its objects are most praiseworthy and deserve every support. The season of Schools of Arms is now beginning, and every school should at once affiliate itself to the Metropolitan School of Arms Association, of which Col. Villiers, 1st Surrey R.V., is Chairman of Committee, and Sergt.-Major Clark, 18th Middlesex, Paddington, the energetic Secretary.

The Moral Value of Military Discipline.

In the Boston *Volunteer*, the Rev. D. Roberts has a capital chapter on the moral value of military discipline. He premises that the word has several shades of meaning. First, it means that which is "according to the received and customary rule of right between man and man," as opposed to wrong. Next, it refers to the principle of duty which governs men without respect to any law that has been made or any command that has been given. There are "positive" duties and "moral" duties. That is a "positive" duty which must be done because it has been commanded by a proper and sufficient authority. It is, for instance, a "positive" duty for a soldier to obey a military command given by the proper person, simply because it is a command. Apart from that, there is a *moral* duty upon him to do or refrain from doing certain things because it is right. Moral duty and positive duty are joined in a command which requires a certain thing because it is right in itself. A thing may be right because it is commanded; it should be commanded because it is right. To obey commands is part of the schooling of a soldier, and it is a part of duty, a part of right. So far as his relation to soldiering is concerned, that is for him a measure of right, a moral measure; and it comes of this, that military discipline, properly conducted, has moral value as a quickener of the consciousness of right and duty. This value has recognition in the institution of schools under military conduct simply for the sake of the discipline.

But there must also be a measure for those who command, and they must command the right thing. A certain command may be a treasonable one, and the soldier may not be in a position to determine that. It may be a selfish or murderous one, but the soldier may be innocent in obeying it, and, by a paradox that comes of the suspension of his moral responsibility, may even incur positive guilt by refusing to obey a command which had no moral right to sustain it. And so it comes that discipline in its highest sense begins at a point back of the rule of obedience, higher than army regulations or the "articles of war." It begins in moral right. There is then, says Mr. Roberts, no better field for the culture and exhibition of the fruit of discipline based upon moral right than in the military institution, because here you have the force of the positive precept. Obedience to orders is the vital point in the organization. Here that highest attribute of character, self-sacrifice, has an unequalled resting-place. The seed of truth and right has a soil especially prepared to receive it. A discipline which should train men to believe that they had no moral responsibility outside their direct orders would be a calamity and a curse, as some military education of the rank and file has undoubtedly been, as the world has learned to its cost. I might accept the proposition that there is reason for a different basis of moral purpose in military life from that which obtains in civil society; but if there be really a reason for any difference at all, it is that everything points to a *higher* plane of morality as the true and necessary one.

"It is curious," continues Mr. Roberts, "that there are exactly two opposite ideas about this matter, and they get themselves mixed up in the same mind and confused in the same speech. From one point of view the standard is higher, and from another it is lower. The higher one or the lower one is taken for the moment just as it happens, and too often the lower one prevails. If an enlisted man, or 'tis true, 'tis pity, and pity 'tis 'tis true,' even a commissioned officer, sometimes, is guilty of some irregularity or excess, some departure from the customs of civilized society, the offence is condoned by the reflection that it is 'only a soldier,' as though you couldn't expect much of a soldier. I resent that as an insulting proposition; and so do you, and yet you will possibly join in a jesting use of it, or even accept it as being a charitable veil for the excess committed, when true ethics, true discipline, and true soldiership would rather increase the measure of its disgrace by the very circumstance which is put in as defence, to wit, that he is a soldier. It is a reasonable defence if the military standard of morals is of necessity and characteristically low. It, on the contrary, deepens the disgrace if the theory of this paper be the right one—namely, that our moral standard ought to be of the highest. And, in fact, you accept the proposition that it ought to be higher and not lower than ordinary when you accept, as every true soldier does and ought, the idea that the character of the soldier ought to be, and presumably is, formed upon the most chivalrous ideal of rectitude, moral courage, self-denial, and loftiness of soul, which is the knightly idea."

"If that be the true thought, the school of the soldier ought to be the school of manly virtue, the university of nobility. But this knightly standard has not yet been adopted. As a matter of fact, the common soldier and the general opinion seems to accept the idea that in return for sundry special sacrifices and privations, which are a part of the soldier life and incident to it, soldiers are to be granted a wide margin in morals and behaviour. The result is that which I deprecate; the standard of manliness and of conduct in military life is in some respects

a false one. In times of stress and need the men who govern themselves severely and supremely, and by the help of their discipline get a high and effective moral power in and over themselves, will be the salvation of a whole expedition. This has been true since the time of Xenophon, whose famous retreat was made good by his own personal power as it was the personal conduct of Cæsar which saved his army and 'overcame the Nervii.' The true discipline ought to develop the whole manhood. We inherit, to a certain degree, two theories of the status of the soldier which are utterly bad, and belong to a very different age and a very different state of society. Both sink the man in the soldier, and make him an element of danger and destructiveness. One is the feudal; this attached the soldier to his chief by ties of dependence of such a nature that whatever side the chief espoused, his henchman's arms, body, powers, and life were at the chief's disposal."

The Value of Case Shot.

A French writer in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* took upon himself some time ago to depreciate the value of case shot, and to suggest that the place of the comparatively few that are now carried by the batteries of all nations would be more usefully filled were shrapnel substituted for them. The article provoked a great deal of controversy, and the German military papers have recently contained several articles on the subject, which strongly combat the arguments of the Frenchman. One of his main contentions was that opportunities for the use of such a projectile would practically never occur, and moreover that, even if some sudden emergency when they might be of use did crop up, there would be no time to get them out of the limbers, where they are carried in the French service. He likewise asserted in support of his argument that, although the German artillery had dragged an enormous weight of such ammunition into France in 1870, they hardly had fired a single one, and had, in consequence, to cart all the useless lumber back again at the end of the war. It appears, however, from the statistics this statement has provoked, that the occasions when case shot was called for were by no means so uncommon as he would have people believe, and, as a matter of fact, it was shown that about forty batteries had been obliged at times to more or less fall back on its aid. The argument that the projectile is usually out of the way when most required is only applicable to the French artillery; the Germans and ourselves keep it in the axle-tree boxes of the gun carriages, and in that place it is ready at a moment's notice, and more rounds of case can be fired in a given time than of any other projectile. It does appear an extremely bad arrangement that the French should place theirs where they do, and we are very much surprised that when they recently remodelled their artillery drill and equipment they did not improve on so conspicuous a defect. But there does not seem to be any foundation for the sweeping assertions which speak of case shot as a relic of the past, excellent, no doubt, in the time of Druot and Senarmont, but an anachronism in these days of rifled guns and shrapnel. We, at any rate, have still room for it in our savage warfare, and it has on more than one occasion recently there done us yeoman's service. We believe, however, that crises will still occur even in European battles when a round of case may in a moment change the aspect of a fight and convert what threatened to be a disaster into an unmistakable success. It is the last few rounds, when cavalry are almost among the guns, that are really effective, and a well directed salvo of case at fifty yards from the battery's front might simply mow the charging squadrons down, and produce such an effect as would deter the bravest from again trying conclusions with it. This too is the view the Germans take of the matter, and they argue very justly that their armies had, from their superior numbers on the battle-fields, a comparatively easy task in 1870. Success was assured to them almost from the first gun, and their artillery was invariably able to subdue that of their opponents. Guns in such a case are seldom attacked; but had the circumstances been different and the battles been fought on more even terms, there would very probably have been a very much greater expenditure of case. Shrapnel cannot altogether replace it, because when it is used guns have to be more accurately directed. At the moment when case is required a very rough aim has usually to be taken, and as the bullets from this projectile scatter so considerably, its effect is not altogether wasted if the direction of the gun be not absolutely true. As yet no substitute for case has been invented, as is evidenced by the fact that in no nation at present is artillery unprovided with it. The argument based on the fact that the German guns did not greatly utilize it in 1870 is a most unsound one. It might be contended with equal truth that, because in 1866 their infantry expended only about six cartridges per man out of the sixty rounds which they carried in their pouches, it would in future only be necessary to provide that number for each rifle. On the same reasoning cavalry should be deprived of their sabres, because in recent warfare the casualties from sabre cuts

have been absurdly small, and the lance, if judged by its actual performances, would have to follow the sword. Artillery should be inspired with the confidence that they will be enabled to hold their ground against any attack from the front at any rate. The few rounds of case they have in hand as a last resource in a crisis enhances this idea, and renders them more self-reliant and enterprising, while any change which tends in the least to diminish it must have a detrimental effect on their tactics. The real answer to the French suggestions is to advise them to place their case where they will be nearest to hand when wanted—namely, in the axle-tree boxes. We ourselves and most other foreign nations carry them there, and common sense justifies the practice. It cannot be beyond the ingenuity of the French to so alter the pattern of their carriages as to make this arrangement possible; while, if it be effected, there will be room in the limbers for the few more shells they seem to desire. They may thus both eat their cake and have it, and, we venture to anticipate, will have less to say for the future in disparagement of the old-fashioned projectile. If a policeman leaves his revolver on the doorstep when he enters a house where he suspects a burglar is at work, he can hardly call it a useless weapon because he finds himself unarmed in the presence of the housebreaker, and he has still less ground for trying to persuade those who keep their weapons in their pockets to throw them away.—*United Service Gazette.*

Gleanings.

The subject of night operations attracts considerable attention in Russia.

Russia will soon have, in Europe, 3,320 field guns; France, 2,880; total, 6,200. Germany has 2,884; Austria will have, at the beginning of next year, 1,776; Italy, has 1,620 guns.

Towards the end of 1887 Sir Frederick Roberts caused the British and native troops to be deprived of the ball ammunition which they had hitherto been allowed to carry in their pouches. The consequence has been a decrease in the number of military murders and suicides. In 1886-87 the soldiers had their pouch ammunition, in 1887-88 they had not; the reduction in the latter year in cases of suicide was 17, in murder 16, attempts at murder 4, attempts at suicide 10, giving a total reduction of 47. In 1888-89 there was a still further reduction of 8 suicides, 4 murders, 7 attempts at murder, and 6 attempts at suicide, a total of 25. Thus military crimes of this kind were reduced from 110 in 1886-87, when each man had his ball ammunition in his pouch, to 38 in 1888-89, when it had been removed for two years. Three years ago these crimes were painfully frequent, especially in the area under the Commander-in-Chief in India; last year there was only one military murder in the Bombay Presidency and five in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces.

A tourist in the Channel Islands claims to have discovered in St. Samson Parish Church, Guernsey, the world's champion epitaph. A marble tablet, over the reading desk, records the virtues of Lieut. Thomas Falla, aged 18, of the Twelfth Infantry Regiment, who was killed in battle on April 6, 1799. The inscription proceeds: "He was struck by a solid cannon ball weighing 26 pounds, which lodged between the two bones of one of his legs. The wound inflamed considerably, but, although it was examined by the regimental surgeon the presence of the cannon ball was not noticed until after death, which took place six hours afterwards, when it was extracted, to the surprise of the whole army." The man who made the discovery was one Matthew Crookshank, a hard-headed surgeon, destitute alike of sense of humour and veneration for the antique. He has never met with a leg of physical proportions extensive enough to receive, stow away, and hide from the public gaze, a 26-pound cannon ball, so he has written to a medical paper indignantly demanding whether the outrageous falsehood is not out of place in the House of God.

A recruit in the German Army seems to have no easy time of it. "He spends ordinarily about five hours each day in practical work, either on the drill ground or in the neighbouring country. He spends three hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon in work, a break of about two hours—from midday to 2 p.m.—being allowed. Besides this he has one hour's theoretical instruction daily, given either by the officer or non-commissioned officer of the squad, with a lesson in cleaning and mending his kit in the evening. From the very beginning of his course of training, he is compelled to carry his kit, which at first is lightly loaded, the weight being, however, gradually increased to the full service requirements. On three consecutive days before the inspection by the commander of the battalions the recruits have to march with the full service pack 9½, 12½ and 15½ miles, respectively. After 12 weeks have expired, the recruit passes into the 'Zug' company, where he ceases to be a recruit. Here this course of training continues, however."

New Military Books.

(Published by Gale & Polden of Chatham Eng.)

SKIRMISHING, ATTACK AND DEFENCE, for a Company, Battalion and Brigade. By (late Sergt.-Major) Wm. Gordon. Cloth; pp. 134. Price 2/.

This book, which is fully illustrated with 39 plates, has been compiled in strict conformity with the new system of skirmishing attack and defence as laid down in the infantry drill book, and, in order to meet the want of some uniform system for drill purposes at instruction parades, the compiler has arranged and described the several movements in a simple manner so as to meet the requirements of all concerned. From a careful examination of this work, we can testify to the careful and painstaking manner in which the compiler has succeeded in his task. It explains and elucidates by means of numerous plates, the various movements in the new plan of skirmishing attack and defence which has taken the place of the old system in force in the obsolete "Field Exercise." The words of command and the movements for all ranks are intelligently and plainly set out, so that the intricacies of this new portion of a soldier's training can be more readily acquired than by a reference to the Infantry Drill. The scheme is comprehensive and complete and we regard this as a valuable addition to every soldier's library.

CATECHISM ON ARMY SIGNALLING. By Major L. Eyde and Capt. E. Rhodes, D. S. O. Cloth, pp. 156. Price, half a crown.

This book, which is divided into two parts, has been edited by two officers who have had considerable experience in the subject of which the work treats, Major Eyde of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, and Capt. E. Rhodes, D. S. O., of the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Major Eyde was the Brigade Signaller of the Suakim Field Force, and Capt. Rhodes was Director of Army Signalling of the Egyptian Frontier Field Force. They have admirably discharged the task of compiling a valuable handbook on this important subject. Army signalling is still in its infancy, but is eminently necessary to the welfare of an army in the field. The value of visual signalling is more fully recognized, and an indifferent signaller is worse than useless. The great responsibility resting on all signal officers and men in the field renders it necessary for men to make themselves acquainted with every detail connected with the service. The catechism is divided into two parts; the former, exclusively on the manual, being intended as an aid to all in reading the manual and becoming thoroughly at home in the various methods of signalling; the latter part containing questions arising from actual experience gained in the field during the campaigns of 1882-85-86, and from other sources. A glance at the contents will convince the reader of the full and thorough manner in which the compilers have performed their task viz: Principles of Visual Signalling, Apparatus and methods of using it, Course of Instruction, Method of sending messages, Working of Signal Stations in the field, Miscellaneous subjects, Manual for field service army signallers, Queen's regulations and infantry drill, Forms and books, Heliograph, Map signalling, Observatories, Detail of signalling equipment in peace and war with prices of same, Abbreviations sanctioned, Stores carried by signallers and by regimental transport, Return of messages and examples of test messages.

CATECHISM OF MILITARY TRAINING. By Major H. Fitzroy Marryat, late Royal Berkshire. 4th edition. Cloth, pp. 138. Price 2/ or 20/ per dozen.

Major Marryat, in his modest preface, states that his book, which is in the form of question and answer, is simply a compilation intended to facilitate officers and men in going through the syllabus laid down in the new infantry drill. The course adopted by Major Marryat is methodical, the instruction is clear and its accuracy may be relied on, as the compiler has taken every pains to insure correctness. A very short acquaintance will satisfy those who read it carefully, as to its being a work of practical utility. The value of the book is enhanced by some good illustrations and a capital index.

No action has yet been taken by the United States War Department toward preparing the new union for the United States flag, necessitated by the addition of the four new states. It is more than probable, however, that the arrangement of the stars proposed by the Navy Department will be adopted, as there seems to be a prevailing sentiment among those of the department who have discussed the matter in favour of but one design of the union for all branches of the Government. Besides, the arrangement of the Navy Department seems to be beyond improvement. By the addition of another row of stars, making six rows with seven stars each, the total number of forty-two are provided in an effective and uniform manner that could not be accomplished by any other arrangement. The new flag does not go into official use until the Fourth of July next.

Militia General Orders (No. 20) of 20th December, 1889.

NO. ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA—ANNUAL EXAMINATION FOR CANDIDATES, 1890.

Subjects and Books.—The annual examination to be held in the year 1890, for candidates desiring to be admitted as cadets to the Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, will commence at the District Staff Office, at the head quarters of the several military districts in which candidates reside, on Tuesday the 10th day of June, 1890—the medical examinations to be held the day previous. The subjects and books in which candidates will be examined are as follows:—

Obligatory or Preliminary Examination.

	Marks.
1. Mathematics.	
(a). Arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions, simple and compound proportions, simple and compound interest, partnership, profit and loss.....	500
(b). Algebra, including simple equations.....	500
(c). Geometry, first book of Euclid, or its equivalent.....	500
If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.	
2. (a). Grammar, English or French. Writing English or French correctly, and in a good legible hand from dictation.....	500
(b). Composition, as tested by the powers writing of an essay, precis, or letter, in English or French.....	500
3. Geography, general and descriptive.....	500
4. History, British and Canadian, general.....	500
5. French, grammar and translation from the language.....	500
6. Latin, grammar or simple translation from the language into either English or French as may be preferred by the candidate.....	500
7. Elements of freehand drawing, viz.: simple copies from the flat; outline only	300

French will, for the present, be optional, and may, therefore, be omitted by a candidate.

No candidate will be considered qualified for a cadetship or be allowed to count marks in the "Further examination" unless he obtains a minimum of one-third of the total number of marks in each of the subjects; 1 (a, b, c, together) 2 (a and b, together) 3, 4, 6, and 7.

Voluntary or Further Examination.

	Marks.
1. Mathematics.	
(a). Algebra, up to and including quadratic equations.....	1,000
(b). Geometry, up to and including third book of Euclid or its equivalent.....	1,000
If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.	
(c). Theory and use of common logarithms, plane trigonometry, mensuration.....	1,000
2. English or French literature. Limited to specific authors.....	1,000
(a). The examination to include Primer of the History of English Literature, by Rev. Stopford Brooke and Shakespeare's Play of Julius Caesar; or, for French speaking candidates, some standard French author, but not necessarily "Text" work.	
3. Geography—physical, particularly of Dominion of Canada and United States.....	1,000
(a). Examination in Colton's Outline of Physical Geograpy.	
4. History—British and Canadian, limited to certain fixed periods.....	1,000
(a). Examination in History of the British Empire, embracing the Stuart and Brunswick periods, and the period from 1812 to the present time (any school author) of Canadian History.	
5. French Grammar and translation from English into French or from French into English.....	1,200
6. Latin, including Cæsar's Commentaries, Book IV., from chap. xx to xxxviii (inclusive). Book V., to end of 23rd chap., and 1st, 4th, 6th, 7th and 9th Eclogues of Virgil. Translation into either English or French, as may be preferred by the candidate.....	1,500
7. Drawing—copies from the flat; shaded. Simple object drawing.....	1,000
8. Elementary Geometrical Drawing.....	1,000

Candidates are permitted to use at their examination on this subject (10) a drawing-board and such instruments as they choose. The instruments considered as necessary, but not indispensable, are: a pair of compasses with shifting-leg and pen and pencil points, a flat ruler, a pair of parallel rulers and a right-angled triangle.

No "Voluntary" subject shall gain a candidate any marks, unless he obtains a minimum of one-third of the marks assigned to that subject.

The marks gained in the "Obligatory" subjects will be added to those gained in the "Voluntary" subjects, to make a second total.

It is to be understood that English speaking candidates use the papers prepared in that language, and that French speaking candidates use papers prepared in the French language. The object of this permission is to allow candidates to write their examination papers, except where, from the nature of the question, it is otherwise required, in English or French, whichever may be the language with which they are most familiar.

The Standard of knowledge of English required from French speaking candidates for the present, will be:—To write and speak English sufficiently to understand and be understood in that language.

Candidates should make application to the Adjutant-General, Ottawa, by 1st May, in order that arrangements may be made for their examination in June.

NOTE.—Candidates will be permitted after examination, to return the printed Examination questions, provided no rough work or scribbling has been done thereon, of which the supervising officer of the local Board having assured himself, he will initial the printed questions to be retained.

The defensive preparations of Belgium, which are being pushed on with great rapidity, are at present attracting much attention on the Continent. With its five sectors of forts and batteries, its great system of inundations, and its outworks, Antwerp is now a position of extreme strength, and 100 Krupp guns have been ordered for its defence. The fortifications of the Meuse will be strengthened by 150 armorclad turrets, of which 90 are being made at the Gruson works at Buchau, and the other 60 at the French factories of Saint Chamond, Creusot, and Commeny. One of the Gruson turrets, placed on the northern citadel of Antwerp, has recently been tested, and has given complete satisfaction. It weighs in all 320 tons, is armed with two 24-centimetre guns worked through embrasures, and revolves upon its axis, so as to bring these into position.

The San Antonio *Express* quotes Gen. D. S. Stanley, U. S. A., as saying with reference to Gen. Lew Wallace's proposed extension of the West Point School system to every established military post in the country: "It's all bosh. Gen. Wallace had better stick to his 'Fair God' and 'Ben Hur' methods of attracting public attention. The enlisted soldier is not a student, and would not submit to the discipline of a West Point system of training. He enlists for service. As far as concerns the complete overthrow of the present system of appointments, and the choosing of enlisted men, as Gen. Wallace contemplates, from which to graduate officers, it is nonsensical. You often heard of fellows running away from school to join the army, but never of men running away from the army to enter a school."

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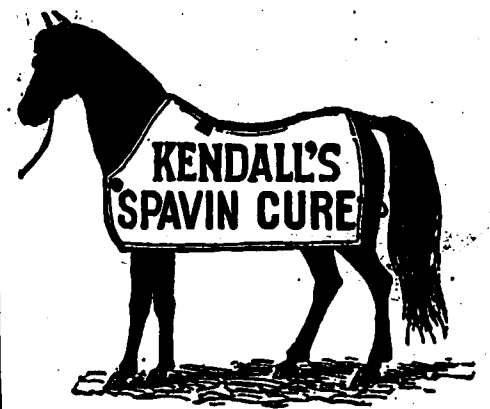
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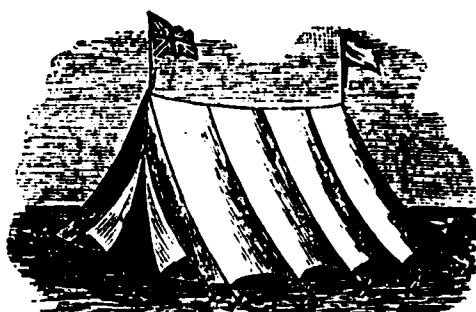
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